

## JONES' HILL ROAD COST EXCEEDS ESTIMATES

The county commissioners met in session several days last week attending to routine business and winding up the affairs of the road work which has been carried on the past summer. Besides the regular work on the county roads there has been a considerable amount of work done in connection with the proposed system of state highways, the aggregate cost of which amounted in round numbers to \$68,000. Of this class of work 7.22 miles of grading was done and 3.43 miles of macadam paving was put down. The surveying, estimating and general supervision of this work was in charge of Mr. Baldock, one of the civil engineers attached to the corps of the State Highway Commission. The actual work of construction was done under the direction of Sidney Smith, who was employed by the county as road superintendent especially for this work.

At Jones' hill, east of Heppner on Pilot Rock road, 3.22 miles of paving was done which was, perhaps, the most expensive piece of work included in the year's program. This work cost, according to figures secured from Mr. Baldock's office, \$25,054.26, or around \$8000 a mile. Considerable chagrin is expressed by the county judge and commissioners over the cost of this piece of work which they say exceeded the engineer's estimate of around \$13,000 by more than \$12,000 which was the amount they claim to have been led to believe the work could be done for. While the county officials admit that the rapid advance in the cost of labor, material and supplies since the work was considered and decided upon early last summer would account for a considerable portion of the excess, they seem to think that an advance of almost 100 per cent is rather steep.

Mr. Baldock, on the other hand, points out that conditions during the past year have been such that no man could give an accurate estimate of the cost of road construction in advance. He pointed out the high cost of labor, the rapid advance in powder, steel, provisions and all other commodities needed in such work, and he also claims that the only "official" estimate he gave the county court on the Jones hill work was a "yardage" estimate; that is, he told them how many yards of material would have to be moved on that particular job, but that he did not give them an "official" estimate of the cost. He said, however, that he did talk the matter over with the judge and commissioners and told them, as his private opinion, that the work would cost around \$13,000. In reply to this Judge Patterson and Commissioner Curran both say that they considered the estimate given to them by Mr. Baldock as official—that, in fact, they supposed he was employed by the county to give them expert advice and official estimates on such matters, and that it was because they relied on his judgment in the matter that they undertook such an extensive program of road building for the year.

Sydney Smith, county road superintendent, was not present at the commissioner's meeting and being out of town no statement from him can be secured at this time. His services with the county, however, are discontinued by the county court and future road building in the county will probably be under other management.

No criticism of the quality of the work done has been heard and it seems to be generally conceded that the county has made a good start in the matter of permanent road building and that the system of good roads will be extended from year to year until Morrow county is second to no other in the state in a system of highways usable at all seasons of the year.

## MRS. SPENCER MADE CHAIRMAN OF CHAPTER

The regular annual meeting of the Morrow County Red Cross Chapter was held in the Masonic lodge room Tuesday evening when the affairs of the past year were closed and new officers were elected. The officers elected were:

Chairman—Mrs. S. W. Spencer.  
Vice-Chairman—M. D. Clark.  
Secretary—Miss Mary Farnsworth  
Treasurer—H. E. Storm.

Executive Committee—Mrs. A. M. Phelps, Vawter Crawford, S. E. Notson, M. D. Clark. Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer ex-officio members by virtue of their office.

Board of Directors—Mrs. J. A. Patterson, Mrs. Vawter Crawford, Mrs. Rose Richardson, Mrs. F. N. Frye, Mrs. Lena Snell Shurtz, Mrs. A. E. Binns, Mrs. Thos. Boyd, Mrs. L. G. Herren, Mrs. M. A. Phelps, Mrs. Phil Cohn, Miss Peggy O'Rourke, W. P. Mahoney, S. W. Spencer, S. A. Pattison, Vawter Crawford, S. E. Notson.

At a meeting of the executive committee held in the same place Wednesday evening the following permanent committee chairmen were appointed:

Membership—S. E. Woodson.  
Finance—J. J. Nys.  
Civilian Relief—Mrs. Cohn.  
War Relief—Oscar Berg.  
Publicity—Mrs. Binns.  
Work Rooms—Mrs. Frye.  
Checking—Mrs. R. J. Vaughan.  
Mrs. C. L. Sweek.

Packing—M. D. Clark, J. W. Beymer.  
Knitting—Mrs. J. A. Patterson.

At the meeting Tuesday evening a resolution was unanimously adopted tendering a vote of thanks to the retiring executive officers, Mesdames Cohn and Phelps. It was the earnest wish of every member present that, in view of the highly efficient and self-sacrificing service these ladies have rendered the chapter that they should be retained in office but both declined the honor, feeling that personal considerations precluded further service.

