

The Times-Herald

VOL. XXXVIII

BURNS, HARNEY COUNTY, OREGON, FEBRUARY 28, 1925

NO. 18

SENATORS CONSULTED ON LAND OFFICE CUT

Secretary of Interior Considers Dispensing With Land Office Here and Other Places.

Washington, Feb. 26.—(Washington Bureau of the Journal)—Officials of Oregon land offices, apparently safe from decapitation by congress, are confronted by new danger in word sent Senator McNary by Secretary Work of the interior department, expressing a desire to consult with him with reference to weeding out offices the secretary regards as superfluous.

The administration has authority under the existing law to do away with seven Oregon offices—Burns, La Grande, Lakeview, Portland, Roseburg, The Dalles and Vale. It is evident that even with such authority the secretary hesitates to move except after consultation with the senators, as these offices are part of the senatorial patronage, and the sudden separation of so many local officials from the public service might have serious political consequences.

Reduction Necessary

Secretary Work declares that reduction is imperative, and he wants to proceed "in that direction," which may mean that he does not expect to stay all the incumbents at the offices named, but will insist that part of them shall retire from the pay roll.

The law says that "it shall be the duty" of the secretary to abolish offices when the unsold lands in a land office district fall below 100,000 acres, and the office "may be discontinued" if the revenues are less than one-third of the receipts. It is in the latter respect that most of the Oregon offices fall short. There is also a blanket provision authorizing the president, upon recommendation of the commissioner of the general land office and approval by the secretary, to discontinue any land office.

Statesmen Object

The interior department went before the committee of congress this year and asked that a selected list of offices be closed by congressional action in the interior department bill. The committee reported the bill that way, but the western and southern congressmen objected and beat the committee by a vote in the house. It was pointed out that if the administration has the "sund" it can get rid of a substantial number of offices on its own motion.

Secretary Work's letter carries the intimation that the ax is being sharpened, but advice is wanted as to where the chopping will cause least pain and commotion.

R. T. HUGHET ADDED AS ACTIVE OFFICER OF BANK

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Burns was held Thursday evening. No changes were made in the officers except to add Judge R. T. Hughet as an active vice president and he will devote his time to looking after certain interests of the institution. Judge Hughet has been a director of the bank for several years and his past experience in the stock business in this country he will be a valuable man connected with the work both inside the bank as well as a field man.

Mrs. A. C. Welcome, who has been connected with the bank for several years has tendered her resignation to take effect the first of the coming month and she will devote her entire time to her music. This change has been under consideration for some little time by Mrs. Welcome as she desires to take up the teaching of music more actively and this could not be done while she held the important position with the bank.

Among out of town stockholders who were present at the annual meeting were John D. Daly of Boise, J. L. Gault, of Corvallis, Judge Grant Thompson of Lawen and Prestley Smyth of Diamond.

Mr. and Mrs. James Paul and the latter's sister were in Burns for a short business trip during this week. Paul has one of the best stock ranches in the Happy valley country and used to raise some fine gardens but the writer has had no evidence of that garden since the county fair ceased to function.

LADIES LIBRARY CLUB

(Contributed)

The Ladies Library Club met at the home of Mrs. C. H. Leonard on Saturday, February 21st.

The book committee reported three new books added to the library—Curwood's "Gentleman of Courage," Papini's "Story of Christ," Peter's "Diet and Health"—several more are ordered but not yet received.

To help swell the book fund all members are requested to bring ten cents to each meeting until the end of this club year.

Remember the entertainment on March 6th for the benefit of the library.

The hostesses entertained with cards. The highest score being received by Mrs. Purinton, the prize being a beautiful hand painted incense burner. The second highest going to Mrs. Voegtly a very pretty basket.

The rooms were very beautifully decorated in honor of Washington's Birthday.

Assisting Mrs. Leonard were Mrs. I. S. Geer, Mrs. Waldo Geer, Mrs. C. Rohn, and Miss Leonard.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. I. H. Holland on March 7th. As this is the annual business meeting all members are requested to be present.

HERRICK LINE DELAY IRKS BURNS PEOPLE

(Oregonian)

That the business interests of Burns, Or., are in sympathy with the protest recently voiced by E. W. Barnes of that town against what are termed unnecessary delays in the construction of the Fred Herrick railroad and sawmill was the word brought to Portland yesterday by Archie McGowan, Mr. McGowan, a resident of Burns, was here yesterday on his way home from a southern trip.

"A condition of the large timber sale made by the forest service to Fred Herrick of St. Maries, Idaho, was that a common carrier railroad be built from Crane, via Burns, into the heart of the timber belt of Grant county, a distance of approximately 60 miles," said Mr. McGowan. "The limit of time to complete this development and to begin logging operations was April 1, 1925."

"At this date the railroad has been completed to Burns, a distance of 30 miles across the level lands of Harney valley. There has also been graded some 25 miles to the north of Burns. It is quite evident that Mr. Herrick is far short of his agreement with the forest service and has formally requested an extension of time."

