

SCHOOL BOARD FACES CONFLICTING PROBLEM

Ranchers to West of City Hold that Budget Item for Transportation of Pupils be not Dropped—Other Ranchers Want More Transportation.

The directors of school district No. 8 are face to face with a dilemma if they adhere to the request of the committee recently named by President E. C. Van Petten of the Commercial club, in which there were two representatives of the farming community, and eliminate the item of \$1500 for transportation of pupils to the schools, they then face the possibility of a law suit enjoining them brought by a number of ranchers of the western boundary of the district.

A third angle of the problem is also faced since other ranchers in the western section of the district declare that unless the school tax is reduced, then they will move to seced from the district and thus reduce the valuation of property in the district by several hundred thousand dollars.

A fourth question for consideration is that presented by the request on the part of residents of the lower Dead Ox Flat, opposite Weiser, that the board assist them in carrying their boys and girls to the local high school. These ranchers do not ask that the board pay the entire amount but that it give them aid, and they will do the rest.

This proposition has not been officially placed before the board but will be soon, since the people of that region pay the general county high school tax and receive no benefit at all therefrom. They are now sending their boys and girls to Weiser and have to pay tuition to the Weiser district, thus getting two taxes to pay instead of one.

Some of the merchants of the city favor the transportation item as one of the means of bringing the city closer to the people of the outlying districts, creating a harmony of interest. Others do not favor the proposition at all.

The question from a legal aspect is undetermined. Since the item is in the budget, and the budget has been approved, and no protest was made at its inclusion when the budget hearing was held, those who are threatening to sue the board take the position that the board cannot eliminate it. Others hold that the budget is not intended to be a hard and fast contract, that while the board can not exceed it, they can reduce it and eliminate items if they choose.

However, since there are so many contending forces and so many conflicting desires expressed by people of the district, it appears that the school board has troubles sufficient to give it cause to ponder deeply upon its problems.

LECTURE ON POWER PROBLEM PROFITABLE

Hundreds of Farmers and Business Men Learn Many Practical Lessons in Efficient Management of Machines

If the farmers and business men of this section do not know exactly how to handle the power machines on their farms or the cars they operate on the roads, it is not the fault of the lecturers who discussed these matters at the Ford Garage this week representing the Ford Motor Company, Standard Oil company, O. A. C., the American Seed Machine company and the Oliver Chilled Plows Works.

The lectures were largely attended, despite the bad weather of the first night, and each night the crowd grew, manifesting the good word which the audience of the first night spread.

Beside explaining in detail the scientific principles involved in the operations of the machine from the source of power to its application in the various practical ways from tilling the soil to the harvesting of the crop, the experts gave particular attention to the proper care and operation of the machines themselves. The course of lectures was in reality a short course in mechanical engineering and the audience manifested the efficient manner in which the various subjects were presented by the closest attention and making many questions.

W. W. HOWARD SUCCESSFUL BIDDER ON MARKET ROAD

Eight bids were made for the excavation of the big cut on the south side of the Owyhee river on the Nyssa-Jordan Valley road when the county court considered this matter Monday. W. W. Howard of this city was the successful bidder with an offer of \$3465.00 for the work. The highest bid was more than twice that of Mr. Howard's, being for \$7200. Among those who made proposals for the work were: Ward Brothers and J. M. Duncan of Nyssa; L. A. Walker, of this city and Morrison & Knudsen and Allsop Bros. of Boise, and two other outside firms.

UNION OIL COMPANY PLANT NOW NEARING COMPLETION

Regular Oil Town Rising in Riverside Addition—Plant has Capacity for Several Hundred Thousand Gallons—Big Garage Going Up

In Riverside Addition the Union Oil company is building its distributing station. The work is almost finished and it demonstrates that the new company is coming here with the intention of going after the oil business. Five big tanks have been erected and are now being connected with the pumping system.

Beside these the company has built a big garage big enough to house a fleet of auto trucks with which they are to distribute their product in this section. Then there is an office building, a warehouse and a pumping house. All these are within a high wire fence which encloses the grounds which have been leveled and prepared for seeding into a lawn, making the plant a handsome one indeed.

WATER RIGHTS TAKEN FOR DEVELOPEMENT IN COUNTY

State Engineer Reports Five Applications for Irrigation of Lands in This Section; One Pumping Plant on the Snake River

State Engineer Percy Cupper reports the following permits issued from his office for water rights in Malheur county:

To Katherine David of Ontario, covering the appropriation of water from Snake river for irrigation of eighty acres at an estimated cost of \$1,000.00.

