

# Crook County Journal

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## Crook County--The Land of Free Homes

Hon. J. N. Williamson, president of the Prineville Commercial Club, has prepared the following facts concerning Crook county, which will be printed in booklet form for general circulation. The statements contained herein may be relied upon for accuracy in every respect. He has virtually spent a lifetime in this country and knows from observation and experience the conditions that obtain here. Mr. Williamson writes as follows:

The geographic center of Oregon is located in Crook County. Hence, any description of Central Oregon must necessarily contain something about the immense country contained within the boundaries of this County.

Crook County is approximately seventy-five miles square and contains three million acres of land, one-third of which, according to so eminent an authority as Mr. Thomas Shaw, is tillable land. Only a small portion of the tillable land is now cultivated and much of it is yet government land subject to be taken under the homestead and other public land laws. Of course, the best is now taken but much remains well worth looking over with a view of entry by people desiring homes.

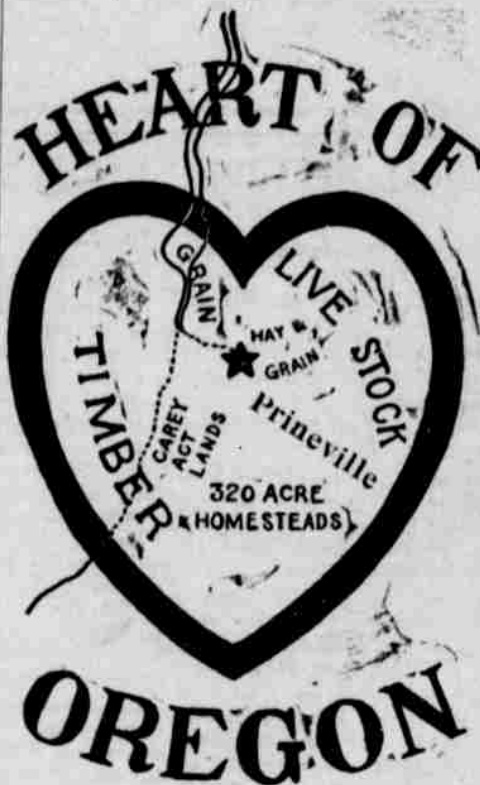
### Topography.

Crook County has all altitudes from six hundred feet above sea level on up to the eternal snows of the Cascade Mountains. The average altitude of the tillable country might be approximated at three thousand feet above sea level. Generally speaking, the county is interspersed with rolling valleys and rugged mountains and in a few years hence will support a large and prosperous population.

### Population.

According to the recent census this immense area

### CROOK COUNTY, THE



Homes for Thousands

of country is yet short of ten thousand souls, having doubled its population, however, in the last five years.

### Principal Towns.

The principal towns of Crook County are Prineville, the county seat and main business center, Redmond, Madras, Bend, Sisters, Lamont and a number of other promising business points.

### Resources.

Crook County has a diversity of resources, many of which have lain practically dormant in the past owing to its lack of either rail or water transportation. Among these resources might be mentioned its timber, for all of the higher altitudes are covered with yellow pine and fir timber, agriculture, stockraising, mining and dairying.

### Timber.

There is, approximately, 41 billion feet of standing timber in Crook County, mostly yellow pine. Most of this timber, say two-thirds of it, is on the eastern slope of the Cascade Mountains, the remaining third is found on the spurs of the Blue Mountains in the Eastern and Northeastern portion of the county. There having been no transportation in the past, except team and wagon, no timber has yet been cut in Crook County except for local use, which amount has been comparatively small. The price of lumber for local purposes ranges from nine to twenty dollars per thousand at the mill. There is neither oak, spruce, maple, ash or other hard wood in the county. The principal timber thus far used for wood being juniper, which makes excellent wood for both heating and cooking and it is to be found in abundance along the Crooked River valley and the hills and plateaus bordering thereon.

### Agriculture.

The agricultural resources of the county have, in

Continued on last page.

### John Morris' Cottage Burned.

The cottage of J. F. Morris, just across the street from the Journal office, was gutted by fire Friday afternoon. The building was occupied by Mrs. Mary Hinton.

Although the response of the fire department was prompt and pressure from the mains good, the house and contents were badly damaged by fire and water.