"Chief Forester Greeley seems to be inclined to be very lenient with Mr. Herrick and judging from recent Washington news dispatches seems to infer that E. W. Barnes of Burns is the only person peculiarly concerned about this request for extension of time and all the agitation of the matter is due to his activities as a real estate speculator."

"The Chief forester, Colonel Greeley, is wrong in his presumption, and it is not fair to undertake to create such an impression with the country at large. The fact of the matter is that this development and the fulfillment of the Herrick agreement is of no more interest to Mr. Barnes than it is to the citizens and taxpayers of Harney and Grant counties. It is also a fact that Mr. Barnes real estate interests are small compared to many who have waited a lifetime for the opening of the country and who will continue to suffer great losses if this promised development is now unnecessarily delayed."

"It is, of course, quite true that Mr. Barnes has been very active and persistent in his demands that Mr. Herrick substantially live up to his agreement and why should he not be. Mr. Barnes is the father of the idea and has represented the people of the two counties before our delegation in congress."

A letter received yesterday from Ernest Smith, who is in Portland, announced that he was to be operated on Wednesday morning for the throat trouble which was the cause of his going to Portland for special medical attention. In this letter Ernest wrote his family that if they had no other word upon receiving it they would understand he was getting along well, otherwise he had arranged that they be notified.

RAPID PROGRESS MADE ON TERMINAL BUILDINGS

Depot and Warehouse Framed With Stock Yards, Agents' Residence Under Way.

The depot proper is now under construction at the terminal grounds in Burns. The structure has risen and the shingles will soon be on with the interior work well along. This building with the freight warehouse connected with it covers a big area and will be adequate for all the business for some time, as there are to be at least two big private warehouses on the grounds and possibly more.

The writer paid a visit to the grounds the other day and in company with Mr. Van Deventer, one of Mr. Silbaugh's foremen, took in the entire grounds, including the improvements at the stock yards. The latter are almost entirely enclosed with two large loading chutes and several feeding pens where water is also piped from the big tank at the depot. The stock yards cover 500 feet by 75 in the main yards and the fences are substantial.

The residence for the agent is now taking shape and will soon be enclosed. The brick for flues have been received and these will be constructed without delay.

HERRICK TO HAVE CHANCE

Oregonian News Bureau, Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.—There is no intention to make things unduly hard for Fred Herrick, who is building a railroad from Burns, Or., into the Malheur national forest, according to Colonel W. B. Greeley, chief of the forest service. There has been considerable prodding of Mr. Herrick, who purchased a large tract of forest timber from the government, but the forest service declares that Herrick is to have a fair chance in view of the fact that an expenditure of almost \$3,000,000 is required before any part of the timber can be moved to market.

E. W. Barnes of Burns has been particularly active, according to forest service records, in seeking to force Herrick to "work faster." Barnes is said by the forest service either to have option or to have purchased certain real estate in Burns and to have taken over some privately owned timber lands in Malheur forest.

Mr. Graves of the Central Oregon Telephone Co. announces that many new phones are being installed at this time on the local switchboard.

"POLISHED PEBBLES" PRESENTED CREDITABLY

High School Students Render Operetta at Liberty Thursday To Appreciative Audience.

The Harney County High gave the operetta "Polished Pebbles" Thursday evening at the Liberty in a manner that reflected credit to the school, the director, the children taking part and the community. It was an entertainment that we may feel proud of. The talent of our young people was well displayed, each character and the choruses being well sustained and given with grace, precision and perfect voice.

The entertainment was under the direction of Mrs. Wm. Farre and she was assisted in staging it by the young lady teachers of the school who aided in arranging costumes and in rehearsals. Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Eggleston played the accompaniments.

The Times-Herald will refrain from giving individual comment upon the young participants as it would "run out" of nice things to say about each without repeating. Those taking the principal parts were well cast and did their respective parts well.

The souvenir programs made by the commercial department of the school were unique and attractive and show an interest in the activities of the school in such cooperation.

The cast of characters of the operetta included John Mothershead, who was Uncle Bob but disguised as a negro in the first act; Mrs. O'Brien, his sister, Frances Hibbard; Rosalie, the niece of Uncle Bob and Mrs. O'Brien, Kathrine Farre; Winifred (Winnie) daughter of Mrs. O'Brien; Eleanor Welcome; Millie (Millie) daughter of Mrs. O'Brien, Roselle Reed; Mrs. Gabbie, (town gossip) Margaret Welcome; Mr. Gabbie, (town character) Sidney Hotchkiss; Martha (country girl) Frances King; Nick (country boy) Wilfred Racine; Sunbonnet Girls: Lois Brown, Naomi Moon, Mary Hamilton, Lowell Reed, Belda Schwartz, Alberta Graves, Georgietta McPheeters, Mary Welcome.

Overalls Boys: Raymond Olson, Roy Brown, Ivan Lowe, Lee Reed, Alose Wenzell, William Wenzell, Philip Cawfield, Marcus Haines.

In addition to those mentioned there were a number of the Girls' Glee Club.

The Liberty was filled to overflowing, as usual on such occasions, and the young artists were given every encouragement from an appreciative audience with frequent applause.

