

# Crook County Journal

VOL. IX.

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NO. 12

## MICHEL & CO.



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## COUNTY WILL HOLD FAIR THIS FALL

### Agricultural Association Is Making Preparations for a Big Exhibit.

Crook county will have an agricultural and livestock fair this fall. Arrangements are being made by the Central Oregon Livestock and Agricultural Association to hold a fair meeting similar to that held in the city three years ago. But the scope of the display will be much better than it has been heretofore.

At the present time work is being diligently pursued on the new fair grounds to get them in readiness for the exhibit. The race course will be cut soon and in the meantime the center of the grounds is being sown to alfalfa. It is expected that this year at least 25 acres will be put in seed with the acreage next season increased to 60 acres.

It was intended a short time ago to build a half mile track, but some of the local horsemen conferred with the board of directors in regard to the matter after which it was decided that if \$100 more of stock was subscribed the association would change its original plans and construct a mile track.

With this matter out of the way the association will soon begin the erection of exhibit buildings, pavilions and a grand stand on the grounds. A levy of 50 per cent was made last year on the stock held by the stockholders and this has recently been increased to a full assessment of 100 per cent. With the money derived from this levy there will be ample funds to carry out the work planned by the association. Another meeting of the association will be held soon at which time superintendents will be appointed and the work of getting the grounds in readiness for the forthcoming display of Crook county's products given all possible speed.

While the exhibit to be given has not yet been decided upon in all its details, it is the intention of the association to give a fair whose scope will be much larger than the one of a couple of years ago. Great improvements have been made in the county during that time and development has sprung up in many lines of industry. It is the purpose of those back of this year's exhibit to bring before the people and the many visitors who will come into this section from the east every line of development and production in the county. Weeks before the opening day of the fair the collection of the various exhibits will be started so that every line represented will be complete. And the magnitude of the display will depend largely upon the funds received during the next few months from the assessment levy. It is expected, however, that these will be paid in full.

President T. H. Lafollett of the Central Oregon Fair and Livestock association said yesterday that it was the consensus of opinion among both the stock holders in the organization and business men on the outside that the present year would beyond doubt be the best in the history of the county for holding the fair. The Lewis and Clark exposition in Portland, combined with the extensive advertising given Crook county by the irrigation companies, would be the means of drawing large numbers of home-seekers into this territory. The local exhibit in consequence will be the best means at hand through which to show them the nature of the county's products and the character of its industries.

"It is the intention of the association, too," he said, "to make the grounds, upon which a considerable sum of money is now being spent, pay dividends inside of a couple of years to the

stockholders. We will have in seed about 25 acres this year and expect to get a good stand of alfalfa. By next season this will be increased to 60 acres. We have an abundance of water for irrigating and a competent man in charge of the work. The result will be that inside of two years from date the production of hay from this acreage will net a good return in cash and the stockholders will begin to realize a profit from their expenditure."

Among those who will take an active part in bringing success to the fair this year are the members of the board of directors composed of T. H. Lafollett, A. Thomson and Champ Smith, and the secretary M. R. Biggs, who, at present, is looking after the race course and will superintend its construction.

## BALL TEAM MAY USE FAIR GROUNDS

With the first touch of spring baseball talk begins to circulate and from present indications it is probable that the local team will have good grounds upon which to play their schedule of games during the present season.

President T. H. Lafollett, of the Fair association, said this week that he would do what he could for the team and he thought there would be no trouble encountered in securing room for a diamond in front of the grand stand at the Fair grounds. He has promised to take up the matter with the other members of the board of directors and their sanction will in all probability be forthcoming.

If the present plan now on foot is adopted it will give the local team an opportunity to play their games this season inside of an inclosure, a fact which will assure them gate receipts. Last year the team was dependent altogether upon the generosity of merchants to make up the purses, but if the Fair grounds are secured the team will be a self supporting institution, besides being able to play more games on the home grounds.

All the games played in the city last year were on an open diamond where it was almost impossible to secure gate receipts, but with conditions changed to the reverse this season, and the same sized crowds in attendance, the gate receipts will provide ample funds for all the expenses.

## LEASE LARGE TRACT OF RANGE LAND

As an outcome of the fight to keep Utah and Idaho sheepmen out of Wyoming, a deal has just been closed in this city by which 2,000,000 acres of land in western Wyoming will pass into the hands of Utah sheep raisers, says a recent special from Omaha.

This is in the form of a lease from the Union Pacific to the Utah Grazing association, which own large flocks of sheep in Wyoming and Utah. John C. Mackay, county commissioner, and E. H. Callister, revenue collector at Salt Lake signed the lease on behalf of the association.

The lease is one of the largest drawn up for some time. It involves alternate sections of government lands. The tract lies in what is known as the Red desert between Leroy and the Green river, the grazing lands being among the best the west affords. It will furnish winter grazing for 300,000 head of sheep owned by several parties, each of whom possesses a summer and fall range of his own. Under the laws of Wyoming the tract can be kept free from transient grazers without being fenced.

It will save the members of the association from overcrowding as they can regulate the number of sheep that the range will accommodate.

## SCHOOL CENSUS IS BEING TAKEN

### Sup't Dinwiddie Expects an Increase of 300 in This Year's Enumeration.

The work of enumerating all the children of school age in Crook county began last week and is now well under way. Superintendent Dinwiddie has furnished the various clerks in the different districts complete sets of blanks to perform the work which it is expected will be completed by the last of the present week.

