

The Ontario Argus
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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G. K. AIKEN, Managing Editor

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DEVELOPMENT AHEAD

Western men are optimists. It is well that they are. In spite of the fact that there are many grey hairs on the heads of men who came here years ago expecting big development works, they have not lost their faith. They are still optimists.

If you scratch an optimist, it is ten to one that you will find a worker. The real optimist is working to make the dreams his optimistic vis-

ions' sees, come true. That is the only kind of an optimist that is worth while, anyway.

During the past ten years there has been so marked an increase in the growth of the cities of the country, as compared with the rural population, that the people of East are beginning to realize that something must be done to maintain the development of the country. The present tendency cannot long continue with safety to the nation. Leaders in many sections have undertaken to solve this problem, and the result is that they have united on the only feasible plan—the development of the arid lands of the west and the swamp lands of the south.

With this knowledge of what others are thinking about the Western optimists have reason for their faith in favorable action by the coming congress on the various reclamation measures. The problem is not

one of interest to the West alone, but to the entire nation, and therefore will command more attention than when the boosters of years gone by went to Washington to stir the notions to activity.

Anyway the optimist is justified in being optimistic. The work done in the past and what will be done now will not have been wasted if other years are needed to secure results.

CHANGING TAX LAWS

There is a measure of merit in the suggestion of the County Assessor that the state tax commission as at present constituted be changed. It is certain that the present system is not satisfactory, and therefore a change suggested by the men who have had experience under its operation will undoubtedly be one in the right direction.

If there is a great difference in the valuations over the state for the same classes of property as is evidenced in Malheur county, then indeed the present system is due for the discard.

Perhaps no system will be entirely satisfactory if the operation is left entirely to the discretion of the 36 different county assessors. No two of them will interpret the law the same. And therein lies the benefit of the proposed change, which calls for a three man commission, one to remain at Salem and be office manager, the other two to travel over the state in order to be familiar with values in every section.

We believe that the law should go one step farther. It should provide that the commissioners have power to direct the work of the assessors and make them follow the basic principals of taxation uniformly. There is no use changing the law if provision is not made to make the change effective in its results.

100 OREGON HIGH SCHOOLS EXPECTED IN DEBATE LEAGUE
University of Oregon, Eugene, November 8.—At the rate the University is receiving enrollments in the Oregon High School Debate League, it is expected that before the close of registration, December 1, more than 100 schools will be listed, representing every part of the state. Last year 76 high schools competed in the league.

The district winners will come to the University at Eugene to determine the championship on the question: Resolved, That the federal government should own and operate the railroads.

PRESIDENT P. L. CAMPBELL ENDORSES THE RED CROSS

University of Oregon, Eugene, November 8.—President P. L. Campbell, of the University of Oregon, has made the following statement regarding the Fourth Red Cross Call from Armistice day till Thanksgiving day:

"The American Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies are the media through which the rank and file of citizenry of this and other nations are co-operating in an almost unprecedented but wholly national manner to realize for those now on earth and for those who are to come the fullest possible measure of freedom and equality—freedom from physical handicap through disease or defect, which insures equality of opportunity. Millions of individual responses to the Fourth Red Cross Roll Call will preserve and demonstrate the essential democracy of the Red Cross movement and insure the continuance of the most hopeful co-operative effort ever undertaken in the interest of the public health."

NOTICE OF SCHOOL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO the legal voters of School District No. 8 of Malheur County, State of Oregon, that a SCHOOL MEETING of said District will be held at High School, on the 23rd day of November, 1920, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon to vote on the proposition of levying a special district tax.

The total amount of money needed by the district during the fiscal year beginning on June 20th, 1921, and ending on June 30, 1922, is estimated in the following budget and includes the amount to be received from the county school fund, state school fund, special district tax, and all other moneys of the district:

BUDGET	
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	
1. Teachers' salaries	\$38,000
2. Furniture	1,500
3. Apparatus and supplies, such as maps, chalk, stoves, curtains, etc.	650
4. Library books	500
5. Flags	500
6. Repairs of schoolhouses, out-buildings or fences	2,500
7. Improving grounds	500
8. Playground equipment	250
9. Insurance	300
10. Science	300
11. Janitor's and Engineers wages	3,000
12. Janitor's supplies	150
13. Fuel	3,000
14. Light	200
15. Water	350
16. Clerk's salary	300
17. Postage and stationery	100
18. Sinking Fund	5,000
19. For the payment of bonded debt and interest, issued under Sections 117, 144 to 148, and 422 of the School Laws of Oregon, 1917	3,100
20. Printing	150
21. Domestic Science	275
22. Manual Training	150
23. Music and Art	300
24. Domestic Art	75
25. Physical Training	250
26. Miscellaneous	500
27. Total estimated amount of money to be expended for all purposes during the year	\$61,400

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

From county school fund during the coming school year	\$ 4,171.35	
From state school fund during the coming school year	1,442.00	
Cash in the hands of the district	Estimated amount to be received from all other sources during the coming School year	1,333.33
Total estimated receipts, not including the money to be received from the tax which is proposed to vote	\$ 6,946.68	
RECAPITULATION		
Total estimated expenses for the year	\$61,400.00	
Total estimated receipts not including the tax to be voted	6,946.68	
Balance, amount to be raised by district tax	\$52,453.32	
Dated this 3rd day of November, 1920.		

Attest:
W. W. WOOD,
Chairman Board of Directors.
W. L. TURNER,
District Clerk.
First Publication Nov. 4th, 1920.
Last Publication Nov. 18, 1920.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the County Court of The State IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Bert Cassell, Deceased.
NOTICE is hereby given, that the above entitled Court on October 26, 1920, duly appointed V. W. Marsden, administrator of the estate of Bert Cassell, deceased, and all persons having claims against the above of Oregon, For Malheur County, named estate, will present the same to said administrator at his place of business in the City of Ontario, Oregon, within six months from and after the first publication of this notice.
First publication, Oct. 28, 1920.
Last publication, Nov. 25, 1920.
V. W. MARSDEN,
Administrator of the above named Estate.

BIG Masquerade Ball
At The **ONTARIO OPERA HOUSE**
THANKSGIVING EVE.
WED., NOV. 24th
A \$10 cash prize will be given the couple wearing the best costume.
This will be a Real Dance
Music by Russell's Orchestra
EVENING TICKETS, including war tax \$1.25
Everybody Welcome

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brings back the "friendly glass." Purity, food-value and satisfaction in every bottle.
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We will make a 10 per cent discount on all **CASH WIRING JOBS**
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