

The Ontario Argus.

COUNTY ROAD BONDS SELL AT BIG PREMIUM

**RALPH SCHNEELOCK COMPANY
OF PORTLAND PAYS \$3015
ABOVE PAR FOR PRIVILEGE
OF BUYING \$100,000
ISSUE.**

SIXTEEN BIDDERS MAKE OFFERS

Every Offer Made Was Above Par and Many Different Offers Made by Bidders in Unusually Spirited Contest.

By offering a premium of \$3015, accrued interest and to take the bonds unconditionally, the Ralph Schneelock company of Portland was the successful bidder for the \$100,000 of Malheur County Road bonds sold by the County Court last Monday at Vale.

The price at which the bonds sold was a surprise to the County Court and all who had followed the bond market for this type of securities. It is the highest price paid for road bonds in Oregon, and clearly indicates the financial standing of Malheur county at this time.

There were 16 bidders at the sale, and 17 bids were offered for the consideration of the County Court. There was real competition for the issue. Both the Ontario banks made offers and so, too, did the U. S. National of Vale.

County Judge E. H. Test and Commissioners Weaver and Vines were extremely gratified at the price secured for the sale for not only was the price satisfactory but the bonds were taken unconditionally as to legality and the record is to be prepared by the successful bidder.

"It is remarkable," said Judge Test, in speaking of the sale, that county road bonds should sell for a premium when the interest rate is but 5 1/2 when government bonds are selling at present prices."

The following were the bids offered:

Ferris & Hardgrave, premium \$565, par and accrued interest.
Devereaux Co., premium \$2991, par and accrued interest.
G. E. Miller & Co., premium \$3716, par and accrued interest.

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"COYOTE BILL" PASSES ON, WILL RIDE NO MORE

Boise papers recorded during the past week, the death of William Gehman, better known to attendants at the Malheur County Fair as "Coyote Bill."

There were few of the thousands who had seen this picturesque figure, with his flowing hair and his garb reminding old timers of the early days, who knew his name. To them he was Coyote Bill, a favorite in every race he entered here, tho it must be related that in the memory of none did his string ever win.

Bill rode his horses sans saddle, in Indian fashion. He tried hard, but his string of cayuses were not in the class of the cow ponies a race horses against whom he pitted them. But Bill tried, and no matter how far he dropped behind, he always finished the race. The crowd liked him, and often the purse collected for him in the stands was worth more than that hung up for the races. We will all miss "Coyote Bill" when Malheur County Fairs roll round.

WILDER MAN PURCHASES CASH GROCERY BUSINESS

McEndree & Handley, who launched the Cash Grocery here last spring in the Odd Fellows building, sold the stock and business last week to C. P. Skow, who came here from the Wilder country, where he was in business for some time. Prior to his migration to Idaho Mr. Skow resided in Kansas. With the transfer of their business the partnership of McEndree & Handley dissolved and Mr. and Mrs. McEndree expect to leave soon for California. Mr. McEndree also sold his residence on Oregon street to R. S. Rutherford.

NEBRASKA MAN BUYS RANCH RETURNS EAST FOR FAMILY

Frank McCarthy, a brother of Harry McCarthy, will be among the new ranchers in Paul Orchards district next spring and summer. Mr. McCarthy is coming to this region from Nebraska, to which state he returned after purchasing the S. D. Dormer 60 acres near the Lincoln school. The ranch sale was negotiated by Greig & Doolittle.

ICE JAM IN RIVER GRADUALLY BREAKS

Bridges Being Carefully Guarded and Precautions Taken to Prevent Damage—McPherson's Stock Gets Feed.

Ontario watched the ice jam in the Snake river this week to note the rise and fall of water and anxiously hoped that the jam would break. To a degree the expectations materialized, and it is believed that the danger, for the present at least, is past.

On Saturday the water reached its highest point and Sunday began to recede. The fall that day measured but a few inches, but on Monday the river fell nearly a foot.

So far as can be earned no real damage has been done by the flood, tho it appeared for a time that McPherson Brothers would lose heavily thru damage to crops and stock on their island southeast of town.

When they left the island one valuable stallion was tied in the barn, the chickens were locked in their coop and the stock that was loose could not reach the hay. Jim Ware crossed the ice jam to the island on Monday on a pair of skis and fed the stock and put everything in ship shape for the time being.

Ice broke from Johnson island Monday and the jam broke below Weiser Sunday so that it is believed that unless a great deal more ice comes down the river in the next few days the danger will be over.

