

The Ontario Argus.

VOL. XXVI

ONTARIO, MALHEUR COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1922

NO. 18

School Administration Considering Reduction In Financial Budget

CITIZENS COMMITTEE PRESENTED TENTATIVE PLAN FOR CURTAILMENT OF \$12,000 CALLING FOR ELIMINATION OF MANY COURSES

ADJUSTMENT BEING STUDIED

Superintendent J. M. McDonald Presents Plan for Saving \$9,000—Board to Study Situation Further—Reduction Seems Assured

As the result of numerous meetings, including one held by the committee appointed by E. C. Van Petten, president of the Commercial club, on Sunday afternoon, and one attended by this committee and the school board on Tuesday evening, in all probability, the budget of School District No. 8 will be reduced \$8,000 or more.

The committee appointed by Mr. Van Petten presented a tentative proposal calling for a reduction of \$12,250. This called for the elimination of vocational agriculture, the Smith Hughes domestic science, physical training, shorthand and typewriting, music, a study hall teacher and a general reduction in salaries as well as a cut in all supply items.

For salaries the committee asked that the superintendent be reduced to \$3,000, and if Mr. McDonald declined to accept to secure a new one for not more than \$2,700. High school teachers were listed as follows: Principal \$1,600, three teachers at \$1,400, and four at \$1,300. Principals of grade schools at \$135 for west side and \$125 for east side, and grade teachers 13 in number with a minimum at \$90 per month and a maximum at \$120.

The report also asked that all teachers be on the grounds a half hour before school time and that transportation be eliminated and that all supplies of over \$50 be placed on competitive bids.

This report was not arrived at but was signed as a unanimous report so as to serve as a basis for a discussion with the school board. This discussion took place Tuesday evening.

At this meeting President W. W. Wood of the board told the committee that the section referring to the superintendent's salary was unnecessary since a definite contract had been agreed upon and signed, and that he would not repudiate that action. Dr. W. J. Weese gave that as his position, also.

Judge Wood called attention to the fact that this item had been advertised in the budget, that no one had objected, the budget board had placed it there and that Mr. McDonald had accepted it and the board voted upon it. He explained in detail all the negotiations leading up to the contract and the fact that Mr. McDonald had refused a position in Missouri to accept a position here.

"I deem that to repudiate this action would be a breach of honor which no one has a right to expect of the board."

With this item disposed of the discussion became general. The board went into the history of every course considered in the report and gave its reasons for having them.

"We are willing to accommodate the course and to do everything we can to meet the request of the committee," said Judge Wood. "but we want time to consider the plan and to adopt a schedule which will in the least reduce the efficiency of the schools."

T. W. Claggett, one of the members of the committee apparently voiced the majority opinion when he said: "I do not feel personally qualified to say which studies should be eliminated and which retained. I think that by requesting the board to reduce the budget materially and cutting expenses where ever possible we have done all that we can, and it is the province of the board and the superintendent to then arrange for the best possible curriculum with the funds named."

Superintendent McDonald then presented a tentative plan calling for the reduction of the teaching force of the high school from 11 to 8, lengthening the high school day by one recitation hour and with other economies reducing the budget in the sum of \$8,075.

After some discussion the matter was left there and the board adjourned.

FORMER COUNTY OFFICIAL ACQUITTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT

Frank Moritt, formerly county clerk of Malheur county was acquitted early Sunday morning by a jury in Canyon county, Idaho of the charge of embezzlement of \$11,000 from a mercantile firm of Melba of which he was formerly a member. The jury was out three hours according to the advice received by Attorney J. W. McCulloch of this city who defended him.

CAPT. FLEET INSPECTS O.H.S. R.O.T.C. BATTALIONS HERE

Capt. Fleet, U. S. A. who is in charge of the R. O. T. C. in the various high schools of this section came from Boise Wednesday accompanied by Sergeant Abendroth, and the officers of the Boise R. O. T. C. battalions for the purpose of inspecting the local battalions. Maneuvers of all descriptions were staged for the visitors and the local companies were highly praised by the visiting officers.

