

The Ontario Argus

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THE POULTRY SHOW.

Next week Ontario will entertain the prize chickens of the Snake and Malheur valleys. The occasion should be fittingly observed. Raising poultry is no longer a mere side-line on the farm, an added duty for the busy farmer's wife. On many of the small ranches chickens have proven to be veritable mortgage lifters, and steady providers for the family between the harvests of hay crops.

The hens and turkeys of this section have added thousands of dollars to the wealth of this region during the past few years and the possibilities of the industry have not been reached.

It has been proven that improved strains of chickens are far more profitable than scrabs. The latter possess just as large appetites but do not have the egg-laying power, so of course it behooves the rancher to see to it that he does not have loafers around to eat their heads off.

To avoid such conditions those who are interested in poultry should study the specimens on exhibition at the show for there will be many shown that have money producing records. There are a large number of fowls in the valley with records of 200 or more eggs per year, there are others who have ignored the cold weather and stayed on the job when eggs have sold for 75 cents per dozen or more. It is this class of chicken that it should be the object of every chicken fancier to possess.

This chicken show is being staged and backed by the Ontario Commercial club because the members of that organization believe and know that the advancement of the poultry business spells prosperity for those who intelligently follow it. The business men realize that this is a good country for the chicken business, and there is ample evidence of the returns which the raising of chickens bring to many of the ranchers about the city.

Ontario has financed the undertaking. The business men thru the Commercial club have undertaken all the work of arranging for the show and now all that is needed to assure its success is the participation of the ranchers. The larger and more varied the displays the better, of course quality rather than quantity should be the first consideration.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

There was one statement in the message which Governor Olcott made to the special session of the legislature that may well be noted. It was that wherein he told the lawmakers that they would be subjected to executive interference in their deliberations.

In this the Governor struck a happy shot. In recent years, and in years that can not be called recent—there has been a marked tendency to depart from the principles of representative government, and to subvert the legislative branch to the will of executives. While in some cases this interference on the part of governors has been for the best interests of the people that does not justify the custom entirely. It is to be hoped that Governor Olcott will observe this program.

The Governor makes a formidable argument to justify the calling of the legislature together and added to the reasons given in his proclamation two others—the submission of capital punishment to the people and the amendment of the penal code relating to the power of the board of pardons, and the fish commission controversy.

In the first of these measures the people will unqualifiedly support the position the Governor has taken. He makes a clean cut distinction between the hardened felon and the first offender, he rightly places in a different category the murderer, rapist, the burglar who goes armed with deadly weapons; and the petty thief and other violators of the laws who do not put the lives of their fellow men in jeopardy.

The Governor would not abolish the pardon power but would surely limit its scope, for he says it is the first duty of society to protect itself; while at the same time affording an open door for those in whom reformation is possible.

It is hard to agree entirely with the Governor's recommendations concerning the settlement of the fish and game controversy. His most favored theory of two commissions does not remove the cause of trouble, in fact it has inherent possibilities of increasing rather than diminishing

them. A divided commission will be little better. Surely in a state as large as Oregon it is possible to select a commission of seven men big enough, fair enough with courage enough to make the warring factions be good by an impartial and constructive administration of the affairs over which the board has control. We would hate to admit that this is not the case.

The one notable thing in the Governor's address is the mass of detailed information that it imparts. It displays the fact that the Governor is conversant with the machinery of government. What the message lacks in style it supplies in detail and in the apparent effort to leave the matters to be considered in the hands of the legislature for settlement it is commendable. There is apparently no pride of opinion in the Governor's mind, and that should result in a harmonious session.

NO TIME FOR EXPERIMENT.

Every report that comes to hand, be it from a governmental department or a private source indicates a growing demand for money, in spite of the fact that never in the history of the world was there a country so rich in the medium of exchange as America today.

So great has this demand become that it is made the subject of a warning by the governors of the federal reserve banks in the twelve reserve districts, accompanied by which is a rise in interest rates on loans that are rediscounted by the reserve banks.

Banks all over the country are admonished to be careful in making loans to see to it that the money thus sought is used for needed investments and not for non-essentials. In short, the bankers are putting on the brakes on extravagance which to a large degree is the cause of the present high cost of living.

The demand for money at present is so great that the securities of some of the wealthiest nations in the world can be had by Americans at figures which will net between 9 and ten per cent on the investment. The Anglo-British loan does that, and other loans underwritten in this country are equally favorable.

When this is true, then how can the people of Oregon expect to borrow money, should the proposed interest bill naming five per cent as the maximum rate of interest pass? They just could not, that is all. Oregon would be shunned by investors. And that is not all, Oregon money would leave the state as fast as the express companies and the registered mail could carry it away.

