

### OFFERS GOLD PRIZES FOR BETTER PREMISES

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK CIVIC IMPROVEMENT CONTEST APPROVED BY COMMERCIAL CLUB IN EFFORTS TO IMPROVE LOOKS OF CITY.**

### FIFTEEN ENTRIES REQUIRED

Commercial Club Passes Resolution Declaring For Open Shop—Also Asks For More Ships For West Coast Trade

Eighty dollars in gold will be given by the First National Bank of Ontario in prizes in a contest which has for its object the improvement of the appearance of Ontario. The contest will be known as the First National Bank Civic Improvement Contest, and the judges will be appointed by the Commercial club and the City Council.

Before the contest was listed as one of the events of the season Harry E. Cockrum presented the proposal to Secretary Body of the Commercial club and he to the directors, who heartily approved it. Last night the club members approved and passed a resolution endorsing the idea and thanking the donors.

The First National Bank left the formation of rules and regulations in the hands of the Commercial club and Mr. Body completed the following regulations:

1. The contest shall be known as the First National Bank Civic Improvement Contest.
2. Prizes aggregating \$80 in gold will be offered for the residence premises showing the greatest improvement in general appearance during the period of contest. First prize, \$40; second prize, \$25; third prize, \$10, and fourth prize, \$5.
3. There shall be three judges to make awards, the Woman's Club to appoint one judge, Commercial Club another and the City Council to appoint the third.
4. At least fifteen householders must enter the contest.
5. The contest will open April 1st and close September 1st.
6. Arrangements have been made with Seligman Studio to photograph the premises when entry is made and also at the close of the contest.
7. The premises will be inspected by the judges at least once a month and points awarded.
8. No person connected with the First National Bank of Ontario shall be eligible to enter the contest.
9. Entry blanks will be provided by the Ontario Commercial Club and may be secured from the secretary.
10. Take advantage of this golden opportunity and the gold is yours.

The club also passed a resolution urging by the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen endorsing the "open shop" idea; and another resolution asking the shipping board for more ships for West Coast trade.

### BANK DIRECTORS, OFFICIALS AND WIVES ENJOY BIG DINNER

Years ago J. R. Blackaby made a proposition to the directors and employees of the Ontario National Bank. On Tuesday evening he made good on that proposal, which was this: "When the Ontario National has a statement showing resources of a million or more, I will buy a dinner for the bunch." He did.

There were more than twenty guests at the dinner, for included were the directors and their wives, the employees and their, and the unmarried members of the bank staff: Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Blackaby, Mr. and Mrs. L. Adam; Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Emison, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Brosnan, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Homan, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Blackaby, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. DeFrees; Miss Helen Blom and Miss Joyce Turner.

### FATHER OF TEACHER DIES AT HOME IN FRUITLAND

Miss Fern Linek, who teaches at the Eastside school, was called to the home of her parents in Fruitland on Tuesday by the death of her father, E. A. Linek, who has been ill for some time.

### DON'T DELAY THE CENSUS TAKER, HAVE ANSWER READY

Mrs. W. S. Maxson is making the count of Ontario for the census bureau. Mrs. William Beagle is doing that work in Fair and Cairo precincts, Mrs. J. R. Gregg is assigned to Dead Ox Flat, Alfred Holland is counting the folks in Watson, Rome and Rockville precincts.

These workers for Uncle Sam need help. If you have not been counted be ready to answer the questions promptly for they must be answered anyway. Housewives should be able to give ages of all the family, place of birth, ability of each member to read and write, etc. Persons born in foreign lands should be ready to give data concerning citizenship, etc. Ranchers have a special list of questions to be answered and should be ready with the necessary replies.

### HARNEY'S DREAM OF YEARS COMING TRUE

Election to Be Held to Authorize Bonds For Great Irrigation District of 83,000 Acres.

Ontario entertained James, better known as Jimmy, Donegan of Harney county last Sunday. And Mr. Donegan brot with him the information that the people of Harney county are soon to realize the dream of years, irrigation for nearly 100,000 acres of land in the valley.

While in the city Mr. Donegan consulted with J. W. McCulloch of the firm of McCulloch & Duncan who handled the legal phases of the formation of the big district, which is believed, by the way, to be the largest single irrigation district in Oregon.

"There is no limit to the benefits that will be derived by the irrigation of the Harney valley," said Mr. Donegan. It will mean a great deal to Ontario and to all this region. Why, we will be able to raise twice as many cattle and sheep, for the range will not be used so long when winter feed can be had close at hand," observed Mr. Donegan.

