

The Ontario Argus.

The Ontario Democrat

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ONTARIO, MALHEUR COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1919

NO. 15

PETITION DRAWN FOR PAVING IMPROVEMENT

BUSINESS MEN WHO ARE RENTERS ARE ASKED TO ACCEPT HIGHER RENTS IN RETURN FOR PAVEMENT.

PAVING MEN VISIT THE CITY

It is Ontario's Patriotic Duty to Pave Declares J. R. Blackaby—One Way to Furnish Employment for Labor and help Work of Reconstruction.

Word that Ontario is considering the laying of pavement in portions of the city has served to draw attention to the community already. This week the city was invaded by representatives of paving firms who are scouting around to learn just what is going on, and to find out if possible whether or not Ontario really means to go ahead.

The first of the paving contingent to reach the city was M. W. Woodward of Spokane, representing the Warren Bros. manufacturers of bitulithic paving. He arrived here Saturday night of last week and canvassed the situation Sunday and Monday, leaving Monday night with the impression that Ontario was "farin to go."

Petitions Drawn.

During the week two petitions have been drawn and will be circulated for signatures. The first is in the form of an agreement and request on the part of the business men renting property on Oregon and other business streets, to and with owners of the property. In this agreement and petition the renters declare their willingness to increase the rents they pay, in consideration of the laying of pavement in the district, and request the property owners to petition the Council for the formation of a paving district.

The second petition is the formal one by the property owners to the Council asking for the formation of the district asking for a public hearing, etc.

Public Duty Says Blackaby.

"Ontario should proceed to pave," said J. R. Blackaby, the originator of this movement. "It is our patriotic duty as a community to do something to cause the employment of labor. If every town and city over the country that needs paving or other public improvement would proceed with it now, it would do more than anything else to get business established on a firm basis, and tide the nation over the reconstruction period.

"Reconstruction is an empty word, and will be turned into a sad failure if the communities of the land do not go ahead and do their part. If we were still at war this community would be subject to call after call upon its resources for funds that would never return. In this paving

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IRRIGATION PROBLEM PUZZLING CITIZENS

Water Users' Association Meeting to be Held Friday Evening to Determine Whether Irrigation Ditches Must Go.

To determine whether or not to abandon the irrigation ditches and to depend entirely upon watering laws and gardens from the municipal water system is the problem which the members of the Water Users' association will try to solve at a meeting to be held at the City Hall Friday evening.

Council Places Rate.

At a meeting of the City Council Wednesday evening that body adopted the report of the Water Committee which recommended that for this season the rate for water for irrigation purposes be placed at 10 cents per thousand gallons.

This was done for the purpose of determining what can be accomplished at this rate, and to learn the cost of service, which will serve as a guide for future rates.

LOWER FLAT RANCHERS CAN REACH WEISER ON GOOD ROAD

County Engineer B. F. Farmer passed through Ontario Monday enroute for the lower Dead Ox Flat country where he had a crew at work cutting down a grade and otherwise making it possible for the ranchers of that section to reach their trading point. This work was finished this week and Mr. Farmer returned to Vale to get ready to start work on the Boulevard which is to be gravelled from Cairo to the Nyssa corner.

Most of the work that has to be done in the Dead Ox Flat country is the result of the efforts of the people of that section in voting a special road tax for the districts, which, with their portion of the county road taxes has made possible the improvement of their roads.

WILL BUILD MODERN UNDERTAKING CHAPEL

A. W. Conover Announces Plans for Erection of Building on Richardson Street, Contract to Be Let Soon.

A. W. Conover announced this week that he had plans prepared for the immediate erection of a modern undertaking parlors and funeral chapel. Bids will be called for at once and work started as soon as possible.

According to Mr. Conover's plans the new building will occupy the site of the present parlors, but will be four times as large. The new building will be erected of concrete with a pressed brick front, and will be 25 feet wide and 60 feet long, on story and full basement beneath.

Beside the chapel there will be an office, show room and work room and the institution will be equipped with every modern convenience.

Originally Mr. Conover intended to have the building erected last year, but on account of war conditions postponed action until now.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE WILL BE LAUNCHED

A. G. Clark of Oregon State Chamber of Commerce to Address Mass Meeting of Citizens Friday Evening.

For the purpose of placing directly before the business men of Ontario, the objects of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, A. G. Clark of Portland, field manager of the organization, will address a mass meeting at the Commercial club rooms Friday evening.

