

Crook County Journal

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER FOR CROOK COUNTY

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NO. 7

MURDERED IN COLD BLOOD

Ralph Brown Shot New Years Morning

WHILE RETURNING from DANCE

Pettis, in a Drunken New Years Debauch, Slays His Employer.

Ralph Brown, son of County Commissioner Brown, was murdered in cold blood near his home at Kaskela New Year's morning by his hired man, named Clarence Pettis. After the shooting Pettis fled to the hills.

A dispatch from The Dalles, dated January 2, says:

Clarence Pettis, slayer of Ralph Brown, arrived at The Dalles this afternoon on the same train which carried the body of his victim. Brown was killed as he was returning to his home near Kaskela with his wife New Year's morning, his assailant firing from inside the Brown home, the bullets going through a screen door. Pettis is 21 years old and was employed by Brown. He will be arraigned here Monday for first degree murder. The authorities say Pettis is sane and express belief that the ranch hand, after drinking heavily, thought he was a "bad man" and killed Brown.

Pettis surrendered to Sheriff Chrisman at 5:45 o'clock this morning, the sheriff entering the cabin where Pettis had taken refuge, after the slayer had sent a message that he would surrender if the sheriff would come for him alone.

Mrs. Brown was fired on by Pettis after her husband fell dead. She threw her coat over the body of her husband and ran for help, through a pouring rain to the nearest neighbor, three and one-half miles away. She stopped once in the long run to take off her outer skirt, so that she could run faster.

Pettis first explained the shooting by saying he had a grudge against Brown. Later he told Sheriff Chrisman he had nothing against his employer, saying the Browns had always treated him well. Just before the train reached The Dalles, Pettis, who had previously displayed indifference, said to Deputy Sheriff Thompson:

"I'd willingly give my own life if I could bring back to life the man I killed."

Pettis says he is of Scotch descent, but appears to be either a Mexican or Spaniard. He refused to tell where his parents live.

Ralph Brown was 38 years old. He was graduated from the University of Oregon. About 12 years ago he and Miss Edith Percival, a Willamette valley girl, and a graduate of Monmouth Normal School, were married. There are no children.

Madras, Ore., Jan. 2.—Clarence Pettis, who shot and killed Ralph Brown yesterday at Brown's home at Kaskela, appeared at Ralph Mark's place about 7 p. m., and after ordering Marks to prepare supper told him that he had killed Brown and had intended to kill Mrs. Brown, too. After keeping Marks up until the train came in from the north, Pettis ordered Marks to go down to the station, about four miles away, and bring the sheriff alone, saying he would kill them all if the sheriff formed a posse to capture him.

Members of the New Council Sworn In

The members of the new council were sworn in Monday evening immediately after the adjournment of the out-going council, and a special meeting was called at once by Mayor Edwards.

Mayor Chas. S. Edwards, Councilmen Elkins, Still, Reams, Pancake, Foster and Noble were present. The first act of the new council was to urge the enforcement of the ordinance to keep dogs from running loose on the streets.

The council passed a resolution asking that the papers of the city submit bids for the city printing during the current year.

Committees were appointed by Mayor Edwards as follows:

Health and Police—Pancake, Noble and Foster.

Streets and Public Improvements—Noble, Elkins and Still.

Fire and Water—Foster, Noble and Reams.

Finance—Elkins, Reams and Pancake.

License—Still, Elkins and Pancake.

Judiciary—Reams, Foster and Still.

T. E. J. Luffy was appointed city attorney for the year and H. A. Kelley will continue his position of city engineer.

Rules for the Deschutes Power Company were read and adopted.

The following bills were allowed:

Shipp & Perry.....	\$28 70
Clifton & Cornett.....	1 15
Deschutes Power Co.....	159 20
Mrs. Maling.....	25 00
C W Elkins.....	5 00
L M Bechtell.....	25 00
Claypool & Co.....	6 35
R E Gray.....	34 65
John Curtis.....	6 00
H D Still.....	1 25
E O Hyde.....	46 00
T L Coon.....	5 00
C W Elkins.....	1 35

F. A. Rowell, D. P. Adamson, I. W. Ward, J. F. Cadle, John D. Newsom and H. A. Kelley were paid \$3 each as officers of election. O. C. Hyde and S. G. Hinkle each received \$1 for canvassing election returns.

