

The Ontario Argus.

The Ontario Democrat

ONTARIO, MALHEUR COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY JULY 18, 1918

NO. 29

NEW SYSTEM WILL BE READY BY AUGUST 1

PIPE WILL BE LAID SO THAT CONNECTION CAN BE MADE TO OLD SYSTEM IN A FEW DAYS NOW.

BOOZE DELAYS WORK FOR TIME

Pumps Being Installed as Well as Filter—H. R. Holcomb Selected for Superintendency—Ditching Finished Soon.

Ontario's new municipal water system is nearing completion. With the completion of the installation of the pumps and filters, which is now under way, it will be possible to start operations by making a temporary connection with the old water system. This can be done before August 1.

New pipe is arriving every day, four carloads having been received this week. This has made possible a large increase in the completed portions of the system. More pipe would have been laid during the week had it not been for the fact that a portion of the crew fell by the wayside after establishing relations with a bootlegger. However, C. H. Helmer has his crew reorganized and is making rapid progress.

The tower for the storage tank was finished Tuesday and work on the tank begun. The bottom, and one series of side plates were riveted Wednesday evening and now towers over the city.

Holcomb Named Superintendent.

The water committee of the Council, which was empowered to employ a water superintendent, selected H. R. Holcomb, who has been in charge of the Ontario Water company's light plant for years, as well as in charge of the local light plant. Mr. Holcomb has been a resident of Ontario for nine years and is thoroughly conversant with local conditions and thru his experience is deemed the man for the position. The salary for the position was placed at \$150 per month.

To familiarize himself with the details of the new machinery to be in his charge Mr. Holcomb starts work Friday for the California Jewel Filter company, which is installing the pumps and filters, to assist in the installation.

Contractor Helmer plans on finishing all of the ditches yet to be finished within a week and will be thru with the pipe lines shortly thereafter. This will make possible the completion of the entire plant within the contract time, and the turning in of water into the new pipes about the middle of August.

BUY W.S.S.

CITIZENS TO HONOR DEPARTING RECRUITS

Committee to be Organized for Permanent Organization—Biggest Bunch Yet to Leave Next Wednesday.

Sixty-nine Malheur county boys will entrain at Ontario next Wednesday for Camp Lewis, American Lake, Washington. To complete this list and care for the vacancies the draft board this week sent out a call for the last six men in class one. In this list beside the 69 reported previously are Louis L. Hamilton, Huntington; Guy Knapp Woodcock, Malheur; Joseph F. McKenna, Portland; Frank Mulkey, Jamieson; Arner Gorton, Twin Falls, Idaho; Earl Samuel Woodson, Payette, Idaho, and Arthur Fuller Riddle, of Ontario, who is now in Kansas City, Mo.

Just how many men will entrain here from Harney county is not known, but there will be approximately 35 if the ratio of previous quotas is maintained, so that Ontario will have an opportunity to bid farewell to more than 100 men.

Such a large number will not be permitted to leave Ontario without a fitting farewell. To that end a meeting is to be held this afternoon to prepare plans for the occasion and also to arrange for a permanent committee to have charge of similar functions.

VOLUNTEER GIFTS DID NOT REACH FULL QUOTA

The Armenian relief day volunteer subscriptions did not quite make up Ontario's quota last Saturday but came very close to doing so. In all more than \$600 was raised in Ontario which together with the \$320 sent in January makes the city's total close to \$1000.

The opening of downtown headquarters for volunteer offerings justified itself in the minds of the committee in charge and the manner in which many came forward with their offerings demonstrates that the people here are aroused to the need for giving to these causes and only require the opportunity to do so.

Since it was not anticipated that the full amount would be volunteered a committee will call on those who overlooked the matter or were out of town to complete the quota.

BUY W.S.S.

WESTFALL AND JUNTURA MEN TAKE VACATION IN ONTARIO

The Grahams were in town this week. The members of this prominent interior family who hail from Westfall and Juntura, came down to enjoy a few days vacation and visit friends. Last Friday and Saturday Andrew and James Graham of Westfall were around to declare that except for a scarcity of young men Westfall was doing well and taking an active interest in war work. On Wednesday of this week David Graham, the Juntura banker, dropped in to visit E. H. Test, P. J. Gallagher and other old friends and discuss the war conditions, of which he is a keen student. Range conditions about Westfall and Juntura were declared by all the men to be bad and as the result stockmen are leaving or have left the country.

BUY W.S.S.

O. H. TEST BECOMES STANDARD OIL AGENT

W. H. Stenstrom Called to Army Makes Room for Advancement of All Men on the Local Force.

O. H. Test, son of E. H. Test of this city, who has been office man at the local Standard Oil office for the past year, was made local agent this week on the resignation of W. H. Stenstrom, who is called to join the colors with the July 24 contingent.

