

DELINQUENCES CAUSE FINANCIAL TROUBLE

City's General Fund Has Been Depleted on Account of Payments Advanced on Bancroft Bonds From General Funds—Council Meeting

The general fund of the City of Ontario which has been over-drawn for some time, the condition of which has furnished one of the principal problems of the city administration for the past two years was improved slightly last Monday evening. The betterment resulted in the cancellation of the council of warrants for \$1900 issued to the water department from the general fund in payment for hydrant service and water for the city hall, etc.

Before the city owned its own water system the city used to pay for hydrant service to the Ontario Water company and that practice was continued after the municipal service was built, but the water department has reached a point where it pays its running expenses, though it does not pay the interest on its bonds, nor is it providing a sinking fund to retire the bonds. However the council determined since the city has not been cashing these warrants that it is useless to draw them and further increase the deficit in the general fund.

At the present time the city is over a year behind its general fund warrants, but it has enough due to it so that it would be on a cash basis if those who have had local improvements would pay for them.

For two years, owing to the general business conditions, the city has refrained from pressing the property owners for payments on Bancroft bonds, but it is a case of a bankrupt city unless something is done and done soon," declared Mayor Doolittle.

"The city just has to do something," said Councilman E. M. Greig, and Councilmen Ivan E. Oakes, W. L. Turner and H. R. Udick all agreed. City Attorney P. J. Gallagher declared that a suit to foreclose the liens taken by the city was the only method that would hasten the payments. The matter was left for the next administration to solve.

The council failed to pass a motion to refund \$30 to C. R. Emlison and \$10 to John Blanton for stock which was taken up by the poundmaster.

The present administration will come to a close on January 2nd when a meeting will be held at 4 o'clock to pay the December bills, and at 8 o'clock that evening the new council will take over the city affairs.

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD FOR MRS. MAUDE KECK DUNN

Funeral services were held Sunday from the Baptist church for Mrs. Maude Keck Dunn who died at the family home on December 11, aged 41 years, one month and two days. She is survived by her husband, Frances M. Dunn and four children, one of whom lives in Arizona and three younger children, two students at the Ontario High school and one child in the grade school.

Mrs. Dunn came to live in Oregon 12 years ago, settling near Nyssa where they lived until two years ago when they moved to a ranch just south of Ontario. She was born in Texas and her maiden name was Maude M. Keck. She married Mr. Dunn at Shawnee, Oklahoma, where they lived prior to coming here. Since but a girl of 15 she has been an active member of the Baptist church wherever she lived.

COLLEGE BOYS AND GIRLS HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Sunday evening saw the advance guard of the Ontario delegation of boys and girls who are attending college arrive home for the holiday season. The O. A. C. students were the first to arrive when Claude Christiansen, Ralph Drane and Vernon Butler came in. Following them came Bryan Neeb who arrived Wednesday. Misses Cecil and Myrtle Logan also arrived this week. Ed. Fraser and Bernard Rader are expected home from the University of Washington at Seattle on Sunday.

NEW PLYMOUTH MAN VICTIM OF MYSTERIOUS RABIES CASE

Rufus Ward, aged 46 a bachelor whose home was near New Plymouth, died at the hospital here last week of a mysterious case of rabies. Ward was found at his home unconscious and brought here for treatment. He never fully recovered consciousness before he died, and displayed a typical rabies case, though it was impossible to make a complete diagnosis of the case. Drs. Weese and Fortner who were called by Dr. Drysdale to assist in the case performed a post mortem examination and sent a portion of the brain to the state bacteriologist for examination. While no negro bodies were found in the portion sent, the bacteriologist declared other conditions pointed to a typical case of rabies. While in the hospital, Ward suffered greatly and barked like a dog and otherwise startled attendants.

WOMAN'S CLUB HOLDS INTERESTING SESSION

"Know Your Town" Was Subject and Many Interesting Papers on Ontario, Its History and Its Possibilities Read

At the auditorium of the Library last Thursday Medames W. H. Laxson, Irwin Troxell and L. R. Breithaupt were the hostesses for the weekly meeting of the Womens club when there was presented a "Know Your Own Community" program.

Among the interesting papers which were read were the following: "The Early History of Ontario" by Mrs. J. R. Greeg; "A Survey of Ontario" by Mrs. Breithaupt, and "Ontario's Possibilities", by Mr. Laxon. All three of the papers were inspirational and instructive and were enthusiastically received.

