

MAYOR JONES URGES HIGHER BOND LIMIT

IMPOSSIBLE TO DO THINGS THAT PEOPLE WANT DONE WITH PRESENT RESTRICTED FINANCES, SAYS CITY'S EXECUTIVE—VALUES LOW

PETITIONERS WANT PAVING NOW

City Park and Low Pressure Irrigation System Needed—Fire Truck Absolutely Essential—Would Raise Limit to 40 per Cent of Valuation.

After the members of the Commercial club were held of the troubles of the school board to finance the schools under present conditions, with increasing costs and stationary tax valuations, Mayor R. W. Jones contributed an account of the difficulties of the City Council.

Mayor Jones declared that the city council did not favor the plan of issuing warrants to purchase a fire truck the one was needed badly, and that the council is now hesitating by citizens desiring to have the paving plans so extended that a substantial increase in the number of blocks of paving in the city would result if the council acceded to their requests.

Mayor Jones explained that the city can not proceed with any more improvements for the simple reason that under the law the cost of intersections must be paid for by the city as a whole.

"The valuation of the city property on which taxation is based is only about 25 per cent of the real valuation so that figured on the present bond limit the city can only borrow 16 cents on every dollar of real valuation." On the present basis therefore the city's limit of indebtedness ought to be forty per cent of the valuation so that the council can proceed to carry out the wishes of the people.

Mrs. Richardson Owns City.
Secretary P. Leslie Body called attention to the fact that the 1245 acres within the city limits of Ontario two-thirds of the total area is the property of outside people who are holding land for speculative purposes. It is a further fact he declared that Mrs. Mary Richardson of Baker owns 25 per cent of the total area of Ontario and that she will not sell any of her holdings and is holding back the development of the community.

He urged the purchase of at least three park sites so that Ontario will be in a position later to improve them as needed.
Councilman A. L. McDowell, H. H. Tunney, C. P. Fox and others spoke in favor of making provision so that the city could proceed with the improvements outlined and a motion prevailed to assure the council of the support of the club in its efforts to advance the city's interests.

MRS. HURLEY HAS NOT FILED FOR POSITION

Argus Acknowledges Mistake in Political Story Last Week—Understood, However, That She Has Been Asked to Run.

Mrs. Hurley did not, as the Argus of last week by mistake announced, file for the democratic nomination for county superintendent of schools, and in fairness the Argus desires to correct that statement.

It is understood that Mrs. Hurley has almost decided, that if the democratic electors write her name in on the ballot she will make the race in the fall, but that she would not appear in the primaries.

JUNIOR MUSICAL CLUB IS FORMED AMONG STUDENTS

A musical club, known as the Junior Musical Club was formed among the music students at the High School Wednesday afternoon under the direction of Miss Catherine Conway. The following officers were elected: Mary Springer, president; Margaret Blackaby, vice-president; Hope Cochran, secretary, and Myrtle Logan, treasurer. The club will start its regular programs of work next fall.

MORTON-BRANNOCK.

Easts Morton of Westfall and Miss Verlie Brannock of Payette were married at the home of the bride's mother in Payette Sunday, April 25th. The groom is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Morton of Ontario and served with the American forces in France and Germany. He is at present employed in the Jones & Co. bank at Westfall. The couple will make their home at Westfall.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS TO HOLD DISTRICT CONVENTION HERE

A district convention of the Knights of Pythias comprising the lodges of Huntington, Vale and Ontario, will be held in Ontario next Wednesday, May 5. Knights from Weiser and Payette will also be in attendance. There will be an afternoon and night session and a parade in the afternoon in which the Knights of Korassan, a high rank of the order, will participate. At the afternoon session addresses will be made by Grand Chancellor J. A. Hurley and Grand Chancellor R. W. Swager. A banquet for the Knights is being prepared by the Pythian Sisters.

DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE CAMPAIGNS FOR BILLS

Ivan E. Oakes Named Chairman of Committee to Arrange for Meetings in Various Parts of County—Wide Representation.

With delegates present from practically every section of the county the Malheur Development League met at the Commercial club rooms in the City Hall last Saturday afternoon and considered plans for carrying forth a campaign in behalf of the measures to be voted upon at the primary election on May 21.

