

Crook County Journal.

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Crook Historical Society

SPECIAL SALES
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Midsummer Stock taking over and we must have room for fall goods which will soon arrive. Come quickly or you will lose the chance of your lifetime

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WILL BEGIN WORK ON AUTO ROAD

Grade from Shaniko to Bend Will Cost About \$3000 a Mile.

Archie Mason, a well-known railroad contractor, left Portland this morning for Shaniko with an extensive outfit of men and teams to go to work on the road for the proposed automobile line between Shaniko and Bend.

"The road will be 80 miles long," Mr. Mason said, "and its cost will average \$3000 a mile, making \$240,000 the amount required for its construction. We hope to complete the contract within the next seven months."

"The Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company is at the back of enterprise. It has large holdings of land in Crook county, and already has 150 miles of ditches in position, and will finally bring 500,000 acres of land under a system of irrigation. In order to sell this land, it became necessary to build a good road into it. This will now be done, and travelers by automobile will be able to make the 80-mile trip in five hours when we get the road done."

"The average grade of road is not more than 3 per cent, although there are a few short stretches where it runs as high as 12 per cent. The width of the road will be 16 feet, which will permit of automobiles passing each other in perfect safety. No teams will be permitted to use the grade, as the company has a deed to the right of way for the entire distance."—Telegram.

SUES DRAKE FOR COMMISSION

C. E. Lytle for Remuneration for the Services Rendered Last Year.

C. E. Lytle, general passenger agent of the Columbia Southern railroad, has filed papers in the circuit court demanding judgment against A. M. Drake, former president of the Pilot Butte Development company, in the sum of \$3500 and interest since January 1, 1904, as the amount of a commission agreed upon provided Drake through the plaintiff's efforts succeeded in selling out at the time mentioned, which was subsequent to the time he had made an effort to dispose of his property to other parties. The allegations contained in the complaint are in substance as follows:

That in December, 1903, the defendant was principal owner of the capital stock of the Pilot Butte Development company. That on the 9th of December one W. A. Laidlaw entered into a contract with defendant for the benefit of himself and the plaintiff where by it was agreed that the plaintiff was to procure a purchaser for said property and in case sale should result the said W. A. Laidlaw or this plaintiff was to be paid by A. M. Drake a sum equal to 5 per cent of the purchase price.

That pursuant to said agreement the plaintiff procured certain persons in Portland and took them to Chicago to confer with said A. M. Drake, and that satisfactory terms were agreed upon and the property of the Pilot Butte Development company purchased for \$75,000. That the commission agreed upon and earned by the plaintiff was and is \$3500.

That after said contract was entered into the said contract was assigned to said plaintiff, C. E. Lytle. That there is now due and owing from the defendant on account of said services the sum of \$3500. Plaintiff demands judgment against defendant and interest on said amount from January 1, 1904, at the rate of 6 per cent and for costs and disbursements in this action.

M. R. Elliot appears as attorney for the plaintiff.

WILL FIGHT LOCAL OPTION

STOCK THIEVES ARE CAPTURED

On the ground that the Oregon local option law is invalid, for the reason that it is in conflict with the state constitution, the opponents of the enactment have instituted proceedings against it in the courts and there essay to clip the wings of those who would quench the liquor traffic, before the November election.

The nature of the suit is an injunction. The court will be petitioned to issue an order restraining the county clerk from holding an election on the liquor question, as provided for in the act, and the court will, without doubt, make an order requiring the friends of the law to appear and show cause why a permanent order of injunction should not issue. This they will do, and then the battle will be on.

The specific grounds upon which the law will be attacked have not yet been determined, although it is known that it will be on the alleged contention of its unconstitutionality. It may contend that the law was improperly passed, and hence is not in point of fact law at all. The whole fight will be on technical grounds.

Ex-United States Senator Joseph Simon and Judge Martin Luther Pipes have been employed to represent the liquor interests in the fight, but neither of these lawyers is yet ready to talk about their plans. They say that the specific grounds on which the battle will be waged have not been agreed upon and another conference or two will be necessary before this will be known.

