

Crook County Journal

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CROOK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Closes a Very Successful Year.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Held Last Thursday Evening— President Homan Delivered Address.

Commencement night last Thursday, was a fitting climax to a most delightful week. Mrs. Marx again captivated the audience with her beautiful voice, and the orchestra rendered two most excellent selections. Its work is always good. Mr. Luckey deserves much credit for the class of music that he is giving to the people of Prineville.

President Homan of Willamette University was the speaker of the evening. He was introduced by R. A. McBain, an old-time friend of Mr. Homan. The subject of the evening address was "The Balanced Life." President Homan spoke with his characteristic earnestness. He is a strong speaker and always brings a message.

Judge Brink, at the request of Judge Ellis, presented the diplomas. Principal Coe in presenting the class, spoke of the excellent work accomplished by the school during the year and outlined the work for another year. Crook county is to be congratulated on the excellent high school it is maintaining.

The class of 1911 is small and composed of girls, but they are strong and capable.

Class Day exercises held at the Club hall Tuesday evening of last week were a fitting prelude to the Commencement exercises held on Wednesday.

A new and very pleasing feature was the flower march given by the young ladies, dressed in white and wearing and carrying garlands of flowers, representing their different class colors.

The freshmen with their orange and black, sophomores with maroon and gold, juniors with gray and crimson, escorted the seniors with their purple and cream through some very pretty figures up the center aisle and onto the stage which was beautifully decorated with ropes of purple and white violets, potted plants and statuary, with a back ground made effective with a huge class pennant of 1911.

The school, for the first time in its history, was represented only by the fair sex, but their fresh, girlish beauty made up for the lack of the masculine element.

Miss Blanche Wilson in a pleasing manner represented the class in the presentation of a beautiful bas relief of "Aurora" to her alma mater.

Miss Fay Baldwin with a touching finality made the class wish and it is to be hoped the C. C. H. S. will not contest its appropriate and effective bequests.

Miss Ethel Klann delivered the class oration in her clear and methodical way of handling her subject. "Launched, but not Anchored," showed that she would not be satisfied with anything but the best of harbors for her "ship of state."

Miss Lotta Smith closed with the class prophecy and from out a blazing cauldron, tended by the witch, Mamie Bailey, she received

the burning scroll which foretold the future of each one in a happy and apt manner.

Mrs. Delphine Marx, one of Portland's leading contraltos, favored the audience with three solos and each time responded most graciously to an encore. The board are to be most highly commended in giving such a rare treat to the class of 1911 and incidentally to the people of Prineville.

Memorial Day in Prineville

Decoration Day was observed in Prineville Tuesday for the first time. The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs were out in full regalia, the Sunday schools were represented with their teachers in charge, besides others on foot and in carriages. The line of march was formed on A street and extended three blocks.

At the cemetery, after a short address by Attorney Wirtz, the graves of the departed were decorated with flowers. Mr. Wirtz, in his address, reviewed some of the brave deeds of those who had laid down their lives for their country and impressed upon the minds of his hearers the great reasons for observing the day.

In the evening the people of Prineville enjoyed a rare musical and literary treat at the Commercial Club Hall. A chorus, consisting of about thirty voices, rendered old-time national hymns and songs that have become a part of the American people. Every number—solos and choruses—was heartily applauded. As a fitting close to the evening's entertainment all present were invited to remain and enjoy a lunch of hardtack and coffee.

The first observance of Memorial Day in Prineville was due to the efforts of Rev. Lininger. He trained the chorus and took charge of details. The chorus work was the best seen in Prineville for a long time.

It might be stated in closing that the custom of Memorial Day originated in the South and has been fittingly adopted by many of the Northern states. On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, who was at that time commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued an order appointing May 30 of that year for Grand Army service. This beautiful custom of setting aside one day each year to pay tribute to the old soldiers, has become quite general throughout the United States. These soldiers accepted death for love of country and made immortal their patriotism and their virtue. On this day also, the graves of loved ones receive tender care and we pause in the busy world of affairs to bestow a loving thought on the life of a departed one.

A "Live Wire."

Mrs. Silbaugh of Seattle opened the 1912 campaign for Oregon dry last Sunday evening at the M. E. church. The lady is certainly a "live wire." She talked for an hour and a half and there was not a moment that she did not hold the undivided attention of a crowded church. Her story of "How Seattle Was Purified" did not lose anything of interest at the hands of the speaker. She was in the thickest of the fight all the time and understood the intricacies of the situation from start to finish.

Relinquishment Cheap.