The following men were paid \$1.50 each as witnesses in the recorder's court: Earl Omen, Mr. Vasey, Levi Dow, M. Porter, Richard Long, Ed Hyde, Chas. Dow.

At a special meeting of the city council Monday night the affairs of the old council were brought to a close. Present—Mayor Clifton, Councilmen Elkins, Noble, Foster, LaFollette and Zevely.

The Committee on Health and Police reported the spread of rabies in the vicinity of the city and a general discussion of the subject disclosed the fact that a number of cases had been discovered during past few weeks within the city limits.

The marshal was instructed to enforce the two ordinances concerning dogs in the streets. Country people will be requested to keep their dogs tied while in the city.

The petition asking for the vacation of platted property near the water tank in the north end of the city was allowed.

Tuesday evening council met in regular session. Present—Mayor Edwards, Councilmen Elkins, Still, Noble and Reams, Recorder Hyde and Marshal W. R. Pollard.

A petition was presented by Jack Walker asking for a license to operate a picture show. It appearing that there is an ordinance limiting these places of amusement to one for each 1600 inhabitants, the matter was left to the license committee for investigation.

Bonds for Marshal Pollard and Treasurer Bechtell read and accepted. The matter of the city

Big Stockmen's Meeting in Prineville Next Month

The Convention Will Be Held February 9, 10 and 11—Stockmen from all Over the Northwest Will Be in Attendance.

The Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon which will hold its next annual convention in Prineville, February 9, 1915, was organized at Baker May 14, 1913, for the mutual protection and benefit of its members and the general promotion of the livestock industry of the Northwest.

Its growth has been phenomenal and its membership now consists of many of the leading stockmen of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. It is expected that the meeting in Prineville will add very materially to its membership as the stockmen of



Dr. Chas. S. Edwards, Prineville's New Mayor

Central Oregon feel very keenly the need of greater co-operation and protection in the growing and marketing of their products.

The association has for more than a year kept an inspector at the North Portland Stock Yards who has been instrumental in returning to its rightful owner hundreds of dollars worth of strayed or stolen property. Several stock rustlers have also been apprehended and convicted by the co-operation of the members of the association.

The stockmen of Crook county and the Commercial Club of Prineville have united to make the annual meeting to be held here in February, the most successful of any meeting ever held in Central Oregon.

Live committees have been appointed to look after the transportation of the delegates to and from the railroad and every detail of their entertainment while here.

Stockmen from all the Northwest are cordially invited and expected to attend and help make this association an instrument for securing better range conditions, better laws regulating the branding and handling of stock and better marketing conditions for our finished product.

J. F. BLANCHARD.

printing was left to the Finance Committee with instructions to report at the February meeting.

Councilmen Noble and Foster were authorized to act in the matter of loose stock in the city streets.

Bills that were presented for payment were laid on the table until the February meeting.

Mayor Edwards reported a complaint made to him by Mr. Hall, Indian agent at Warm Springs, concerning the apparent ease with which Indians obtain liquor in Prineville.

Livestock Association Holds Meeting

There was a meeting of the Mill Creek Livestock Association Saturday, at which many matters of importance were discussed.

A resolution was passed asking that an appropriation be made by the coming legislature giving a bounty of \$5 per head for all coyotes until the spread of rabies is checked. In speaking of this matter different members mentioned the effect of this disease among the cattle and horses. The rapid and wholesale destruction of stock throughout the southern part of the county caused this resolution to be passed by a unanimous vote.

An effort will be made today by Prineville delegates before the irrigation congress in Portland to have that body urge immediate legislation in this matter. Copies of the resolution were mailed to our representatives and all Eastern Oregon members of the legislature are expected to support and fight for the passage of a bounty law.

Committees were appointed and other measures taken for the entertainment of the delegates to the Stockmen's Convention which will be held here next month.