The choice of Mrs. Spencer as the chairman for the coming year was conceded on all sides to be the best possible. Mrs. Spencer has served the chapter since its organization in the capacity of vice-chairman, during which time she has on occasion filled the position as chairman with a high degree of efficiency. She is conversant with the duties of the office and has ever taken the keenest interest in the welfare of the organization.

It is understood that there is a large amount of work now on hand at the work rooms and more work is needed at every meeting.

## R. C. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Chairman Woodson is preparing to make the week of December 16-23 a memorable one in the history of Morrow county. During that time every adult resident of the county will be asked to renew his or her membership in the Red Cross organization or, if not already a member to become one. As his chief lieutenants in this work Mr. Woodson has appointed Mayor-elect E. J. Vaughan as campaign manager and W. P. Cox, assistant cashier of the First National Bank as publicity manager. With this trinity of efficiency in the first line trench it may be taken for granted that there will be something done every minute during the campaign and the citizen who goes by without signing the roll, digging up a dollar and hanging himself on the reverse side of a Red Cross button will be a pipkin.

## WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

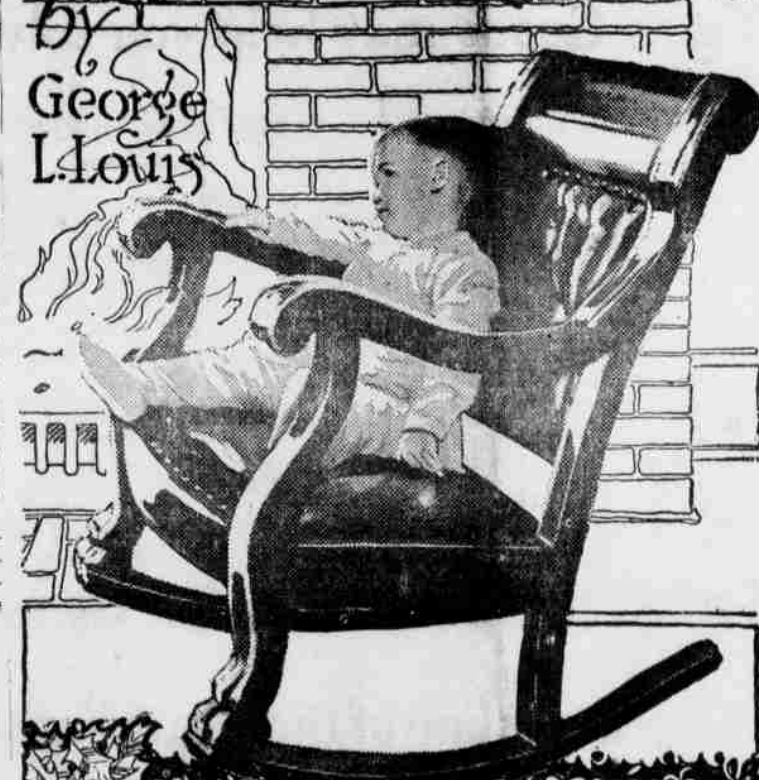
To those who pledged themselves to purchase War Savings Stamps:

In the month of June we pledged ourselves to purchase \$90,000 worth of War Savings Stamps by January 1, 1919. A little over three weeks remain and we have actually purchased \$70,354 worth, maturity value. Many who gave us their pledges have not redeemed them. In many cases this is only carelessness. We had too long to make good in and have slept on the job. Wemust wake up and pay up. The county has not failed to meet a single war demand made upon her, we cannot afford to repudiate this debt of honor. Buy your War Savings Stamps. Do it today. You cannot afford to go into the new year a defaulter.

C. E. WOODSON,  
County Chairman.

County Commissioner George Curran came up from Gresham Tuesday evening to attend the regular meeting of the board. Mr. Curran has been away from Heppner for several weeks, and when friends remarked about his improved appearance he replied that he always picks up rapidly after getting back to Heppner.

## A DATE WITH SANTA CLAUS



Dear Santa Claus, I'm waiting here  
For you to come with your reindeer,  
And bring the toys you've got for me  
Right down into this chimney.  
Can't keep my head up very straight,  
So hope you won't be awfully late.  
Might go to sleep in this big chair,  
So Santa, if you really care  
To meet me, as I hope you do,  
You'll make your reindeer come right thru.  
'Cause if this date you're going to keep,  
Do hurry 'fore I go to sleep.

## SAD PLIGHT OF PRISONERS

The following interesting letter regarding the condition of British prisoners who have been exchanged and sent home from German prison camps is taken from the Durham County (England) Advertiser of Oct. 25. Mrs. Jennie Lowe, of Cecil, supplied the Herald with the clipping.

