

The Ontario Argus.

DEVOTED TO THE UPBUILDING OF THE AGRICULTURAL, COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNITY INTERESTS OF THE MALHEUR AND SNAKE RIVER VALLEYS. GIVING THE HISTORY AND GROWTH OF THE INDIVIDUALS AND FIRMS PROMOTING THE INTERESTS OF THIS GREAT BUT PARTIALLY DEVELOPED EMPIRE. OTHER EDITIONS WILL FOLLOW.

COUNTY BUREAU WILL ORGANIZE ON TUESDAY

MEETING OF COUNTY ORGANIZATION CALLED FOR GRANGE HALL AT CAIRO TUESDAY MORNING; DINNER AT NOON

CAIRO TO ORGANIZE SATURDAY

Owing to illness of Many Prospective Members Meeting Scheduled for Last Saturday Night Was Postponed for Week.

Final steps toward the organization of the Malheur County Farm Bureau will be taken at the Grange Hall at Cairo, next Tuesday. This was the decision reached at a meeting of the temporary county committee of the Bureau held at the City Hall last Saturday.

The Cairo meeting has been called for 10:00 a. m. with a dinner at noon, following which unfinished business will be completed.

At the meeting here last Saturday V. V. Hickox, temporary chairman of the organization, appointed the following committee to make arrangements for the county meeting: Messrs. Herriott of Vale; Beaumont of Adrian; Guttridge of Oregon Slope; Patch of Riverdale; Tensen of Nyssa, and Hickox of Cairo.

At the Tuesday meeting, beside the adoption of the program for the county for the year, the permanent organization will be perfected, the constitution and by-laws determined upon, or at least a committee appointed to draft them, and such other business as would naturally be considered.

The county bureau will start with six district bureaus in operation: Oregon Slope, Riverdale, Nyssa, Adrian, Vale and Cairo.

The Vale bureau, the latest addition to the number, was completed at an enthusiastic meeting last Friday evening at which some of the best addresses on farm problems ever heard in the county were made and much enthusiasm was shown.

Cairo to Organize Saturday

Owing to the prevalence of the flu on the Boulevard last week the organization meeting for the Cairo Bureau, scheduled for last Saturday night, was postponed, after the Argus of last week was printed. The meeting will be held Saturday evening at the Grange Hall. The meeting is called for 7:30 and an interesting program has been arranged, including a number of outside speakers. After the meeting a luncheon will be served.

SPECIAL SERIES IS APPROVED BY HOFER

Head of Large Industrial Bureau Takes Note of Progress Being Made in Ontario—Wants More Information.

The following letter from Colonel Hofer of Salem takes note of the special edition of the Argus and indicates the fact that progress in this section is being watched by authorities on the outside. Colonel Hofer says:

"Was much pleased to receive a copy of your paper, Special Edition Community Builders Series No. 1. I notice also your editorial on Governor Olcott. The Snake River valley papers seem to resent the action of the governor. I like the appearance of your paper very much. It is all home print and the pages are well balanced with advertising and reading matter. I shall take the copy I have along to the Eugene newspaper conference, Feb. 20-21, and show them what you are doing for your section."

BANISH ROLLER SKATES FROM BUSINESS DISTRICT

Roller skating is furnishing so much pleasure for the boys and girls these spring days that Marshal H. C. Farmer is loath to curtail that joy—but since some of the boys and girls are getting careless and developing speed it has become necessary to prohibit skating in the business district.

Already several accidents have taken place. One boy knocked Uncle Dick Rutherford down, another ran into a woman carrying a baby, and several small children have been bowled over by skaters. Therefore the Marshal has issued an order restricting the skating to residence sidewalks, and even there the boys and girls must be careful and delineate racing and strenuous tag games.

IMPROVEMENT OF SOIL RANCHERS' PROBLEM

A. A. Guttridge of Oregon-Slope Farm Bureau Discusses Need for Constant Work to Maintain Soil.

(By A. A. Guttridge.)

