

Crook County Journal.

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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1902.

Considerable discussion is being indulged in regarding the proposed forest reserve both pro and con. So far as Crook county is concerned, it seems to be a good thing as it will tend to settle the range question, but as to that portion of it in Grant county, that borders Bear valley we are of the opinion that it is no special benefit. The reason underlying the creation of forest reserves is, that they conserve the water supply and are an aid to the reclamation of arid land. From a scientific standpoint the preservation of the timber on a given area of land is the best means for the conservation of the water supply, but from a practical standpoint there are other and better methods even than that when dealing with the problem in this part of Oregon. It is doubtful if the preservation of the forests surrounding Bear valley will aid in any perceptible degree the water flow from the streams heading in that timber belt; later we shall give our reasons for our belief. If the reserve now temporarily established shall become an assured fact, then our stock association should take the matter up with the department and see that our local stockmen shall be given the preference to all grazing privileges in such portions of the reserve as lie within the county. Our people are too slow in these matters and only come to a realizing sense of the damage done them when it is too late to remedy the matter, as was evidenced by their treatment at the last allotment of the Cascade reserve among the sheepmen. Those first in the reserve with a permit will become permanent residents, as it were, on their allotment and will have the first say over that part of the reserve as long as they want to graze it. Crook county stockmen, look after your interests.

A noticeable feature about our roads to one accustomed to the way things are done in more thickly settled communities, is the absence of signs boards at the intersection of the county roads. Throughout the interior portions of the county there are many by-ways and cross roads and seldom if ever is there any means for the stranger to determine which is the right one to take and many times he takes the wrong one occasioning him much inconvenience and extra travel, not to say anything of the extra profanity superinduced thereby. In some cases where boards have been erected, their utility has been destroyed by defacing and substituting other words than those on the original. Boards should be put up where necessary and when any one is caught tampering with them, he should be given a salutary lesson that will last him for some time to come. There are a few abortive attempts of nature to fashion human beings out of insufficient material, who think to show off their superior intellectual abilities by changing the wording of these guide boards; such should be placed in an asylum for imbeciles in order to insure the public against even worse things to come.

It is said that the Columbia Southern road is now surveying its final route over the Agency Plains and into the Willow creek basin through the town of Palmair. While we are not satisfied at the treatment accorded this place by this road, still it will be better than no transportation and will do no great damage to our city, by passing it by. This go-by will be temporary however, for there is no doubt but these will be another road in here in a short time giving us competitive rates and more than one outlet to outside markets. Crook county has passed the primitive stage and is now about to enter upon a career for which she is eminently fitted and will eventually become one of the foremost of the state in productiveness.

A Game-Hog Escapes.

TO THE EDITOR:

Waiter F. Burrell was fined fifteen dollars by Judge Hugue, of Portland, for having prairie chickens in his possession contrary to law, but the judge thoughtfully remitted ten dollars of the fine, whether on account of Mr. Burrell's inability to pay or upon receipt of a brace of the birds, the Oregonian don't state.

The law provides for a fine of from \$15 to \$200.

At any rate the trial and punishment was a burlesque, and the effort of the Wasco deputy warden to enforce the law rendered useless by an incompetent or dishonest court.

Had the Portland officials desired to more than make a pretense of fining Mr. Burrell they would have ignored his plea of ignorance as to the right to carry the birds out of Wasco county, for the number of birds in his possession (unless he sold some on his homeward trip in order to be able to treat the court) would have subjected him to a fine—in fact he was guilty under several different sections of the law.

Trials like this, and judges who preside at them, are the cause of the flagrant violations of the game laws of the state.

In the vicinity of Dufur, where Mr. Burrell got his birds, prairie chickens have been protected by law and public sentiment for about twelve years, and are plentiful. It was to reward this care that Wasco was left as the only open county to this game.

Mr. Burrell escaped this time but we will endeavor to see that this is the last carriage-load of prairie chickens to go out of Wasco on a \$5 fine.

M. J. ANDERSON in Dufur Dispatch.

Resolutions of Condolence.

Whereas, God in His mercy has called our beloved sister, Lou Ward, to her reward, for a life righteously and faithfully spent serving the Master, and,

Whereas, Tears dim our eyes as we remember our last Covenant meeting, and the last time we met at Sunday school. And the last glance our beloved sister cast around as though to stamp on every face her memory, therefore be it

Resolved, That it is but a just tribute to the memory of the departed to say, that in regretting her removal we mourn for one who was in every way worthy our respect and high esteem.

Resolved, That we sincerely condole with the family of the deceased on the dispensation with which it has pleased Divine Providence to afflict them, and commend them for consolation to Him who orders all things for the best and whose chastisement is meant in mercy.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread on the church record and a copy be sent to each of her family.

God in His wisdom has recalled, The boon his love has given, And though the body slumbers here, The soul is safe in Heaven.

EFFA BELL,

MARY E. VANDERPOOL,

Mrs. N. E. RELL.

By order of the First Baptist Church, Aug. 9, 1902,

Mountain of Salt.

Probably one of the greatest natural curiosities in the world, whose existence is but little known, is the great mountain of salt located at Cardona, Spain, in the foothills of the Pyrenees. This marvel stands in a dreary and inaccessible region, off the highway of travel and is only reached by a drive of 25 miles in a mule cart.

A party of scientists recently visited this giant salt mountain and reported some interesting facts in regard to the same. The mountain is several thousand feet high and is estimated to contain 500,000,000 tons of rock salt. This enormous quantity of salt is made more apparent by the fact that the bordering country of France consumes 700,000 tons a year, so that this mountain alone could furnish France with salt enough to last for 700 years.

The mountain is on private land and is only worked to a limited extent.

Horses from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, British Columbia, California, Utah, Colorado, Montana and Canada are entered to race at the State Fair this fall—and it will be the greatest racing event on the circuit.

Homestead and Timber LOCATIONS.

Crook county offers to the intending settler advantages that no other county in the state does, and some of her best lands lie open, waiting to be taken under the Homestead, Desert and Timber Laws. I make a specialty of locating settlers and I guarantee my work to be absolutely correct.

Before Locating, call on or address,

F. M. WHITE,

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Our Summer Clearance sale of Ladies Oxfords and Slippers.

We are offering this week on our Bargain Counter. 150 pairs Ladies Oxfords and Slippers at \$1.00

These formerly sold at \$2.00 and \$2.50.

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A new line of GLOVES has arrived which we are disposing of rapidly. Call and examine them.

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