

Crook County Journal

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER FOR CROOK COUNTY

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District Court Adjourns Five Sentenced to Pen

**William Cary Confessed to Burning Jim Cram's Hay Last Thursday Night—He is on His Way to the Pen
John and Logan McPherson Convicted — Grand Jury's Report.**

Circuit court adjourned last evening after Judge Bradshaw sentenced five prisoners.

John N. McPherson, convicted of stealing a mare belonging to Geo. Millican, was sentenced to the penitentiary from one to ten years. This was McPherson's second trial. Plaintiff has 60 days to present bill of exceptions.

Logan McPherson, convicted of attempting to commit rape on the person of Mrs. Louise Tobin last Thursday afternoon at the home of William Riechner, was sentenced to the pen from one to ten years. Plaintiff has 60 days to file bill of exceptions.

William Carey, who burned seventy tons of hay last Thursday night for Jim Cram, was sentenced to the pen from six months to three years.

Carey confessed his crime. When questioned by Judge Bradshaw as to the motive he said he didn't have any. He and Jim Cram had traded horses and he thought Jim got a little the best of it. Cary said that Cram told him that the horse was a good one but ugly, yet, notwithstanding, the trade was made. Carey got to brooding over the matter and it finally got into his head to burn the hay. He rode a buckskin horse belonging to Charles Colby over to the stacks Thursday night about 9 o'clock and sat on his horse until 1 a. m. before he started the fire. He never dismounted during that time. About one when he thought everyone would be sound asleep he threw a match into the hay. The fire was started on windward side and this fact saved one of the three stacks.

One little circumstance led the trail of the crime to Cary direct. The buckskin horse he rode was pigeon-toed and made peculiar tracks. Sheriff Elkins took up the trail next morning and followed the tracks to Colby's barn, where the animal was found with the saddle on. Carey was out in the field at work and had not the slightest idea that suspicion rested upon him. He considered every trace well covered up. He was placed under arrest and confined in the county jail, where, after a little sweating, he confessed to burning the hay.

Bert Brown and Charles Thompson, who got tired of walking and helped themselves to a team and buggy at LaPine, were sentenced to the pen from one to ten years. The judge paroled them to the sheriff.

The case of J. N. and Linda J. Quiberg who were indicted for the unlawful use of water on the Squaw creek adjudication was continued to the December term of court.

George Kentner was acquitted of the charge of larceny of horses. This is his second indictment. He will be tried on another indictment next December with W. C. Calhoun and Al Robertson if they can be brought here. Kentner is out under \$2000 bonds.

L. H. Hamilton, who pleaded guilty to negligently allowing fire to escape in the forest, was given a suspended sentence.

Sheriff Elkins and C. W. Elkins

left this morning for the penitentiary. They took with them John and Logan McPherson and William Carey.

The grand jury made the following report.

Report of the Grand Jury.

In the circuit court of the state of Oregon for the county of Crook. Report of the grand jury September term, 1913:

To the Hon. W. L. Bradshaw, circuit judge:

We, the grand jury empaneled at the September term, 1913, of the circuit court of the state of Oregon for the county of Crook, beg leave to report as follows:

We have been in session five days and have returned eight true bills and four not true bills.

We have given our most careful attention and consideration to all complaints and matters of every kind and nature that have been brought before us, and aside from the bills heretofore reported in the regular course of our labors, we ask your indulgence and present the following recommendations and conclusions, for the consideration of yourself, the taxpayers and citizens of the county of Crook.

With reference to the proposed plan to equip an office for the sheriff on the ground floor or basement of the courthouse and to remodel the present jail, we wish to state that we have examined the plans and specifications therefor and heartily approve of them and recommend that the county court carry them out.

Owing to the fact that the treasurer will occupy the present quarters of the sheriff after the first day of January, 1914, when he becomes the tax collector and will have no further use for his present quarters including the vault and that the county assessor is in need of the vault, we recommend to the county court that a door be cut into said vault from the assessor's office so that it will be accessible from that office; for the better protection of the records of the office of the county assessor.

We wish especially to call the attention of the commissioner's court, now in session, to the fact that two state statutes are being violated in the courthouse building and that for a better example to individuals and for a better respect for the law in general, we advocate the abolishment of the drinking cups in the courthouse and establishment of one or more sanitary drinking fountains therein and the immediate rehanging of the entrances so that all door leading outward will swing outward.

