

HOW TO SAVE FUEL IS PUZZLING PROBLEM

COMMERCIAL CLUB MEMBERS DEBATE QUESTION OF REGULATIONS—WANT FUEL SAVED BUT NOT LIMITING OF BUSINESS HOURS.

HOT DEBATE OCCUPIES TIME

Declare Willingness to "Stand Behind Fuel Commission But Not Regulation of Business Hours—Many Air Views.

How to regulate fuel without limiting business hours is the most agitated problem in the minds of Ontario business men today, and has been all week.

At the Commercial club last night the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, that the Commercial club stands behind the fuel commission but not its regulation of business hours."

On Tuesday a similar resolution was adopted by the board of directors of the club and submitted to the Argus for publication, and declined, in the hope that it would not be necessary for this paper to give forth the information that the city was not united in its efforts to fight the fuel problem to a finish. However, the object which the Argus desired to attain has been defeated by the general discussion of the matter on the streets and at the club, therefore the club's request for publicity as to its stand in the matter is granted.

All Sides Heard

Before this motion was finally passed a debate lasting two hours took place, and every phase of the problem was discussed. The debate opened by L. I. Hirsch reading the fuel regulations as given forth by Fuel Administrator Dr. James A. Garfield, and his comparison of these with the local regulations.

With others who followed he voiced his willingness to adhere to the regulations but declared the methods adopted wrong. He suggested that the commission determine the number of cubic feet space in every business house and regulate the amount of coal needed for that size building per week or month and let the occupant use when and how he saw fit. He urged that dances be

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FUEL SHORTAGE CUTS BRANCH LINE SERVICE

One Crew Eliminated on Ontario Crane Run—Brogan Service Made Tri-Weekly—Afternoon Ponies Cut Off.

Under the general instructions cutting the train service on all the railroads west, northwest and southwest from Chicago, the Oregon Short Line and Oregon Eastern service was cut Monday.

On the main line the only cut was that of the afternoon ponies from Boise to Huntington, trains No. 87 and 88 being eliminated.

On the Oregon Eastern one crew was taken off the Ontario to Crane run, that crew being under Conductor Paul Cayou. Conductor C. G. Pinney and his crew now furnish all the service on that line. Thus train No. 371 goes to Crane from Ontario on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and returns from Crane to Ontario on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Similar treatment was meted out to the Brogan branch which has had a daily service. Conductor L. M. Ready and his crew alternate to Brogan with that to Homedale, making the Homedale trip Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and the Brogan trip Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. This train will not run on Sundays to Vale. The same crew that operates to Homedale and Brogan now does the local switching in Ontario and its crew starts work at 6 a. m. so that it can make up the train for the Crane run and do the other station work in the local yards.

CALLING OFF OF STRIKE CAUSES CHANGED PROGRAM

One of the reasons given by the fuel commission in changing its regulations was the fact that the miners have called off the strike. But in view of the fact that the need for conservation will continue for a month the Argus appeals to every citizen to give his or her cooperation to the commission to see that the new regulations are enforced to the end that suffering will not be marked here. This it is confidently expected, will be the response of Ontario citizens.

It must be remembered, too, that a snow blockade on the railroads may make the coal shortage here even more acute than it is now any time within the next two months and that constant restrictions on the use of fuel is a matter of supreme importance.

WEATHER MAN SERVES STRENUOUS VARIETY

City Experiences First Sub-Zero Weather in Two Years—Tuesday Morning Mercury Hits Low Mark—Fuel Supply Short.

For the first time in two years Ontario and this section of the Snake and Malheur valleys experienced sub-zero weather, and at that was one of the most fortunate of the northern regions.

According to various unofficial thermometers, the temperature Tuesday morning was anywhere from 6 to 14 below. This last named figure was given as the record of thermometer at the station and recorded about 4 a. m. The recording thermometer at the home of H. B. Cockrum, however, only recorded 6 below, and as this is deemed a very good instrument it is generally considered accurate and its figure corresponds more nearly to the recorded government figures in near by cities.

The cold snap was broken yesterday, however, when a gentle and welcome Chinook breeze in and dispelled the liberal fall of snow that fell all day Tuesday. In all nearly eight inches of fresh snow fell on top of the seven inches that preceded the Tuesday storm.

The weather man, however, proved a fickle jade and switched off his balmy Chinook last night and substituted today a regular Medicine Hat blizzard that made Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa folks think of their old home states.

Delayed trains and suffering is reported from various sections and even Portland and other coast points are having the coldest weather in their histories. All thru trains are late due to the storms last week in Nebraska and general disarrangement of business is the result.

The thaw did not come in time to save many a householder hours of work thawing pipes that froze Monday night and Tuesday morning, but it was welcome to hundreds whose coal supply dwindled in spite of efforts to conserve in face of the fuel famine.