Mr. Clark is in Eastern Oregon and spent this week in Harney county. He will address a mass meeting at Vale Saturday when the county campaign will be launched. Having an extra day at his disposal he consented to speak in Ontario Friday night.

Frank Rader is the chairman of the Ontario district for the drive, and since this section with a quota of 95 has the largest number to secure in the county, it is important that every business and professional man in the city attend the meeting Friday evening.

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHOSEN FOR NEVADA DITCH

At a special meeting of the stockholders of the Nevada Ditch company held at the office of the Secretary, G. L. King, last Saturday afternoon the following were elected to the board of directors: A. L. Sproule, G. E. Stanfield, B. B. Wood, C. W. Mallett, Montie B. Gwinn, J. W. McCulloch and John Wood.

The meeting was called to consider any proposition that the Warm Springs Board might have to offer in connection with a settlement for the existing rights of the Nevada ditch stockholders. No proposition was offered.

Dan Gallagher, Juntura's big merchant, chaperoned a bunch of interior men to Ontario last Saturday to attend the K. of C. festivities. Had the roads been better in the Western end of the county Mr. Gallagher says the number would have been increased.

COMMISSIONERS WILL GO OVER ROADS TODAY

County Court Plans Division of Labor For Strenuous Season—Judge Test Busy With Legal Matters.

For the purpose of determining how to proceed, immediately, to get the Boulevard road in shape according to the plans outlined in the delegation which attended the session of the County Court at Vale last Wednesday, County Commissioners J. A. Weaver and Frank Vines will make a trip over the roads in this end of the County today. Judge E. H. Test planned to go with them but a number of legal matters to be attended to prevented.

To expedite the business of the County Court, Judge Test and the Commissioners are planning dividing the work into departments under the supervision of the individual members, so far as this is possible.

"The plan, as tentatively formed," explained the Judge to the Argus yesterday, "contemplates the supervision of road work by Commissioners Vines and Weaver, while the financial phases of the county's business will be looked after by me. The details of the plan have not been worked out for Commissioner Weaver has a great deal of work on his ranch this summer, and does not know, now how much time he can give to the work."

Just now Judge Test says that the legal matters before him as County Judge is keeping him busy, and with the detail of county business added he is of the opinion that being County Judge, is some job.

"OLD CLOTHES WEEK" IS MARCH 24 TO 31

One Million Belgian Refugees Suffering From Want of Clothing—America Must Clothe Them; Ontario's Quota Three Tons.

"In as much as ye did it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me."

Sermons, eloquent, appealing, compelling have been written from that text, but never was there greater need of appeal than now, when a million men, women and children, returning to their destroyed homes in Northern France and Belgium are suffering from want of clothing.

These sufferers must be clothed, and America, thru its angel of mercy, the Red Cross, is going to do it. Ontario chapter has been assigned the task of sending three tons of clothing, or double that sent forward last fall.

The drive for this material will be held during the week beginning March 24 and will end Monday, March 31.

Search Closet and Attic.

Ontario housewives who are "cleaning house" now cannot do more Christian duty than to search carefully every nook and corner of every closet and attic for discarded clothing and shoes. There is no size limit on this material for their are men, women and children of every age to be supplied.

The Red Cross bulletin gives this graphic account of the plight of the sufferers to be cared for:

Now that the conflict is over and the occupied territories of France and Belgium have been liberated, these refugees are hastening back to their former homes in large numbers. They have no thought of the ruins, the cold weather, or their condition as regards sufficient clothing, only the longing to get back to their homes occupy their minds.

In passing their ruined villages and towns, they can be seen standing in the doorway of houses which have for their roofs nothing but a sheet of canvas which sags under the weight of the snow. Smoke curls up from a hole in the ground and investigation of its source discloses a family of four huddled about a fire in the cellar of a completely wrecked home. The children wear old blankets and the parents work and sleep in ragged patches of work of costumes. To the Red Cross

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ADDITIONAL BUSINESS HOUSES COMING HERE

New Dry Goods Store, New Bakery, New Grocery, all in Sight for Opening of Business April 1.

Rumors of additional business houses for Ontario have been floating about for many weeks, and at last seem to be about to materialize.

The latest business change is that which H. H. Tunny of the Oregon Packing company announced this week which is that on April 1 he will open a grocery department, and inaugurate a new delivery service. Mr. Tunny's plans are not complete, only so far as the grocery stock is concerned.