A quick sale on good homestead for sale at a bargain: garden fenced, gooseberries, currants, part has been cultivated; fenced; good spring; all goes for \$300 if taken at once. Address P. O. Box 341, Prineville, Oregon. 5-18

Crook County, an Empire in Extent

Crook County, of which Prineville is the county seat, is the fourth county in area in Oregon, being exceeded in size by Harney, Malheur and Lake, but the latter county is only a few miles larger. The area is 7756 square miles, or 4,963,840 acres. There are four states in the Union, each of which is smaller than Crook County—Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey and Rhode Island. I give these facts to show what a vast domain Prineville dominates; but area does not count for much unless it is occupied. However, Crook is being occupied, her lands being taken up faster than any other county in Oregon, as the recent census will show. In 1900 Crook had a population of 3964, or practically one person to each two square miles; by the recent census her population is given as 9315, showing a gain of 135 per cent, which was greater than that made by any other county in Oregon. Even Multnomah, in which Portland is situated, and which made what was considered a phenomenal growth, gained 118 per cent, or 17 per cent less than Crook.

But I do not think that these figures do Crook justice, for I believe the influx of population since the taking of the census last year has been far in excess of that of any former year. And that the inhabitants are becoming more prosperous year by year is shown by the increase in taxable property, which has arisen from less than \$4,000,000 a few years ago to \$9,199,008 in 1910, the amount for this year not being available. But it will show an enormous increase.

And these figures are based upon a cultivated area of only 100,000 acres, which amount has been increased so rapidly that it is difficult even to guess at anything like the real figures—nine estimates out of ten would be too low.

Prineville is the capital of an empire, but her survival, growth and prosperity will not depend upon her political position; these must come about through her tributary country, from the products of the soil. No matter what advantage her geographical position gives her; if the country tributary does not go on growing and prospering the town cannot prosper without becoming "topheavy," as is said of places built up by boom methods.

For two days I have been going over the county within a radius of 20 or 30 miles, and I have seen enough to convince me that little is known by the average citizen of Oregon about this section. And I shall try in plain language to give the reader an idea of Prineville's position in relation to the surrounding country.

The altitude here is about 2800 feet. The valley proper in which the town is situated is perhaps 15 miles long by two wide, but those figures do not give any idea of the extent of the valley land, for the Ochoco Valley is some 18 miles long, the McKay and Crooked Rivers as long or longer, and there are numerous other small streams emptying into these, up each of which you will find other fine valleys.

That much as to the valley lands, large areas of which are in alfalfa, and almost all of which is under irrigation. But it is the bench land that will, I believe, bring greater prosperity to its holders than any other,

and I shall try to describe a trip I have just taken through about 40 miles of these lands—20 miles out by one road, and a like distance back by another route.

The road from the town and valley winds around and up a butte southwest of here, this road being one of the best I have seen in the interior. The grade is pretty uniform at about 6 per cent, and within two miles you are on the second bench, among the junipers. As you reach the summit you can see off in the distance, to the east, many fine farms way up on the mountain although they are not as high as they look. T. H. La Follette, one of the wealthy and progressive citizens of Prineville, was with me, and he pointed out his old homestead, taken more than 30 years ago, and the original Williamson ranch, taken soon after. And around these are many fine farms, much of it being in wheat or rye. Fields were shown where 30 bushels of wheat to the acre is the rule, and this with an average rainfall of around 10 inches, sometimes as much as 16.

And it is only fair to say here that the people of this section do not say that Prineville will ever be the center of great fruit industries. But they do say, and can prove, that there are thousands of acres adapted to the raising of hardy fruits and berries, and there will always be an abundance for home consumption, with possible limited amounts of the best specimens for export. Every landowner can raise all the fruit he needs, and with less trouble fighting the pests than almost any other place in Oregon.

As we ran along the foothills, always through or near the junipers, we saw many new fields being cleared and seeded, and many new houses were being erected—and scores of families living in tents and wagons—and wheat fields in every direction. And how well the young grain looked. There had not been much rain for some time. (A fine rain has since fallen.) But the grain did not seem to need it, the ground being in such fine tilth—cultivated and cultivated until it was as fine as an ash heap.

And this is in what is termed a dry farming section, for there is no water on the lands I have mentioned. I shall come to the irrigated areas later. For about 12 miles we rode through these fields, which brought us to the ditch, or one of the ditches, of the D. I. & P. co. Then we turned to the north for a couple of miles, thence back to town through the irrigated section, or much of the way, for we came back into town down the grade first mentioned.

