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Malheur Enterprise

AND VALE PLAINDEALER

The Malheur Enterprise Delivered to your home or mailed, \$2.00 per year, in advance. The Leading Paper of Malheur County.

VOL. I, NO. 4

VALE, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1909.

PRICE 5 cents

GROWTH OF VALE MAKES TAXES SMALLER

COUNCIL MAKES CITY TAX LEVY

Owing To Increased Valuation Of City Property The Tax Per Dollar Is Decreased

EIGHT MILLS FIXED ON

Five Mills For Street Fund Making Thirteen In All Against 21 1-2 Last Year

A tax levy of 8 mills for the general fund and 5 mills for the street fund was made by the city council at the regular meeting last Thursday evening after two ties had resulted from the voting, making it necessary for Mayor Mulkey to cast the vote that decided the valuation of city property for the present year is \$247,280 as against \$158,000 for last year, and some of the council believed that a material reduction in the tax per dollar could be made. It was, however, remarked that the amount required for the payment of the salaries of officials and electric lighting expenses amount to \$2,000 and that such a sum will be needed no matter the increase in value of city property.

Mr. High opened with the statement that a levy of 5 mills for the general fund would be sufficient. Last year it was 15 mills for the general fund.

The Mayor reminded the council that the sum of \$1,600 which came to the city last year from near-beer licenses could not be figured upon for the coming period owing to the determination to place near-beer houses amongst the "has-beens."

"No license means no fines," said Dr. Taylor.

"Don't you believe it," said Mr. Lawrence, who favored a levy of 7 mills.

Dr. Taylor said the council should figure on a revenue of \$3,000.

"The Marshall alone gets \$900," he said.

"Cut out the Marshall," said Lawrence.

"Cut out the electric lights," suggested the wide-awake Marshall.

Mr. High here expressed the opinion that a night watchman should be hired for the protection of property during the period in which the electric lights make themselves conspicuous by their absence.

"You can't do it on a 5 mills levy, Mr. High," shot back the Mayor.

Mr. Moffit formally moved in favor of 10 mills and Dr. Taylor seconded the resolution. The mover and seconder voted "aye;" Lawrence and High voted "no," and the Mayor shirked a casting vote.

"You may need more lights," at this time suggested Mr. Carter, of the Electric Light Company, who was present.

"We need 'em now," was the unkind remark of Mr. Bert High.

Mr. Lawrence here suggested a levy of 8 mills and the Mayor declared the motion lost. Then Mr. Lawrence formally moved for 8 mills. Mr. High seconded the resolution and another tie resulted, but the Mayor relieved the deadlock by voting with the "ayes."

For the street fund a levy of 5 mills was agreed upon on the motion of Lawrence seconded by Taylor.

PIANO GIVEN AWAY

A splendid piano, worth \$425, will be given away by the Malheur Enterprise to the winner of the contest which begins with this issue. Full particulars of the contest may be found in the advertising columns and no lady or girl in Vale should miss the opportunity now presented to her of having a fine piano for her home absolutely without expense to herself. Never has Malheur County seen such an offer, and full advantage will surely be taken of it. Who is going to win the grand prize?

Special Train To Ontario

A special train will leave for Ontario at 8:30 A. M. Wednesday 15 to enable sheepmen and others to reach the latter town in time for the sheepmen's convention.

ROAD MEN AND SETTLERS MEET

After Adjournment Last Monday at Vale Men Interested in Proposed Districts Meet at Nyssa

WOOD, MARTIN, ATTEND

Central Committee and Opponents Form Arbitration Board of Engineers and Lawyers of Both Sides

The Central committee, which represented the settlers who favored the formation of the Boise-Owyhee ditch projects met Colonel Wood and Mr. Martin last Tuesday at Nyssa and agreed to appoint a sort of arbitration board to go carefully into the matter and report with a view to bringing the conflicting interests together.

The board is formed of the engineers and lawyers of the settlers' central committee and of the engineers and lawyers of the road companies. The meeting took place on the day following the hearing given the matter at the Vale County Court house.