WHITMAN GLEE CLUB WILL SING HERE NEXT TUESDAY

Next Tuesday evening at the high school auditorium, the Whitman College glee club will be here in concert again. The club which has for three years past made an annual visit to Ontario needs no introduction. It is a finished musical organization and always presents a program that is worth while.

The concert this year is staged by the members of the Junior class who have complete charge of all arrangements. According to the advance reports of the club this year, it is better than ever, and will, undoubtedly meet with the same approving audience which heard their last concert.

O. H. S. CARNIVAL WILL BE STAGED ON SATURDAY NIGHT

P. T. Barnum and Al Ringling would have been green with envy had they had the opportunity of viewing the freaks of nature that will be on display at the O. H. S. Carnival which will be staged Saturday night at High School. The show is a wonder, the greatest ever assembled, according to the press agent for the boys and girls. Its marvelous attractions must be seen to be appreciated, says the versatile P. A. while the barrel of fun that is to be opened is a brand never before shown anywhere, he declares.

BOISE FIRM BUYS BIG BAND OF SHEEP FROM C. F. OXMAN

Leroy Davis of Boise who was in Ontario today reported the sale of C. F. Oxman's band of sheep, 3400 in number to Williams & Doubleday, Idaho sheepmen. The price varied from \$8.50 to \$9.00 and is one of the biggest deals reported in recent months. Mr. Oxman bought the sheep to feed last fall when the price was down and as the result of his sale netted a good return on his hay crop.

SPEEDER HITS AUTO ON CROSSING; OCCUPANTS HURT

Robert and Lawrence Nelson had their Ford Sedan badly wrecked and were themselves injured last Thursday when they were run into by a speeder on the track at the Effie station near Fruitland. The speeder and Sedan met on the crossing by the packing plant, the speeder hitting the car directly in the middle, damaging it badly. Robert Nelson was so badly bruised that he was taken to the Holy Rosary Hospital for treatment. He is able to be out again this week.

Frank McKnight of Vale was in Ontario today in search of a sheepherder.

Otto Blackaby of Homedale was an Ontario visitor today.

John Vines came from Vale today on business.

Superintendent McDonald then announced that it would study the various proposals and call the committee again for consultation.

The members of the committee which presented the original report was: A. L. Cockrum, chairman, H. C. Boyer, H. L. Peterson, S. D. Dorman, C. R. Emlson, C. E. Secoy, and T. W. Claggett.

SOUTHEASTERN OREGON BALL LEAGUE FORMED

Huntington, Ontario, Nyssa and Vale Organize League here Sunday—Season Will Open on April 21—P. J. Gallagher President.

The Southeastern Oregon base ball league was organized here Sunday. Representatives of Huntington, Ontario, Nyssa, and Vale gathered and determined on an organization by electing P. J. Gallagher president and George K. Alken, secretary-treasurer.

The representatives of the towns interested were: The Robinette of Vale, the real originator of the idea, L. B. Kidwell of Huntington, manager of the railroad men's team, F. E. Young of Nyssa and Ross Jenkins of Ontario.

Articles of agreement were drafted and Vale has opened the proceedings by posting its forfeit and also \$25 for the pennant or cup.

All the teams in the league are to be "home town boys."

Here in Ontario before the season opens, that is on April 21, the league is to give a big dance in which all the teams will join, to secure funds to purchase the pennant or cup, but each team is to post a guarantee for its share.

A nine weeks schedule has been arranged for and is being worked out in detail now. Following the close of this schedule the two high teams are to play a three game schedule in towns selected by the executive committee.

PRETTY HIGH GIRLS WILL HOLD UP TOWN

Ontario Asked to Aid White Cross Fund—Is a Nation Wide Movement for Hospitals

This is American White Cross week in Ontario and the ladies of the organization are active telling people about the movement and securing members. They have established headquarters at McEwells Store and invite all interested to visit headquarters for literature and membership.

Saturday is White Cross Tag Day and a band of pretty high school girls will tag the town.

