

Crook County Journal

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER FOR CROOK COUNTY

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER, \$1.50 YEAR

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Many Fine Farms Near Prineville Hogs and Dairy Cows Profitable

A visit to the farm of Leo Lafollette is enough to convince the most skeptical that hog raising and dairying in Crook county pays. Just now Mr. Lafollette is very much interested in finishing seventeen of his fine Poland-China hogs for market. These animals are ten months old and average about 250 pounds each. At 84 cents, the price asked, they will net their owner a neat sum.

Mr. Lafollette began three years ago with two brood sows and this fall will have thirty fine ones. His motto has been quality rather than quantity and each year he markets all except the very best. He now has 130 hogs and the increase by fall will give him a band of at least 200. Mr. Lafollette believes in good care and plenty of feed from the first for he says it pays to market hogs as early as they can be got in shape. He has experimented with the feeding and says he finds for fall pigs that middlings mixed with skim milk is best until they are good sized shoates; during which

time they are given good pasture. He gives his spring pigs plenty of good pasture and a little grain all the time. When ready to round them off for market he confines them in pens and for six or eight weeks feeds rolled barley with some alfalfa hay. This with plenty of cool clean water puts flesh on very rapidly. He says that for the money invested hogs bring him more money than anything else on the place. They are not as much work as cows but to secure best results require close attention. He keeps only Poland-Chinas because they are easily fattened and are not vicious nor breachy.

Mr. Lafollette is now milking about twenty fine Jerseys and says hogs and cows go well together. He sells his cream to the local creamery for which he receives a good sized check each month and uses the skim milk for his hogs. He expects to increase both his dairy herd and his hogs until he has a market on his farm for all that his land produces.

Crops Turning Out Well

Returns from some of the crops in the county have been received and the general average is much higher than was expected. The lack of moisture in the early part of the season together with the backward spring gave promise of very short crops, but while the general yield in some places will fall short of last year the results of the harvest in most sections are gratifying to the farmers.

In the Round Butte section the grain is estimated to run from 25 to 40 bushels to the acre; in the Madras country we understand that many fields will yield a return of from fifteen to twenty bushels to the acre and that there will be more crops that will average above ten bushels to the acre than will fall below that mark.

In the Powell Butte section the farmers expect a good average crop of both grain and hay. The threshing will soon begin and then definite information can be obtained.

Both grain and hay in the Paulina section is turning out well.

Around Metolius and Lamonta the crops are good, in many instances the yields are much larger than was expected. So altogether Crook county has reason to be proud of her crops.

Accidental Shooting at Post, Oregon

Coroner Poindexter was notified by phone yesterday that Mr. McCuddins of Post, had been accidentally shot. Accompanied by Dr. Belknap he left at once for the scene. Upon investigation they found that McCuddins and his sister-in-law, Delpha Frazer, a young girl about 16 years old, had been engaged in a friendly scuffle with a gun which was supposed to have not been loaded. The gun went off striking the man just above the right eye and entered the brain. It was reported that the same gun had been used on a hunting trip the previous day and refused to shoot.

Mr. McCuddins and family recently came to Crook county and purchased one of the Knox

ranches near Post where they were living at the time of the accident. He leaves a wife and two small children.

Coroner Poindexter held an inquest and it was decided that Mr. McCuddins' death was due to accidental shooting.

Harry Thaw Recaptured

Coaticook, Quebec, Aug. 19.—Held as a fugitive from justice of the United States, a man admitting he is Harry K. Thaw, slayer of Stanford White, who escaped early Sunday from the Matteawan asylum for the insane, near Poughkeepsie, N. Y., is under arrest here today. The prisoner is sullen and uncommunicative.

"I am Harry K. Thaw, all right," he said, "but I have committed no crime. You have no right to interfere with my liberty and I demand the privilege of going to Quebec."—Portland Journal.

Thos. W. Lawson Answers Sulzer's Friends

Prineville, Or., August 17.—I have a reply from Governor Sulzer, of New York, to my recent telegram and also urgent requests from editors and leaders the country over to act. The consensus of opinion is that Sulzer's impeachment is the culmination of a long-batching plot to seize the state machinery, usurp the constitutional authority, release from prison Senator Stillwell and Lieutenant Becker and make it impossible to finish the investigation now under way and contemplated, which threatened exposure of the past quarter of a century's grafting.

The Knickerbocker Express, of Albany, making calls for a National committee, has urged me to come East at once to organize such a committee.—Oregonian.

Mr. Lawson came from the East a few days ago to visit with his daughter, Mrs. McCall, who lives near Prineville, and says he must have some rest before returning to the East.

