

# Crook County Journal

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## Cost vs. Convenience In County Division

Shall Crook county be divided into two or more counties?

This is a question that will not down. It arises in greater or less force at each recurring biennial election and sooner or later must be finally decided. The question is an important one and should be approached fairly, judiciously and without prejudice. In this spirit, apparently, a movement is now on to call this question up for decision at the coming election. The time for open, frank and fair discussion is now here.

The very fact that this county division question continues to live and to grow would seem to prove the necessity for such a movement, leaving only the time, place and conditions to be settled. Tensely stated, the question of whether or not Crook county should be divided at the present time resolves itself into two elements—that of convenience and of cost. As to the first element there could be no discussion. The county is large—too large to be convenient to many of its citizens. Particularly is this true in the matter of county seat facilities. In such a large area of country it would undoubtedly be a great convenience to a majority of the people to have two or more county seats instead of one as we now have. The affirmative of this element of county division must be conceded.

Upon the second element to be considered—that of cost, it is not so easy to arrive at a wise conclusion. Would it cost more to establish and conduct three counties in the given area than one, or

would it cost less. If more, how much more. If less, how much less. Upon the satisfactory answer to these questions almost the whole case should be decided.

Speaking plainly, any division of the county at the present time would be a convenience, but it is not an essential and if it is going to be a costly operation it should not be done. The reason why this is true is not far to seek. Go to any taxpayer in Crook county and ask him about his taxes and he will proceed to give you plenty of reasons why the burden of taxation should be made lighter instead of heavier than it now is, and if you will notice closely his reasons are good and sufficient. That investment and enterprise are too heavily penalized at the present time by taxation all over Oregon is a conceded fact and Crook county is not an exception. If county division or any other non-essential is going to make taxes higher in any measurable degree it should be waved aside for the present.

On the other hand if two or more counties can be moulded out of the territory now embraced within the borders of Crook county in such a manner as to bring the convenience of the same without materially increasing current expenses of county government, then there would remain no valid objection to such a movement. Almost the whole case would seem to revolve around the matter of cost. Would it cost more than as now conducted? If so, how much more? It is time for the man with the figures to appear upon the scene.

## Metolius River a Great Health Resort

The Metolius river is getting to be a very popular summer resort. All along the banks of this ice cold stream are camped people from far and near. This is a wonderful river, water as cold as ice flowing out of a bank, the source of the water supply not being known, and the river is almost as wide at the head as it is at any place farther down the stream. This is one of the most picturesque places to be found any place in Eastern Oregon, and the climate in summer is ideal—warm days and cool nights, just cool enough to make a pair of woolen blankets feel very comfortable even in July; the kind of weather that puts new life and vigor into a person and brings about a complete change of the whole system. It has long been considered one of the best health resorts in the state.

There are all kinds of recreation and sports to be had on the Metolius—hunting, fishing, canoeing, etc., it having been classed long ago among the best trout streams in Oregon. Fishing is always good and for those who prefer lake fishing, Blue and Suttle lakes are only a few miles distant, and Marion lake, over the summit of the mountain, within a few hours' ride from any of the camping places on the river. In season

there are deer and grouse in abundance and a bear can be had most any time you care to go after him. And last but not least, the huckleberry patch at Mt. Jefferson is only a short distance from the head of this great river, and the Indians say the prospects for berries this year are good. They ripen about September 1. No one knows what a real huckleberry is until they have actually eaten them from the bushes. The ones gotten from the Indians are spoiled in the washing, since every housewife will wash and wash until she imagines she has all the "Indian" off, and by that time the greater part of the flavor is gone and the berry is practically worthless.

There are good hotel accommodations on the Metolius for those who want to board. An excellent place to stop is at "Allendale" farm, right on the river, eight miles from the head of the river and about twenty miles from Sisters. They also have tents to rent and free camping grounds for those who go prepared to camp. The road is in fine condition and the drive through the timber and down the river is most pleasing.

Why go elsewhere for an outing when we have right here in our own county one of the best health resorts and recreation grounds to be found anywhere.

## The Farm's Best Crop —Boys and Girls

To say that the boys and girls are the best crop of the farm is but to give utterance to a truism. It is largely for their sakes that we are so intent on making the other crops on the farm a success. For their sakes, you would if it became necessary, make almost any sacrifice. The average American parent expends between three and four thousand dollars in rearing and educating a child until he is eighteen. It would seem strange that after expending so much love, trouble and money on a child, the parent would give so little thought to the life work of their son or daughter. It is the height of folly to take a boy who is by nature intended for a physician, or a blacksmith, or a lawyer, or a carpenter, and try to make a merchant or an engineer out of him. So too, those who are by nature fitted to be farmers should not be shoved toward some small clerical position in the city for some fancied advantage associated with a white collar and clean hands.

