

URGE RAILROAD BUILDING FOR BETTER MARKET

More Direct Connection For Products of This Section To South Sought.

The Inter State Commerce Commission has set March 26th, 1924, at Portland, Oregon, as the time to take evidence on the complaint filed by the Oregon Public Service Commission asking that the Southern Pacific, Union Pacific and other railroads interested be compelled to construct the line from Crane to Odell and connect up Bend, Klamath Falls and Lakeview with this line.

The Ontario Commercial Club in preparing for this hearing invited the Commercial Clubs of Weiser, Payette, Parma, Caldwell, Nampa and Boise, in Idaho, and of Vale and Nyssa in Oregon, to meet with them on Monday January 28th, to discuss this hearing, and to plan a presentation of the case and interests of Southwestern Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon.

The meeting was attended by 130 delegates from the commercial clubs named and about 40 of the business men of Ontario. H. H. Corey of the Oregon Public Service Commission and Chairman Graves of the Public Utilities Commission of Idaho were in attendance. Mr. Corey explained the case to the delegations present and stated that he had some assurance that the commercial interests of San Francisco and Los Angeles would assist the Commission in the hearing; that the War Department would also present their needs for the construction of this road.

Mr. Graves of the Idaho Utilities Commission assured those present that his commission would intervene in the case on behalf of the state of Idaho and that they would do everything within their power to secure the construction of this line.

Representatives of the various Commercial Clubs responded to the call of the President of the Ontario Commercial Club, and many interesting speeches were made. Every speaker was able to show the decided advantage the construction of this line and the opening of the California Markets would mean to their community. It was shown at this time that California was importing practically one half of all the produce shipped out of the Boise Valley with the exception of apples and prunes, and that with the shorter haul that this line means they would ship most of their fruit to California also.

California today is the natural market for the products of this territory. California does not produce a sufficient of any foodstuff to feed her citizens with the exception of the citrus fruits, every other foodstuff is imported in large quantities, but the present long haul via Portland or Ogden from the Boise Valley practically closes this market to them. The saving of over 400 miles that this line will mean to San Francisco would be a clear saving to the farmers and producers of this section, in freight amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.

The total freight originating on the Oregon Short Line from Weiser to Glenns Ferry in 1923 was approximately 48,200 car loads, a large portion of which went to California via Ogden and Salt Lake.

The Union Pacific has an investment in the line from Ontario to Crane of approximately \$6,000,000. The engineers of the public Service Commission estimate that an additional investment of \$8,000,000 will build the lines through Central Oregon and provide the necessary rolling stock to operate the lines. This would then permit the U. P. to realize on its present investment in the Malheur Canyon which is now being operated at a loss.

Captain Rob't M. Duncan was the only representative from Harney County attending this meeting and he reports that there is a general belief among well informed men that the line is ripe to press this move, and that no single development can mean as much to Central Oregon and Southwestern Idaho as the opening of this line to California markets.

The future of Harney County is in the hands of the railroads. Without an outlet to the west and to California we cannot hope for our irrigation projects to develop for we

cannot pay the excessive branch line freight tariffs in addition to the long haul from present main line points to market and hope to compete with more favored localities that lie much closer to markets, but with the opening of the line to the west we can reach the big markets of the west and compete with any community within a similar radius.

LEGION AUXILIARY

(Contributed)

The American Legion Auxiliary unit of Harney County Post No. 63 met at the home of Mrs. Ben Brown on Jan. 26.

Final arrangements were made for the Silver Tea which was held the day following.

It was unanimously voted to extend a vote of thanks to Mr. Julian Byrd, Professor McDade and the Harney County H. S., The American Legion, Mrs. Wm. Farre, Mrs. A. C. Welcome, Miss Pauline Desilets, Charles Foley and all others who assisted in making the Silver Tea, given for the U. S. Veterans Hospital relief, a success.