It is believed by some that even this arrangement will not overcome the difficulties. One of the principal difficulties is said to be the fact that Trowbridge and Niver intend to use the water of the proposed ditches for the Dead Ox Flat and that the settlers further south will make such an arrangement impossible by insisting upon deeds to the water right and also to the reservoirs.

Four Tons For Burns

C. M. Kellogg freighted 8,000 pounds of freight for Burns last week. Since Nov. 14 the total amount of freight shipped over the road was 20,000 pounds, and 12,000 pounds remain on hand now also to be shipped in that direction.

COLE HAS BIG CREW AT WORK

Nintey Horses and Sixty Men Busy and More Are Being Added All The Time

Ninety horses and sixty men are now employed by Leonard Cole in the construction of his section of the Brogan railroad, but he is constantly on the search for more men and more teams to expedite the work. Reinforcements are constantly arriving and an effort is being made to obtain a large force from the Owyhee.

Mr. Cole expects to be able to procure a much larger number of men and horses in a few days, after which he will be able to proceed with the work at the rate of one mile a day. In addition to the way he has now completed nearly a mile of the grade.

A Pretty Gun Display

Everything from baby twenty twos, to carriageless artillery may have been seen for the past few days in the Vale Hardware Store window, and several local Nimrods spent quite a lot of their spare time in viewing the result of an amateur window dresser's efforts.

Several pretty articles of a more domestic nature relieve the fierce aspect of things and add to the pretty ensemble. The responsibility for the show is on the shoulders of Major French who evidently believes in the old gag about the devil and idle hands.

Moving Camp

John E. Johnson has moved his camp and men four miles up the valley on the Brogan railroad, the work on the grade near Vale having been practically completed.

LADY BREAKS LEG

While skating at the roller rink last Wednesday evening Miss Lizzie Carman fell and broke her leg above the ankle. She is being attended by Dr. Roberts. The injured lady's home is near Weiser but she has been employed for some time at the Vale Hot Springs.

AT SKATING RINK

No money lost in buying perhaps a costly present, but surely the highest quality of Xmas goods on display in Vale is at The Drexel Drug Co.

GIVE RIGHT OF WAY TO BROGAN

Colonel Wood and President Martin Gladly Donate Property To Railroad

Colonel C. E. S. Wood of the Military road and President Martin of the Eastern Oregon Land Company have given a right of way through their properties to the Willow River railroad, and state that they do so gladly because of the advantage accruing to the property from the construction of the new line.

Condemnation papers have been prepared for a right of way through other lands but it is not considered likely that any further proceedings will be taken as the land owners, it is believed, will recognize the benefits to come to them from the road and will not make even a service of the papers necessary.

COUNCIL GETS A NEW MEMBER

C. C. Mueller Is Appointed To Fill Place Made Vacant by Dr. Taylor's Resignation

C. C. Mueller has been appointed by the Mayor to fill the vacancy on the city Council caused by the resignation of Dr. Taylor who is going East to take up a post graduate course for three or four months in a Chicago hospital. The appointment of Mr. Mueller was confirmed unanimously by the Council and the Mayor and members went out of their way to say some very nice things about their new colleague, who was described by the his honor as one qualified in every way to fulfil the duties of the office.

The resignation of Dr. Taylor was expected and was known to be inevitable so that acceptance had to be given. But there was a world of contrary meaning in the Mayor's words when he declared the doctor's resignation accepted "with pleasure."

WILL BRING MONEY FOR THE OIL FIELDS

James Gibson, an old time oil man, left last week for Seattle and Spokane to tell some of his capitalistic friends of the splendid chances for investment in the Vale Oil fields. Mr. Gibson was one of the largest mine operators in Seward Peninsula and has a wide acquaintance with Alaskans. He will return before long and enter into the work.

Praise For Enterprise

From day to day are seen in the papers of this and other states most complimentary references to the Malheur Enterprise.

The last issue of the Nyssa Sun to hand says:

The Malheur Enterprise is the latest in the journalistic field of our county. The initial issue was one that "did them proud." May it keep up the pace and succeed.