It is not many years ago that the high schools of this country prepared their pupils for college and for nothing else. Indeed, even today, the majority of our high schools make college preparation a leading feature of their work. Here and there, however, are schools with strong individuals behind them which, recognizing that only a small percentage of their students can enjoy the advantages of a college education, have centered their efforts on preparing their students for their life work. These schools stand head and shoulders above the others.

Such a one is our own county

high school. Offering courses in Commerce, Home Economics, Normal, Manual Training and Agriculture, it appeals to the practical side of its students. Its graduates leave their alma mater better prepared to grapple with life's problems for having spent four brief, happy and instructive years within its walls.

## Teamwork Always Gets Good Results

Individual effort is a good thing, properly applied, but if every man in this town decided to work in his own particular way for the upbuilding of the community we wouldn't progress very far or very fast. "A long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together" has often pulled a town out of the rut and saved it from stagnation, starting it on the high road of progress and prosperity. But every fellow for himself with no cohesive community effort will soon put the best town in the country in the muck and mire and effectually block the wheels of progress. One old ox is mighty poor dependence for moving a heavy load, but put a yoke of them together and note the teamwork. When in unison they bend their necks to the bow, something has to come. So it is in the development of a community. Let the progressive, loyal citizens work in unison for a common cause and something generally happens, that something being the building up of the community, making it a better and more attractive place in which to live.

Are you yoked up with the boosters of this community, doing effective teamwork, or are you pulling in a contrary direction all alone?

## A Day When the Loser Wins

We celebrate Arbor Day, Labor Day, Mothers' Day and many other important days, but Carmen, Oklahoma, has originated and celebrated "Take-It-Back Day"—one day in the year when each citizen shall make restitution to his neighbor of whatever he has borrowed in the past. Imagine what it might mean to have one day in the year when, without discourtesy, one might rightfully demand that book, those umbrellas, etc.

The news account of this great day is short, but enough is told to make it clear that "Take-It-Back Day" was an unqualified success. Those who returned borrowed articles grudgingly seem to have concealed their chagrin at being forced to "give up," while the joy of those who got back sugar, flour, lemon-squeezers, rakes, salt, pepper and soap which they had loaned long months before was unconfined. The dispatches are significantly silent as to whether any umbrellas were restored to their rightfully owners, but it is safe to say, however, that there were none, since it is commonly known that umbrellas are appropriated rather than borrowed. Be it as it may, the fundamental idea of "Take-It-Back Day" is an excellent one, and Carmen deserves all the celebrity which it has acquired. There are limitless possibilities to the scheme, and in time those who tell fibs on their neighbors may be induced to take them back.

If you have in your possession a book for which the owner has been looking high and low, take it back. If your neighbor's lawn mower reposes in your wood shed, take it back. If in a moment of forget-

fulness you heatedly told your rival what you thought of him, go to him and tell him, man to man, that you did not mean a word of it. And last but not least, if you have been nourishing a grudge against any man, woman or child in this community, take it back.

How's that for an idea? Honestly carried out, would it not add a cubit to the civic stature? And if here and there a die-hard were discovered who cherished his antagonisms overmuch, would not partial success in such a program make any town more livable?

The best thing about the idea is that one need not wait for a second to the motion. Today—without further delay—we can go the rounds taking things back—deeds, words, possessions, hatreds and envies. Life is too short, existence too precarious, and individual differences too slight to warrant the assumption that there is nothing to arbitrate between himself and his neighbor. And neighbor is a mighty comprehensive term; it can be stretched to include all humanity.

Let us fall in line with Carmen and set aside one day in the year as "Take-It-Back Day," and return those things, which, because "Take-It-Back Day" had not yet been invented and was regarded as belonging in the same class with perpetual motion and the millennium, were long ago charged to profit and loss.

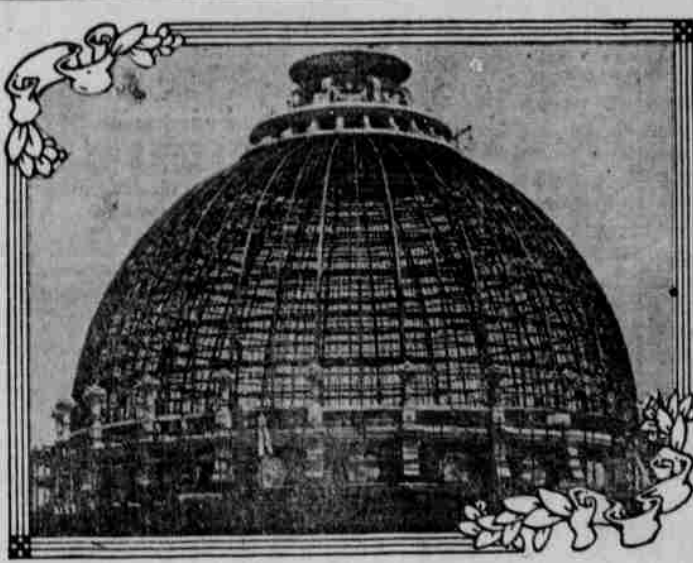
### Land for Sale

160 Acres, tp. 15, r. 15, sec. 26, W. M.; 6½ miles from Prineville, near Powell Butte; \$12 per acre. Inquire at this office. 6-25 Imp