At the city pumping plant it was necessary to plug up the drainage pipe which carries water from the plant to the river during the cleaning process, for this was below the river level and the water was backing up into the plant. No damage was done at the pump house.

CHRISTMAS EXERCISES BY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fuel Regulations Lifted So That Regular Christmas Eve Exercises May Be Featured—Collections Go to Near East.

To permit the Sunday schools of the city to hold their regular Christmas eve exercises, the fuel administration lifted the ban this week.

At most of the churches the shining Christmas trees laden with bright candles and goodies gladden the hearts of the children, while the recitations and songs of the children made the evening a joy for their parents.

The exercises of the United Presbyterian church were cancelled because of the illness of several who were to have taken part.

At the Congregational, Methodist, Baptist and Nazarene churches the Sunday schools had tress and exercises.

At the Congregational church beside the program a special collection was taken for the purpose of sending the money raised to Near East Relief committee for the work in Armenia.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie J. Aker and family left last night for Meridian and Boise to spend Christmas and the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson of Parma were in Ontario Sunday, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Letson, who were hosts for a dinner party which included Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Greig and Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Whitney.

STANFIELD PREDICTS HIGH PRICED WOOL

Oregon's Sheep Declares Apparent Surplus of Wool is a Delusion, Continued Prosperity Viewed.

"Wool will continue to command high prices, at least for the 1920 crop. The apparent surplus of wool in Australia which is being sold here in the United States at the rate of ten million pounds monthly, is a delusion. There is in fact a world scarcity, and an increasing demand for wool."

These were the statements made by R. N. Stanfield, who is generally spoken of as the sheep king of the West, while in Ontario on business Monday.

"As a matter of fact," said Mr. Stanfield in giving his reasons for the above statements, "the wool demands of the looms of the United States requires almost seven hundred million pounds of wool. The United States produces only four hundred million pounds. The balance must be shipped from Australia, South America and South Africa."

"The British government which controls the Australian and New Zealand wool, is shipping here but ten million pounds per month. We are getting no wool from either South Africa or South America, for Japan, France and other consumers have bought the surplus there."

"It follows therefore that the United States has no surplus tho there are great stocks of cleaned wool on hand. But if one takes the amount of manufactured cloth and the total amount of wool on hand now, and compares that result with the combined wool and cloth surplus of any prewar year then the figures are even more conclusive that the supply of wool is below the requirements of the nation. For these reasons I am sure wool will secure a good price next spring and summer."

Biggest Mill, But No Wool

"It may be news to you," continued Mr. Stanfield, "but the fact that Japan, China, and other Asiatic countries are using less cotton and silk and are becoming wool users. The demand for wool from that continent is limitless and must be supplied. It is a strange fact that Japan has the largest woolen mill in the world, yet it raises practically no wool at all. There is no room for the grazing of sheep there. There are only 2300 sheep in all Japan."

"Now these facts to me spell high prices for wool, and a view of the general business structure in spite of some scattered spots indicate continued prosperity. The United States can not avoid being prosperous unless radical legislation attempts to do the impossible and force prices down too soon. Only by increased production and a gradual decline in prices can we avoid a panic," he said.

The Library will be closed until after the holidays on account of necessary repairs to the building.

Mrs. R. W. Swagler was the hostess for the Tuesday Bridge club at its weekly gathering this week.

L. G. Olson was a Boise visitor on Tuesday.

R. H. Lockett purchased 400 head of cattle from T. J. Brosnan last Thursday.

HONOR ROLL OF BOYS AND GIRLS IN XMAS SEAL SALE

The following are the boys and girls who, according to the records, achieved distinction in their sale of Christmas Seals in Ontario:
Lola Blood, third grade;
Helen Brittingham, fourth grade;
Rodney Thompson, fifth grade;
Frances Thompson, Veda Rutherford, Jean Folger, Edith Breckon, sixth grade;
Guy Stover, Harold McCullough and Howard Blom, seventh grade.

To these should be added the name of one of the Stewart girls of Cairo, who rode thru the cold Sunday morning, a week ago, and sold three dollars' worth of stamps along the Boulevard.

DISTRICT HAS ONE FOURTH OF CHILDREN

School District No. 8, Has 805 Children, All County Has 3415—Only One Tenth of Valuation of County in District.