According to data in the office of O. A. Kratz there are now 108 families in and about Ontario who are absolutely out of coal or whose supply will last but three or four days. There are 38 more whose supply will last but a week, and 26 who have reported two week's or more supply on hand. The rest of the city presumably has a winter's supply, or nearly so on hand or would have visited the

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VETERAN PHOTOGRAPHER BUYS BURRELL STUDIO

P. Seligman, who came to Ontario from Burns two weeks ago intending to make a temporary stand here, was so impressed with Ontario's possibilities that this week he purchased the Burrell Studio from Miss Jennie Rooney and is to locate here permanently. He is having the establishment renovated and remodelled and a further announcement of his work will be made next week.

Fuel Hours, Not Business Hours Basis of Regulations

At a meeting of the Fuel Commission this afternoon it was decided to at once change the method of regulation and to follow suggestion of the Commercial club and to name hours in which fuel may be used instead of hours that business may open and close.

Before this was done the members of the commission individually declared that they personally would rather resign entirely, but believing that the need for regulation of fuel consumption will continue for at least thirty days, they will do their best with the co-operation of the citizens to attain that end.

The following is the schedule:
Restaurants, 6 a. m. to 9 p. m.
Barber shops, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m., week days; Saturdays to 8 p. m.
Stores, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m., week days, Saturdays to 8 p. m.

Pool halls and soft drink places and card rooms, 12 m. to 8 p. m.
Churches, one heated service per week.
Picture shows, 5 p. m. to 9 p. m.
Lumber yards, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.
Offices 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.
Drug stores, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.
Storage garages, heat on after 5 p. m.
Garages shops, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.
Hotels and rooming houses, 6 a. m. to 9 p. m.
Dances, one per week, 9 p. m. to 12 p. m.
Manufacturing plants, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.
Banks, 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

The above heating hours apply to both coal and wood fires.

O. A. KRATZ,
W. F. HOMAN,
Fuel Administration Committee.

ONTARIO'S GROWTH IS SHOWN IN TELEPHONES

Local Exchange Demands Have So Increased that Subscribers Now Over 500—More Operators and Larger Equipment Installed.

Another conclusive bit of evidence of the growth of Ontario is reported by Manager Mel Dolling of the Malheur Home Telephone, at whose office W. L. Ackroyd of Denver, installation expert for the Mountain States company, has been installing new equipment to care for the growth of the system.

Mr. Ackroyd will this week complete the repairs and installation by which the company will be able to serve the more than 500 stations now served by the office. The number would be even greater if the material needed could be secured.

"When the installation is finished," said Mr. Dolling yesterday, "we will be able to serve nearly a third more customers than in the past. To do this will increase the number of operators to ten and a chief, or eleven in all. The demand for phones in Ontario is an accurate indication of the growth of the city, and that will be shown, I am sure, when the census is taken next month."

F. M. Ballard, leader of the county agent work in Eastern Oregon, was in Ontario this week on business.

CHRISTMAS SEAL SALE SURPASSES RECORDS

School Children Do Remarkably Well—Theatre Goes Buy—Dead Ox Flat Takes Quota—Campaign Not Finished.

Ontario has purchased nearly \$200 worth of the little Christmas Seals, showing her interest in the fight against tuberculosis. While the city's quota of \$300 has not been reached it will be approximated. All previous records of sales here have been surpassed.

To the school children of the city goes the record for salesmanship. The little folks have sold nearly \$125 worth of seals. Next week when the campaign is ended an honor roll of the boys and girls will be published.

The club women of Dead Ox Flat have taken a quota of \$25 worth of stamps, and will dispose of them on the Flat.

At Dreamland last Saturday evening Miss Joyce Turner did a land office business in the little seals and found the theatre goers ready buyers.

F. M. Northrup, L. R. Briethaupt, A. A. Guttridge of Dead Ox Flat braved the blizzard today to attend the meeting of the County Court at Vale to urge the employment of a county agent.

FUEL NEEDED FOR AT LEAST TWENTY FAMILIES

Fuel Administrator O. A. Kratz has asked the Argus to appeal for volunteers among those who have a surplus of coal to release a portion of this so that families now in dire need may be served. This coal will be purchased in sacks or in any manner the volunteers desire, and only in sufficient quantities to relieve distress.

MOTHER OF PROMINENT FAMILY ANSWERS CALL

Mrs. J. G. Staples Dies at Family Home Following Illness of Six Weeks—Lived Here Ten Years.

