

The Oregon Argus

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GO SLOW NOW.

The Malheur Enterprise of late has been urging the adoption of a road plan for Malheur county. The plan is the most comprehensive ever put forth. Its merit lies in the fact that it takes into consideration the needs of the county as a whole and furnishes the necessary basis for the ultimate development of an adequate highway system which will permit of growth and development throuth the vast domain of Malheur county.

No good system that will ultimately serve the county can be secured without such a plan. Some definite aim must be taken before the right kind of a system can be built.

But there are many things to be taken into consideration when discussing internal developments at this time. No plans should be considered which do not make large provision for the fact that America is at war and that 100 per cent of the energy must be directed toward winning the war. Unless a public proposition has the winning of the war as a feature of its benefits it should wait until after the conflict in Europe has ended.

There are many roads which can be considered of national benefit toward winning the war. Such roads are those which aid the rancher in moving his crop to market. Such roads should be built. Roads that would permit the bringing out of necessary war materials are in the same class, but tourist roads and roads that are fairly passable and serve the present needs should be left alone with only expenditures for upkeep.

Then there is the financial question to be considered. With the public called upon as never before to divert funds to war organizations and war taxes in ever increasing quantities, it is unwise to promote further expenditures.

And there is still another element upon which to ponder. That is the necessity of labor in war work of all kinds, from raising of grain and live stock to the building of ships and ammunition. To divert this labor to road building is inexpedient, to say the least.

After the war is over, too, there will be an army of several millions of men who will be in need of employment. They will return to find that women have taken their places in many industries. There will be a period of readjustment in almost every line of endeavor. Until that readjustment takes place there will be thousands of men who could be used in the construction of roads and other public projects to their own advantage and to the ultimate advantage of the state and nation.

Wherever, therefore, it is possible to delay work so that the men who are fighting now will have an opportunity to take their place in the ranks of civil life, that should be done.

Such a program will not be hard on Malheur county. While it needs roads, and needs them badly, it is no worse off today than it was five years ago. The County will do well to consider the plan proposed by the Vale editor, which in its entirety would require the construction of nearly 500 miles of highway, and lay its plans for ultimately reaching that desirable end when the time is opportune for its accomplishment.

THE GRANGE AND THE LEAGUE.

That the Non-Partisan League is going to find it difficult to stampede the farmers of Oregon and Washington was made increasingly apparent by the action of the State Grange at its Salem convention last week.

The Grangers, representing perhaps, a large majority of the ranchers of the state passed a resolution condemning the League; but later re-elected State Master Spence. Just what this may be considered to mean is doubtful at this distance, but the attitude of the majority voting for the resolutions indicate that the Grangers desire to keep their body free from entangling alliances. In that the Grange is wise for it has a great work to do and is accomplishing a large portion of its program without keeping company with organizations which are under a cloud of questionable loyalty.

Aside from these two events that which was of importance was the opening address of The State Master who sounded a clarion call for loyalty on the part of the Grangers. While no such call was needed the address delivered by Mr. Spence was timely and comprehensive. He dwelt on pertinent problems which the Grangers with other citizens, not engaged in farming, have to face.

There is no doubt that the nation today has two forces at work which disturb the peace and welfare, as well as the safety of the republic. The one is the ultra conservative; the other the ultra radical. To condemn either without taking the other into consideration is a mark of failure in properly comprehending the problem.

The ultra conservative who recognizes no merit to progressive measures for the enhancement of industrial and commercial justice, gives cause to the vaporings of the ultra radical.

Now that we are at war these two forces in the nation should be at peace. For unless this war can be won, and won decisively, Prussianism will destroy the entire fabric of our government and bring on horrors beyond the con-

ception of Americans.

In viewing these problems the Grange and every other body that has for its object the promotion of fair dealing among men does well to call attention to the inequalities of distribution, to condemn the profiteer and at the same time to condemn those who would use any by the properly constituted means in the hands of the voter to rectify the evils while the nation is at war; or at any other time.

CITY HELP ON THE FARM.

The benefit which will accrue to the farmer thru the aid of city labor during the harvest time is a moot question. There are many who declare that a city man, a clerk or one engaged in similar occupation is a hindrance rather than an aid on the farm.

This may be true in the East and in the industrial sections of the Middle West, but it is hardly true in the agricultural regions of the West, or Middle West, either.

It is true that a large percentage of the clerks and residents of the towns and cities of the agricultural regions have had more or less experience on farms. A large proportion of them were raised on the farm and acquired their city residence largely for the purpose of securing better educational facilities, and then drifted into city jobs.

These men are not so far removed from their early training that they could not within a few weeks become suitable ranch hands. It would take a week or two to harden their muscles and put calouses on their hands but they would "be there" in time.

Certainly such men, who for the reason that they have families or are otherwise disqualified for military service, but are loyal Americans, are much more to be desired as farm laborers than the floaters of the I.W.W. type whose very presence on a farm is a menace to the crops.

In view of the situation in which the nation finds itself, with a labor shortage in every town, as well as in the country it will require a large degree of leadership and co-operation to work out the problem. The city business man must sooner or later face the problem and realize that in degree his business is less essential to the winning of the war than that of raising and harvesting the crops, and that when called upon to be ready to make every sacrifice of convenience and possibly of necessity to aiding the rancher.

The business man will do this. He can do no less. When this problem comes to Ontario within a few weeks, as come it must, The Argus has no doubts as to the result. Ontario business men will be ready to do their part.

BUMPER CROP COMING.