WORK TO BEGIN AT BUCK MOUNTAIN

Work on the construction of the reservoirs, which will irrigate the 3000 acres of arid land lying around the base of Buck mountain in the south-eastern part of the county, will begin this month, sheriff Smith stated yesterday that as soon as some of the construction material which had been ordered arrived the work would commence. All the necessary

FIND MARKS OF ANCIENT WORK

A traveler returning from the John Day and passing through to Baker City on his way east tells a remarkable story of a discovery made in the Strawberry Butte region. His name is Christopher T. Vernelson, and he hails originally from Albany, New York. He has been looking after mining interests in the Quartzburg district. Relative to his discovery he says:

"In company with several mining men, friends and acquaintances of mine, I journeyed through the various ranges of mountains known by the general though somewhat indefinite name of Strawberry Butte. In one of the canyons cutting into the main opening, we discovered what we believed after mature observation to be a prehistoric dam dating back for probably hundreds of thousands of years. While digging on the mountain side looking for mineral bearing lodes, we came across some ancient masonry, which had evidently been used for the purpose of damming the small water course which finds its way through the canyon, and furnishing power for some prehistoric machine. The antiquity of the work is evidenced in the fact that by natural wear water had cut through the solid masonry, and worn it down until only the abutments projecting from the mountain side were left, and these were so deeply covered by talus from the neighboring slopes as to render them invisible and unsuspected to casual observation. It was only

FOREST FIRE STILL RAGES

Between midnight and this morning Monday 7000 cords of wood, valued at more than \$10,000 whirled skyward in a vast sheet of flame, smoke and ashes two miles from Halbrook, Or., where a fire that has spread through more than 100 acres of fine timber is now raging, says the Telegram. The wood belonged to the Davis Fuel Company, of Portland. News received by C. R. Davis, of this company, this morning indicated that the fire was beyond control, and that nothing could stop it except a heavy rain. Two miles of flame is believed to have been burned early this morning, and the little town of Halbrook itself is in danger.

A large force of men is working to prevent the spread of the flames, but human efforts avail little against the wall of fire which is drifting rapidly before a northwest wind. The smoke which so obscured the air yesterday and late Saturday night came from fires to the northwest of Portland, fires that are only a comparatively short distance from this city, and which, unless rain falls, may easily approach the outskirts.

Much green timber is burning now, the fire at Halbrook being almost wholly in green timber, with the exception of the underbrush and the cordwood.

The holdings of the Alger Logging Company, near the burning district, had not been touched this morning, and it was expected they would escape the general conflagration which now seems to be raging.

Word from Sylvan by long distance telephone was to the effect that the nearest fire was within two miles of that place, but that it was doing practically no damage.

As far as are known, these are the only fires in the vicinity of Portland.

CATTLE MARKET REMAINS DULL

C. J. Mills, live stock agent for the O. R. & N., tells the Pendleton Tribune that the cattle situation is rather quiet. The effects of the strike in Chicago are being keenly felt by the stock interest of Oregon and the results are uncertain. Stockmen are not anxious to ship to this uncertain market. Condition might look very favorable at the time the cattle were loaded, but perhaps by the time they reached Chicago the tables would be turned and there would be absolutely no market for the stock. For this reason cattle shipments to the Chicago market are very light. The home market is exceptionally good, but it is not sufficient to take care of the cattle of the state. Mr. Mills expects the Chicago situation to alter in a short time and then hopes to see better prices for the Oregon stockmen.

Mr. Mills says that the situation in Crook county, the seat of the present range wars, is very serious and the ultimate outcome is uncertain. The slaughtering of thousands of head of sheep will mean a great loss to the individual owners in addition to the industry as other owners will not go into the business as extensively as in other years when the situation was less alarming.

Retiring From Business

On July 1st I shall begin selling my entire stock of MILLINERY, DRESS GOODS and LADIES' FURNISHINGS at

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I am compelled to go out of business on account of sickness and this sale will afford my patrons an opportunity to secure the best bargains ever offered in Prineville.

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