

# The Times-Herald.

The Times-Herald is an old established friend of the people of Harney County where it has been a weekly visitor for thirty years. Its job department is equipped to serve your needs.

VOL. XXXII

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON AUGUST 9, 1919

NO. 41

## SOLDIERS LAND BILL BEFORE CONGRESS

Follows Plan of Secretary Lane.

ONE OR MORE PROJECTS EACH STATE

Man Without Capital Could Earn and Save Enough to Pay for Farm from Its Product.

Representative N. J. Sinnott of Oregon, Chairman of the Committee on the Public Lands of the House of Representatives has reported the Mondell Bill, H. R. 487, known as the National Soldiers' Settlement Act, to the House.

The Mondell Bill which is along the lines of Secretary Lane's plan, was not materially changed by the Committee which has held almost daily hearings and meetings to consider the same, since Congress convened in May.

The Bill contemplates the reclamation, acquisition and development of one or more projects in each state and is designed to assist soldiers to get homes under the best conditions. When such a project has been developed to a point where the lands either by reclamation, clearing, drainage, or irrigation are in fit condition for farming, the area will be divided into farms by the bill as reported to the House.

A payment of 5 per cent of the value fixed is required at the time the farm is allotted. Thus on a farm valued at \$5,000 the initial payment would be \$250, a sum which the soldier could save while working on the development of the project for one or three years during which time he would be paid the going wages.

After the farms have been allotted, assistance is to be given the soldier in making his improvements. The maximum loan provided for this purpose being \$1,500, and not in excess of three-fourths of the cost or value of the improvements. During, or in connection with the making of his improvements the soldier could by his personal efforts and work easily contribute his 25 per cent of the total cost.

Provision is also made for loans to the soldier settler for the purchase of necessary live stock and equipment to the maximum of such loans being \$1,200, or 75 per cent of the total cost of necessary live-stock and 60 per cent of the equipment, so that while it is assumed that in many cases the soldier would have some savings for a start, it is believed that a man starting at the beginning of one of these projects without capital could, through industry and frugality earn and save enough to make his initial and other payments as they become due.

The balance due on the land shall be paid in amortizing payments extending over a period to be fixed by the Secretary of the Interior, not to exceed 49 years, bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum.

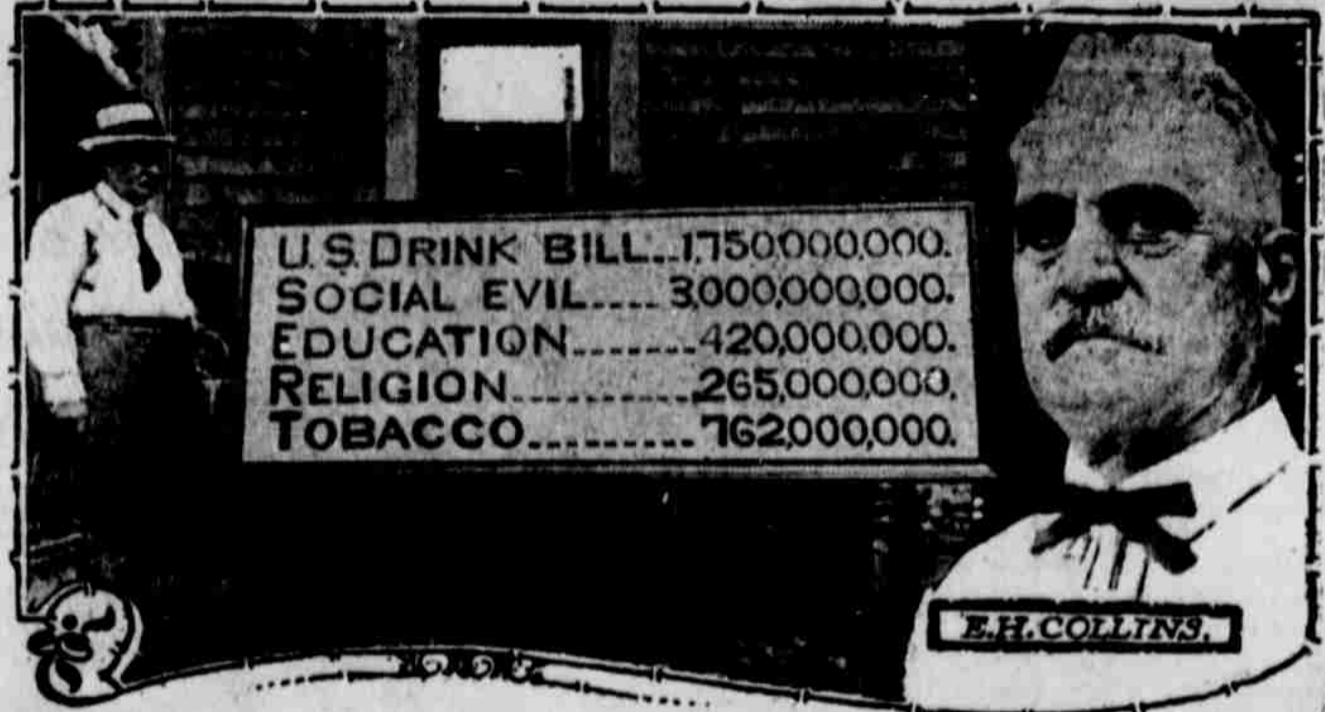
Congressman Sinnott's report also states that the late President, Theodore Roosevelt, advocated the soldier settlement policy as proposed by Secretary Lane, in the last article which he wrote for the press; that President Wilson has urged it upon Congress in two messages; that the Governors of 27 states have appointed Commissions to cooperate with the Secretary of the Interior, and all of these Commissions have expressed their earnest interest in legislation of this character.