Ivan E. Oakes of Ontario was named chairman of the committee appointed to arrange a program of meetings to be held in practically every precinct in the county during the next three weeks.

Among the delegates present when President Robt. D. Lytle called the meeting to order were Fred Palmer, Harley J. Hooker, and Ascenoga of Jordan Valley. Their presence brought to the attention of the meeting the matter of the Sarcor Creek road to Jordan Valley and the action of the County Court in making it a market road and thus giving the people of that section relief as soon as possible was endorsed. A resolution approving that course was introduced by Julien Hurley of Vale and carried.

P. J. Gallagher explained to the gathering the provisions of the road bond amendment to the state constitution and set for the figures, which are given on another page of this issue showing how a vote for this measure merely means that the owners of autos will be able to get roads at once while the taxes they pay retire the bonds and pay the interest and furnish a surplus besides. The millage tax for schools of higher education and the elementary school tax were approved by the league and an informal session considered various problems of county development. The next meeting of the league will be held at Vale when the officers for the coming year will be elected.

ONTARIO DEFEATS WEISER INSTITUTE IN HOT GAME

In an interesting game of ball at the Fair grounds last Friday afternoon the Ontario High School team defeated the team from Weiser Institute by an 8 to 1 score. Mitchell Moore's twirling was the feature of the game.

This afternoon Ontario plays New Plymouth.

BOOKS ADDED THIS WEEK TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Knitting and Crocheting Book, Francis.
Tales of Folks and Fairies, Pyle.
Keeping Fit All the Way.
Little Miss Grasshopper, Spyril.
Dawn, Porter.
Inventions of the Great War.
Indian Days of the Long Ago, Curtis.
With the Little Fols, Wright.
The American Hunting Dog, Miller.

The Raincoat Girl, Lee.
The School Team in Camp, Earl.
Girls of '44, Knipe.
The Second Book of Modern Verse, Rittenhouse.
Rusty Miller, Gray.
Seven Peas in a Pod, Bailey.
Adam Bede, Elliot.
The Boy Vigilantes of Belgium, Walsh.
On the School Team, Earl.
The Amazing Interlude, Rinehart.
Ben, the Battle Horse, Dyer.
Garments for Girls, Schmit.
Story Hour Favorites, Harper.
The Great Lakes Training Station, Buzzell.
Indian Legends Retold, Eastman.
Mother Nature's Toy Shop, Beard.

We're just pinning to scratch off an editorial on the low cost of something but we can't find the something.

The bright star of hope shines steadily before us all, but we never see it so long as we keep our eyes glued to the ground.

COUNTY LIBRARIAN COMING MAY FIRST

Miss Helen P. Dickson of Lander, Wyoming, Selected to Take Charge of Malheur County Library—Formerly With State Library.

After many weeks of unavoidable delay, owing to the difficulty of securing a competent librarian and to the fact that Miss Marvin, state librarian, who wished to assist in establishing the county library system in Malheur county, was absent for several months, the library board announces that it has secured the services of Miss Helen P. Dickson as county librarian. Miss Dickson will come to Ontario May 1 to begin work.

Miss Dickson has had two years experience in the traveling department of the state library under Miss Marvin, so that she is well qualified to undertake the county work. She comes to Ontario from Lander, Wyoming, county seat of Fremont county.

The county library system is receiving widespread notice and is being started in many states. California takes the lead in having established county libraries in forty-four of its fifty-eight counties. Utah has followed California's lead and it is predicted that by 1921 all of the counties of Utah will have county libraries.

As early as 1912 several counties in Oregon started libraries governed by the county court, but in 1918 a new law was passed, making it possible for the largest city in the county, possessing a suitable library building and willing to turn its books over to the use of the county, to enter into a contract with the county to maintain a county library. There are five county library systems in operation under this law. The reports from Wasco, Multnomah and Umatilla counties prove conclusively the wisdom and success of the system.

The county library is peculiarly suited to serving rural populations. It is supported by a tax on the entire county; has an adequate central library administered by expert librarians at the chief city; has branches in schools, towns, villages and post-offices; and serves rural dwellers by means of a parcel post system or a book truck that carries a library of many volumes to every farm home in the county.

