

Crook County Journal.

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NO. 51

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INSTITUTE NEXT WEEK

Annual Event Will Be Held in This City Next Week, December 10, 11 and 12.

The program for the Crook county teachers annual institute has been prepared and is given below. State Superintendent Ackerman will be here to deliver several interesting lectures and R. F. Robinson, county superintendent of Multnomah county will be in attendance. The program is well arranged and is as follows:

THURSDAY.
A. M.
9:30 Opening Exercises.
9:20 A Program for Rural Schools. J. H. Ackerman
10:00 Arithmetic. R. F. Robinson
10:40 Recess.
10:50 Reading. J. H. Ackerman
P. M.

1:30 Opening Exercises.
1:40 Geography. J. F. Robinson
2:30 Language. J. H. Ackerman
3:20 Recess.
3:30 School Management. J. E. Robinson
Questions and Answers

FRIDAY.
A. M.
9:00 Opening Exercises.
9:20 Reading. J. H. Ackerman
10:00 Arithmetic. J. F. Robinson
10:40 Recess.
10:50 Importance of Literature. J. H. Ackerman
P. M.

1:30 Opening Exercises
1:40 Geography. J. F. Robinson
2:30 Language. J. H. Ackerman
3:20 Recess.
3:30 The Recitation. A. C. Strange
Questions and Answers.

SATURDAY.
A. M.
9:00 Opening Exercises
9:20 Arithmetic. R. F. Robinson
10:00 Written Tests. E. E. Orton
10:40 Recess.
10:50 History. R. F. Robinson
P. M.

1:30 Opening Exercises.
1:40 Civil Government. R. F. Robinson
2:30 Phonics. R. A. Ford
3:20 Recess.
3:30 School Management. R. F. Robinson
Questions and Answers.

Evening sessions will be held during the institute on Friday and Saturday evenings at the M. E. church. The program on these evenings will consist of music, lectures and recitations. Mrs. A. C. Strange will have charge of the music during the institute and the special evenings. It is expected that every teacher in the county as well as those expecting to teach will be present during the three days, and county superintendent Bogel anticipates an unusually interesting session.

NO ELECTION IN CROOK

Mass Meeting of Citizens Last Week at the Court House Decided on This Course.

The ninth senatorial district of Crook, Grant, Lake and Klamath counties will not elect a senator to represent the division at the special session of the legislature. This course was adopted at a mass meeting of citizens which was held last Friday afternoon when evidence was produced to show that the writ of election issued by the governor was simply a move on his part to validate the actions of the legislature.

Mayor Beink read a communication from the county committee of Grant county in which it was stated that they would hold no

election there, and the same word was received from Klamath.

The local politicians, both democrats and republicans, advanced the opinion that even if it were possible for an election to be held in the time given, it would be a useless and unnecessary expense for the county to shoulder. Judge Barnes said he thought the candle was hardly worth the \$1500 or \$2000 lighting process, and ex-county judge Booth ventured to remark that some of the county roads could stand that much improvement. Dr. Gesner lost the friendship of his prospective clerk in the senate by arguing against an election and his own candidacy. After a very free and liberal discussion of the situation, during which it became plainly evident that even if a senator were elected there was a possibility of him not knowing about it until the 26th of January, the matter was put to a vote which showed an unanimous sentiment against the use of the ballot box this month.

TIMBER AT A LOW PRICE

Fifteen Thousand Acres in Deschutes Valley Bought by Company for \$1.25 per Acre.

A dispatch from Salem states that one of the largest deeds ever executed by the State Land Board was issued last week when 15,853 acres of land were conveyed by a single instrument to the A. J. Dwyer Pine Land Company, of St. Paul, Minn. The land is in the Deschutes pine belt, southwest of Bend. The consideration of the transaction is \$19,817, or \$1.25 per acre.

The purchase was made in 1893, when the price of lien land was \$1.25 per acre. As the land was selected before any buying had been done in that region, this is probably the best of the Deschutes pine lands, and was secured at an exceedingly low price, especially in view of the advance in the value of timber lands in the last five years.

In the original purchase 62 certificates of sale were issued to as many different persons, and all these were later assigned to the Lwyer Company.

TAX LIST WILL BE LIGHT

Sheriff Records Show but Small Amount to be Collected from Delinquent Tax Payers.

As an evidence of the general tone of prosperity which prevades Crook county's atmosphere, Sheriff Smith offers the delinquent tax list as about the best that could be submitted to the public. The amount of taxes still to be collected on last year's assessment is remarkably small, and the delinquent list which is soon to be published is not likely to exceed \$600.

The first of October delinquent tax payers were in arrears to the county in the sum of \$2000. During that month amounts footing up to \$200 were paid in and during the month of November just closed the list has been cut down \$600. This leaves practically \$1200 still to be collected, if there is to be no delinquent publication, but it is thought that this figure will be cut in two before a levy and sale notice appears. At least the sheriff's office gives out the statement after judging from last month's payments which came in steadily. It is thought, too, that the mere fact of the delinquent tax payers having their property advertised will induce a great many payments to be made during the present month.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY SUED

Menefee and Sheriff of Wasco County Brought into Court to Answer Charges.

