

Crook County Journal

VOL. IX.

PRINEVILLE, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, SEPTEMBER 14, 1905.

NO. 39

J. E. Stewart & Co.
(Successors To MICHEL & CO.)
General Merchandise

Announcement



Boyd Adams having purchased an interest with C. C. Dunham in the New York Racket Store, and they having purchased the stock of Clothing and Furnishing Goods of B. Gormley desire to announce to the public that the new firm has moved into the building formerly occupied by Mr. Gormley and will do business in our new quarters under the firm name of the

OWL CASH STORE

In our new quarters we have more room and in addition to the large stock which we now have we will add several new lines making our store the most complete and up-to-date in the county. We wish to call your special attention to our Shoe Department as we intend to make this our specialty and cater to the wants of the particular.

Thanking you for your patronage in the past and with a cordial invitation for all to call and see us in our new quarters we are

Yours respectfully,
DUNHAM & ADAMS

Blacksmithing That Pleases



Is The Kind You Get at

J. H. WIGLE'S

(Successor to)
CORNETT & ELKINS'S

A Stock of Farm Machinery always on hand

A. H. LIPPMAN & CO.

Furniture and Undertaking

Ranges

AT PORTLAND PRICES

LEAGUE DENOUNCES NEWSPAPER STORY

Business Association Uses Unfeeling Terms in Nailing Oregonian's Misrepresentation of Facts.

The indignation aroused by the Oregonian's gross misrepresentation of facts, relative to the Crain fire, which appeared in that paper in its issue of September 4, reached a climax last Saturday in the nature of resolutions, adopted by the citizens' Business League, which denounce in unfeeling terms the Oregonian's wilful misconstruction of the details of the blaze.

In as much as the alleged facts given by the Portland paper, were almost wholly false in every respect and detailed in a manner which showed plainly the animosity of the paper against this section of the state and the venomous spirit displayed in dealing with matters originating here, the Business League considered that the article in question, like many another which the Oregonian has been guilty of publishing recently, was nothing short of a treacherous slap at Crook county. In consequence the business association believed that the best and wisest thing to do was to adopt resolutions, denouncing the falsification and setting forth the facts as they appear, and send them to the Portland Journal for publication in the hopes that they will in a measure correct the erroneous impression given to the public of this county, an impression created through the agency of a paper which has but little use for the country or the people in it.

The League considers it as quite clear that the motive behind the Oregonian's inexcusable falsehoods is that paper's political hatred for Congressman Williamson, one of the defendants in the land cases. But the association did not consider for a moment that even a difference in political parties or views was sufficient cause for the conception of an article impregnated with falsehoods and base insinuations. And while its object in smirching the character of Mr. Williamson and his co-defendants has probably been accomplished, the nature of the article is such as to inflict permanent injury to both the business interests and progress of Crook county. With these facts in view the League adopted the following resolutions.

Whereas, the Portland Oregonian, in its issue of the 4th inst., contains an article, purported to be based on facts, in which it states that a barn on the property of Wilford J. Crain, six miles from Prineville and belonging to the said Wilford J. Crain, had been destroyed by fire during the night, together with his production of this year's hay; that the loss was total, and that immediately after the fire the tracks of three men were found leading from the scene of the conflagration into the city of Prineville, and

Whereas, it is asserted that the fire was an act of incendiarism instigated by Williamson, Gesner and Biggs, residents of this county and at present defendants in the land cases now being tried in Portland.

Whereas, it is the sense of the Citizen's Business League of Prineville, acting for the residents of this city and eastern Crook county, that the aforesaid article is wholly false and malicious in its intent; that its malevolent construction is wholly without foundation, and that it was purposely intended as a detriment to Crook county, its business interests and associations, and was directed against the society of the county in general. And, further, the facts show that the property was not on the ranch of Wilford