The Golden Rule company of Boise, and other Idaho towns is soon to have a branch in Ontario. J. A. Draper and his crew of carpenters are busily engaged now in remodeling the Canfield building on the corner of Oregon street and Idaho avenue for the occupancy of this firm. According to the plans being developed a modern store in every respect is to be established.

W. E. Lees has had a crew of men at work completing interior work in one of the buildings he owns on Westside of Oregon street between Nevada and California avenues. This building is to be occupied by a new bakery and delicatessen shop.

Fifer to Move.

Still another important change is that to be made by Ed. Fifer who is to occupy the store room formerly occupied by the Lampkin firm. Mr. Fifer is arranging for a big restaurant and candy store, as well as for an ice cream manufacturing plant.

The building is being plumbed, and a refrigerating plant is being built and everything is being done to make the institution the largest of its kind along the main line from Pocatello to Baker.

RED CROSS TO HOLD QUILTING BEES NOW

Kingman Colony and Big Bend Send Shipments of Knitted Goods—More Yarn Here for Workers—Nyssa and Owyhee Busy.

Good old fashioned quilting bees are to be returned to style by the Red Cross Chapter. As part of the work to clothe the refugees and keep them from freezing the organization is making quilts. Here in Ontario the Chapter is to start work on quilts next Thursday and Friday. Every Ontario woman who wants to help in this great good cause should be at the Chapter workrooms on these days next week.

There is still 90 pounds of yarn to be knitted into refugee garments which Ontario workers should call for. Either Mrs. E. C. Van Petten or Mrs. Frank Rader will distribute allotments of this if called upon.

Auxiliaries Busy.

The local work room this week received a big shipment of completed knitted goods from the workers of the Kingman Colony and Big Bend auxiliaries, and also shipments men's work shirts from the Nyssa and Owyhee auxiliaries. In that section of the Chapter's jurisdiction the workers are "carrying on" with almost war time fervor.

MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD HAVE NARROW ESCAPE IN RUNAWAY

When the team behind which they were driving got out of control Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. Ader and baby had a narrow escape from injury. The horses started to run while coming down the hill thru the cut East of the river, raced across the bridge and up the road leading to the city. As they reached the Jim Guerin ranch the wagon overturned throwing all three to the ground, but free of the vehicle. Aside from bruises none of them were injured.

C. A. Adams who recently sold his ranch on the Boulevard is now a resident of Weiser. Mr. Adams was in Ontario Tuesday calling on old acquaintances.

THREE MALHEUR COUNTY ACRES MAKES OWNER \$200 PER ACRE

When A. Von Readen of the Boulevard district read what the ranchers in the Big Bend produced from their crops last year, he thought, at least he might have that, "they are not the only ones in this part of Malheur county can claim records. Just to show what this part of Malheur county can do he told the Argus the following experience he had last year.

"I planted three acres in sorghum cane, and from that small piece of ground secured 460 gallons of excellent sorghum, and gathered seed which I sold for \$400. I also sold 400 gallons of the sorghum at \$1 per gallon and had 60 gallons left. If I had had a silo I could have saved the pulp for seed, but as it was the land, I figure netted me \$200 per acre."

Who is next? The Argus would like to gather more information of this nature to let the public know just what kind of a country this is.

CANDIDATES RIDE ON K OF C LODGE GOAT

Big Banquet Follows Successful Installation of Large Class—Prominent Members from Portland and Baker Present

Sunday afternoon the Snake River Council, Knights of Columbus, conferred the First, Second, and Third Degrees upon a class of eighteen candidates. The First and Second Degrees were conferred by P. J. Gallagher, P. G. K. and J. R. Fortier, G. K., of the local Council. The Third Degree was conferred by Frank Longergan, of Portland, State Deputy Grand Knight, and A. A. Smith, of Baker, District Deputy Grand Knight.

At seven o'clock in the evening, the Knights retired to the Masonic Hall, where a most delicious banquet was served by the Catholic ladies. The tables were tastefully decorated in green and white, the shamrock emblem being carried out throughout the meal. To Miss Leona Rader, ably assisted by Mrs. D. F. Conway, is due the credit for the sumptuous banquet.

