

Crook County Journal

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER, \$1.50 YEAR

PRINEVILLE, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1912.

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Grand Jury Makes Report

In the circuit court of the state of Oregon for Crook county. To the Hon. W. L. Bradshaw, circuit judge:

We, the grand jury, empaneled at the May, 1912, term of circuit court of Crook county, beg leave to report as follows:

We have been in session three days and have returned five "true bills" and one "not true bill."

We have given our most careful consideration to all complaints and matters of every kind which have been brought to our attention and present the following recommendations and conclusions as a result of our report:

With reference to the county property we find that the same is in good condition and being properly cared for, with the exception that in the opinion of the grand jury, heavy wire screens of a very small mesh should be placed over the windows leading to the county jail, because under the present situation there is nothing to prevent any one passing saws or other implements through the windows of the county jail and we trust that the county court will take immediate steps to remedy this defect.

We take pleasure in commending the work of the present janitor for the care he has given to the courthouse property, both the building and the lawn surrounding it, and which is a credit to the county and shows that he has been diligent in that regard.

We have examined the books and offices of the various county officials and while the time is so limited that we are unable to pass on the correctness of the accounts, yet we are very favorably impressed with the way the offices are being conducted and everything appears to be done in a systematic manner and we have been shown every courtesy in our investigation by all the county officials.

The attention of the grand jury has been called to the proposed contract for the cruising of timber upon deeded lands for the purpose of ascertaining the valuation for assessment purposes. While we realize that the present basis of timber taxation is not satisfactory, yet in view of the fact that a cruise done this year would not be available for the increase of revenue until the spring of 1914 and the further fact that several of the present county officials, including a majority of the county court, will go out of office next January and the proposed contract would have to be carried out by officials who were not parties to the making of this contract, we do not deem it wise that this proposed contract be entered into at this time and we therefore strongly recommend that the proposed timber cruising contract be not entered into or executed by the present county court at this time.

Some rumors have reached the grand jury with reference to the handling of some of the county money out of the road funds by the present county judge, H. C. Ellis, and the grand jury made a complete and thorough investigation of the rumors and finds that Judge Ellis has completely and thoroughly accounted to the county for every cent which was entrusted to his hands.



JAMES BRYCE



SUFFRAGISTS AFTER PARADE



MORGUE AT HALIFAX



JAMES E. DEERING

News Snapshots Of the Week

The bodies of the Titanic victims recovered by the Mackay-Bennett were brought to Halifax, where an army of undertakers was waiting to embalm the bodies and send them to their families. William Vincent Astor, who is not twenty-one years of age, inherits \$60,000,000 by the death of his father. An immense suffrage parade was held in New York. Many notables were in the ranks of marchers. The sudden departure of Ambassador Bryce for England gave rise to the report that he had been recalled. Archbishop Giovanni Bonzano, the new apostolic delegate to the United States, arrived in this country. The government brought suit against the International Harvester company, alleging that it was a trust. James E. Deering is one of the defendants.

competent expert whose report, it is expected, will be finished in about two weeks, and therefore we deem it unwise and premature to make any statements in this respect in advance of the completion of the expert's report, which, undoubtedly, will speak for itself.

We have also learned that a new system has been provided and adopted for the handling of all of the county funds expended for road purposes, which to us appears a satisfactory and competent system and which we believe will provide for contingencies of this kind in the future.

We find that in a large portion of the county the enforcement of the weed law has been allowed to be very lax and this has been to the detriment of those farmers who are trying to observe the law and keep their places free from noxious weeds and we earnestly recommend that the county court and the road supervisors acting under the same proceed to use every diligence possible to bring about a strict enforcement of the noxious weed law, and it is only by a strict enforcement that the results provided for in this law can be obtained.

Observing, as we have, that the work in the assessor's office has greatly increased in the last year and will greatly increase in the next few years to come, we believe that present salary of one thousand dollars is inadequate for the services of a first-class competent man and we therefore recommend to the representative of Crook county in the coming legislative assembly that a bill be introduced in the legislature increasing the salary of the assessor of Crook county to fifteen hundred dollars per annum. In this connection we also observe that the salary of the treasurer is wholly and pitifully inadequate, as he is compelled to furnish a bond of eighty thousand dollars and handles each year several hundred thousands of dollars of the county's money, all for a recompense of six hundred dollars a year. We think that it is asking too much of any one man to assume this responsibility and furnish such a bond for such a salary and we therefore recommend to the county court that commencing immediately the county court pay to the county treasurer an amount additional per month which will make his annual salary equal to one thousand dollars per year, and that this arrangement be continued until such time as the legislature can pass a bill formally increasing the treasurer's salary to the amount named and make the same recommendation to the representative from this county now also as was done in reference to the assessor's salary.