New members taken in were Mrs. Hull Hotchkiss and Mrs. P. Locher. The following resolution was presented to the Unit and unanimously adopted:

Unit of Harney County Post No. 63 desire to express ourselves as standing solidly in favor of the Veterans Adjusted Compensation now before Congress.

Mrs. Earl Graham, Mrs. Russel Smith and Mrs. C. E. Dillman were appointed as the membership committee, and Mrs. Ben Brown and Mrs. Earl Hagey were made a visiting committee.

After enjoying delicious tea and wafers the Unit adjourned to meet with Mrs. Harry Z. Smith on Friday Feb. 29 at 2:30 P. M.

A cordial invitation is extended to all members and those eligible for membership.

DISCUSS ACTION TO GET RAIL OUTLET TO PACIFIC COAST

(Special to The Statesman)

Ontario—One hundred fifty representatives from southwestern Idaho and eastern Oregon discussed action for urging the Union Pacific to build a railroad from Crane, Ore., to California, and the benefits to be derived from such a line, in a meeting at the Moore hotel here Monday night.

Communities represented included Boise, Nampa, Caldwell, Payette, Weiser, Burns, Fruitland, Nyssa, Parma, Vale, Juntura and Crane. The Oregon public utilities commission was represented by H. H. Corey of Salem, while F. C. Graves of Rupert was present from the Idaho commission.

A hearing will be held in Portland March 26 on a petition of the Oregon utilities commission to ask the railroad to build the line, and the object of the meeting was to create sentiment in favor of the project, as well as to make a better understanding of its benefits. Speakers urged that the Idaho commission also take action to get the railroad to build.

It was brought out that the line would open to eastern Oregon and southwestern Idaho a cattle market in California better than the one at Portland. Prices are so much greater in the southern state than the difference in freight rates would be that raisers would make from \$1 to \$2 additional profit on every steer sold. Other commodities would find a more ready market also.

MOISTURE RECORD SHOWING

Supt. Shattuck of the Experiment Station has given us some figures on the precipitation that are of interest. For the period since September 1, 1923 to the first of February his record shows the precipitation to have been 3.51. The moisture fall during the months of September, October, November and December of the year just closed there was a lack of moisture by comparison of the ten year period in which the record has been kept. In fact that precipitation for the period is but half of the normal, but October was above and November was normal. However it shows a shortage of 50 per cent for entire period.

The total for the year of 1923 was 8.44.

The ten year average annual precipitation is 7.96.

Harry Cary and Franklyn Varlen were up from Crane Monday on business.

RANGE CALF CROP IS CUT BY 50 PER CENT

Diminishing Returns Compel Stockmen to Keep Cattle Inside The Fields.

(Ontario Argus)

Raising beef on the ranges of Central Oregon, and in Malheur county, too, is undergoing a most drastic change, in the opinion of A. R. Olsen, manager of the Pacific Live Stock ranches in this section, who was in Ontario Monday enroute to his home near Burns after spending the meeting of the Fact Finding commission of the reclamation service.

"Yes, we are buying all the young stuff we can get in this section, for we are gradually going out of the business of running cows on the range central Oregon. We are going to devote our entire time to raising steers on the ranges.

"We have found that we only secured in the past few years a fifty per cent calf crop. Some of the ranchers secured only 30 percent. The average as revealed by an investigation by the cattle loan companies placed the average as low as 38 per cent. It is patented that it does not pay to run cattle when the increase is only 50 per cent. You cannot feed two sows to raise one calf.

"The reason for the diminishing calf returns is the ranges. In the old days when the cattle were turned out on the lowlands of the Harney valley there was plenty of feed for them and they did well. Now we have to turn them out into higher hills. They scatter and have to hustle for food and the result is as has been proven that the calf crop is cut in two.

"Some of the stockmen who plan to continue in the business are keeping their cattle in the feed lots or on their meadows in the lower valleys. That is what must be done if the stock business is to continue as it has, as the back-bone of ranching in Central Oregon. What is true of that section is also true of Malheur county stockmen, so I am told.

