

Crook County Journal.

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WHEELING ACROSS

The Cascades From Corvallis to Prineville.

College Boys Abroad.

A Journey Full of Incidents. Grand Scenery Along the Route.

It was now dark and the nearest house was at Lost creek, three miles up grade through a dense forest. The place was reached and the second day had ended with 57 miles and a number of novel experiences to its credit.

Mountain climbing was to be the principal feature for the next day and we started in good spirits, after securing a lunch, as it was 30 miles of rough road to the next house, at Sisters. The scenery was becoming more stately as we caught our first glimpse of the snowy peaks and high cliffs on either side. After several hours of leading our wheels up sandy slopes the ground became more level and large snow banks were frequent near the road. The level prairies that we passed were almost transformed into lakes by the melting snow. A small prairie was crossed and a mountain stream jumped and we chose a grassy hillside on which to eat our lunch. The meal was somewhat less than we had been accustomed to and our principal diet was melting snowballs and mountain scenery. It was only a few miles to the dreaded lava and as we passed onto it, one last look at the glistening water and frosty snow banks, with a belt of stately trees in the background and the Three Sisters with their chilling, but beautiful attire hovering near was sufficient to energize us for the work. The road on the lava represents a vast amount of work and although rough we were thankful that it was so different from the jagged waste about us. In several places the road was covered by deep snow drifts, making early traveling across the mountains dangerous.

It was only a few miles to Windy point, which truly justifies its name and as, the wind shrieks past a hat in the hand is worth two in the air.

Down grade and plenty of sand were indeed gratifying, for the grade insured easy locomotion and the deep sand prevented a run away, the thoughts of which were sufficient to cause a quiver of excitement. The sand, useful on the mountain, became troublesome as we neared Sisters and but for previous experience, when nearly all of the air was allowed to escape from the tires, our ride would have resulted in a weary walk.

Unmistakable signs of an eastern Oregon desert were now seen, for the country was exceedingly level and covered with small sagebrush and the pine timber extended as far as the post office, where we stopped for the night.

The next morning a number of large irrigation ditches, carrying many inches of water, were crossed. As witnessed at the ranches along the road, this water is capable of transforming the wastes of desert

into good yielding clover and rye fields and affording water for pastured stock.

Several large bands of sheep, on their way to the mountains for summer range, were passed.

A few miles out from water the typical bunch grass was seen in abundance.

After riding seventeen miles of sandy road we came in sight of the Deschutes river at Tetherow bridge. This stream is as beautiful as the McKenzie, but apparently not as useful to mankind. The time seems not far distant however when the greater part of it will be transforming desert plains into fertile farms. This is a good trout stream and we succeeded in catching 52 in a short time with some borrowed fishing tackle.

More desert after dinner until we came to the Crooked river valley when our whole view was changed. High rim-rocks, green alfalfa fields, healthy grain and a sleepy river formed a pleasing picture. Thence up a widening valley and a twelve mile irrigation ditch to Prineville which we reached dusty and tired and well satisfied with the change and with our bicycle ride across the Cascades.

Howard Happenings.

From our regular correspondent.

The pleasant and much needed rain, which visited our community last week did a vast amount of good to the growing crops.

Mr. Wm. Cusick, the noted botanist of Union county accompanied by his son Oscar, passed through our vicinity last week.

Ben Pettijohn passed through here recently with a band of fine looking horses, on his way to Long Creek where he expects to dispose of them.

Henry Bruner has taken up a place at the mouth of Coyle creek near the Ochoco mines, where he expects to locate, in the near future.

Claude Wright and Orlie Leach went to Summit Prairie the first of last week where they expect to commence work in the hay field soon.

Joe Hawkins and family intend moving to Maury in a short time.

Jack Brogan recently returned from Antelope, where he has been attending business matters.

There are whisperings of a wedding to take place here in the near future! How about it Art?
SUNFLOWER.

Colors Presented.

In response to the letter recently received by Geer from the crew of the battleship Oregon regarding the arrangements for the "Home-ward-bound colors" of that vessel, the governor sent a telegram suggesting that if convenient to them, they come here about July 16. The official delegation wish to come as soon as soon as possible, as they may be transferred to some other ship and then be unable to come.

The program is not yet completed but among other arrangements it is planned that the ceremonies be held in the afternoon, at which an address and some patriotic music precede the flag raising, which shall be as follows: From the north flag staff at the state house the ensign shall be unfurled, from the south staff the Union Jack and from the dome the 420 feet pennant, all to be unfurled simultaneously, with the accompaniment of band music and the national salute of twenty-one guns. —Salem Sentinel.

OUR OIL FIELDS.

McNamara Reports Indications Very Good.

Asphaltum is Abundant

Expert Makes Examination and Reports Outlook Best in the State.

George Gordon McNamara, the Portland mining engineer, thinks the recently discovered oil fields in Crook County are far ahead of any other find in Oregon and that wells can be sunk upon them with assurance of profitable working, says the Oregonian. He has just returned from an examination of the district. To a reporter he said:

"Pursuant to instructions, I visited the much-talked-of oil district of Crook County, and I find that a number of companies are acquiring Government lands and leasing considerable tracts, upon which patents have been obtained by the farmers and stockmen in this district. After spending nearly two weeks investigating the country, my deductions are that the indications will amply warrant the expense of sinking wells for petroleum. The oil indications I found distributed over several miles in extent. The country is mainly arid. However, there is occasionally found a fairly good growth of pine and fir timber.