Otto Eastlund has brought suit in the United States court to recover \$10,000 damages from District Attorney Frank Menefee and Sheriff Sexton of Wasco county alleged to have been sustained from an unlawful arrest and detention in the Wasco county jail for mistreating and driving beyond their original destination a pair of livery horses.

According to Eastlund's statement the team which he was accused of unlawfully retaining was never in his possession, and he says the officers knew such to be the case when he was arrested, but notwithstanding this he was not released until a considerable sum of money had been paid on his behalf to the owners of the horses.

Eastlund and his brother left Portland last May with two timber locators who had agreed to show the two men timber claims they could file on within 75 miles of the Dalles. When they reached the latter place a livery team was hired but the timber proved to be over 300 miles away and the party found themselves down in Lake county with their horses given out after several days of hard driving. The two Eastlunds then started home the best way they could. Later they were arrested in The Dalles charged with larceny as bailees and paid the sheriff \$74 for the team and were released. Soon after both were again arrested in Portland and paid \$152 more for the rig, each being confined in the jail for several days. Now they have brought suit against the parties mentioned above.

The defendants are not alarmed over the situation and the District Attorney says when he can't file an information upon the sworn statement of witnesses, and a sheriff must investigate before arresting after receiving information, something is decidedly wrong.

DECISION ON HOMESTEADS

Judge Cleland Holds That Widow Cannot Maintain Homestead After Husband's Death.

A decision made by Judge Cleland of the state circuit court this week in which he held that the widow of a settler on a homestead cannot hold it after the death of her husband, is one which, if sustained, will have considerable local bearing in the matter of making final proof on homesteads in Crook county. The judge in his decision states that even in an instance in which the husband has secured his entrance papers, and at the time of his death was legally owner of 160 acres under the homestead laws, the widow would not be entitled to the possession of the land.

The decision was in the case of Mrs. Jessie Zimmerman against Mrs. Minnie McCall. Attorney G. P. Lent of Portland represented the plaintiff who desired a partition of the homestead, this partition being opposed by the defendant, who, as widow of the man securing the homestead, alleged that she had full control over the property and that it could not be divided against her wish. The Portland Journal in commenting upon the case says:

"Should Judge Cleland's decision be adhered to as precedent in Oregon courts, attorneys believe that many holdings will be subject to partition and that numerous homesteads in the state that are being held by widows and children of

the original purchaser from the government will lose the chief part of their heritage. The dower interest of one-third that belongs to the wife cannot be taken, but the complete interest, commonly supposed to descend from husband to wife on his death, will no longer remain valid, and persons interested in the estate from blood ties can more easily secure the partition of estates that before this time have been controlled entirely by the wife."

C. A. PATTERSON IN TOWN

Discoverer of Quicksilver Says Lookout District Has Brilliant Future.

C. A. Patterson, who five years ago discovered cinnabar in the Lookout mountain district and later sold a third interest in three claims he held in that section to Seattle parties for a consideration of \$20,000, came down from the mountain Tuesday and will remain here several days before going to Portland on a business trip. Mr. Patterson anticipates considerable activity in the Crook county cinnabar district in the near future and says the mineral there would justify an enormous expenditure in marketing the mercury. In an interview Tuesday evening he said:

"Our tunnel in the side of Lookout mountain which is now being worked shows indications of a remarkable deposit of cinnabar. The first vein we opened was 79 feet in depth, 30 feet wide and we have followed it a distance of 90 feet, and on the surface have traced it a distance of 2500 feet. Assays which have been made recently show ore in this vein to run nearly 50 per cent mercury, with a valuation per ton of \$650. This showing is way in excess of that made by the two largest cinnabar fields in the United States. These are in California and are paying immense profits on ore which is low grade compared with this in the Crook county district."

When asked as to the extent of the field in this district, Mr. Patterson said that from a close investigation of surface indications he had found the ear marks of cinnabar over an area exceeding three-fourths of a mile square. He stated further that the field might be considerably larger, and probably was, but no one had any way of telling now until prospect holes had been dug. The vein which at present is being worked is near the surface and the surface shows it, but this may sink to greater depth and extend over a much larger district than is supposed.

"I look for an early development of this district," said Mr. Patterson, "and next spring will probably see more outside capital at work in this field which is destined to become one of the greatest producers in the west. This of course from own ideas, but I succeeded in finding quicksilver there and can scrape it up in small quantities with my hand in our tunnel right after a blast has compressed the ore, so I consider these indications as being worth something. There is no doubt as to the richness of the field, and in a short time it will be worked for its wealth."

Mr. Patterson left Wednesday morning for Portland and will not return again until about the middle of next April. In the meantime work will be continued in the tunnels at Lookout mountain, and by next spring it is expected that all of the cinnabar veins on the claims of the company, which Mr. Patterson represents, will have been opened and prospect work finished.

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