

The Ontario Argus
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Published Thursdays at Ontario, Oregon, and entered at the Ontario post office for distribution as 2nd class matter.

ARGUS PUBLISHING COMPANY
Publishers

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SUBSCRIPTION—One Year, \$2.00

SLACKER CITIZENS

During the war a man who did not do his duty was called a slacker; why should not a similar term be applied to those who refuse in times of peace to perform their duty as citizens?

We have the finest system of government under the sun. The power is in the hands of the people. They by their votes can determine the questions of policy, they name the officials to carry the policies out; with the initiative and referendum they actually write the laws of the land. What more could even the most pronounced socialist want?

And yet, with all these privileges, privileges for which hundreds of thousands of men in the ages past have died to attain; only a fraction of the people take sufficient interest to go to the polls to exercise the priceless privilege of suffrage.

If the people think so little of this privilege why not reduce the cost of an election by automatically cancelling their right to vote for say ten years, after two repeated failures to vote?

Also if the people are to vote direct on so many measures why not require them to take an oath that they have actually read in toto all the measures on which they are to cast a vote and understand the purport of the measures?

Anyone who champions the direct ballot certainly will admit that this is not an unreasonable requirement. The intelligence of the American voters justifies the imposition of such restrictions and in justice to the system of direct voting no one dare plead that it involves too much work. To make that plea would be equivalent to admitting that the vote by which the measures adopted by the people in the past was not an intelligent vote.

CURB THE SPEEDER

The man who drives over a public highway, especially in a dry region, at a rate of speed greater than 30 miles an hour ought to be arrested for squandering public funds. He

should be arrested too for endangering the lives of his fellow citizens and he should be punished for both these crimes.

It is the fine gravel and dust that furnishes the blinder that holds the coarse gravel of the ordinary road together and furnishes an adequate driving surface, especially in sections such as this.

To get that gravel and binder together on a proper grade the state and county have spent thousands of dollars for every mile of road; and this is the money that the speeder squanders when, by going at such a terrific speed he throws this dust and fine gravel into the narrow pit and over into the fields.

It is a positive shame to see the manner in which the road between Cairo and Nyssa is being used by a few delirious drivers whose time is not worth much to themselves or to anyone else. They drive like madmen in their efforts to annihilate space, going over the highway at from 40 to 50 miles per hour. It is a fact that the men whose time is used to accomplish things do not have to drive at such speed.

The Cairo-Nyssa road is one of the best gravel roads in all Oregon. It is not a wide road, but it is well drained and had to be made so be-

cause of the spongy condition of the soil due to irrigation; that very fact adds to the danger of excessive speed in driving over it. The prediction is made by many that this summer will see many accidents on that stretch of road unless the speeding is stopped.

If the autoists will not stop this practice themselves the time is sure to come when they will find laws passed placing governors on all cars which will prevent speeding; or laws prohibiting the manufacture of cars geared to do more than the legal speed. Until some such laws are passed, however, the county or state should secure a bunch of traffic cops and put them to work. The judges before whom the offenders are tried should sentence the offending car as well as the driver and that might serve to keep a few of the speed merchants off the road for a time and teach them a lesson. At least it would do the roads no harm.

CONSERVE THE RANGE

There are two kinds of conservation. One, the brand put forth by the Garfield-Pinchot regime of lamented fame, would padlock the natural resources of the West for future generations, regardless of the sufferings of this. The other type of

conservation would protect the natural resources by regulation in use so that development and not waste would be the result. That is the kind of conservation that should be applied to the public range.

It is high time that some common sense regulations be applied to the use of the range, and that its management be entrusted to men who are conversant with conditions in the West, interested in its development and as anxious to prevent its exploitation as any of the padlock-conservationist who ever assayed from their eastern homes to prescribe for the hampering of the West.

To do this it would appear that the logical thing for the public land states to do would be to get together and unite their efforts to get the government to loosen its hold on the vast areas now in its possession, and turn these lands over to the several states for administration under a uniform system that would meet the requirements of the government and the states.

Proper, reasonable restrictions should be placed on the use of the range. And such supervision should be given the cattle and sheep men that the grass would not be eaten off, or the time will come when the East will wonder why the West no longer produces meat for it to eat. When the public range is all gone and the price of meat soars, then the real conservationists, those who seek to protect, but not lock up the resources of the West; who would use but not abuse the range may be listened to. In the meantime the interests of the stockmen who are permanently in the business, would indicate that they themselves guard the range as best they can from its enemies.

AN UNBALANCED NATION

America is fast becoming an unbalanced nation. The number of men on the farms of the country is decreasing out of all proportion to the increase in the cities. That is certain to spell disaster to Americans if the ratio continues during the next ten, as it has in the past ten years.

The people may yell all they want about the high cost of living but it will continue so long as there are two men in town bidding for the surplus product of one in the country. And that is what is bound to happen if the continued increase in the number of men employed in non-essential industries of the cities is maintained much longer.

The census figures are dry tables to the ordinary person but when they show that the men employed in the auto industry, in the manufacture of silks and other toys of extravagance is growing every year, while the farmers of the West and Middle West must let their lands lie idle for the lack of men to aid in cultivating them these statistics become interesting indeed. And that is what the 1920 census shows.