"The district may ultimately be increased to 100,000 acres," said Mr. McCulloch, "but the men forming the district that best to proceed to build the storage reservoir on the Silvies and if it is found that sufficient water can be stored, there is plenty of land to put it on."

"The district will be perhaps one of the least expensive ever built in Oregon. The entire project, it is estimated, can be built for less than \$30 per acre, in fact, figures are presented as low as \$20 per acre.

### INTER-STATE BRIDGE REQUIRES STEEL SPAN

Piling of Trestle Deteriorating While Ice Jam Did Not Improve Condition of Wooden Section—County Court Investigates.

Engineers for the State Highway department under whose direction the paving of the road leading from the inter-state bridge will be done, have called attention to the fact that the approaches to the bridge on this side need attention.

What is needed is a steel span to replace the wooden piling, which, of course, is showing the effect of several years use. Then, too, the ice jams of this winter have had their effect and unless a steel span is built a new trestle will be necessary.

The engineers directed the attention of the County Court to the condition of the bridge and County Judge E. H. Test inspected the bridge this week. The matter will be taken before the County Court at an early meeting.

Seymour Ross, who is building a new house on the ranch he recently purchased on the Valley View road, reports the structure almost completed and believes that it will be ready for occupancy next month.

### SERVICE MEN READY TO STAGE SMOKER

Good Chow, Good Music, an Interesting Program, Some Athletic Events to Be Shown Monday Night.

With the closing of the charter of Ontario Post No. 67, Monday night the ex-service men are going to stage a real smoker that will take them back to camp or on board ship on a "high night."

The mess sergeant of the post and his cooks have arranged for a big supply of chow and it is going to be anything but canned. It will be the real thing.

And then there is going to be a big supply of music on tap, with a big program of other events, perhaps some smart boxing bouts, if the committee can land the talent. Anyway it is going to be a big night, for after it is all over it will cost twice as much to join the post as it does now. A big crowd is expected. The events will take place at the Commercial club rooms.

### HAROLD READEN WINS IN O. A. C. DEBATE

Eastern Oregon Club at Agricultural College Gives Dance—Delights of Malheur County Students at College.

Corvallis, Ore., January 12.—(Special to the Argus.)—Harold Readen of Ontario was one of the O. A. C. debaters who, upholding the affirmative of the question: "Resolved that the provisions of the Chinese exclusion act should apply to all foreigners for five years," won honors from the Reed college debaters here last Friday night.

Mr. Readen is the son of A. V. Readen, who for years lived on the Boulevard south of Ontario, and is an alumnus of the Ontario High School. Here in Corvallis he lives at the Lambi Chi house, is a prominent member of the Barometer staff. He is a sophomore.

The O. A. C. team which upheld the negative of the same question, also won from the debaters of the University of Oregon at Eugene.

William Teutsch of Nyssa, who is president of the Student Body and who was a delegate to the Student Council convention held in Des Moines, Iowa, returned to College this week. A portion of the vacation season he spent in Ontario and Nyssa.

The Eastern Oregon club, which numbers among its members fifty students from Malheur county, gave a matinee dance at the woman's gymnasium Saturday afternoon. Since every student living East of the Cascades is a member of the Club, the gym was crowded but everyone had a good time. The members of the club maintain that Eastern Oregon has the liveliest bunch on the campus.

### HOPPER & HOYT TAKE NEW AUTO AGENCY HERE

A. J. Kessler of the Kessler Garage of Vale and county agent for the Chevrolet, Denby and other gas-driven cars, was in Ontario last Saturday to arrange for the placing of an agency here, with Hopper & Hoyt, who purchased the Hunt & Cox garage.

Besides placing an agency for the Chevrolet and leaving a demonstration machine, Mr. Kessler announced that in the near future all of his line would be represented in the Ontario territory.

Autos are not the only things that Messrs. Hopper & Hoyt have to show in their garage, however, for they have on display an assortment of petrified fruit that is indeed interesting and includes coconuts, plums, peaches, pears. These specimens were found in the hills near Weiser and reveal some ancient history of this region.

L. I. Hirsch has let the contract for a new residence he is to build on South Virtue street.

### RESERVATIONS MANY FOR POULTRY DINNER

Show to Open Next Thursday Will Surpass Predecessors—Specialist Will "Hoganize" Pens—Pets to Be Shown.

