

The Ontario Argus
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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

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SUBSCRIPTION—One Year, \$2.00

THE FARMERS AND THE FAIR

The Malheur County Fair has, after a number of years, been placed where it belongs, under the management of the farmers of the county.

This means that no longer will the institution be charged with being run for the benefit of Ontario, or for the aggrandisement of any set of individuals. This in itself is sufficient reason for the change in control.

Then, too, the board of directors are now appointed by the County Court from a list recommended by the County Farm Bureau in which every community of the county is represented. Thus the board becomes a truly representative of the county, whose property they are managing.

But, as The Argus has said in the past, it repeats now, Ontario can not afford to rebate in one iota its interest in the success of the annual exposition. The possibilities of this country are not any too well known, even by the residents themselves, and the annual exhibition of the results of their neighbors efforts is one of the most stimulating influences that can possibly be brot to bear for the betterment of people themselves.

Then there is another reason why the Fair should be encouraged. It is one of the most potent of educational methods. The boys and girls of the county gather each year in competition, they see their parents competing for honors, and with the knowledge they have, if example is any stimulus, they are inspired to strive for honors themselves.

Aside from these practical reasons, there is that of entertainment. The Fair is, as it has been, the one opportunity Ontario has to assist in giving the people of this section a good time after the fall work is done. The rancher is entitled to this week of relaxation. The city should do its part in assisting in this effort.

Now that the ranchers are running their fair they are showing greater interest in its success, with the result already known, there will be greater exhibits than ever before and a well rounded program has been secured, so that the 1920 Fair will, undoubtedly be by far the best ever held in this county, and the credit for this is due to the farmers and more particularly to the men whom they selected as their first board of directors.

HIS OWN WORST ENEMY?

The Argus this week received the following communication from a farmer, one who has given a great deal of time and thought to the problems of the man who raises produce and whose problems are not those of production but of marketing as well. The idea that is here presented we believe is worthy of consideration, even by those who may not agree with the sentiment. This is what this man had to say:

"To a considerable extent the farmer, as a class, is his own worst enemy. He may feel that things are not as they should be, or even know it, yet how many farmers will beat themselves to remedy their own troubles? There are some, but there are more who would rather grumble and find fault and wait for 'George to do it.' Then there are those who are always ready to grab 'George' by the coat tail and pull him down the first time he tries to do what the grumblers wanted done.

"The great trouble is that the farmer will not go about settling his own troubles with his own brains and means. There is just as good brains on the farms, if not better than any-

where else. It is not necessary that city men who know nothing of farming or farm problems should be called upon to guide the solution of farm problems and it is not likely that farm problems will ever be settled right if city men do it. Nor is it necessary or desirable that paid agitators be imported from some other state to stir up turmoil in the name of farm organization.

"What is needed is a sane program worked out by the farmers themselves to solve their own problems in an orderly way. Such a program will then fit the needs of the farmer and accomplish what is needed. There would be nothing about it objectionable to any legitimate industry. But until a majority of the farmers are willing to put their own brains, time and money into the solution of their own problems in an organized way, the farmer will remain his own worst enemy."

A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY

Ontario has seldom had an opportunity for advancing the welfare and all round education of its boys superior to that which will result from the formation of a Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps in the High School.

This opportunity comes to Ontario as the result of the good work of the cadet corps which the high school has maintained during the past nine years. Now the boys are going to reap the reward of their predecessors, for the foresight of the men who had the courage of their conviction and a vision of the benefits which come from military drill.

While Ontario has long been proud of its military company, and justly so, that pride will be immeasurably enhanced by the company that will result from the training its members will receive under the supervision of a regular army captain and sergeant.

The boys will be given the regular army setting up exercises three times per week to develop their bodies under the best system experts have evolved. They will have their military drill twice or three times each week, which is too, a great developer, and then they will be treated that should the time ever come when they would be needed to protect this great land of ours they can do their part manfully and well.

The presence here of such an organization as the young men of Ontario would make under such supervision will increase our pride in our country, teach respect for its institutions, be a wholesome influence for self control among the young men and be indeed a blessing and advantage to the community such as it can not afford to pass by, and we feel sure will not neglect.

THE LEAGUE ISSUE

In his address to the people of Malheur county here Tuesday Governor Cox briefly placed before them what he conceives to be the chief issue of the campaign.

It was noticeable that he laid the greatest emphasis upon the league of nations as the predominant question to be settled.

This is not a political question, it transcends politics in the restricted sense of party politics. On its merits the parties, the republican and democratic, are divided, here in Oregon as elsewhere. Oregon democrats who are strong for Cox and the Smut-Ceell-Wilson league are supporting Chamberlain who voted for the Lodge reservations.

Here, too, Republicans who favor the league are supporting Harding who is against it as it now stands. So the issue is muddled. But on the question of league or no league one can not be neutral.

