

The Times-Herald

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BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, DECEMBER 15, 1923

NO. 7

MACHINERY EN ROUTE FOR ELECTRIC PLANT

Transmission Line From Mill Put in Shape; Will Give Service Next Week.

W. R. Letson and his family arrived in Burns Wednesday afternoon from Tillamook. Mr. Letson is one of the purchasers of the local light plant and has come to get the plant in readiness for operation. He informs us they have a big 100 horse power engine enroute that will be used to furnish the power for a dependable service and during the interval between now and its installation it is intended to give service from the water power at the mill.

Roy Moullin started to give service last week but the second night after he had gotten the system in operation a terrific wind storm blew down 15 poles between town and the mill, putting the service out of commission. Pending the arrival of Mr. Letson Roy did not attempt to make any repairs as he was not certain what the plans of the new owners were.

Mr. Letson has a crew of men resetting the poles and going over the transmission lines preparatory to again resuming service which he hopes will be ready by next Monday, possibly.

With the installation of adequate power and dependable service Burns will soon be well lighted and considerable electric power used. We have been unfortunate for several years in not having adequate service in this respect and it has become somewhat tiresome.

Mr. Letson and his associate had hoped to be in Burns before the first of this month with their equipment but delays over which they had no control prevented this. However, now that they are on the ground they will make haste in establishing the service.

LEGION AUXILIARY SENDS BOXES TO DISABLED MEN

The American Legion Auxiliary of this city recently sent boxes of canned fruit and jellies to the disabled men domiciled in the hospital at Walla Walla and have received an acknowledgment of it and the thanks of the men. The local Auxiliary desires this paper to express the appreciation of the organization for the donations made to the ladies of this vicinity who contributed toward the filling of the boxes.

The letter of acknowledgment reads:

Walla Walla, Wn
Dec 3, 1923

Sec'y American Legion Aux.
Burns, Oregon

Dear Madam:
I wish to acknowledge and kindly thank you for the three barrels of canned fruit and jellies received from your auxiliary. In the absence of Mrs. R. B. Ruban our hospital chairman I am taking the privilege and honor of thanking you for this generous donation.

The jars will be distributed as labeled.

Sincerely Yours,
MARIE MAGALLON, Sec'y
Amer. Legion Aux.
Martin C. Lee Post No. 32

OREGON COMPANY SEEKS RIGHT TO BUILD RAILROAD

Washington—Proposals for completing new railroad construction in Oregon necessary to remove timber from the Malheur national forest in Oregon were filed Wednesday with the interstate commerce commission by the Malheur Railroad company. The corporation proposes to build a 50-mile line from Burns to Seneca.

A previous application from the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company has been before the commission for some time. The Oregon-Washington proposes to extend one of its extending branches as far as Burns. When the connection is made at Burns with the Malheur line, the national forests land will have contact with trunk line railroads.

Ralph McKinnin, son of R. J. McKinnin, arrived here this week from Canada where he had been for a time. He will remain here for the present.

State Taxes Reduced.

The county clerk has been notified that Harney county's portion of the state taxes this year would be \$68,633.57 which is a reduction of \$22,468.72 over last year. This is certainly a welcome message to the overburdened taxpayers and indicative that something has transpired to reduce the taxes whether Gov. Pierce gets any credit or not.

CANDIDATES FOR VARIOUS OFFICES DISCUSSED

Politics is beginning to warm up somewhat in this county and possible candidates for the several offices are being discussed. The Times-Herald has not consulted any of the prospects and in giving a list of those who have been mentioned does not commit any of them to being announced candidates or, perhaps, even considering the subject. However, several have been discussed in the presence of the writer.

State Senator Charles W. Ellis is mentioned to succeed himself and so far as is known there are no other candidates for the position.

For District attorney the name of Geo. S. Sizemore, present incumbent, Chas. B. Foley and V. G. Cozad are talked of as possible candidates.

Many names are mentioned in connection with the sheriff's office among them being W. A. Goodman, who has held the office for several terms; Clarence Luckey, G. W. Clevenger, Lem Lowe, Bailey Hayes, Will Fiser, Harry Buck, Frank Thompson, V. Cawfield.

There are also a number of men discussed as good timber for county clerk, among them being A. A. Bardwell, W. E. Huston, Mrs. W. L. Blott, C. W. Logan, Curtis Smith, W. W. Gould, and the present incumbent, C. E. Dillman.

The assessor's office seems to have less consideration in the discussion of probable candidates. Some say the present assessor, J. L. Caldwell, has announced he does not desire to succeed himself. Sam Mothershead is mentioned with this office.

W. Y. King seems to have no opposition for county treasurer should he decide to run again for the position he has filled so well.

Two names are associated with the office of school superintendent, that of Mrs. Mary Griffin, the present superintendent, and R. R. Grant, a well known teacher of this county.

It seems Chas. T. Lillard can have the job of county commissioner with out objection.