To W. C. Hancock, of Huntington, covering the appropriation of water from Birch Creek and tributaries for irrigation of thirty acres.

To S. S. Janago of Pangollano, covering the construction of Janago reservoir for the storage of 23 acre feet of water, and the appropriation of the stored water and water from an unnamed stream for irrigation of twenty acres.

E. F. Seaward of Denio, covering the appropriation of water from Little and Big White Horse Creeks, Dry Gulch and Fish Creek, for irrigation of 293 acres. The proposed irrigation system consists of the construction of three miles of ditch or canal, at an estimated expenditure of \$1000.00.

To Lida K. McNeil of Houston, Idaho, covering the appropriation of water from Owyhee river for irrigation of 98.98 acres. This appropriation contemplates the construction of one and a fourth miles of ditch at an estimated cost of \$750.00.

CRANE HIGH SCHOOL BOY BURNS TO DEATH

Word was received in Ontario yesterday of a fire in Crane Tuesday, the dormitory occupied by High school students, was burned, and burned to death Leland Wettenhiller aged 16 years. The fire is supposed to have been started from a gas stove in Wettenhiller's room. He was suffocated and his body burned in the building.

Robert Carrier of Drewsey, was a business visitor in Ontario Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Crandall of Vale were the guests of Mrs. W. E. Less last Friday.

The W. C. T. U. will meet with Mrs. C. E. Secoy Tuesday, April 25.

TAX PROBLEMS WILL FEATURE ELECTION

Tax Reduction League has Several Proposals; Would put all Property on 100 per cent Basis Save Farm Lands, Also Income Tax Wanted

Taxation will be the big issue in the election which will be held in this state on May 19. The Tax Reduction league which through a sub-committee has been working at Salem for some time on a program looking toward a reform in procedure has, according to the daily papers, practically reached its decisions and is whipping the necessary bills into shape for submission to the people.

Among other things the league proposes the following:

The assessment of all property on a full 100 per cent basis, except farm lands which are to be assessed on a 30 per cent basis. That the assessor may have the power to compel the production of inventories and all information necessary to arriving at a full cash value the law provides that the district attorney start proceedings against all who refuse to cooperate with the assessor.

Another feature of the plan is for the abolition of the 1.2 mill levy for higher education. It is believed that this will not reduce the money available to the schools for the new basis of valuation will raise the money on a one mill basis, while the income tax feature will add to the resources of the state in such a manner that the millage for other state purposes can be materially decreased.

TENNIS PLAYERS TO FORM PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

At the city hall Friday evening at 7 o'clock a meeting of the tennis players will be held for the purpose of perfecting a permanent organization. An invitation is extended to everyone who plays the game, whether members of the club in the past or not. Owing to the fact that many of those who will be at this meeting will also be called on to attend the baseball meeting at 8 o'clock on the same evening all who attend the tennis meeting are urged to be there on time to get the organization completed within one hour.

LEAGUE WILL HOLD DANCE TO INAUGURATE SEASON

Harmony to Reign in Eastern Oregon Big 4—Vale, Nyssa and Huntington Folks Coming to Dance Here—Prospects Season Bright

To inaugurate, under auspicious circumstances, the Eastern Oregon Big 4 league, a dance will be held at the Old Opera House next Thursday evening, April 20. The date was set originally for Friday, the twenty-first, but had to be changed on account of conflicting engagements.

The baseball enthusiasts at Vale, Nyssa and Huntington are going to come to this dance to manifest their desire to promote that degree of community interest which the promoters of the league believe will be enhanced by the organization. In fact, it is because of the boosting of the outside towns that the league has been formed and they are most enthusiastic in promoting the spirit of good sportsmanship.

With all of the towns close together it is the confident hope that the attendance this year will be larger than ever. When Vale plays Ontario at either city the home town fans can easily get to the game, and the same is true of the Ontario-Nyssa contests; while Huntington is always a good ball town, and the railroad boys go long distances to root for their team.

With this spirit prevailing and the purpose manifested by the officers and directors of the league to promote harmony during the season this should be the best season's sport for many years past.

Mrs. M. J. Neece spent Saturday visiting in Vale.

Mrs. Wm. Wells and daughter Miss Helen returned last week from Booneville Mo., where they have been the past winter visiting relatives.