The Argus is opposed to the League as it stands today. For there is a League of Nations NOW. And what is it doing? If as Governor Cox intimated the League, would bring about disarmament, would promote peace and permit of the reduction of standing armies, why is it not doing so now? Why are Poland and Russia per-

mitted to battle if the League is a potent power? Why are there wars over half of Europe right now, if the League is a panacea for wars? Why?

Is it necessary that America must furnish the men to police Europe; that America must furnish the funds to arm the legions of Europe to make the League potent? If so then above all things Americans do not want the league.

And this is what America would have to do if it accepted the League as it stands. Article Ten says just that and no more and no less. America as a nation of honor would be bound to assist in every war in the world, and America does not want that doubtful position.

Not to take that position will subtract nothing from our moral leadership in world affairs. There was no league of nations when Roosevelt secured peace in the Russo-Japanese war. There was no league of nations when he secured mediation of the Algeiras affair. There was no league of nations when through America's offers of mediation understanding between delugent republics in Central America were secured.

Moral leadership is a thing apart from any organization. It is the result of the national character. The aims, the purpose, the integrity of a people determine their moral standing in the realm of governments, just as these things determine the standing of a man among his fellows.

No, we believe that Governor Cox is mistaken in his estimate of the strength and ability of the present league of nations to solve the ills of the world. It has failed thus far, and it is a reality now—even the United States is not a part of it, and it is bound to fail, whether we are a part of it or not.

Since thru his emphasis this question is deemed the paramount issue Americans should become familiar with its every phase. Regardless of political beliefs as affecting national issues, men and women must make their judgment on this international issue felt in this campaign. No snap judgment should be taken, the question is too serious for that.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Equalization Board For Dead Ox Flat Irrigation District.

On Tuesday October 5, 1920, at 2 p. m., the Board of Directors of the Dead Ox Flat Irrigation District, acting as a Board of Equalization, will meet for the purpose of reviewing and correcting its assessment and apportionment of taxes to be levied for the ensuing year, to hear and determine any objections, by any interested persons to the assessment and apportionment thereof and any other matter connected therewith, that may come before them.

Meeting place N. E. 1/4, sec. 5 T. 17, R. 47, E. W. 31, E. F. SULLIVAN, Secretary of the board of directors Dead Ox Flat Irrigation District, R. 3 Payette, Idaho, Sept. 16 to Sept. 20.

Read The Ontario Argus for the news.

PIANO TUNING

The undersigned will be in Ontario about the first week in Sept. tuning pianos. Anyone wishing their piano tuned at that time will please leave orders with Mrs. Cox. My tuning is highly recommended by Mrs. Moody at Vale who is the proud possessor of a Stelway Grand and which I tuned.

I. N. Hockett.

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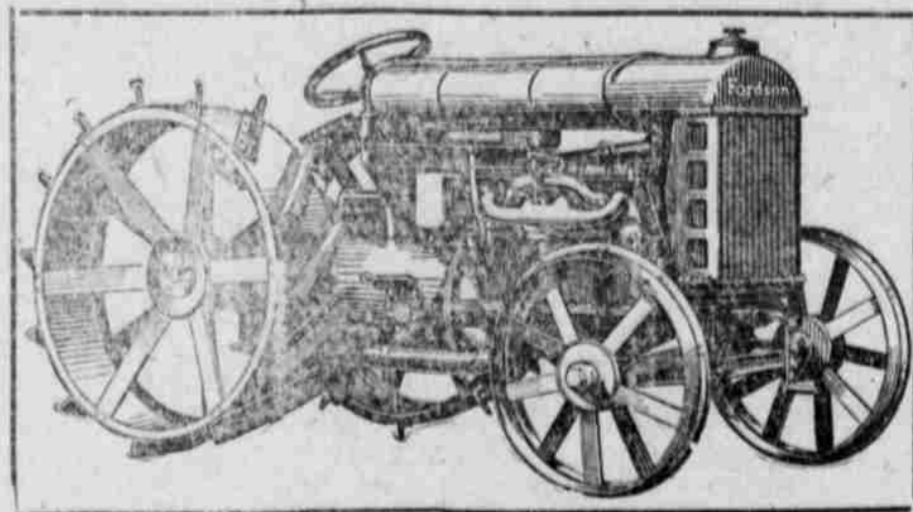
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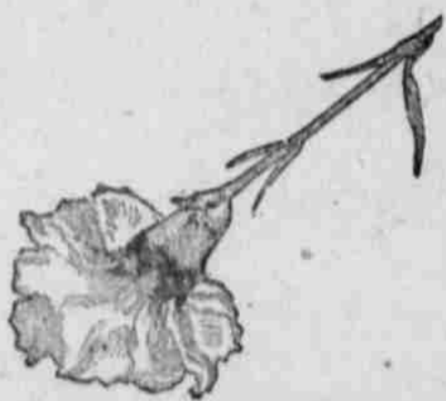
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