Today the club will have a Christmas party with donations for the fund to furnish the auditorium.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS UNITE TO PRESENT CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Service to Be Held in High School Auditorium on Sunday Evening Special Services will Also Be Held on Sunday Morning

The Sunday schools of the Congregational, Presbyterian and Methodist churches have united in the preparation of a Union Christmas program this year to be rendered on Sunday evening, December 24, at 7:30 p. m. For this service the High school auditorium has been secured. The Sunday schools have been making preparations for this program which will consist of music, instrumental and vocal, readings and exercises by the children. Good Christmas music, songs and selections by the orchestra will give the people an evening of entertainment that will open in a happy introduction to the Christmas week. The people of the city are very cordially invited to join in this union of Christmas festivity rendered by these Sunday schools. A free will offering will be received for the needy children of the Near East. The Sunday schools giving this union program will have a special program and treat for their individual Sunday schools Sunday morning at their several churches to which the public is very cordially invited. The following is the program:

Music..... Orchestra
"Come Thou Almighty King"..... Chorus and Congregation
Scripture and Prayer..... Rev. Reece
"O Come All Ye Faithful"..... Chorus and Congregation
"Why Should I Fear"..... Miss McCreight, Stephen Cox
"Silent Night"..... Chorus
"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"..... Chorus
"Joy to the World"..... Chorus and Congregation
"Away in the Manger"..... Little Folks
"Wonderful Night"..... Misses Roberts and Skow
"Bothlehem's Christmas Star"..... Helen Diven
"We Three Kings of the Orient Are"..... Benediction.

Governor-Elect Urges United Ranks; Marketing Organizations are Endorsed

FARM BUREAU DRAWS BIG ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNTY ATTENDANCE REGARDLESS OF COLD WEATHER; BUSY DAY SPENT ON REPORTS, ELECTIONS RESOLUTIONS; PIERCE BIG ATTRACTION

The fourth annual meeting of the Malheur County Farm Bureau held last Friday at the Cairo Grange Hall drew a big attendance of farmers from all points of the county, the hall being packed to capacity during the afternoon in spite of the bitter cold day. During the forenoon progress reports were made on work accomplished, V. V. Hickox speaking for the Farm Bureau, L. R. Breithaupt on the county agent program and W. D. Kinder on club work. The committee on budget and dues reported, making recommendation favoring continued support of the state and National Federations with dues remaining at \$7.50 per annum. This report was adopted without objection. The committee on amendments to the constitution reported favoring increase of the executive committee to seven members instead of five and distributing the county into six divisions. This report was adopted.

Pierce Urges Unity
The big attraction of the day was the speech of Walter M. Pierce, governor-elect of Oregon. Mr. Pierce held his audience for an hour and a half in a characteristic speech during the course of which he emphasized the necessity of keeping the farm bureau organization together and making it stronger, and also advocated the strengthening of the cooperative marketing organizations and urged upon the farmers the necessity for more organization along this line. He also spoke at length on the tax situation in the state and promised relief by reduced expenditures and the use of new sources of revenue such as taxes on the use of natural resources like timber and fish and by enacting a graduated income tax.

Officers Elected
The election of officers resulted in returning V. V. Hickox to the office of President of the County Farm Bureau. A. A. Reed was elected executive committeeman for district No. 1; P. M. Boals for district No. 2; T. W. Clagett for district No. 3; C. T. Lackey, district No. 4; J. H. Russell for district No. 5, and C. M. Beaumont for district No. 6. Much pleasure was taken

by those attending the meeting in listening to some very excellent music furnished by Mrs. J. F. Phelan of Bonita; Miss Elinor Randall, county librarian, and W. D. Kinder, club agent, violinists; Carlos Wilcox of Oregon Slope, celloist and James Smith of Ontario, baritone soloist, with Miss Luella Callin, Mrs. S. D. Dorman, Mrs. James Smith and Mrs. L. R. Breithaupt serving as accompanists for the various numbers given. A splendid cafeteria lunch was served at noon by the committee, P. F. Countryman and A. B. Cain, assisted by Mrs. Countryman, Mrs. Cain and others.

Several resolutions were passed late in the afternoon, bearing upon various matters of interest to farmers. The most important of these perhaps was one commending the officials of the bureau for support given the cooperative marketing movement during the past three years and declaring that it is essential that legally-incorporated, non-profit, producers-controlled, cooperative marketing associations of the commodity type be set up in competition with, or to replace the private system conducted for profit which has become untrustworthy, unreliable and inefficient.