The Ontario school district, which is officially known as District No. 8, has practically one-fourth of all the children of school age in the county. The figures as revealed by the recent school census shows that there are in all 3415 children of school age in the county. Of these 805 live in this district.

While the district has so large a portion of the children it is not fortunate enough to have one-fourth of the taxable property of the county on which to levy taxes to educate the children. The tax rolls show that District No. 8 has a total assessed value of but \$1,300,000, or less than one-tenth of the entire valuation of the county.

Since one-fourth is two and a half times a tenth, that is about the ratio of this district's school taxes to the average school taxes of the county. But there is another peculiarity in this respect which County Judge E. H. Test has discovered.

According to the school laws the county court is compelled to levy 5 mills for school purposes in each district, but the minimum that each district must be credited with is \$920. Now many of the small districts do not levy any special tax and in some instances the five per cent levied by the county court brings in anywhere from \$200 to \$600 and the court must from the general funds of the county make up the difference. In other words some of the school districts are making the county as a whole support their schools. And Ontario with its \$1,300,000 valuation furnishes money for the districts where the directors make no levy.

SPEAKER AT PAYETTE GATHERING IS DELAYED

Bootleggers and Customers Fall Into Officers' Hands—Fines of \$400 and Costs and \$150 Assessed.

One of the men who was scheduled to appear on the program at the Stockmen's Convention of Idaho which was in session in Payette last Friday was late. There was a reason, a good one or a bad one, as the case is viewed.

It happened thus. With two other big Idaho stockmen, this convention speaker, who might have been scheduled to discuss the subject of "How to Detect Cattle Thieves," or some equally interesting subject, came to Ontario to secure some old fashioned hootch to liven up the Payette proceedings.

He did get the goods and with his pals was carrying the goods in a sack just when Marshal Harry Farmer appeared on the scene and caught the bunch. Among those present was William Rusk, who has long been suspected of being in the business of purveying booze.

William, along with the stockmen, whose names the officials do not officially know, but who answered to the common alias of John Jones, Richard Roe and John Doe, appeared before Justice of the Peace C. M. Stearns where Rusk plead guilty to selling the stuff, and one of the men, "John Jones," admitted having "illegal possession." Rusk was fined \$400 and costs, and "John Jones" antied \$150 to the county treasury. The costs were added to Rusk's fine.

J. C. Grannan is the latest owner of the Palm cigar and billiard parlor. J. L. (Curley) Lewis, formerly of Vale, is with Mr. Grannan at the store. The sale was made by H. M. Moss, who has been connected with the Palm off and on for several years.

Lloyd Perkins of the Malheur Motor Sales company went to Union and LaGrande on business last Friday.

RANCHER TO BUILD ON RECENTLY ACQUIRED TRACT

E. I. Stanbrough, who came to Ontario last spring from North Idaho and this fall purchased a 20-acre tract under the Ontario Advancement tracts, near the A. E. Brown ranch, is planning on improving the place this spring. He is to build a modern bungalow soon and expects to develop the tract as a logan berry farm.

MIDNIGHT MASS FIRST OF CHRISTMAS FEAST

Leonard's Mass in B Flat Features Elaborate Musical Program at Church of Blessed Sacrament—Many Attend Services.

With a mass at midnight at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament the celebration of Christmas Day opened. To this mass came many communicants of the church and others attracted by the interesting program. The principal musical feature of the program was the presentation of Leonard's Mass in B Flat by the choir. Rev. Fr. P. J. Stack assisted by Fr. O'Hagan celebrated the mass.

Included in the musical numbers arranged by Mrs. F. J. Clemo, director of the choir, were the following: "Holy Night," Miss Catherine Conway Leonard's Mass in B Flat, Choir Adeste Fidelis, Miss Mary Messico, O Salutar!, Miss Anne McGivern Tantum Ergo, Silent Night, The Choir.

MORE STUDENTS HOME FOR CHRISTMAS TIME

University of Oregon and University of Washington Students Follow O. A. C. Crowd—Interested in Big Game.

From the University of Oregon and the University of Washington this week came the Ontario students at those institutions to spend the holidays with their parents. The O. A. C. contingent was the first to arrive, most of them coming early last week, tho there were a few additional students added to the delegation late in the week.

From the University of Oregon came: Robert Lees, William Blackaby, Rufus Dinwiddie, Theron Northrup and Paul McCulloch, Misses Gracye Sage and Gladys Emison. Bernard Rader, William Pinney and Don Oxman of Jamieson made up the University of Washington contingent.

