

**The Ontario Argus**  
County Official Paper

An Independent Newspaper

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G. K. Aiken, Managing Editor

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**FIGURES ARE UNFAIR**

Statistics often need interpretation. Figures set forth in imposing array may be absolutely accurate and yet leave a very decidedly erroneous impression with the reader. This is true of the statement of unpaid taxes in Malheur county.

For example it is provable by statistics that Malheur county has more delinquent taxes than any county in Oregon except Multnomah, that its percentage of delinquency is greater than any other county except Willamette; that if all the taxes were paid today it would take all of the cash in all of the banks of the county.

While all this is true it gives a wrong impression to an outsider, especially to people over in the Willamette Valley, and to people from the east and middle west, because a great deal of that delinquency is due to unpaid assessments for irrigation districts, for drainage and other improvements which in most states are not collected, through the regular county channels and therefore are not listed there as taxes.

While we call them taxes here in Oregon, these payments are in reality not taxes at all. They are capital investments, in some cases, and operating costs in others. Only a portion of the property of the county is benefited by their expenditure and only a portion pays for them.

In the middle west men drain their farms themselves—or did until very recently when the western plan of forming districts was adopted—the man paying for his own drainage arranged for his own credit and paid for his system directly. Out here, we have adopted the co-operative system of drainage, so to speak, and have used the machinery of the state or county to collect the bill in installments.

While in the middle west where the individual paid directly for his system, the fact that he paid the bank from which he borrowed in installments would not be reflected in the tax statements of his county. He was improving his farm and thus making it more valuable, or was saving it from ruin. The same is true of the farmers of Malheur county. By putting in drainage many farms which otherwise would now be white with alkali are producing big crops. The farmers' lands have been saved—they have made improvements, and therefore the money due on the cost of these improvements should not properly be charged as taxes.

This is so because to the average mind the word taxes means the money paid for the support of governmental functions, such as police protection, schools, etc. In considering therefore the delinquency of taxes in Malheur county the sums due for irrigation assessments, and for drainage district assessments should be stricken, then we believe that Malheur county's showing would be far better indeed.

**HOW CALAMITY CREEK WAS CHRISTENED TOLD**

Burns Times-Herald Disputes Argus Claim of Residence for J. H. Anderson and Adds Story of "Calamity"—Reprints Story

Names of mountains and rivers and other features of nature have a fascination to many people. Particularly do the names of western points of interest arouse interest in the picturesqueness. Dead Ox Flat, Stinking Water Mountain, Poison Creek Hill and Calamity Creek, all have been the subject of many a tale told around buckaroo camp fires. All are descriptive, and all have clung tenaciously in spite of efforts to secure more euphemistic handles.

In a recent issue of the Burns Times Herald in which was reprinted the story of the Blue Bucket Mine as told to the Argus by James H. Anderson, is another story of historic interest from Mr. Anderson, whose ranch is on Calamity Creek. The Times-Herald objects to the Argus' claim of Ontario residence for Mr. Anderson, but admits that his family lives here because of the

advantages of Ontario school system and the salubrious health conditions. With that admission the Argus has no complaint to make and will grant that Mr. Anderson is a big man for both Ontario and Calamity to claim.

In connection with the naming of "Calamity" the Times-Herald has this to say:

Jim Anderson who gave the Ontario Argus a story of the lost "Blue Bucket" mines which was published in this issue of The Times-Herald never did like the name attached to his home ranch, "Calamity" creek; Jim is credited by the Argus as a citizen of Ontario but the "meal ticket" comes from his fine ranch and stock interests at "Calamity." He goes down to Ontario occasionally where Mrs. Anderson resides most of the time because of the higher altitude of the home ranch being detrimental to her health, and also because of the school facilities being better at Ontario for the children.

The Times-Herald suggested several years ago that the "Calamity" creek be renamed, as it certainly doesn't fit that productive community, and Jim was favorable, but no suitable name could be settled upon at that time. When the subject was under discussion Jim told the writer of the origin of the name "Calamity." According to Mr. Anderson a big stock concern wintered a large number of cattle in that section in the early days; it was a hard winter and the hay run short before spring opened with the result that hundreds of head of stock died from starvation. Following the receipt of the report of the disaster the head of the big cattle concern was reported to have exclaimed "What a calamity!" From this the creek was given the name.

We all agree the name doesn't fit and we don't blame Jim for claiming even Ontario as his place of residence in preference, yet there is no comparison. With the fine farms in that part of Harney county where everything can be and is raised, grain, alfalfa, tender vegetables, fruit, where honey bees thrive, the location of Charley Lillard's famous "Valley of the Moon," home is a veritable paradise to some places, yet it continues to bear that misnomer "Calamity." Jim wanted to change it to something like "Paradise" but some of his modest neighbors thought that would be too much of a contrast to the old name and thus it stands.

Something will have to be done about it. We can't afford to have as good a citizen as Jim Anderson claiming some other place as his residence just because he's ashamed of the name attached to his home place.