The community was grieved to learn Sunday of the death at noon that day of Mrs. J. G. Staples, whose illness for six weeks past was followed with deep concern by many friends. The funeral services were held from the family residence on South Morritt street Monday afternoon, Rev. C. H. Blom of the Baptist church, of which the deceased was a life long member, officiating. Interment was made in the Ontario cemetery.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lockett Staples was born in Henderson, Kentucky, 62 years ago and was married in 1875 to J. G. Staples, who with five of the ten children born to them, survives her. In 1909 Mr. and Mrs. Staples moved to Ontario from their old home in Kentucky to join the oldest son, V. B. Staples, who came here in 1896. The other children surviving are Joseph and Everett Staples of Ontario, and Mrs. Lula Crofton of Henderson, and Mrs. Elizabeth Shinn of Mabton, Wash.

Mrs. Staples was ill for some time early last spring but recovered her strength and was in apparent good health until early in November when she contracted grippe, from this, too, she rallied but complications manifested themselves and her daughter in Kentucky was sent for, as was Mrs. Shinn from Washington. From Thanksgiving time on she struggled with alternate hope and despair for the members of the family. The end came peacefully Sunday with all the members of the family save Mrs. Crofton, at her bedside. Mrs. Crofton was called to her home in Kentucky the Monday previous.

COMMITTEE WILL URGE NEED OF COUNTY AGENT

Commercial Club Committee to Interview County Court and Attend Budget Session—Hear About Dehydration.

The need for a county agent in Malheur county will be presented to the County Court by a committee of the Commercial club. This committee, consisting of J. R. Blackaby and W. J. Pinney and three other members of the club to be named today by President W. W. Wood, will go to Vale this afternoon to attend the budget session of the County Court. This was definitely decided at a meeting of the club last night.

Preceding this action the club members heard an informative address on the subject of dehydration of vegetables and fruits by Ray Powers of the Bureau of Agriculture. Mr. Powers explained the different processes by which fruits and vegetables are evaporated or dehydrated and the theories concerning the various processes.

He did not have figures on the cost of erecting the various types of plants but declared that the entire idea of the feasibility of such a plant in any community was an economic problem which conditions regulate. The success of the process, however, he said, was fully determined and demonstrated and the market for the product was assured.

The club members, following his address, asked many questions, which he answered, elaborating thus his address, for which he was extended a vote of thanks by the club.

REGULATION OF HOURS CAUSE OF COMPLAINT

CITIZENS HOLD MASS MEETING—AGREE TO REGULATION—COMMITTEE APPOINTED EMPOWERED TO ACT—COMPLAINTS FOLLOW.

PERMITS NECESSARY FOR FUEL

Shortening of Business Hours Principal Bone of Contention—Commercial Club Directors Recommend Change of System.

There has been practically speaking, but one subject of conversation in Ontario this week, and the fuel regulations have been that subject.

While approximately a half million or more men are entirely out of work in Middle Western cities as the result of fuel regulations shutting down factories, a number of Ontario citizens are voicing complaints because a few hours has been subtracted from their business day.

It is the contention of those who are objecting to the fuel regulations that the commission should have adopted some other method rather than the indirect method of regulating the number of business hours of the day, tho this is the method that has been followed generally thruout the land.

Then there are specific objections to the regulations of some business, for example that which permits the pool halls a nine hour business day and the retail stores a seven hour day; and further that the regulations include drug stores, and again that those who use electricity or oil stoves should be included at all.

To give space to all the objections the Argus has heard would require all the space in this issue.

Get Fuel by Permit

Following the mass meeting last Friday evening Mayor R. W. Jones named E. A. Fraser, W. F. Homan and O. A. Kratz, the fuel administrator, and Mr. Kratz was named the executive officer or fuel administrator. This commission on Saturday met and prepared its regulations which were printed Saturday.

The various coal companies will not be able to deliver coal to customers without first having a permit from Mr. Kratz. These permits will be issued only to those in positive need until all such are cared for. In the meantime a check on all the coal in the city will be made to determine exactly the requirements of the city.

How long the fuel regulations will be effective no one knows, and the members of the fuel administration are prepared to meet the situation that would arise if the fuel shortage becomes acute, or on the other hand if it becomes less serious.

ERECTOR COMING TO BUILD FLOUR MILL

E. A. Ferguson Wires From Denio of Early Arrival of Superintendent of Construction for Flour Mill.

E. A. Ferguson, who was called to Denio on account of the illness of his wife this week, wired Secretary Leslie F. Body of the Commercial club that Superintendent Hatch of the Anglo-American Milling company would reach Ontario in a few days.

The wire further stated that Mr. Hatch was coming to erect the building for the flour mill Mr. Ferguson has contemplated building here, and would stay here until the building was completed. The site on which the building is to be erected has not been selected as yet, there being three available sites under consideration.

Principal S. M. Boucher of the High School was taken ill this week with a severe attack of the grip. He was removed to the A. S. Brown home for care.