Mr. Stenstrom left last Friday evening for Salem to visit his parents before joining the army and Mr. Test took charge of the local agency on Monday.

The departure of Mr. Stenstrom created promotions for all the men in the local force, succeeding Mr. Test as office man is Joy Husted, who has been with the company for more than a year.

O. H. Test the new manager, has been with the company for the past two years working up from the delivery service to agent in that time.

BUY W.S.S.

YOUNG SOUTHERNERS WONDER AT SIZE OF ONTARIO BOYS

Sergeant Henry Casiday, who was in Ontario last week on a furlough, tells a good story on the impression the size of Ontario's first bunch of recruits made on their fellow soldiers at Fort Houston.

"When I was sent to the pumping plant at Kelley Field I found three young Southerners there," said Casiday. "They were all little fellows and quickly nicknamed me the 'Big Fellow,' and joshed me about my size."

"A few days later Art Moore came over to see me and when they sized him up they declared:

"Gee, are all the Ontarians as big as you fellows?"

"Then a couple of days later Lee Maddux came over and when he was introduced as from Ontario too, their eyes fairly popped, and they believed implicitly that every Ontarian is six feet, or over."

"A few days after that Gerry Biers dropped in, when we were sitting around talking. The minute he stepped into the door, one of the fellows yelled:

"Here's another guy from Ontario, Oregon."

"Well, you can't convince any one of that bunch now that there are any short folks out this way."

STOCKMEN PURCHASE VAST AREA OF RANGE

Contracts Closed for 28,173.70 Acres by Oregon-Western Colonization Company President on Present Trip.

One of the biggest series of sales ever contracted by the Oregon-Western Colonization company in recent years was completed by W. P. Davidson, president of the company during his trip thru the state last week. While in Prineville Mr. Davidson signed the contracts whereby 28,173.70 acres of the company's holdings passed into the possession of stockmen and ranchers of the interior.

Among the largest of these deals was that by which C. R. Peterson of Ontario secured possession of 7,970.60 acres. Among other contracts were the following: C. A. and M. M. Stewart, 10,870 acres; J. N. Williamson, 5,650; Sargard & Oblague, 4,643.10; Fairview Stock Farm, 40; James E. Weston, O. B. Gray and S. W. Yancy, George Tison, and W. O. Elliott, 640 acres each; Foster & Ludford, 920 acres; S. T. Andrus, 40; J. R. Iresse, 1369 acres and T. & J. Bain 180 acres.

With these sales the total amount of range land passing to the possession of sheepmen in Harney, Crook and Deschutes county during the past year runs into hundreds of thousands of acres and presage the early arrival of the day when the open range in that country will be a thing of the past.

BUY W.S.S.

OFF FOR THE "BIG ADVENTURE"

W. J. Pinney received notice this week from his son Wm. Pinney of his departure for overseas after an extended stay at Camp Mills, New York. The young man gave an interesting account of the life in the metropolis and of the trip across the continent, telling of the splendid efforts of the people along the way who did their best to give them a cordial reception and a good time all along the line.

BUY W.S.S.

PUMPING PLANT FOR OWYHEE IS INSTALLED

Improvements Arranged for Last Winter Ready to Prevent Water Shortage During Growing Season.

The workmen at the Owyhee pumping plant have the machines installed and they will be ready for operation in time to prevent loss to ranchers on that pioneer system during the growing season of the second and third cuttings.

The new pumping station, which is located near the plant of the Shoring ditch, with all the equipment necessary represents an expenditure of approximately \$25,000 for the district. This improvement was made, however, without affecting the credit of the old established system which has some of the best land in Oregon under its ditches.

BUY W.S.S.

J. B. CROSSEN, PIONEER OF OREGON, PASSES

James B. Crossen died of Bright's disease, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. H. Brooke, Sunday morning, July 14th, aged 79 years and 11 months and three days. He was born August 11, 1838, in Donegal, Ireland, and came to New York City in 1849. In 1859 he crossed the Isthmus of Panama and went to California, where he lived four years, then going to Placerville, Idaho, where he engaged in business.

In 1862 he moved to The Dalles where he resided continually until coming here, after the death of his wife, five years ago, since which time he has lived with his daughter, Mrs. Brooke.

