

The Ontario Argus
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CAMPAIGN GETTING WARMER

It is apparent that the predictions of a heated campaign are going to be verified, are being verified right now. It is also the thought of many observers that in the worldly battle that has started a smoke screen of charges is being used to cloud the real issues.

The Congressional investigation of alleged issue of funds has not sustained the charges, if the newspaper accounts of the testimony are to be relied upon, and we believe they are, but even so, the public generally believes that for every dollar that either of the two major parties uses, the other can match it. So the public is not greatly concerned with the preliminary thunder that is rolling round.

What the public is interested in is the attitude of the parties on the major issue, the league of nations. On this issue so far the only direct pronouncement is that of Candidate Harding who is opposed to The Treaty, and wants reservations. Candidate Cox, has been willed the Wilson league and while declaring he will accept amendments which do nullify the Versailles pack, has not outlined what amendments or reservations he will accept.

On the wet and dry issue the standing of the two candidates is decidedly mixed, according to the various interpretations placed on their records by their partisans. Neither seems desirous of making this an issue, the perhaps neither would refuse the assistance of either the dries or the wets, provided too much noise was not made of the fact.

In the suffrage issue, the Democratic nominee is endeavoring to carry off the credit for the final ratification. The consistency of this is too open to question, when the record of the ratification, its original submission by a Republican congress and its adoption first by eight republican states prior to that of a single democratic state, and the fact that while seven democratic states refuse to ratify at all and only one Republican. However that may be, there were pros and anti suffragettist in both parties and neither can make much political material out of their record on that important matter.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

If it were possible to do so, there is nothing that would increase safety for pedestrians as well as motorists more than uniform traffic regulations in near by communities, especially cities situated as Ontario and Payette are.

To each of these cities come many ranches from the Fruitland bench and they are bound to get confused, or at least are apt to forget the regulations of the two towns at times, when they have no intention of violating the rules.

Nampa has in force the parking regulations in vogue in Ontario, and many other towns follow the rule of backing to the curb, as we do here, while many more still drive, front to the curb. It would be a simple matter to have a uniform regulation if some means of getting the matter before the various city councils could be devised. Perhaps all that is needed is someone to take the initiative. We believe that the matter is of sufficient importance for action.

SECRETARY CLAY IS INTRODUCED TO CLUB
(Continued From Last Week)

One of the directors of our Club, in a recent visit to Portland, met Mr. Wm. McKenzie of the Eastern Oregon Land Company, and in the course of his conversation with Mr. McKenzie, our director was informed that California parties were in touch with Mr. McKenzie for the location of a beet sugar factory. Mr. McKenzie had referred him to Ontario as a place with facilities well worth their while to investigate. Your Secretary is aware of the fact that efforts have been made in the past to secure a location for a beet sugar factory, and that at one time a factory was located at Nampa, Idaho, but since that time it has been dismantled, the machinery sold, and moved to other places. This would give rise to the fact that sugar beet raising is not a success in this country, but let us look into the matter a little. Your Secretary is convinced that the first reason for the failure has been the lack of knowledge on the part of the farmer of the disposition and nature of the sugar beet plant and the manner of its growth. It is a fact that where sugar beets were planted on alfalfa land, and where they received the accidious attention and the proper cultivation, the first year a splendid crop was raised, the second year about half a crop was raised, and the third year the farmer did not even dig what was in the ground. It is this fact which leads your Secretary to say that it was lack of knowledge of the beet plant which caused the failure. It has also been said that the sugar beet destroys the fertility of the soil. According to the U. S. Department of Agriculture this is not true. In Farmers' Bulletin, number 52, issued by the Department and written by H. W. Wylie, Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, this question is answered to the satisfaction of all open minded men. The consensus of opinion of informed men on this subject is that it is a mistake in any country to attempt the growing of sugar beets upon the same ground two years in succession. Ontario can secure the location of a beet sugar plant, provided Ontario and the farmers in her surrounding territory will conform to the proper rules in growing and harvesting their crops. I believe that a committee should be appointed to have this matter in charge.

There is still more work to be done with the Warmsprings Irrigation District. It is contemplated in the plans of this District to cover land on the north side of Malheur River, and below Malheur Butte. I do not believe that there is anyone within the sound of my voice, but what will say that the Warmsprings project has been of almost incalculable value to Ontario already, and as each year progresses it will become more and more valuable. Again I ask for a committee to work with the Warmsprings Irrigation District to further their plans to the end that all the land possible be brought under this system.