**PAID LOCAL ADS**

Will sell or trade a 7 passenger Studebaker car in good condition, five cord tires, for good work horses. Inquire Argus Office.

WANTED—Plain sewing, children's clothing and baby layettes, a specialty. 3-4 miles north old Valley View school house.

Mrs. J. K. ALEXANDER  
MRS. A. S. REES, R. F. D. 119

FOR SALE—at sacrifice price, easy terms, 366 acres under Warm Springs Irrigation, 4 miles from Ontario, Oregon. E. B. Wolf & Co., 79 W. Monroe St., Chicago, Ill. 3t

FOR SALE—five acres on hill 2-4 mile from High School under advancement Co. ditch with water right. Fine place for chickens or garden. All good soil. Price \$600. Inquire W. H. Doolittle Trustee.

WANTED to Rent—Modern house, suitable for small family. Inquire at Argus office.

Mammoth Pekin Duck eggs \$1.50 per setting of 12. Also Buff Orpington eggs, \$1.00 per setting. Hans Ott, R. F. D. Ontario 4t

For Sale or Trade—Sixty acres good land. Henrietta Payson.

FOR SALE—25 thoroughbred Red Island Red pullets all laying. From prize winning stock and mated. Call 34-J, Fruitland, Idaho.

FOR SALE—One 12 inch Byron Jackson pump, with endless leather belt and about 14 feet of pipe, in good running order. Will sell cheap. Geo. Thiel, New Plymouth, Ida. 4t

Hatching eggs from Hoganized R. I. Red hens, 50c for 15, \$3.00 for 100. 8 miles west of town on Vale road. Mrs. B. Koplis. 3t pd

160 acres in Barren Valley near Crowley, will sell or trade for land near Ontario.

E. M. SMITH  
Ontario, Oregon 4t

FOR SALE—New three room house, good cellar, twenty lots, half in orchard, garage, auto and chickens go with the place.

Mrs. C. H. Trousdale

FOR SALE—Registered Short Horn bulls, milk strain. For information write Odell Bros., Vale, Ore., R 2 or see them at Geo. E. Davis ranch south of Holiday bridge. 4t

WANTED TO PURCHASE—Side car for Indian motorcycle. Inquire at this office. 1c

WANTED—Bucks to pasture, at Cairo station. Phone Ontario 204-J

FOR SALE—Fine Bronze Turkey eggs for hatching. Grace Bryant, R 1

Have 17 lot in Ontario will trade for residence property in or around Portland, M. A. Nelson, Ontario, care Carter House. 5t pd

FOR SALE or Trade, Six Cylinder Standard car, 5 cord tires—fine condition, for sale cheap, terms to responsible party, or will trade for live stock. Call at Argus office.

FOR SALE—Idaho Rurals at 25c a sack. Phone Pete Tensen, Ontario.

WANTED—Plain Sewing, Children's clothes a specialty. Mrs. Ellen Shepard, Box 575 Ontario. 3t

LOST—One year old black mule colt branded with flesh iron, JC, on left shoulder. Finder will be given \$5 reward. Notify J. C. Bean, Nyssa, Oregon. 2t pd

FOR SALE—15 Chester White pigs. Call on C. H. Huffman, Cairo or Address Ontario R. F. D. 2t pd

WANTED—Stock to pasture. Call F. A. Ratcliff, phone 203M, Ontario.

Man and wife wants work on ranch. Box 362, Ontario, Oregon.

**POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR DISTRICT JUDGE**

I hereby announce my candidacy for re-election to the position of District Judge for the Ninth Judicial District, which includes Malheur, Harney and Grant Counties, at the Primaries on May 1, 1922.

Subject to the will of the Democratic voters.

DALTON BIGGS

**POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT (Paid Advertisement)**

I hereby announce that I will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for Circuit Judge of the Ninth Judicial District of Oregon, embracing Grant, Harney and Malheur Counties, at the Primary Election on May 19, 1922.

WELLS W. WOOD  
Ontario, Oregon.

**Mrs. Blake's Favorite Recipe**

**Bran Muffins**

Made by this recipe, your bran muffins will get many encores:

Take two eggs, two tsp. butter (or substitute) and 1/2 cup sugar; cream together; add 1 cup bran and (if desired) 1 cup raisins, 1 cup white flour, 2 tsp. baking powder, 1/2 tsp. salt. Stir well together and moisten to stiff batter with 1/2 cup Carnation Milk mixed with 1/2 cup of water. Bake in greased muffin tins from fifteen to twenty-five minutes



Mary Blake  
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Men who have had years of experience in building problems are employed in the B. P. Service Department. They will prepare plans and specifications for your new home according to your own individual desires and requirements. You will know just what your home will look like before any of the material is purchased, and with such plans before you to carefully study, you can BUILD WITH ASSURANCE.

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TERMS IF DESIRED

**V. B. STAPLES FORD GARAGE**