

CROOK COUNTY JOURNAL

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF CROOK COUNTY.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1905.

A CALL TO SELF DEFENSE.

The slaughter of sheep last week, account of which is found in another column, should mark the closing act in the butcheries which have characterized the past grazing season. The time has likewise passed when this matter can consistently be handled with kid gloves. Facts, publicity and resolute action are necessary.

Cattlemen and sheepmen alike are crying out against this wanton butchery which is doing no good, but is drawing a shroud of shameful crime over the head of the county. Hatred, such as has formed the nucleus of the southern feud, has been engendered, and its course, so far unrestrained and flinging vengeance with a maliciousness that passes the bounds of humanity, must be checked and trampled under heel.

The resolutions adopted by the Cattlemen's association and the Stock Growers association have come to naught. In the very face of the efforts of these organizations this needless and inexcusable crime goes on.

It is time now for it to stop. Excuses and extenuating circumstances should no longer be offered, but in their stead measures taken so drastic, so far reaching, so forcible in their scope that these violators of law and decency shall be speedily punished for their crimes.

It is not within the province of The Journal to say to what lengths a continuance of these murderous and unpardonable offenses will bring the community; but a person gifted with only a small measure of foresight can readily see that the future, burdened as the past has been with lawlessness and mob rule, must of necessity carry disgrace and chaos and ruin to every industry that has been built up within the borders of the county.

It is time now for a decisive move to be made. The matter has resolved itself into a reign of riot and senseless butchery and methods of extermination of this curse must be equally as effective in bringing the lawlessness to a close as the perpetrators of these crimes have made effective their manner of dealing with sheep. If the various stock associations, whose slogan during the past year has been "stop the range war" are incapable of dealing with this delicate question, and they have proved themselves to be, then the time has come when others will and must take the matter in their own hands.

And this will be done. Crook county is stirred as it has never been before.

Mob law and inexcusable crimes may be smattered with sanction in districts where criminal negroes are the instigating causes, but here in Crook county conditions are wholly at variance with those in regions referred to where crimes against humanity rouse hatred in men's breasts.

Speedy action and swift punishment for these merciless criminals is the only cure. Let it come quickly.

ASHWOOD'S ARGUMENT.

Last week's Crook County Journal had considerable to say about county division and the proposed new county of "Stockman." The Journal might take notice that the proposed new county will not be called Stockman, but Jefferson county. But this has nothing to do with the merits of the case.

Two years ago the friends of the new county made an effort to secure its creation. The bill passed the house with only four votes against it was defeated in the Senate. At the time the residents of Prineville made a determined and successful effort against the creation of the county, and the principal argument advanced by them against the new county was that Crook county could not afford to lose the amount of taxable property asked for by the new county. According to a recent article which appeared in the Journal under the heading "Great Increase in Tax Values," the tax values at that time were \$1,852,281 while at this time they have reached the sum of \$2,688,783, or as the Journal says: "The assessable property increases nearly \$1,000,000 in two years time." Two years ago the property asked for from Crook county in the creation of Stockman county was about \$400,000 and at this time, in spite of the great increase of taxable property in Crook, the amount is about the same. To be accurate, \$399,611. The lack of proportionate increase in that portion of Crook county asked for by Jefferson county is due to the fact that the million dollars of increase in taxable property practically all lies in the southern portion of the county, where timber claims have been carried to patent.

It is an interesting fact, too, that in spite of Prineville's cry of

poverty two years ago, the county is cut of debt and has a comfortable sum in the treasury. Incidentally it might be mentioned that the only evidence the residents of this section of the county have of an abundance of funds in the county treasury is from the occasional published statements of the county's finances, for very little county money has been spent here in the building of bridges or betterment of roads. The Journal does not state on what grounds Prineville will oppose the new county move this year except that Crook county is not ready as yet "to part with her parts," which is a weak plea on the part of so lusty a youth.