The housing problem is one of genuine importance. It is not a local condition, but is a world wide result of the devilish plans of the deluded lunatic of Potsdam. Every country, every civilized nation on the face of the earth today is confronted by the housing problem. In New York City, alone, before the war the annual building rate of apartment houses was 1500 apartment houses per year. In 1918 there were just 85 apartment houses built in New York City. This fact alone will show you why there are not houses for people to live in. Of course, we all know that the great deterrent in building is the present high cost of materials and labor, and the men with money are naturally holding off in the hopes of better prices, and practically the only build-

ing that is going on is that that is forced through other conditions. There are several ways in which this problem might be solved. One of the solutions is by means of a Building and Loan Association. Another is by the formation of a holding company whose capital stock should become a revolving fund which is to be used for building homes, which are to be sold to home owners. I think you should have a committee to handle this matter also.

I have been informed that every fall and winter for the past number of years, you have a number of stock men who come to Ontario to spend the winter and to give their children the advantages of our good school system. I believe that an effort should be made to secure the location of these retired stock men, and ranchers from the interior of Malheur and Harney counties, asking them to come here and buy homes where they may educate their children.

It is about time, now that your main streets are paved, for you to begin considering a lighting system for the business district of your city.

One of the principal assets of a town is its beauty, and I think it is high time for the people of Ontario to begin constructive work to the end that lawns and trees be planted to beautify the residence districts of Ontario. It occurs to me that some organized system will have to be worked out for irrigation in order that lawns and trees may be planted. I recommend that a committee be appointed for this purpose.

It is my idea of a vital part of the work of a Commercial Club in any community that it should interest itself not only in the business activities of the community but also in the social life and atmosphere of the town. To this end I would recommend that hearty support and cooperation be given to the Ontario Band. That it may become thoroughly organized, and that it may delight us and our guests with good music. I would also like to see a community glee club organized this fall. Membership in which to be restricted not at all but to be general.

The duty of a Commercial organization in my judgment is to be anything and everything, necessary for, and incident to the up-building and better building of the city, and its environs. I do not believe that we should spread out over too much territory, and I thoroughly and heartily recommend that your Board of Directors select one or more prospective developments of paramount importance and work those out; upon and to keep ever-lastingly at it until results are accomplished.

As the man of your organization who will be upon the firing line, your Secretary wishes to say that if this organization is composed of men who will stand shoulder to shoulder, through thick or thin, forgetting small insignificant prejudices, which it is human nature to crop up now and then, and forever keeping their eyes on the big results which are to be accomplished, if we can secure such team work, there are absolutely no limits to the possibilities for development which confront you.

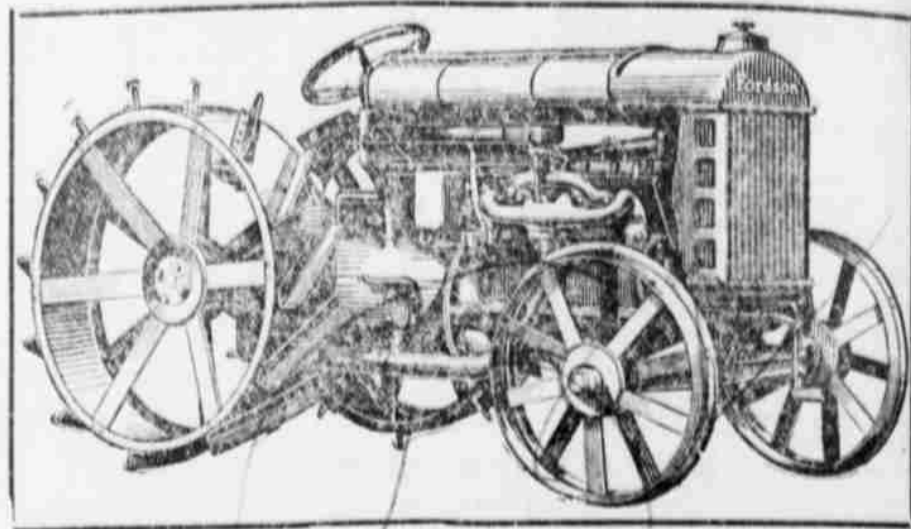
I wish that I had the power to paint for your minds' eye the picture that I see of the future Ontario. We can secure the railroad with its attendant advantages, division point with division shops and a line of steel into the interior of Oregon, an empire which has lain waiting for development since before the landing of Columbus. With the successful outcome of this, or any other of half a dozen prospective developments, the advertising which this section will receive from the successful outcome of such work will be sufficiently strong to bring without other efforts a tremendous influx of

farmers and home owners and in any business enterprises which will tax the capacity of our section to accommodate. I think I can see in the future Ontario the gate-way of central Oregon, the gate-way of central Oregon, a thriving city filled with

happy and contented and prosperous people, and each and every one of you who work conscientiously with this idea in view will receive the welcome plaudit "Well done good and faithful servants, enter into the joy of your reward."

There is absolutely no limit to the possible development of this section and it is my earnest hope and will be my greatest pleasure and duty to help in this wonderful program of constructive work.

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