"The money raised will be given for free hospital service to the worthy poor and in this way not only minister to the sick but help the hospitals meet their yearly deficits and thereby make possible the establishments of more hospitals."

REBEKAHS INITIATE

At the regular session of the Rebekah Lodge, Wednesday evening six candidates were initiated. Those receiving the mysteries of the degree were: Mr. and Mrs. Al Andrews, Mrs. Jack Dillard, Mrs. Angie, Chas. Garvin and Wm. Viernow. The Nyssa Yellow Rose lodge was present to view the work, besides a number of other out of town visitors. After the business of the evening was finished a banquet was served to about fifty.

TRACTOR AND IMPLEMENT SCHOOL COMING NEXT WEEK

Under the combined auspices of O. A. C., the Ford Motor company, the Standard Oil Company, the Oliver Chilled Plow works and the American Seeding Machine company, a power on the farm demonstration school will be held here for three days next week. At this school which will be held at the Ford Garage all phases of power machinery will be demonstrated by experts from the college and the companies represented. No charge is to be made and a general invitation to the public is extended by Manager V. B. Staples who is arranging for the course.

Mrs. Miles Riley and daughter, Miss Olga Riley, of Boise, visited in Ontario Wednesday evening and attended the session of the Beatrice Rebekah Lodge, of which Mrs. Riley is a charter member. Miss Riley is a past Noble Grand of Unity Rebekah Lodge in Boise.

Mrs. Hattie Teter is leaving today for Bingham Utah to join her daughter, Miss Mae Teter. Miss Teter left Ontario two weeks ago to take charge of the telegraph office in Bingham.

Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Staples rented the Jaquish home and moved there Tuesday.

E. A. Fraser was a Vale visitor on Wednesday.

ADJUSTMENT MADE FOR IRRIGATION WATER

Water Users Form Committee Agree With H. C. Boyer for Permission to use Ditch Under his Direction

For another year at least the problem of irrigation for the lawns and gardens of Ontario seems solved. At a meeting last Friday H. C. Boyer and others who secured the injunction prohibiting the use of the ditch which parallels Oregon street, a committee of those who use water reached a compromise whereby the ditch may be used subject to the direction of Mr. Boyer.

Under this arrangement the committee formed an executive committee to handle the problem. This committee is composed of J. T. McNulty, chairman, A. N. Hickey, manager, and H. C. Boyer. This committee is now securing the signatures of owners of at least 400 lots at \$3 per lot as a minimum, with a possible maximum of \$4 per lot, if the full 400 is not secured.

The committee is negotiating for a water supply for this summer.

The citizens who arranged for the agreement were: Harry B. Cockrum, C. R. Emlson, J. D. Billingsley, H. C. Boyer, J. T. McNulty, A. N. Hickey, V. B. Staples, J. E. Ferguson, Ivan E. Oakes, H. R. Udick and Mayor W. H. Doolittle.

HEAVY WESTWARD TRAVEL IS PREDICTED BY U. P. OFFICIAL

A. L. Chaff, general passenger agent of the Union Pacific with headquarters in Omaha was in Ontario yesterday for a short time. "Business is picking up in the middle west," said Mr. Chaff, "and there is every indication that there will be a heavy westward travel this summer. There will be reductions in rates, but what they will be I do not know at this time."

INTEREST RISING IN POLITICAL CONTEST

W. W. Wood Files for Nomination For Judgeship—James A. Lackey to Enter Race for Representative Is Report.

W. W. Wood of this city has filed his papers for the republican nomination for the judgeship of the ninth judicial district. Reports have it that James A. Lackey is to make the race for the democratic nomination for representative in the lower house of the legislature from this district.

Petitions are being circulated this week in behalf of Mr. Lackey's candidacy, he having been selected at a meeting of party men during the past week. It is understood that Mr. Lackey will consent to make the race.

With these two additions to the list of candidates the voters of Malheur county will have at least two contests in which to interest themselves this fall, and both races should be interesting for all of the candidates are well known in the county, and favorably known, too, so that there will be many split tickets on the ground of personal friendship. The character of the contestants, too, insures a high class campaign unmarked, it would appear at the outset, by any personal bitterness. It apparently will be a case for the voters to make their choice after a good natured contest.