Alleging that Governor Sulzer of New York State made a false and fraudulent report to the secretary of state regarding the expenses of his election campaign and for wilful and corrupt conduct in office, a legislative committee has filed resolutions for his impeachment from office.—Oregonian.

Secretary of Interior Lane Visits Crook County

Excerpts from Sec. Lane's talk: "If there is any part of the country that deserves well of the government, it is Central Oregon, and I am going to try to see that it receives its just recognition."

"The government wants the land put into use, not held from those who want to make use of it. The day is coming when eastern Oregon will be one of the richest, most fertile and most thickly settled parts of your state. All that it needs is water. Madras, Or., August 18.—A secretary of the interior is seeing the bigness of Oregon reclamation opportunity today with his own eyes.

For the first time a secretary of the interior has left the beaten paths, and is viewing the great stretches of land that are to be some day the homes of thousands, if the ideal of state and government cooperation in turning the water out of the deep canyons upon the waiting land is realized. Here, for instance, in the valley of the Deschutes is a scheme of land reclamation that challenges imagination to grasp.

A half million acres without homes or production is the subject of survey jointly financed by state and government, at a cost of \$100,000. Two hundred and sixty thousand acres not in any reclamation project now planned by anyone are included.

These, the estimate is, can be irrigated at a cost of \$50 an acre, mostly from the waters of the Deschutes. The call for government and state financing this reclamation means the spending of \$13,500,000 upon lands worth more than \$20,000,000 when reclaimed, worth less than \$3,000,000 without water.

It would mean place for homes of more than 8000 people. Franklyn K. Lane, secretary of the interior, looked upon only the portion of the great area that lies about Redmond this morning and marveled. Meanwhile, the people of Redmond for the first time celebrated the advent of an active head of the interior department.

They had a speaker stand draped in flags. They had a band at the depot and delegations of leading citizens from communities of 50 miles around about. Automobiles carried the entire party through the Powell Butte district, viewing both dry and irrigated land farming. Secretary Lane's visit to Oregon has aroused all the people who are concerned for the reclamation of the arid lands of the state.

There are issues vital to land reclamation, which only he can settle. They want to know if he meant that 20,000 acres of the west Umatilla extension would be abandoned when he approved the immediate beginning of work on a first unit of 10,000 acres. They want to know if the policy of his office will be to recognize Oregon's merit in future reclamation apportionments.

They want the size of his definition of government and state cooperation, the new reclamation idea. Consequently it was gratifying to secure from him on the train a clear cut interview directly touching these points.

"When I said first unit, I meant first unit," said he. "I did not mean the abandonment

of the remaining 20,000 acres of the west Umatilla extension. It was hard enough to get the money scraped together for 10,000 acres. The rest of the project will be developed just as rapidly as possible. Of certainty, we will be governed quite considerably by the success of the work on the first 10,000 acres.

"Now, as to Oregon apportionments. You say that Oregon has contributed \$10,000,000 to the reclamation from the sale of public lands, and has received back for Oregon reclamation projects a little over \$900,000, or about 10 per cent.

"I do not believe that Oregon has ever received anywhere near what is due her in reclamation apportionments. I think Oregon should have much more. But man, you haven't had railroad transportation in Oregon. As interstate commerce commissioner I called the attention of the whole country to the fact that fifty thousand square miles of territory in Oregon had no railroad, a bigger area than anywhere else in the United States in such condition.

"Railroad building must precede reclamation. Railroads and reclamation must go together. It would be criminal to reclaim lands and put people on them, without transportation so they can reach the markets with their products. Oregon with railroad transportation will get her share of reclamation funds and I am not unacquainted with the fact that great areas in this state can be reclaimed and produce amazingly.

"As to government and state cooperation in reclamation I am mightily pleased that Oregon has progressed so far as to approve this policy. Four hundred fifty thousand dollars of government money is available from the Interior department to be spent dollar for dollar in conjunction with a similar amount from the state as authorized by your legislature in the reclamation of a given unit of a reclamation project.

"The government money will not be spent on a different project than that approved by the state. You will not see the state's money spent on the Tuma lo project, for instance, and the government's money spent on another project of the comprehensive Deschutes reclamation scheme."

It has been hinted that a separation of funds on units of a related reclamation scheme might be favored by the government, but the secretary's expression ended the thought.

He indicated perfect familiarity with the fact that Oregon has lacked railroad transportation development and population because of the policy of the old regime, which was to build into a country only when its development showed that tonnage would be furnished from the start sufficient to pay profits.

"Harriman merely held Oregon as a preserve," was his expression.

Aboard the special are all the members of the state land board except Attorney General Crawford. The list includes the governor, secretary of state, state treasurer and state engineer.