The alarm was turned in at just 2:30, and before 3:00 o'clock the fire was over. Four streams of water played on the building a few minutes after the alarm was given. But for the good work of the fire department and the prompt response of the Prineville Light & Water company with good pressure the building would have burned to the ground.

There is a difference of opinion as to how the fire started, but the most likely theory, from the appearance of the burned building, is that someone stepped on and ignited a match. There was no insurance on the building or contents.

### Eighth Grade Examinations Poor.

County Superintendent Ford reports that the eighth grade examinations held last week were very poor. Only five out of sixteen passed, and their grades were low. Seven were conditioned. They failed to make the grade in two studies. If the work can be made up the students will be promoted.

Twenty-three students from the sixth and seventh grades passed in physiology and hygiene. They did this so that when they came to take the eighth grade finals they would not have to take the same subject over again.

In discussing the reason for the poor showing, the county superintendent said that nearly every one fell down in spelling; some of the grades going as low as 36. One student got 90 and another 86. Arithmetic, too, seemed a stumbling block to many of them. Nearly as many failed in this study as in spelling. Three failed in grammar.

The successful five that will be given eighth grade diplomas are: Grace Terrell and Ben Malkson of O'Neil; Myrtle Joslin and Della Newbill of Grizzly.

Miss Parrott and Mrs. Collins Elkins assisted the County Superintendent in holding the examinations.

### Receiver Submits Final Report.

Charles M. Redfield was discharged in the Federal Court last week from the receivership of the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company. His report, submitted to the court, shows the receipts and disbursements to have been \$95,138.69. The total amount received from the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company was \$44,027.88, of which \$30,684.15 was the amount of money turned over to him by the Merchants' Savings & Trust Company. On settlers' notes held by the latter company he received \$22,040.16 on collateral bonds, and \$6,251.65 on first mortgage bonds.

Of the disbursements \$35,981.51 was spent to redeem settlers' notes, \$30,684.15 for interest coupons on first mortgage bonds, and \$12,532.07 in salaries.

Redfield was appointed upon the petition of Frank R. Shinn and Louis G. Addison, the defendants being the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company, A. F. Biles, Howard Contract Company and Merchants' Savings & Trust Company.

### A Buy That is a Buy.

400 acres of fertile land, all fenced; 300 acres under irrigation, 80 acres plowed, house and barn, six miles from the Oregon Trunk railroad. This land can not be duplicated for the price in Crook County. Price \$7000 cash. Write or apply in person to T. W. TAYLOR, Hillman, Oregon.

### Metolius a Division Point

Surveys have been completed for the construction of a "Y" at Metolius, six miles south of Madras, at which point the Oregon Trunk company's shops and yards will be built. This will be used in turning the engines until the turntable is built. Two crews of men have been working for the past few weeks in the yards at Metolius to prepare it for the laying of tracks. The grading north and south of there has been completed.

From Metolius to Bend the distance is 39 miles, which, it is estimated, can be completed before June 1. The construction work on the Crooked river bridge will require about two months.

Pending the completion of the line to Redmond no trains will be operated south of Metolius, which also will serve as a division point as soon as the entire road is built. Local freight from points south will be handled at Metolius.

The six-mile stretch between Madras and Metolius can be supplied with tracks in less than a week, after which the work south of that point will be taken up with the view of reaching the Crooked river, 15 miles away, as early as possible.

The steel for the work south of Metolius has started to arrive and will be hauled to the end of the line as fast as it is needed. This consists of 8000 tons of 90-pound rails to be used in main-line construction and 7000 tons of 70-pound material for side and passing tracks.

The work on the Oregon Trunk has been done under the contract system, the grading and construction north of Metolius being done by Porter Bros., of Portland, and that south of Metolius by H. C. Henry, also of Portland. The bridges have been built by various Eastern concerns.

### Mrs. Erickson May Return to County

The sheriff's office is in receipt of the following letter from Governor West, bearing on the Erickson case: "Mr. T. N. Balfour, Sheriff of Crook County, Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. C. H. Erickson, enclosing the conditional pardon of Mrs. Bettie Erickson, together with letters from yourself to Mrs. Erickson.

"I note that one of the conditions in the pardon is that Mrs. Erickson is to remain outside of Crook county forever. Inasmuch as I have given Mr. Erickson permission to remain in that county until such time as he may be able to adjust his business affairs so as to move, I deem it an injustice to require Mrs. Erickson to remain outside the county. Therefore, I would request that so long as Mrs. Erickson and Mr. Erickson remain law-abiding and peaceful citizens that they be permitted to attend to their own affairs without molestation and I would request further that the condition of residence in Mrs. Erickson's pardon be not considered so long as Mrs. Erickson conducts herself in a law-abiding manner. Yours respectfully, OSWALD WEST."