Soil improvement and irrigation are so closely allied as to practically merge into one subject, as the necessity of keeping the soil in the best tith to permit the penetration of plant roots necessitates a careful study of the soil to determine the proper amount of water needed to procure this condition. Which is found to be between the point of lento capillarity and maximum capacity, or, in what is termed "field capacity," which state should be maintained during a certain part of the growing stage. This to be determined by the producer, and as the plant cannot regulate the quantity of water taken up by its roots nor control transpiration, and as root growing plants may develop better by having increased quantities of water during certain stages of development whilst more slowly growing plants will do best with a smaller regular allowance. It is up to the agriculturist to determine these and other important matters pertaining to success in this branch of industry. Here also the question of soil temperature must enter. It has been found that water in quantity not far removed from the point of easy penetration is that at which heat moves most readily through the soil, that too little or too much water are equally dangerous as these extremes will each hinder the disposition of soil constituents, thus depriving the plant of an abundance of food. Assuming you to have a well balanced soil, diversified farming with a system of high crop rotation so regulated that the urgent demand for great quantities of water will occur at different periods of the season would become an economical use of water and prevent a high peak load of power, thus reducing water cost, and what is greater consequence, i. e., such a system will also become productive of increased yield because of the soil not being impoverished by the constant demand of one individual plant requirements. Thus it is easily conceivable that it is within the producer's power to increase the yield and improve soil conditions simultaneously, as leguminous plants contribute to the requirements of others. If this be true the cost of water is but a minor consideration, with modern methods of agriculture the paramount issue, which is a very strong argument in favor of "The American Farm Bureau Federation."

HARNEY COUNTY MEN HERE

John Tuckey and J. H. Stock of Harney county, are in Ontario this week looking for opportunities to get a Malheur county ranch to rent. They called at the Argus as one of their first steps in getting acquainted with this section.

WHO WILL FURNISH LAND FOR CITY PARK?

Commercial Club Hears Landscape Architect Discuss Means of Making Ontario A Better Town In Which to Live

Ontario now has no adequate public park, no play ground for its children, no place of recreation and rest for its citizens during the hot summer days or evenings, no space for the growth of its public school system.

Furthermore all these needs could be served by uniting in securing a park near the High School and grade school and thus secure a beautiful civic center for the city. This was the consensus of opinion expressed at a meeting of the Commercial club last night, following a talk on possibilities for Ontario's improvement by H. E. Burdette, a landscape architect of Portland, formerly a member of the faculty at Washington State College at Pullman.

Mr. Burdette is in Ontario for the purpose of planning the improvement of the grounds at the L. I. Hirsch residence and that of Herschel Browne and Larue Blackaby, all of which occupy a block on Third street, S. W. Mr. Hirsch brought him to the meeting for the purpose of presenting his ideas of how Ontario might add to its appearance.

"At a convention of real estate agents at Baltimore last year," said Mr. Burdette, "it was agreed that trees and shrubbery add thirty-three per cent to the value of property, and therefore beautiful surroundings for a home pay in a financial manner as well as in the added pleasure they give to those who live within them.

"The best method of procedure to secure the improvement of a city's appearance is by city ordinance defining what kind of trees to be planted on a given street, the distance apart they should be planted. This requires knowledge of the soil conditions and other data that is necessary before such a plan can be worked out, but

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TELEPHONE BOOTH AT STATION IS WANTED

Commercial Club Also Would Like to Have Mail Box There, Too, for Convenience of Traveling Public.

In order that the convenience of the traveling public may be served the Commercial club, thru its secretary, F. Leslie Body, has taken up the question of better accommodations at the passenger station.

One of the first things sought is the installation of a party telephone booth and pay station in the depot so that persons waiting for a delayed train may inform their families of delays, etc.

Also Mr. Body has undertaken to have mail boxes placed at the depot for outgoing mail. The action on the part of the club, Mr. Body credits to suggestions made by members of the Woman's club.

ALLEGED HORSETHIEF WILL FIGHT EXTRADITION TO COUNTY

A. V. Vametta, who is alleged to have stolen a pair of mares belonging to R. N. Stanfield from a pasture near Nyssa and to have mortgaged them to the marshal at Parma, was arrested at Jerome, Idaho, Tuesday on a warrant issued by Sheriff Lee Noe. District Attorney R. W. Swagler was notified that Vametta gave notice at Jerome that he would fight extradition, so a requisition on the Governor of Idaho has been sought to bring him back for trial.