Another resolution declares that the practice of private firms and individuals of using misleading terms which are intended to imply that they are in fact an association of farmers is not only an unfair practice but a detriment to legitimate organizations and should be remedied by legislative action. Other resolutions were adopted endorsing the county agent and club work as conducted in the county, declaring against the practice of selling dairy cattle at auction without complying with the law as to tuberculosis; endorsing experimental work at Vale for reclaiming alkaline lands and asking for more favorable consideration from the State Land Board in loaning money on irrigated lands; and expressing appreciation to the Grange for use of the hall and to all those who labored to make the meeting so successful.

POSTOFFICE WILL BE OPEN ON SUNDAY AND MONDAY

As Christmas Day falls on Monday this year the general delivery window at the Ontario postoffice will be open one hour Sunday morning, Dec. 24th from 9 a. m. to 10 a. m., and on Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th, two hours from 10 a. m. until 12 o'clock noon in order that patrons of this office may receive their Christmas packages promptly. Bear in mind the time of day the postoffice will be open and call at that time and receive your packages and other mail. J. R. Gregg, Postmaster.

TAGS NEEDED ON CANNED GAME ACCORDING TO LAW

Ernest Gramse, deputy game warden has been notified by the state authorities that it is illegal for Oregonians to keep canned game or game fish unless it bears an official seal of the game department which testifies that the game was lawfully killed, or the fish lawfully caught. Those who have canned game fish or canned game meat may secure seals from Mr. Gramse, says the announcement.

SUPREME COURT AFFIRMS JUDGE BIGGS ON APPEAL

Tuesday the supreme court handed down its decision in the case of W. H. Doolittle, trustee vs. W. F. Homan, trustee, which is generally known as the Hirsch case involving the title to a number of Ontario lots, title to which was given Mr. Homan as trustee for the Ontario National bank. The supreme court sustained Judge Dalton Biggs in giving title to Mr. Homan as trustee.

Messrs. Cox, McDowell and Reece
"The White Gift Christmas"
"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"
Chorus and Congregation
Benediction.

DEATH CALLS VETERAN NEWSPAPER SOLICITOR

Ed. Davaron, veteran newspaper solicitor who during the past 15 years or more worked for practically every paper from Weiser to Parma at one time or another, died here last Friday of old age. Davaron was born in County Clare, Ireland and came to this country when a boy. He claimed to have been a veteran of the Rebellion, but was not a member of the G. A. R. Funeral services were held Saturday morning at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament and interment made in the Catholic cemetery.

HOG PRICES WILL BE HIGH NEXT SUMMER IS PREDICTION

That hogs will be high priced next summer is the belief of J. R. Blackaby who received a letter from his brother Mr. Jolly, who was in Ontario recently. According to this advise one of the largest pork producers in the corn state has contracted for 40 carloads of hogs for delivery next July at 11 cents per pound. Based on recent conditions that means that hogs will be worth more than that figure in this territory.

OREGON CLUB PLANNING TWO HOLIDAY PARTIES FOR GUESTS

Two reasonable parties are scheduled for the Oregon Club rooms during the coming weeks. The hall has been festooned and generously decorated for the Christmas party, and an interesting program arranged. Last Friday evening the club held an elimination party in which all manner of games were played and in which high honors were won by Mrs. Wilmer Boyer and Dr. A. Roberts. They secured the big turkey which was the prize. Beside the games, dancing was enjoyed.

PARENTS URGED TO GUARD AGAINST CHRISTMAS FIRES

Ontario parents are urged to beware of Christmas fires, by the City Fire Department. Every year, the department points out, hundreds of lives and thousands of dollars worth of property is lost due to fires started by Christmas candles burning where cotton and other inflammable material is used for decorations. The department urges parents to be careful not to leave trees lighted, and to guard their children's lives by this simple and sensible procedure.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

The United Presbyterian Sunday school will hold its White Gift Christmas service at 11 o'clock Sunday. Gifts of substance, service and song will be presented with appropriate exercises by the classes. Bring your offering.

COUNTY BUDGET BOARD BATTLING WITH TASK

Taxpayers Appear Before Committee for Hearings—State Tax Will be \$20,000 Less—All Vote for County Agent Work

Malheur county's contribution to the state tax fund will be \$20,000 less next year. This was the advice received by the county officials today and may aid the budget board in solving the task which it has undertaken to perform.

Yesterday some 30 taxpayers appeared at the budget meeting to discuss the problem of taxation. Nearly all of the speakers appeared in favor of the continuation of the county agent and club leader work and presented many arguments which way this should be done. When a vote was taken on this matter there was not an adverse vote.

