

Crook County Journal

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER FOR CROOK COUNTY

VOL. XVIII—\$1.50 YEAR

PRINEVILLE, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1914.

Entered at the postoffice at Prineville Oregon, as second-class matter

NO. 38

Father and Child Are Badly Burned

A fire, caused by the explosion of a coal oil lamp, burned the Frank Cowan building at Lamonta one night last week and almost caused the death of Mr. Cowan and his 4-months-old baby. The building was used as a store, postoffice and residence. M. F. Cowan, father of Frank, was up at different times in the night and had left a lamp burning in his room on the second floor while he went down to the first floor. While gone the lamp exploded, setting the room on fire and the flames spread so rapidly Mr. Cowan Jr., whose sleeping room was on the same floor, was shut off from the stairway. He was soon overcome by the heat and smoke and became unconscious. When Mr. Cowan Sr., discovered the fire he ran to the stair door and when the door opened Frank and baby fell out onto the floor. How they got down the stairs will never be known. They were both badly burned but not seriously. The baby's burns were mostly on the top and back of the head, while the father's body was burned all over. The mother was away at the time of the fire to a relative's home near by.

The loss is estimated at between \$7000 and \$8000, the only things saved being a trunk with the stamps in it and the account books and papers belonging to the store. There was no insurance.

The Cowans were brought to Prineville and are being cared for at the home of Mr. Cowan's sister, Mrs. Carl McGhee. They are getting along as well as could be expected considering everything.

Pardon Refused; Mother Collapses

Mrs. Martha S. McPherson, formerly of Crook county, collapsed in the reception room of the executive office last week when informed by Governor West that he could not pardon her son, and had to be escorted to an outgoing Oregon Electric train by Miss Fern Hobbs, private secretary to the executive, and Nicholas Haas, supply clerk under Secretary of State Olcott. The son, Logan McPherson, was convicted several months ago in Crook county, and recently the supreme court affirmed the conviction. Pending the appeal he gave bail, and the mission of the mother yesterday was to plead with the executive and save her son from having to occupy a felon's cell. After listening to her pleading the executive informed her that he could not grant a pardon, and escorted her to the reception room. Unable apparently to bear up under her grief and disappointment she collapsed. With this hope abandoned, McPherson must be taken to the penitentiary to serve his term.

Sunday School Picnic at Grove

About 300 people attended the picnic given by the Christian Sunday school and church at Gulliford Grove last Sunday. Country people and town people met for a good old fashioned picnic like they used to hold at the grove years ago. Everybody put their lunches together and there was enough to feed twice the number present. After Sunday school Rev. Ramsey delivered a sermon, and at 3 o'clock he spoke to the people again. Everybody had a good time and met old friends they had not seen for a number of years.

A Visit to "Willowdale Ranches" on the Ochoco

"Willowdale Ranches," owned by M. R. Biggs, and two miles east of Prineville in the Ochoco valley, are two of the finest ranches to be found anywhere in the state of Oregon. The ranches contain 720 acres, 400 acres in the upper and 320 acres in the lower one, the Henry Cram place separating the two. The greater part of this 720 acres is under cultivation. The Ochoco runs through "Willowdale Ranches" and furnishes plenty of water for irrigation. On the lower ranch along the county road is an eighty of wild meadow grass which is just as level as a floor and requires no cultivation except to run a drag over it in the spring of the year to level down the bumps made

alfalfa. Sloughs which were sixty and eighty feet wide, a half mile long and six to ten feet deep have been filled up by cutting down high knolls and dragging the soil into these places until they are on a level with the surrounding ground. Mr. Biggs will keep on working this land until he has his place so level he can irrigate the entire field without digging ditches through his land, all that will be necessary will be to raise the headgate in the main ditch and the water will take care of itself, thus saving the expense of keeping extra men for irrigation purposes. As soon as the second crop of alfalfa is harvested a man is put to work with a drag leveling the alfalfa fields and keeps

finds a home on the Biggs ranches. The first animal we were shown on reaching "Willowdale Ranches" was the celebrated Mammoth registered jack, "Debs," the best jack in the state of Oregon. Three years ago Mr. Biggs went back to his home state (Missouri) to purchase some fine stock and he searched the entire state for a suitable jack. Finally he found the one he was looking for, paid \$2000 for the animal and as he was loading him on the cars to bring him home he was offered \$500 more than he paid for him but he refused the offer. You can't fool "Dick" Biggs in a horse or mule. The owner of this jack is just as proud of this homely, long-eared



The Mammoth Registered Jack, "Debs," (3517), Willowdale Ranches

by the stock pasturing on it while wet. No one passes this particular spot without remarking of its beauty, especially tourists from other parts of the country. To the back of this eighty and along the creek is grain and alfalfa hay. As pretty oats and barley as was ever grown is being harvested there now.

The writer visited "Willowdale Ranches" the first of the week and while being driven over the fields got out to inspect the oats and it was six inches above her head and so thick another stalk could not have found room to come through the ground. Back of this oats were a few acres of barley in the sheaf and as fine a lot of barley as was ever grown anywhere by anybody. None of this barley is sold but most of it is ground and fed to the stock on the ranches. Mr. Biggs has some fine alfalfa. In fact, the greater part of the ranches is set to alfalfa. "The only kind of hay for us to raise," said Mr. Biggs, "if we understand how to grow it and know when the proper time comes to harvest it."

