

SPECIAL ELECTION.

The official notice of an election for the purpose of voting on the question of establishing the Jerome Highway District, appears in another column. The election is called for Saturday, June 10th, and the voting precincts will be at Jerome, Copp, and DeVoe. Read the description of the boundaries over carefully, and get thoroughly posted on the law before you make up your mind how to vote.

The News was out with its hammer again last week, knocking the highway district law that has been enacted, and which is being taken up by the Farmers' Association here with a view of taking the preliminary steps toward the establishment of such a district. The News frankly admits that it knows nothing about the law, never having seen a copy of it, but we infer that, as the matter has been taken up by the Association, the editor of the News believes it his duty to "knock" it, as it does about everything else that the farmers propose. We trust that Bro. Nims will post up a little before another issue of his paper.

Poor highways cost our farmers last year, according to the U. S. bureau of public roads, some \$225,000,000 in added transportation charges on the 250,000,000 tons of produce raised by them. It cost them fifteen cents more to haul one ton one mile than it cost the European farmer. We spend \$10,000,000 annually on road improvement under the present system, but we are not getting good roads and we will continue not to get them until the work of building highways is put upon a business basis and made a special department.

The Supreme Court of the United States handed down a decision on Monday, holding that the Standard Oil Co. was a monopoly in restraint of trade, and must be dissolved within six months. At the same time the court set aside the sentence of imprisonment imposed upon Sam'l Gompers and other officers of the American Federation of Labor, for alleged disobedience to a boycott injunction.

Twin Falls has been made a United States postal savings depository and it is expected that arrangements will be completed to receive deposits June 1st.

Farmers Watching Water Experiments.

More than half a hundred farms in this state are at this time seeing experiments carried on in duty of water investigations by the government, under direction of Don H. Bark, head of the government irrigation investigation work in this state.

In speaking of the work he is doing Mr. Bark said: "We have 10 farms near Rigby on which we are conducting the investigations, 10 on the South Side Twin Falls tract, the same number on the North Side Twin Falls tract, six farms near Murphy, and 15 farms in the Boise valley. These latter include both bottom and bench lands. Besides this we are carrying on the work extensively at the Gooding station."

It is said that the results will be most important to the state as a whole, particularly in the distant future, when water becomes scarcer than it is right now, and when it will of necessity be more closely conserved, for it is said the results will show that certain crops will grow better with less water, and still other lands have need of more water than they are using at this time.

The results of the Idaho experiments are being watched with interest in every part of the country, and it is said that they will be carried on similarly in other states where irrigation is as important a factor in farming as it is in Idaho.

THE HIGHWAY DISTRICT LAW

The Measure Unanimously Endorsed By The Farmers' Association.

A Movement to Reduce Instead Of Increase the Tax Burden.

The question of establishing highway districts throughout the state is now being generally discussed by the press, as several districts have been petitioned for, and we have yet failed to see any logical argument against the establishment of these districts, although some persons, and even an occasional newspaper, who admit ignorance of the law, endeavor to raise an imaginary objection to it.

At the meeting of the Farmers Association held Saturday, the matter was fully discussed, and after a full explanation of the same by President Speakman, the establishment of such a district was most heartily endorsed by a unanimous vote.

We have the law before us, and have read it over carefully, and fail to find wherein it is going to heap any additional burden upon the taxpayer, but on the other hand, its tendency will be to lower the road taxes.

The law of the state authorizes the board of County Commissioners to levy a road tax not to exceed 10 mills on the dollar, or \$1.00 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation, and should a district be established, this limit cannot be exceeded, as the old law still remains in force relative to road taxes, and the new law simply transfers the handling of the road funds from the County Commissioners to the Highway Commissioners.

One prominent and very desirable feature of the new law, is the fact that all moneys collected in a district so established, must be spent within the territory of that district only. As the law now stands a portion of the taxes paid by the citizens of Jerome and vicinity, go to improve roads and build bridges in some remote part of the county which is sparsely settled. Surely no one can argue against keeping our money at home, to improve our own roads. The interpretation of the law is very simple, and it will readily be seen that under no conditions can the establishment of a highway district increase the taxes one penny. So much for that argument.

It must necessarily follow that with the money derived from the regular tax levy, placed in the hands of a competent and efficient road overseer, and with the work done systematically, much more good work can be accomplished with the same amount of money than under the present arrangement, and a consequent tendency to a lower levy.

