

# The Ontario Argus.

XXV

ONTARIO, MALHEUR COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1921

NO. 15

## Famous Olds Ferry Will Pass When Highway Is Completed

HISTORIC OLDS FERRY, THE OLDEST IN EASTERN OREGON IN CONTINUOUS OPERATION SINCE 1858 HAS SEEN NORTHWEST DEVELOP

### WAS USED BY OLD PIONEERS

Three of its Owners Have Drowned While Operating It—Carried Hundreds to Gold Rush of Idaho Basin—Autos Used in Later Years

No other institution in Southeastern Oregon has been more closely connected with the growth of this region and of the state to west than Olds Ferry. With the building of the Old Oregon Trail from Ontario to Huntington it will become one of the memories of the past. No other ferry has so continuously served the people from the days of the old ox teams of the Oregon Pioneers on their way from the East to the promised land of Willamette and Columbia valleys, to the modern auto tourists with their high powered cars or lowly Fords. Olds Ferry has carried every known transportation vehicle, save railroad cars and airplanes. Ox teams, horses, autos have used it during its years of service in transporting thousands across the swift current of the Snake from the Idaho to the Oregon side or vice versa.

In its day Olds Ferry was used by the trappers of the Hudson Bay company, and by cavalry troops of the United States army enroute to fight the Bannock Indians during their uprising. Thousands of modern autoists have paid the price of the ferry trip while untold numbers of travelers have used it for local transportation, ranchers have taken cattle across upon it for more than half a century.

### Present Owner Visits Ontario

Murray Morton who with his brother Carl owns and operates the ferry was in Ontario Tuesday for a visit with his mother, Mrs. L. M. Morton, in preparing for the passing of the ferry and already has a deal on for its disposition after this year's traffic is cared for. Mr. Morton is banking on the tourist travel of this year to offset, to a degree the loss occasioned by the building of the road.

"We had hoped that the road would not be built for a year or two, but knew that eventually Olds Ferry would pass just as did the ferry at Ontario and at Nyssa which our family owned at one time. Now that the Highway Commission has settled the matter, however, we are glad that it is coming straight to Ontario," said Mr. Morton.

### Has Interesting History

"The original ferry," said Mr. Morton, "was built in 1858 by J. P. Olds, then an employe of the Hudson Bay company which had its trappers in that section. The original present boat was built, so I have been told, with great difficulty. Before the first cable was pulled across the river they used to cross the river with rafts. This was so slow and so dangerous that the ferry was finally established.

"In the early days with only the current of the stream for motive power the operators used to take three to four hours to cross the stream. Two or three trips per day was all that could be made. Now we cross in three minutes, and often the auto tourists are impatient with even that short trip.

"There is a vast difference in the traffic which the ferry carries now from that for which it was originally built. Then it carried the ox teams of the settlers bound for the gold fields of the Baker country or for over in the Willamette and the Columbia valleys. Many of the pioneer families of Oregon first stepped foot on what is now the state of Oregon from the old ferry.

"The first cable for the ferry came round the horn and was packed to the site of the Oregon side of the Snake from Umatilla landing.

"Beside carrying settlers the ferry in its day was used by the United States army, for it was there that Colonel Howard and his cavalry crossed the river from Fort Walla Walla enroute to fight the Bannock Indians in 1876 during an uprising.

### New Boat Needed

"When gold was discovered in

(Continued on Last Page)

VOTERS TO PASS ON BOND ISSUE TO FUND WARRANTS  
Next Tuesday the voters of the city will pass upon the proposition of funding the present outstanding warrants by authorizing a bond issue to replace them. The amount of the city's indebtedness is in nowise changed by the bond issue; but its character is changed from a present demand debt to a specified time obligation, and its passage will greatly reduce the embarrassment in which the City Council now itself.

## CAST PREPARING FOR THE FUMBLES OF 1920

Three Play Show, Revue, Minstrel and Musical Comedy Call For Wide Display of Talent—To Be Prettily Staged

Rehearsals have been in progress now for several days for the American Legion's extravaganza which is to be given at the Majestic Monday and Tuesday, March 28 and 29. These rehearsals have reached a place where it can safely be said that the entertainment will be the best home talent production ever held in this section.

