

Crook County Journal

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THE GOVERNOR CLAMPS THE LID

Redmond Officials Resign.

THE MILITIA WILL NOT BE USED

Sheriff Balfour Replies to the Criticisms of Governor West.

The atmosphere at Redmond is clearing up. No longer will it be necessary to carry out the threat of the governor to place the town under martial law unless the mayor and marshal resign. Both have done so. The case against Sheriff Balfour is not yet settled. In his reply to the governor's strictures the sheriff says:

"Believing that Governor West in his so-called crusade against evil, as far as it applies to Crook county, is not conversant with conditions as they actually exist, and if he was less impetuous his censure of county officials would not be so severe. Sheriff Balfour of Crook county, who has been publicly criticised by the governor, states that the governor's activities should be directed in this county at those 'higher up,' whose acts may be responsible for what lax observation of the law as might or do exist here.

"Since I have been office," says Balfour, "every grand jury of this county that has had before it violations of the disorderly house law and similar offenses brought there by me and my deputies from incorporated towns of this county has refused to report indictments against the keepers and their inmates, and grand juries before my administration have made reports to the effect that it did not feel that the taxpayers in general should be burdened with the expense of keeping the towns cleansed when money for that purpose is paid by the residents of those towns in the city treasuries.

"What encouragement is there under those circumstances to make arrests in Redmond or other cities within my jurisdiction, throwing extra expense upon the county, when the taxpayers, through their grand juries, refuse to indict and indirectly thereby instruct me not to make arrests for such offense? The governor should direct his efforts toward the education of Crook county grand jurors before censuring a county official for doing what his constituents instruct him not to do.

"While I am of the same political extraction as the governor, he knows as well as I that it is impossible to enforce statutes where you have not the backing of public opinion, and when you are without the support of the grand jury the case is hopeless and his expressions regarding the inactivities of myself and associates are without foundation of truth and have no merit in them aside from their intended grandstand effect in other communities. Our grand juries are made up of the responsible stockmen, ranchers and business men of Central Oregon, and it is to those that the governor should direct his criticisms as to the enforcement of law in Central Oregon. This condition may not apply to other communities where the governor has been active, for I know nothing about conditions any place else, but these facts do apply in my jurisdiction."

The grand juries to which the sheriff referred were those of May, 1910 and 1911 and of October 1911. The May grand jury in 1910 made



News Snapshots Of the Week

Ex-President Roosevelt and Governor Hiram Johnson of California were nominated for president and vice president by the Progressive party convention at Chicago. Governor Wilson of New Jersey was notified of his nomination by the Democratic party by Senator Elect Ollie James of Kentucky. Henry H. Curran took charge of the aldermanic investigation into the alleged "wide open" conditions in New York city. General Clinnatus Leconte, president of Haiti, perished when his palace at Port-au Prince was destroyed by fire.

the following report to the circuit court that term:

"A great deal of our attention has been given to a petition signed by some of the citizens of Madras reciting that certain evils there exist and asking that the grand jury seek to eliminate them. Upon investigation we find that Madras is an incorporated city, and that municipal ordinances are in force providing for the punishment of people operating the establishments of which complaint is made. We also find that the municipality of Madras employs a marshal and night watchman at a salary of \$75 per month each, and, further, that there has been paid into the city treasurer of Madras the sum of \$725 from April 12, 1910, until the end of that month.

"Under these circumstances this grand jury believe that this matter is one that should be left to the jurisdiction of the city government of Madras, and that the taxpayers of the county at large should not be called upon to bear the burden of what is in the jurisdiction of a municipality. This conclusion applies not only to the city of Madras but to all municipalities in Crook county. We say this not in any spirit of criticism, but because, owing to the work of railroad construction now in progress in this county on a large scale bringing in a vast number of transient people, this question and similar ones probably will arise in other incorporated towns and we do not feel that the county at large should be called upon to bear the expenses of interfering in matters covered by local ordinances."

A similar recommendation was made by the grand jury of Crook county in October, 1911, when a number of disorderly house cases were brought to its attention in Bend by one of Sheriff Balfour's deputies. These grand jury reports are on file with the county clerk and are a matter of record in Crook county.

Governor's Reply to Balfour.

