

The Ontario Argus.

The Ontario Democrat

XXIII

ONTARIO, MALHEUR COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1919

NO. 10

HOMESEEKERS TO BE HERE ON APRIL 2

SPECIAL CARS TO BRING PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF LAND IN MALHEUR VALLEY FROM COAST COUNTRY AND WASHINGTON

HUNDRED OF INQUIRIES LISTED

Oregon - Western Colonization Company Reports Great Interest in the Prospective Opening of Warm Springs Irrigation District.

At all the offices of the Oregon-Western Colonization company, in Portland, St. Paul, Ontario, and Vale, there is a constantly growing number of inquiries for information concerning the possibility of securing land under the Warm Springs Irrigation district.

In the Portland office alone more than 500 inquiries have come to J. R. Huering, agent in that section. A large number are on file at the home office of the company at St. Paul, while both here in Ontario and at the Vale office, the number is growing daily.

To run excursion
To systematically care for the prospective purchasers the company is planning on having several special cars attached to a train leaving Portland on April 1. On the arrival of the passengers here special cars will be ready to take them over the lands of the company under the project.

"There is absolutely no doubt of the demand for land, and the results which will follow the development of the Warm Springs district," said Mr. Pinney, local agent for the company.

"Now is the time for the getting together of all who want to see this section of the state prosper. The land is needed for crops. It will have the water necessary and the people will come to do the development work and every community in the county is bound to receive its proportionate share of the benefit which will naturally accrue therefrom."

ANOTHER BOOST FOR OWYHEE PROJECT

Representative N. J. Sinnott Writes That Probability is That \$100,000,000 will be Appropriated for Irrigation

In a letter to W. J. Pinney a member of the committee which is working for the advancement of the Owyhee Project, Representative N. J. Sinnott gives a repetition of the cheering news that the Owyhee project is in high favor with the officials of the Reclamation service.

Mr. Sinnott says that both Secretary Lane and Director Davis of the service are ready to consider the merits of the Owyhee Project and that P. J. Phillips, formerly of Nyssa had made an excellent showing for the project when in Washington two years ago.

Mr. Phillips is now in Washington in government service and has been working there for the advancement of the project. Mr. Sinnott also said that Secretary Lane has signified a willingness to urge the appropriation of \$100,000,000 for reclamation, and that from this fund at least one new project will be started in the arid land states. Tho he did not say so directly, the intimation was evident that the Owyhee has a very favorable opportunity of being the Oregon project selected.

Chairman E. H. Test of the Owyhee Committee has called for a meeting to be held this week at Nyssa.

SILVER TEA REPEATS ALL OF FORMER SUCCESSFUL RECORDS

The annual Silver Tea given each year by the Ontario Women's Club, was held last Wednesday at the home of Mrs. S. D. Dorman. The successful record of former years was maintained and the total receipts amounted to \$24.10, which will go to the Students' Loan Fund of the State Federation of Women's clubs.

EASTERN BUSINESS MEN ARE OPTIMISTIC FOR THE FUTURE

H. C. Boyer returned Monday evening from New York where he spent two weeks on a buying trip. He declared that business men on the Atlantic seaboard are optimistic over business prospects, and the belief is generally accepted that the nation will weather reconstruction problems with a minimum of disturbance to present prosperous conditions.

BOY WITH MATCHES CAUSE OF BIG FIRE

120 Tons of Hay on J. R. Weaver Ranch Burned Saturday—Strenuous Efforts Result in Saving Buildings.

The desire of John Weaver's five year old son to witness the sparks of a match caused the loss of 120 tons of hay at the Weaver ranch last Saturday. Two big stacks were burned to the ground.

It was only due to the strenuous efforts of Mr. Weaver and his sons, assisted by neighbors and firemen and business men from Ontario that saved the barn and other buildings on the ranch, which is two and a half miles from town on the Boulevard.

The local firemen answered the call and Asst. Chief W. H. Laxon on his arrival at the scene sent for the chemical wagon and that was used to aid in saving the buildings. All the time, too, dozens of men pumped water and carried to others on the roof of the barn and thus held back the flames. They were aided by the fact the wind was blowing from the north and away from the structures.

The little lad who started the blaze was the most frightened individual about the scene. He realized what he had done, and showed it. His mother, just a short time before the fire started took some matches from the little chap, and then turned to get dinner for the family. While she was thus occupied he somehow secured another supply and slipped from the house, to the feed yard and there a match he had lighted started the blaze.

The fire caused a complete loss to Mr. Weaver for an insurance policy on the had had expired a few days previous.

COLONEL LEADER TO BE HERE ON FRIDAY

Will Review Ontario High School Cadets—Commercial Club to Entertain Him at Luncheon and Smoker.

Superintendent H. R. Douglass of the Public Schools was informed by wire Monday that the date for the inspection of the High School cadets by Col. Leader of the University of Oregon had been advanced from February 8 to Friday February 7.