Aside from pretty dancing girls, excellent chorus singing, vocal solos, solo dances and specialties, the program calls for handsome stage settings and elaborate costuming to heighten the effects produced.

In preparing the spectacle, Sgt. Danny Wallace and Rodney Hillman have surrounded themselves with many capable assistants who are entering into the spirit of the production with a pep that bespeaks success. Both these men are in themselves a whole show, says the Nampa Leader-Herald in its review of the production which they staged for the Nampa Legion men.

The Leader Herald was extravagant in its praise of the show which they put on there, and both men declare that in Ontario they have found talent that equals the Nampa aggregation, if it does not surpass that of the Junction city, so Ontario is due for the best show of the year, March 28 and 29, for the benefit of the Legion's building fund.

### KICK OF WHITE MULE STUFF LANDS USERS BEFORE JUDGE

Lloyd "Red" Johnson, sheepherder, somewhat accumulated a cargo of "white mule" or a suitable substitute. It affected his disposition so badly Monday morning that he wanted to fight Jay Saltsman, motor vehicle license inspector, who had tagged some cars on Oregon Street. He wanted to battle so badly that he announced the fact to the entire world. His desire was communicated to Mr. Saltsman, who immediately indicated his desire to comply with his request. Then "Red" backed down, and declared he would go quietly out of town.

"Red" did not do that. He returned to Oregon street and accosted Marshal H. C. Farmer and again became liberal with his vocabulary. The marshal listened for a few minutes to "Red" and then landed him in jail. Acting Judge D. P. Dearborn thought "Red" ought to contribute for his speeches and handed him \$10 and cost. Lee Gray, who claimed that he returned to Ontario to locate a plot that he hid here last fair week fell in with Night Marshal J. H. Gordon Saturday night. Lee was "spiffed" after resting in the cooler Sunday he appeared before Judge Dearborn Monday morning and drew a ticket even \$23 and costs. Being minus the \$23 Lee is boarding at Vale for the time being.

### LEWISTON MAN HERE TO GIVE PERSONAL ATTENTION TO SALES

Claus Breier, Jr. of Lewiston, Idaho son of the owner of the big chain of stores arrived in Ontario last week to take personal charge of the sale which the company has scheduled for the coming week. Mr. Breier is the sales manager of the firm which has 40 stores in Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

## FILE PAPERS FOR BIG PROJECT ON BLITZEN

Eastern Oregon Live Stock Company Preparing To Put Famous P Ranch Lands Under Water—Will Cover 50,000 Acres in Harney County

The Eastern Oregon Live Stock Co. yesterday filed their maps and data with the U. S. land office in this city for a reservoir to cover the holdings of the company be on the P ranch says the Burns Times-Herald in its last week's issue. The reservoir site covers the present P ranch property and it is understood from the report of the engineers that the water will cover between 40,000 and 50,000 acres of land.

This is an ideal project and is private, therefore not subject to the possible delay incident in many instances. The land covered by the reservoir is all owned by the company except a few government tracts. The land to be covered is rich soil and it is understood the company intends to colonize the land as soon as the project is in shape to deliver the water.

This project has been under contemplation for several years, in fact it was the plan at the time the owners took the big land holdings over from William Hanley and his associates.

The rumors of railroad extension may be realized, although it is stated that the line would have to be built south of the Malheur lake in order to properly serve this tract. It has been said that the grade made on the bank of the drainage canal constructed through the "Beehive Swamp" by Mr. Hanley has been intended for a railroad grade and the company would build its own railroad up the Blitzen valley when the proper time came if necessary.

From an authoritative source it is learned that one of the stockholders in the company has stated that the only thing that would delay immediate construction would be inability to secure the necessary funds to prosecute the work. With such prospects and the character of the men behind it there is every reason to believe the work will begin in the near future.