Money is timid. It takes to cover at the least unfavorable symptom. People who have money can not be forced to use it. It can remain idle and go on prolonged strike and suffer less than any other commodity. It does not deteriorate with non-use. What Oregon wants is large amounts of work developing the state. We can desire cheaper money as much as we wish but we can not, at least under present economic conditions, legislate it into existence. The natural laws of supply and demand govern the price of money just as they do other prices. Until Oregon voters find a way to produce a surplus wealth that will itself bring down interest rates it is the part of wisdom to vote no on the proposed interest rate bill.

BEAUTIFYING ONTARIO.

The members of the Commercial club who decided that to make Ontario more beautiful would require civic education, did not discourage the idea. They want a more presentable Ontario as sincerely as do any of its citizens but they have had experience and know that merely wishing for things does not get them.

No civic body, no city council, can make a city beautiful; that is truly the work of all the citizens. It is a lamentable fact that many people have no pride in their surroundings. But it is not to be wondered at, for there are hundreds in every town who have no pride in their personal appearance, or in anything they do. They lack entirely a social sense, and no amount of education will supply that deficiency.

However, people of this kind are not many, and seldom do they own their own homes, so they may be left out of consideration in this connection. The principal source of difficulty in such a campaign is the careless individual who gives little thought to such matters. Once his or her interest is aroused this class of inhabitants in a town accomplish wonders. Let Ontario get the movement once started and the natural desire to live in good surroundings will take root, and progress will be made. Some incentive, perhaps would solve the problem. It is worthy of the best efforts of the club to further this movement. It may take time, but Ontario will achieve success if it continues the effort long enough.

THE POWER RATES.

According to a lengthy statement made by the officials of the Idaho Power company they aver that they have not earned enough from irrigation service to justify the continuance of that service, and that it will be necessary for the company to have increased compensation to extend the service to meet the demands for the coming year and 1921.

There is no denying the fact that this request on the part of the company will meet with opposition from ranchers under pumping systems, many of whom believe that the rates are more than they can pay. At the same time these ranchers have no desire to seek the ruination of the company; nor does the company seek the ruination of the rancher. As conditions are at present the success of each is essential to the success of the other.

In the absence of figures other than those supplied by the company it is hard to reach an accurate conclusion in his matter, but since it will undoubtedly be heard and thoroughly discussed before the commissions of both Idaho and Oregon, there is no doubt that justice will be done and the interests of the ranchers will be protected by the constituted authorities.

If the ranchers could be assured of a continuance of high priced hay there is no doubt that they would temper their opinion of the company's request; but were the prices of ranch products to fall materially while the cost of power materially increased, it takes no second sight to discern what will happen to some of the finest irrigation districts in this valley.

ANNUAL REPORT CITY RECORDER.

Report of the City Recorder of the City of Ontario, Oregon, from January 1st, 1919, until the close of business on December 31st, 1919, of all funds received at said office belonging to said City of Ontario as credited on the books of said City.

General Fund, Taxes	9,569.78
Library Fund, Taxes	918.41
Bonds and Interest	9,861.22
Fines	751.50
Licenses and Miscellaneous	816.04
Trunk Sewer No. 2	1,608.18
Lateral Sewer No. 1	287.36
Lateral Sewer No. 2	59.63
Lateral Sewer No. 3	291.36
Lateral Sewer No. 4	1,255.11
Lateral Sewer No. 5	6.05
Lateral Sewer No. 8	31,883.38
Lateral Sewer No. 9	8,287.31
Street Paving District No. 1	21,197.95
Water System	12,128.72
City Pound	160.95
Sidewalks	165.15
Theaters	60.00
Old Assessments	164.18
Interest on Deposits	211.47
Dog Tax	186.00
Cemetery	310.00
Total	\$100,178.86

Water Bonds Funds on hand Jan. 1st, 1919	1,481.75
Water Fund, cash in office	14.95
Total	\$101,675.56
Due the City of Ontario from unpaid accounts:	
Trunk Sewer No. 3	\$2,547.35
Lateral Sewers Nos. 2 to 5	1,547.84
Lateral Sewer No. 1	129.02
Lateral Sewer No. 8	1,808.17
Lateral Sewer No. 9	72.45
Old Assessments and Water Service	763.55
Total	\$6,868.38

Funds paid out by warrants issued from January 1st, 1919, to December 31st, 1919:	
Recorder's Office	
Salary	\$1,200.00
Deputy Recorder	70.00
Stenographer	12.00
Minor Supplies	3.37
Total	\$1,285.37

Treasurer's Office	
Salary	\$ 150.00
Bond	25.00
Stamps and Express	5.46
Total	\$ 180.46

