

# Crook County Journal.

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NO. 42

## WURZWEILER & THOMSON

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## WURZWEILER & THOMSON

## Central Oregon, Crook County And Prineville.

TIMBER CLAIMS VALUABLE EXHIBITS FOR 1905 FAIR SUGAR BEETS A SUCCESS TONS OF HAY DESTROYED

Persons Owning Tracts in Lake and Klamath Counties Should not Hurry to Sell.

The attention of those persons holding timber claims in Lake and Klamath counties was called last week in a letter from Dr. Winnard of Albany, to the fact that a pool was being formed and that claimants in the above district would realize good prices for their claims if they did not sell at the unreasonable low prices which has been offered for them in Prineville during the past two months.

Later developments show that over 100 claimants have joined the pool and a figure between \$1500 and \$1800 has already been offered for all the claims in it. A letter the first of the week from Dr. Winnard to a business man in this vicinity discloses the fact that those in the pool have given an option on their claims for a short time, but it is expressly stipulated in that option that there will be no sale under \$2000.

Dr. Winnard expressed himself in the letter as confident that a just price would be had for the timber, and that it was his opinion that \$2500 could be realized each holder of a claim before Christmas. It is evident, anyway, that the ridiculous price of \$800 at which many have been compelled to sell will soon be out of business. The talk about no other company being able to buy in the district where Ralph E. Golenrist and his associates are buying, which was used to bolster up the \$800 proposition, is also out of business, and if the persons holding claims in that territory will get off the anxious seat for a short time the truth of the statement will be realized.

A timber company with either capital or principle ought to be ashamed to offer \$800 for a two million foot yellow pine claim, but the operations conducted in the manipulation of Lake and Klamath timber the past summer go a long way toward convincing a person that some companies are lacking in both qualities. Prineville residents who own claims in that vicinity will probably better themselves if they are not too hasty in selling their holdings.

CLEVELAND DONKEL HELD

Son Will Be Tried During the October Term of Court for the Murder of His Father.

Cleveland Donkel will be tried this month for the murder of his father. Sheriff Smith and District Attorney Bell returned Monday forenoon from Lava, and while there secured sufficient evidence to formally charge the young man with the crime. The boy is now in the county jail and will be held there until court sets during the present month.

Attorney George W. Barnes was retained for the defense, and says it is not probable that a preliminary hearing will be asked for.

CIRCUIT COURT TO DECIDE Recent Rulings of Secretary Hitchcock Will Be Carried to a Higher Tribunal.

Messrs Hedges and Galloway, attorneys of Albany, Oregon, have carried an appeal case to the United States Circuit Court to test the validity of recent rulings of the secretary of Interior in regard to the timber and stone act. The decision of the case referred to involves the motives of the purchaser who states he buys the land for his own exclusive use and benefit and not for speculation, the secretary of the Interior declaring that if the prospective purchaser anticipates a sale at a profit it is speculation.

Postmaster Summers Is Gathering Crook County Material for the St. Louis Exposition.

Judging from present indications Crook county will be well represented at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis next year. Jefferson Myers, president of the Lewis and Clark Fair commission, who was here last week in the interests of both expositions, instilled considerable enthusiasm in the residents of this county, and the best of exhibits at the Eastern Fair will be the result.

Postmaster Summers has been appointed collector of exhibits for this county, and quite a large amount of produce has already been prepared for shipment. So far this list includes only the products from the gardens and orchards, but Mr. Summers is on the still hunt for products of any kind and asks the co-operation of everyone in getting together the best possible collection.

Wools, wood, grains of all kinds; grasses, wild and sown; vegetables, fruits, minerals, building stone, flour from wheat and rye and all other grains; hair ropes, saddles, raw-hide ropes, furniture from native wood, school work by the pupils in the county; samples of mineral and medical waters, and everything manufactured or produced are the articles which are wanted to show up Crook county's various industries.

Mr. Summers is preparing a circular letter which he will send to the various newspapers in the county, giving a list of the above mentioned products, and asking that every producer in the county lend his aid in getting up a good representative collection.

WILL IRRIGATE WITH PUMP

Prineville Ranch Owners Will Use Gasoline Engine to Supply Their Land with Water.

Crook county will witness for the first time next spring an attempt to irrigate land by the use of a gasoline engine and pump. P. B. Poindexter and Arthur Hodges, who own adjoining tracts of land just west of town and bordering on Crooked river, will try the experiment, and unless the plans which have already been formulated miscarry successful crops will be grown.

The engine which will furnish the power is a six h-p. Eli, and has been purchased for a sum approximating \$450. It will be installed this fall, together with the pump, and everything placed in readiness for the irrigating season next year. The pump has a capacity of 1200 gallons per minute and will draw its supply of water from a well which is to be dug.

Seventy-five acres of ground part of which has already been broken, will be put into alfalfa next spring and the irrigating carried on as needed throughout the season.

The new method of irrigating crops which these two gentlemen will inaugurate in this county has been tried successfully in the Yakima country in Washington and it is expected to prove as satisfactory in results here. The cost of running a gasoline engine during the time that irrigation will be needed will not exceed the present rate for water from the Crooked river canal, and during the winter the engine can be used to good advantage to furnish power for a good wood saw or grain chopper. The experiment will be watched with considerable interest throughout the county, and if successful will probably instigate many others to install the same kind of a plant.