Mr. Crossen was active in public life. In 1876, '78 and '84 he was elected sheriff of Wasco county. He also served two terms as county clerk of that county, and has served as postmaster, member of the city council of The Dalles, and for fifteen

GOOD PROGRAM OPENS CHAUTAUQUA SEASON

S. Platt Jones Makes Real Hit With His Poetic Monology—Miss Ruth Runner's Reading Pleases—Music Good.

"It is a poor laugh that is not worth a dollar," so the old saying goes. If that is true, as most Americans will admit, then the people of Ontario are to be worth a lot of money this week, if the opening numbers of the Chautauqua season are proper measures for gauging the complete program which is taking place this week and will conclude next Tuesday.

The opening programs given Wednesday afternoon and evening drew a representative audience that was not as large as the program merited, but was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended.

In the afternoon the Ruth Runner concert company as the preliminary number was enjoyed by a larger gathering. It really was enjoyed too, judging by the laughs the crowd had, for Mr. Jones proved a humorist of the real kind. His dialect readings were especially good, and even one or two ancient stories went over with a whoop.

Great War Lecturer.

Count John Sobieski will be the big attraction this evening. As a Pole of the royal family, who might now be on the throne, he is in a position to give elaborate and authoritative details of the work of the Huns in Poland.

The Bland collegians, Finley H. Gray and many of the other attractions still to be heard are all well worth the price of admission, and Ontarians who miss the opportunity of hearing these numbers will regret their loss. The complete program is found elsewhere in this issue.

Every morning there is a story hour at the Junior Chautauqua which many of the children are enjoying. The Chautauqua tent is on the school grounds west of the grade school.

BUY W.S.S.

IS SOLE SURVIVOR OF HIS OLD BATTALION

Gunner Johnson of the Canadian Royal Artillery—Wounded at Ypres Will Address Ontarians Saturday Night.

An added attraction at the Chautauqua is the appearance here of Gunner Johnson of the Canadian Royal Artillery, the sole survivor of his battalion who is able to tell the story of the five great major offensives.

Gunner Johnson enlisted in Toronto where he was a student in Toronto University at the beginning of the war. He fought at Ypres, The Somme, at Vimy Ridge and on the Marne.

He was wounded by a Boche bayonet at the second battle of Ypres. He still has the bayonet that wounded him, but the Boche who wielded it is buried in France.

Gunner Johnson spoke for 29 minutes at the Pendleton Commercial club luncheon last week while passing thru that city and was requested to return for a special engagement after the Chautauqua program is over. He has a thrilling story to tell, and he tells it well. Everywhere the audiences have greeted him with approval. He is instructive and gives a picture of the war as seen by one who has experienced its thrills and has the ability of telling an audience how the fight goes on. In order that the business men of the city and the ranchers coming from a distance may hear Gunner Johnson he will start speaking after 2 p.m. Saturday evening at the Chautauqua tent on the Public School grounds.

He has served as water commissioner of that city. He belonged to the Elks, Masons and Knights of Pythias, United Workmen and Eastern Star lodges.

He is survived by four children, viz: James Crossen and William Crossen of San Francisco, Cal., Mrs. Grace Dexter of Vallejo, Cal., and Mrs. W. H. Brooke of Ontario.

He was buried at The Dalles, Wednesday, July 17.

RED CROSS SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE JULY 1 SHOULD BE PAID

Request has been made by the managers of the Second Red Cross War Fund drive that the subscriptions to this fund due July 1, should be paid now. All the expense of sending out notices to subscribers has to be paid by local men, and those who have listed themselves to pay July 1 are urgently requested to make payments now, making checks payable to Second Red Cross War Fund. Prompt attention to this request will be sincerely appreciated by the local committee.

BUY W.S.S.

BUSINESS MAN CLAIMS BRIDE—WEDDING PROVES SURPRISE

Ontario was surprised, to use the term mildly, on hearing Friday morning of the marriage performed at Welser, Thursday evening when Miss Effie Orcutt became Mrs. Otto G. Luehrs. The ceremony was witnessed by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Orcutt, Miss Alpha Orcutt, brother and sisters of the bride. The ceremony was performed at the parsonage of the Methodist Episcopal church of Welser by Rev. Thomas Phillips Graham. Following the ceremony the wedding party returned to this city to receive the congratulations of many friends.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Luehrs are well known in Ontario. The bride has been popular in the younger set ever since her arrival here from Oklahoma with her family several years ago. Mr. Luehrs came to Ontario 15 years ago and has been prominent in business circles all that time working as pharmacist until he purchased the Everhart Drug company stock in what is now the Luehrs Pharmacy.

BUY W.S.S.

DEAD OX FLAT WILL HARVEST BIG CROP

Settlers on Irrigated Lands North of Ontario on Oregon Side Show Evidence of Prosperity.