We have examined the condition of the county charges and find that the arrangements for their care and

maintenance are satisfactory in all respects and that they are being given prompt attention and at a reasonable cost to the county.

Having completed our labors, we respectfully ask to be discharged.

- J. F. RICE, foreman,
- HENRY BIVINS,
- EARLE BENTON,
- J. W. BERRY,
- E. A. BUSSETT,
- ALBERT MOORE,
- A. L. LOGAN.

Agitating Division of Crook County Again

County division is up again, and blue prints, showing the proposed new lines of division are being circulated generally throughout the county for the purpose of ascertaining the general feeling on the subject.

The move this time it seems, originated in Prineville, from which place the first blue prints were sent to Culver. The Culver people, however did not like the proposed division, and have prepared another set of prints with the boundaries of the proposed new counties drawn as they would have them. Copies of these prints as prepared by the Culver people have been received in Madras, and may be seen at this office, at the Madras State Bank and at Tucker & Culp's.

The plan is to divide the present county into three counties, the eastern part of the present county, including Prineville, to remain as Crook county, and dividing the western and northern part into two counties. The exact lines of the proposed division are described as follows:

Beginning at the southwest corner of Wheeler County, on the section line between township 19 and 20 east, thence in a southerly direction three miles to the section line between township 13 and 14 south, thence 51 miles in a westerly direction along this section line, to the intersection of this line with Squaw Creek, thence in a southwesterly direction along Squaw Creek until it intersects with the section line between townships 14 and 15 south, thence west 16 miles to the Lane County line.

All territory north of this east and west line to comprise one county. A second new county is to be formed by making an east and west division by drawing a line due south from the first east and west line on the north to the Lake County line on the south, this division line to be the section line between sections 14 and 15 east, all the territory west of this line to comprise the second of the new counties.

Under these new proposed divisions, the new county in the north would comprise about 1900 square miles and include Madras, Metolius, Culver, Opal City, Lamonta, Grizzly, Pine Ridge, Gateway, Heisler, Hay Creek, Ashwood and the Axhandle country. The new western county would comprise about 2100 square miles, and include Redmond, Bend, Terrebonne, La Pine, Sisters, Laidlaw, and Oneil, while the old county with Prineville as the county seat would include about 6000 square miles.

The plan of those back of the movement is to present the facts to the people of the county through mass meetings and conventions, and learn their feelings in the matter, and if conditions warrant it, put the division up to the voters of the state at the next general election.—Madras Pioneer.

Progress Made on Experimental Farms

Redmond Spokesman—W. L. Powers, superintendent of the demonstration farms in Crook county, informs The Spokesman that ground for use with cultivated crops on the demonstration farm is all leveled and fitted for seeding and fertilizers of different kinds have been applied to certain plots. The earliest crops have been seeded some two weeks, and field peas and onions are now up. Over 100 varieties of cereals have been seeded this week on small trial plots. Acre plots are being seeded to barleys, oats, field peas, mangles, potatoes and corn, onions and cabbage.

Different amounts of water will be used on clover, alfalfa and potatoes to show which is the most economical amount to use with these crops. Thorough cultivation of row crops and production of field peas in double cultivated drill rows will be used in connection with a minimum amount of irrigation on certain plots. A fertilizer trial has been started to show the relative value of different fertilizers, and to compare the effect of gypsum and potash on the fertility of the soil.

Arrangements are being made between Supt. Powers and progressive farmers in the different dry farming and irrigated sections whereby one or two in each district will be provided with choice pedigree seed to be planted and cared for according to the directions furnished with the seed. This will give the farmers in each locality a chance to compare their local seed and practices with those recommended by the experts, and they will be raising some pure, acclimated seed for future use.

The list of co-operating farmers for this region include C. H. Foster of Powell Butte, Mr. Hunter of Powell Butte and Bend, W. H. Courteney of Laidlaw, J. W. Brown of Laidlaw, G. A. Bradley of La Pine, C. H. Dencer of Bend.

The Wool Situation Keeps Improving

Oregonian: Wool sales in Eastern Oregon have attained a large volume and prices are moving decidedly in favor of the grower. The advance that has taken place in the past two weeks has induced free selling. Transactions last week were on a large scale and the business done this week will be still larger.

