

# Crook County Journal

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER, \$1.50 YEAR

PRINEVILLE, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1910.

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## STOCK WINTERED IN FINE SHAPE

## Losses in Crook County Less Than 2 Percent

## FALSE REPORTS DO INJURY

## T. J. Ferguson Says His Stock Got Fat This Winter—Feed on Desert is Good.

T. J. Ferguson, the Bear creek stockman, called at the Journal office Saturday for the purpose of correcting the false reports that have been circulated of late regarding the loss of stock in Crook county. He says that he has not lost one per cent of his cattle, and that the total loss for his section of the county will not reach 2 per cent.

matter of fact the stock will not leave the grass to come up for hay. The grass is too good."

Mr. Ferguson says that the loss in horses has been grossly exaggerated. In his country the loss has been very light. It is true that streams froze solid, making water scarce, and this fact may account for some slight loss among horses.

"There is some stock in my country that could be bought," said Mr. Ferguson, "but most of them have been turned out on the desert where the feed is extra good for this time of the year. Water too, is more plentiful than in years gone by. Both water and feed are so plentiful this year that stockmen will try to hold their cattle on the desert all the year. This is something unusual and never attempted unless conditions were extremely favorable. Please make these facts known so that the country won't get a black eye," was the parting admonition of the stockman.

## Normal School Question.

You know what a good teacher means to a child. You know what he means to a community. We must have schools and we must have teachers. The normal school question is now submitted free from politics. That is the way you want it kept. If you pay taxes on \$1000 it will cost you four cents a year to maintain the State Normal at Mouthout. Vote, yes, on this bill.

## "See Holt's Kest Cutting Babies"

## Removal Notice.

Dr. A. W. Grater has moved his office from the Poinceter hotel to the office one door north of the Price Bros. store, where he will be pleased to meet all patients. 3-24

## ALBERTA HAS NO CHARMS FOR HIM

## W. O. Elliott is Glad to Get Home Again

## BETTER OPPORTUNITIES HERE

## Too Much Winter There For One Used to Balm Central Oregon Weather.

W. O. Elliott, wife and child, arrived the first of the week after an extended stay in Alberta, where they went to investigate conditions with a view to locating there.

"The streets of Prineville looked good to me," said Mr. Elliott on arriving home. "I guess I'll take my chances in old Crook county for we failed to find any place that suited us as well in Canada. I went to Alberta thinking that it would be just the place to go into the stock business, but when we got there we found that all the good land had been taken up years ago and that you cannot find a much better piece of land there now than you can in Crook county for homesteading.

"But the climate is the worst draw back of all. One would have

to feed his stock more than six of the twelve months in the year, and any crop that is raised must be planted, grown and harvested within three or four months. I learned, too, that the big yields of grain reported there are not what is claimed. They do not raise any more bushels of wheat to the acre than we do here. And just think of it, a man can hardly stick his head out of doors more than half the time. It's a different deal you get there from the bright sunshine of Central Oregon.

"I'm going up on Crooked river and homestead a piece of land that is good enough for me and better than any that I found available in Alberta. I can put a ditch on about 40 acres of it and have good outside range, too.

"It does a man good to go away and see some of these far famed regions, then when he gets back to a good country, he will be contented to stay there."

## Wanted.

Some White Rock eggs or chickens. J. S. Fox, Prineville, Ore. 3-17-24

## Woman Wanted.

A middle-aged woman to do housework. Apply to T. F. McCallister, Prineville, 3-10

## Piano For Sale.

A 8475 Cambridge Ivers & Pond piano, Rosewood case, in excellent condition, for \$250. Inquire at Journal office or of Margarie F. Brink. 3-17-24

## Eggs for Hatching.

Single-comb R. I. Reds. Orders booked now. Mrs. J. E. Adamson. 3-10-24

## Clydesdale Stallion for Sale.

Coming 3 years old; weight over 1600 lbs. Address S. A. Prose, Prineville, Or. 3-10-24

## KEEP SETTLERS ON THE JUMP

## Peculiar Practices of Interior Dept.

## PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF THEM

## Special Agents of Land Office Arrest Settlers for Crime on Trivial Offenses.

Cutting of timber on public domain for domestic purposes is being made by special agents of the Interior Department an absorbing topic for the homesteader and ranchman. Special agents have been working over much of the state to ascertain where there has been illegal cutting of timber on the domain, and report that many infractions of the law are being uncovered. Wherever possible, it is planned to have prosecutions commenced, bringing the ranchmen and homesteader into the court on a criminal charge, and either imprisoning him or making him pay a fine, in addition to the costs of the prosecution. How many cases will result from this new campaign cannot be forecasted, but it is believed that there will be many.