Regarding a special tax levy, the law has not been changed from the present form, as the county commissioners have always had the power to make the special levy if they so desired, but we believe it has never been exercised, and probably never will be should a district be established.

The crowning feature of the new law, however, and one THE TIMES goes on record as heartily endorsing, is the section that gives the highway commission power to bond the district for a stipulated sum in order to secure available cash at once to cover the entire district with good roads. These bonds, however, can only be issued upon the sanction of the residents of the districts, as expressed at an election called for that purpose, and the vote on the establishment of the district in no manner sanctions the issue of bonds.

These bonds are to run for twenty years, and the interest for ten years must be paid out of the money derived from the levy for road purposes, which, as the law states must

not exceed 10 mills. So the great bugaboo about heaping burdens upon the taxpayer, is simply a myth, concocted in the brain of the individual who has not taken the time or inclination to even read the law over.

The money that could be derived from the sale of these bonds would equal the amount that could possibly be expected from the present mode of deriving money for road purposes, for the next ten years, and we could have our roads at once and be enjoying them for ten years with no additional expense.

At the end of ten years a sinking fund is established for the redemption of these bonds, but at that time the assessed valuation of the property in the district will have increased many times and the great burden, as some are pleased to call it, will dwindle to a very small item, and the beauty of the whole matter lays in the fact that new settlers coming into the district ten years from now will be taxed their pro rata for these good roads, instead of setting down and enjoying the fruits of the labors of the pioneer, as would be done under the present arrangement.

As we stated at the outset, we can find no logical objection to the system as proposed, and as we have a copy of the law in our office we would be pleased to show the same to any one who wishes to inform themselves clearly on the matter.

The sentiment expressed at the meeting of the Farmers' Association last Saturday, clearly indicates the interest our farmers have in the matter, as manifested by the following signatures to the petition asking for the establishment of the district, as embraced in the call for a special election appearing in another column:

- | Acres. | NAME. |
|--------|------------------------|
| 160 | Geo. H. Lawshe, |
| 80 | A. B. & L. O. Stevens, |
| 40 | S. S. Shaw, |
| 90 | Jens T. Hansen, |
| 80 | G. V. Doughty, |
| 80 | O. S. Howell, |
| 40 | Louis J. Anderson, |
| 160 | E. W. Stollz, |
| 80 | M. J. Bridgman, |
| 55 | F. A. Oakes, |
| 40 | Arthur Johnson, |
| 40 | P. G. Fairman, |
| 80 | F. S. Newell, |
| 120 | W. E. Hill, |
| 90 | W. P. Hill, |
| 160 | Oliver Hill, |
| 83 | M. A. Holmes, |
| 120 | H. Carlson, |
| 120 | L. C. Humphrey, |
| 160 | L. A. Limebaugh, |
| 160 | F. E. Slocum, |
| 40 | E. C. Holmquist, |
| 80 | Chas. McCabe, |
| 80 | Walter L. Clark, |
| 80 | H. A. James, |
| 80 | W. C. Godfrey, |
| 160 | W. G. Bell, |
| 80 | W. M. Cunningham, |
| 160 | Ernest Kummer, |
| 120 | Ralph Moore, |
| 40 | C. A. McIntyre, |
| 80 | Fred H. Zahn, |
| 5 | J. Gorman, |
| 500 | Geo. B. Hawbecker, |
| 40 | A. L. Speakman, |
| 80 | Walter A. Heiss, |
| 160 | R. C. Baker, |
| 160 | R. S. Frazer, |
| 320 | Towle Land Co., |
| 40 | Geo. D. Petrie, |
| 120 | T. I. Roberson, |
| 160 | F. J. Brieb, |
| 80 | W. F. Peterson, |
| 40 | Claus Rathman, |
| 40 | Geo. Zeigler, |
| 40 | L. W. Lynn, |
| 40 | F. E. Beck, |
| 120 | F. R. Hills, |
| 160 | J. S. Carlton, |
| 40 | W. A. Brittan, |
| 160 | Jos. Schmeberger, |
| 80 | J. W. O'Connell, |
| 80 | Wm. Benning, |
| 40 | C. E. Palmer, |
| 90 | A. C. Alexander, |
| 40 | Fred N. Olson, |
| 800 | C. W. DeVoe, |
| 80 | R. B. Noble, |
| 160 | P. L. Dodd, |
| 90 | Geo. R. Hogshire, |
| 80 | Wm. Sheplar, |
| 160 | L. M. Whitehead, |
| 160 | J. J. Roers, |
| 140 | S. J. McClaren, |
| 100 | S. L. Lockwood, |
| 40 | H. R. Shoenthal, |
| 80 | Jno. L. Schmershall, |
| 160 | T. Gund, |
| 160 | L. G. Phillips, |