New State Superintendent Making Graduations Possible in Three Years

Salem, Or., Aug. 14.—In preparing the new course of study for the high schools of Oregon, State School Superintendent J. A. Churchill has given pupils a greater freedom in selection even than was forecasted in the report of the committee of city school superintendents, appointed at the meeting of the department of superintendents at Portland last June to outline a tentative course of study.

"We have gotten away from the idea that the high school course must be fitted to the college," declared Mr. Churchill. "In fact, we have emancipated ourselves from college dominance. But I am instructing the high school principals to advise each pupil entering high school what the college entrance requirements are, so that the pupil may prepare for entering college if he desires. As soon as I can get to it I intend to have statistics gathered showing the per cent of high school pupils in this state that go to college. I estimate it will be about 15 per cent.

"In the preparation of the high school courses, consideration has been given for the different aptitudes of pupils and for the different preparations which a high school must give to fit all of its pupils for large spheres of usefulness.

Developing Natural Bents. "Greater freedom in the choice of electives has been given, with the hope that pupils will not be forced to take a subject for which they have no aptitude, but rather that courses will be selected that will give a natural development of the faculties."

Two important innovations have been made by Superintendent Churchill. One is that a pupil who is both mentally and physically strong may complete a high school course in three years, instead of four, by taking five subjects, the maximum number each year. Another is that a pupil may study

music outside of school and be given credit for it as a part of the course.

"My experience in high school work years ago led me to believe an injustice was being done pupils who had a talent for instrumental or vocal music and were not permitted to develop it because of the rigid high school course which recognized no value in any subject taught outside the prescribed studies of the course," said Mr. Churchill. "Many a voice that might have been a joy to the possessor and his friends by entertaining, or by assisting in worship, has been hushed by the inability of the pupil to find time to practice. The same may be said of those who might have become proficient on some stringed instrument, but who were denied that pleasure because the rigid curriculum of the high school demands all their time. So we are instructing that pupils who so desire be given credit for music done outside of school, which will permit them to carry one less study in school and have time for practice on their music. In doing this I feel that the best interests of many pupils, as well as those of the community generally are being served."

But Must Practice 80 Minutes

Under the prescribed course, which was completed today by Superintendent Churchill and put in the hands of the printer, a pupil may earn from one to three credits for graduation, in either vocal or instrumental music taken outside of school, provided that the pupil has spent at least 80 minutes in practice or instruction each day, and that the principal of the high school shall be satisfied as to the competency of the teacher. A total of 15 credits is required for graduation. The teachers' training course in the high schools has been strengthened in the new course by requiring pupils taking it to have definite teaching practice and submit written reports of each assignment.

They will go on to inspect the Tuma lo, Central Oregon, La Pine and Paisley projects, viewing also the salt and sodium project at Summer and Albert lakes and returning to the capital via Klamath Falls, Crater Lake and Medford.

Mr. Lane also said, "In my month out of Washington I can truthfully say to you that I have seen no country more fair than this valley of Powell Butte which you have shown me from automobile this morning." "I see you today with a town of 600 or 700 people. There is but one reason why I would not find you a city of 6000 or 7000 if I come again among you in five years, and that would be your failure to cooperate, to work together. The United States can do but little for you; there is much you can do for yourselves.—Journal.

Finds Business Conditions Fine

E. N. Strong, a well known man of this section, and one who is thoroughly interested in the upbuilding of Oregon, has the following to say concerning crop conditions:

"Business conditions in Oregon ought to be one of the best in years following the harvesting of large crops now going on over the entire state," said E. N. Strong, state agency supervisor for the Oregon Life Insurance Company of Portland, who arrived in The Dalles Saturday night, accompanied by Mrs. Strong.

"I have been over the entire state in the last few months, with the exception of a part of the interior, and while I find acreage a little below the average, the yields of both grain and hay crops are exceeding expectations with an upward tendency in prices on account of the drouth in the middle west.

Root crops are starting off at fair prices and the fruit prospects are the best in two years.

"Everything in the live stock line is eagerly sought at a premium. Having just returned from the heavy timbered districts, I find the lumber mills working night and day.

"As for our own business, Oregon Life wrote the largest amount of business in July of any month since organization, and closed the first seven months of 1913 with more than a 60 per cent increase over the corresponding time of any year previous. This is accounted for by the increased loyalty on the part of Oregon people to its home institutions, Oregonians are fast finding out that it serves their own interests best to keep Oregon money at home.

"The 'buy-at-home' movement now being carried on in this state will mean more to Oregon than any other subject demanding our attention, and this will mean to local people a greater demand for every product grown or manufactured in the state."—The Dalles Chronicle.

Mr. and Mrs. Strong have many friends in Crook county, and we are glad to have these statements from one who is acquainted with conditions throughout the state.