In response to statements made by Balfour that he has found the grand jury would fail to return indictments against disorderly houses, and others of a similar nature, the governor declared that the sheriff needs no grand jury indictments to do his duty in this respect; that the law is ample enough to give him authority to make raids and that the sheriff should have gone ahead on his own initiative if the grand jury was not with him.

The governor says too many of these officers are endeavoring to shoulder the blame off onto somebody else, like Bob Stevens of Multnomah county, who wanted to come to the next legislature and ask for the passage of a lot of laws to put the road houses out of business. He has enough

laws to put them out of business, and, continues the governor, Sheriff Balfour has enough laws to put disorderly houses out of business without throwing the blame onto a grand jury.

The governor has also discovered a section of a code which gives him practically unlimited authority to carry on investigations, appoint special prosecutors and prosecute public officers of any kind for dereliction in their duty without the assistance of district attorneys or other constituted officers if such constituted officers fail to respond.

Saturday Governor West threatened to call out the militia unless Mayor Jones and the city marshal would hand in their resignation. The officials were given until Monday to comply with the demand. Meantime Jones and the marshal were convicted of gambling, and their resignation followed.

Portland Delegation Sees Great Country

Prineville, Or., Aug. 18 — R. G. Callvert, (Staff Correspondence Oregonian)—Crook County is not worrying about autumn rains, although more or less moisture has fallen throughout Central Oregon in the last three days. The harvest season has been delayed by previous rains, which came in the growing season. With promise now of good weather the farmers are preparing to gather in the greatest crop ever known in the district.

Through swilling fields of promise, the advance guard of the Portland delegation to the Oregon development league meeting at Lakeview traveled a greater part of yesterday. The day was cool, the rain had laid the dust, every farmer had a cheery greeting, induced perhaps in part by his prosperous outlook. The machines hummed along without a single untoward delay.

In Wasco County some damage was noted. There the harvest is earlier than in Crook. In some of the fields grain in sacks lay exposed to the elements, but these were the exception rather than the rule.

In the Agency Plains district, near Madras, the exceptional season has put hundreds of new homesteaders on their feet and has brought encouragement to the older settlers of the district. Before the advent of the railroad the Agency Plains were not framed for scientific agricultural methods. There was not much inducement to grow grain. There was no adequate market. Many farmers merely scratched the ground and were content to plod along and postpone the day for

more active effort to the time when a rail outlet would be provided.

The railroad—two of them have now come. Along with the railroads has come also the Oregon Agricultural College. It has established a dry farming demonstration tract near Madras. It is showing by ocular proof the value of conservation of moisture and the fact that corn and alfalfa can be grown on dry land.

If one may judge conclusively from farm appearances, the settlers have had greater faith in the growing of corn than they have had in the possibilities of day-land alfalfa. Agency Plains farmers have put in a surprising lot of corn and, as a rule, it looks almost as well as that produced on the demonstration tract. A person could not lose himself in a present-day Central Oregon cornfield as he might in the fields of Iowa or Illinois. Even if he entered a large one he could see his way out over the tassels. The dry-land corn is a rotating crop to be fed to stock. In a succession of seasons like the present one it could be made to take the place of Summer fallowing. There would then be "a crop on every acre every year," which is the doctrine the college experts have been preaching to the farmers of districts where the rainfall is not actually scant. The taking up of corn growing is a promise in itself of more livestock on the farm. It is a programme in which Portland is, or ought to be, intensely interested. It means more money for the farmers, better prices for the consumers and general prosperity all around.

Two railroads into Central Oregon have changed materially the aspect of the country. Yesterday I traveled by automobile over a route practically the same one followed two years ago. Then the railroads had not been completed. Yesterday I ate lunch at a thriving town that was not in existence two years ago, and again at dinner I had the same experience.

Maupin was the lunch stop for the party. It is not yet much of a town, but it has two general stores, a drug store, hotel, restaurant and several other business enterprises. It lies in the Deschutes canyon on one of the old wool trails from the interior to The Dalles.

Wasco county has replaced the pioneer ferry with a new bridge across the river, and has built roads down both sides of the deep depression where runs the foaming river. These roads are on well-planned grades—grades that are the easiest of any lead-

ing into the Deschutes canyon. The result is that Maupin is becoming the trading and shipping center, with two railroads as outlets, for a district about 20 miles square.