The Oregon Scout of Union has this to say:

The Malheur Enterprise, the new paper issued in Vale, which made its initial bow Saturday, Nov. 20 is a credit to that community. The paper is well gotten up and contains good readable news, and moreover is a booster, something every town needs.

J. W. Fales President of the Fales Paper Company of Seattle says in a letter to the manager.

"We congratulate you (on your paper). If the city it talks for is as large as the paper, you have a great town."

O. R. Ball manager of the American Type Founders Company, Portland, says:

"We heartily congratulate you for such a paper, but we particularly wish to state that you have made a record in setting up a plant and getting out the initial issue of such a paper in such a short space of time."

McCULLOCH MENTIONED POSSIBLE CANDIDATE

J. W. McCulloch, prosecuting attorney for Malheur, Harney and Grant counties, is mentioned in some exchanges in connection with the election for governor, according to an Ontario paper. McCulloch has made no statement about the matter.

VALE CITIZENS HEAD PROJECT

Fifteen Thousand Acres of Land Near Westfall Will be Withdrawn Under Carey Act

HAVE PAID THE FEES

Representative Took up Matter With State Arid Land Board Which Says Everything is Certain

That 15,773 acres of land south of Westfall will be withdrawn under the Carey Act and that four prominent men of this city will carry out the irrigation project is the news brought to the city this week by Judge George W. Hayes who, as a representative of his people, took up the matter last Friday with the state arid land board at Salem. The others interested with Mr. Hayes are Elwood Clark, C. H. Oxman and W. W. Caviness. When he appeared before the board that body informed Judge that everything was not only acceptable but that it will be accepted.

The gentlemen interested have taken every step necessary; have filed maps of the land segregated for the state engineers office and have submitted a form of contract with the state.

As state selecting agent for the purpose Judge Hayes selected the lands which will be segregated and withdrawn. They have paid the states fees amounting to \$395.47 as well as the local land office selection fee of \$198. The area is located in townships 18, 19 and 20 south range 41 east. It is said that the land and the project generally is the best Carey act prize in the state. The waters of South Cottonwood will be stored and used.

TWO FEET OF SNOW ON STINK WATER

During the late storm the snow lay two feet deep on Stink Water Mountain. At Bendier the snow was eighteen inches deep and at Westfall ten inches. Travel by stage was consequently very light.

RECEIPTS OF COUNTY CLERK MAKE RECORD

The business transacted in the County Clerk's office for the two months immediately preceding this one exceeds the amount for the corresponding period last year by more than 50 per cent.

In October and November, 1908, the receipts were \$527.55. For October and November of the present year the receipts were \$848.20.

Wants Fire Force Fired

Councilman Bert High moved at the last meeting that the volunteer fire force of the city be disbanded when Marshall Dan Eno declared that the fire fighting body increased remarkably every time he tried to collect poll tax. The motion had no second.

Enterprise Builds Sidewalk

The Enterprise has constructed a new sidewalk from its offices to the main street south to Boswell and Johnston's Drug Store.

The Council agrees to build a crossing near the office on Main st.

Only One Ticket

At the municipal election held last Monday in Ontario only one ticket was placed in the field.

The ticket was a fusion one intended to unite all factions and bring harmony. It was headed by A. W. Trow for Mayor, C. W. Platt for City Treasurer, and J. R. Blackaby, C. E. Kenyon, Frank Rader and J. R. Gregg for councilmen.

Baby Boy Born

A fine eight pound baby boy was born to Mrs. Eugene Abbott last Monday. Dr. Taylor who is in attendance reports the mother and child are doing very well.

Ledge Ten Feet Wide

According to word received by mail last Monday the ledge of gold bearing quartz on the property of Leonard Cole at Huntington is ten feet wide. The contractors believed that the ledge would be about seven feet but they have proven it, to their surprise, three feet wider. No exact assay has yet been made.

Go to T. T. Nelson's for furniture.

