

THE CROOK COUNTY JOURNAL

An Independent Newspaper

D. F. STEFFA.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF CROOK COUNTY.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1904.

HARMONY IN ONE RESOLUTION.

Even if the Democrats could not agree on the Hearst proposition at their county convention last week, there was one resolution adopted which has met popular favor among both the Democrats and the Republicans. The former have taken a decided stand against any division of the county, or the creation of any new county out of the territory now embraced within the limits of Crook. And the peculiar and best part of the matter is that the resolutions came from the representatives of the Haystack district—a section of the county upon which Stockman county had laid its designs two years ago.

The Republicans could well have adopted the same kind of a resolution. Perhaps they would had not the matter escaped their notice. As it is, the Democrats have taken the initiative, but the Republicans do not hesitate to express their approval.

Two years ago when the movement was started to cut off a slice of the northern part of Crook county, attach it to a portion of Wasco and call the whole Stockman county, there arose a strenuous objection. It was shown that the increase in population and the rapid development of this section of the county did not at the time justify a division of the county, and the same argument can be applied now and with greater force. Two years ago the development of the county had just begun. At the present time it is well under way. All sections are filling up with a new population, new enterprises are gaining a foothold and the emigration from the east is scattering to all sections. This immigration into Eastern Oregon has not as yet become fixed, neither has a center of population been determined, and not until both shall have been brought about will the time be ripe to establish the boundaries of a new county.

Five years from now the increase in population may have gravitated to the western part of the county along the Deschutes to such an extent that a division in that direction will be more in keeping with existing conditions and of greater advantage than the cut-off now proposed. Be it said that that district is now filling up more rapidly than any other section, and so far there is no clamor for a new county there. A Stockman county division might at this time bring about its advantages, but they would not be equal to the advantages gained if a division were made later on when conditions were equal, population more staple, and the general line of development firmly established.

A SERMON IN THE BROOK.

The nominal damage of the property lying along the Ochoco during the past week should be taken as a timely warning. The recent high waters have caused a small loss. If the waters recede soon that loss will scarcely be worth mentioning, but if they should continue to rise, and climatic influences are favorable at present to such a condition, the property damage is likely to be considerable.

This is the first time in several years that the Ochoco has seen fit to disregard conventionalities and put itself forward to such an extent that it has been the cause of loss to the residents living along its banks. Perhaps the people thought that it would always remain at this season of the year as complacent as it has the past three or four years, and have thought little of the destruction that might ensue if the stream should fill its channel to overflowing. The unexpected of course has happened and it has come without any preparation. Another week will

probably see the extent of the damage to be done.

Wouldn't it be well then as soon as the water has abated to take some steps toward keeping the stream within respectable bounds and prevent its spreading over the entire northern side of the city? Wouldn't a little time, trouble and necessary expense this summer be better than to have a recurrence of the flood next spring with the property loss perhaps considerably greater?

The channel of the Ochoco is plenty wide and deep enough to carry all the water that comes down from the mountains at this time, and the stream should, through the city at least, be kept within this channel. Gravel banks and a few wing dams in the right places will do the work and the coming summer should see steps taken to prevent a heavy loss next spring if the waters of the stream should rise again to a dangerous height.

Additional Locals

M. L. Brown was a business visitor from Paulina Monday.

A. J. Noble and family are down from Paulina visiting in the city.

George Ray, the Lost Creek cattleman, was transacting business in the city the first of the week.

F. B. Wade, of Supple, was visiting in the city Wednesday. Mr. Wade reports stock in his section to be much improved since the grass has started.

Creed Triplet returned Tuesday from Portland where he has been learning the barber's trade during the past two months. He expects to open a shop at the Bend.

Mrs. John Cyrus lost the diamond setting out of her ring yesterday while standing near the Ochoco bridge. The stone is a fourth karat and the finder will confer a favor by returning it to the owner.

The Calico ball, notice of which will be found elsewhere in this issue, has been postponed until after the drama. This is made necessary by the stage and scenery which will occupy a large amount of space on the hall room floor.

John Hammond was in the city this week from the Willow Creek basin where he has been in charge of a crew of surveyors laying out

an automobile road. Five miles of the route were surveyed. The line starts from the west side of the Lyle & Brown ranch passing through a neighboring gap thence in a southerly direction toward the basin.

Property losses from the high water are likely to be greater than was at first supposed. On the north side of the city, property belonging to the Vandevorts, S. J. Newsom and M. Christiani has been damaged to the extent of \$300. The irrigation ditch above the Newsom property has been washed out some 200 feet, and the Pringle ditch is in bad shape. The property owned by Mrs. Ike Moore south of the Ochoco has been damaged considerably. Up the Ochoco ranches and roads have been torn to pieces by the high waters and damage done to fences and crops. The Mill creek bridge was washed out early this week, and other bridges are threatened with destruction if the high waters continue.

J. R. Bixby, of Paulina, is establishing his reputation as a campaign fund gatherer. He was in the city this week interviewing the politicians and upon the support which he claims he can throw to the candidates was made the recipient of several campaign gifts. The donors and their presents are as follows: Joe Crooks, Bologna sausage; J. L. McCulloch, jar of sweet pickles; Otto Gray, box of crackers; M. H. Bell, slice of cheese; J. J. Smith, half dozen cigars; Frank Elkins, box of stogies; C. Sam Smith, one large jug of rattlesnake poison (guaranteed to cure the blues); Dr. Edwards, hot weather pills. Mr. Bixby carried home his assortment of prizes Wednesday and says he will do his best to turn votes for the candidates.

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SILAS STRETT, Missionary of Health.....	PROF. STRANGE
JERDAN, A Detective.....	HENRY SMITH
JUBE, A Black Miner.....	BRUCE GRAY
WIN EYE, A Chinaman.....	JOE LARSON
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BOY IS DROWNED

IN THE MCKAY

Henry Zimmerlee Loses His Life Yesterday in the Swift Waters.

Henry Zimmerlee, the 14-year-old son of J. N. Zimmerlee, was drowned Wednesday afternoon in the McKay near Powell's ford about five miles east of the city.

The boy and his father were together on the banks of the stream when the fatal accident happened. Henry was riding a horse and attempted to cross in a narrow part of the creek which he thought was not deep. The high water which has been prevalent in all the streams during the past week, however, had washed the channel much deeper than he supposed. Horse and rider went down together and the boy was washed off the animal's back.

The father tried in every way possible to save his son, but the boy was drowned in the swift flowing waters before help could reach him. The body remained in the water nearly an hour before the father succeeded in getting it ashore. Coroner Crooks held an inquest over the remains yesterday.

WILLIAMSON IS NOMINATED

Moody's Name Is Not Mentioned in the Congressional Convention.

Congressman J. N. Williamson was nominated by acclamation yesterday afternoon at the congressional convention. The nomination speech was made by N. C. Richards, of Baker City. No opposition was presented and Moody's name was not mentioned.

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