WILL TRY NEW GRAIN ON DRY LAND RANCHES

District Attorney R. W. Swagler Joins With Ranchers to Experiment With Oats and Barley On Dead Ox Flat.

Among the Ontarians who believe absolutely that in the dry land reaches of Malheur county lies the hope of great agricultural development is District Attorney R. W. Swagler, and with a number of ranchers who have been successful in that region Mr. Swagler is going to endeavor to demonstrate that these lands can produce results.

After a consultation with County Agent L. R. Breithaupt, who conducted the state experiment station in Harney county for six years, Mr. Swagler sent to the Morrow county experiment station for a quantity of Smyrna barley and Beldi barley. These and some 60 day oats secured from the same place will be planted within rabbit proof fields.

Mr. Swagler also sent to the University of Minnesota Agricultural college for some 90 day oats to be used in another field. Mr. Breithaupt recommended early Bart wheat as the best variety for spring planting on dry lands, and Turkey Red for fall seeding. Mr. Swagler, however, has not gone in for the wheat experiments as yet.

In speaking of this effort Mr. Swagler said: "There remain in Malheur county only one or two big irrigation districts possible of development. These will add say one hundred thousand acres to the agricultural land of the county, while there are hundreds of thousands of dry lands, which if we can find the right varieties of grain for them will add materially to the wealth and prosperity of the region.

"We have almost as much rain here as they have in Umatilla county; as much as they have in Morrow county, and as much as they have in Harney county, with this advantage, we have an earlier growing season. We can plant here weeks before they can in Harney or Morrow counties, and if that is true, as I believe it to be, then I feel certain that it is worth while to experiment with a sixty day oat and barley crop.

MOTION FOR DELAY IN HEARING DENIED

State of Idaho Intervenes in Effort of Idaho Power Company to Secure Increased Rates—Hearing Will Be Held in Ontario Later.

Declaring that the provisions of the Idaho law had not been complied with, the attorney general of Idaho, intervening on behalf of the State, asked a postponement of the hearing of the Idaho Power company's request for increased rates for irrigating power, when the session opened before the Idaho Public Utilities Commission Tuesday. The motion was denied and the hearings are to continue. This is the report of the status of the case brot to Ontario by Manager Ivan E. Oakes and P. J. Gallagher, who went from here to represent local ditch companies.

Commissioner Corey of the Oregon Public Service commission, is sitting with the Idaho commission, and it is the understanding of Mr. Oakes that the Idaho Power company will later file the inventory of its equipment after presenting its case, and that then the hearing will be held in Ontario and other points in this section and that both commissions will meet in Boise to make their findings.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Rawls and family who were victims of the flu are able to be up again.

Miss Cecelia Gallagher is slowly recovering from a severe attack of the flu, she not yet able to be up.

FRUITLAND IRRIGATION CO. LAUNCHED HERE IN ONTARIO

For the purpose of irrigating some 700 acres located above the Farmers Ditch on the New Plymouth road, three miles south of Fruitland, a company was organized at the office of R. W. Swagler on Tuesday evening. The company will pump water for the land from the Farmers Ditch. Other land owners adjoining the project are seeking to have their property included. At the present time these lands are all within the proposed Black Canyon Project.

CENSUS MAN WANTS FULL COUNT IN CITY

If You Have Not Been Counted Get Blanks at the Office of Commercial Club Secretary—This Is Important.

Census Supervisor Terrall of the Second District came to Ontario Monday at the request of the Commercial club to see that all of the people of the city were counted before the report of the enumerators were turned in to his office.

After learning that Mrs. Maxon who was designated to take the census of the city, had been ill and had not finished her work on the Westside and had not visited the Eastside, Mr. Terrall arranged to have Mrs. J. R. Gregg and Alfred Holland, census enumerators for outside districts whose work was completed, to assist Mrs. Maxon in concluding the count.

Have You Been Counted?