Reservations for the banquet to be given Thursday evening are already being made with Secretary F. Leslie Body and it is certain that every one of the 100 plates will be needed.

Mr. Body reports that Dr. A. G. Moore, the chairman of the committee in charge of the show, is certain that for the number of entries, for the territory represented as well as for the quality of exhibits to be shown this year will surpass any show ever held here.

Among the exhibits will be that by the Barker Rabbitry of Boise, which will not only prize winning Belgian hares but a number of freaks.

**Bald Eagle on Display**  
A live bald eagle that was trapped in Harney county will be on display. This bird which once was plentiful in this section, but which is now almost extinct, is a rare specimen whose spread of wings is over five feet.

Exhibitors at the show are notified that they will be able to secure leg bands for identification of chickens at the office of the secretary. The bands are here now ready for distribution.

Those who have not secured their tickets for the banquet should do so at once. With the seats limited to 100 the list will be sold out in a few days. The banquet will be served at the Commercial club rooms.

### ONTARIO FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION MEETS

Business Transacted During Year Brings Total Loans Made Thru Association Up to \$205,000—G. W. Dean Is President.

The annual meeting of the Ontario National Farm Loan Association held its annual meeting on Monday and elected officers for the coming year following the receipt of the annual report of the secretary-treasurer, W. F. Homan.

This report showed that the association, since its formation in April, 1917, has completed 63 loans in this territory for the total sum of \$205,000, and has before it in the process of examination 30 applications for a total of \$100,000. That the association has been conservative in its policy is indicated by the fact that one-third of the applications made have either been withdrawn or rejected.

The new officers of the association are: G. W. Dean, president; A. Grams, vice president; Ira Dail, Hans Ott and John Keegan, directors and W. F. Homan, secretary. The appraisal committee is C. T. Lackey, Charles Thompson and Rex Marquis.

### VALLEY RANCHES CHANGE HANDS DURING PAST WEEK

Two real estate deals of considerable proportions were reported this week. The first was that made at Nyssa wherein A. D. Morey, one of the pioneer ranchers of the Owyhee region, sold his fine, big property to Jack McConnell. The ranch contains 490 acres and the price was said to be in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

Later in the week Charles Atherton sold his ranch of 60 acres just south of Ontario to Elmer North, who came here from the Wilder country. According to the contract for this place the deal involves \$13,500. Immediate possession is given and Mr. North is coming to Ontario at once.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Ontario-Nyssa Irrigation company was held at the City Hall on Monday afternoon when the following were named directors: Charles Thompson, D. M. Taggart, C. T. Lackey, L. E. Wilson, John Walters, T. W. Claggett and J. B. Smith. The directors will meet in the near future to elect officers for the season.

### HOUSE PASSES BILL PUTTING SUCCOR CREEK ROAD ON MAP

Representative P. J. Gallagher wired J. R. Blackaby this afternoon that the House had passed his bill placing the Succor creek road on the State Highway program. The bill as passed by the lower House makes possible the completion of a road from Ontario to Jordan Valley and on to the Nevada state line to connect with the Lincoln Highway in that state, this side of Winnemucca. The completion of this road will serve to make a connection with the California highway system. It is believed that the Senate will pass the Gallagher measure.

### GALLAGHER ELECTED IRRIGATION OFFICER

Author of Measure Guaranteeing Interest on Irrigation Securities Now First Vice President of Congress—Work Praised.

P. J. Gallagher, who represents Malheur and Harney counties in the legislature, is now first vice president of the Oregon Irrigation Congress, to which position he was elected last Saturday.

Not only was Mr. Gallagher honored by this position but was signally honored in the following resolution: Whereas, For many years irrigation districts have been unable to successfully dispose of their bonds and it was necessary to provide some means by which the State of Oregon would aid in financing district bonds, and

Whereas, Honorable P. J. Gallagher of Ontario introduced and secured the adoption by the legislature of an amendment to the constitution which authorized the State of Oregon to pay the interest for five years on bonds of irrigation and drainage districts, and

Whereas, It became necessary to have said amendment adopted by the people at a certain election and said P. J. Gallagher did devote much of his time and energy to securing the adoption of said amendment and it was largely through his personality and ability that said constitution was amended,

Now, Therefore, Be it resolved by the Oregon Irrigation Congress that we extend to the said Honorable P. J. Gallagher our sincere appreciation of the services he has rendered to the irrigationists of Oregon.

### DOG OWNERS TAKES NO CHANCES—KILLS PET

J. F. Doty was not certain that his dog was mad, but since the animal gave every indication of rabies, Mr. Doty shot the pet Monday morning.