DRAINAGE DISTRICT BONDS.

Bids will be received until noon, June 1st, 1920, at the office of the secretary of the Malheur Drainage District, Ontario, Oregon, on \$3,400.00 in 5-20 year Malheur Drainage District 5 per cent interest bearing bonds, interest payable semi-annually.

Certified check in the sum of five per cent must accompany each bid.

PEDAGOGS CONSIDER EDUCATIONAL CRISIS

State Superintendent Churchill Addresses Gathering of Fifty Teachers in Convention Here Monday.

Fifty Malheur county teachers, superintendents and members of school boards gathered in Ontario Monday to consider the educational crisis which the state and county is facing. State Superintendent of Public Instruction, J. A. Churchill, was the principal speaker. Mrs. Fay Clark Hurley, county superintendent, presided.

Particular stress was laid on the program for the passage of the elementary school tax and in showing how essential it is for the continued efficiency of the schools that this measure be approved.

Addresses were delivered by Superintendent Churchill, Dr. W. J. Weese, president of the Ontario school board; Superintendent E. B. Conkline of Nyssa and Superintendent H. P. Lewis of the Ontario schools.

It was shown that many children not only in Malheur county but throughout the state were not able to attend schools because no teachers could be secured, but that many of the teachers working in the country schools were absolutely unfitted for their positions.

The provisions of the Smith-Hughes act and other school laws were discussed by Mr. Churchill and other speakers and a very profitable session resulted. The meetings were held at the High School auditorium.

Mrs. W. E. Hedges of Juntura came to Ontario today to meet her mother, who came here from Portland enroute to Nebraska for a visit.

Some good men and true become so thoroughly wrapped up in the work of selecting good men for public office that they even forget to vote.

SALT LAKE BUSINESS MEN COMING MAY 10

Commercial Missionaries From the Temple City Will Spend Afternoon and Evening in Ontario—Will be Banned by Club.

One hundred strong, traveling by special train, representatives of the commercial interests of Salt Lake City will invade Ontario Monday afternoon and evening May 10.

The party which is the first trade excursion arranged by the Salt Lake Commercial club since war times leaves home next Monday and will have spent a week on the road when they reach Ontario, which with Nyssa is the only Oregon community to be visited.

The special is due to reach Ontario at 3 p. m. and will be met by committeees from the Commercial club with autos to take the visitors over the valley to show them what real alfalfa ranches look like.

In the evening there will be a banquet served in the Commercial club rooms by the women of the American Legion auxiliary. The Salt Lake men are such good sports that in their advice to the local club they insisted that the banquet be "Dutch Treat" and they would insist on paying their own way.

The club's entertainment committee, H. C. Smith, J. A. Lakness and C. F. Cox have charge of the arrangements for showing the Salt Lakers a good time.

CITY IRRIGATION TO START ON SATURDAY

Owners of Lots Urged to See That Their Laterals Are Cleaned at Once—Costs Will Be Determined Soon.

After trying the sprinkling system for irrigation Ontario is to return to the old ditch system this year. The committee which has been at work arranging for ditch water has practically completed its work and reported to the Commercial club Wednesday of this week.

It is of utmost importance to the property owners that the laterals leading to their lots be cleaned in time to receive water at once. This the property owners must do for themselves.

During May it is anticipated that three separate irrigations will be made over the city and by the end of that month the committee in charge will be able to determine and advise the property owners what the entire cost of the service will be for the season.

RUTHERFORD BROTHERS BUY MALHEUR RANCH

Largest Ranch and Cattle Deal Reported in Months Involves Transfer of Old Morrfit Ranch Near Malheur City.

By adding to their already large holdings the 2400 acre ranch known as the Morrfit ranch near Malheur city, Rutherford Brothers of this city this week stepped forward and listed themselves among the very largest land and cattle ranchers of Eastern Oregon.

The deal which was negotiated here in Ontario aggregated values amounting to practically \$150,000. Beside the ranch there went with the deal 1400 head of cattle, \$10,000 worth of new farm machinery and 300 to 400 head of horses and other stock.