With this project under way there is hope of more development work being started in this county during the season. The war delayed such undertakings in the recent years but with the demand for greater production and the desire of many for reasonably priced lands, we should see material advancement from this time on.

## WHITMAN COLLEGE GLEE CLUB WILL PRESENT CONCERT HERE

Return of Popular Musical Organization Will Give Ontario Another Treat—High School Juniors in Charge of Performance

The Whitman College glee club will appear in concert at the High School auditorium, under the auspices of the Junior class, on March 31. The club is already popular in Ontario, for on two previous occasions it has sung to large and delighted audiences.

Howard E. Pratt, director of Whitman Conservatory of Music, who has trained the Whitman College Glee Club, will accompany the singers on their spring tour and will conduct the concert to be given by the club in this city. The well-balanced ensemble of voices has made it possible to present a program of exceptional musical merit. The proverbial "college pep" will not be lacking and those who attend the concert will get a taste of "Whitman spirit" which the "missionaries" never fail to radiate.

Versatility is the word that characterizes the Whitman Glee Club. Twenty-two college men are in the organization. The chorus numbers eighteen singers, the jazz orchestra has ten players, which together with the initial impersonations of Harper Joy, the offerings of the variety quartette and of the club soloists, make a program that promises not a dull moment. A crowded house should greet the boys on their local appearance.

The soloists at the coming concert by the Whitman College Glee Club, will be Howard Reed, baritone and Walter Mueller, pianist. Mueller will also accompany the choral numbers by the club. Arthur Rosenberg will "tickle the ivories" for the jazz orchestra.

### CREDITORS TAKE CHARGE OF PIFER'S RESTAURANT BUSINESS

The business of Ed Pifer, known as Pifer's Cafe was taken over by the creditors last Friday. The initial action came on the claim of W. E. Lees for non-payment of rent, and has resulted in many conferences of the interested creditors. The independent market, which had a mortgage on the property has been in charge of the business during the past week while negotiations have been pending looking to a settlement of the tangle which has resulted. The creditors believe that it can be

## FARM WAGE SCALE IS AGREED ON BY BUREAU

Twenty Cents Per Hour and Ten Hour Day Figure Adopted as \$10 Per Month for Single Man—Interest in Club Work Reported

At the regular monthly meeting of the executive committee of the Malheur County Farm Bureau held at the City Hall last Saturday afternoon it was decided to adopt the following schedule for labor for the coming season: 20 cents per hour, based on a 10 hour day or \$2.00 and board for single man and \$4.00 to \$7.00 for man and wife.

Mrs. Effie M. Crall, county superintendent of schools who is chairman of the boys' and girls' club work committee reported that there was a marked interest in the work over the county and that through the office every co-operation would be given the work.

### Want Poultry Clubs

A. B. Cain, chairman of the poultry division declared that poultry clubs should be encouraged and to assist in this work, Graham Park had offered a setting of Rhode Island Red eggs to any boy or girl in the Castro section. Mr. Cain also offered a setting of White Leghorn eggs to any boy or girl in the county.

Peter Tensen of Nyssa, chairman of the marketing committee reported that the many pool orders were being taken for potatoes so that five carloads of seed would be brought to the county. He also said there were offers on hand of 20,000 pounds of Dicklow wheat. He requested that a representative of the Dairyman's League be brought to the county, and that the publicity of the campaign be placed in the hands of County Agent L. A. Brothaupt.

S. P. Graham, chairman of the Livestock Improvement committee reported that while there was a desire on the part of the farmers for more dairy cattle and improved herds, that owing to the financial situation this was not an opportune time to carry on a campaign.

C. M. Beaumont of the community betterment committee reported the failure of the herd law to pass, and urged that the ranchers promote a mutual insurance on hay and buildings.

The county agent was directed to see whether or not federal funds might be borrowed for seed loans, and other routine matters were disposed of at the meeting. The directors present were: President V. V. Hickox, Effie M. Crall, S. P. Graham, A. B. Cain, Peter Tensen, I. E. Oakes, T. W. Clagett, H. R. Wellman, C. M. Beaumont and L. R. Breithaupt.