A Product of Crook County Which Is Worthy of Considerable More Than Passing Notice.

A single glance at the size and quality of some of the sugar beet crops which are raised in Crook county will go a long way towards convincing the observer that this portion of Interior Oregon would do very well with the beet sugar industry. Already the production of this vegetable has gone beyond the experimental stage, and the county only awaits the incoming of the machinery and capital to utilize the product to far greater advantage than it is at present.

The two sugar beets which have been on exhibition at the Journal office are fair examples from which the skeptical may judge. They were brought to the city from the George Circle ranch about eight miles north of town, and are from a quarter acre crop which was raised to feed the cattle this winter. The two beets weighed 30 pounds, the biggest one being 22 inches in length and 24 inches in circumference. The soil in which the crop was produced has been only partially irrigated during the past season. These two beets are not of abnormal development, and a quarter section of land in that portion of Crook county is capable of producing the same results.

Mr. Circle says he raised ten of the beets, weighing 150 pounds, on ground about four feet square, and that 100 tons to the acre would be an easy average. The crop which he raised this year will be fed to his cattle as they contain unequalled fat-producing qualities.

With the many agricultural experiments going on in the county it is not improbable that sugar beet raising will receive its share of attention. The Cline Falls Power company has met decided success in growing the product, and reports from various sections of the county have established the fact that sugar beets can be grown in sufficient quantities to supply almost any market that could furnish a demand.

From a financial stand-point probably no other production of the soil, as easily grown and with as little care, will bring as good results as successful crops of sugar beets. Mr. Circle estimates that an acre of the product on his ranch, at the present eastern price, would be worth \$400, and the labor and expenditure in raising are almost too small to be figured in.

GRIZZLY HOME IS BURNED

Residence Property of J. F. Taylor Is Destroyed by Fire During His Absence.

The fine residence of J. F. Taylor of Grizzly was burned to the ground a week ago Tuesday, and with the contents was a total loss. Mr. Taylor had in company with his wife started for Salem on the day previous and had left the girls at home. Little Theo was up stairs alone and while playing, in some way ignited a bunch of matches. The fire spread rapidly, and the only other person present, Miss Mattie Shannon, succeeded in saving nothing but a small amount of bedding. Miss Ruth who was away at a neighbors returned with her brother in time to save the barn and graneries.

The residence burned, was built three years ago in the place of the former home which was also burned.

Mr. Taylor had up to within a few weeks ago carried an insurance policy of \$1000 on the burned residence but had allowed it to lapse.

Destructive Fire in Lake County Consumes Large Quantities of Valuable Winter Feed.

The fire which last week swept over the Lower Chewaucan Marsh, in Lake county, destroying nearly 5000 tons of hay, is likely to have more far reaching effects than was at first supposed. The fire is the most disastrous of its kind which has ever visited that section and the loss is one which will be felt for many months to come.

The fire is supposed to have started from one of the haying crew's camps, and owing to the dryness of the soil and grass, spread with greatest rapidity. A strong wind which was blowing at the time aided the flames in their destruction of the fresh mown hay. A report to The Journal the first of the week stated that the fire was still burning and that hundreds of acres of winter pasture had been destroyed. The Hereford company lost 4000 tons and ZX company and others lost a thousand more.

It is stated that the intense heat burned the roots of the hay so completely that it will be several years before that district will produce an average crop.

The effects on the stock interest of that section cannot be estimated at this time. Owing to the scarcity of hay in Lake county and adjoining counties, it will be almost impossible to secure winter feed for the cattle, and it is expected that losses will follow. Hay at Lakeview is quoted at \$10, while at Klamath Falls and other points in that vicinity it is bringing \$6.50 and \$7 with plenty of buyers and few sellers.

During the past two weeks reports have reached the Journal office that several Crook county stockmen would drive their herds into the district which has been fire-swept, but the recent disaster there will probably be the cause of them keeping their stock at home. The recent catastrophe there will send hay prices skyward, and with the pasture burned it is not probable that stock can be fed much cheaper than in Crook county even with hay selling for \$10 per ton.

A CITY PARK AT LAST

Mayor Brink's Efforts Have Finally Been Crowned with Success.

It is gratifying to know that Mayor Brink's efforts to secure a city park have at last assumed a tangible shape, and that Prineville in another year's time will have some three or four acres of ground at its own disposal.

The matter was first broached among the business men of the city last June, and Mayor Brink immediately set about to get the grant of the land desired from the Road company. Surveying work is now being carried on and the deed and dedication of the park to the city of Prineville will go on record in a short time.

Mayor Brink is firm in his belief that the park can be converted into a beauty spot if the residents will do their part in maintaining it. He is of the opinion that a practical gardener should be employed to take care of the park and keep up its interests. He thinks a thousand trees can be planted which will afford an abundance of shade, and a lawn started within a year's time. The heaviest tax payers in the city have agreed to stand their share of the additional expense in maintaining the park, and it is not probable that they will withdraw from this agreement when a few extra mills are levied.

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