While the ranch has been known as the Morrfit ranch it has been operated by S. E. Stanfield for some time, he having purchased it two years ago.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE GOES TO INTERVIEW COMMISSION

To get ratified on the Journal of the Highway commissions proceedings the order made by that body last September concerning the paving of the highway from the east city limits to the Snake river bridge a committee consisting of J. B. Blackaby and G. F. Aiken went to Portland Saturday night. County Judge E. H. Test also went to attend the commission's hearing in connection with work on the other state highways in the county.

As the result of the conference the commission ordered that bids be called for on the paving to the bridge immediately upon the approval of the project by the federal road authorities.

Charles Becker returned last evening from a trip to Boise.

BAKER MECCA FOR MALHEUR COUNTY MASONS TO SHRINE

A big bunch of Malheur and Harney county Masons left Ontario Wednesday and Thursday evenings for Baker and others will leave for there tomorrow night to hang onto the rope on the way to the Shrine. Among those who went early in the week were: C. S. Watson, W. H. Brooke, Irwin Troxell, J. C. McCreight, Dr. R. O. Payne, A. S. Brown, L. C. Culbertson, V. B. Staples, H. C. Smith, Harry Hodge, Harry B. Clement, all of Ontario; Dr. Burrows, R. M. Cole and George Lowe of Vale; Messrs. Gossert, Hall and McConnell of Nyssa; Sam Trimbull of Crane; Clarence Drinkwater of Burns. Tomorrow night H. L. Peterson and H. B. Cockrum go to join the caravan to cross the desert to the El Kader shrine.

On Tuesday night the Burns Masons were the guests of Acedia lodge here at an initiation and banquet which followed.

TWO WELL KNOWN FRUITLAND RESIDENTS ANSWER SUMMONS

Mrs. John E. Wilson, Mother of large Family passes—David C. Davis, Pioneer of Mountain Country Called—Other Fruitland News of Week.

Sarah Ann Keith Wilson, wife of John C. Wilson, died at her home three miles southwest of Fruitland April 17, 1920, her death being due to diabetes and a complication of other diseases. Sarah Keith was married to John Edger Wilson June 15, 1899, at Fort Scott, Kansas. To this union eight children were born; Mrs. Leonard Quinn, Bellingham, Washington; Mrs. Clyde E. Conntser, Fruitland; Roy F. Leslie, Kermit K. Orville M. Melvyn E., and one son who died in infancy. All of the children were at the mother's bedside when death came with the exception of Mrs. Gunn whose family was in quarantine with small pox at her home, as was a sister of Mrs. Wilson's, who lives at Bellingham. Her mother, Mrs. Frank George has been over from Boise Valley caring for her daughter. Her father is in Kansas. The funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock at the Christian Church in Payette, being conducted by the pastor, Rev. Mowe. The body was laid to rest in Riverside Cemetery, Payette. The sympathy of the entire community goes out to the bereaved family. Mrs. Wilson was born in Bates County, Missouri, September 1, 1852, and came to Idaho 14 years ago. She was a life long member of the Christian church and endeared herself to a large circle of friends in this community.

David C. Davis Passes
David C. Davis was born in Utah. He passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Louise Ward, on Pennsylvania Avenue, near Fruitland, Sunday evening at nine-thirty, death being caused by dropsy. He leaves to grieve for him three daughters and two sons. The body was shipped to Jerome, Idaho, Monday morning, for burial. The members of the family left early Monday morning by auto for Jerome to be present for the funeral services. Mr. David was 65 years and one month old. His father and mother crossed the plains with the early Mormon settlers to Utah, where they settled and where the family grew up.

FRUITLAND, Idaho, April 27— Russell E. Thompson was born August 13, 1851, in Lee county, Illinois, and passed away in Holy Rosary hospital, Ontario, about 9 o'clock Saturday morning, April 24, 1920, death due to hardening of the arteries and uranic poisoning. Mr. Thompson was taken suddenly ill Thursday morning at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Worth near Payette and the next day was removed to the hospital in Ontario. He seemed better Saturday morning and his death was a surprise because it happened before any one really expected it. Mr. Thompson was married September 15, 1876, to Ellen Hollis at Sterling, Illinois. To this union two sons were born, Charles, who resides at Tappanish, Washington, and Frank E., who resides at Fruitland, and at whose home Mr. Thompson resided much of the time. Charles arrived too late Saturday evening to see his father alive. Mr. Thompson resided with his family for a time in Iowa and 13 years ago came to the Payette Valley where every man, woman and child who knew him called him their friend. Besides the two sons he leaves a brother, Martin, and a sister, Louise Rogers, in Shambaugh, Iowa, a sister in Kansas City and a sister in Rock Falls, Illinois.