## SENIOR CLASS WINS APPROVAL WITH PLAY

Annual Theatrical Event of High School Best Given in Years—Crowded House Enjoys Entertainment

Last Tuesday evening at the Majestic Theatre, the Senior Class of Ontario High School, presented what is considered to be the best play ever staged by a graduating class, the title of which was "An American Citizen". The play features an American who is in England and finds himself entangled in a financial difficulty as the result of the disappearance of one of his partners. That he may save himself and other partner from dishonor, he is compelled against his will to marry his cousin to gain financial aid. In so doing he finds himself confronted with many difficulties and precarious predicaments, that only an American could so shrewdly overcome.

Jack Weaver was the hero of "The American Citizen" under the name of "Cramer" while Miss Ruth McCullock as Miss Beatrice Carey was the leading lady. Their ability to play the leading parts was for them the approval of the large audience. To say the least however everyone of the supporting cast acted his or her part in a very creditable manner. Unselfish praise and credit is due Miss Catherine Conway for her efforts to make this event such a successful one.

In the third act, a street scene in Nice, France, on Carnival day, the six French girls greatly pleased the audience with their charming dances. The music was furnished by the High School Orchestra, which rendered many beautiful selections throughout the evening.

Harry E. Clement and wife are here from Baker visiting with relatives and friends. Fred Rice is here from Enterprise, Oregon, visiting with his family.

re-established and maintained as a going concern. There are many creditors among whom the Boise Credit Men's association represents several while local attorney's represent others. As the Argus goes to press an agreement has been reached among them as to the final settlement of its affairs.

## Old Ordinance Declared to Be Sufficient if Officers Will Act

SHRINERS TO GIVE BIG PARTY AT WILSON HALL ON MARCH 23

The initial bow of the latest social organization of this section, the Malheur County Shrine club will be held at the Wilson hall on Wednesday March 23. Invitations have been extended to some 75 Shriners and their wives, sweethearts or affiliates to be present at the gathering.

According to the invitations the guests will have a medley of entertainment offered. To those who chance there will be sufficient opportunity. To those who do not but would play cards, ample arrangements have been made to make them happy. Refreshments will be provided and an emphatic good time is assured by the committee in charge.

## CONTRACTOR COMES TO VIEW ROUTE OF ROAD

Arbitrators Complete Work on Old Oregon Trail Right of Way Questions Put Up to Them—Contract To Be Let Soon

Contractors have already begun to arrive here to go over the route of the Old Oregon Trail from Ontario to a point opposite Weiser which will be let at the meeting of the Highway Commission in Portland on April 5.

This fact together with the additional fact that the arbitrators, E. M. Greig, A. M. Johnston and C. C. Hunt named to fix the price to be paid for right of way to those who agreed to thus settle the matter, have completed their report and filed it with the County Court, are the outstanding steps taken during the past week.

Several of the land owners who did not agree to arbitrate are holding out against any settlement and steps will be taken to compel the right of way needed through their property so that everything will be in readiness before construction will be commenced.

### PARENT-TEACHERS TO SEE EXHIBITS OF FASHION SHOW

At the High School auditorium next Friday evening the pupils of the domestic science department are to present the first annual fashion show. The costumes to be worn by the models will be those loaned for the occasion by the merchants of the city.

Aside from the fashion show there will be a number of papers on domestic science subjected by students and Judge Dalton Biggs will deliver a short address. A cordial invitation is extended by the association to all who are interested in the work of the schools to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be on sale in the domestic science department after the performance. No admission will be charged for the entertainment.

### WANT ONTARIO TEAM IN BASEBALL LEAGUE

At the city hall Monday evening a number of local baseball fans met to consider the possibility of accepting the invitation extended by Boise, Nampa, Caldwell and Emmett to join with them, and Weiser, if it too will accept in the formation of a baseball league.

Vale, Parma, Payette and Council are also discussing the possible formation of a league and the local fans discussed the possibility of entering that combination if an invitation were received. It was decided, however, that the first invitation be the one favored.