Dead Ox Flat, especially the lands under the Payette-Oregon Slope Irrigation District are to harvest big crops this fall. The people there are not worrying over prices and are making many substantial improvements.

A trip over the Flat is the convincing demonstration of what irrigation does for Oregon lands. The alfalfa is approaching condition for the second cutting, the first having all been cut and stacked and so far generally is reported to be fully normal.

Between cuttings the ranchers are busy making many improvements. For example C. G. Heslop is erecting a handsome new residence on his place just south and west of the pumping plant and on the bench. This residence with its large airy rooms and big fire place and porches is one that would do honors to any city and is itself a substantial evidence of the faith the folks there have of the homemaking possibilities of the Flat.

P. M. Bohls, another of the ranchers is making many improvements around the home he erected over a year ago. He expects to have a lawn next spring that will show Ontario residents how good lawns should look. His crop of alfalfa in the big orchard looks fine, too.

Otto C. Miller, whose specialty is hogs and corn, just as they raise them back in Iowa, only so much larger than the Iowa brands that only an Oregonian can appreciate the difference, is going to have a big crop this year. The Culbertsons, too, are to the front with good crop prospects. All these men depend on the help they can receive from the irrigation system, even if it does keep them working from early morning until late at night.

The crops just cited are just examples of what the entire Flat is doing, and explains why the ranchers there are not worrying, tho they have sold no hay in that section. Altho they are not pooling their hay or anything like that the ranchers of the Flat are waiting, they declare, for the prices to become established so that as nearly a uniform price as possible will be secured for all.

BERNARDI CARNIVAL BIG FAIR ATTRACTION

BIGGEST AND BEST CARNIVAL EVER ENGAGED FOR ANNUAL EXHIBITION—IS AN EXHIBITION IN ITSELF.

PREMIUM LISTS COMPLETED

Management Now Assured Best Entertainment Ever Offered Here in Ontario—Plenty of Produce for Displays.

Bernardi's Carnival, the biggest and best of the traveling expositions, will be seen in Ontario September 10, 11, 12 and 13, the week of the Malheur County Fair. This will be good news to fair visitors, for it assures ample entertainment after the daily programs, for Bernardi's Carnival is an exposition in itself.

An idea of the magnitude of the Bernardi organization may be gained from the fact that it requires 25 carloads, an entire train to transport the shows, concessions and the like. And the cars are full sized and loaded to the guards.

There are two complete bands with the carnival. There are four riders, including the famous Bernardi whip. Then there is a callopo, of circus fame, and fifteen shows and the usual and unusual concessions. Taken all in all, the Bernardi aggregation will make some impression in Ontario.

The board of directors of the fair considers itself fortunate in securing the Bernardi shows for Ontario this year, the first time they have contracted for a city of this size. It is the Bernardi shows that Boise secures each year for the Idaho State Fair so that our County Exposition is breaking into the big league class in billing such an attraction.

Premium Lists Compiled.

The directors passed upon the completed premium list presented by Secretary C. M. Stearns and Assistant Secretary H. R. Douglass and approved it. The list will be printed within the next two weeks for distribution.

The new list shows a radical change in the awards to be made for fine stock, cattle, horses, sheep, hogs, poultry and kindred products of the county. The premiums, it is believed, will induce greater competition and establish the fair as the leading stock show in this section.

BUY W.S.S.

EPIDEMIC OF JAGS KEEP OFFICERS BUSY

Officers Jones and Dennison Round Up Inhabitants in the Days Gone By.

"Thirty days in jail, \$250 fine." That was the sentence given Bessie Rodrigues when that individual was hauled before Police Judge Stearns Tuesday charged with unlawful getting of liquor. Failing to pay the fine Bessie is languishing in the county jail.

Several Mexicans belonging to the ditch construction gang were found intoxicated and confessed to Marshal Marion Jones that they had purchased the booze of Bessie Rodrigues. Bessie was immediately arrested and pled guilty of the charge.

Another violator of the Oregon prohibition laws this week was Ernest Bohls, who was charged with the unlawful possession of whiskey. The liquor was found in his room at the Carter House and after having heard the testimony of three witnesses, among whom was Dr. Boggs, he was found guilty by Judge Stearns and was given a fine of \$150 and costs. Mr. Bohls will take an appeal to the district court.

Two other Mexicans of the construction gang, Bruno Powers and Joe Sibeno, who were also found in a suspicious condition, were fined \$25 and \$15 respectively.

BUY W.S.S.

Sgt. Henry Casiday left Wednesday noon for his camp in Texas after spending a few days furlough with friends and relatives in Ontario. His classmate and fellow officer Sgt. Arthur Moore left Monday.