

Crook County Journal.

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NO. 6

WURZWEILER & THOMSON

Prineville's Greatest Store ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE

COMMENCING THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1904

This sale is a Money Saver.

Every Yard of our Dry Goods is Reduced
Every pair of Hose for Ladies Misses and Children Reduced
Every pair of Shoes for Men, Women and Children Reduced
Every Shirt Waist, Top Skirts and Under Skirts, Reduced
Every suit of Clothing, either for Men or Boys Reduced
Every pair of Men's, Ladies' and Misses' Gloves Reduced
Every pair of Blankets, wool or cotton Reduced
Every Jacket, Ladies' Misses' and Children's, Greatly Reduced
Every Night Gown for Men, Women or Children Reduced
Every Overcoat, Latest Styles, Latest Weaves Reduced
Every Hat or Cap, Hat or Cap for Men or Boys Reduced
Every In addition to above we will say that there are Reduced
Every thousands of articles too numerous to mention Reduced
Every Our aim is to make this the Greatest Sale Reduced
Every that Prineville has ever experienced for CASH Reduced

TAXES ARE HIGHER

Half a Mill Difference Over That of Preceding Year.

Crook county will pay a half of a mill more of an assessment this year on its property than was paid on the preceding year's roll. The increase is due to the appropriation for state expenses which is 24 per cent higher all over the state than last year. The levy is as follows:

	1903	1902
State	61	54
School	41	5
County	61	63
Road	2	24
High School	24	24
TOTAL	224	224

It will be shown by the above that there is a reduction this year on the school levy of 1 mill, and 1 mill on the roads, which would bring the levy down to 22 mills for this year if it were not for the increased expenses of the state. Reduced to dollars and cents, Crook county is called upon to furnish \$15,925 this year for state expenditure, while the amount supplied last year amounted to something in excess of \$9800, a difference of \$6000.

The county this year asks for the same levy as last which will bring in, owing to the increase in assessable property, about \$3000 more than was secured last year. The county is free of debt and in as good financial condition as could be asked for, but the expenses during the present year will be \$1000 more than last year. This will be due in part to the expenses attached to registration and the state and national elections.

men over various transcontinental lines and almost every one will return home via California, stopping in Oregon at points where their attention has been attracted by advertising mediums.

These 223 men came in with the stockmen and stayed but a day or so in Portland, leaving immediately for interior points. They are all after homes in the great Northwest.

"The livestock convention is a help to Oregon in more ways than one," said a railroad official. "It gives these people a chance to come to Oregon during the worst season and they will decide between the conditions left at home and conditions found here very quickly. The total number of this class of visitors is expected to reach 300 before the end of the week. They all intend to make a midwinter visit to California. Oregon may expect to win 90 per cent of the number that decides to establish themselves on the Pacific coast."

CLOSE A PROSPEROUS YEAR

Flour Mills in This City Have Turned 21,390 bushels of Wheat into Flour.

The district surrounding this city has not as yet reached the stage when it can produce a sufficient quantity of wheat to meet the demand for flour, according to the management of the Prineville Flouring Mills. Of the 4300 barrels of flour which have been manufactured in this city since last August, only 250 barrels have been shipped to outside points, the balance being consumed in Prineville.

Mr. Stewart stated the other day that the mill had received 21,390 bushels of wheat since last August besides 1000 bushels of barley and oats. There are still about 10,000 or 12,000 bushels of wheat in the haystack country, according to the figures furnished by the threshers at the close of last harvest season, and it is probable that these will be received inside of the next few weeks. The market price at present is 90 cents, which is from 10 to 12 cents higher than the quotations at railroad points.

CONTRACT IS APPROVED

President Places Signature to Columbia Southern's Appropriation of Arid Land.

President Roosevelt last week approved the contract entered into between the Columbia Southern Irrigation company and the State of Oregon for the reclamation of 27,000 acres of arid land in the Tumello basin.

The news of the approval will be welcomed by scores of persons interested in the development of this county, as it means a rapid completion of the work commenced last year and a quick settlement of the tracts already under irrigation. The delay experienced by the company in having its contracts held up by the Department of Interior has greatly retarded the work in the Tumello basin, although over 40 miles of ditch have been constructed. It is stated that a third more would have been done last year had the department placed its seal of approval upon the contracts.

Twenty thousand acres out of the entire segregation have been sold, but the deeds have been held up and the use of the money paid in on the land withheld until action was taken at Washington on the company's project. It is expected now that the entire work of reclaiming the tract will be completed this year and that the land will meet with a ready settlement and cultivation.

PROSPECT BRIGHTER

Stock Interests Are Rapidly Gaining in Strength.

As the winter wears away, reports begin coming in from all sections of Eastern Oregon regarding stock conditions, and the feeling of intense satisfaction expressed by those who have been apprehensive of a cold and severe winter. The latter would have put many a stock raiser in a tight place, but the winter season now, it is said, is too far advanced to cause any hardships even if the weather from now on brings its heavy snows. The following reports are taken from various papers throughout the stock district of Eastern Oregon and give a general idea of conditions being experienced. A Malheur county paper says:

"The chances for stock in this part of the country are looking brighter every day.