BURNS WELL REPRESENTED AT O. A. C.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Dec. 13—Burns is well represented at the Oregon Agricultural college this year. Although the student directory lists but two students who give Burns as their home town, there are former Burns students on the campus. Nathan Brown and Dorothy Sayer are the two students who claim Burns as their home.

Wellington, Gault, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Lester Gault, is a freshman in commerce. Andrew Irwin, who gives Baker City as his home town, was at one time a student in the Burns schools. He is a freshman in pharmacy. Darrel (Curley) Potter is a student in mining engineering. Alexander Sweek, whose family now reside in Corvallis, is a senior in civil engineering. His sister, Miss Esther Sweek, is an O. A. C. graduate, and has been teaching since graduation. Nathan Brown is a senior in mining engineering. Florence Goff, who has been employed in the Benton County State Bank, is also a student in commerce.

TAX LAW TO BE TESTED

Pendleton, Ore. Dec. 11—(Special.)—The right of the county tax supervising and conservation commission to eliminate the county levy of 1 mill for market roads after the county court had elected to make the levy was challenged here today, when the county court ordered the assessor to make a special levy of \$75,347.61 for this purpose.

The order is expected to be disregarded by the assessor and a test case will be made. Arrangements are under way now to take mandamus proceedings against the assessor directly into the supreme court to secure an interpretation of the law.—Oregonian.

FIGURES ARE INCORRECT SAYS THE ROAD MASTER

Error in Cost of Market Road Building; Information of Tax Commission Used.

In an article in connection with the cutting out of the market road levy by the county tax commission in our last issue, some figures were used as to cost of market roads that were incorrect. Road Master Roy McGee called the attention of this paper to this and furnished the following figures:

The market road from the Pine creek grade on cost \$27,981.71 for 7.74 miles. This Mr. McGee says, is in accordance to county records and includes all engineering, fencing, etc. He also states that 59,000 feet of lumber was used in state specification bridges, and \$2000 worth of corrugated iron culverts. Mr. McGee states further that the Pine creek grade cost approximately \$400 a mile.

In all Harney county has constructed 38.4 miles of market road at a total cost of \$77,646.57, less than \$2000 per mile.

Secretary Mothershead of the tax commission stated the figures given in our last issue were those used before the commission during its deliberations and the matter was discussed in the presence of the members of the county court. No one challenged the figures and he supposed they were right.

If we have had 38.4 miles of market road construction in this county at a cost less than \$200 a mile it would seem we were certainly doing some good work and that it should not have been discontinued as a matter of economy. The objection to state supervision and its high cost may be a drawback, but Harney county needs roads and good ones.

Road Master McGee says the curtailment of the general road fund will not leave sufficient to keep up the several hundred miles of roads in Harney county and that some of it must suffer. It is too late to reconsider now, but the coming year will demonstrate the fact if a mistake is made.

If the present market road is lame it might be remedied by amendment in order that it apply economically.

Mrs. Nate Franklin and Mrs. W. M. Sutton were the moving spirits in giving a delightful surprise party to Mrs. H. B. Mace at her home last Tuesday evening, the occasion being her birthday. Several neighbors came in and it was a complete surprise. They played cards and had other diversions of an amusing character and the evening was most enjoyably spent.

TEN THOUSAND CHINESE PHEASANTS RIBERATED

Record Made by State Game Commission During Year; Hold Birds in Winter.

(Eugene Register)
Oregon has liberated in excess of 10,000 Chinese pheasants in the fields of the state this year, a record for the state and one that has never been equaled by any other state.

This announcement has been made by the Oregon state game commission following a check of the 1923 activities at the two state game farms at Eugene and Corvallis.

Since Chinese pheasants now furnish 50 per cent of the upland bird shooting in the state, sportsmen have been supporting an increased program of propagation and the state game commission has been giving close attention to the matter of protection.

Unfortunately there is no closed season on predatory animals and pot hunters. Against these the Chinese pheasants must be on the defensive continually, not only during the season when they can be hunted legally but also during the closed season, when the brilliant plumage of the male bird offers an easy target.

As one means of protection from the hazards of the field the state is now holding over each winter approximately 4000 birds, principally female, for release just before the nesting season. This is easily accomplished since the farm at Eugene is the largest enclosed farm in the United States.

The Chinese pheasant is not a native bird but was first introduced into Oregon in 1892 by Judge Martin H. Denny, then consul in China. Following a rapid increase in the birds an open season was declared. Later the season was made 30 days and then in 1921, when the combination pump guns and automobiles nearly exterminated the birds, a 15-day season was established. With the shorter season and increased liberations the birds are becoming plentiful.

The number of Chinese pheasants released by the commission during the past 10 years is as follows: 1913, 2336; 1914, 3045; 1915, 2912; 1916, 2748; 1917, 820; 1918, 1585; 1919, and 1520, 2865; 1921, 3694; 1922, 9192, and 1923, in excess of 10,000.

Tom Arnold, who is mine host at the Clay hotel in Crane, is authority for the statement that one of his guests recently killed a goose at the lake that weighed 32 pounds. This is one of the largest geese we have ever heard of being killed in this section.