Attorney's Office	
Salary	\$ 300.00
Stenographer	9.30
Total	\$ 309.30

Police Department	
Salaries, Marshal and Police	\$2,445.50
Board of Prisoners	28.85
Repairs on Jail	38.25
Telephone, Rent and Tolls	53.30
Marshal's Expenses	41.10
Total	\$2,608.00

Fire Department	
Salary, Chief	120.00
Pay of Firemen	471.00
Electric Fire Alarm	199.25
500 feet of hose	675.00
Other equipment and supplies	74.99
Total	1,540.04

Health Department	
Salary Health Officer	\$ 60.00
Sanitation	5.00
Total	\$ 65.00

City Pound	
Taking up and feeding stock	\$ 133.00
City Hall	
Supplies	\$ 194.95
Repairs	182.55

Custodian	73.01
Coal	255.35
Adding Machine	112.50
Premiums, Fire Ins.	157.98
Janitor	46.00
Total	\$1,021.48

Water System—	
Salaries, Superintendents	\$ 1,807.00
Salaries, Engineers at Station	1,800.00
Salaries, Collector	391.97
Other Labor Employed	783.29
New Equipment Purchased	1,539.78
Power	2,988.87
Supplies and water installations including Plumbers' Charges for Services and Labor and Cost of Filtration	2,615.65
Water Meters and Boxes	3,451.82
Unpaid Bills from 1918	572.00
Rent of Warehouse for Supplies	54.00
Insurance on Supplies	31.25
Total	\$16,028.71

Improvements, General—	
Salary, Street Commissioner and team	1,800.00
Other labor employed	449.50
Material and supplies	324.52
Bridge Road	215.00
Gravel on Streets	175.00
Wood Pipe	180.21
Bbl. of Paint	121.33
Irrigation, shade trees on Streets	273.15
Cross-walks	51.75
Traffic signs	46.00
Total	\$3,636.95

Lateral Sewer No. 8—	
Paid Contractor	26,928.82
Paid L. C. Kelsey, Engineer	628.46
Printing notices	77.60
Right of Way across Railroad	50.00
Minor items	3.60
Total	27,688.48

Street Paving District No. 1	
Paid Contractor	\$ 8,205.07
Engineers and Transmitters	
Salaries and expenses	1,271.70
Other labor, field and office	578.25
Equipment, Engineers office	389.27
U. S. Mfg. Co.	455.00
Expense, Bond issue	100.00
Street Cable	252.68
Commissioner making assessment	65.00
Printing notices	62.30
Malheur County Abst. Co.	5.00
Total	11,384.27

Cemetery—	
Labor employed	324.50
Water maintenance	87.00
New tools	16.00
Map frame	3.00
Flags for Decoration Day	3.00
Acacia weldgements to deeds	3.00
Auto service	2.50
Total	439.00

City Water—	
For Hydrants	3,000.00
Irrigation	180.00
City Hall	27.50
Total	3,207.50

City Lighting—	
Street lights	3,117.12
Jail lights	12.00
Hall lights	10.00
Total	3,139.12
Influenza epidemic—	
Families under quarantine, Fuel	15.10
Drugs	24.25
Supplies	71.59
Total	110.94

City Printing—	
Office supplies and legal notices	214.50
Advertising—	
Malheur County Fair	100.00
Election—	
Ballots	8.00
Judges and Clerks	18.60
Total	26.60

Bonds and interest—	
This includes all warrants drawn to pay interest on General and Bancroft Bonds and to retire Bancroft Bonds	15,417.80
Total	15,417.80

Water Bonds—	
Engineer, L. C. Kelsey	162.58
Contractor, C. H. Helmer	627.55
Contractor, Calif. Jewell Filter Co.	2,593.24
Total	3,383.40

Lateral Sewer No. 9—	
Contractor	7,433.55
Engineer L. C. Kelsey	371.68
Printing notices	41.00
Stenographer	15.00
Contractor	1.00
Total	7,862.23

Special Warrants—	
Public Library	600.00
Taxes, old water system	199.40
Premium, Ins Library	42.98
Refund, Bad Check	22.50
Total	\$ 853.98

Grand Total Amount of Warrants issued for all Purposes—\$100,656.14

State of Oregon)
 County of Malheur) SS
 City of Ontario)
 I, Clay M. Stearns, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed, qualified and acting Recorder of the City of Ontario, Oregon, that the above and foregoing is a full, true and correct Financial Statement of the year of 1919 for said City of Ontario as taken from its books of accounts in my custody as such Recorder.
 Witness my hand and the seal of the said City affixed this 5th day of January, A. D. 1920.
 SEAL CLAY M. STEARNS, City Recorder

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 One Night Only Friday, Jan. 23
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 Free Street Parade 12 o'clock
 Chasers Merry Makers