J. Crain, one of the witnesses in the land cases, but was on the Porfly ranch only three miles from this city; that the fire did not occur at night, but was discovered at 10 o'clock in the morning; that a barn belonging to Wilford J. Crain was not destroyed, nor his present season's product; that the amount lost belonged equally to Ralph Porfly and Wilford J. Crain and was partly insured; that there were no tracks of three men found leading from the fire into the city Prineville, and that it is the opinion of Ralph Porfly, one of the owners of the destroyed property, that the fire was accidentally set by a party of campers, transients passing through the county, who had spent the night in the vicinity of the shed, and who were not nor have been in any wise connected with the defendants in the land cases. Therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Citizens' Business League of Prineville, expressing the undivided sentiment of the residents of Prineville and the eastern portion of Crook county, denouncing in unqualified terms the culpably false, wilfully misconstructed and widely exaggerated statements contained in the article hereinbefore mentioned, that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Oregon Daily Journal, believing that paper to be the only journalistic exponent of fair play and justice in Portland, and that they be published in refutation of the alleged facts as they appeared in the Oregonian of the 4th inst as noted above.

REO MOUNTAINEER REACHES OMAHA

Omaha, Neb., Sept. 7.—The "Reo Mountaineer," enroute from New York to the Lewis and Clark Exposition at Portland and thence back home by way Frisco arrived here yesterday afternoon. The trans-continentals will leave for Cheyenne early tomorrow morning. At Omaha a complete camping outfit was added to the equipment of the car. Blankets, fire arms, and a cooking outfit, as well as a complete line of canned provisions have been placed in tonneau of the car. It is expected these will be found a necessity in crossing the desert tracts of western Nebraska, Wyoming, and Idaho. An extra gasoline tank holding 20 gallons has been strapped on the side of the car.

Percy F. Megargel, of the American Motor League, who is in charge of the "Reo Mountaineer," has compiled a very accurate road book of the states already traversed, and is prepared to map out the best automobile road all the way across the continent. The A. M. L. is sending out this expedition is doing a work that will be of untold benefit to tourists in the future. At the present time the league has some ten thousand members scattered throughout the United States, all of whom are enthusiastic automobilists.

The automobile used for this long and hazardous trip is a regular stock Reo of 16 horse power. It is expected that before the trip has been completed a total mileage of some ten thousand miles will have been covered by this car. One thousand seven hundred and forty miles is the distance registered between New York and Omaha. The roads thus far have proved very good, and 140 miles a day has been the average day's run. The hard rains the last twenty-four hours may delay the expedition somewhat in traveling in Nebraska.

The towns that will be visited by the tourists this week are Fremont, Schuyler, Columbus, Central City, Grand Island, Kearney, Lexington, Cozad, North Platte, Ogalalla, Julesburg, Chapel, Sidney, Potter, and Kimball in Nebraska, and Laramie, Cheyenne, and Rawlins, in Wyoming.

MORE CROOK COUNTY PEOPLE UNDER BAN

Federal Grand Jury Returns Indictments for the Alleged Intimidation of Witnesses.

Dr. Van Gesner and C. Sam Smith, sheriff of Crook county, were indicted last week by the federal grand jury on the charge of conspiring to intimidate government witnesses and thereby prevent them testifying in the pending trial of Williamson, Gesner and Biggs.

The two witnesses whose testimony Smith and Gesner are alleged to have attempted to influence are Lark Elliott and John S. Watkins, both of whom testified for the government on the former trials of Congressman Williamson and his co-defendants.

The indictment recites that both Elliott and Watkins were subpoenaed August 8, to appear in Portland on August 21, when the present grand jury was first convened. Threats and persuasion are alleged to have been employed by Gesner and Smith to induce the two witnesses to refrain from giving testimony that would be prejudicial to the defendants in the Williamson case.

Lark Elliott is awaiting trial in Prineville on two indictments returned by the local grand jury charging him with larceny of a calf and a horse. This fact is said to have been used to intimidate him.

The indictment also sets forth statements made to Elliott by Van Gesner, who is alleged to have said: "You do the right thing and I'll see that you get out of your trouble."

Threats were also made against John S. Watkins, according to the indictment, who was told that if he testified against the land fraud defendants Smith and Gesner would destroy his reputation for veracity, injure him in business and "get even with him."

