

The Ontario Argus
County Official Paper

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

PROTECT THE HIGHWAYS

Oregon has awakened to the danger in which her highways have been placed by the excessive loads which truck men have carried over them. This is the most hopeful sign that has come to the men who have fought for good roads in the past few years. For with the coming of a realization that the roads are in danger will come means for their protection.

The people of the state appreciate the two fold injustice to themselves which the truckmen inflict. They realize that thru their high auto licenses they are providing the first essential for the truck business at almost no cost to the truck men, who are in direct competition with the railroads, taking business from the railroads which compels them to increase their tolls on the public to maintain their systems.

The coming legislature, of course, will not legislate the trucks out of business. No one wants that; but the lawmakers will do their duty if they so regulate the fees for trucks that they will do two things: First pay their share of the construction and maintenance of the roads, and by thus equalizing the cost of doing business, bring the truck rates to a place where they will be on a parity with the railroads.

The public has a sense of fairness. It does not approve of subsidizing the truck men who ruin the road beds so that they can put the railroads out of business, and thus injure the public which must support

the railroads as well as the highways.

By properly licensing the commercial trucks and buslines on a passenger bearing basis or otherwise, the legislature can provide the means whereby the highways can be maintained, and Oregon thus spared the experience of California, the pioneer in the good roads movement.

VALE'S EXAMPLE

One cannot, after considering the matter, help admiring the spirit shown by the men in Vale who have gone ahead in their effort to form a loan association to furnish money to the ranchers of that section, with which to buy dairy cows.

This spirit is manifested in the face of real difficulties, and is for a constructive work. It is the kind of work that any community should do, but under the circumstances one would not have held the Vale men derelict had they declined to undertake it at this time. Yet they have and they deserve the greater credit.

They are making there a real constructive effort to help the farmer. They are not just talking about helping him, they are getting out and showing their faith in the farmer by putting up some of their money for his temporary use. And money talks louder than words.

The Argus cannot bring itself to the belief that the business men and bankers of Ontario are less responsive to the idea of community duty than the business men and bankers of Vale, who have united to furnish a real means for assisting their farmer friends to secure dairy cows and thus solve not, their problem alone, but the problem of the business men as well.

It is all very well to say that if the farmer wants to do something for himself it is up to him to finance the undertaking. In this campaign for the building up of the dairy industry, the farmer is not doing something for himself alone—not by any means. He is doing a community service. He is aiding to put the business of every business man in this community upon a sounder basis. He is establishing

an industry that will bring money into this community from the outside every month in the year. He is providing the means whereby the bills of this community with outside concerns may be paid. He is increasing the wealth of the entire community and in so doing broadening the valuation of property in this county and community, and reducing in that much the responsibility of the wealth of the towns. He is establishing a favorable trade balance for this section.

The proposed transition of the business of farming from that of purely hay growing for the stockmen to the dairying business as well is a fundamental one in which the business men of the community of right should feel it a privilege, as well as a duty, to play their part, by forming stock companies such as that formed at Vale, to aid in bettering conditions for themselves as well as the farmers.

If eleven firms in Vale can be found who will back the formation of a stock company for the purchase of cattle the Argus is convinced that a greater number can, at least should be found in Ontario. We know that like everyone else the business men are having troubles of their own. They are carrying big loads, but they have faith in themselves, in the country and in the ranchers. They are willing to do their part. They have the right community viewpoint. They recognize that as business men they have duties as well as rights, and that one of these duties is to assist their customers in movements which have for their aim the ultimate good of the entire community.

LOOK SOME OTHER TIME

One day this week three men sat in an office window and observed the manner in which different men and women drove their cars down the street. It was an illuminating experience.

For example, the first three men who drove by were gazing at women passing on the sidewalk. Their eyes were focused at an angle of 45 degrees from the direction in which the car was going. They were watching flappers, but they were endangering the life of anyone who might be crossing the street in the middle of the block.

Next three out of six drivers who passed in a few minutes crossed the street in the middle of the block, and violated the traffic regulations. In the short period of less than half an hour more than 50 per cent of the drivers observed were violating the dictates of common sense and safety.

Just for the fun of it, some time when it is convenient, take a few moments to observe how most people drive an auto down main street, then you will wonder how it is that there are so few accidents.

VALLEY VIEW

A. R. Albee and wife motored to Payette Monday evening to attend Lodge.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Curtis and children visited at the J. E. DuPre home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray Kenney and family, also Mrs. Kenney's sister, Miss Buelah Queer were visitors on Sunday at the Caldwell home, on the Fleming ranch.

Mrs. H. McMurren and daughter Abbie left Wednesday evening for Weiser, where they expect to make their home.

Leo Cain and Charlie Pierce of Ontario visited Francis Griffin Sunday.

Mrs. Snyder visited with Mrs. Caldwell on Monday.

Mr. Gray Kenney and family and her sister spent a very pleasant evening Saturday with W. G. Armstrong and family. Popcorn, taffy and apples were served.

Mr. Tomlin and family of Payette visited at the A. R. Albee home Sunday.

Miss Agnes Amidon spent Monday visiting Miss Della Downs.

Mr. and Mrs. Holden Clement and son Roy, visited with A. P. Burr and family on Tuesday.

Mrs. Frank Dowell has been confined to a dark room for some time on account of her eyes. Her mother has been keeping the two older boys Raymond and Edward.

Miss Abbie McMurren was very pleasantly surprised by the teachers and her schoolmates Wednesday of last week. Games were played and later cocoa and cake was served.

Mr. Martin and Rev. Snow representatives of the Union Sunday School organization accompanied Rev. Blom Sunday. Rev. Martin gave a fine talk in which he emphasized the need of Sunday Schools in the rural districts. Rev. Snow is to have charge of organizing the Sunday Schools in the Payette district.

Pupils neither absent or tardy this month are: Owen Henry, Egert Oft, George Ingraham, Hazelle Hill, Byron Dean, Wilson Crane, Lawrence Albee, Leslie Albee, Paul Moeller, LeRoy Dean, Harold Albee, Virginia DuPre, Victor Bellisle and Homer Oft.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NOTES

Sabbath School at 10:00 a. m. classes for all ages.
Preaching service at 11:00 a. m. The church is being decorated this week by "The Winners" a class of boys.



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