For one, two, three or perhaps four years the settler lives in a tent. He may add a floor, he may wall it up, he may even add a small section of a shack to it. But the most of the hardy homesteaders who are coming to this section, who are taking so much of the land described, pay little heed to the house until they have practically all of their land in cultivation. And those are the sort of people who win, who will win in any country.

One phase of the situation here astonished me. That is that the success of this section does not depend on any one thing, for it is a country where diversified farming will meet

the greatest reward. Every land owner can raise all of the vegetables and fruits and berries that he needs. In no section of the state will cane berries, strawberries and hardy fruits do better. It will never be a peach country, but grapes ought to be a profitable and certain crop. And I am told there are thousands of acres of as good hop land here as there are in the state. As a dairy country this section is one of the best I know of. One man told me that he sold last Summer the milk from ten cows for four months and received from the creamery \$400, or ten dollars a cow a month. In no place does poultry do better, particularly turkeys, and as for hogs! Many fortunes will be made here by raising porkers.

Our ride home brought us through the irrigated section, or rather along the ditch, for several miles. Water from this ditch costs \$17.50 an acre. The land is taken under the Carey act. There are thousands and thousands of acres now being cleared. —Addison Bennett in the Oregonian.

Summer School Now in Session

The summer term of the Crook County High School opened most auspiciously last Monday morning and will continue three weeks. The enrollment was not as large as was expected, but this loss in numbers is more than made up by the character of the students on hand. It is realized by the instructors that this summer school might be the turning point in the life of a young man or a young woman who had been denied early school advantages and failed to develop or arouse ambition for success, so if you are not up in certain subjects or feel discouraged in your work get in touch with the teachers at the summer term. They can help you. All the required work for both the one-year and the five-year state certificate is being offered. The instructors are Mrs. Walker, Miss Parrott and Principal Coe, all members of the Crook County High School faculty. Those registered to date are: O. C. Colegrove, Mrs. O. C. Colegrove, Miss Vivian Allen, Isaac Thomas, A. Dayton, the Misses Edna Pyatt, Florence Young, Nora Livingston, Mamie Bailey, Lottie Montgomery.

Hill Officials Visit Prineville

A party of Great Northern Railroad officials visited Prineville Tuesday. Mr. Stinson, of the Oregon & Western Colonization Company, brought them over from the railroad in his private car.

In the party were E. C. Leedy, general immigration agent of the Great Northern Railway, St. Paul; F. W. Graham, western industrial and immigration agent, Portland; W. E. French, immigration agent, Great Northern, St. Paul, O. A. Wood, immigration agent, St. Paul.

Mr. Leedy has been on a tour of the northwest for a number of weeks. The gentlemen expressed themselves as agreeably surprised with the looks of things here. They thought we had a great country.

Card of Thanks.

Myself and family desire to thank friends and neighbors for their many acts of kindness during the sickness and death of my husband and father. Sincerely,

Mrs. John H. Reams, and family.

FOUND DEAD IN THE ROAD

Powell Butte Man Meets With Accident.

HAD HIS NECK BROKEN BY FALL

Dick Myers Met a Peculiar Fate While on Way Home from Bend.

Dick Meyers was found dead in the road about seven miles this side of Bend last Sunday, with his neck broken.

Myers was a thrifty German who was living on Engineer Redfield's ditch land north of Powell Butte Station. He also had a homestead on the west end of Powell Butte.

On the day of the accident Myers was driving home from Bend in one of those high-seated California rack wagons from which he fell, striking on his head. The heavy wagon passed over the man's chest, crushing it. It is said that this alone would have been sufficient to cause death. The team that Myers was driving was found about a mile away.

A coroner's inquest was held and the jury brought in a verdict in accordance with the above facts. Just how the accident happened nobody knows. Myers was buried in the Powell Butte cemetery Tuesday afternoon from Lippman's undertaking parlors.

Special Election Went "No"

The special election Monday to amend the city charter did not bring out a very big vote. In fact, only about half of the electors registered their decision upon the measures placed before the voters of Prineville, but their answer was emphatic. The "noes" carried by nearly 2 to 1.

"An amendment to authorize the issue and sale of bonds for public and municipal purposes not to exceed 10 per cent of the taxable property within the corporate limits" was voted down. Yes, 40; No, 73.

The tax issue amendment to assess and receive taxes for municipal purposes not to exceed 1 1/2 per cent was lost by a vote of 37 to 76. The amendment relative to the appointment of city attorney, marshal, surveyor, etc., was lost by a vote of 47 to 68.

The bonding of the Prineville school district for \$28,000 was largely responsible for the defeat of the above measures.

HAS NO SUBSTITUTE



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