J. M. KYLE COMES TO BOOST DEVELOPEMENT

Adequate and Concentrated Plan for Bringing Settlers to Irrigated Sections Held Need of Oregon—Plans are Being Developed

J. M. Kyle, better known to all Oregon as Jim Kyle, of Stanfield, was in Malheur county Friday and Saturday of last week. On Friday he was at Vale and Saturday he spent here and at Nyssa.

Mr. Kyle, who is chairman of the executive committee of the Oregon Irrigation congress and a member of the Oregon Development Board, came to study the situation in this section with a view of learning the need for settlers.

The development board is studying the California plan of concentrated effort in securing settlers and after a complete investigation, plans to put it in operation. Under this plan all the districts desiring settlers will unite on a campaign, each district selecting that section of the East or Middle West where settlers equipped to meet the problem of a section of Oregon will be concentrated upon, and other Oregon districts will not compete for them.

"What Oregon needs is people," said Mr. Kyle to a group of business men who gave a luncheon for him here Saturday. "We want the people back east to hear the truth and not be made the victims of a lot of false promises. We must concentrate our efforts, and now that we have assurance of the backing of Portland business men in this effort results will come."

"The most encouraging thing I have learned on this trip is the manner in which the farmers of this section are going into diversified crops. I know this country, for 25 years ago I bought fruit in this valley, before Ontario was the city it is now. All Ontario was then was a stopping place. Now it is started on its way to be a real city. Like the rest of this section, Ontario has only started, and when we get the Owyhee project, and that is bound to come, and other projects, too, Oregon will be on its road to real prosperity."

"ALICE IN HUNGERLAND" WILL BE PICTURED HERE

Graphic Story of Conditions in Near East to be Depicted on Screen—Story of Relief Work to be Told.

On Tuesday the 15th, there will be two free exhibitions of the motion pictures "Alice in Hungerland" at one of the Ontario theatres, a matinee at the close of the school day for children and one for the general public at 8 p. m. The pictures will be shown Friday of this week at Nyssa, Wednesday the 19th at Vale.

"Alice in Hungerland" is the story of a little girl who accompanies her father through the Near East and sees what he saw as one of a party of which J. J. Handsaker, Oregon director of Near East Relief was a member.

These are the first and only motion pictures to be made in Southern Russia since the war showing tremendous relief work now carried on by America in the land of the Soviets. Six thousand orphan children are seen in one group as they are drawn up on the parade ground of the great Russian barracks at Alexandropol.

Ethel Long Newman of Middleton, Idaho, is shown as she, with Mr. Handsaker, takes starving children from the street in Armenia. The pictures are being shown over the state as part of the Near East Relief state campaign by J. J. Handsaker, who recently visited Constantinople, Turkey and the Caucasus including the Soviet governments of Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Mrs. R. E. Wheelon and daughter Miss Eleanor, of Pocatello, were guests of Mrs. Wheelon's sister, Mrs. J. R. Rasmussen several days last week, returning home on Saturday. Mrs. Dan Gallagher of Juntura, was the guest this week of Mrs. P. J. Gallagher, returning to her home on Wednesday.

ONLY HALF OF FIRST HALF OF TAXES PAID WHEN DUE

That the taxing districts of Malheur county are facing a real problem in handling their affairs may be gained by the report of taxes so far paid which so far totals only a little more than half of the total sum due on April 5th.

The most discouraging feature of this situation is that while half of the taxes have been paid, this does not mean that half of the taxpayers have paid their contribution to the cost of government. The returns so far made include that of the railroad and utilities companies, the two big land companies and the larger property owners. County officials estimate that not over 30 per cent of the taxpayers have paid their taxes.

MCCARY BILL SUPPORT IS BEING ASKED OF BUSINESS

Local Merchants Writing to Manufacturers and Jobbers of East and Middle West Asking Them to Urge Representatives to Vote For Bill.

Hundreds of letters will leave Ontario this week addressed to eastern and middle western manufacturers, jobbers and agencies handling the products which may be found in the Ontario stores.

These letters written by local merchants are asking that these eastern and middle western business men write their congressmen and senators to support the Smith-McCary reclamation bill. Accompanying the letters to these men is a complete statement of the purpose and the scope of the measure, setting forth the possibilities of development which it holds and the improvement in the market for their products in this portion of the country.

FATHER AND SON BELIEVED TO BE LOST IN MOUNTAINS

Bonita Man Left Homestead in November for Mountains Above Lockhart Ranch, Boy Follows Later, Neither has Been Heard From

Has another tragedy of the hills been enacted, and two lives taken in a fight against the elements? Or has a young woman and her motherless brothers and sisters spent hours of needless anxiety because of the carelessness and lack of thoughtfulness on the part of her father and brother?

