

CAIRO-NYSSA OFFER DEEMED TOO LARGE

HIGHWAY COMMISSION RECEIVES BID FROM PORTER & CONNELLY FOR GRADING HIGHWAY FOR \$69,277.25

The engineering department of the State Highway Commission has before it the figures offered by contractors for the grading of the Cairo-Nyssa section of the John Day Highway, along what is locally known as the Boulevard.

These figures, the lowest offered call for \$69,277.25 for the grading of the 9.11 miles with 2000 yards of gravel per mile, or \$3.63 per yard of gravel. This is fully 20 per cent more than the estimates of the engineering department, which is said to have placed the figures at \$3.00 per yard.

As yet no action has been taken by the commission, for it is not probable that the engineering department of the commission has had time to investigate the situation.

County Judge E. H. Test who went to Portland to be present at the opening of bids returned Sunday night, and he later advised the commission that he was of the opinion that the figure was as low as could be expected since there were no local contractors equipped to do the work. He advised that the contract be let at the figure named.

May be too Late

The principal effect of delay in the letting of this contract will be that of running the opening of work into the fall rains and thus make the road impassable during the very season when it is of vital importance that it be in condition.

Klamath Gets Melon

The outstanding feature of the Highway Commission meeting in Portland was the proposition it made Klamath county whereby for \$250,000 raised by the county a gross expenditure of \$1,520,000 well spent on its roads by the State and Federal government.

It was to receive just such a proposition that the people of many counties in Eastern Oregon voted bonds last spring. Malheur county among them, but as yet no definite proposition has been received from the commission, the various pieces of work have been undertaken without definite division of the cost.

ATTORNEY GENERAL REVERSES WARDEN

According to Legal Authority Game Season Does Not Open in Eastern Oregon Until October 1—That Is Final.

In an opinion given by Attorney General George M. Brown, to Mr. M. A. Biggs, District Attorney for Harney county, the shooting season for ducks, geese and other migratory waterfowl has been definitely settled. Confusion has existed in the minds of many shooters on account of a difference in the Federal and State seasons. The State cannot legislate within the closed season of the Federal regulations, but it can legislate within the open season. The Federal open season is three and one-half months, but the State, if it cares to, may close any portion or all of this Federal open season. The shooting season, therefore, which must be observed by hunters through out Oregon is as follows:

For Multnomah, Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook counties, the open season begins on October 1st and closes December 31st. In other counties of Game District No. 1, which comprises all that portion of Oregon lying west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains, the season opens on October 15th and closes on January 15th. In all counties of Game District No. 2, which comprises all that portion of Oregon lying east of the summit of the Cascade Mountains, the open season be-

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Mrs. Elmo Pearson of Weiser is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rader, at present.

RANCHER AND RAILROAD MAN EACH BUY HOME IN ONTARIO

During the past week two new home owners have been added to Ontario's growing list of permanent residents. On Wednesday G. W. Haw who last spring sold his big ranch on Willow creek purchased the W. F. Homan residence on Virtue street. Mr. Haw formerly lived in Pendleton and made his selection of a permanent residence after looking over several of Ontario's neighbors.

L. M. Ready who is captain of the crew that runs from Ontario to Brogan and from Ontario to Homedale and who for some time has been living on his ranch near Washoe has purchased the brick house owned by Mrs. Retta Payne on California avenue and Richardson street. He will move there soon.

MODERN MORTUARY TO BE ERECTED AT ONCE

H. L. Peterson Arranges For Construction of Funeral Chapel and Morgue Along Modern Lines

A modern funeral chapel and mortuary will be built immediately in Ontario. The building which is to be erected by T. H. Moore for H. L. Peterson will embrace all of the most modern accessories of such institutions as are found only in the larger cities. When completed the structure will surpass any that now exists from Salt Lake to Portland.

While in Portland recently Mr. Peterson spent some time inspecting all of the funeral chapels of that city and had embraced all of the best features found there, of course on a scale suitable for the requirements of a growing city like Ontario.

Chapel to Seat 125

The building which is to be erected just north of and adjoining the Ontario Furniture company's store, will be 26 by 55, with a plate glass front, and two front entrances. In the front will be located the office, behind which will be the chapel with a seating capacity of 125, while to one side, giving privacy will be a family room. Immediately back of the chapel and to one side will be the music room, separated by trellis work. Then follows the display room behind which will be the morgue.