The funeral services were held Monday afternoon at the M. E. church, Fruitland, conducted by the pastor, Rev. VanDeusen, assisted by the pastor of the River Brethren church. The body was laid to rest in Riverside cemetery, Payette. Mr. Thompson had many friends who will be saddened by his going away and the sympathy of the community is extended to his sorrowing ones.

ONTARIO WINS GAME AND FORFEITS IT TO PARMA

Ontario won its first game with its rejuvenated team at Parma last Sunday afternoon. The score was 8 to 1, but the game was marred by the constant squabbling of the home guards at Parma over the players on Ontario's team. On Wednesday the Parma team protested the game and Ontario forfeited it.

Next Sunday here in Ontario, Ontario will play Weiser, the strongest team in the circuit and the first real game of the season will be the result. Ontario and Weiser are the class of the league at present, with Payette practically on a par with them, and Payette is getting stronger every week. The game Sunday will start at 2:30.

SCHOOL EFFICIENCY MUST BE MAINTAINED

BUSINESS MEN AT COMMERCIAL CLUB MEETING TELL SCHOOL BOARD THAT THEY HAVE UNITED SUPPORT IN PLANS MAINTAINING STANDARD.

ENDORSE AGRICULTURAL COURSE

Schools Now Crowded Beyond Capacity—Many Children Not in School Who Should Have Been—Teachers Wage Must Be Raised—Gymnasium Needed.

Without a dissenting vote the members of the Commercial club at a largely attended meeting last night went on record emphatically endorsing the work of the school board in the past and assuring the board that it will have their united support in whatever plans it presents for maintaining the efficiency of Ontario's school system.

This was the principal subject up for discussion at the meeting, and aided for a general discussion of civic problems, covering taxation, valuations, etc.

Dr. W. J. Weese, president of the school board presented the problem which the board is facing, showing that with but one-twelfth the valuation of the county School District No. 8 is called upon to educate one-third of all the children in the county. He said that there is not now room for all the children who should be in school, that at least fifty boys and girls have run the streets who would not have done so had the truancy laws been enforced. We could not enforce the laws for the simple reason that we would have had no place to put the children had we done so; neither would we have had the teachers necessary to teach them.

Gymnasium Needed.
Dr. Weese told the board that the provisions of the state and national education laws provide that physical education must be maintained in the schools and that the local school district can not comply with these requirements with its present building space. He told how the boys and girls were turned out of doors because there was no place for them in which to play basket ball, while the neighboring schools have these advantages.
He said that by the construction of a gymnasium the present room used for athletic work in a small way could be utilized for class room and the emergency bridge. To do this he said a bond issue must be voted of at least \$15,000.

Want Agriculture Taught.
Professor Elliott, supervisor of vocational training under a vocational training board addressed the meeting and told of the plan for operating agricultural classes in High Schools and said that he and other members of the board desired to see the course established in the Ontario schools, since this is essentially an agricultural community and has the possibilities of leadership in this work. He said that only 15 schools in the state would get this work this year, of which 10 would be in Eastern Oregon and he was anxious to have Ontario be one of them. He explained the method of procedure to get the work and what it accomplished in other districts.

The matter was discussed by several of the men present, all of whom favored its adoption as part of the Ontario school program. Dr. Weese told the gathering that two years ago the board adopted this as part of the program but that due to the war no capable instructor could be found and therefore it was dropped at that time. Since then the board has changed and he said he could only speak for himself in saying that he favored it.

Approved Elementary Schools
The report of the legislative committee was received urging the endorsement of the constitutional amendment permitting additional state bonds for highway work; approving the millage tax for higher education, but making no recommendation on the matter of the elementary school tax. This was discussed.

(Continued on Last Page.)