FORMER BURNS BOY TO ACCOMPANY SCIENTIST TO ALASKA

Ben Brown brought a copy of the Seattle Daily Times to this office dated January 19, on the front page of which is the picture of Gerald Fitzgerald, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Fitzgerald, who is to accompany U. S. Geological scientists into unexplored Alaska to survey 15,000 square miles of wilderness that is believed to contain large and valuable deposits of oil and other minerals. Gerald was born in Burns and his parents are quite well known by the old time residents.

CLEANING AND GRADING CEREALS IS PROFITABLE

Harney Branch Experiment Station Secures Data of Interest to Farmers.

(Obil Shattuck)

That thorough cleaning and grading of cereals before seeding, pays well, has been demonstrated at the Harney County Branch Experiment Station during the past three years.

The object of cleaning is to remove all of the chaff, straw, dirt, weed seed, and small pinched or frozen kernels. The grading action removes all of the small shriveled, cracked or broken kernels, leaving only the large, plump, uniform kernels, which will produce strong, hardy, vigorous plants.

The four grades of wheat at the station in securing these figures are as follows:

Grade No. 1. Using the regular wheat 'set up' for the Chatham fanning mill in the upper shoe, and number 8 screen in the lower shoe, run the grain through ONCE.

Grade No. 2. Using same 'set up' as number one, run the grain through TWICE.

Grade No. 3. Using the same 'set up' as grade 2, run the grain through TWICE, then substituting number 7 screen or number 8 in the bottom shoe, run the grain through ONCE.

Grade No. 4. Grain as it comes direct from the SEPARATOR.

In cleaning and grading cereals we have found that it is impossible to do efficient work by running the grain through the fanning mill once only, as there is quite a large percent of trash, weed seed and cracked grain left in the seed grain.

The results are shown in tabular form giving the following data: Variety, year grown, grade and yield in bushels per acre, and gain in bushels per acre of best grade (No. 3) as compared with that sown direct from the separator (No. 4.)

Variety	Year grown	Grade and Yield.			
		Bushels per acre	G.1	G.2	G.3
White Bobs	1921	42.7	45.8	52.4	42.0
Federation	1922	43.0	49.0	49.0	46.5
Federation	1923	63.7	65.4	72.9	56.7
Gain, Bu. per acre	Grade 3 over 4				
White Bobs	1921		16.4		
Federation	1922		2.5		
Federation	1923		16.2		

Figuring the wheat at \$1.25 per hundred the gain in dollars and cents per acre is as follows: 1921, \$7.80; 1922, \$1.88; 1923, \$12.15.

MINING MAN INVESTIGATING PROSPECTS NEAR BURNS

P. H. Miller, of Council, Idaho, former superintendent of the Bay

Horse Mine near Huntington, was in this vicinity during the week and made a trip to the mining prospects on Trout creek a short distance from Burns to see the property being developed by A. J. Darst and associates. Mr. Miller was disappointed upon arriving at the mines to find the works he desired to see were flooded at the present time, preventing an inspection. However, he was given specimen of the ore from that district as well as other prospects in the county. The writer did not interview the gentleman and does not know his opinion of the mineral prospects.

EMMA D. RANDLE UNUSUAL ARTIST

Monodramatic Entertainer is Whole Company of Players in Own

Magnetic Personality

A whole company of capable and resourceful players is combined in the magnetic personality of Emma Dee Randle, who is to be heard on next Monday evening at the Liberty in a program of interpretative recital. Whether the dramatic selection be from the magic pen of Shakespeare or simply from "Pollyanna" or something quite as in keeping with our time, this real artist of the platform creates living characters with a straightforward and simple art. Freshness and rhythm are interwoven in her work. She unites vivid dramatic power and wholesome humor and awakens keenest interest and sympathy in her appreciative audiences.

Critics declare Miss Randle's voice to be like a wonderful musical instrument which responds, vibrates, throbs and echoes to every spiritual emotion and by its magnetic dramatic power inspires the same deep feeling, whether of pathos or humor, in the hearts of her hearers.