P. J. Gallagher presided as Toastmaster. After the invocation, which was pronounced by the Rev. H. A. Campo, Miss Catherine Conway delighted her audience, especially those who come directly, or indirectly from the Emerald Isle, with some Irish Melodies. Frank Longergan, State Deputy, gave a stirring address on the Knights of Columbus War Activities. After which A. A. Smith, District Deputy, responded splendidly to the toast: "Knights of Columbus and Reconstruction."

For twenty minutes, George Hennessey convulsed his audience with humorous songs, to which he played his own accompaniment. After Mr. Hennessey's songs, the Rev. P. J. Stack, of Juntura, responded to the toast "Impressions". After which P. J. Gallagher gave the toast: "Ireland for the Irish." James Smith then favored his fellow Knights with a few Patriotic melodies, and was enthusiastically received.

The evening was fittingly closed with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner.

ONTARIO BOY FIGURES IN INTERNATIONAL ROMANCE

The following taken from the Oregonian tells the story of the marriage of Tom Jones, formerly of Ontario, who left here to enter the service. Instead of being station agent, as the Oregonian says, Mr. Jones was one of the operators here. The following is the story as it appeared in the city papers:

Another matrimonial casualty has occurred in the ranks of Oregon overseas men, according to a recent issue of the paper, published by the A. E. F. railway engineers, which publishes an item concerning the marriage of Sergeant Tom G. Jones, formerly station agent at Ontario, Oregon.

Sergeant Jones was wedded to Mile Augusta Bugaret at Lormont, France, on January 25. He will bring his bride home within the next few weeks. They expect to make their home either at Ontario or Portland. Sergeant Jones went overseas with the 15th engineers.

CITIZENS AT MEETING FAVOR DEVELOPMENT

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO LAY FINANCIAL PROPOSITION BEFORE THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE PROGRESS POSSIBLE

EVIDENCE OF WEALTH TOLD

H. C. Boyer, H. B. Cockrum and W. H. Laxon Appointed to Make Further Investigations and Suggest Plans for Procedure.

H. B. Cockrum, H. C. Boyer and W. H. Laxon were appointed as a committee to investigate methods of procedure to carry on the investigation relative to the desirability of attempting to develop a commercial gas well in this vicinity, at the mass meeting held last Friday evening.

The meeting was largely attended and displayed marked enthusiasm, with no uncertain expressions of faith on the part of those present that this territory will some day possess a commercial gas well, while many expressed their belief that an oil well will be developed also.

Judge W. W. Wood was the chairman of the meeting and H. B. Cockrum was secretary. Many of the men present, most of whom were connected with the company which tried to develop the well in the south end of town years ago, expressed their willingness to assist in financing another effort.

It was evident, however, that while possessing faith in the proposition, the gathering had no desire to rush into the undertaking without first making a thorough investigation and securing competent men to handle the scientific phases of the investigation.

During the discussion almost everyone present took occasion to tell evidence he had seen many times showing the presence of gas in this section, and all took part in the round table discussion of the possibilities here extant.

E. O. L. CO. PLANS MANY IMPROVEMENTS

Langley Brookes, in Charge of the Nyssa Agency Gives Brief Outline of Development Plans For Year.

Continuing its policy of developing its holdings in this section of Eastern Oregon, the Eastern Oregon Land company has adopted a comprehensive program for the 1919 season, according to Langley Brookes, who is agent for the company in the Nyssa district which covers all the company holdings south of Vale and in the vicinity of Nyssa.

Mr. Brookes was in Ontario Saturday on business and briefly outlined to the Argus what the company is to do in his territory this year, and it is all the kind of development that will employ men and better the country.

First or all the company is to erect two new ranch houses, several barns on the various ranches, new tractor sheds, likewise are to go up, and other needed buildings are planned for.

It is not generally known, but it is a fact, never-the-less, that the Eastern Oregon Land company now has nine farms in the Nyssa section all under the charge of the Nyssa agency, as the work is now divided.

These ranches in all aggregate approximately 1400 acres, 900 of which were developed last year. The largest single unit is known as the Pipe Line Farm, this has 598 acres, and is the pride of the holdings, one that is considered a model institution. It was developed last year, and this year will be in full crop. The second largest farm is the No. 3 farm, with its 375 acres. The other farms vary from the Old Hay farm with its 150 acres to the 12 acre tract known as farm No. 7. These farms stretch from Kingman Colony on the south to this side of Nyssa.