

Crook County Journal

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER OF CROOK COUNTY

CITY OFFICIAL PAPER FOR CITY OF PRINEVILLE

VOLUME XXIV.

PRINEVILLE, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, MAY 13, 1920.

NO. 27.

MRS. CROOKS VICTIM OF R. R. WRECK ARGUMENTS ON SPECIAL ELECTION MEASURES NOW UP

Mrs. C. Adrian Crooks, wife of a well known Prineville boy, met instant death last Sunday, when the in-going train, on which she was a passenger, crashed headlong into the outgoing train from Portland. Eight persons were killed and thirty eight others were injured in this accident.

The collision occurred near Bertha, a small station just outside the city limits of Portland, on the Hillsboro road to McMinnville. The inbound passenger was under orders to stop at Bertha and let the outbound train pass at that station. Instead of sidetracking at Bertha, as per instructions, the train proceeded at full speed past the station. About a half mile from the station there is a pronounced curve in the track, and it was at this curve that the trains met head on at full speed, and crashed into each other, the engineers only having time to throw on the emergency brakes before the collision came. Silas K. Willetts, the engineer of the inbound train, whom it is believed failed to obey his orders to sidetrack at Bertha, was killed in his cab, and nearly every person in the forward coach of his train was either killed or injured in some way. It was here that Mrs. Crooks met her death.

The car in which the deaths occurred was a passenger coach. Usually the trains on this road are made up with the smoker and baggage car at the front of the train, with the passenger coach at the rear. This time for some reason, the order was reversed, and the day coach, which contained all the women and children, came first. For this reason the injured and dead were nearly all women and children. The men in the smoker received a good shaking up but were not injured seriously. There were several injured in the outgoing train in the smoker, which came first as usual, but none in that train were dangerously hurt.

It is stated that few would have escaped injury in the forward coaches if the trains had not been built of steel.

Mrs. Crooks was on her way into the city to attend the services at the First Church of Christ, Scientist.

Her husband, C. Adrian Crooks, has lived in Prineville a good share of his life, and has many friends in this part of the country.

He was formerly manager of the Des Chutes Power Company here, and is a talented electrician. At present he is in business in Portland.

R. A. Bland, the engineer of the outgoing train, is also well known in Prineville and vicinity. He is the owner of the 160 acre ranch which joins the Grimes home on the West in the Ochoce Project and it has not been long since he was here visiting and attending to his business interests in this country. He lived at McMinnville. His injuries are not held to be serious.

Mrs. A. Crooks, the mother of Mr. Crooks, and Mrs. G. M. Clifton, his sister, left Sunday evening for Portland after receiving a telegram advising them of the tragedy.

DUTY ADVANCED MORE THAN INCOME HAS

If a family of four in 1913 with an income of \$100 a month had been increased to a family of 10 in 1920 with an income of \$45 a month, it would be in the same boat as the higher educational institutions of Oregon are at present. The institutions are the State University at Eugene, the State Agricultural College at Corvallis and the State Normal School at Monmouth.

When the annual millage arrangement was made for the support of these institutions, it was supposed by all concerned that the assessed valuation of the state would increase in proportion to the growth of the institutions themselves.

On the contrary, however, the state support has increased less than four per cent while the full time attendance has increased 150 per cent. As a result, the three institutions are in desperate straits, having insufficient funds to pay their faculties properly, and insufficient buildings to house the students.

All three institutions have been doing fine work of late years, and are now rated among the best in the country. Although their expenses are much lower than those in other states.

To provide them relief, the legislature in January referred to the people a bill providing a 1.26 mills, which is to be voted upon at the special election of May 21.

The Psychoeratic Club met at the home of Mrs. Gladys Bolknep Saturday, April 3th. Mrs. Trunkey reviewed the book, "Kennedy Square" by Hopkins Smith, which was well given and enjoyed by all.

VALUABLE TIMBER VERY REASONABLE

There appears to be but little interest in the sale of down timber along the Prineville-Mitchell highway east of the Jones Mill.

This timber is in large trees, cut into log lengths and would be easily handled by a drag saw or could be loaded and taken to a mill for sawing into lumber for which use it is admirably fitted.

Speaking of the timber, forest supervisor, V. V. Harpham said today, "This timber is of specially good quality for the most part. The trees have all been limbed in good shape the brush piled and most of it burned and the trunks of the trees have been sawed into log lengths so that it is an ideal logging proposition for anyone who is in a position to utilize this timber. It is not so much a matter of dollars and cents with the government in attempting to dispose of this timber but rather a matter of utilizing these first-class logs before they are attacked by bugs and the elements to render them unusable.