So far there appears that there will be no contests in the primaries and the fall campaign will be between Judge Dalton Biggs and Representative P. J. Gallagher and Representative P. J. Gallagher and Representative P. J. Gallagher. No one has, as yet, filed for the position of county commissioner, which is the only county office to be filed directly from this section.

A. E. Nichols of Ironside was in Ontario this week looking after business interests.

Mrs. J. A. Bartlett is expecting her daughter, Mrs. J. D. Smith of Drewsey to arrive Saturday for a visit. While Mrs. Smith is in Ontario her daughter, Miss Francis Smith from St. Teresa's Academy in Boise will spend Easter here with her.

George Ward of Nyssa has accepted a position with the Ford Garage here, and contemplates moving his family from Nyssa very soon. He will be pleased to see his many Nyssa friends at the garage.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller of Drewsey visited in Ontario last week the guests of Mrs. Miller's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Bartlett.

Miss Gladys Emlson returned home Monday from an extended trip traveling in California.

Mrs. Clarence Poorman and Mrs. G. W. Lyles were elected Wednesday evening as the delegates to be sent from Beatrice Rebekah Lodge of Ontario, to the Convention of the Grand Lodge in Eugene some time in May.

Blue Bucket Mine; Oregon Greatest Mystery Is On Wagon Tire Mountain

SHELL SHOCK VICTIM LOSES MIND WHILE ON DUTY HERE

That the great war is still claiming victims was shown here early this morning when Jonathan Faust, third trick operator at the local station became deranged and officers took him from the station. This morning a hearing of his condition was held and he was adjudged insane.

The young man's condition was noted early this morning by the dispatcher at Nampa who while talking to him on the telephone became suspicious that something was wrong and called H. O. Drane and asked him to investigate. This Mr. Drane did and when he reached the station found the young man irresponsible.

Employees at the station have noted that Faust was acting peculiarly for some time, and when Fred Schrum who works the first trick asked him if he had suffered from shell shock he said yes, but declared, "it did not leave any permanent effect."

Local Legion men today were endeavoring to locate the young man's relatives and to secure his service record so that he can be sent to a government hospital rather than to the state institution for the insane. Nothing is known of him here except that he came here from Pocatello.

WELL KNOWN ONTARIO GIRL MARRIED TO PASADENA MAN

Advices were received here last week of the marriage at Pasadena on March 23rd of Miss Nettie Lucile Peterson of this city and William Van Camp Heiss of Pasadena. The ceremony took place at the parsonage of Rev. Dr. Freeman in the California city.

The marriage was the culmination of a college romance which had its inception at O. A. C. where both the bride and groom were students in 1921. They were both members of the graduating class of that year.

The bride who is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Peterson of this city is well known in Eastern Oregon, having lived both here and in Harney county. While not a native daughter of Ontario she grew to womanhood here and graduated from the Ontario High school with the class of 1917. Following this she went to O. A. C. where she attended for four years, and there met Mr. Heiss, when he entered college for the senior year after having served two years in the army, a portion of which time he was in France. Since his graduation he has been employed in the First National bank of Pasadena where they will make their home. The groom is known to a number of Ontarians for he came here last summer to visit for a short time.

ROSCOE TURNER ONE OF FOUR IDAHO MEN TO WIN YALE HONOR

In the campaign in Idaho to encourage students to attend small colleges in their home states frequent mention has been made this week in Boise papers of the honors, which four boys, graduates of the College of Idaho at Caldwell have won in their post graduate courses at Yale University. One of the four to win the highest honors in debate was Roscoe Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Turner, who graduated two years ago from the Yale Law school.

Mr. Turner recently left New Haven for New York City to accept a position in the legal department of the National City Bank, the largest bank in America and perhaps in the world.