CARTER GIVES UP FRANCHISE

City Council to Send For Engineers To Look Over Ground With A View to Bonding City

The water system franchise held by R. C. Carter was relinquished by him last Thursday evening at the meeting of the city council. Mr. Carter stated that he had traveled the city in search of people who are desirous of having water works but found that not more than a quarter of the citizens were willing to sign their names. He offered the council all the specifications and engineering reports held by him.

The Mayor notified him that the relinquishment should be offered in writing, and asked permission of the Council to send for engineers to Baker City to look into the matter with a view to deciding about a bond issue.

COLONEL WOOD GIVES REASON

Tells in Letter To Enterprise Why Careful Investigation Is Necessary Before Forming New District.

In the following communication Colonel C. E. S. Wood gives his reason for favoring a postponement of the district hearing last Monday:

To THE EDITOR:

My position is not one of attack on anyone or of obstruction, unless people choose to call a wise caution obstruction. We are about to create one or more Districts under the Oregon law, the directors of which will have an unlimited power of taxation over the property of the District. They may issue a bond for fifty dollars an acre and if that proves not enough they may issue a second bond or assess and tax the district precisely as a city or county can. In the whole territory this means a burden of some eight or ten millions of dollars with interest at 6 per cent—say a half a million dollars a year interest out of this community. True, it is not to be paid for ten years, but it is rolling up. I simply say that we should, in a work of this magnitude, proceed carefully, have the best legal and engineering advice, see what we are getting for our money. Know the title to water, the character of the system, the estimate of cost etc. See the plans and specifications and estimates. In short do what a railroad or business corporation would do if it were letting an eight million dollar contract and floating an eight million bond issue.

Suppose it costs more than fifty dollars an acre, who is to pay the excess? We have our contract only with the Clinton and Hurt Corporation. What is their financial responsibility? Will they file a good bond to cover proceeds of an eight million bond issue which they intend to take such a bond as a railroad would exact under like circumstances. I have only kindly feeling for Messrs. Clinton and Hurt and Mr. Speer of Trowbridge and Niver has been courteous and offered to show our engineer all their plans up to date, though as a matter of fact we have not yet seen them. There is nothing personal in my position. I only try to act with business prudence. After all it is not the Land Grant Company which will pay off this lien, it is the hard working farmer who will buy the land burdened with the debt. My duty is to see he gets a good water right, a system at the lowest price consistent with good work, and with no after-claps or assessments later. Personally I think there is a grave legal question whether lands under one supply and one system can be divided into two districts and I think the district must absolutely own its water rights. I do not think bonds can be issued for any other purpose than for complete ownership. For this purpose the right of condemnation is given the district.

C. E. S. WOOD

Go to T. T. Nelson's for furniture.

Idaho Couple Wed Here

Still one more Idaho couple became man and wife in Vale last Wednesday. The groom was L. A. Delp and the bride was Jessie T. Lillard, both of Nampa.

Rev. Mr. Meredith performed the ceremony at the Parsonage.

Furniture For Brogan Hotel

Two carloads of furniture arrived last Wednesday for the Brogan Hotel. The building is now going up fast and the hostelry will soon be ready for business.

O'Rourke Takes Contract

Pat O'Rourke, a former resident of Vale has obtained a contract on a large irrigation ditch at Weatherby, Oregon, and has begun work on it, having finished the contract for tunneling on Leonard Cole's ledge at Huntington.

C. I. C. PRESIDENT MAKES A REPORT

Mrs. L. E. Claggett, president of the Civic Improvement Club made her annual report at the meeting last Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Boehmer, Mrs. Weant, Mrs. Mueller, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Morfitt and Mrs. Hope were present.

GAY SELLS INTEREST IN THE HOTSPRINGS

A deal was effected this week by which C. D. Gay's interest in the Vale Hot Springs was transferred to his father-in-law, George A. Brown, who is, therefore, now sole owner. The terms have not been made known.

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STORES MUST REMAIN OPEN

City Council Refuses to Pass Ordinance Making Observance of the Sabbath Compulsory

WOULD CLOSE SALOONS

City Fathers Declare Themselves Ready to Kill Near Beer if People of City so Desire

The petition presented to the City Council some time ago asking that a Sunday closing ordinance be enacted, received its coup de grace last Thursday evening, each and every member of the council declaring himself opposed to such a move.