Oregon ranchmen, farmers and homestead entrymen are passing from the time when no attention whatever was paid to their cutting of timber on the domain, to a period when every act is to be watched by a special agent. In early years no restrictions whatever were placed upon timber cuttings for domestic and farm purposes. Timber was a drug on the market, an impediment. Liberal use of timber and lumber was universal in the state. Whenever the farmer or ranchman wanted fuel or timbers, he proceeded to the nearest forest on the domain and cut all he needed, without license, let or hindrance. These men have been educated to this condition, in fact have known no other, and there has been no suggestion to them from the Interior Department that a changed order has arrived, when criminal prosecutions may be brought for doing what has been a life-time custom. By publishing decrees and rules at Washington, the new order is ushered in, but the farmer and rancher out in Oregon learns nothing of this until a minion of the law swoops down with some terrible arraignment of the hapless husbandman.

Farmers and ranchers cannot understand why, when an order of business or administration is changed, the fact should not be given publicity among the men affected. They argue that this would be an economical system, compared with that of maintaining a large number of officials to press prosecutions against men who are not aware that they had committed any offense. If the cost of one or two suits were put into the issuing of a pamphlet, giving the new regulations or new rules adopted and being enforced complete publicity among the people affected, farmers believe that there would be no need of prosecutions except in rare instances. They back this assertion up with the statement that dozens of men are seeking information constantly as to what the law authorizes and permits. They do not want to violate any law. They have been accustomed all their lives to certain privileges, and through vague press reports learn that a change has been ordered by officials in Washington. They commence writing, as best they know how, to get the facts. In the meantime they or their neighbors are charged with having committed a crime.

In the matter of clearing a homestead, there is also an acute issue. The law requires a homesteader to proceed to clear and cultivate his land. Yet should a man clear

timber from his land, then find he does not want to continue his work of perfecting title, he is subject to prosecution. If he clears timber and burns it on the ground, he is supposed to be complying with the law's requirements, but if in clearing the timber, he seeks to have it utilized as lumber, instead of being wasted, he again violates the law. When hedged about by such conditions which have an element of contradictoriness, and when feeling that the details of the law will be unfolded to him only through criminal prosecutions, the Oregon farmer and rancher acquired a dread of everything identified with the Interior Department.

Instead of maintaining a big batch of special agents to wander over the state to detect innocent infractions of the law, some the leading ruralists are urging that a little decent publicity be given new laws and regulations, to give law-abiding people a chance to escape trouble. —Telegram.

## Sue Crook County to Collect Bad Bill

## But County Doesn't Owe Bridge Contractor Anything.

County Clerk Brown and County Treasurer W. F. King were summoned hastily to Portland Saturday in a suit brought against Crook county for an alleged unpaid balance on old contracts.

The story goes back to 1903 when J. B. Tillotson was given a contract to build a bridge across Crooked river, near the Frank Forest place, for the sum of \$3580, the county agreeing to furnish all material except the frame timber for the super structure. The bridge was built and the sum of \$3000 was paid Tillotson. The remaining \$580 was withheld on agreement with the county court until the contractor should file his bond and guarantee that no person should suffer injury through any fault of construction of the bridge for a term of 12 years. This Tillotson failed to do. The county court, acting on this failure, issued an order that Tillotson should not be paid the remaining \$580.

In the steel bridge across Crooked river just west of Prineville Tillotson took the contract for \$4690. Everything was to be furnished by the county except certain parts of the woodwork that the contractor was to supply. It was stipulated that fir should be used. The contractor ignored the stipulation and put in pine. When the bridge was examined before acceptance the substitute was discovered and the county court docked the contractor \$190, as the estimated value in the difference between pine and fir. This the contractor agreed to and the matter was supposed to be settled. But it wasn't.

It seems that Tillotson owes a firm in Portland a sum of money and this firm learning that an unpaid balance was withheld for some reason decides to sue Crook county in an endeavor to recover. Hence the county officials were summoned to Portland to testify as to the truth or falsity of the allegation. The officials took documentary evidence with them showing that Tillotson did not comply with his contracts in either case and that he got all that was coming to him.