Special City Election.

A special election has been called in Burns for December 27 to authorize additional tax levy made necessary to meet the expense of railroad right of way and terminal grounds. This special election is called to provide the way to an increase over the 6 per cent limitation.

Under the city charter property owners only are allowed to vote.

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR ARMY

A final competitive examination for appointment as Second Lieutenants in the Regular Army will be held throughout the United States during the week commencing April 14, 1924. Applications to take the examination should be submitted as soon as possible. Citizens of the United States who are single and between the ages of 21 and 30 years may compete in this examination. These examinations are always open to enlisted men of the Regular Army and National Guard. For further information on this subject consult the authorities at the U. S. Army Recruiting Stations as follows: Room 201 New Post Office Bldg., Portland, Second and Burnside Sts., Portland, 775 Willamette St., Eugene, 223 E. Main St., Medford, Post Office Bldg., Pendleton and Post Office Bldg., Salem, Oregon and 304 East Haron St. Aberdeen, Washington, or write to Army Recruiting Officer at 201 New Post Office Bldg., Portland, Ore.

Forest Office Proposes to Improve Roads in Vicinity.

Sealed proposals have been requested by the Bureau of Public Roads for the construction of improving the Bear Gulch National Forest Road Project located between Canyon City, County Seat of Grant Co., and Seneca, proposed terminus of the railroad from Burns to the Fred Herrick timber sale area, which railroad is now under construction. The length of the project is 7.5 miles. Bids will be opened December 19, 1923. Project to be completed in 180 weather working days following execution of contract.

This is a most important project relating to the Malheur National Forest since it builds the first effective way across the Strawberry Range from John Day Valley south to Bear Valley, a link in the Pendleton-Burns route and subject to heavy traffic.

Walter Anderson was in town this week, having been lauded into court on a charge of tearing out an irrigation dam. It was heard in Justice Monroe's court yesterday but we did not learn the decision.

JAPANESE EARTHQUAKE FILMS HERE NEXT FRIDAY

Liberty Theatre to Exhibit in Connection With Feature; Afternoon Matinee.

The Liberty Theatre has secured some very interesting films of the Japanese earthquake which will be exhibited on Friday, December 21. These films will be used in connection with the production of "Grumpy" a Theodore Roberts feature that is reputed to be one of the best he has ever appeared in.

"Grumpy" was bought for a two night run but owing to the demand for the Liberty during the Christmas holidays it will be impossible to use the production for but one day. Owing to the unusual interest in this program, together with the Japanese earthquake scenes the Liberty is going to give a matinee during the afternoon, starting at 1:30.

The program for that afternoon and evening will be particularly attractive and it is hoped that Liberty patrons will not fail to attend one or the other exhibition.

Since this program will be not only entertaining but also instructive, special arrangements have been made for the entire public school to witness it at the afternoon matinee as the guests of their teachers—as a special Christmas treat. On this account the entire lower floor of the theatre is reserved for the schools but the balcony is open to general admission for those who desire to attend the afternoon matinee.

Although this program comes to the Liberty at an advanced rental price, the admission will be the usual price. Patrons are urged to see this wonderful program with Theodore Roberts, May McAvoy, Conrad Nagel, Charles Ogle and other well known stars who are favorites. It is a rare opportunity that should be taken advantage of.

BETTER BUTTER, CHEESE ONE AIM OF CONFERENCE

Date to Be Presented on Basis of Dairying as Major Enterprise in Diversified Farming

The improvement of the quality of Oregon dairy products, especially butter, will be one of the main topics at the state-wide agricultural economic conference a O. A. C. January 21 to 26. A special committee will formulate the program for the dairy work of the conference.

An analysis of dairying in Oregon followed by specific recommendations for the development of this industry will be undertaken by prominent dairymen, members of the college staff, bankers, members of commercial organizations and other interested individuals and group representatives at the conference.

Methods for increasing the efficiency of production will be included in the program. The value of pure bred sires with production records behind them, disease control, higher producing cows, the advantages of cow testing associations and bull associations, and other production factors will be considered.

Data bearing on these subjects will be presented at the conference by specialists of the college experiment station and extension service. Data will be given on the basis that dairying may be the major enterprise of a diversified farming program in Oregon.

Members of the committee are E. E. Faville, Portland, chairman of the agricultural committee of the Portland chamber of commerce; C. L. Mulkey, McMinnville, president of the Oregon Jersey Cattle club and vice-president of the state dairymen's association; M. M. Boney, manager of the Eugene Farmers' Creamery; J. D. Mickle, Portland, secretary of the Oregon Dairy council and newly appointed state dairy and food commissioner; E. J. Cashin, Portland, of the Mutual Creamery and D. O. Woodworth, Albany, Linn county dairyman.

Mrs. Clifford Pugsley returned the first of this week from Winnemucca where she had gone to visit her parents and her daughter. The latter had intended remaining in Winnemucca to attend school for the winter but decided to return home with her mother as she wanted to be with her parents.

