

# The Ontario Argus

GEO. K. AIKEN, Editor and Publisher

Published Thursdays at Ontario, Oregon, and entered at the Ontario post office for distribution as 2nd class matter.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.....One Year \$1.50

## EDUCATION IN PATRIOTISM

Since the American people have been educated to the falsity of the belief expressed once by William Jennings Bryan "that a million American farmers would rise over night to repel an invader," may be it will be possible to prevail on the school boards of the land to teach some real American patriotism.

How many Americans know that George Washington lost many battles during the revolution because of the vast numbers of deserters from the continental Army? How many have ever heard of the battle of Bladenburg? How many realize that except the war with Mexico we have never fought another nation alone?

The need for teaching these things is that we may know the truth about our own weaknesses so that we may guard against them in the future. As Patrick Henry said:

"There is but one way of knowing of the future, and that is by the past." And judging by the past, of which so few Americans have been honestly taught, can we expect an honest effort to teach the American boys and girls the truth about American history during the coming year?

America has a great history. The truth of its lessons needs no false-frills. Here on this continent human freedom has developed the most perfect flower of civilization. The seeds implanted by the Pilgrim fathers and the colonists from England, France and other European countries had long been maturing under adverse conditions, for autonomy was more powerful than anywhere in the world during the past century, save Germany, Turkey and Russia.

Let the American boy and girl learn the truth of the struggle of the English speaking race for political and religious liberty and they will prize our American institutions and the dangers of internationalism, of abject pacifism and other socialist nostrums will fade away. This year of all years the teachers of the American public schools should prepare themselves to teach loyalty to America and make it the keynote of educational structure they would build.

## WANTED, A CLEANER CITY!

Is it not a shame to have to admit Ontario is a dirty city?

During the past week one of Ontario's most loyal and energetic boosters, one who has given of his time and talent to the up-building of this city, and every institution in it said:

"Why is it that we can not inject some civic pride into the hearts of Ontario people? Why do business men permit old bills to hang in vacant store windows? Why is it that the post office is the most cluttered up looking place in town? Why is it that in front of vacant stores in one of the principal business blocks that the sand is permitted to pile up inches deep? Why are all our alleys a disgrace to a city this size? Why, Why, Why?"

Answer—that list of questions for us please.

We will admit that for a town with as much energy as Ontario has displayed in other lines, we can not fathom the recesses of the minds responsible for this condition, except by falling back on the old formula, "Too much of the property is in the hands of too few people, and all they want is rent." They do not care for appearances.

Every time this question is asked and that answer given we hear something like this:

"Is not there a way for the city to clean up and charge the cost to the property owner that will not do so?"

May be there is but now to get that machinery in motion is something we do not know. Therefore this is a time when it would be a good thing for some one to start something.

The Fair is only a week or so away. Get on your best bib and tucker. A clean looking city will make the best impression upon our visitors. Every one should help by doing his part.

Some school teacher in the country will be a high flier during Fair week.

## WATER MASTERS NEEDED

While the ranchers of this section have before them the lessons and the loss suffered thru the shortage of water experienced this season steps should be taken to place the operation of the irrigation systems of Malheur county into the hands of competent Masters.

Next year there may be plenty of water, but no one can predict what will happen so to ignore the results of this season and trust to fate is neither good business nor good common sense.

Repeated statements have been made to the Argus to the effect that had the water of the Owyhee Ditch alone been evenly distributed during the season; that is had the head possible to have been secured, maintained during the growing season an average of one ton per acre of alfalfa above what will be cut would have resulted. In other words every acre under the Owyhee would have produced \$15 more than it has this year. The loss then reduced to cold cash, if these statements are correct, to the ranchers of the Owyhee system is \$150,000.

That is a vast sum to throw away. Even the prosperous ranchers will agree that something should be done to stop it. And it can be stopped, of that there is no doubt.

The trouble is not to be laid at the door of any individual. Neither is it to be laid at the door of the directors of the Owyhee Ditch company. These directors serve without pay. They are all busy men. They all have ranches that require their personal attention. Why should they get out and actually manage a ditch when all they get is abuse? And that more generally than anything else is their reward.

The trouble lies deeper than any man of the board. It lies with the individual stockholders. These men and women take so slight an interest in the affairs of the company that on many an occasion when important matters were up for consideration no quorum could be secured to hold a meeting. This in spite of the provision for proxies. When conditions get to that pass it is time that something be done to arouse the people to action.

Last winter the pumps, one pump at least, which was installed to furnish additional water during the dry season froze. This happened on or about Christmas day, 1918. It was not reported to the board, somehow, or to anyone in authority, or if so no action was taken. Then when the dry season came it was found that the pump could not be operated. The result was a water shortage just when water was needed.