It was also decided that if a team is placed in the league it shall consist of home players only if possible, but in any event that not more than two outside players be hired. Larue Blackaby and J. F. Joyce were delegated to go to Boise Sunday to meet with the other representatives to get their idea as to the class of ball to be played, the outline of the schedule and other matters connected with the league.

Mrs. Fred Seigel has gone to Nampa to join her husband who has been employed there for some time.

## Idaho Solons Consider Enacting Law To Return This Section to Old Time

The Ontario Commercial Club as a body and J. R. Blackaby personally were appealed to by wire Monday for an opinion as whether or not Ontario desired to have this section returned to the Mountain Time zone, with Huntington as the western edge of the zone. The wire came from Senator R. N. Stanfield who told for the first time of a proposed law which the Idaho delegation is to introduce to overrule the action of the Interstate Commission's find-

INGS in the time zone regulation. While Ontario is not united in its opinion of the matter President H. W. Jones after a canvass of the situation including interviews with many business men and ranchers wired the Senator that the present time zone was satisfactory.

## ONE TABLE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Attempt To Circumvent Recent License Law Brings Action—Some Improvement Noted in Condition of Alleys But Corral Still Flourish

Enforcement of the present health and nuisance ordinances, not the enactment of new ones is what is needed to accomplish the betterment of conditions in the city. That was the conclusion at which the members of the Council arrived Tuesday evening at the adjourned meeting held for the purpose of passing upon a new ordinance.

The provisions of the present ordinance which prohibit the disposition of garbage, manure or other refuse in the city, save in fly proof containers, which must be cleaned and the contents hauled away every seven days, if enforced is all that most of the council believe is necessary to control the situation if enforced. Councilman E. M. Greig was the only one dissenting from this view point.

"This ordinance has been on the books more than a year and I have tried to get action upon it without success. I came here to the city hall and they told me that there was no ordinance to control the corral nuisance, and I was willing then, and am willing now, to sign a complaint under that ordinance. What I want, and all I want is that people who keep stock in the city be stopped from creating filthy disease breeding, fly incubating conditions."

"The ordinances on the books prohibit the disposing of garbage, manure and other refuse within the city limits, and require that such matter be kept in fly tight containers and moved every seven days. If that is done there will be few who will maintain a corral," said Councilman I. E. Oakes. "This ordinance should be enforced. The marshal can go over the alleys of the city every week and check up on the situation, and if a few prosecutions are obtained I believe that that will end the difficulty. If it does not then we can pass an ordinance prohibiting the keeping of stock within the city limits at all.

"That is my idea," said Councilman W. L. Turner, "the present ordinance is as broad and as stringent as the proposed measure and I believe that all that is needed is its enforcement."

"Well, then, lets enforce it" said Councilman D. W. Powers "Have the marshal go out and get a few violators and prove whether or not this ordinance is any good. It is not we can enact one that will stop the nuisance." Councilman H. K. Udick also assented to that proposition.

"I can go over the city every seven days," said Marshal H. C. Farmer, "of course it will take a lot of time. I would have done so last week but there was considerable moonshine in evidence about the city and I was busy with other matters. Let me say this, however, that the alley on this side of Oregon street is cleaner than it has been in ten years, and a large number of the worst places have been cleaned up considerably. I will give the worst cases notice now and if they do not clean up will bring

(Continued on Last Page)

## Local Attorney Deemed Most Likely Candidate for U. S. District Attorney

The Oregonian of Tuesday, and the Oregon Journal of Wednesday each contained stories of probable appointments to federal offices. Among the list of those whose appointment was declared to be probable was that of Attorney P. J. Gallagher of this city to the post of United States District Attorney for the Oregon district.

This office which is with perhaps one or two others, the most sought for and regarded as the biggest plum on the federal plum tree is sought by several aspirants, including Walter Toose Jr. of Salem and Julien A. Hurley of Vale. However the candidacy of each of these was declared by the Portland papers to be secondary to that of Mr. Gallagher who, as the original Stanfield man was named the favorite in the race.