These questions may be answered soon, or they may not be answered for many weeks. In any event Miss Clara Shultz, living with her brothers and sister on a homestead near Bonita need the kindly aid of friends in her effort to locate her father and her brother who were last seen by the little family last November.

The story of the missing men reached the office of the Eastern Oregon land company of this city from Cy Bingham, supervisor of the Malheur Forest. It came as a copy of the letter Miss Shultz wrote to him seeking his aid. The pathos of the terse sentences is the most eloquent appeal. She said:

"My father Mr. Shultz left home about the first of November to go trapping on the Little Malheur above the Lockhart ranch. My brother, who is eighteen, started out to his camp later on snow shoes. They don't write and no one has seen them since. If you have any man over there who has seen them please let me know. My mother is dead and we have been alone all winter on the homestead."

This letter was written on March 30, and the copy reached Ontario this week. Mr. Bingham asked that it be given publicity in order that if anyone in this section knows aught concerning these men he will communicate with the officials of the Forest Service or get word to Miss Shultz.

So far as the Argus knows, no organized effort has been made to hunt for the men. But undoubtedly when knowledge of the anxiety of the young woman and her motherless brothers and sisters reaches the settlers in the Little Malheur valley they will do their part.

PLANS FORMED FOR MARKETING POTATOES

Canyon County Farm Bureau Executive Committee Asked to Form Organization and to Contract With California Vegetable Union

At a meeting in Caldwell last Saturday at which Malheur county farmers were represented by County Agent L. R. Brethaupt, C.T. Lackey, Jake Russell, and G. W. Dean, the report of the committee of potato growers of that section named last August, was presented.

This report covered the experience of last year when the ranchers lost so heavily by reason of the activity of some of the outside cash buyers urged that the farmers organize and market co-operatively.

It also recommended the signing of a contract with the California Vegetable Union for the marketing of the crop. Work to that end has already been started and plans are being made for taking care of the big crop which will be raised in the valley.

BASE BALL TEAM TO GIVE DANCE TO START SEASON

Local Aggregation in Need of Funds to Inaugurate Campaign—Business Men Pledge Aid—Good Season Looked Forward to.

In order that the Ontario baseball team may be able to start the season properly equipped, the boys in charge of the movement to have Ontario represented in the Southeastern Oregon League are going to give a dance here tonight.

The suits which the team used last year have been scattered so that it will be necessary to secure a new outfit all around, and that is the purpose of the dance. Of course the dance will not furnish all the funds needed, so a subscription list has been started as well. Together it appears that these will prove sufficient to round up the necessary capital for putting the team in shape.

Reese Jenkins who has undertaken the preliminary work of getting the team started has called a meeting of all those who desire to see a team of Ontario, whether they are ball players or not, for Friday evening of this week at 8 o'clock at the city hall. At that time a captain for the season and manager and other necessary officers will be selected by the players and supporters.

It is imperative that a representative gathering assemble at that time so that a thorough understanding of the situation will be secured. Ontario must deposit \$75 with the officials of the league to assure its participation in the schedule.

Prospects are bright for a good team this year. Already several players of experience have signified their desire to try for places. With Chet Lackey at first, Harry Chapman at short, Joy Husted at third, the nucleus of the infield of last year is on hand. Oliver who caught part of the season is at Fruitland and may be the receiver, while Bill Lyells formerly of the Nyssa team, but in reality one of Ontario's old stars is here and will complete the infield defense. Bill is a third baseman, but he may be used at second, or Husted may be switched to second and let Bill take the hot corner.

In the outfield there are a number of candidates and fly chasers who can hit, will be selected from the available candidates. The one weak spot is the firing line. No first class heaver is on the string, as yet. If it is possible an effort will be made to get Bill Blackaby to come to Ontario from the Owyhee to mix them up for the boys. Then when Charlie Newbill finishes his year at the University, he may be secured to aid in the battery work. With these two dependable twirlers Ontario will be as well supplied with moundmen as any of the teams.

POWELL COMPANY TO SELL PRODUCTS OF 600 ACRES

U. F. Powell of Boise, was in Ontario today looking for a location for a vegetable packing plant. Mr. Powell has contracts for the sale of the products of 600 acres in this section, that is from Nyssa to Ontario. Of this acreage 100 is lettuce, 20 celery, 50 onions and 420 is potatoes.