Metolius is the other town less than two years old. Two years ago it was a characteristic Central Oregon flat, with a juniper tree here and there. Today there are an excellent hotel and several prosperous looking business houses. Central sidewalks are laid where the jackrabbits 24 months ago were wont to scamper.

The trip of that portion of the delegation which proceeded the main Portland body begin at The Dalles. It gave the seekers for knowledge of their own state a glimpse of Dufur, Wamic, Tygh Valley, Maupin, Shaniko, Antelope, Gateway, Madras, Metolius and Lamonta, with a stop for the night at Prineville. The route followed was not the shortest between The Dalles and Prineville, but the party is out to see the country. The visits to Wamic and Agency Plains were really side trips.

This journey covered a distance of 170 miles by automobile, after a trip of 88 miles by rail to The Dalles. And at that, the party at Prineville is not yet at the center of Oregon.

Mileage figures do not mean much to many readers. If one should say that the distance covered by automobile Saturday was almost the equivalent of a journey from Portland to Seattle, perhaps a better idea would be given of the ground covered and a fuller knowledge of the magnitude of what that country which Portland people refer to in general terms as Eastern Oregon amounts to in extent.

Whereas the advance guard goes to Lakeview by way of Burns and Colonel Hanley's P ranch, the main delegation will follow the route that leads by Silverlake, Summer Lake and the Chewaucan.

The latter party will leave Bend Monday, attend a development meeting at Fort Rock and spend the night at Silver Lake, proceeding Tuesday to Lakeview.

Work Wanted

Girl wants place to work for board and go to high school. Address "O" care of Journal. 8-22

Stud Horse for Trade.

Big registered Percheron. Will take broke horses. Walter Quackenbush, postoffice box 254, Redmond, Oregon. 8-15-2p

Notice.

Parties driving beef cattle on Burns road to Prineville can get pasture at Colby's ranch, one mile off the road, below the old Davis ranch on Crooked river. 8-8-1m

Crook County Journal, county official paper. \$1.50 a year.

WORK FOR THE MITCHELL ROAD

A Good Thing for Crook and Wheeler.

BOTH COUNTIES NEED IT BADLY

For Service Would Stand Half the Cost—Get In and Help.

The people of Crook county have an excellent opportunity to draw the trade of southern Wheeler and the rich John Day valley in Grant county in this direction if they will only get together and second the efforts of Supervisor Ross of the forest service to connect Crook and Wheeler counties by a road through the Ochoco reserve.

The gross receipts of the Ochoco national forest for the year last past approximated \$12,000, one-tenth of which is set aside for the purpose of building roads in the national forest in the state in which the revenue is derived.

Mr. Ross does not know of a place in the state that a road is more urgently needed. He does not know of a place where such a comparatively small sum of money could open up such a vast country and serve so many people as by opening a road from Crook county to Wheeler county over the Ochoco west branch divide. The whole thing could be done for \$2,500, he says. He would have the choice of two routes: one by the Mark's creek pass and the other by the Ochoco pass. If the Mark's creek route were chosen it would cut off the Howard postoffice and the upper Ochoco settlement but the road would be lower and is less liable to be blocked by snow in winter. This route would necessitate the building of ten miles of new road. If the old Ochoco pass is followed the road could be built with less expense but would not be as good. It would be higher up and subject to winter storms that would greatly hamper travel.

Manager King of the Wheeler County Trading Company was in Prineville last week and he strongly advocated the building of such a road. He said the trade of his country would seek the railroad at Redmond instead of going to Shaniko, Condon and other points. A road in this direction, he said, would turn the travel this way. It would furnish an easy access to the markets of Crook county for the fruit raisers of that section. All freighting would come this way. It would also furnish a good auto road to Wheeler, Grant and Eaker counties.

Of the \$2,500 to be raised for building the road Crook county's share would be \$600, Wheeler county \$600 and the forest service \$1,200. Mr. Ross has already taken the matter up with Judge Butler of Wheeler county and the county court of Crook county. If both counties agree to do their part of the work the road will begin at once. Mr. Ross wants the active support of the commercial bodies in the counties affected so that he can make a strong showing of the needs of Central Oregon. If the people will co-operate with him we can get the road. It is one that should have been built years ago. Help it along.

Organ Wanted.

Good second-hand organ wanted. Must be in good condition. Address Mrs. W. R. Stacks, Lamonta, O. c. 8-22