This fact together with the presence of the Chatauqua here this week necessitated a change in the plans for the entertainment of Col. Leader, but plans are prepared somewhat as follows: a horse back ride for the Colonel after his arrival on No. 4; luncheon by business men at noon; review of cadets in the afternoon, and smoker following Chatauqua program in the evening.

Arrangements have been made, too, for a short talk by Col. Leader at the Chatauqua program.

ONTARIO-NYSSA IRRIGATION TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 15TH

The adjourned meeting of the Ontario-Nyssa Irrigation company which was scheduled for last month will be held on February 15th.

OWYHEE ANNUAL MEETING FAILS TO BRING QUORUM

Owing to the fact that no quorum was present the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Owyhee Ditch company adjourned sine die Tuesday afternoon. By this procedure the old directors hold office for the next year. This was the only matter to come before the stockholders.

SECOND ANNUAL WINTER CHATAUQUA OPENS TONIGHT

Excellent Program of Musical Entertainments and Lectures Scheduled for the Remainder of Week, and Monday and Tuesday Evenings of Next Week.

Ontario's second annual Winter Chatauqua program furnished by the Ellison-White Bureau will occupy the attention of Ontario for the next six days. There will be five evening programs, all of an excellent high standing character.

The programs this year will be held in the evening at the Dreamland Theatre, and will include beside the regular program an address by Col. John Leader, one of the heroes of Mons, Friday evening.

The price of a full course ticket makes each entertainment one of low cost, considering the character of the educational and inspirational treat to be offered. The success of the Chatauqua from a local viewpoint will be judged by the number of course tickets sold, for these are guaranteed by the local committee which is sponsor for the program for Ontario.

Among the program features, details of which are to be found in the advertisement on the last page of this issue, the showing of the Underwood

and Underwood war pictures together with a great lecture on the struggle by the man who took the pictures, Henry Warren Poor, of New York. Mr. Poor made three trips to the war zone, at different stages of the struggle, as the expert of his company and is therefore one of the best authoritative eye-witnesses available.

Then there is the lecture of Mrs. A. C. Zehner, the greatest woman lecturer on the American platform, who is an accredited speaker for the United States government. She will deliver her lecture on "American Ideals"

Another great treat on the program is that to be presented on the closing evening by the International Trio, which is composed of three musicians, one each from France, England and Holland. Another fine entertainment is promised in the lecturer on "America and Japan" by the eminent Japanese Author and lecturer, Dr. Yamamoto. The opening number of the series this evening is that given by the Gordon-Smith company in still time in which to secure season tickets for the entire course.

CLEAN UP OF CITY PROPOSED BY COUNCIL

Health committee to consider Steps to Protect Health of Community and Compel Inspection of Milk Cows

If the present city council can do so health conditions in Ontario are to be improved. Among other steps proposed are these two: filth is to be removed, and not permitted to accumulate; and persons selling milk in the city are to be compelled to have cows tuberculin tested regularly.

There is no division among the members of the council as to the desirability of both these steps but the council is in the dark, somewhat, as to how proceed to get the results it desires.

Committeemen Want Information
These questions came before the council meeting Monday evening when

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PLAN CELEBRATION OF DRY AMENDMENT

Members of the W. C. T. U. Will Flittingly Mark the Making of United States a Boozless Democracy.

Owing to the fact that the winter Chatauqua is on the boards for this week the original plans of the W. C. T. U. for a celebration of the ratification of the adoption of the Prohibition Amendment to the Federal constitution has been postponed to Thursday February 13.

The following program will be given at the Baptist church, and everyone is invited to attend:

Music by chorus; Scripture reading, Rev. W. J. Luscombe; Prayer, Rev. C. W. Blom; Music by chorus; Address: "The Crusade in Oregon," Mrs. Julia Brainard of Payette; Temperance Campaign, Superintendent H. R. Douglass; Music by the chorus; Address: "Victory," Rev. F. W. Cochran, Music by the chorus.

ARMENIAN AND SYRIAN RELIEF DRIVE FEBRUARY 17 TO 24TH

D. M. Taggart, local chairman of the Armenian and Syrian relief fund drive, by means of which millions of starving victims of Turkish atrocities can only be saved from starving, announces that Ontarians will be asked to give their aid during the week of February 17 to 24.

Committees will be appointed this week and completed plans for the drive made. The entire city is to be canvassed during the week. Further details will be given in next week's issue of the Argus.

LETSON JEWELRY IS SOLD TO RAUTENKRANZ

Miss Freddie Jimerson to Manage Local Branch—Deal Consummated Saturday—New Owner in Charge.

The rumors of an impending sale of the jewelry stock and business of W. W. Letson to H. P. Rautenkranz of Payette materialized last Saturday.