The same old arguments came forth during the discussion and legal volumes were produced all of which apparently proved that Sunday closing can be effected in every city of the civilized world except Vale. What seemed to carry most weight was the fact that a bakery cannot be closed and that a baker could sell a pound of butter without being caught.

Mr. Bert High declared himself a reactionist at heart and would close nearly everything, especially amusements, but he could not see his way clear. He said he would even close the skating rink, although he described himself as not very pious in words that carried the conviction that they were literally true.

The members of the council declared, however, that they will close the near beer houses should the majority of the citizens present a petition asking for the enactment of an ordinance to that effect, although the Mayor believed that near beer is only a soft drink, and that the sellers should obtain the same treatment as vendors of other soft drinks.

LOCAL CAPITAL BORES FOR OIL

Twenty Five Thousand Dollars to Be Spent By Vale Men in Their Own Fields

The Vale Oil Company are at the present time expending the sum of \$25,000 in the work of boring for oil in the neighborhood of their own city.

The members of the company were frankly bent upon the effort of raising \$90,000 if it is necessary, and are certain that all the money required will be forthcoming. They bought an oil rig last Wednesday from W. P. Harris which will be put going immediately on the three sections of land owned by them. This land is just west of the Malheur Company's property.

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HAS ACQUIRED 55,000 ACRES

Former Delegate to Congress From New Mexico Now Holds Land Near Vale

HIS SON ARRIVES HERE

Is Owner of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Acres of Ground in United States

J. W. Catron, son of Hon. T. B. Catron who was delegate to Congress from New Mexico during President Cleveland's administration, arrived in Vale last week to look up matters connected with a holding of 55,278 18-100 acres which his father has acquired in the former Government reservation near the Jordan River and some 60 miles south of Vale. The land was acquired two or three months ago in exchange for a big block of property in New Mexico. Mr. Catron Junior had not visited his new lands at the time he was seen but judging by the value of the lands exchanged he considers the Malheur county property's value to be in the neighborhood of half a million dollars.

Mr. Catron, senior, is one of the best known lawyers in the southwest and still practices his profession, notwithstanding the tremendous amount of property which has come to him in various ways in New Mexico, Texas, Colorado, Oregon and elsewhere. His various properties aggregate not less than 2,500,000 acres which he picked up here and there by purchase, exchange and other means. Yet when Mr. Catron Junior was speaking of the matter he stated that his father is a lawyer first of all and that the land is a sort of incidental.

The Oregon property is near the Idaho line and was obtained by the former owners from the government by script mostly.

SUIT AGAINST HERRON ET AL

Injunction Asked To Restrain Defendants From Interfering With Use Of Bully Creek Waters

The following is a copy of the papers which have today been served by P. F. Cummings who seeks to restrain Chas. V. Herron, John W. Corson, Catherine L. Sheahan, W. B. Slick and Dan B. Patterson from attempting to prevent the use of the waters of Bully Creek:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR MALHEUR COUNTY;

[COMPLAINT.]

P. F. Cummings, Plaintiff,

vs.

Charles V. Herron, John W. Corson, Catherine L. Sheahan, W. B. Slick and Dan B. Patterson, Defendants.

Plaintiff for cause of suit against the above named defendants, complains and alleges

That on the second day of December, 1909, the plaintiff made his application in due and proper form, to appropriate the waters of Bully Creek and Indian Creek, and to store and impound the same at a point, place and location known familiarly as the "Judge Lamberson Reservoir Site;" the said point being more particularly described as follows: the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section Nineteen, Township Eighteen, South, Range Forty-one, E. W. M. And upon said last named date the plaintiff filed in the office of the State Engineer at Salem, Oregon, the said application for the appropriation of the two creeks as aforesaid; which said application was made in due and proper form, and in good faith; and that the plaintiff will complete the said appropriation; construct the dam as aforesaid; store and impound the waters of the said streams for the purpose of applying the waters thus stored, upon lands in Township

(Continued on page eight)