July clearance sales now on at C. W. Elkins' Store. 7-9

### HANDSOME BOOK ON PANAMA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION AND PANAMA CANAL REGION FREE.

A HANDSOME book of sixty pages, illustrated profusely in colors and giving detailed descriptions of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition to be held in San Francisco from Feb. 20 until Dec. 4, 1915, and of the Panama canal and the canal region, will be mailed by the Panama-Pacific International Exposition free of charge to all inquirers. Write to the Manager, the Bureau of Publications, Panama-Pacific International Exposition, Exposition building, San Francisco, for the booklet.



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### THE LARGEST GLASS BUBBLE IN THE WORLD.

STEEL framework of the great dome of the Palace of Horticulture at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Francisco, 1915. The dome is the largest ever constructed, being 152 feet in diameter and 186 feet high and surmounted by a basket thirty feet in diameter, which will be filled with growing flowers. The dome, lighted from within by whirling colored lights, will resemble a huge fire opal.

### SPLENDORS OF THE UNIVERSE TO BE SHOWN AT SAN FRANCISCO IN 1915

A SCENE of splendor and glory unrivaled in the history of world's expositions is assured the visitor to the great Panama-Pacific International Exposition at San Francisco in 1915. Thousands of workmen are now rushing to completion the vast exhibit palaces that face north on the shores of San Francisco harbor just inside the Golden Gate, and a conclave of nations unsurpassed by history is assured at this stupendous celebration at which the United States, joined by the nations of the world, will celebrate the opening of the Panama canal.

Thirty-four great countries have accepted the invitation to take part in the Exposition. This is four times as many nations as had agreed to participate at any other exposition at a similar time before its opening.

The fact that the Panama-Pacific International Exposition will be ready in every detail long before the opening day on Feb. 20, 1915, is only what the world expected of the men who have this International Exposition in charge.

More than 30,000 of the world's leading exhibitors will have their exhibits installed in the vast exhibit halls when the Exposition opens to the world. This is an unparalleled record in the history of universal expositions.

## What We Owe as a Newspaper to the Community

This paper believes in disseminating the news; believes that the general public is entitled, as a matter of justice and right, to the news of the day; believes that the news is what our several hundred subscribers pay their hard-earned coin for and have a right to expect. Therefore, we give the news. At the same time we hold that it is the right and province of a newspaper to warn the people as a whole, or any part of the whole, when we see they are going wrong, getting off on the wrong track, that they are liable to get themselves and their loved ones, if they have any, into most serious trouble. In a word, the two great duties of a newspaper are to give the people the news and to give warning when danger approaches. Regarding the first duty mentioned, there is, nor never has been any question but that we have done our full duty as we saw it, and as to the second, we may have been negligent in the past, but here and now we pledge our lives and our substance, dedicate them to the cause, pledge ourselves that we will warn the people when danger approaches.

To show our sincerity in making the above pledge, we want to warn any burglar, anyone wanting to burgle or having even burgling tendencies, to steer clear away from Prineville. This is not a safe place nor a profitable field. Not that our residents have nothing to burgle. Nay, verily. There is plate in this town that would make a second

story man, porch climber, ground floor man, or even the man who goes up the rose vine at the south side, green with envy. There are jewel cases and strong boxes; there are many things, both rare and valuable, the possession of which would put any modern Bill Sikes on easy street for the remainder of his days. That is not the point at all, and that is not the reason we warn you to stay away from Prineville. We are simply warning you of trouble and trying to show you that you will have trouble if you try to ply your trade in this good burg, Prineville, anticipating as she does always, has installed a new burglar alarm system, one that is always in working order, never goes wrong, never fails when put into action and always brings the desired results. In fact, it is installed on the "sure thing" plan. Therefore, we warn any of the fraternity that if you ply your trade in these parts of God's moral vineyard you will assuredly be overtaken. Now, we have done our duty and if you get into trouble do not say that we did not warn you.

We simply say, as a matter of news, that the telephone people and the city council may, either one of them or both, try to take credit for the installation of this new burglar alarm system but we purpose to be fair. Neither the telephone people nor the city council are entitled to any credit for the success of this new system, nor to any criticisms in case it fails to work.