

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

TOO MUCH PROSPERITY

It is trite, but true to say, "you cannot please everyone." This is especially the case with public endeavors, such as the annual Malheur County Fair.

The Fair which closed last Friday was in most respects successful, and the vast majority of those who attended had a mighty good time. They were well entertained by the program in front of the grandstand, and if they gave the effort to examine the products on exhibition they secured benefit there also.

There is no use denying, tho, that the Fair was not as successful as it might have been. Instead of a few scanty exhibits, the hall should have been filled with the wonderful produce of this region. In fact the Adrian display saved that portion of the exposition from an almost complete failure.

Just why this was so The Argus will not attempt to say. Many reasons have been given, each of which, probably, contributed to a degree. Before another Fair takes place efforts should be made to see that the same causes do not operate again.

In the first place a change was made in the system describing and classifying exhibits in the premium book and the explanation of the system was contained in the preface, evidently this was not read, or if read, not understood by many who in previous years had placed produce on display.

Second, the ranchers of this valley have had a hard summer. They have been short of help, and they did not feel called upon to put the added energy into the collecting exhibits necessary to a successful showing.

Then there was the question of roads; it was all but impossible to bring exhibits from the Nyssa and lower Boulevard district over the Boulevard; likewise this was true of the Brogan region. In another year this will not be true.

And lastly, after having received promised exhibits from all these regions the Fair directors expected them until the last moment, and could not provide for the disappointments and broken promises. No one can be blamed for this. If the people themselves do not take sufficient interest in the Fair exhibit no one can make them.

The thing that must be done is to make exhibiting so attractive that the ranchers will want to exhibit without special urging, and to see to it that arrangements are made to co-operate with the ranchers to bring the exhibits to the Fair. That will require a rigid checking up of promises during the week before the Fair to avoid disappointments.

The most radical suggestion that the Argus would like to make would be this: Let preparations be started now for next year's Fair.

The association should hold its annual meeting in the near future, elect its directors, with the experience of this year in mind and get interest started at once.

Second the premium book should be prepared on or before the first of the year and be ready for circulation at least during April and May, thus giving the ranchers time to plant varieties of produce with the Fair in mind.

And lastly every business man of Ontario, and every rancher who takes an interest in this exposition should think about it, make suggestions to the board when they come to him, and generally keep constantly before the public the fact that the Fair is held here and is the Best County Fair in the State. It is that, too.

OBEY THE TRAFFIC LAWS

Why is it that people who drive horses ignore all the traffic regulations? This is a question that has puzzled us for years. No doubt others have wondered about the same question.

If our "six cent verdict", possessed a real bumper we would be apt to act upon the notion often entertained of bumping into a traffic violator, if a way could be found to do so without maiming the poor animal that has so senseless a driver.

Ontario is afflicted with at least two men who drive horses and habitually violate the law. The officials will do them a real service by arresting them and giving them a stiff fine, if there is no other way of teaching them common decency.

A ride up Oregon street these days convinces one of the need for street paving.

THE DEBATE

With leaders on both sides of the long distance debate, now in progress between the President and the Senate on the question of the League of Nations, declaring that the issue is not a political one it is nevertheless true that every man or woman should form some opinion on the merits of the question. The question involved is of too great moment to be relegated to the discard of unessentials and left entirely with the officials to settle. The future life, liberty and happiness of every American is bound up in the proper settlement of the question.

Unfortunately during the past week there has been evident a tendency upon the part of both the President and the Senators to cast aside the dignity of their offices and to stoop to the use of personalities. In doing so each has weakened his position in the minds of the thinking public. The mere calling of names never advanced a cause.

Nor have the debaters stopped at the mere characterization of each other. Both have resorted to the use of extravagant statements that are so extreme as bring the conclusion drawn therefrom absurd.

A middle ground between that of the President and the Borah-Johnson-McCormick position must be found if the question is not to degenerate into a mere political squabble.

That the rancor now shown by the Senate leaders would not have been communicated to the people had the President taken that body into his confidence and followed his declaration of "open covenants, openly arrived at," is the belief of most critics, as well as the President's friends.

It is likewise true that in their spirit of resentment at the treatment accorded them by the President, Senators Borah and Johnson have over-looked the object which the league of nations was supposed to attain, says Senator McCumber, and there is a measure of truth in his observation.

Historically speaking there is no foundation for the belief that the league of nations could attain the idealistic condition which its proponents claim for it. The people of the world have not achieved the required standard of morality to make a league completely effective. The framers of the present proposed league recognize that, and in fact are playing fast and loose with the English language (in describing their concoction as The "league of nations." It is not that, but merely an entente of the five great powers and 21 others they have selected for membership.

But that is not the principal objection made to the league. What is more serious is the evident ambiguity of the language of the League's constitution, which has already given rise to such serious disagreements as to what the terms really mean. From the debate in Congress and the discussions of the league that have taken place in the British Parliament and the French House of Deputies it is evident that these three powers are not in accord in their interpretation of cardinal points in the covenant. That does not look well for the success of the league.

Take the case of the Monroe Doctrine for example. When interrogated as to what would happen in case of a dispute arising concerning that American policy, a British cabinet member told the British parliament "the league is there to settle it."

Now it is true that the Monroe doctrine has long been defended by the British navy. In fact a suggestion of such a policy for America was made by British statesmen prior to its pronouncement by President Monroe—but the American people have not yet determined to abandon it, or make its interpretation subject to any body but themselves.

The case of Shantung, too, contains the seeds of future trouble for the United States, and it would be well to know exactly what Japan has promised with respect to that important piece of land.

Certainly the United States can not constitute itself a Don Quixote and start out to remake the world and undo all the wrongs that have been done in the past—but the American people need not be asked to place their stamp of approval upon Japan's iniquitous grab of Shantung.

So taken all in all there is plenty of room for changes in the proposed league of nations. Its authors ought not if they desire to see the principal objects attained; stand on pride of authorship and deny the senate the right to dot an i or cross a t. They cannot deny it that right, and the more the President and his friends insist on the literal acceptance of the proposed covenant the more stubborn will be the opposition.

Dog days are past and the City Council has decreed that the muzzling ordinance shall be non-operative until next summer,

JARDINEERS

We have a very Complete Line of Jardineers for Your Inspection.

Let us show you the line.

E. A. FRASER

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

THERE'S NO NEED
Of Waiting

FOR YOUR

Thor

ELECTRIC WASHING MACHINE
NOW!

You can telephone or write to the nearest office of the Idaho Power Co. during the month of September and have a Thor Electric Washing Machine sent to your home on a first payment of only \$10.00.

IF YOU ONLY KNEW

If you only realized how simple and easy a Thor makes the hardest washday you wouldn't be without one of these efficient sturdy labor-savers another moment. Think of being able to have your wash on the line by nine o'clock every Monday. Think of owning a faithful, durable mechanical laundress which only costs two cents per hour for electric current and is ready for service no matter what the time or weather.

Place your order now; do not put it off until it is too late.

This offer is for the month of September only.

Idaho Power Co.

(Any Office or Agent.)

ONLY
\$10
DOWN

During the Month of September. Balance in small monthly payments