

# The Ontario Argus.

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## TAXPAYERS CONSIDER SEEKING INJUNCTION

THE LETTING OF CONTRACT FOR NEW JAIL MAY START LEGAL BATTLE—SEPTER OF COUNTY SEAT FIGHT SEEN.

## JAIL CONTRACT IS AWARDED

Old Time Citizens see Vision of New Court House Rising From Jail Foundation—Meeting to be Held This Week.

An innocent little in the record of the county court is viewed with alarm by a number of the taxpayers of Malheur county. The item was that according to the fact that a contract had been given the Pauly Jail Company of St. Louis, for the steel work for a new county jail. The amount named in the contract was given as \$5,195.

The little item appeared to be as destructive of the peace and welfare of the citizens of Malheur county as was the Sarajevo bomb to that of the world in 1914. It begins to look as though it would bring to life the septic of old fights and set the county into a turmoil. Already there is talk of seeking an injunction to prevent the expenditure, which W. E. Lees, among other taxpayers declares is absolutely unnecessary, and to substantiate this recalls the arguments presented by speakers during the now historical county seat fight.

See Visions of New Court House. The mere appropriation of \$5,195 is only the beginning of a program, which, in the opinion of the respondents, contemplates the erection of a new court house, the cost of which they do not estimate but declare that it will be sufficient. The exact amount is variously given according to the temperament of the estimator.

Bids is Excessive, Says Lees. "Even if the County Court only contemplates building a new jail, the amount of the bid is excessive," said Mr. Lees. "The contract calls for steel work for two cells. It does not state how big those cells are to be, but the amount is given at \$5,195."

City Buy Cell for \$500. "Compare this with the cost of four cells purchased by the city council at between \$400 and \$500. The city cells will care for 16 prisoners. I do not know how large the county jail cells will be. But during the county seat fight three years ago Vale men constantly reiterated the statement that the present jail and court house are big enough and good enough to serve the county for 20 years to come."

Taxpayers to Have Meeting. When asked what was to be done about the matter Mr. Lees said that a meeting would be called of taxpayers to perfect plans for carrying out an action thru the courts to stop the expenditure. When the meeting will be held he did not state.

## Engineers Work on Buhl Cut-Off

By sending out a crew of engineers over the route of the proposed Buhl to Nyssa cut-off the Oregon Short Line has set the newspapers of Southern Idaho at work building the line. According to the stories appearing from Twin Falls to Nyssa, the line is a thing of the near future.

That the line which would furnish a water grade from Porterville to Huntington will ultimately be built is one of the railroad certainties, but men more or less familiar with conditions are skeptical concerning any mediocrity action in view of the high prices of steel and scarcity of labor. To them it appears that the surveying crews are at work to protect the company's interest in right-of-way over the government land in the Brunseau region.

H. H. Tunny has recently installed the biggest sausage machine to be brought to this section, at the Palace Meat Market.



© Clinedinst. Captain Joseph Strauss.

## KHAKI CLAD BOYS BID CITY FAREWELL

Idaho Guardsmen who Have Watched Bridges Called to Mobilize in Boise on Wednesday Morning.

Ontario witnessed another evidence of the close approach of war during the past week. On Wednesday the fourteen khaki clad boys of the Idaho National Guard, who have guarded the bridges across Snake river here, broke camp and boarded the Pony for Boise where the regiment will mobilize.

During their stay in Ontario the boys have made many friends who will think of them when reports start coming of actions in France and Flanders.

According to press reports the Idaho men, one of those members is Wilmer Boyer of the city, will go to Palo Alto, California, for final training before leaving for overseas service. Owing to the fact that while on the border the Idahoans made a remarkable record for physical fitness and military training it is believed they will be among the first of the guard units to be sent across the Atlantic.

## MALHEUR TO GET POST ROAD SOON

Harney County Commissioner Receives Promise of Bend to Vale Highway.

R. L. Hass, County commissioner, returned Sunday night from Portland where he had been in attendance at the meeting of the highway commission held in the rose city the last of the week. Mr. Hass brought back very encouraging promises from the commission and feels that his trip to the meeting was a very great saving to the county.

Last week at a meeting of the executive committee of the Harney County Good Roads association Mr. Hass together with County Judge Levens was asked to make the trip, but owing to illness in the family Judge Levens was unable to make the trip.

In his report of the trip Mr. Hass says that he interviewed the three members of the commission and also Highway Engineer Nunn, and all of whom assured him that they would take up the question of the proposed post road through Harney county. In fact Mr. Nunn told Mr. Hass during his visit in Portland that he would have several surveying crews in the eastern part of the state and at that time would send a couple of these crews into Harney county for the purpose of surveying the route, which would be done sometime within the next two months.

In his interview with the commissioners Mr. Hass was assured that work would be done on the highway, although they were unable to say how much they intended to spend until their engineer's report had been filed. The survey will be made at no expense to the county and will be for the (Continued on Page Six.)

## DRY SEASON TAXES WATER COMPANIES

BOTH GRAVITY AND PUMPING SYSTEMS HAVING DIFFICULTY IN PREVENTING GREAT CROP LOSSES.