It is estimated that since the opening of the season 4,500,000 pounds have changed hands in Eastern Oregon and Washington, the bulk of the business being in this state.

Such points as Echo and Arlington are practically cleaned up of wool, and at Pendleton, Pilot Rock, Baker and other points, where wool is now arriving, the selling is on a liberal scale.

The prices now being paid are an improvement over those offered at the beginning of the season, and the tendency is upward. Prices range from 14 to 16 cents for fine and 16 to 18 cents for medium.

The best feature of the market is that the Oregon clip this year is showing choice, light condition. In point of quality, the clip is the best that the state has produced for several years.

Frank Arnold Has Accident

Frank Arnold, who lives in Cloverdale, while blasting rock on his farm Eriday forenoon was blown up and badly injured about the face and head.

Mr. Arnold was using home-made blasting powder and in loading a hole used a crow bar to tamp the powder into the hole.

It is the supposition that the bar striking against the rock caused sparks which set off the charge of powder. Being almost directly over it it is a miracle he was not instantly killed. As it was Mr. Arnold was badly cut about the face and eyes besides being cut and bruised about the body. Mr. Arnold was taken to Redmond and placed in the care of a physician who reports that he believes he will be able to save both of Mr. Arnold's eyes, but that it will be some time before he will be able to use them. Pieces of rock were imbedded in the balls of both eyes and Mr. Arnold is certainly fortunate if he escapes with his sight.—Sisters Herald.

To the Public.

I have secured a renewal of the mail contract between Prineville and Redmond and will continue to serve my patrons in both places to the best of my ability. All express matter will receive my personal attention. Soliciting a share of your patronage, I remain, respectfully, MATT KULESCH.

County Court Adjourned Term

An adjourned term of the county court was held Monday, May 13, 1912. Present—H. C. Ellis, judge, presiding; Commissioners Rice and Bayley, County Clerk Brown and Sheriff Balfour.

In the matter of fuel for 1912-13. In accordance with the advertisement heretofore published, and it appearing after careful consideration of all said bids that the bid of J. H. Delore for high school fuel is the lowest and best, it is ordered that J. H. Delore be awarded the contract for the furnishing of eighty cords of 4-foot body juniper wood at the rate of \$4.50 a cord, to be delivered and piled on the high school lot.

And it also appearing after careful consideration of said bids, that the bid of William Smith for courthouse fuel is the lowest and best bid, it is therefore ordered that said William Smith be awarded the contract for the furnishing of 100 cords of solid body pine 4-foot wood at the rate of \$4.75 per cord, to be delivered and piled on the courthouse lot.

It appearing to the court that the insurance on the courthouse building will expire May 19th, it is therefore ordered that \$47,000 worth of insurance be placed upon the courthouse building and \$3000 upon the furniture and fixtures, making a total of \$50,000, and that the clerk attend to such insurances; also that all policies be submitted to the district attorney for his approval in writing.

Road supervisor McKay district. It appearing to the court that the supervisor heretofore appointed for said district has failed to qualify, it is ordered that David Grimes be and he is hereby appointed road supervisor for said district, to serve until January 1, 1913.

Money for special road fund. The county clerk is hereby requested to draw a warrant on the general fund, payable to Ralph L. Jordan, county treasurer, of the special road fund, for the sum of \$1000, for use in road work.

Amended plat of Prineville acres. Now is presented to the court the amended plat of Prineville acres, accompanied by a tracing thereof, and it appearing to the court that said plat and tracing are not properly executed, and it further appearing to the court that the county surveyor and the county assessor have approved said plat and tracing as to form, it is therefore ordered that upon the presentation of said plat and tracing, properly executed by the owners of the land therein included, that the same be filed of record with the county clerk and that thereupon this court will duly approve said plat required by law.

It appearing to the court by the affidavit of P. B. Davis, O K'd by the assessor, and by other evidences that said P. B. Davis was wrongfully taxed upon certain property and that said wrongful tax had been paid to the amount of \$8; it is therefore ordered that the county clerk draw a warrant on the general fund in his favor for said amount.

Whereas, it appears to the court that the Central Oregon Livestock & Agricultural Association is engaged in getting the fair grounds in good condition, working to the end that a successful fair can be held which will inure to the benefit of Crook county as a whole; whereas, said association is in need of some assistance from the county court, and whereas Crook county has approximately \$300 worth of crude oil

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