"The geological conditions are most interesting, the country being almost entirely covered with diatomaceous formation, proving conclusively that it has, at some period, been an extensive ocean bed. There has been some slight erosion, probably the result of local glaciers. The altitude above the sea level is about 3500 feet, and the country is rolling, and in some places hilly. The surface is intersected by numerous narrow gulches that have eroded their way through the diatomaceous formation into beds of argillaceous shale and sandstone, affording an excellent opportunity to study the general character of the formation. These beds, as a rule, show no signs of displacement by internal disturbances, and the shale found in the ravines and gulches seem to belong to the Miocene and Pliocene periods of the Tertiary era, and are, therefore, fossiliferous in their character. In many instances they are highly charged with different classes of hydro-carbon. The presence of paraffin was determined by chemical analysis.

"Asphaltum and other forms of bitumen are profusely distributed over the entire surface. The asphaltum lies in detached particles and in small nodules in the float rock. In some cases the croppings of asphaltum are quite extensive, and the indications are that development would prove these beds to be of considerable commercial value. It might be well to explain that petroleum passes by insensible gradations into asphaltum, and that the presence of this class of bitumen on the surface and throughout the underlying shale and sandstone is probably due to petroleum having been forced up through the formation by hydrostatic pressure.

"From my examination, I un-

hesitatingly pronounce the indications the most favorable that I have seen in this state for petroleum, and, in my judgment, they compare favorably with Southern California districts, with which I am very familiar. In my opinion, this body of government land lying within the borders of our state, the character of its geological structure being entirely unexplored except by fossil hunters, shows every indication that it can be developed into a great oil-producing region. Although considerable of this land has been appropriated by oil companies, there still remains a number of tracts, which, in my judgment, are even more desirable than the lands already filed on."

Accident at Camp Beebe.

While the Governor's salute was being fired in the afternoon a small mortar was discharged prematurely, probably by a defective fuse, and four members of the firing party were burned. Sergeant W. H. Barrett, of Company D, Woodburn, was badly burned on his right hand and about face and neck, and it is little less than a miracle that his eyes were not put out. Privates John Oliver and Albert Abel of Co C and Arthur Purdom of Co G were painfully burned. The latter's injuries were confined to his hands.—Register.

Post Items.

From our regular correspondent.

Miss Throop, of California, is visiting her brother Lewis Throop at this place. She has come to Crook Co. to engage in teaching.

A number of our young people went up to Maury to celebrate "the glorious Fourth."

D. Koopmann sold all his sheep about a month ago, but he soon got lonesome without them and went above and bought a band which he brought in this week.

F. J. Kinchelve, after a ten days visit with his cousin W. H. Lyons, returned Wednesday to his work with the B. S. & L. Co. at Hay Creek.

Henry Beck and family, and Miss Lilly Knox are taking an outing on the Deschutes.

Doctor Osborne and wife of California have been visiting the family of George Gibson.

SUNNY SOUTH.

Paulina Pointers.

From our regular correspondent.

Hot weather still continues, much to our discomfort.

Link Stivers had the misfortune to cripple one of his horses while gone to The Dalles.

Mrs Geo. Morgan has gone to Portland to attend the grand lodge D. of H.

Hugh Lister has gone up to his Ryegrass ranch to put up hay. Hay crops are short, so the farmers say.

The fishing party that spent the Fourth on Crooked river report having had a fine time.

Mr. Craig and family, formerly of Prineville, have gone to Izee. He did a good business here in the photo line.

Charlie Morgan is back on Beaver creek once more.

There was a funeral on the Fourth at the Beaver creek cemetery. It was that of a stranger and his funeral showed that he had no friends here.

ROSE LEAF

GENERAL NEWS.

Items of Interest Gathered Here and There.

Some Stolen, Others Not

Oullings From Our Exchanges News Notes of the Week. Timely Topics.

The second annual Harney county fair will be held September 16-21.

Several miners were shot and two killed during a riot in Colorado last week. The riot was the result of a strike.

The Columbia Southern is considering the matter of building a branch road this season to tap the country between Condon and Fossil, in Gilliam and Wheeler counties.

The jury in the case of Manny Howard at Baker, charged with horse stealing, on Tuesday night of last week, brought in a verdict of guilty. This trial has been of great interest to stockmen, since Howard has been suspected of horse and cattle stealing for the past 15 years, but a conviction could never before be secured.

The entire block, bounded by Morrison, Yamhill, Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets, in Portland, which was the home of the late Frank Dekum and subsequently occupied by the Oregon Road Club, has been bought for \$55,000 by the Scottish Rite Masons, who will erect thereon a magnificent Cathedral.

President Lusk, of the American Cattle Growers' Association, has appointed the following committee to draft a bill to provide for the leasing of the public range: John P. Irish, of California; M. K. Parsons, of Utah; Bartlett Richards of Nebraska; Henry M. Porter, of Colorado, and A. B. Robertson, of Texas. The committee will meet in Denver next September.

The Bridgeport stage in charge of David Holden and scheduled to arrive in Baker about 5 o'clock in the evening, was held up at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of July 4th by a lone masked highwayman at a point 12 miles from Baker. The highwayman got \$45 and a silver watch for his trouble, but he expected a larger haul.

New soundings are now being taken of Crater Lake by Prof. J. S. Diller, of the U. S. Geological department, who will also make a report on some new features of this nature's wonder for the scientific department of the government. It is understood that Prof. Diller will be occupied one month with the work.

"Economic Aspects of Reciprocity," comprising two lectures delivered by John P. Young, before the College of Commerce of the University of California, has just been issued in document form by The American Protective Tariff League. Two copies sent to any address for three cents. Ask for Document No. 49. Address American Protective Tariff League, 135 West 23d Street, New York.