Miss Nettie Peterson and Miss Virginia Smith were the last of the O. A. C. students to come home.

Beside arguing the merits of their respective colleges the students are ardently discussing the big foot ball game at Pasadena New Year's day when Oregon meets Harvard. Needless to say Oregon is picked to win by most of those who have seen the lemon yellow team play. They are plang their hopes on Bill Steers.

Some of the Oregon boys believe that Neil Morfitt, who went to High School here, will be used by Huntington in the Harvard classic.

MASONIC BODIES ELECT OFFICERS FOR NEW YEAR

At the regular meeting of Acacia Lodge, A. F. & A. M. last Thursday evening the following officers were elected: J. C. McCreight, W. M.; Ralph Dunbar, S. W.; Harry Clement, J. W.; E. A. Fraser, treasurer; Irwin Troxell, secretary; Emory Hill, S. D.; John Rasmussen, J. D.; W. L. Turner, S. S.; L. B. Cockrum, J. S.; R. S. Rutherford, Tyler.

The R. A. M. lodge the week previous elected W. F. Homan, priest, Dr. H. H. Whitney, king, E. A. Fraser, scribe, and W. W. Letson, treasurer.

To escape the cool breezes of Eastern Oregon Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Fleming, whose ranch is on the Boulevard are sojourning in sunny California.

SEAL SALE ASSURES QUOTA'S COMPLETION

SCHOOL CHILDREN DISPOSE OF \$125.50 WORTH—WOMAN'S CLUB SELLER \$71.85, BESIDES TAKING PLUDGE OF \$1 PER MEMBER.

DEAD OX FLAT TAKES \$25.00

Women's Club of Nyssa Has Sold \$30 Worth and Expects to Make Total \$75—Women Feel Gratified at Results Attained.

Ontario, Nyssa and Dead Ox Flat by their united efforts have succeeded in selling Red Cross Christmas Seals to the amount of the quota given this section. There will go forward to the state headquarters \$300, to be used for the fighting of tuberculosis in Oregon.

The campaign in this district was under the auspices of the Women's clubs, with the Ontario club thru its committee acting as headquarters. At Nyssa the Nyssa Women's club, led by the president, Mrs. W. R. Clore, had charge of the sale, on Dead Ox Flat the Women's club, with Mrs. L. R. Briethaupt as chairman, had charge while in Ontario the committee was: Mrs. G. K. Aiken, Mrs. H. H. Whitney, Mrs. Ivan E. Oaker, Mrs. E. B. Conklin had charge in the Cairo district.

School Children Real Salesmen
In Ontario the children of the public schools under the direction of Superintendent H. P. Lewis proved efficient salesmen and saleswomen, for it was the children who sold the majority of the stamps in the city. The total sale by school children amounted to \$125.50. The total sale in the city was \$197.35. Of this amount the Women's club sold \$71.85 and this organization is ready, in case there is any deficit, to make up the balance to \$300. The club is also financing the campaign in this section, which expense however is small, thanks to the spirit of co-operation shown by the women of the several districts.

Nyssa Expects to Sell \$75
The reports received Tuesday from Nyssa give the total sale there to (Continued on Last Page.)

CHICKEN EXPERT DECLARES LOCAL FLOCK BREAKS RECORD

Thirty White Leghorn hens owned by Fred Rice is one of the best producing flocks in this vicinity, according to one of the traveling representatives of the State Poultry Association, working in this vicinity, showing the people how to cull out their flocks. There was only one drone in the whole flock and 27 laying at the present time. Mr. Rice's flock is capable of averaging better than 200 eggs a year apiece, said the expert.

A very pleasant surprise party was given Mr. and Mrs. McEndree Friday evening. About twenty-five Rebekahs invaded their quiet home, bringing refreshments and a jolly good cheer with them. A pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Annie Jackson, noble grand of the Rebekah lodge, presented Mr. and Mrs. McEndree on behalf of the order a silver berry spoon and soup ladle as a little token of their esteem.

Mr. and Mrs. McEndree expect to leave soon for Long Beach, Cal., to make their home. They will be missed very much by their many friends.

Tom McGivern of Parma came over to Ontario to spend Christmas with his family.

Supt. H. P. Lewis left Tuesday for Green River, Wyoming, to spend the holidays.

The Women's club held a special meeting Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. E. M. Greig.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Blackaby of Homedale are in Ontario for the holidays.

Mark Lawton is a holiday guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Whitney.