MOTHERS CLUB

(Contributed)

The Mother's Club met at the home of Mrs. Nell Smith on Thursday, with Mrs. H. Hotchkiss as joint hostess. The President took up the matter of the Calico Dance to be held in April. It was decided that only calico, precalle and gingham should be worn. The Club is very anxious that these rules be complied with by those attending, and will appreciate those helping to keep the dance as near as possible what the name implies. Men will be required to wear overalls.

The president also stated that Mrs. William Wiseman had organized a Campfire Girls club, having now fourteen members but could take twenty. She is planning on taking the girls to the mountains this summer and several other interesting activities. This is a splendid thing for our girls and one which the Mothers Club desires to stand back of.

The business meeting adjourned and the meeting was turned over to the hostesses.

Mrs. Hotchkiss read a very interesting article on "The Home." Stating the cause of the home was a man's love for a woman and the love of a woman for a man. That children brought more love into the home. Cheerfulness in the home was another point stressed. Also that there must be system in the home in order that a woman might have time to be cheerful.

A novel contest of Valentines was held. Each being required to draw a Kupie on a heart shaped paper and then writing a verse to my Valentine. Mrs. McDonald received the prize which was very appropriate, being a heart shaped box of candy.

Dainty refreshments were served and several hours spent in visiting.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. I. S. Geer with Mrs. Geo. Simmons as joint hostess. This will be a card party for the Club and the hostesses desire to know if any are not coming.

STANDARD OIL STATION CONSTRUCTION UNDER WAY

The contractor for the construction of the necessary buildings and other improvements for the Standard Oil Co. station at this city has arrived and is now at work. A car load of material has also been received including lumber, hardware, etc. This has been unloaded.

The grounds are being put in good shape, having been leveled and prepared for the site of the office, garage, etc. and the plot for drives and lawn arranged. We understand the large storage tanks will be placed on another plot of land on the south side of the Union Pacific spur that has been extended up to the highway.

EDUCATIONAL PICTURE PROGRAM WEDNESDAY

Scenic Marvel Is "Around The World In Speejects" at The Liberty Theatre Soon.

A travelogue that is more than a scenic—a picturization of one of the most thrilling adventures ever undertaken by man, is the Paramount picture, "Around the World in The Speejects" and here is their chance the Liberty Theatre next Wednesday.

This absorbing film is a marvel for realism. Everyone has heard of the "Speejects" and here is their chance to see the famous craft and sail with it throughout the voyage of 23,900 miles and to experience with Commodore and Mrs. Gowen the thrills and hardships they experienced—for there were hardships, if sleeping on the ground with field mice and ants for bed-fellows mean anything.

The route taken by the "Speejects" upon its sailing from New York harbor on August 21, 1921 was due south to Panama where the trip through the canal was made and the long wearisome trek across the Pacific begun. Tahiti was the first stopping place, followed by Samoa, the Fiji Islands and New Caledonia. Then came Sydney, Australia, New Guinea, the Celebes Islands, Java, Singapore, Sumatra, Ceylon, Egypt, Crete, Greece, Sicily, Naples, Marselles, Barcelona, Gibraltar, Cape Verde Islands, Porto Rico, Miami, Norfolk and return to New York.

Accompanying the Gowens on this trip was Ira J. Ingraham, former head cameraman for Burton Holmes, through whose cooperation and skill the picture record of the voyage was made possible. Several friends of the Gowens accompanied the party. The original crew was composed of young American college boys, many of whom however, dropped off along the way so that upon its return the "Speejects" had what might be termed a varied and international complement.

See the "Speejects" and see the world.

BANKING MAN PAYS VISIT

J. L. Gault, who holds the position of active vice president and cashier of the Bonton County State Bank, at Corvallis, was a business visitor during the week, arriving on Tuesday night's train. Mr. Gault was formerly cashier of the First National Bank of Burns and still is a stockholder and his particular business here this week was to attend a meeting of the stockholders.

Mr. Gault still retains his lively interest in the development of Harney county and while in town discussed the future of the community with his friends with the same zest as when he was a resident. He is confident of the immediate advancement of the development here and was pleased to find the people were in accord in giving their support to Fred Herrick in his big undertaking while at the same time firm in insisting on prosecuting the work with the least possible delay.

Mr. Gault stated he was not so sanguine of the cattle market coming back to pre-war conditions rapidly, although he feels sure it will improve materially. He points out the great increase in the dairy industry and its effect upon the meat production. Also statistics bear out the assertion that we are not consuming beef in proportion to former days. However, with this big open country with the advantage of open range, it will be one of the best beef producing sections of the entire country and where a better profit may be derived than in the more thickly settled countries.

Mr. Gault reports Mrs. Gault as gradually recovering from the broken ankle she sustained at Christmas time and the two boys as being in fine health. He left yesterday morning on his return trip, going out by way of Ontario.

Wayne Pugsley has been confined to his home since last Saturday suffering from a blow on his forehead when he was accidentally kicked by a playmate while climbing into a hay mow. His doctors found his condition rather serious but yesterday report him quite perceptibly improved.

IT'S GOT TO BE SOLVED BY MARCH 15

By SATTERFIELD