The question of road appropriations was also the subject of debate and item after item in the budget was considered. The board adjourned in the evening to take up the work anew this morning.

RANCHER STABBED IS RECOVERING RAPIDLY

County Officials Investigating Case Which Will in All Probability Be Reported to Grand Jury For its Action January 2

J. A. George the rancher who was stabbed twice in an altercation with Attorney McGonagill at the Pogue ranch on Monday, December 11, is recovering rapidly from his wounds and may be able to leave the hospital in a few days.

In the meantime no action has been taken on the complaint filed by Mr. McGonagill charging George with assault, but Sheriff Lee Noe has been investigating the case and it is understood that the matter will be laid before the Grand Jury which meets at Vale on Tuesday, January 2nd. J. D. Billingsley of this city is the foreman of the grand jury and Earl Blackaby is the clerk.

WITH THE SOCIAL CLUBS

The Monday afternoon bridge club met this week with Mrs. William L. Walker; the Tuesday afternoon club was entertained by Mrs. J. D. Billingsley. The Wednesday afternoon club did not meet this week.

Tuesday evening the Carnation club was entertained at dinner by Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Gallagher. The Monday evening club was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Boyer, and the Trey club was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Homan. This evening the Imperial club meet at home of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Fortier. The Girls' club held a Christmas party at the home of Mrs. C. R. Emlison Wednesday.

Mrs. Betty, daughter of Mrs. Tillie Pierce, is seriously ill with peritonitis.

GOVERNOR-ELECT TELLS PLANS TO CUT TAXES

Income Tax-Severance — Elimination and Consolidation of Boards and Commissions Part of Program Proposed

Governor-elect Walter M. Pierce last Friday gave to two Malheur county audiences an advance outline of the message he will deliver to the coming legislature when he assumes the office of Governor.

At noon the next Governor was the guest of honor at a luncheon given him by the Ontario Commercial club and in the afternoon he addressed the annual meeting of the Malheur County Farm Bureau and delivered practically the same address at both gatherings.

The dining room of the Moore hotel was crowded for the luncheon when President Van Petten introduced the guest of honor, who in an intimate way pictured the problems of Oregon and told of his plan to curtail governmental costs.

Maintain the Roads

"We must maintain the roads which have been built and there are many connecting links to be finished, but the glory of road building is gone," he said. "Now it is a question of paying for them. This is the most serious problem Oregon faces. To accomplish this I would have the licenses remain as they are and increase the gasoline tax to four or five cents per gallon, especially if Idaho, Washington and California adopt the gasoline tax system.

"Then we must have an income tax, a graduated tax not lower than two per cent and not higher than eight per cent; and a severance tax on all lumber cut from forest reserve lands not now on tax rolls.

"I would and intend, if possible, to consolidate some of the commissions, and reduce expenses in that way. That will be hard. It will be like weaning a calf. You all know how a calf bellows when it is weaned, well you will hear some hollering soon, and you'll know that someone's calf is being separated from the public trough.

"Next we must stop the burden on the general taxpayers of guaranteeing interest on irrigation districts. I know that in a most serious question, but the state is obligated now to the extent of one million dollars and we must stop before the burden becomes greater."

At the request of P. J. Gallagher the Governor-elect said he would incorporate in his message a section urging the need for railroad development in Central Oregon and recommend that the state prosecute its suit before the Interstate Commerce commission to that end.

While in the city Mr. Pierce conferred with many old friends and ran out to see Representative-elect J. A. Lackey who is recovering from a recent operation.

William Hanley of Burns, came to Ontario with Mr. Pierce and spoke at the Grange Hall in the afternoon. Mr. Hanley, the Governor-elect said, is a member of the "Kitchen cabinet," to which position he declared every citizen of Oregon is invited to membership, for, he added:

"Oregon has great problems before it, serious problems and I have dedicated my life from now on with the aid of those who love this old state to help to solve those problems.

Among the other recommendations which the Governor will make he said will be the elimination of the state tourist bureau, the Oregon exhibit, and a curtailment in extension service so far as experiment stations are concerned, and will ask for a higher tax on the salmon industry or the elimination of the state appropriation for salmon propagation.

The address of the Governor-elect was enthusiastically received at both meetings.

LIBRARIAN RESIGNS AND WILL RETURN TO HOME IN THE EAST

Miss Elinor Randall who for the past two years has been county librarian, has resigned her position, and left Tuesday for her home in Providence, Rhode Island. Miss Randall's resignation was due to ill health and she plans on an extended rest before again entering active work.