## NEED FOR NEW WORK SEEN

Irregularity of Electric Supply has Bothered Pumpers—While Broken Ditches Trouble Gravity Men—Drouth Almost Breaks Record.

Uneasy lies the head of the men who have charge of irrigation systems in Oregon and Idaho.

From ditch rider to executive secretary, from that official to the board of directors troubles, without number, have been flowing fast and free these days while the water in the ditches trickle slowly in the canals. To these men the irrigation systems have been just one trouble after another.

While the systems about Ontario have suffered severely from breaks in canals, shortage of water, lack of labor to properly cleaned ditches, etc. they have not been alone. Similar, and worse disturbances have taken the joy out of life for irrigation men thruout the Snake river valley in Idaho, as well as in Eastern Oregon and Washington.

## Much Work Needed.

While all of the systems have suffered in varying degrees that of the Owyhee has been hoodooed to a somewhat greater degree than others. In the spring, due to the late start, and the scarcity of labor, that canal did not have the over hauling needed, gopher holes, as it is said, added to the troubles and contributed to several breaks so that water was shut off a number of times for breaks. The directors have wrestled with the problem all summer and a number of the stockholders express the belief that before another season comes a considerable sum will have to be spent on the canal.

## Power Shortage for Shoestring.

Lack of a uniform current is the cause of trouble on the Ontario-Nyssa system, according to Secretary E. M. Greig. This system recently installed a 550 H. P. motor for its new pump. The result of the lack of Power

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## FORMER ONTARIAN COMES BACK TO CLAIM BRIDE

At the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Emma Sells Monday evening at five o'clock occurred the wedding of Miss Elsie Sells to Clay C. Miller of Bend, Oregon. Rev. W. N. D. of the United Presbyterian church performed the impressive ring ceremony in the presence of the bride's mother, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson and Mrs. Clara Harrell.

Following the ceremony the wedding party went to Payette where a wedding supper was served, and from thence the bride and groom left for Portland and seaside points on their honeymoon, after which they will be at home in Bend, Oregon where Mr. Miller is connected with a wholesale grocery house. Mrs. Sells accompanied them as far as Baker where she will visit her son, who is enlisted, until he leaves for training.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Miller are well known in Ontario. Mrs. Miller has here for the past seven years and for a time was employed at the Millinery & art store. Mr. Miller was until this spring employed at Wilson Bros.

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS TO HOLD ANNUAL PICNIC

The annual picnic of Armor Lodge No. 69 Knights of Pythias and of the Pythias Sisters will be held on the Metzger ranch south of Ontario on Sunday August 5. All knights; members of the Pythias Sisters and friends of the members are invited to attend to join in the festivities the gathering of the Knights and their ladies, there will be a program of interesting addresses, and a festive arrangement of sporting events that are bound to make a real hit.

## EXHIBITORS OFFERED VALUABLE PREMIUMS

BUSINESS MEN LITERALLY RESPOND TO COMMITTEE'S REQUEST FOR A SPECIAL PRIZES FOR FAIR.

## FRUIT EXHIBIT TO BE VARIED

Multitude of Preliminary Details of Annual Exhibition Gradually Being Cared for by Directors and Assistants.

Cash prizes, merchandise prizes, prizes of all sorts and descriptions may be won by energetic residents of Malheur and adjoining counties this year. Never has the list been more varied or more valuable than that to be offered by the Malheur county fair this fall.

On Monday of this week W. H. Laxon, Frank Rader, H. L. Peterson and E. A. Fraser undertook to prepare the list and in a short time, so spontaneous was the response of the business men, the list was completed and is being classified for the premium book which will soon be issued.

## Fruit Exhibit Varied.

One of the main features this year will be that of horticulture. The variety will be greater than ever before. There will be marked contrast with that of last year especially, when the fruit crop was hit so hard by adverse weather and the Brogan Valley had a monopoly of the display.

That the Brogan fruit this year set a high standard all who saw it must admit, and it is certain that the Brogan folks will be back this year to duplicate their feat of carrying away the blue ribbons. However to do this they will have to defeat high class exhibitors from the lower valley, so an interesting contest is bound to develop.

Already many exhibitors are inquiring about the space in various departments and all of the papers thruout the county have taken note of the coming exhibition and are assisting in the effort to make the fair this fall a success. In spite of the fact that this is the vacation season, Secretary Stearns is getting the preliminary work well advanced. The directors with the assistance of business men and ranchers thruout the county are getting exhibitors interested in the coming show.

## ONTARIO GIRL HONORED BY BOISE LIBRARY BOARD

In a letter to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Pinney of this city, Miss Marie Pinney, of Boise informed them of the offer she had received of the position of chief librarian of the Boise Library. Miss Pinney is now in charge of the children's department which she has specialized, and which she determined to remain rather than accept the proffered promotion.

Miss Pinney received her first active library training in the local Carnegie library, following which she took library training in Portland, following which she went to Boise. Prior to taking up active library work she worked with special work at Bryn Mawr for two years following her graduation from Stanley Hall in Minneapolis.

