

CROOK COUNTY JOURNAL

GUY LAFOLLETTE, Editor-Proprietor

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

The Journal stands for the best interests of Prineville and Crook County. Is independent in politics. Published every Thursday afternoon. Price \$1.50 per year, payable in advance. In case of change of address please notify us at once, giving both old and new address.



SAM HILL'S NEW ROAD

Sam Hill has laid out a highway straight south from his farm at Maryhill across the state of Oregon, through Prineville to Lakeview, says the Oregon Voter. He claims that his route is freer from winter snows than any other, especially the old road from Bend to Lakeview via Fort Rock, Silver Lake, Summer Lake and Paisley. Old settlers in Lake County are making fun of Mr. Hill's ideas, and Lake County taxpayers are keenly objecting to the county spending money to improve the road along Mr. Hill's route.

Our experience with Sam Hill, based on years of close study of his methods and talk, and based on all the information we have been able to secure concerning him from people who have known him for years, is that his ideas are not to be sneezed at with quick contempt. As a rule he has a pretty good foundation for an assertion, especially on facts of geography and climate. We would want to be pretty sure of our facts before concluding finally that the settlers who live on the ground are right. They ought to know what they are talking about—they live there, but it always is humanly possible that they are actuated somewhat by local loyalty and a disposition to make fun of Sunny Sam.

We are not ready to follow Mr. Hill, as we find him so wrapped up in his ideas and himself that his leadership often proves disastrous, but neither are we ready to chortle with glee because an assertion of his is apparently disproven. We will have to admit, though, that on the face of it, the people who live on the ground seem to have the better of the controversy. Then, too, the road via Fort Rock, Silver Lake and Paisley has had a lot of money spent on it, it is in excellent condition most of the year, and it passes through an intensely interesting country.

CAN'T SELL 'EM

Forty to fifty carloads of peaches are ripening near Grants Pass. They are in prime condition, but there is no market.

Dried peaches are bringing so low a price that the local growers feel that under the present conditions it will not pay them to install an evaporator.

This situation is repeated in thirty three fruit centers in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

What are the growers going to do? To tell them what they can't do helps them some, for it keeps them from investing more money into failure, but the bigger question is, what can they do to help themselves, and what can we do to help them?

The above from an exchange. We suggest that a few car loads of their fruit be shipped to Central Oregon.

The Bend Press comes to bat this week with the following:

Our friends at Prineville seem to be somewhat perturbed over Bend's quietness in regard to county division, and just to allay their fears we hasten to inform them that we have given up all idea of division, for Crook is a grand county and we are reluctant to sever the tie that binds so many good neighbors. We like to see these neighbors on our streets, and to encourage them to come often we are going to provide a place for them to do their courting here.

JAY H. UPTON
Lawyer

Office on Court Street formerly occupied by T. E. J. Duffy Prineville, Ore.

LATIN AMERICA IS INVITED TO CONFER

Lansing Asks Representatives of South American States to Discuss Mexico.

Washington.—The United States has decided to ask the co-operation of South and Central America in the next step to restore peace to Mexico. The ambassadors from Argentina, Brazil and Chile and the ministers from Bolivia, Uruguay and Guatemala, have been asked to confer with Secretary Lansing here.

While the state department characterized the conference as an informal one, the sentiment has been growing among American officials that the next step in the Mexican situation should be one which would meet the approval of the world and should be taken in concert with the nations of Central and South America, even if in the last event the trend should be toward military action.

The conference is the step President Wilson and the cabinet had in mind when a few weeks ago a statement was issued to the American people on the Mexican situation, and intended for the information of the Mexican leaders themselves. This statement declared in forceful language that the patience of the United States was becoming exhausted with three years of revolution and chaos, and that unless the Mexican leaders themselves found some way to accommodate their differences, the United States, as Mexico's next friend and neighbor, would be constrained to decide what means should be employed to restore peace.

AMERICAN SAILORS KILLED BY SNIPERS

Washington.—Two American blue-jackets were killed in an attack by natives on Port-au-Prince, Haiti, held by Rear-Admiral Caperton with 400 men from the cruiser Washington. The attacking party was beaten off without having approached closer than the outskirts of the city, and order was maintained in the city itself. No sailors were wounded and the loss of the attacking force was not reported.

The dead are William Gompers, seaman, of Brooklyn, and Cason S. Whitehurst, ordinary seaman, of Norfolk, Va.

The attack came at 8 o'clock in the evening, the bluejacket battalion bearing the brunt of the fighting. From the brush, beyond the last houses, snipers opened fire on them. The fire was returned and the attackers driven off but not before Gompers and Whitehurst had been killed.

With the consent of the United States, French marines have been landed at Port-au-Prince. A detachment from the cruiser Descartes is now guarding the French legation.

VILLA EXECUTES MERCHANTS

Six Put to Death for Refusing to Give Funds to Rebel Leader.

El Paso, Tex.—The confiscation of the property of merchants doing business in Villa territory and the execution of six of 42 Mexican merchants, imprisoned by the northern leader after a conference at which unsuccessful efforts were made to raise a forced loan, was reported by persons arriving here from Chihuahua City, where the conference was held. During the conference it was said General Villa said: "The American government can go to hell if it does not like my actions." Foreign merchants, it was said further, were then ordered to leave the country.

Villa is quoted as having charged the merchants with exacting exorbitant prices for their goods, and is said to have given this as his reason for the confiscation order.

German-American Alliance Meets.

San Francisco.—From all parts of the country delegates arrived here to attend the eighth annual convention of the National German-American Alliance, which opened Monday.

Arizona Drys Win Ruling.

Los Angeles.—The United States circuit court, sitting en banc, denied application for a temporary injunction to restrain the state authorities of Arizona from enforcing the prohibition amendment to the constitution. The court held that "near-beer" was alcohol, and its importation into the state was a violation of the state constitution.

Japanese Cabinet Retires.

Tokyo.—The crisis in government circles brought about by charges of bribery against Viscount Kanetaka Oura, minister of the interior, led to the entire cabinet led by Premier Okuma tendering their resignations.

Viscount Oura's resignation was presented and accepted by the emperor.

Train and Track.

The International and Great Northern railway, Texas, is about to spend \$1,000,000 for improvements.

In a new type of interurban car the engine runs at a constant rate, the speed of the car being governed by friction drive, which is applied to each of the eight wheels independently.

Without stopping his train an engineer can move a lever in his cab and open a newly devised switch to enable him to enter a siding, the switch automatically closing when the last car has passed over it.

The Royal Box.

The Prince of Wales, it is said, after the war will give his attention to agriculture.

The Kaiser is entitled to wear the uniform of every regiment in the German army.

Every year the king of Siam sends a contingent of Siamese scholars to England to be educated at his expense.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy is a great numismatist and possesses a collection of over 20,000 coins, which is said to be the finest in Europe.

Big Strike Cloud Passes.

Bridgeport, Conn.—With the ratification by the machinists of the agreement reached between the labor leaders and the Remington Arms & Ammunition company and the Stewart Construction company, the strike at the arms company's plants virtually came to an end.

Short Stories.

Luxemburg covers 1,000 square miles and has a population of 200,000.

The total circulation of money in the United States last year was \$3,419,168,368.

Uruguay has suspended specie payments until the close of the European war.



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Prineville, Oregon

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