While this spells trouble for the country as a whole and should cause the urban dweller to ponder on his situation, it is also something of a blessing to the rancher who can produce a crop without seeking the aid of labor outside of his family. He will be the man to envy in the future for he will have the market for his crop and the goods for his table at all times. He will prosper while the top wages of the city man will be needed more than they are now.

THE MEASURES CARRY

Whatever may be the feelings of the candidates this week it is certain that Oregon did itself proud in the manner in which it went to the polls and voted for progress, for good schools and for good roads.

With the assurance of double the income of the past, the schools of higher education in this state should be able to achieve even a higher standard than they had up to two years ago. They should be able to bring back to the state some of the men who have gone from it, and to draw others too, of even higher standard.

The state too should be congratulated on the vote for the road bond amendment which means that the Highway Commission can proceed to complete now the state system and thus place Oregon in the forefront of progressive states with a system of state highways gridironing the commonwealth.

The Scotch are going dry, according to general reports. The tall glass and the soda bottle will no longer compete with the thistle as the national emblem, and the Scotchman and his cork screw will pass from the figures of many a good story. But in the parting Scotland will have conquered its worst foe. No nation has suffered from the effects of liquor as has Scotland. The lives of many of its greatest men have been cut off in early manhood thru naught but intemperance; for the Scot is not a conservative drinker; but when he is a teetotaler he is a real one too.

Ready in An Emergency

When illness comes it is better to be prepared. There is no need for "borrowing" from a neighbor if you have a hot water bag or other rubber accessories that are so often needed in times of illness.

Let us show you the fine line of pure Para Rubber Goods that we carry—there are none better that are made.

O. G. LUEHRS' Drug Store

Prescription Specialists Stationers

Is "Cheap" Twine Cheap?

A FARMER bought 6 bales of cheap twine—288 lbs., net. It checked short an average of 30 feet to the lb.—8,640 feet in 6 bales, or the equivalent of 17 1/2 lbs. of 500-ft. standard twine.

He harvested his wheat crop using this twine. There were 135,360 feet of twine (deducting shortage) in the 6 bales—enough to tie 67,680 bundles of grain (allowing 2 feet of twine for a bundle). But 8% of the bundles (5,414) were broken due to twine being weak and uneven.

The hired harvest hands lost an average of one minute's time tying each broken bundle by hand—5,414 minutes, or a total of over 90 hours.

In addition, 2% of the broken bundles (108), representing approximately 5 1/2 bushels of wheat, were lost because the loose grain was not picked up cleanly by the hired harvest hands.

NOW let us see how his loss-and-gain account figures out on this twine investment:

He saved 1 1/2 cents a pound on the original cost of the twine by buying an inferior grade instead of guaranteed International Harvester twine—a saving of \$4.50 on 6 bales. This represents his total gain.

In saving \$4.50 to start with, he lost in the end:

8,640 ft. shortage, or the equivalent of 17 1/2 lbs. of guaranteed average 500-ft. twine.

90 hours' time of harvest hands at the prevailing high wage scale.

5 1/2 bushels of wheat at \$2.25 a bushel or \$12.37.

Figure out for yourself the total losses—the money squandered by this farmer to save \$4.50—an insignificant cent-and-a-half a pound on the original cost.

Don't you think it would have been much more economical for this farmer to have paid a little more for his twine to begin with and bought good twine—twine of International Harvester manufacture that averages full 500-ft. to the pound and has but a very low percentage of breakage?

For Real Economy use
International Twine
We Sell It

TROXELL IMPLEMENT CO.,
ONTARIO, OREGON



Take your choice of these two bales—same amount of twine in each, but due to new way of baling, the bale on the left has 6 bales while the old style bale on the right has 10 bales. The new ball enables you to carry 50% more twine in the binder twine can than is possible with the earlier ball. Also takes up twine less binding and storage space than the old ball. 48 lbs. of twine, net, in both cases.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We have opened here in Ontario a new, modern, fully stocked Electric Shop and will carry a full and complete line of Electric Supplies, Fixtures, Etc.

BRING US YOUR TROUBLES

We will have expert electricians ready to solve your problems from house wiring to motor troubles. Let us furnish an estimate on your next job.

Griffith Electric Shop

North of Ontario Furniture Co.
Opposite Idaho Power Co.

Patronize the Merchants who Advertise in The Argus.

HOT?

Yes Indeed, it must be, cooking over a Hot Fire, but

WHY?

When We Can Furnish You with a Very Neat
Electric Range or Electric Grill?
Summer is Here—Don't Wait!—Let Us Get Your Order Early.

Also a Crystal Washer, to Banish "Blue Monday" from Your Home.
Call for a FREE Demonstration.

The home of Electrical Appliances.
Northwestern Electric Co.
Phone 188-J. ONTARIO, OREGON

We also carry a complete line of Electric House Fixtures. Get our prices.

Have Your Butter Wraps Printed Here



Full power in every drop

"Red Crown" is all-refinery gasoline with the full and continuous chain of boiling points necessary for ready starting, quick and smooth acceleration, steady, dependable power and long mileage. It is made to meet the requirements of your engine. Look for the "Red Crown" sign before you fill.

The Gasoline of Quality

STANDARD OIL COMPANY
(California)

O. H. TEST, SPECIAL AGENT STANDARD OIL CO.
ONTARIO, OREGON