Despite this effort it is believed that there are some Ontarians who have not been counted due to the illness of the enumerator and illness in the homes where one of the enumerators could find no one at home to give the data. Therefore a further extension of time has been granted and a supply of blanks has been left with Secretary P. Leslie Body of the Commercial club. Anyone who believes he or she has not been counted should get into touch with Mr. Body, or with W. P. Homan, chairman of the club's census committee and make out the necessary blank. This is of such importance to the city that everyone concerned should act at once.

BUYERS SOUGHT FOR IRISH LIBERTY LOAN

Malheur County Organization Seeks Subscriptions to Issue—County's Quota Placed at \$5,000.00—V. P. McKenna is Chairman

For the purpose of securing subscriptions to the proposed bond issue for the "Irish Republic," a committee headed by V. P. McKenna of this city has begun a campaign. In speaking of the proposed loan Mr. McKenna says:

"The Irish Parliament has authorized the elected Government of the Republic of Ireland to issue bond certificates of the Republic of Ireland, for subscription, in Ireland, United States, and other countries.

"The National quota has been placed at \$10,000,000. Oregon's quota at \$100,000.00, of this amount \$5,000.00 has been allotted to Malheur County. Subscriptions are expected only from those who seek to serve a fair and just cause, not from those who expect to derive immediate pecuniary profit.

"Already a large amount of the quota has been subscribed locally. P. J. Connolly, prominent local sheep raiser heading the list with a subscription of \$500.00.

The Oregon club has invitations out for a Valentine dance tomorrow evening, at its club rooms.

FIRE TRUCK IS GIFT OF GENEROUS CITIZEN

L. I. HIRSCH ANNOUNCES WILLINGNESS TO DONATE MODERN COMBINATION FIRE TRUCK AND CHEMICAL ENGINE TO CITY.

BUSINESS MEN THANK DONOR

Deputy State Fire Marshals Making Survey of City Declare Present Equipment Inadequate—Reduction in Insurance Promised.

If the City Council will comply with the recommendations of the deputy state fire marshals who, are making a survey of the city this week, L. I. Hirsch, whose generosity has already been marked toward Ontario, will give the city \$4,500 with which to purchase a modern combination fire truck and chemical engine for the fire department.

This most generous and public spirited offer was made at the Commercial club meeting last night following the addresses on fire hazards and fire prevention, made by the three visiting officials, Captain Geo. W. Stokes, Horace Sykes and Gilbert W. Allen. In turn these men told the few business men present some pointed facts about conditions in Ontario that are sadly in need of betterment.

They did not mince matters. Captain Stokes declared that "all Ontario has now is some hose, fire nozzles and a chemical engine that positively will not work." Mr. Allen declared that the city has no fire ordinances worth mentioning. The fire limits are not regarded, there are no adequate regulations for gasoline, the electric wiring ordinance is all right as far as it goes but is not complete; there is no adequate fire escape ordinance or lights for exits from public buildings; and the condition which permits rubbish to accumulate creates a hazard that must be eliminated.

Mr. Allen declared that while it was the duty of the state department to prevent fires that the department must have the co-operation of public sentiment, for the chief obstacle to proper fire regulations in most cities, and towns is the timidity of the city authorities who seem loath to make enemies by enforcing reasonable regulations.

Laws Must Be Enforced

He declared, however, that if the city council would adopt the ordinances which the department would propose that he would return to the

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ENGAGEMENT OF MISS D'ARMOND ANNOUNCED

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy de Armond above Vale last Saturday a dinner was given at which announcement was made of the engagement of Miss Blanche de Armond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. de Armond, to Dr. W. H. Steelhammer of Vale. The announcement dinner was also the celebration of the eighth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Roy de Armond. Among those present at the dinner were Miss Nola de Armond of Ontario; Mr. and Mrs. Julien Hurley, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Wm Herriott, Dr. and Mrs. Hall and Carlson Mueller of Vale, and Miss de Armond and Dr. Steelhammer.

POSTPONE DATE FOR CALL OF REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COM.

Following the publication of the call for the meeting of the Republican central committee which was announced last week as set for February 22, the committee at Vale noted that this date falls on Sunday this year, therefore it was determined to postpone the meeting to Tuesday, February 24.