"Today I went to the sheds where the British arrived last night from Hunland—the most pathetic sight it is possible to imagine. Nothing could bring the horrors of war home to me more than seeing and talking with these wrecks of humanity. The astonishing thing about them is their pluck and cheerfulness, and sheer joy at being en route for home. All looked so wan and thin, quite half or more with only one leg, hopping about with miserable crutches. Just a rough stick or broom handle with a wooden top nailed on. One of the saddest of these very sad cases was a boy of 19, blinded, but smiling, oh, so bravely. His home is near York. I spoke with a boy who had trained at Durham last winter with the 51st Battalion. He was sent out on that Saturday night of that awful week in March, crossed to France on the Sunday went into action on Tuesday, was badly wounded, and his leg cut off in Germany. And only 19! He belongs to Hull, and was with the 5th battalion. Another lad came from Bishop Auckland, and was only out a week and had lost his leg at the thigh. How my heart ached at the sights, and I could just have cried all the time instead of being cheery and smiling and helping them all. They were in all sorts of bits of uniform and queer caps. No socks, as everything woolen they possessed was taken from them by the Hun. The poor fellows with one leg had mostly a heavy, rough, wooden solid boot.

These men were all captured in the months of March, April and June. Two were insane. The Dutch Red Cross sisters were indeed busy dressing wounds, for most of the poor fellows had not had their bandages changed for from four to six days, and the bandages were paper, as the Hun now has nothing else. And they told me that even soldiers' shirts were made of paper, a thick, soft kind.

Our poor lads nearly all looked haggard and very thin, but said they had had such a comfortable night in sheets, as in Germany they had had boards and were lucky if they had straw to lie on—very often only dried leaves. One poor boy had

## WOULDN'T STAND HITCHED

C. D. Watkins, proprietor of the People's Cash Market, had a rather bad accident last Wednesday when his new Ford car ran amuck down a steep hill at the Young ranch in the Eightmile country. Mr. Watkins and Henry Schwarz were out buying cattle and left the car on the top of the hill while they walked down to the house. It being rather cold Mr. Watkins left the engine running and by some means the clutch took hold and the car plumed over the bank and careened madly down the steep hillside. It barely missed the house, hit the washstand and knocked a corner off and then went through three women were fensed and finally plunged into a ten-foot ditch, where it stood on its head and quit.

Harris a broken wind shield and some battered fenders the car was not badly damaged, and after digging it out of the ditch the men drove back to town under its own power.

## BREWER RABBIT POSES AS SURGEON

The following rabbit story drifts in from the Alpine country and if anyone doubts it they are referred to County Agent Brown, who may corroborate it if he wants to. At least Mr. Brown tells the story as an argument in favor of the big rabbit poisoning drive he is arranging to put on down in that country:

A resident of that section, so Mr. Brown says, was out in the sage brush one day when a rabbit hopped into view and stopped. Picking up a small rock the man let drive and broke bunny's leg. Immediately two very professional appearing rabbits appeared on the scene, examined the injury and picking up some twigs of sage brush and a piece of barbed wire they proceeded to set the broken bone and put on "splints" after which they improvised a pair of crutches and assisted their patient home.

Can you beat it?

The people of School District 29, in the Hunton neighborhood, are finishing a neat new school house at Rocky Bluff. C. R. Williams had the contract for the new building.

one leg off and five toes off the other foot from frost bite, and he was smiling. The pluck of them is tremendous. I shall never forget it. We saw the Hun trains for Germany with Hunns from England, looking so well fed, and presenting such a contrast to our poor lads.

## LIVE WIRES WILL BOOST J D PROJECT AT PORTLAND

Mayor W. W. Smeed, W. P. Mahoney, F. A. McMenamin and F. R. Brown will leave this evening for Portland to represent the interests of Morrow county at a convention to be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday having for its purpose the organization of a state wide Chamber of Commerce.

The committee, which will represent the Heppner Commercial club and in a general way the business, farming and stock interests of the county have outlined a program which they will champion at the convention on which the John Day irrigation project has first place with good roads as a close second.

It is expected that the Morrow county delegation will be able to act in hearty co-operation with the delegations from Umatilla and Gilliam counties and that such co-operation will result in great good for this section of the Inland Empire.

The Development Bureau of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, which has had in hand the preliminary details for the organization of the state chamber, is in receipt of letters from commercial clubs and individuals all over the state approving the general plan. The letters generally confirm the judgement of those business men of Albany and Salem who fathered the idea. They indicate the necessity for such organization if all sections of Oregon are to be developed in the post war activities of this country.

