

Crook County Journal

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Crook County High Has Large Attendance

Crook County High School began the third week of the first semester Monday with the largest opening attendance in the history of the school. A finer student body never entered a house of learning than these young people and that they are here for business is proved by the fact that a majority of them are working their way.

For the benefit of the uninformed this fact is made public through the columns of this paper that the out-of-town students number just 210 per cent of the Prineville resident students, and each town in the county is also ably represented. Students from neighboring counties are paying tuition to Crook county for the privilege of attending the high school. The school register is open to the doubtful.

Five strong courses, each in charge of specialists, offer great advantages to the young people of Crook county and this year's failure of crops is alone responsible for the non-attendance of at least fifty students.

Two new instructors—Mrs. H. E. Pratt and R. R. Davis—were added to the faculty this year. The former is in charge of Household Arts and the latter of the Manual Training department.

English is required in all the courses and spelling is given in the freshman and sophomore years. Miss Conway has the work in charge and her work is well known to patrons and students of Crook County High.

Mr. Smith has a strong scientific department and many of his students are working for college credits.

Mr. Evans has a large enrollment in his commercial classes and it was found necessary to give part of his work to others.

Mrs. Walker's normal department has also increased in attendance until she could not handle the work alone.

The agricultural department, in charge of Mr. Pratt, is well equipped and well attended.

Mrs. Pratt, who comes to us with a love for her work combined with a charming personality, has a fine class of girls who are learning domestic science and art in a way that signifies well kept future homes.

Mr. Davis, who comes from the O. A. C. also, possesses the combination of qualities that means success in his work. He has outlined a good practical course in manual training and space is at a premium in his department. During the

Summary of Assessment Roll, Crook County, Oregon, for Year of 1914

	NUMBER	VALUE
Acres of tillable lands.....	292,574	\$2,094,643
Acres of non-tillable lands.....	1,324,459	4,713,485
Improvements on deeded or patented lands.....		344,675
Town and city lots.....		848,125
Improvements on town and city lots.....		328,755
Improvements on lands not deeded or patented.....		100,555
Engines and manufacturing machinery.....		26,975
Merchandise and stock in trade.....		236,265
Farm implements, wagons, carriages, etc.....		153,735
Money, notes and accounts.....		158,710
Shares of stock.....		149,655
Hotel and office furniture.....		10,850
Horses and mules.....	11,832	311,300
Cattle.....	24,195	498,255
Sheep.....	81,040	162,095
Swine.....	5,143	23,505
Dogs.....	74	1,085
Miscellaneous.....		50
Total value.....		\$10,162,728

H. A. FOSTER, Assessor.

The above does not include property of the Public Service Corporations.

first year the students learn the use and care of tools and the simpler forms of furniture construction. During the second year they construct working drawings and make all kinds of furniture and learn the use of the band saw and turning lathe. During the last semester of the second year the students learn the drafting of plans and the construction of buildings. Mr. Davis assists with the athletic work in addition to his other duties.

Superintendent Baughman has charge of the mathematics and in addition to this the organization and running-gear of the big school.

And last, but not least, another faithful worker for the good of Crook County High is Gus, the

janitor; the student's friend, the faculty's friend, a very necessary factor for the success of the whole. With all these good conditions marking the opening of the first semester, Crook County High has fairly started on the most successful year of its existence.

Tax Rolls Turned Over to Sheriff

County Treasurer Jordan reports that \$358,207.53 has been collected this year on a total valuation of \$411,315.36. This leaves \$53,828.84 delinquent. The delinquency total is made up as follows:

Real property.....	\$22,747 34
Personal property.....	11,345 85
Town rolls.....	19,735 65
Total.....	\$53,828 84

Much Good Should Follow Towner Experiments

Prof. Shaw, while in Prineville last week, said that he had problems in the Big Bend country of Washington that were somewhat analogous to conditions in Crook county. The conditions here were prevalent only in a modified form.

Mr. Shaw has been commissioned by the Northern Pacific to find some way of tying down the soil. In other words, to keep it from blowing away.

"Yes, its a tough proposition," said Mr. Shaw, "but I'm going to succeed. I have been at it about a year and I feel greatly encouraged. The soil in that country is volcanic ash and is much lighter than the soils around here. There the winds blow with such force that practically everything is carried away. Drifts in places are as high as the fence and some farmers just gave up the struggle and abandoned their places. This has been carried to such an extent that people became alarmed and appealed to the railroads for a solution. The railroads put it up to Mr. Shaw.

The agricultural expert is changing the method of plowing. Instead of having a fine mulch for a top surface he is having it broken up so that lumps about the size of a hen's egg are left on top to withstand the action of the wind.

"The plan is working out much better than was expected," Mr. Shaw said. The same idea would be worth a trial in certain parts of Crook county where heavy windstorms once in a while blow out a crop. Sow fall grains as much as possible. That's another great help. Plant emmer. I have been using Buffum's Improved with good results, but Black Winter Emmer seems to do a little better in this country. The Moro experiment station in Sherman county and the experiment stations at Metolius and Burns got a little better yield. The farmers themselves can solve which is the better for local growth."

When questioned about the Hill experiment plat on the Towner farm, Prof. Shaw said:

"The experiments conducted on Wm. Towner's farm in 1913 by the S. P. & S. Railway, did not accomplish all that could be desired. For the reason, first, that they were conducted on land that had not been prepared the previous year, and second, because the season was unusually dry. Notwithstanding this the results obtained from those experiments will probably mean much to the farmers of this county."

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