One of the features of the building will be that of the interior decorations which will be in grey and old rose, with draperies securing a soothing effect, achieving the quiet atmosphere in keeping with the purpose to which the building is used.

Have Had Long Experience

The undertaking business is not a new one to Mr. Peterson or to his assistant, Mr. Augustus. For six years prior to his coming to Ontario Mr. Peterson was a licensed undertaker and embalmer in Kansas and has licenses for this work in Kansas, Oregon and Idaho. Mr. Augustus, too, has had six years experience and is licensed for Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

NEW TEACHERS WILL BE RECEPTION GUESTS

Former Members of Public School Faculty to Honor Associates and Introduce Them to Public Monday Evening

At the Wilson Hall on Monday evening will be held a reception in honor of the new members of the faculty of the Ontario Public Schools. This function is to be given by the members of the force who have been here in previous years.

Assisting the hostesses in this event will be the members of the Parent-Teachers association and to this gathering the parents and public is invited. An informal program will be given, with the "get acquainted" spirit manifest all thru. Since there are so many teachers here this year for the first time such a reception will serve to make them "feel at home."

Born to Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Luehrs Friday, Sept. 19th, a son.

HOME BUILDING PLEDGE SIGNED BY TWENTY-FIVE

Definite Step Taken to Solve Ontario's Housing Problem—D. M. Taggart and F. L. Body Start Drive Wednesday—Finish Today.

Twenty-five Ontario business men—or to be exact 24 men and one woman—have given their plighted word to solve Ontario housing congestion by building homes either for themselves or for rent immediately.

These men who have shown their faith in the future prosperity of Ontario are listed here too, but the man to whom a large share of the credit for bringing the solution of the problem about is D. M. Taggart who suggested the idea of a round-robin pledge and an actual commitment of individual business men to do something besides talk about building. He got his "hunch" on Sunday and proceeded to act. On Monday the resolution printed herewith and the pledge was prepared and work to get signers started yesterday morning. By evening he and F. L. Body, secretary of the Commercial club, secured 18, and today Mr. Body and W. H. Laxson secured the other seven.

Money Can Be Secured

This action was taken after the directors of the club canvassed the situation Saturday and found that it was not a lack of money that was keeping the campaign back, but an apparent waiting for some one to "lead off."

It is found that one building and loan company is ready to loan from \$75,000 to \$100,000 for home building in this city, and that a number of individual citizens are likewise ready to finance homes for those who can pay one fourth down.

As a result of the action of Mr. Taggart and Mr. Body the following resolution was adopted by the club at the meeting last night—and the following was the pledge signed by those who are to build.

In this connection plans and specifications were secured for a basis on which a co-operative effort to buy lumber and material in bulk may be considered, these are not shown here but may be seen at the office of the club's secretary.

RESOLUTION

September 24th, 1919.

WHEREAS: The housing problem in Ontario is a serious one at this time. It is conservatively estimated that approximately 50 new homes are needed to comfortably house the people; and

WHEREAS: Numerous families are deterred from coming to Ontario,

ONTARIO LOSES BIG FAMILY BECAUSE OF NO PLACE TO LIVE

The following notice was slipped under the door of the Argus office one day last week, and since it is a message of importance that should cause that on the part of loyal citizens it is thus presented exactly as it was written.

LOST TO ONTARIO

"During Fair time one large family of six; an A No. 1 family. They looked all over Ontario for two days and could not find a house in which to live and hence they took the train to Payette. Reader, draw your own conclusions.

"Old Soldier."

Jos. Scholes Dangerously Ill

Jos. Scholes, signal man on the Short Line here is in a Salt Lake hospital dangerously ill from what is believed to be meningitis. Mrs. Scholes was called to Salt Lake by the head surgeon of the Short Line who in his message said Mr. Scholes condition was serious. She remained there for some time and came back here Saturday to put her son in school and then returned to Salt Lake Sunday. No word has been received here since then concerning his condition. It is believed that Mr. Scholes illness is due to injuries received when he was thrown from his speeder when it struck a dog last fall.

or, after their arrival here and the housing facilities presented to them leave, and

WHEREAS: The Ontario merchants and professional men will derive considerable benefit directly or indirectly from each family established in Ontario, and

WHEREAS: Some of our merchants and business men are not now home owners, and

WHEREAS: If from 25 to 30 parties would obligate themselves to build immediately the price of construction would be so materially reduced that the advance in building materials would not be in like proportion to other commodities,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the residents of the City of Ontario be canvassed and an endeavor put forth to persuade at least twenty-five parties to commence building operations immediately, and thus generally encourage an active building program.