The many proposed irrigation projects for eastern and southcentral Oregon, the development of hundreds of thousands of acres of logged off and burned-over lands, the utilization of over a million acres of lands suitable for pasturage and dairying purposes, all offer a wide field for the operations of such an organization as is proposed, the scope of which may be broadened or contracted as circumstances may warrant in the judgement of the Board of Directors. There are many more subjects which properly should be considered by the State Chamber.

That thorough cooperation between the communities will accomplish a greater good than the independent action of commercial bodies and sectional organizations is indicated in expressions from many persons representing every section of Oregon.

It is expected that a large number of delegates from the Willamette Valley, Eastern and Central Oregon, and some of the coast counties, will attend the convention which meets in Portland December 12th, 13th and 14th. The dates for the convention coincide with the dates for the Pat Stock Show which is to be held in Portland 9-14, thus giving those who attend the convention an opportunity to visit the stock show which is to be held under the auspices of the Portland Union Stock Yards.

Indicating the interest in the organization of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce, comments from a few of the letters received are given herewith:

J. L. Stuart, Secretary of the Dayton Commercial Club, states that the Board of Directors of that organization are favorable to the formation of a State Chamber of Commerce.

W. W. Smeed, Secretary of the Heppner Commercial Club writes that while all matters of vital interest to the state should be considered at the convention, that in the opinion of his Board of Directors the disposition and development of the logged-off lands and irrigation projects are paramount. Mr. Smeed further states that the completion of the John Day Irrigation Project will mean the conversion of 122,000 acres of waste land to a state of production.

The Astoria Chamber of Commerce will be represented at the convention by C. L. Barr, its secretary, and several of the leading business men of that city.

Edward G. Harris, secretary of the Grants Pass Commercial Club writes that at a recent meeting of the Directors of the club they went on record as heartily favoring the formation of a state-wide organization.

Fred E. Fleet, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Klamath Falls, states that while their club has been more or less inactive in recent months, that he favors the organization of the State Chamber as one which can accomplish a great good for the state at large.

P. C. Graham, of Cove Orchard, wishes his section to be represented and will appear as a delegate, as he considers that such an organization will not only benefit his community but that the state at large will profit immensely through its operations.

J. L. Wilkins writes the Herald from Butte, Montana, asking that his copy of the Herald be sent to him at that city.

## WHY NOT A GENERAL SALES OR MARKET DAY?

F. R. Brown, of the Farmers Exchange of the Inland Empire, a recently organized business enterprise having for its object the buying and selling of all kinds of live stock, farm implements etc., reports that their plan of holding a series of auction sales at the Fair Grounds is meeting with much favor and that the listings for their next meeting has already far exceeded their expectations.

These sales are certainly filling a long felt want or they would not so quickly come into general favor and are no doubt a good thing for the farmers and for the town as well. Every legitimate business enterprise established in Heppner for which there is a field is a good thing for the town because it brings people to the town and in a general way helps every other business.

Why could not the idea which has been originated in Heppner by the Farmer's Exchange be extended so as to embrace every store and every other business in town? This could be done by an agreement among all the business men to have a regular "Sales Day" when inducements would be offered to the people of the surrounding country to buy certain lines at a reduction. Such a plan has been successfully carried on for years in different parts of the country and it is said that in many places where such "sales" or "market" days have become well established that a marked decrease in business going to outside mail order houses has been noticed.

The plan has an element of cooperation in its favor and cooperation is what Heppner needs about as badly as Portland needs more pep and ginger.

## STANDARD CLUBS

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Dec. 5.—Organization of standard clubs in girls' and boys' club work in Oregon is a new policy announced by H. C. Seymour, state club leader. To qualify as a standard club at least five members must work on the same project, and the club must have local officers and an adult leader and hold at least six meetings and one local exhibit within the year. One demonstration team must give a demonstration in the community, and a judging team must be provided. Seventy percent of the members must file final reports with the state club leader. Standard club charters and national seals of achievement will be given all clubs that meet these requirements. Approximately 13,000 club members in the state are affected by these rulings.

## TRAPPING GOPHERS

Traps used successfully for gophers and moles are money-makers for Oregon girls and boys, points out Theodore H. Schaffer, assistant U. S. biologist, now in charge of the anti-rodent campaign in Polk and Linn counties. Prizes are offered by both counties for the best mole and gopher catches by April 1. District prizes and bounties by farmers will be awarded in some districts. Mole skins are in good demand by furriers. One post of 2000 averaged 21 cents apiece when sold in Washington county through the county agent. Persons wanting to take up trapping may get some helpful information by sending to the Agricultural College, Corvallis, for the bulletin, "Trapping Mole for Market," by George F. Sykes, professor of zoology and physiology.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Ayers returned from Portland Tuesday evening, where they spent the Thanksgiving holidays. Glad to get back to this balmy spring climate, too.