## ANOTHER LIQUOR DEALER GOES TO JAIL FOR TERM

"Dad" Richards, who in the days of a dumber Ontario was a character about the town is now rotting for a season at Vale for tampering with the prohibition law. He appeared before Judge C. M. Stearns last Wednesday and pled guilty. He was given \$100 as the proper fine, but having decided that he did not desire to enrich the county treasury he is taking a fall vacation instead. He was committed Thursday morning.

F. S. Bailey is manipulating the steering wheel of a new Maxwell runabout, purchased last week from L. G. Olson.



Admiral Austin M. Knight.

## EVERGREEN TOURISTS GIVE ONTARIO GO BY

Owing to Delay Capt. I. M. Howell and Party Stay on Idaho Side and Rush to Nampa for the Celebration.

A number of Ontario men waited until last Thursday night to welcome the Evergreen Highway scouting party which was to have reached the city during the afternoon. The party never came. The reception committee waited in vain.

On Friday it was learned that owing to delays the party which was headed by Capt. I. M. Howell, secretary of state for Washington, who is chairman of the Northwest Tourist association which is seeking to induce travel to this section, rushed thru Payette, and on to Nampa where a big road celebration was scheduled. As yet no formal letter informing the Ontario Commercial club of the action of the tourists has been received.

## WARMSPRINGS HAS BOBED UP AGAIN

Intimation Given that new Measure will be Introduced to care for enlargement of present Project—Warm Springs so Classified.

Hope for the construction of the Warm Spring Irrigation system by the United States Reclamation service will not die. With the introduction of the Slinnot amendment to the Food Control bill in the House and identical measure by Senator McNary in the Senate, ranchers here again had visions of abundant water. Both bills, however, were defeated.

Hope now rests on the fact that when the McNary bill was defeated, because the opponents says such action was not germane to the measure. It was stated that such projects would be cared for in a separate measure. It was also stated that the money would be used to enlarge projects now started so that the acreage could be enlarged. Intimations was given that the projects in Oregon which would come under that classification, and from various sources it was intimated that the Warm Springs district was one of these.

## Rigby at Washington

On the heels of these good reports appeared an interview in the Oregonian quoting John Rigby of Vale as giving Director General Davis of the Reclamation Service authority for the statement that there were no funds for Warm Springs.

Friends of Government aid here, however, do not construe this as final for they have observed the Goethals-Denman controversy and realize that there are authorities above the bureau chiefs.

Conductor Paul Cayou and Engineer John Rasmussen took the Smith Ferry excursion which ran from Weiser Sunday. The train was made up here and returned to Ontario that evening. The company plans on another excursion from Ontario for a week from Sunday.

## NEW WORKERS JOIN RED CROSS FORCE

ALMOST EVERY DAY SEES ADDITION OF WOMEN WHO HITHERTO REMAINED AWAY FROM ROOMS.

## W. C. T. U. TAKES TUESDAY

First Box is Ready for Shipment—Others to Follow Soon—Great Degree of Public Interest Needs Now.

Every day sees the addition of new workers at the Red Cross rooms. It were not for the new workers Ontario's Chapter would be sadly behind with the big order it had on hand. There is still a crying need for more workers.

The situation, however, is now marked by many encouraging signs. Added impetus was given this week when on Tuesday a called meeting of the W. C. T. U. that organization pledged its membership to organized work at the rooms on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, and also many of the members signified their intention of working other days during the month.

## First Box is Packed.

The first box of bandages, compresses and pads is packed and ready for shipment. It will not go forward until more of the order is ready. The date of shipment depends of course on the quantity produced and at the present rate it will be sometime before the shipment can proceed.

Gradually the number of boxes containing completed work is increasing. Members who have taken part in knitting and each is being filed. This is showing a marked increase since after getting a start on the pieces to be made the women take the knitting home with them the result of the home work will greatly increase the total amount in the near future.

The women in charge of the room expect a great many more workers after the vacation season. Many of Ontario's women are out of town and will be back in a few weeks. Some of the women, knowing that they could not work during the past month left cash contributions for material to assist the chapter.

## More Girls Wanted

During the past two weeks a number of young girls have spent an afternoon or two folding compresses. They worked so well that many more would be welcomed. The value of such work say the women in charge is evident, and the girls themselves will profit by spending a few of their idle afternoons working with the Red Cross workers.

## Ontario Man is Last on the List

The Argus expected to present several hundred additional names from the official registration list, in the order in which they were drawn, but, as yet, the list has not been received from the exonerated board, and it is understood that the list has not been received from the Assistant Secretary's office.

From press accounts of numbers drawn, however, a partial list has been worked out and the position of a number of men is known. For example Gus Weigle of the Eastern Oregon Land Company's force, is the last man on the Malheur county list. A. F. Riddis, editor of the Democrat is ten numbers removed from end of the list.

According to press reports, the second call for men will be made early this month, and in that call Malheur county will furnish approximately 100 men. The ex-emption board has not, as yet, sent out the call for the first 118 men to present themselves for examination but the call may go forth any day now.

Miss Ruby Fenwick arrived in Ontario Tuesday evening after taking summer session at Mammoth, no mail and will visit here a few days before returning to Jordan Valle. She is the guest of Miss Lavine Smith.