We also wish to recommend, in view of the fact that the treasurer will have placed upon him the burden of tax collection after January 1, 1914, that adequate provision be made in the way of assistance by the county court to enable him properly to do that work. We recommend that his salary be increased to a point somewhere near the value of his services and that sufficient clerk hire be provided, so that the work of collecting the taxes next year will proceed regularly and satisfactorily.

We have examined the books and

Local Forest Officials Helping Good Roads Movement in Crook Co

Crook county people have little conception of the interest taken in the matter of good roads by the local forest service officials. All are aware that it was through the efforts of Supervisor Ross that we are indebted for the Prineville-Mitchell road. Nor does Mr. Ross' zeal stop with the one road. He and Supervisor Merritt of the Deschutes National Forest appeared before the county court at this term and secured the sum of \$500 which will be used in co-operation with the forest service in fixing up the worst places in the lava road on this side of the Cascades. The government will spend a like amount and it is thought that this will make a fairly passable highway over the McKenzie pass into the Willamette valley. Two thousand dollars have already been expended on the west side of the mountains and \$5000 more has been allotted by the government for road betterment. This should take care of the west side.

Mr. Ross says that the work on the lava beds will be started as soon as weather permits in the spring.

On being questioned as to progress on the Prineville-Mitchell road Supervisor Ross stated that

the work for this fall had been stopped. The road is completed to within a mile from where it drops down the north slope to West Branch creek. The tents and heavy articles of construction have already been hauled to the foot of the mountain on the north side in order to be available for use early next spring when work will be resumed. There remains but five miles to be built to finish the road.

In addition to the money already spent on this road by the government Uncle Sam has allotted \$1000 additional. This makes \$1700 contributed by the forest service in addition to the amounts allowed by Crook and Wheeler counties.

These roads will be a fine thing for Crook county and will return a hundred fold for every dollar invested. The Prineville-Mitchell road opens up a rich agricultural and fruit country that will seek an outlet to markets in this direction and the road over the McKenzie pass will furnish a direct means of communication with the Willamette valley and Portland. The auto travel alone over this route will leave thousands of dollars annually in this country. Help along the good roads movement.

The Railroad Committee Reports Encouraging Progress

The railroad committee brings cheerful news from Metolius. Messrs. Baldwin, Brink and Stinson have been at work over there several days this week securing the right-of-way and report good success. About seven miles have been signed up. This amount, together with other sections of the route that have signed, will be sufficient for Contractor Scheel to organize his company and issue bonds for the construction of the road. Mr. Scheel has been anxious to get to work but could not do so until a

certain amount of the right-of-way had been secured. Mr. Baldwin will notify Mr. Scheel at once so that he can mature his plans and get busy.

The committee will begin the work of securing the right-of-way for this end of the line and at other places as soon as possible so as not to delay operations this fall. Much time can be saved if owners of land will co-operate with the committee to expedite the work. Get together so that construction work can be started before winter.

appreciative of the service that is being rendered them. We believe that the county should avail itself without further delay of the state demonstration farm act of 1913 and make a suitable appropriation out of the funds of the county treasurer to equip one good permanent demonstration farm in Crook county for dry farming demonstration work. By this act the state of Oregon has appropriated one dollar for every dollar the county will so appropriate and we believe that money so appropriated will be an invest of material and lasting benefit to the whole county.

We have examined the buildings of the Crook County High School, including the Industrial Arts building now in course of completion and we commend the present high school board for its progressiveness and feel they should be encouraged as much as possible in their sincere efforts to build an institution where our children will be afforded the best of high school instruction when they have finished the regular common school courses.

We desire also to reaffirm the convictions of the preceding grand jury, that of May, 1913, with respect to the purchase by the county of an automobile for the better efficiency and conduct of county business and believe that for the better service provided by the sheriff's and other administrative

Crook County High's Agricultural Course

A Line of Study that Should Appeal to the Young Men of This County—Prof. Pratt, a Graduate of the University of Minnesota and Oregon Ag. College in Charge.