"The winter, so far, has been pretty good. Ranchmen generally have not had to feed heavily, and the stock are nearly all looking well. A great majority of stockmen have hay enough to feed well for at least 60 days, and with anything near an average spring very few cattle will die. The ground is now covered with four or five inches of snow, and it is reasonable to expect solid winter during the present month at least, but a white February is not common in this part of the world, and stockmen are feeling more hopeful."

That the stockmen will have a prosperous winter is the opinion of William Hughes, who has raised in Morrow and Grant counties. "Conditions were never better," says Mr. Hughes. "No feed has been given out so far and there is no need of it. While the winter is not yet over, the stockmen have enough feed to last them through it, so that they may be considered in a position of safety. They feed far better than they did last fall and they do not apprehend any danger."

This from Grant county: "All fright over the feed question has subsided. At one time in the beginning of the winter it was feared that there would be a shortage and that the cattle would suffer, but this has passed and cattle are in good condition and there will be no shortage. The winter has been such as to insure a good hay crop the coming season and the stockmen have no reason to complain except at the low prices of cattle. The prices are not what they ought to be they think, but they have hopes of the early spring righting things again. "Harney county is alright," said William Hanley, the Harney Valley hay and cattle king. "The fright over a shortage in feed is all over and prospects for cattle and another good hay crop were never better."

WATER RIGHT TROUBLE

Difficulties in Squaw Creek District Cause Formation of Two New Irrigation Companies.

A misunderstanding regarding water rights and prices to be paid during the irrigating season, seems to have bred a little trouble in Squaw Creek district. Apparently there is an undercurrent of feeling against the Squaw Creek Irrigating company over the water service and a new company was organized recently as a result of the dissatisfaction.

A rumor of a raise in water rates is said to have caused the first move toward the organization of a new company. The price heretofore charged for water was 15 cents per inch, and a meeting was set in March at which the price was to be determined for the present year. Twenty-five cents per inch is the highest rates ever charged, and the

Squaw Creek company had concluded to raise on current rates.

The old settlers, it is claimed, hold that 15 or 25 cents per inch is too low a rate, as people buy more than they can use which robs the appropriators of their amount. With an increased rate only what is used will be purchased and a more equal distribution of the water will result.

A general misunderstanding, however, led to the organization of the Clover Dale Irrigating company with H. W. Carlin, president, and B. F. Ford, secretary. This company purchased an interest in the old Cobb-Carey ditch, but before they could file their water rights, the Crook County Irrigating company had already been formed and their rights filed. The filings made by the latter company control all of the water in Squaw creek with the exception of a small amount held by prior appropriators. The officers of this company are: P. B. Davis, president; E. T. Slayton, secretary; A. Thomson, treasurer.

It is probable that the difficulties being experienced in this district will be amicably adjusted before the matter goes as far as the courts. The officers of the Squaw Creek company and those of the new Crook County Irrigation company state that it has never been the intention to crowd any property owners under the ditches with exorbitant water rates. It has been felt, however, that the low rates prevailing have given rise to the purchase of more water than was used and a useless waste in consequence. It is stated that practically all of those who went into the Clover Dale company would be satisfied with 50 cent water and that was about the price at which the Crook County com-

CALIFORNIA GAINING HOLD

Central and Southern Oregon's Trade Is Gradually Turning to That State.

It is for the outside points now to make mention of the fact that Portland is rapidly losing the trade of Central and Southern Oregon. The editor of the Sacramento Union, who is thoroughly familiar with the wealth of Klamath county and its adjoining territory, shows in the following editorial how the traffic of that great basin is becoming permanently fixed with California points:

Among the developments of the past year tending to the enlargement of what we may call the general sphere of California trade and influence, but which has attracted little public notice, is the building of a railroad from the point where the Southern Pacific line crosses Klamath River, into the basin of Southeastern Oregon. This little road, now something like thirty miles long, follows the general line of the Klamath River in a northeasterly direction, piercing the mountain barrier which separates California from Oregon, crossing the State boundary a short distance above Klamath Hot Springs, and entering the fine timber belt which lies between Klamath Lake on the east and the Cascade mountains on the west. The nominal purpose of this enterprise is to reach the Klamath timber belt, but that behind this purpose there is a larger one related to the permanent commerce of the country, is made manifest by the fact that the work of construction has been done in the most thorough manner and that arrangements have been made at a point on Klamath Lake, looking to the establishment of terminal facilities. Some twelve or fifteen miles more of construction from Pokegama, the present northern terminus of the line, will carry it forward to a connection with navigation on upper Klamath Lake.

The great basin of Southeastern Oregon thus approached for the first time by an effective system of transportation is the largest re-

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Prineville, Oregon.

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