With the transfer of the stock and business Mr. Rautenkranz placed Miss Freddie Jimerson, who is already wellknown to Ontarians, in charge of the local store, but will be here at least one day each week himself to care for the optical work in which he specializes in Payette.

The new firm has many plans for the development of the business in the local store, including the addition of new lines, including musical instruments, hand painted china and similar lines.

Mr. and Mrs. Letson have no definite plans for the immediate future and expect to remain in Ontario for some time to come. They have lived here five years, coming to Ontario from southwestern Colorado, and ever since their arrival have taken an active interest in lodge and civic affairs.

WARSPRINGS WOULD SERVE SUBURBANITES

Property Owners Under Advancement Irrigation System Listen to Proposals from Big District.

There is a possibility, almost a probability, that the Advancement tracts which border the City of Ontario to the West and Northwest will be watered from the Warm Springs Irrigation system, instead of by the pumping system at present in use.

A meeting of the land owners under the system was held at the city hall Monday afternoon at which the proposition was discussed. At that time a report on the general condition of the present system prepared by John Cunningham was read by A. Gramse. Mr. Cunningham went into all phases of the company's problems.

He did not make specific recommendation concerning the proposal to add the lands to the Warm Springs District for the reason that he had not before him sufficient information to base a conclusion.

After hearing the report the members present determined that they would take no definite action by would adjourn to meet February 20 to consider the matter again.

Directors Rex Marquis of the Warm Springs district board was present and made a talk to the land owners setting forth the plans of the board for serving this section, giving probable costs and other data.

Harry Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Brown arrived home from the army last Thursday. He was Hoboken ready to go over when war ended.

GOVERNMENT SEEDS MAY BE SECURED AT ARGUS OFFICE

Two small sacks of government seeds were received this week by the Argus from Representative N. J. Sinnott, the supply this year is limited, says Mr. Sinnott and distribution will be made in this way. If you want some of these seeds call at the Argus office for them.

COUNCIL DETERMINES TO IMPROVE ONTARIO

POLICY OF NEW ADMINISTRATION TO BE, "MAKE ONTARIO A BETTER CITY IN WHICH TO LIVE" SAYS MAYOR

WATER PROBLEMS DEBATED

Pass Dog Tax Ordinance by Narrow Vote—Committee Chairman Instructed As to Duties—Laxon is Named Councillman.

"What we are all striving for is to make Ontario a better city in which to live", said Mayor R. W. Jones, during an interesting session of the City Council at the City Hall Monday evening.

The discussion which brot this declaration of the new administration's policy was that concerning various phases of the water problem which is up for solution at this time.

No action was taken on water rates or policy of operating the water system but the entire subject will be considered at a series of meetings of the water committee on Wednesday evening and other evenings to follow, until all questions can be ironed out.

That the council has a real problem on its hands was evident from the debate Monday night. The members are not certain whether to continue the meter system for water users or to adopt a flat rate that will encourage the use of water for the irrigation of lawns and gardens as well as the growth of trees.

Another problem to be solved is that of making connections with the present system. It has been discovered that several persons have already connected with the system without making application to anyone so far as the records show. They have been getting service for nothing. Likewise it is found that in some several business houses are connected thru one meter and thus the city is losing revenue that rightfully belongs to it.

The proposal is made that hereafter all connections must be made by the superintendent of the water system and a flat charge made therefore to be paid to the city. This will necessitate the equipping of the plant with the necessary tools and the purchase, possibly of a car for the use of the water department. Such equipment the members believe will result in an increase of efficiency and a saving ultimately to the city.

J. T. Millikin was present at the meeting and presented a series of figures on the cost of delivering water to irrigating systems in this section, and declared that if a higher rate than 7 cents per thousand gallons were charged to persons irrigating land they could not afford to use the system, and that the cost of the system would fall upon the taxpayers.

It was then that Mayor Jones declared that it was the purpose of the council to so fix the rates that the people would use the water to beautify the city while at the same time paying enough therefore to pay for operation and upkeep as well as contributing to the ultimate paying for the plant.

Laxon Named to Council

One of the first acts of the Council at the session was to elect W. H. Laxon to its membership to fill the vacancy resulting from the failure of Erbie Hayes to qualify after being elected. Mr. Laxon was the unanimous choice of the four councilmen voting.

Debate Dog Tax

On the reading of ordinances the only one presented was that to amend the dog tax measure to read \$3 for males and \$5 for females. When the vote was taken Councilman Allen started the roll call with no and was followed by Councilman Troxell who voted no. Councilmen McDowell, Moore and Laxon however voted yes and the dogs were thus doomed for the present year.

The manner of enforcing the ordinance was the principal question discussed in this connection, and attention was called to the fact that often ranchers' dogs come to town and are liable to be caught in the net of the dog catcher. This phase of the matter was disposed of by the general agreement that the enforcing officer would have to use discretion in this matter.

Prior to getting into legislative session the council disposed of the usual grist of bills.