The new course of study for the Crook County High School which is just off the press outlines a full four-year course in agriculture which is likely to be one of the most popular courses in the high school. The school board has been very liberal in supplying books and equipment with which to carry on the work. Mr. Pratt, the agricultural instructor, states that it is doubtful if another high school in the state has as good an agricultural library as has the Crook County High.

The east room of the frame building which was used last year for manual training is being completely remodeled and is to be used as a laboratory for the agricultural courses. The north room in the same building is being remodeled to a considerable extent and will be used as a recitation room for that department.

H. E. Pratt, whom the board has secured to take charge of the new department, is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and of the Oregon Agricultural College. He has had considerable practical experience on farms, both in the middle states and in Washington. During the past month Mr. Pratt has traveled over a considerable

portion of the county becoming acquainted with agricultural conditions.

For the information of the high school pupils the agricultural course is given in full below. The number following a subject indicates the number of times a week which that subject occurs.

First Semester			
Freshman	English	Sophomore	English
5	5	5	5
Botany	5	Algebra	5
Soils	2	Farm Dairying	3
Stock Judging	3	Dry Farming	2
Elective	5	Elective	5
Junior	English	Senior	English
5	5	5	5
Chemistry	5	Physics	5
History	5	Soil Fertility	5
Crop Enemies	2	Farm Market-	
ing	1		
Elective	2	Elective	2
Second Semester			
Freshman	English	Sophomore	English
5	5	5	5
Botany	5	Algebra	5
Soils	2	Farm Hort.	3
Farm Crops	3	Irrigation	2
Elective	5	Elective	5
Junior	English	Senior	English
5	5	5	5
Chemistry	5	Physics	5
History	5	Farm Manage-	
Farm Book keep-		ment	5
ing	2	Stock Manage-	
Farm Marketing	1	ment	5
Elective	2		

offices of the county that the investment has more than warranted itself. In fact, in the one single instance that was so vividly brought to our attention, we refer to the case of the State of Oregon against William Carey. The efficient service rendered by the officers in running down the evidence made possible by the county automobile standing ready, has in itself in our opinion, rendered the investment for the machine so valuable that if no other service were had hereafter the purchase would be justified.

We further feel that the county court should pay the bills for gasoline, lubricating oil and repairs, for the machine without gasoline, lubricating oil and repairs is useless and the investment a complete loss and we can see no reason absolutely for the court to refuse to pay bills legitimately incurred in the service of the county.

Further, we desire to say that we have examined the assessment rolls upon which the 1913 taxes will be collected and upon which the next levy will be made and we wish to say that the valuations as we have found them seem to be uniform and that the assessor has worked diligently and well at a task that is always a difficult one in which to please and that we are highly satisfied in the manner in which assessments for the next levy seem to have been made.

From observations made by us we find that the roof of the courthouse is in a very bad state of repair and we hereby call the attention of the county court, now in session, to that fact. We believe the roof needs immediate attention and should regularly be painted and repaired, for so valuable a building as the Crook county courthouse cannot be allowed to be ruined so vitally as it is likely to be by a defective

or unrepared roof. In conclusion we wish further to thank all the county officials, the district attorney, his deputy and our bailiff for the courtesies shown us at all times and in the assistance rendered to us in the performance of our duties. Our labor has been rendered more pleasant and less difficult by their assistance for which we desire in this way to express our gratitude.

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

W. J. JOHNSON,
Foreman.

W. H. HESS,
A. G. KIBBEE,
WALLACE POST,
GEO. W. BRANSTETER,
S. A. SANBVG,
J. E. ROBERTS.

Died.

After suffering untold agony for nearly five weeks from traumatic paralysis, Ora Poindexter, age 48, passed away at the Home Hospital, this city, early Tuesday morning.

Deceased fell from a hay wagon on August 7, striking on the back of his head, and paralysis of the trunk and limbs was almost complete from the beginning. At first it was thought he would recover, but during the four days previous to his demise a change for the worse set in which terminated fatally.

Mr. Poindexter had long been a resident of Crook county and was well known throughout its precincts. The funeral took place yesterday afternoon from the Lippman undertaking parlors.

Hay for Sale.

Fifty tons choice alfalfa at the Newsum creek ranch. Address Sam Newsum Jr., Post, Oregon. 9-11 Imp

Melville Sewing Machines for rent, J. E. STEWART & Co. 5-1