## Baseball Next Sunday Afternoon

The married and single men will cross bats next Sunday afternoon on the high school grounds. The game will be called at 2 o'clock. Both sides have been practicing and both expect to win. Turn out and see who does. The following is the lineup:

Single men	Married men
Hinkle	Elmer Zeek
Heister	Walter Foster
H. Belknap	Harry Laulus
Morris	Spaulding
Arthur Zeek	Davis
Peg Belknap	Rosenberg
Bert Barnes	Storkmann
Fred Spire	Frank Foster
Pete Lister	Jordan

"See Holt's Kest Cutting Babies"

## ALPHAS WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP

## Basket Ball Games Draw Big Crowd

## ALPHA GIRLS ALSO WINNERS

## Literary Societies Render Best Programs of the Year—Personal Mention.

The basket ball season closed with a double game last Thursday evening. The interest and enthusiasm manifested showed that not only the students but the citizens of Prineville were becoming intensely interested in the game. The Alpha Society had the championship for both the girls' and the boys' team, as the Alpha girls won over the Ochoconians with a score of 3 to 0, and the Alpha boys won with a score of 28 against 18 by the Ochoconians. While the Ochoconians lost, they contested every inch of the field and both sides played a game that would have done credit to teams that have played several years instead of but one.

The program rendered by the members of the Ochoconian Society was enjoyed by the students, as every selection was of the usual excellence. The first number was an instrumental solo by Miss Leola Estes, which was followed by current events by Lawrence Lister, who discussed the topics of present interest in an interesting and instructive manner. The Ochoconian "Review" which followed, edited by William Criswell and Mabel Doak, contained many clever articles as well as amusing incidents.

The president, Wilford Belknap, then gave a talk on "How to Amend the Constitution," which was greatly appreciated by all, as was the humorous selection by Clarence Rice. The oration, "The Influence of a Great Teacher," by Miss Agnes Elliott, was one of the best selections the society has been favored with this year. The program closed with the report of the critic, Clark Morse, who commended and recommended as there was nothing to criticize.

The program of the Alpha Society last Friday was one of the most finished that the society has had the pleasure of listening to this year. A talk "On What the Pupils Could do for the School and What the School Would do for Them," by Robert Kester, was of especial interest and Robert brought out and emphasized the value of an education to the men of today by showing the difference in the earning power of the educated and the uneducated, and he further emphasized the importance of training by his statement that no sane man would enter an untrained horse against a trained one, yet little attention is paid to entering an untrained mind against a trained one. Robert closed his remarks with the suggestion that each student of high school make an earnest effort to increase the enrollment for next year, in order that the board may feel at liberty to add other departments that would be of special help and benefit to the students.

This was followed by an Impromptu, "The Greek Theater," by George Mingers, and all who heard it have a very clear picture of this unique structure. The next number was an oration, "American Ideals," by Miss Fay Baldwin, who showed unusual oratorical ability and the Alphas feel that the Ochoconians will have to work if the coming contest is theirs.

The Alpha paper edited by Roy Lowther was well organized and was full of newsy items of school and society life as well as giving some excellent current topics of interest. Miss Vivian Hinkle's se-

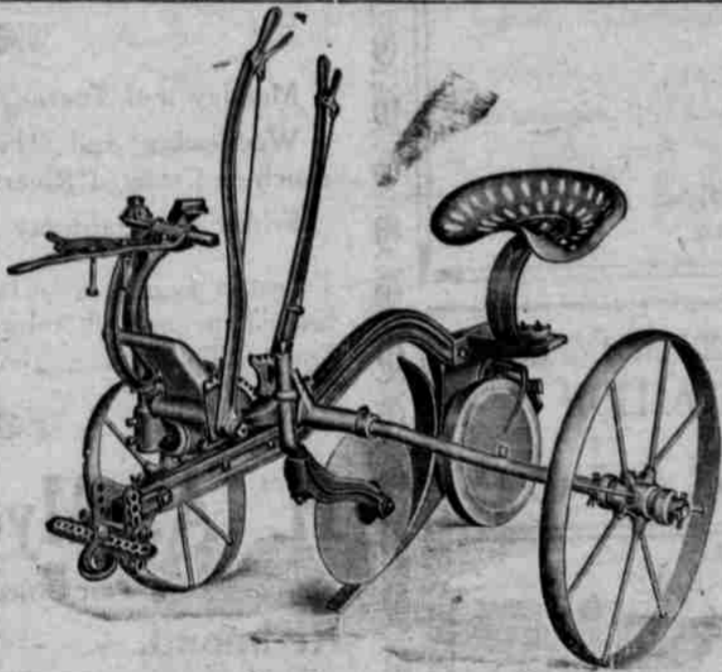
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