Two years ago there was in this precinct some opposition to the county division, caused we believe by a misunderstanding of the situation with reference to the tax-rate in the new county. At any rate the facts do not justify any opposition this year. Jefferson county would take of Wasco county's total net indebtedness a little less than \$2,000, and which her proportion of the assets of Crook county should more than offset. The expenses of organization would be very light, and the expenses of conducting the county would not exceed if they would not be less than that in similarly situated counties. The city council of Antelope has agreed that in the event a new county is created with Antelope as the temporary county seat, the city will at its own expense furnish housing for county officers and court room until such time as the new county shall have had an opportunity to vote upon the question of a county seat. In Wheeler county, with a tax-roll approximately the same as Jefferson county's would be the tax-rate this year was only 23 mills,

the same as Crook county. When Wheeler county was created a few years ago it took from Grant county a considerable indebtedness, and this tax-rate of 23 mills not only covered county expenses, but cared for the interest on their indebtedness besides the payment of a portion of outstanding warrants. And on Wheeler county's bill of expense there was one item of \$1,250 for care of poor, which Jefferson county may reasonably expect will be less within its confines. The friends of Jefferson county may reasonably claim that their county can be conducted on a tax-rate as low if not several mills lower than that in Wheeler county. And, certainly this portion of the county might expect a more proportionate distribution of county funds, in the betterment of roads if nothing more.

For these reasons we believe that the residents of this section of Crook county should participate in the move for a new county.

Their business is all towards the railroads, where they market their products, and the time has passed when they should pay tribute to Prineville. From a selfish point of view Prineville is right in opposing the new county, for every person from this section who goes to Prineville on county business, contributes his proportion to the business prosperity of that town.

After that is said, the argument for remaining in Crook county fails.—Ashwood Prospector.

THE ANSWER.

Ashwood's opinion, which is advanced from Antelope gratuitously, is the cry for help in the death struggle to get something for nothing.

Antelope probably appreciates the fact that in getting the northern portion of Crook county as the back bone and sinew of the proposed Jefferson county she would have all that could be asked or wished for. She knows, too that inside of the next two years with her own section at a standstill as regards the development and northern Crook forging ahead with rapid strides, there would be absolutely no chance for her to secure the county seat of a new county within her own boundaries. That is probably where the rub is doing the most damage at the present time. Antelope has a district surrounding her which is practically worthless to herself or any other district. No railroad will ever enter her gates and it is these points which bring clearly before her eyes the hopelessness of a future effort, that are now egging her on to a consummation, if possible, of her unfeasible schemes.

Antelope and her tributary district by all rights and rules of physical contour belong to Sherman county, but no thought has ever been given to that side of the matter. Instead it has turned, like a boy crying for his lost home, to the project of launching a new county with Antelope as the center of affairs political and otherwise. Antelope knows that Sherman county wouldn't have her district as a gift and she is also painfully aware of the fact that The Dalles and other portions of Wasco county are making an effort to get rid of her to the best advantage. And Antelope in turn is far sighted enough to know that unless she reaches the goal this year she will be shoved to the back ground for all time to come.

On the other hand, Prineville, or any other portion of Crook county, is not adverse to county division and the establishment of a new county seat, but it wants that division to be made along feasible lines and the county seat established at the right time a few years hence and in a place where it will prove satisfactory to all concerned as it would not be if Antelope now claimed it.

Crook county has never welcomed a new year with a more prosperous outlook for its future than it does this year. The weather man, with considerable forethought, has kindly favored the stock interests; nearly a dozen irrigation companies will be working tooth and toe in the spring to bring arid lands into condition for homes; development and industrial activity are overlapping each other in an effort to gain the prize package, and on every hand there is evidence of a great immigration for the present year and a steadily

increasing population. Crook county, with its ideal climatic conditions, can thank itself that it is located where it is and that business men full of energy and progressiveness are backing its biggest and most beneficial enterprises. When that is said, it is evident that the future will take care of itself; other things being equal, the county will not countenance a single backward step.

Additional Locals

F. B. Davis and wife and Miss Webb have returned from a visit at Sisters.

George Millan was in the city last week from his stock ranch at Pine mountain.

M. E. Brink returned yesterday from Bend where he has been looking after his business interests.

Henry Windom returned to his ranch at Culver Tuesday after a week's visit with his family.

Miss Della Cantrill is home from Portland on a visit with her parents at their home on the McKay.

Thomas Sharp returned today from Portland where he has been the past three weeks on a visit.

Will Ford has taken the position as superintendent of the P. A. A. C., physical instructor Schockley having resigned.

Mrs. Ed Bradford returned last week from Madras, where she had been to make improvements on her homestead.

Mrs. Fred Claypool who was visiting in town with Omar and Miss Ronda Claypool last week, returned home Monday.

J. A. Rayl returned to his ranch at Bear creek Wednesday after spending the week looking after business matters in the city.

Walt Knox and Roscoe Knox of Post were in the city yesterday returning to their homes today. They report stock to be in fine condition.

Mayor Will Wurzwiler and son, Nate, left yesterday for Portland accompanied by E. H. Sparks. Nate will resume his studies at the Hill Military Academy.