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| 80 | O. Oliver, |
| 80 | E. Prontice, |
| 40 | W. F. Zahn, |
| 40 | J. H. DeMass, |
| | L. G. Neuman, |
| | S. L. Hughell, |
| | P. R. Kartzke, |
| | H. J. Linke, |
| | Chas. Tage, |
| | C. F. Massey, |
| | R. F. Adams, |
| | C. E. Harper, |
| | L. Norris, |
| | C. A. Titus, |
| | Jas. Kersey, |
| | A. W. Hart, |
| | W. F. Daly, |
| | H. F. Thomas, |
| | J. H. Ashenfelter, |
| | E. P. Carr, |
| | Norman Annett, |
| | Geo. Schroeder, |
| | F. E. Nelson, |
| | C. E. Annett. |

OF COURSE THERE WILL.

The general sentiment of this community is voiced in the following from the Shoshone Journal:

"In all probability there will be a tremendous gain in material advancement in Lincoln county during the present season. The big irrigation projects are all new and it takes time to improve and develop them. But many of the new farmers have secured a good foothold and are now in shape to take advantage of their surroundings and to make things hum in a material way. The gloss has worn off and there is no whoop and commotion, but it now comes down to the steady work of getting results. If this were a rainfall farming country the future crop would be too uncertain to bank on, but with irrigation and the best soil in the world, results seem sure. This year the farmers will undoubtedly raise big crops to sell and will bring a lot of money into the country the like of which has never been witnessed before. When people have something to sell they are bound to buy things they have long waited for. That means business for the towns and prosperity all around."

Demand for Idaho Fruit Exceeds Supply.

Boise fruit is in great demand this year on the Pacific coast, and growers in the valley say that the demand will more than use up the available supply which the season, under the best of conditions, will produce.

Idaho fruit is even invading California, and many dealers in that state have expressed themselves as being willing to handle none other than Idaho grown apples, which have a flavor and delicacy of color which is characterized by no other apples in the country. The demands for Idaho fruit from these sections of the country which have used it in the past are as heavy this year as they have ever been, and the general outlook for the fruit dealer in the state was never better than it is now.

In several parts of the state the growers are getting together, and will send one of their own men down south with their fruit, as some of the potato growers did last year, and thus they will cut out the profit made by the middle man.—Statesman.

Before Judge Walters has finished the spring session of the district court in Shoshone Judge Stockslager will have held court in every other county in the district, namely: Albion, Twin Falls, Mountain Home and Hailey. This results largely from the transference of the Hailey bank cases to Shoshone. Had the last legislature failed to provide for the appointment of an additional judge for this district, Judge Walters would have been completely swamped and the judicial machinery of the district would have been clogged beyond redemption.—Shoshone Journal.

Lost.

A gray mare, weight about 900 lbs. Brand on left hip, roached mane and in foal. Left last Friday, went east from Wendell. Finder will notify Shepherd & Barrett, Real Estate, Wendell.

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Jerome Milling & Elevator Co.

R. L. PENCE, Jr., Manager.
PHONE 77

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Nibley-Channel L'br Co.

V. K. SKADDEN, M'gr, Jerome, Idaho

Burkhead-Heiss Realty Co.

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A good business lot opposite First National Bank must be sold in the next few days. We can sell this at a price that will please you. The owner must raise money, hence the low price.

Farm lands? Yes, we have all kinds of them from \$35 per acre up, according to the quality and location. We have a few exceptionally good bargains which we would be glad to show you and which will make the buyer money.

We Write Fire Insurance in some of the Old and Tried Companies that pay Losses Promptly

We will look after your rental property and see that it is rented

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Certainly they are! And there are but two things that will stop the annoyance-- Screen Doors and Window Screens, of which we have a full and complete line. Assorted styles, sizes and prices. Call and look over the line before you buy. Don't forget the Sifotubes.

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