Congressman Sinnott also calls attention to the fact that the American Legion has officially endorsed the bill, and that 112,955 soldiers have made formal application for opportunities of employment and home getting under the terms of this bill.

## ALLEGHER WANTS LEEWAY IN CASE OF SPECIAL SESSION.

J. P. Gallagher, representing Malheur and a few other counties in the legislature, is at the Hotel Portland. He says that if the legislature is called in special session he wants to be petitioned and prepared to consider anything that comes up. Mr. Gallagher says that he is not inclined to hedge himself to act only on the petition of the woman's suffrage amendment.—Oregonian.

## First Gun Booms in National Anti-Tobacco Fight



With the nation dry—John Barleycorn on the floor taking the count—the first gun has boomed in attack on King Nicotine's throne—in a nation-wide anti-tobacco campaign. E. H. Collins of Indianapolis designed and painted this first sign for display at the Anti-Tobacco Convention held at Bethany Park, August 5. This veteran vice-crusader is credited with having erected the first anti-booze poster east of the Rockies—in that memorable fight.

## WELL MAY DEVELOP 1000 BARREL CAPACITY

Water Holding Back Great Flow Is Claim of Oil Man; Tests High Quality.

Harney Valley has a producing oil well according to an interview with one Harry V. Meathers in the Sunday Journal. We are rich and don't know it! One must go away from home to get encouraging news! At least this news will compensate for the discouraging dry season.

The Times-Herald has seen men from the oil wells every few days for the past several weeks but none have given out such reports as come to us from this Portland paper. It is possible such an oil well is really there but so far no oil has been reported in any such quantity. It is universally known there is oil but as to the quantity it remains to be demonstrated.

The Howell well, to which the clipping below refers, has been closed down for several weeks awaiting the arrival of casing. We all hope it will turn out even better than this report. Mr. Meathers says in the Portland Sunday Journal:

**Well Developing Well**  
"The Harney oil well is 1400 feet deep and the scouts report that it will hold steady for 24 hours 80 barrels a day. It is possible it may develop into a thousand barrel well because the sand is soft and the great weight of water may hold back the remainder," said Harry V. Meathers as he left the Imperial Saturday night for the scene of the oil well. Meathers claims the distinction of having started the oil agitation in Oregon. A year ago in June he and his family came from Tulsa, Okla., in the thick of the oil wells, to visit friends in Eugene. Meathers was at once struck with the geological formation of the land and decided to stick up with the state until oil was developed. "I started investigating and found natural gas when drilling for water," said Meathers. "I found 14 wells that show petrol gas in a radius of 55 by 100 miles in pools. I found a gas area of 2200 feet southeast of Dallas. I then went to California to study formations and compare them with the formations in Oregon, which I found to be nearly identical. The only difference is that Oregon will hold up better and the wells will not have to be cemented. The main prospect is in Harney county on the north bank of Malheur lake. They have now struck a sand under a hard lime shell that is giving considerable oil through balling. I am on my way there now to investigate the thickness of the sand and quality of the oil. George Quayle of the Chamber of Commerce has been one of the leading lights in the oil investigations."