The upper ranch is two miles above the lower place. This place was purchased of the Combs estate three years ago. A lot of work has been done on this land during these three years and in a couple of years more it will all be leveled up and the greater part of it sown to

up this work until the frosts come in the late fall. He is a staunch believer in thoroughly cultivating your land if you expect good returns. When the alfalfa begins dying out and not doing as well as it should he goes to work and ploughs it up and sows this piece of land to grain for two or three years then sets it to alfalfa again and in this way he gets a fine stand while if he kept alfalfa on the same ground year in and year out the yield would be small and scarcely worth the cost of harvesting. This is the mistake so many of our farmers are making by not ploughing up their alfalfa fields occasionally and rotating crops. It costs a lot of money to carry on farming as it is done on these ranches, but in the outcome it pays. When the whole 720 acres are leveled up and under cultivation and the place enclosed with a good substantial hog-proof wire fence, then the expenses will keep dropping off gradually and finally the profitable side of the ranch will come in sight and Mr. Biggs, before he realizes it, will be an independent rancher and will have a ranch known far and wide as one of the best in the whole Northwest.

Not only hay and grain are raised but the finest mules, horses and cattle that money can buy are found here. It is a well known fact that nothing but a pure bred animal

critter as he is of any of the rest of his fine stuff. We suggested a change of name, but the owner said, "It isn't the name that counts in a mule."

Next we visited "Rex Golden" in his stall. A beautiful pure bred American Saddle Horse; as well bred as any saddle horse in America. "Rex Golden" is a nephew of "Great Rex McDonald," the greatest show saddle horse that ever lived. This horse has attracted more attention than any other horse ever brought to Crook county. Everybody stops to take notice as the "proud stepper" goes by. This horse was also purchased in Missouri three years ago, the price paid was \$1000. There are a number of fine colts on the ranch from this horse and they are all beauties, the pick of the bunch being a beautiful brown colt which was named for one of our popular Crook county girls—Florence Waldron.

There are also a number of draft Shire horses, the accompanying cut being the sire of most of the young stuff. This stallion was imported by Jack Edwards of the B. S. & L. Co., of Haycreek, and he has left some fine progeny around Prineville, his colts winning many of the blue ribbons at our county fair. "Willowdale Tom," is a beautiful 3-year-old bay stallion with white markings, good size and



Above we are showing a cut of the beautiful silver cup offered by the Northern Pacific Railway Co. for the best exhibit of grains and grasses in sheaf at the coming Crook county fair. We look for quite a competition for this splendid cup as it is valued at \$50.00 and shows the interest the railroad companies are taking in this far western country.

The Northern Pacific, while not entering this immediate territory, is and has heretofore taken a deep interest in the development of this vicinity and has shown it by its splendid special premiums offered at our fairs, and our fair association feels grateful for its aid in this manner, as should every resident of the county.

Other railroad companies are offering fine special premiums. The Great Northern is offering a fine silver cup for the best individual display of grains, grasses and vegetables. Also the O-W. R. & N. Co.'s special prize for the best exhibit of

corn grown in the county can be seen in the premium list.

Many of the officials of these railway companies have made arrangements already to attend the coming fair. The fair managers are already getting things in shape and everything bids fair to have the best fair the county has ever had. A goodly number of horses are in training at the grounds for the races.

County fairs are becoming the gathering places for country folks. They meet their friends there and there they see the result of their friends' best work and effort. At the county fair they hear the best speakers and come in contact with the best the community can produce. There is wholesome and healthful entertainment. There are the educational features. There are all the things that people gather for, and no family can do better for a little outing than to attend the county fair.

You need the Journal, \$1.50 a year

Crook County High Begins Mon. Sept. 14

The first semester of C. C. H. S. begins Monday, September 14. The tuition is free and all young people of Crook county are invited to attend. All students desiring assistance in securing board and work will please write to me. I will not promise to find what you want, but promise to do my best. There are hundreds of young people in the county who are eligible to attend and would if it were not for the finances. Therefore any citizen of Prineville who can help a boy or girl by providing work for board, etc., surely has a duty to perform. There are plenty of students in the county. Help me get them and keep them here. Please notify me if you have a place for some one.

H. C. BAUGHMAN.

Residence Property for Sale.
Good house and barn, lot 120x140 ft. Inquire at this office. 8 13 14

For Sale or Trade
One Mowing Machine, one new Wagon Box, one Potato Digger. Prineville Feed & Livery Stables, 6-11

Dairymen to Hold Meeting Saturday

Professor Fitts, specialist in dairying and stockraising in the extension division of the Oregon Agricultural College, will be with County Agriculturist Lovett the most of the week beginning August 17th, in the interest of the dairy industry of this section.

A meeting will be held in Prineville at Commercial Club Hall next Saturday, August 15th, at 2:00 o'clock. They hope to hold meetings in other localities and to visit a large number of dairymen, one of the objects being to interest the men with cows in the organization of a cow-testing association for the purpose of weeding out the poor cows and improving the production and profits of our herds. Drop Mr. Lovett a line at Redmond if you are interested.

WANTED:—Second hand goods, furniture, stoves, ranges, beds, etc., anything in the second-hand line. Will pay cash or trade new goods for same. The Racket Store, Prineville, Ore. Located at the J. F. Morris old stand. 8-13