Officers were elected for the following year. W. I. Dishman is the new president of the association and Raymond Calavan was re-elected as secretary.

This association is an organization of men who summer cattle in the Ochoco, Mill Creek, Marks Creek and McKay ranges which is within the forest reserve. They have permits for more than 52,000 acres of land which is controlled by drift fences and line riders. More than 1700 head of cattle are summered on this range by the association.

1914 Tax Rolls in Hands of Treasurer

Assessor H. A. Foster was probably the first assessor in the state to complete the work of extending the 1914 tax rolls and getting them into the hands of the county treasurer for collection. Less than three weeks following the date the levy fixed by the state, the books were in Treasurer R. L. Jordan's office.

The total amount of taxable property is placed at \$11,565,637. Taxes to be collected total \$365,254. Of this amount the different funds are as follows:

General fund.....	\$272,157 50
Special school.....	70,271 21
City taxes for all towns.....	19,288 42
Madras High School.....	2,942 90
Fire patrol.....	584 74

Crook County Sends Strong Delegation

More than 100 delegates from Crook county are attending the state irrigation congress in Portland today and the remainder of the week. Strong delegations are in attendance from Sisters, Bend, Redmond, and Laidlaw as well as from Prineville. A united effort is being made to secure for Crook county the \$450,000 appropriation from the federal government for the reclamation work.

Malheur county is strong also, and is making the hardest kind of opposition to the Crook delegation. Our boys have their own brass band, and are pulling off a street parade today.

All Roads Lead to Prineville.

Roads leading into Prineville from all parts of the country are in perfect condition and automobile service has never slackened during the fall and winter months. Drivers say that the roads are smoother than during the summer and that there is no troublesome dust and dust holes in the roads. Last winter cars between this point and Redmond never missed a trip.

\$50 CASH PRIZE FOR ORATORY

At the Crook County High School

T. M. BALDWIN MAKES GIFT

Contest to Take Place During
Commencement Week
Each Year.

Mr. Baldwin of the First National Bank has won a permanent place in the hearts of all Crook County High School students and friends of the school by his splendid offer of an annual cash prize of fifty dollars for oratory. This cash prize will stimulate oratory in the school more than anything else in late years. The following is the agreement:

This agreement made and entered into this 2nd day of November, 1914, by and between the faculty of the Crook County High School of Crook county, Oregon, hereafter known as the party of the first part, and T. M. Baldwin, of Crook county, Oregon, hereafter known as the party of the second part:

Witnesseth that the party of the second part hereby voluntarily agrees to donate fifty (50 00) dollars in cash annually to be known as The Baldwin Oratory Prize for Oratory, which is to be awarded by the party of the first part to a student of the said Crook County High School each year under the following conditions, to wit:

At an oratorical contest during the commencement week of the Crook County High School each year, entry to which shall be open to every bona fide registered student of the institution.

A preliminary contest shall be held eight weeks prior to the commencement date of the final contest, by the two literary societies of the school, the Ochoconian and Alpha societies, at which time three contestants shall be chosen from each society to partake in the final commencement contest;

Each oration delivered must be the original production of the student who has entered the contest and shall consist of from 1,000 to 1,500 words, to be so arranged as to occupy not more than Ten (10) minutes of time. No quotations shall be taken from any author, writer or speaker unless due acknowledgment shall be made;

Every contestant shall be graded on composition and delivery, on a basis of 100 per cent for each. The judges shall be selected and approved by both the party of the first part and the party of the second part; a winner is ineligible to enter again;

During the life of this agreement, both literary societies of the school shall continue to be governed as at present governed and membership shall continue to embrace every registered bona fide student in the Crook County High School, chosen by lot and not arbitrarily.

FACULTY OF THE CROOK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, Party of the First Part,

By H. C. Baughman, president.
By J. Wesley Smith, secretary.
T. M. BALDWIN, Party of the Second Part.

Notice to Dog Owners

Notice is hereby given that the dog ordinance will be strictly enforced in the future. Also attention of the country people is called to the fact that all dogs must be kept under control by being chained or otherwise confined while in the city. By order of the council.
E. O. HYDE, Recorder