Meathers came up from Eugene, accompanied by Scott Murdock of Beaumont, Texas, and Louis Messenger of Houston, Texas, who will accompany him to the Harney well. The oil at Harney grades around 42, according to Meathers, which is 16 higher than that of the California oil and equal to the Cushing oil of Texas.

J. C. Freeman is in town from his home in the Warm Springs Valley.

## Young Couple Wed; Runaway in Diamond Surprise Friends

Conflicting rumors are current concerning a wedding of more than usual interest, but a business associate of the supposed groom is our authority that the ceremony has actually taken place. According to our informant, Earl Hagey and Miss Zella Bardwell were married one day this week at Bend. Mr. Hagey left for the city on the Deschutes Monday, where he met the bride and the ceremony was performed.

Earl Hagey is the son of one of Harney county's oldest pioneers, Mr. George Hagey, who has been a merchant of this city for several years. Earl is at present interested in the Universal Garage here, and only recently returned from two years active war service in Uncle Sam's navy. He is one of Burns' rising young business men, who is rapidly building an enviable reputation for hard working stick-to-it-iveness.

The new Mrs. Hagey is also from one of our oldest pioneer families, the daughter of William Bardwell, at present County Stock Inspector. She has just finished a course at summer normal school at Monmouth, in preparation for teaching in the public school this winter.

The great secrecy with which the young couple's plans were carried out made it impossible to learn anything that they may contemplate for the future, but it is presumed that they will make their home in Burns. They have the united good wishes of the entire community for a long and successful life among us.

## RESUME WORK AT HOWELL OIL WELL.

W. G. Howell is in town from his Swan Lake oil well and informs us the casing is being hauled from Crane to the scene of operations and that work will resume at once. He found it necessary to make a change in drillers and this has delayed matters a little but one is on the way to take charge of the work.

A most distressing accident occurred on last Sunday evening at the C. W. Frazier home over in Diamond when the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Page met his death and his grandmother, Mrs. Chas. Beckley, was seriously injured in a run-away.

Mrs. Page and her mother with the little boy went to the Frazier home early in the day for a visit and to get some vegetables. They remained until after dinner and upon taking their departure the team they were driving became frightened at some loose horses in the field as they came down by the house running and playing, causing the team to run. Mrs. Page had the lines but the rig was a light buggy and she was unable to hold them. After running a short distance the frightened team left the road and striking some rocks the rig was demolished and the occupants thrown out with the result that Mrs. Beckley was dragged a distance and had both legs broken, one at the knee where the cap was torn loose and the ligaments also torn; the other fracture is of the large bone in the other leg. The little boy evidently struck on his head causing a fracture of the skull. He lived until the following morning and everything possible was done for his relief but without avail.

Mrs. Beckley was brought to the hospital in this city where she is having the best of care. She is reported recovering but in addition to her broken limbs she has numerous painful bruises and the shock has been bad as the lady is advanced in years.

W. T. Vanderveer is in town today. He stated that he encountered quite a rain storm on his way in from his Pine Creek ranch last evening, the road being quite muddy from Cow Creek until he approached town some seven miles out. Very little rain fell in this immediate vicinity.

## Delegates Sent to Yellowstone Park Good Roads Meeting WILL TRY TO GET NEW HIGHWAY

Latest Commercial Club Activity Seeks Benefit of Entire County; On Direct Line Between Yellowstone and Crater Lake National Parks.

## New Hospital Is Planned for Burns

Burns will be in a better position than ever before to care for medical patients when plans made by Mrs. Tom Allen to convert her home into a modern hospital are completed. The plans at present include renovation of the entire house, making the rooms as sanitary as those to be found in the largest city hospitals, and the installation of a completely equipped surgery.