Had the ditch been under the direct management of one man who could be held responsible, it is likely that such a thing would have occurred? Would not any manager have investigated his equipment in the spring to see that everything was in readiness for use? Of course he would.

The Owyhee Ditch is one of, if not the most important institutions in the country. Upon its produce rests the business and the prosperity of a large portion of the population of this section. The extent of capital, the amount invested in its ditches place it beyond the stage where it can be permitted to run itself without the active direction of a competent manager or water master.

The introduction of such a manager would also, without doubt, soon settle the animosity that has long existed between the "upper end and lower end" ranchers. An equal and just distribution of the waters of the main canals would result. And that is what every fair minded honest rancher should be striving for. Any man who opposes a fair distribution of the water to all stock holders, must of necessity be seeking to secure that to which he is not entitled. Under the present system it is natural that each section should be suspicious to the other, and the greatest benefit which a competent manager could secure would be removal of all cause for such suspicion.

The Argus has no desire to interfere in the management of the Owyhee Ditch, or any other enterprise, but believes that since as a public service corporation upon which the prosperity of the entire community is dependent, it should function as nearly perfect as it is possible for it to do. If the property owners of the district will only take as much interest in the company's affairs after the irrigation season as they do in their efforts to get water during the season, The Argus is certain that they will find a way, without burdening their neighbors on the Board of Directors, to solve their problems and hire some one to attend to the details.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES

### UNITED

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
10:00 Bible School.  
11:00 Public Worship.  
W. F. COCHRAN,  
Minister.

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.**  
8:30 a. m., Low Mass.  
10:30 a. m., High Mass.  
9:30 a. m., Catechism for the boys and girls.

### BAPTIST CHURCH

Bible school 10:00.  
Morning Worship 11:00.  
Gospel Service 8:15.  
Continuing the study of the Book of Revelation.  
Prayer Service, Wednesday 8:30

**BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH**  
Rev. J. H. Maloney, Pastor.  
During July and August:  
Sunday Masses at 6:30 and 9 a. m.  
No Sunday School.  
Special Doctrinal sermons every Sunday morning.  
Visitors respectfully invited.

### METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. W. J. Luscombe is attending the Methodist Conference at Weiser, Idaho, this week. The sessions of the conference are being held at the Weiser Methodist church. Next Sunday, which will be the big day of the conference, all the services will be held at the Wheaton theatre. Bishop Richard J. Cooke, the presiding bishop will preach Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

The local church has experienced a prosperous year. \$2,000 has been raised towards the local and Missionary activities of the church. \$3,700 pledged to the Centenary enterprise and \$3,000 towards the new church.

### ATTENTION CITY WATER USERS

You are requested to stop all lawn sprinkling and irrigating upon the Fire Bell being struck five strokes, and to resume only upon the bell being struck two times.

All sprinkling and irrigating must stop when a general fire alarm is turned in.

By order of the Common Council of the City of Ontario, Oregon.  
V. W. CHAMBERS,  
Water Superintendent

## MY! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL HOME!

No doubt you have heard that expression many a time in this very community. Very likely you have used the same expression in giving vent to your admiration of the home of a neighbor, or about some nice farm home which you have noticed on that auto ride.

## DO YOU KNOW WHY THAT PARTICULAR HOME APPEALED TO YOU?

It was on account of its perfect proportion and unusually artistic lines. It was fashioned by an artist.

In all probability that very house was planned by the master craftsman of our architectural department. We have planned homes for many in this community.

WHY NOT FOR YOU? THIS SERVICE IS FREE.

B-P HOMES HAVE CLASS.

B-P HOMES ARE DISTINCTIVE.

AL. CHANCE

Sales Manager

Ontario, Oregon



Manufacturers of WESTERN SOFT PINE

### An Old Fault Finder.

An irritable and fault finding disposition is often caused by indigestion. A man with good digestion and bowels that act regularly is usually good natured. When troubled with indigestion or constipation take Chamberlain's Tablets. They strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. They al-

so cause a gentle movement of the bowels.

Constipation upsets the entire system—causing serious illness to the human family. Don't worry—Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will drive out constipation, regulate the bowels, tone the stomach, purify, cleanse. Without fail give it a thorough trial. 35c.

# GOLDEN GATE COFFEE SALE

## Friday and Saturday

### - : Only : -

This is being put on by the Manufacturers and is worth while.

One-half pound Free with each two and one-half pound can of Golden Gate.

Do not miss this sale.

# E. A. FRASER

PHONES:---No. 144 and No. 5.