Mrs. W. A. Davidson, Mrs. Jessie McCarthy and Mrs. John Brutsman of Ontario attended the Silver tea held by the Entre Nous Club of Washoe, Idaho Wednesday afternoon, at the home of Mrs. Streeter Stroup. They were met in Payette by Mr. O. W. Blinn with a car and taken to Mrs. Stroup's home. Mrs. Davidson won the prize, which was given for the best poem on the club name. Later in the evening Mr. Stroup brought the ladies home.

Mrs. M. O. Winrick of Boise, Idaho came to Ontario last week and has taken a lease on the Farley Rooms. Mrs. Winrick has had experience in the hotel and rooming house business and formerly operated a rooming house in Boise.

Linton Carriagan of Wendell, Idaho stopped in Ontario to visit his sister, Mrs. Geo. H. Gilham this week. He is on his way to Baker for a visit.

Mrs. Arthur Moody of Vale is visiting her mother Mrs. A. A. Brown this week.

JAMES H. ANDERSON OF THIS CITY RELATES STORY OF FAMOUS MINE AS TOLD HIM BY HIS UNCLE AND OTHER PIONEERS OF INTERIOR

EVIDENCE IS CORROBORATED

Finding of Ox Chain Years Afterwards One Interesting Episode—How Wagon Tire Got Its Name Also Related—The Story of Meek's Failure

Oregon's greatest mystery of pioneer days, the Blue Bucket mine is located on the south side of Wagon Tire Mountain in Harney county, believes James H. Anderson of this city. Mr. Anderson's belief is based on many corroborative circumstances which he has gathered from various sources confirming the story of the gold find made by the Herren children who were members of the party, as told to him by his uncle James Stewart, who also was one of the famous party.

Having seen the account of the Blue Bucket mine in the Argus of several weeks ago Mr. Anderson related his story as told to him by his uncle and later confirmed to him by episodes of his own life in the interior country as follows:

"When the emigrant party in the late summer of 1853 reached the crossing of the Snake river near the Mouth of the Owyhee, they were met by Steve Meek, who offered to guide them by a short route to the Dalles, via the John Day river, instead of the route of Old Oregon Trail via Burnt river, the Grande Ronde and Umatilla.

"Meek guided them as far as the Hot Springs near Vale, and there they camped for three days, and there many of them decided that Meek did not know the way and that they were lost. They told him either to leave the camp or they would hang him. This he did, but first persuaded some of the party to follow him up Willow creek.

"After Meek's party had gone several miles up Willow creek they again split up, about half of them returned and struck over the hills toward the Snake river and reached Burnt river and proceeded over the regular trail.

"The party which remained at the Hot Springs then started up the Malheur river, crossed to the Agency valley and finally reached Harney valley. In this party was my uncle James Stewart, who for many years lived on a donation claim near Corvallis, and who told me the story of the party's wanderings and of the finding of the Blue Bucket mine.

"They had great trouble in crossing the Harney valley for the land was flooded and they had to proceed up the Canyon to ford the stream. This experience they repeated in their effort to cross the Silves river. Here again the party divided, and a man named Lyman lead one section up Emigrant creek and on to the westward, while the other party struck off toward the southwest and reached the south side of Wagon Tire Mountain.

"It was between the Silves and Wagon Tire that the emigrants found water so scarce. They camped on the south side of Wagon Tire, and from there they could see the snow on Stein's mountains, and here it was that my uncle John Stewart told me that the gold was round. He said it was in a wash-out about 12 or 14 feet deep.

"It was in their effort to cross Wagon Tire that they had to drag the wagons up the steep pitches as told by Mr. Herren, for the mountains are rough and the trail was all but impassable. The next water hole they located was on the north side of Wagon Tire. To increase the water supply they dug out the water hole and made a well. When they left there they abandoned some of their wagons, the remains from which when discovered years after by settlers gave to the mountains their name of Wagon Tire.

Location of Mine Corroborated
"It was from the top of Wagon Tire that they saw, as the Indians they had met told them they would, the snow capped peaks of the Sisters and other mountains of the Cascades. From Wagon Tire they made their way northward to Hampton Butte, and from there to Clover

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