Uncle Sam is tightening his belt just now. His millions of inhabitants are for the first time beginning to realize that the grim hand of war can reach across oceans and fasten upon the food of men and women who have always lived among plenty.

The wheatless day was but an introduction. Now we will have a wheatless week, a wheatless month, and to a degree perhaps for a longer period. But Americans have not suffered as a result. There is still plenty for every one to eat. Starvation does not stalk across the land; want and misery are still strangers to us. What Americans have suffered is as nothing as compared with the hardships already endured, and being endured by the heroic Belgians, the valiant French, the sturdy determined British.

Every ounce of courage and fortitude which our allies have shown across the water, we too, can show if called upon. But we will not be so tried in the crucible of war. We have the promises not only of a bumper wheat crop of a billion bushels or more, but likewise there is a bumper crop of the things that American wives have learned to use, and make as palatable as they used to make with wheat. These two things combined brighten the prospects for the future. So cheer up, the best is yet to come.

ENTER THE CHAUTAUQUA.

Ontario is to have a Chautauqua in July. Vale and Payette are to have theirs this month, so that so far as inspirational stimulus and musical enjoyment this section of the U. S. A. is to be well cared for.

In spite of the war, there is still a need for the Chautauqua. The lecturers who come with war messages serve a distinct purpose. And even tho we are at war there is no necessity for the entire abandonment of all forms or recreation and relaxation, so that the other numbers, if they are of merit, are justification of their own existence.

Payette and Vale have big committees behind their Chautauqua programs. Their communities have been thoroughly canvassed, and with their experience in the past the success of their undertakings are assured. This is not true here, and an early effort is what is needed here.

MALHEUR COMING FAST.

The Oregon Voter in its recent issue visualized the standing of the various counties in Oregon in the Liberty Loan drives in such a manner that Malheur County may well congratulate itself. Malheur County was second only to Tillamook in the percentage of citizens who subscribed to the loan. Tillamook had a subscription list totaling 28 per cent of the population while Malheur had 26.4 per cent.

Tillamook, Malheur, Hood River, Coos and Klamath were the only counties to record more than 25 per cent of their inhabitants as Third Liberty Loan subscribers.

These figures are interesting when viewed in comparison with previous Liberty Loans, for in the first two Malheur failed to reach its quota and by combining the total quota of three Malheur has only reached 98 per cent. However the county is coming strong in all its war work and with the passing of the Fourth Liberty Loan Malheur will be listed among the counties that are more than 100 per cent.

If You Want an Auto, Get It Now

There is no certainty how long prompt deliveries can be made, and the prices are sure to advance.

You have read in the newspapers how automobile production has been reduced. And you know further curtailment is planned for the future.

We will gladly take your order now for immediate delivery at present prices for the following standard makes.

Oakland Five Passenger Touring, Buick Six, Cylinder Seven and Five Passenger Touring and Three Passenger Roadster, Buick Four Cylinder Five Passenger Touring, Velle Six Cylinder Five Passenger Touring, Four Passenger Chummy Roadster and Two Passenger Roadster, Hudson Super Six, Seven Passenger Touring and Four Passenger Speedster, Franklin Air Cooled Five Passenger Roadster.

You are taking no chances in buying any one of these makes of cars, as all have been tested in this locality and are giving universal satisfaction, so why experiment. Let us have your order before the prices advance. Phone 125 M for demonstration or call and see them at salesroom, Old Toggery Location.

EASTERN OREGON AUTO CO.
V. B. STAPLES, Mgr. ONTARIO, OREGON

THE UNIVERSAL INSTRUMENT

Thirty years ago the telephone was a luxury. Today, through personal initiative and private enterprise, it has become a necessity within the reach of everybody. Where once a business had but one telephone with a limited talking range, today that business has service with a range three-quarters of a continent broad, and every branch of every business is linked to every other by an intercommunicating telephone system.

The telephone has earned its responsible place and there are now 5,000,000 Bell telephones in this country, over which go 24,000,000 talks daily.

Every Bell Telephone is a Long Distance Station.

Malheur Home Telephone

A Comfortable Feeling

A good many things may happen that will give you a feeling of comfort and security, but nothing will do this more surely than the knowledge that you have money in the Bank.

This is particularly true if your money is in our bank, where you know it's safe. You know it is there subject to your needs. That you can get it when you want it. That it is safe until you need it. If you have no bank account, we invite you to start one at our bank now, no matter how small. You will add to it from time to time and it will soon be a source of comfort and security to you.

BUY THRIFT STAMPS: A MONEY AND LIBERTY SAVING INVESTMENT.

First National Bank
ONTARIO, OREGON.

The First Duty of Man

A beautiful advertisement appeared in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post, by a large automobile company, illustrating the four greatest events in the life of man:

GETTING MARRIED
BUYING YOUR HOME
YOUR FIRST BABY
BUYING YOUR AUTOMOBILE

DO YOU CATCH THAT SPLENDID POINT, MR MAN?

This big automobile firm spent \$10,000.00 for a single page in a single magazine to advertise to millions of people in every city in the land that the FIRST DUTY OF A MARRIED MAN IS TO OWN A HOME.

THAT A HOME SHOULD COMEBEFORE THE AUTOMOBILE.

We Plan your home free.
We build it with Western Soft Pine.

AL CHANCE
LOCAL MANAGER,
ONTARIO, OREGON.

Boise-Payette
Lumber Co.
IDAHO

Manufacturers of
WESTERN SOFT PINE

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Hats off to that Vale bunch who put over the Warm-springs bond sale. It was a great work.