### Culver Junction.

W. C. Wilkes, assistant general passenger agent for the Hill lines in the northwest, and R. H. Crozier, advertising agent, both of Portland, spent a part of Sunday and Monday at this place, inspecting the depot and warehouse sites, and giving attention to the matter of leasing warehouse lots to the various applicants. They are also giving their attention to the question of passenger traffic and tonnage. Mr. Crozier is greatly interested in the nature of the country through which the Oregon Trunk line passes and is making a close investigation of the crops produced in the country tributary to their stations. Both gentlemen were greatly pleased with the nature of the country about Culver Junction, and expect to see this a shipping point for a large territory.

The ranchers west of the Deschutes have petitioned for the opening of a road to the river opposite the Cove orchard, to be joined with a road on the east side of Crooked river and leading to this place.

A large supply of lumber is now carried by the lumber yard recently established. Many of those people who contemplated building, are now taking advantage of this supply.

Mr. P. A. Chandler, recently appointed justice of the peace, will soon be empowered to sit in the trial of cases, and tie the knot for those matrimonially inclined.

Miss Hill entertained a jolly crowd of young people at the White House Hotel, Saturday evening, at which function a delicious lunch was served.

### Bracelet Lost.

New Carmen Bracelet lost Tuesday, Jan. 10. Liberal reward will be paid for its return to Mrs. Walter O'Neil.

### Look Out For Bogus Money.

Keep your eye peeled for spurious coin. Counterfeit five-dollar gold pieces are in circulation in Prineville and so well executed is the bogus money that it takes an expert almost to detect it. The banks state that they never saw a counterfeit so well done. The face and milling of the coin are almost perfect. It is light weight and has no ring to it when tested on a metallic surface. Look out for it.

### Real Estate Transfers.

Furnished by the Crook County Abstract Co.  
E. A. Sather, trustee, to Deschutes Investment Co., lot 7 blk 11, Bend, \$1.  
Nathaniel Haverstock et al, trustees, to Nettie L. Eaton, ne½ sec 31-12-17, \$1.  
Nettie L. Eaton to Nathaniel and Nathan Haverstock, ne½ sec 31-12-17, \$1.  
U. F. Heineck to C. B. Hysou Sr., e½ sec 13 and e½ sec 24-10-13, \$3,500.  
Ella H. Sexton et ux to Edwin A. Miller, ne½ sec 11-20-10, \$10.  
J. F. Sexton et ux to Edwin A. Miller, ne½ sec 14-20-19, \$10.  
Carrie B. Hurd and husband to Edwin A. Miller, se¼ sec 15-22-10, \$10.  
Cora A. Chapman and husband to Edwin A. Miller, sw¼ sec 14-20-10, \$10.  
Maud Wadsworth Folsom to Edwin A. Miller, nw¼ sec 14-20-10, \$10.  
Edwin A. Miller et ux to Oregon Timber Realty Co., e¼ sw¼ and e¼ se¼ sec 11-20-10, ne¼ and w¼ sec 14 and se¼ sec 15-20-10.  
Inland Empire Co., to Mrs. D. J. Ostrowski, lot 15 blk 22, Metolius, \$500.  
S. J. Newsom, et ux to Alwilda Wilson, commencing 60 feet south of se corner of block 1, Newsom's 3rd add, thence west 160 ft, south 160 ft, east 160 ft, \$400.  
Rea Bros to Marie Gallepsio, lot 7 blk 15, Madras, \$150.  
Crook County Inv. Co., to Enlor Olson, lots 15, 16, 17 and 18, blk 74, Hillman, \$350.  
Emily C. Miller and husband to Linda A. Miller, se¼ ne¼ sec 4-18-14, consideration \$1.  
Alonzo E. Adair et ux to Linda A. Miller, sw¼ nw¼ and nw¼ sw¼ sec 5-18-14 \$1.

## This Space Reserved for Collins W. Elkins

Successor to C. W. Elkins Co.

We will have an "ad" of more than ordinary interest in next week's issue, making mention of many savings for the household.

Look for it.

HAS NO SUBSTITUTE