When the Doty family went to bed Sunday night the dog appeared to be ill and later in the night were awakened by the strange antics of the animal, which was then running around and around the house snapping at imaginary objects. Finally it attack a chair standing on the porch and viciously chewed it. That satisfied Mr. Doty that there was something wrong so he sent for a rifle and shot the dog.

### EASTERN STARS INSTALL AND ENJOY BANQUET AFTERWARDS

Star Chapter, No. 69, O. E. S., installed its officers for 1920 last Thursday evening and following the exercises an informal dinner was served at Pifer's. Mrs. W. W. Letson, Grand Conductress, was installing officer. The following were inducted with offices: Mrs. Edith Seguine, worthy matron; A. S. Brown, worthy patron; Mrs. Myrtle Peterson, associate matron; Mrs. Anna Homan, secretary; Mrs. W. F. Homan, treasurer; Mrs. Bessie Clement, conductress; Mrs. Lulu Brown, associate conductress; Mrs. Minnie Letson, chaplain; Mrs. Bessie Ready, Adah; Mrs. Myrtle Rasmussen, Ruth; Miss Rosina Clement, Esther; Miss Joyce Turner, Martha; Mrs. Mary Cookrum, Electa; Mrs. Margaret Trow, warder; C. R. Seguine, sentinel; Miss Ernestine Billingsley, organist, and Mrs. Pauline Platt marshal.

### MAY INTERVENE IN POWER RATE HEARING

COMMERCIAL CLUB SEEKS LIGHT ON REQUEST OF IDAHO POWER COMPANY FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.

### WANT OREGON REPRESENTED

Other Commercial Clubs Will Be Asked Concerning Plans in Matter—Too Great Increase Held Detrimental to Country.

In a round robin letter addressed to all of the commercial bodies and all the irrigation districts and companies using pumping systems the Ontario Commercial club is asking them what they intend individually to do in connection with the Idaho Power company's request for increased irrigation power rates.

The club has also informed Representative P. J. Gallagher and Senator Julien Hurley of the company's action and have requested them to appear before the Oregon Public Service Commission to see to it that Oregon is strongly represented at the Idaho hearing.

Chairman T. W. Claggett, who presided at the club's luncheon, called attention to the company's request and a great deal of the evening's discussion centered on that topic. It was the expressed opinion of nearly every member that the raise asked for by the company means the bankruptcy of the ranchers on 50,000 acres of land in Malheur county.

### Committee to Consider Plans

To get more information concerning the company's earnings, and to consider plans for seeing to it that the ranchers of Malheur county are heard a committee consisting of R. W. Jones, T. W. Claggett, Harry B. Cockrum, W. J. Pinney and D. M. Taggart, was appointed. This committee will receive suggestions from citizens concerning the plans for action and will entertain any suggestion that will be offered looking to a solution of the situation.

### Want Crows Killed

Harry B. Cockrum called the club's attention to the damage being done by crows in the territory immediately around the city. The club voted to ask the County Court to appropriate \$50 to aid in exterminating these pests, thousands of which nest on Crow Island, in the river southeast of town.

The club further memorialized the City of Ontario to pass an ordinance compelling property owners to clean sidewalks; and also to prohibit the erection of board signs over the sidewalk on Oregon street.

### BOYER-GILLHAM

At Baker Sunday occurred the marriage of Miss May Gillham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Gillham of that city, and Wilmer Boyer, of this city. Following the ceremony the young couple left Baker for Portland and from there went to San Diego, Los Angeles and other California cities on their honeymoon trip.

Both the bride and groom are known to Ontarians, the bride has been here on numerous occasions during the fall and winter to attend dances given by the Oregon club, of which the groom is the president. The groom, who is one of Ontario's best known young men, saw extended service in France and on the border with the Second Idaho, he having been a member of the Payette company which went to the border in 1916 and later to France. He was in fact the first Ontario boy to enter the army service and go to France. He is a member of Boyer Bros. company of this city and has had charge of the grocery department since his return from abroad.

In honor of L. I. Hirsch's birthday an elaborate dinner party was given at the Blue Bird Tuesday evening. The guests were: Mr. and Mrs. F. Leslie Body, Miss Ernestine Billingsley, Messrs. Chelvey Boyer, Herschel Browne and Jos. Daus.

Frank Clerf of the Alvord ranch, spent Sunday in Ontario on his way out for a short stay.