In "Pollyanna" Emma D. Randle is at her best. Critics have proclaimed her work in this sweet, wholesome play, as being unsurpassed from the standpoint of real dramatic art. The announcement of her coming here insures a capacity audience for this gifted lady.

BILLY FARRE IS PLEASED

"Myself-To Date" is the title of a nicely bound personally autographed edition of Irvin S. Cobb which has just been received by Billy Farre. Mr. Cobb visited this vicinity some three years ago and met several of our local men. The Times-Herald office was honored with a couple of calls from Mr. Cobb during the time he was here. "Myself-To Date" is a most promising looking volume, judging from the hurried glance given it, which will be given closer attention at some time when we have more leisure and Billy will loan it.

Mrs. Rankin Crow and little daughter are guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Cawfield, at the Levens.

MOTHERS CLUB HOSTESS TO HIGH SCHOOL BODY

Faculty and Student Enjoy Pleasant Evening, Guests of The Organization.

Last Friday evening the Mothers Club gave a delightful party for the students and faculty of the Harney County High School. A short program was first given in the assembly room of the high school consisting of four very attractive and enjoyable numbers. Miss Agnes Foley, violin, John Caldwell, saxophone and Mrs. A. C. Welcome at the piano, rendered the first number on the program and the performers so delighted the guests they were compelled to respond to an encore. A vocal duet by Miss Annette Leonard and Mrs. Chester Dalton was another very enjoyable one that brought hearty applause. The ladies repeated the chorus as an encore. Mrs. Sutton gave one of her sparkling and well rendered readings that brought forth expressions of pleasure and generous applause. The closing number of the program was a vocal solo by Charles B. Foley. Mr. Foley has an excellent baritone voice but it is not often he can be prevailed upon to entertain his many friends and admirers.

The guests repaired to the commercial building where a very exciting and absorbing game of progressive peanuts occupied the time in the interval before serving refreshments. This game was a new one to many of the young people and proved very entertaining as the contest was one of skill and steady nerves. Suitable prizes were awarded the winners but the writer failed to get the names of the lucky ones.

The Club served a lunch of sandwiches, cocoa, ice cream and cake.

The evening was not only a pleasant one but profitable in a way as it was different from the usual run of entertainment given the young people of this community. It proved that diversion is one of the things in the life of our young people that should be cultivated. It also brought out the fact that the Mothers Club is really thoughtful of the young people and desires to make them feel the club is ready to aid them in any clean, character building enjoyment that can be provided. The affair is worthy of commendation and the active members of the Club that promoted it are entitled to much credit.

THE SILVER TEA

(Contributed)

On Saturday, January 26, at the High School, Burns held its first Silver Tea. It was given by the Auxiliary of the American Legion.

The rooms were artistically decorated to represent a Japanese Tea Garden, coming in from the cold and snow of winter to the warmth and beauty within elicited the admiration and praise of all.

The musical program rendered was excellent as are all programs put on by our able local talent. Those taking part and making the musical a success were: Miss Foley, Miss Desilets, Miss Leonard, Mrs. Farre, Mrs. Leonard, Mrs. Welcome, Mrs. Dillman, Mrs. Harris and Mr. Chas. Foley.

The object of the tea was a benefit for our disabled World War Veterans.

Burns and vicinity responded with its usual generosity.

We were proud of our boys when they enlisted, proud and happy when they returned victorious, and esteem it an honor and a privilege to do anything in our power for the disabled soldier.

In behalf of the public we ask that a Silver Tea be given every year for them that we may be able to show our love and admiration for these thus nobly afflicted and patiently bearing suffering that we may enjoy the blessings of peace.

A CORRECTION

In giving the ranking pupils in the several grades of the public school last week the standing of Eugene Goodlow in the seventh grade was given as \$6.5. It should have been \$6.1.

Frank Ruh was in town Thursday from his home near Lawen.

