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Official Paper for Morrow County

Shall Bombs Fall on Morrow County?

AS so often is the case with the Babbitts (us ordinary Americans to you) when a new project comes along the primary consideration is one of dollars and cents. Thus it is that Uncle Sam's proposal to drop bombs on Morrow county is being viewed avidly by a certain neighboring town, while many folks in the territory to be "attacked" see no blessing in the bombs from heaven.

To Arlington the proposal to make a large bombing practice field in the north end of Morrow county means doubling its airport facilities with addition of large airdrome; an increase of some 400 souls in population. Arlington is to be congratulated on the fine prospect.

To Morrow county, such a bombing field might increase hazard to safety of citizens; make uncertain the use of several thousand acres of grazing land that now are an important factor to the county's sheep industry; remove permanently from the tax rolls several thousand acres of land; close to public use a market road that cost the county a good many thousands of dollars.

As indicated in the meeting of Arlington citizens with the Morrow county court yesterday, it appears at this writing that what is sauce for Arlington is feathers for Morrow county—financially speaking.

Morrow county, like most every section of the country, however, is sympathetic to the new national defense program. Its people, surely, would rather take a chance on a few play bombs than to experience the necessity of having to dodge the real thing, such as have recently rained so much havoc in Europe. It may be, in the final analysis, that patriotism of our citizens would outweigh the apparent economic disadvantage.

Captain Gates has been straightforward in presenting the matter. As he says, Uncle Sam could use Morrow county for a bombing field, whether we like it or not. But he prefers to have the good will of the people in any move made.

The county court is right in taking a firm stand to protect the economic interests of the county. Arlington's citizens are right in seeking a more prosperous future for the community. Hepner should awaken to the need for establishing airport facilities.

Whatever Uncle Sam decides to do about the airport, we can truthfully say, "When bombs fall on Morrow county, let them be play ones."

Seek Bobbing Field

Continued from First Page
linton where from 50 to 300 men would be stationed and where most of the business in connection with operation of the field would be conducted. The visitors were given opportunity to present their plan in full before the court presented its views. A trip was made to the scene of the proposed field, following which the county officials stated their side of the case.

As expressed by Judge Bert Johnson, there is little for this county to gain through location of the bombing field here and there is plenty of reason to believe that Morrow county would be the loser under the proposed set-up. At present the county receives a considerable sum in taxes and grazing fees

from the involved district. It was not made clear to the court where these taxes and fees would be replaced. It would result in personal injury to several large sheep operators who depend upon that district for fall and spring grazing for their extensive flocks. It would involve closing the Ione-Boardman highway, putting the county to the expense of building a new road of far greater length and more difficult to maintain. These factors and others were brought out by Judge Johnson in his contention that there is little of merit in the project to command favorable action from the court.

The visitors, E. M. Hulden, Raymond Crowder, Dave Lemon, Bill Kunsman and Mr. Marshall, were commended by the court for endeavoring to better their position in Arlington, and in turn admitted the court was taking the right action in opposing something which might not prove of benefit to the county.

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

Reorganization

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem.—Reorganization of two departments highlighted developments at the capitol this past week.

In the first of these developments the Board of Control announced that Dan J. Fry was being retained as head of that department but that Roy H. Mills of Salem, frequently mentioned as Governor Sprague's candidate for Fry's job, was being employed as "business supervisor of state institutions," a subordinate

position, apparently created especially for Mills' benefit.

Mills for the past several years has been employed in the state banking department in handling bank liquidations. He is a son-in-law of the late State Senator Chas. A. Spalding. In order to make room for Mills in the department without increasing the department's budget Governor Sprague explained that E. M. Rogers, an assistant purchasing agent who has been with the state in that capacity for years, is being transferred to another department.

As business supervisor it will be Mills' duty to "set up and supervise the accounting practices of the several state institutions, co-ordinate their business and farming activities and act as co-ordinating agent between the board of control and the budget department on the one hand and the institution heads on the other," the governor explained.

Fry as head of the department will continue to act as secretary to the board of control and state purchasing agent.

In the second re-organization move of the week Nelson S. Rogers was employed as state forester, succeeding Carl E. Davis of Marshfield who has been holding down the job under a temporary appointment since January 1 when J. W. Ferguson relinquished control of the department.

At the same time the forestry board moved to abolish the position of extension forester, which has been filled by Lynn Cronemiller since November, 1935, at which time he was succeeded as state forester by Ferguson.

Rogers, the new state forester who took over his duties Monday, has been employed with the state tax commission for the past ten years except for approximately one year in 1935-36 when he filled the

post of deputy state forester, first under Cronemiller and then under Ferguson. Previously he was fire warden at Vernonia and Medford. As head of the department he was voted full authority to reorganize his department according to his own ideas.

It costs the state approximately \$10,000 a year to replace broken and burned-out electric light globes. The contract for supplying this need during the next year was let by the Board of Control this week to the Geo. E. Allen Hardware company of Salem.

Approximately 100 applicants for admission to the Oregon Bar will take the annual bar examinations to be held in Salem July 9 and 10, according to Arthur S. Benson, clerk of the supreme court. The number will include 26 applicants who have failed to pass previous tests.

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