The Pledge

I, the undersigned, being a resident of the City of Ontario, and having entire faith in the future development and growth of the City, realize the immediate necessity for action in connection with the construction of more houses, am willing and ready to back my faith and do my part towards relieving the situation. Therefore, providing at least twenty-four other parties will join me, I hereby promise to let a contract for the construction of a house within fifteen days and not later than December 31st, 1919, from date of signing this agreement and commence building operations immediately thereafter. It is understood that a house can be built using plans and specifications outlined in Exhibit "A" attached hereto for the price of \$2,300; or Exhibit "B" for the price of \$2,900 as a basis.

D. M. Taggart W. H. Laxson
H. L. Peterson J. F. Doty
R. W. Jones J. R. Fortier
C. E. Bingham P. J. Flynn
J. R. Blackaby Geo. P. Reihisen
Harry Kime L. Hirsch
H. R. Udick S. J. Spencer
Ed Pifer P. N. Madden
F. P. Ryan Harry Miller
H. B. Cockrum E. C. Van Petten
Frank Rader Dan E. Montague
L. G. Olsen V. W. Chambers
Mrs. Laura B. Gregg

STATE CHAMBER IS WORKING FOR OREGON

F. S. Bramwell, Vice-president of State Organization Makes Eloquent Address to Club—Every Proposal is Endorsed.

With a message of inspiration, and at the same time a pointed indictment of the neglect shown this section by the state at large—E. S. Bramwell, vice-president of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce aroused the members of the Ontario Commercial club as they have seldom been in the past few years, in his address to the club last night following the weekly luncheon.

Mr. Bramwell who is touring the state checking up the needs of the state and the condition of its various irrigation districts declared that while Oregon has been slighted, neglected and ignored in many respects in the past, such condition will change thru the fact that for the first time it has a statewide body which is working for the entire state and not for any one section.

He described the organization of the state chamber, the method by which its directorate is divided so as to preclude the possibility of control by one section. He strengthened his statement by concrete instances of the work done so far, citing especially the relief accorded the Sumpter

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MORE CONTRACTS COME TO LOCAL MANUFACTURING FIRM

During the past week the U. S. Manufacturing company has secured three large contracts for plumbing and heating equipment and one for steel tanks which will occupy the working force of that growing concern for sometime to come.

The first contract secured was that for the plumbing and heating equipment of the new High School building in course of construction at Emmett. The second was for similar installations in the new Waddell building in Nampa. The third contract calls for the erection of ten 10,000 gallon steel tanks for an Idaho company.

During the past week the company has delivered a number of big corrugated steel culverts which are going under the paving in different parts of the city. Also a whole car load of big culverts have recently been manufactured for the county. With the present contracts lined up the company's force will be busy for some time.

COMMERCIAL CLUB WILL LEND GRANGE SUPPORT

Committee to Co-operate in Effort to Secure Extension of Power Lines—Investigate Telephone Company's Rate Request.

To co-operate with the Boulevard Grange in its effort to have the Idaho Power company extend its lines to give service to many ranchers in that section who desire service, the Commercial club unanimously endorsed the Grange's proposition and President W. W. Wood appointed the following committee to lend any assistance possible in the matter: D. M. Taggart, E. M. Greig and G. K. Aiken.

E. M. Greig explained to the meeting that in the near future the public service companies would meet with the Oregon Public Service commission and at that meeting a determination would be made as to the minimum of service necessary before a public service would be compelled to give service when requested. The club committee will keep this in touch with the situation and assist the grange committee where possible.

To Investigate Phone Rates

Fred B. Jones, general manager of the Malheur Home Telephone company appeared before the club for the second time in an effort to secure the club's endorsement of the company's request for increased rates and a reduction in the service given this city to Fruitland and Nyssa.