The indictment sets forth conversations alleged to have occurred at the Perkins hotel in the presence of Douglas Lawson and Campbell Duncan, in which Smith vehemently denounced the men who had testified against Williamson and declared that he "could buy any of them for six bits."

NEW SAWMILL FOR NORTHERN CROOK

The long-talked-of saw mill in the northern edge of Crook county promises to become a certainty in the near future. Last week John N. Haugen of Albert Lea, Minnesota, called at the Herald office and gave the above information. Mr. Haugen, is manager of the Great Western Lumber Company of Albert Lea, Minn., whose representatives came into Eastern Oregon last winter and secured two thousand acres of fine timber land in section 32, township 11, which lies not far from the site of Chas. Derham's old mill in Crook Co.

Said Mr. Haugen: "You can announce to the people of Wasco and Crook counties that we are here for business. We have control of a large tract of fine timber, and will keep in stock every kind of rough and finished lumber that enters into the construction of any kind of building. Our machinery has been shipped to Shaniko and will arrive soon. The capacity of the mill will be 25,000 feet per day. We expect to get the plant established and ready to turn out lumber early in October. The company is capitalized at \$35,000."

Asked as to the market for their output, Mr. Haugen replied: "We will supply the local market first and ship out by wagon and rail to the general market. We can fur-

nish the best lumber Eastern Oregon produces as cheap as any one. We will establish lumber yards at convenient places for quick delivery. The headquarters of the company will probably be at Ashwood."

This enterprise will be a great boom to the people of this entire section, as it has been almost impossible to obtain lumber since the Derham mill was moved to its present site on the Deschutes river, and it is only recently that lumber from this mill could be had. Now, however, the Warm Springs saw mill will be able to supply the large territory contiguous to the Deschutes river, including lower Trout Creek, while the Great Western Co. will supply the country extending from Hay Creek on the West to Cherry Creek on the East, and North to Shaniko, from which point it will be shipped to the outside markets.—Antelope Herald.

FOREST FIRES EAT UP VALUABLE TIMBER

A forest fire, which is causing thousands of dollars loss, and which has covered Crook county with heavy clouds of smoke during the past week, is still raging in the Cascades and unless soon checked by rain will prove one of the most destructive fires in the history of the Cascades. A dispatch from Albany says:

Last night Albany people watched on the eastern sky the lurid reflection of a gigantic forest fire burning many miles away up the canyon of the North Santiam River. Today the report comes that there is raging unchecked in the Santiam district a forest fire which bids fair to become the greatest that has ever devastated that section, which is dotted with big "burns" of years ago.

The fire sprang from the one that was reported in the Mill City district last week. With a mind to the protection of homes and railroad property, the fighters devoted their attention to the flames along the line of the river, and when they were checked the fire was reported under control and active work ceased. But little attention was paid to the small fires smoldering in the slashings and second growth timber after danger to homes seemed to be over, and it was not noticed that the flames had crossed the Santiam at Gates, and entered the small timber on the Linn county side. The first intimation of danger came yesterday, when, without warning, flames leaped to the tops of trees in the great belt of timber to which the Curtis Lumber Company had but recently constructed a logging road, and several miles from the scene of last week's fire-lighting. Loggers at work in the camp were forced to flee for their lives, the hungry flames eating up the logging camp, engine, and a quantity of logs which were ready for the mill.

The belt of timber through which the flames are roaring is one of the most select in Linn county and of vast extent. A strong wind, increased by the flames themselves, is driving the fire rapidly in a southeasterly direction and timber worth thousands of dollars is doomed. This timber tract is the property of the Curtis Lumber Company, which has its entire force of men at work fighting the fire. It is stated, however, that there seems no possibility of checking the destructive element without the assistance of rain. While the fire is several miles from any habitation, and there is no danger of loss of life, the monetary loss will be the greatest of the Summer for Linn county.

The hydraulic ram of the water works was put out of commission last week through the interference of outsiders. Engineer Hesse came up from Portland to inspect the plant and locate the difficulty and he found the injury to be quite extensive. It will take six weeks to repair it. In the meantime the steam pump has been connected up and is now supplying the system satisfactorily. It pumps easily 100,000 gallons a day.—Bend Bulletin.