The total enumeration for the county last year was 1270, but Superintendent Dinwiddie states that there is but little doubt those figures will be increased during the present enumeration to a figure between 1500 and 1600. This increase will be shown principally in the two districts lying to the south west and north west where the greatest strides in settlement have been made during the past twelve months. The enumeration from the school districts in the vicinity of Bend and throughout the Agency Plains country are expected to show the greatest increase in the number of school children. The enumeration in this city, which work will be done by School Clerk M. R. Elliott, is also expected to show an increase in numbers, but this will not be in proportion to the greater enumerations shown in the newer districts which are filling more rapidly with new settlers.

The county apportionment last year amounted to \$50 for each district. Only \$23.40 out of this amount, however, was paid. The various districts this year, in consequence, will receive the balance due out of that amount besides another apportionment which will approximate \$5 per pupil. At the present time there remains in the county treasury \$810 belonging to the school fund and this with the balance to be paid in on taxes will be used in making up the balance due on last year's deficiency.

The apportionment for this year is due on April 1, but it is not likely that the funds will be distributed before the middle of the month in order secure the bulk of the money due the districts.

County Superintendent Dinwiddie cautions the clerks making school census about making double enumerations. A correct enumeration from each district will save the work of straightening out the lists when they reach the superintendent's office. Heretofore there has been some carelessness shown in taking the census, either through negligence or error, or else from a desire to pad the lists. Clerks are warned this year to give accurate enumerations and save time and trouble. Under the new law the work of figuring the apportionments is much easier and more satisfactory, provided the reports of the district clerks are found to be accurate and trustworthy.

## RAILROAD TO TAP HEPPNER COAL FIELD

The long expected now seems near at hand. That is that work will soon be commenced on the railroad connecting the Heppner coal mines with the main line of the O. R. & N. We clip the following from Saturday's East Oregonian, which states the purposes of the new organization now being formed to undertake the work of building the road and opening up the mines:

"To tap the coal fields-southeast of Heppner and to otherwise open up the country along the line, is the professed object of the Pendleton Railway & Coal company, for which articles of incorporation were sent to the secretary of the state last Thursday. A certificate

of incorporation is expected from that official within a day or two, and when it arrives it will be recorded in the office of the county clerk and the formation of the company will be complete.

"The Pendleton Railroad & Coal company is incorporated for \$3,000,000, and the stock is divided into shares of \$1 each.

"According to C. E. Redfield, the people interested in the construction of the road are the same who control the Heppner coal fields, and the primary object is to make possible the development of their mine by building a railroad to it.

"According to the incorporators it is their intention to commence operations as soon as the weather will permit in the spring. Thus far no surveys have been made, nor has anything been done toward the securing of a right of way. The road is to run from here to Pilot Rock, and from there south through Camas Prairie to Ukiah. A branch will run from some point along the line to Heppner, and out to the coal fields southeast of that place. It is expected that approximately 100 miles of road will be required to connect all of these points."

## CULVER RANCHER HANGS HIMSELF

A man named Jackson, who until only a few weeks ago had been employed by Perry Read at Culver committed suicide sometime during the last of the week by hanging himself from a rafter in a cabin several miles north of the Read ranch.

About two weeks ago Jackson, who had been working on the Read ranch during the past winter, quit his place and began living in a cabin situated some miles north of the former place. He was seen nearly every day afterwards at some of the neighboring ranches, where he went to obtain food, until the last of the week. Residents in the vicinity noticing his absence came to the conclusion that he had left the country and gone to Washington where he owned some property and where he lived before coming into this county.

Monday, however, suspicions having been aroused, a party went to the cabin to find trace of him. Upon opening the door the lifeless body of the man was found hanging at the end of a rope, the latter having been thrown over and tied to a rafter above.

H. W. Lamson left immediately for Prineville and upon his arrival here notified Coroner Crooks. Word was sent to the justice of the peace in that district to hold an inquest over the remains, the result of which has not yet reached here.

No good reason has been advanced for the man taking his life. It is stated that he owned property in Washington among which was a timber claim for which he had been offered \$10,000, so that poverty could not be given as a reason for his rash act.

## FIND LOG 700 FEET IN THE EARTH

Mr. Schwilke, who resides on the Thomas McConnell place and is assisting in drilling the artesian well, was a La Grande visitor yesterday and stated that the well was now down 800 feet and would be driven another hundred feet. The study of the progress of this well brings to view some valuable information regarding the formation of the earth's crust in this valley.

At a point 700 feet below the surface the drill struck a yellow pine log which from the pieces brought up appears to be in a good state of preservation. Below the stratum in which the log was found came a stratum of quick sand. After passing through the sand a stratum of blue clay was found which was about fifteen feet thick.—La Grande Observer.

## Professional Cards.

M. R. Elliott,  
Attorney-at-Law  
Prineville, Oregon.

G. W. Barnes,  
Attorney at Law,  
Prineville, Oregon.

M. R. Biggs  
Attorney-at-Law  
Prineville, Oregon.

Chas. S. Edwards & H. P. Belknap  
(County Physicians)

Belknap & Edwards  
Physicians and Surgeons.  
Office First Door East of Wilson's  
Drug Store  
Prineville, Oregon.

J. H. Rosenberg  
Physician and Surgeon  
Calls answered promptly day or night  
Office two doors south of Tompkins's  
Drug Store. Residence corner  
1st and Main Streets.  
Prineville, Oregon.

## CROOK COUNTY BANK

OFFICERS:  
W. A. BOOTH, President  
C. M. ELKINS, Vice President  
FRED W. WILSON, Cashier

DIRECTORS:  
W. A. BOOTH, C. M. ELKINS,  
D. F. STEWART, FRED W. WILSON.

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Collections will receive prompt attention

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