A large room at the front of the house downstairs is to become the surgery, and will be re-finished with a new floor, white woodwork, and sanitary wall coverings. Dr. Saurman and Brunet will install the most modern and up-to-date surgical instruments, as well as operating tables and sanitary equipment. These physicians will thus be enabled to perform most of their major operations at the hospital, using the equipment at their new office for minor cases and examinations.

Another feature of the equipment to be provided, is the installation of special beds for fracture cases. Owing to the considerable amount of work necessary to convert the building to its new use, a definite date when it will be in readiness is not known, but it is expected that arrangements can be completed on or before September 1st.

Mrs. Allen is one of the pioneer women of Harney county, and has had extensive experience in nursing and care of the sick. For some time she assisted the late Dr. Marsden in the practice of his profession, and enters this new activity well prepared to carry it on successfully. She will be assisted in this work by graduate nurses.

## BAND OF GYPSIES MAKE THINGS LIVELY

Yesterday forenoon Acting Marshal John Sayer, Marshal McDonald and Sheriff Goodman had their hands full for a short time when they decided to drive a band of gypsies out of town. The bunch arrived during the morning, four loads of them in autos and trucks, with so many children they couldn't be counted, and at once they started things. They wanted to tell fortunes and take possession of stores, keeping people in constant dread as when some were engaging the attention of store attendants in waiting upon them others of the band would be helping themselves to things on the other side of the store. They were such a nuisance that it was decided to make them move on. Some of the women protested with loud voices but they were finally rounded up and started on.

The Burns Commercial Club has again shown its progressiveness by sending a delegation to represent it at the meeting of good roads enthusiasts at Yellowstone Park.

The Times-Herald had a story last issue in connection with the proposition of connecting the several National Parks by a highway and suggested that this city get busy. The matter was taken up by the Club at its regular weekly meeting on Friday night but no definite action was taken at that time but arranged for an adjourned meeting on Sunday afternoon to discuss the matter further. At the Sunday meeting ways and means were made and four delegates selected to go: Sam Motherhead, Chas. M. Faulkner, Wm. Farre and Julian Byrd. It had been intended that the representatives go by auto to attend this meeting but later investigation brought out the unlikelihood of them reaching the Yellowstone Park in time to participate in the deliberations of the national park service officials, therefore it was necessary to make the trip by train.

Unforeseen circumstances arose which prevented two of the delegates from going, Mr. Faulkner having some business of an urgent nature that demanded his personal attention and Julian Byrd was likewise detained, so Mr. Farre and Mr. Motherhead have gone to attend the meeting. They are a good selection and will accomplish results.

This is an important matter to this part of the state and the club is justified in sending men to place our advantages before the gathering of men. We are in direct line between Yellowstone and Crater Lake Parks and have the advantage of an all year road and a part of the east and west national highway. With the aid of park officials of the government, the backing of the state and the natural road bed for many miles, this route will be a most popular one and also the nearest route from east to west for all tourist travel.

The meetings begun yesterday and will continue over Sunday. This important link in the transcontinental highway will bring many travelers through this part of the state especially during the summer and fall months, yet it is going to be a route that may be traveled practically all the year round.

Our delegation will arrive home the latter part of the coming week and will no doubt have a good report to make at the next meeting of the Commercial Club on Friday night.

## IRRIGATION TROUBLES VALUE OF BIG RANCH

Twenty Years Ago \$1,500, Two Years \$7,000, Now Under Warm Springs, Sells for \$20,000.

Another proof, if proof were needed, to show conclusively the immense value of irrigation, was given this week in the recording of the sale of the old Tom Brosnan ranch on Willow Creek, three miles above Vale, which was bought by John Vines for \$20,000.

Twenty years ago, just before Tom Brosnan, uncle of T. J. Brosnan of Ontario, died, he sold this 320 acres to a man named Edwards for just \$1,500, or less than \$5 per acre.

Two years ago when the Edwards estate was settled up this ranch was sold for \$7,000. It was then, as it is now, partially developed. But since then the Warm Springs Irrigation district bonds have been sold and the work on the system so far progressed that water for all the land under the system is assured for next year, and that tells the story, for with a full water right John Vines, son of County Commissioner Frank Vines paid \$20,000 for the property this week.

And this is not all. Most students of land values in this section believe that Mr. Vines secured a real bargain, and that in reality the land is worth \$100 per acre in the rough.—Ontario Argus.