Nelson Killenbeck was in the city from his Hoystack ranch Monday. Rumor has it that Mr. Killenbeck does not approve of batching and will soon try matrimony.

L. C. Perry was in town yesterday from his sheep camp on the desert. He reports sheep that are being grazed on the desert to be in good shape and there is plenty of grass.

I. W. Spear was in from his ranch on the McKay the first of the week. He reports that the residents in his section will soon have telephone connection, securing the service from the line which Geo. Summers is constructing to Culver.

Deputy Sheriff L. N. Ligggett is preparing the delinquent tax list for publication and it will appear probably next week. The list is longer than that of last year and in the neighborhood of 130 names of delinquents will be advertised.

The Bend school district has levied a twelve mill tax to meet the educational expenses for the ensuing year. The board at a recent meeting of the voters reported that the expenses for the next year would amount to \$1975 and that an extra tax would be necessary. The pupils at present are using four rooms and by the end of the year it is thought that two more will be necessary.

Ed Harbin finished the building of a jetty at the Crooked river bridge yesterday, the work having occupied about three weeks. The jetty has been built from the west bank next to the grade and will serve as a protection to the bridge in case of high water again this spring. The force of the water in such event will be thrown into the center of the channel instead of the water having a free range to cut into the banks as it did last year.

J. H. Edwards, of Sisters, was in town the past week. Mr. Edwards has recently secured the agency for the Columbia Publishing Co. for this state and was appointing agents for this district while here. The county is divided into four districts and he will appoint an agent for each district. He needs two more at present, a lady and a gentleman. Will pay a good salary to the right person. Any one who desires the position can get the information necessary by writing him.

New Pastor Takes up Work.

The Rev. J. Anthony Mitchell, who comes here to assume the pastorate of the First Presbyterian church, arrived in the city the first of the week and will speak to his congregation Sunday January 14.

Rev. Mitchell takes up his work here after twenty months spent in Montana where he went from the General Assembly which was held in Montana. Prior to that time he spent twenty-six years in California and three churches which have been built during late years in Santa Clara and Santa Barbara counties are the results of his labors there.

For the present his family will remain in Los Angeles, or until his eldest daughter, who is ill in the

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hospital there, has recovered from a serious illness.

Rev. Mitchell has traveled extensively and the lectures which he is planning to give in the future will no doubt be impregnated with many interesting experiences as a result of fourteen months which he spent in a tour of the European countries.

J. F. Spinning has been confined to his home during the past week with a severe attack of grip.

Mrs. Naomi Salomon desires to announce that she can be found at her residence and prepared to attend to her business.

Johnson, Both & Co. have made another addition to their store in the shape of a six drawer, multiple cash register.

The Athletic club is arranging to give a comedy in the club hall at an early date. The title is "The Arabian Nights" and those who will appear in the cast are already at work on it.

James A. Foggs, part owner and general manager of the Lincoln Park tract at Sparks left last night for Southern California. For some months Mr. Boggs has been in failing health. He contracted a cold which settled upon his lungs and which he found impossible to shake off. Finally acting under the orders of his physician and advice of friends he departed for Southern California in the hope that the milder climate there would benefit him. He will return to Sparks when the severe weather is over.—Reno Journal, Dec. 22.

Sheriff Smith received a letter yesterday from his cousin, Sheriff J. H. Smith of Mendocino county, Cal., stating that the recent outbreak at the Folsom penitentiary in that state was led by J. W. Finley, a man serving sentence for complicity in the robbery and murder of F. M. Drake. Finley and W. F. Lambert committed the crime together. It will be remembered that Lambert was only recently arrested at Bend and brought to the city where he was identified by Sheriff Smith as the man wanted in California. He is still being held there and will be up for trial the tenth of next month.

Prineville Market.

To the citizens of Prineville, Crook county and vicinity:

As strangers, we have located with you to run a first class meat market, which will be known as the Prineville Market.

We will handle the best of fresh and cured meats, fish, vegetables and fruits in season.

We make a specialty of all kinds of sausages.

Give us a fair share of your patronage and we will guarantee to give you satisfaction.

Yours Respectfully,
PAUL BRUNZEL & SON, Props.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the regular Eighth Grade examinations will be held at Prineville, Jan. 18-19-20, 1905. All teachers having pupils who expect to take this examination will please notify me at once and inform me as to whether applicants desire to write at home school or come to Prineville. C. B. DISWIDDE, Co. Sup't.

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