W. H. Brooke who had examined the report submitted by the Public Service commission to the club that sufficient data was not at hand for a proper consideration of the request. He suggested that a committee be appointed to make a proper investigation and confer with Mr. Jones. The committee appointed was: W. H. Brooke, W. F. Homan, E. C. Van Petten, W. J. Pinney and Irwin Troxell.

Endorse Bridge at Vale

W. J. Pinney presented a request from the Vale Chamber of Commerce and with it a petition requesting the County Court and the State Highway Commission to build the bridge across the Malheur on the John Day Highway at A street in Vale. This was favorably acted upon and the petition was signed by all the members present.

Invite State W. C. T. U.

At the request of the local W. C. T. U. the club joined with that body in extending an invitation to the state organization to hold its next annual convention in Ontario.

ADDITIONAL ISSUE OF BONDS SOLD BY WARMSPRINGS BOARD

At Vale on Saturday the block of Warm Springs bonds amounting to \$200,000 were sold at 92 to Ralph Snaalock, of Portland, who purchased the preceding issue of the district. The price for the last block was three quarters of a point better than either of the previous issues.

J. R. Blackaby was among the hundreds of business men and ranchers who attended the land sale at Homedale, Tuesday, at which all records for prices of state farm lands were broken for the State of Idaho.

ONTARIO LIVE STOCK LOAN CO. ORGANIZED

J. R. Blackaby and Associates in Ontario National Bank Without Side Connections From Big Company

With a capital stock of \$50,000 a large portion of which is held by local men, the Ontario Live Stock Loan Company was launched this week. It made its first loans here yesterday.

The company which is headed by J. R. Blackaby, president; S. F. Wilson, of Portland, vice-president and Earl Blackaby, secretary-treasurer. The other incorporators are L. Adams, C. R. Emison and W. F. Homan, all of whom are connected with the Ontario National bank in which the offices of the new company will be located for the present.

Mr. Wilson the vice-president of the new organization has long been familiar with conditions in this section thru his connection with the Bankers Mortgage company of Portland of which he is vice-president.

The company was formerly launched this week, it has been in the process of formation for some time, in fact the articles of incorporation were issued two weeks ago.

"Thru the financial connections which the new company has made," said Mr. Blackaby, "it will be able to handle the live stock loan business of this section of Oregon and Idaho adequately. We feel that there is a need for such an institution in this section and that Ontario is the logical place for its location."

"The day is passed when cattle and sheepmen can finance their operations with comparatively small loans. Prices are too high for that, and we feel that they will appreciate the opportunity to place their loans locally and meet the men who will handle their credit for them."

LAND SALES REPORTED SHOW GREAT DEMAND

Five Farms Near City Sold in Past Week—Prices Range From \$325 to \$200 per acre—Settlers Headed This Way.

After having been on the fringe of the territory in which land demand has been active for some time, Ontario has entered the charmed circle and is feeling the effect of prosperity. This is indicated by the sales of ranches reported transferred during the past week. In all five good farms changed hands in that time.

The biggest deal reported was that by which J. A. Lawrence formerly of Ironside, but more recently of Baker secured title to the W. H. McEldowney ranch west of the city for \$20,000. In this farm are 100 acres of improved land.

On Saturday Mrs. S. A. Booth sold the 80 acre farm she has owned for years to J. A. Irwin, the wellknown sheepman of New Meadows, who has wintered his flocks in this section several winters. This ranch is four miles straight west of the city.

A third deal reported is that by which Barney McGill secured possession of the 20 acre tract southwest of town which J. B. Twiford bought last spring from A. N. Hickey. This proved the topnotch sale for price. The 20 acres sold for \$6,500 or \$325 per acre. This land is in a state of high cultivation, with a small orchard and truck garden as well as some alfalfa land.

Seymour Ross who recently sold his ranch near Nyssa is another new comer to Ontario, he having purchased the John Dens ranch of 60 acres southwest of town for \$200 per acre.

The last deal reported will bring a new settler from Oklahoma, L. Gray of Prague in that state. Mr. Gray has purchased the Chas. Denky forty on the Boulevard for \$9,000.

While these are the reported sales there are many other deals pending and it is very evident that the demand for land in this section is improving rapidly.