While no price was specified in the advertisements, the timber will be sold for an absolute minimum and I believe that the District office at Portland will sanction the disposal of this timber for as low a figure as 25 cents per thousand in order to clear the ground and eliminate what will surely become an actual menace since after the logs are permitted to lay for a couple of years or so they are almost unusable from a commercial standpoint, at least, and at the same time they furnish an ideal field for bugs which soon spread to adjacent timber with destructive results. This is not mere theory since right here on our own forest we have been able to observe certain wind-swept areas during the last couple of years which are actually becoming a menace to the adjoining stand of timber.

PRINEVILLE AHEAD OF PORTLAND

Operator from the largest playhouse in the city says we excel him here

Arthur O'Neil, who was raised in Prineville and has many friends here was in the city the first of the week visiting his cousin, Clinton Huston who owns the Lyric Theatre here.

O'Neil has been operator at the Liberty Theatre in Portland for some time and was greatly surprised at the high class pictures that are being shown at the Lyric here.

The Toll Gate, here last week, has not yet come to the Liberty he says, and the play, Eyes of Youth, in which Clara Kimball Young stars, which is being played Friday and Saturday is another that is to be shown here as soon as Portland patrons will see it. It is listed as the of all pictures this year. These pictures are of the best and should not be missed.

JUDGE SPRINGER SELLS HIS MADRAS RANCH

Judge Springer has announced this week to friends, that he has sold his large ranch near Madras to the Eugene Bible School, a school under the auspices of the Christian Church, for about \$40,000.00.

The Springer ranch is one of the best ranches in the Madras country, and it is understood that it will be worked under the direction of the college and the proceeds will be used to help defray the expenses of keeping the college going, in the way of an endowment.

JOINT SOCIETY PROGRAM

C. C. H. S., May 12, 1920.
Ogden Mills, Chairman.
Whistling Solo, Miss Cramer
Recitation, George Humphreys
Guitar Solo, Orval Schultz
Piano Duet, Velma Shattuck
Spewap's Solo, Mike Trapman
Recitation, Vera Hendrickson
Piano Solo, Harold Davis
Jokes, The assembly was turned over to Mr. Gillett, who introduced Lloyd Carrick, State Endeavor Worker, who gave a talk on habits.

MADRAS COURT HAS RECORD

The May term of court for Jefferson County has established a new record, says Judge T. E. J. Duffy. At this term of court, the Grand Jury reported no indictments, and there were no cases to come before the jury one civil case, Oregon Motor Car Co. vs. D. M. Clark, was held last Tuesday before Judge Duffy.

MEASURES TO BE VOTED ON AT SPECIAL ELECTION MAY 21

REFERRED TO THE PEOPLE BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Submitted by the legislature—CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT EXTENDING EMINENT DOMAIN OVER ROADS AND WAYS—Purpose: To amend section 13 of article 1 of the constitution of the state of Oregon so as to declare that the use of all roads and ways requisite for the transportation of the raw products of mine, farm and forest is a public use and necessary to the development and welfare of the state. Vote YES or NO.

300 Yes
301 No

Submitted by the legislature—LIMITATION OF FOUR PER CENT STATE INDEBTEDNESS FOR PERMANENT ROADS—Purpose: To amend section 7 of article XI of the constitution of the state of Oregon so as to permit the creation of debts and liabilities including previous debts and liabilities for the purpose of building and maintaining permanent roads to the amount of four per cent of the assessed valuation of all the property in the State of Oregon, instead of two per cent as now provided by law. Vote YES or NO.

302 Yes
303 No

Submitted by the legislature—RESTORING CAPITAL PUNISHMENT—Purpose: To restore capital punishment by providing by constitutional amendment that the penalty for murder in the first degree shall be death, except when the trial jury shall, by their verdict, recommend life imprisonment. Vote YES or NO.

304 Yes
305 No

Submitted by the legislature—CROOK AND CURRY COUNTIES BONDING AMENDMENT—Purpose: To amend section 10 of article XI of the constitution of the state of Oregon so as to permit Crook and Curry counties to issue warrants to evidence their involuntary debts and liabilities, and issue bonds to an amount not to exceed two per cent of assessed valuation of all property in the county to fund such warrants when such bonds shall be authorized by a majority of the legal voters of the county voting on the question at any general or special election, and the county court shall each year thereafter levy a special tax to pay the interest on said bonds and retire the principal thereof at maturity. Vote YES or NO.

306 Yes
307 No

Submitted by the legislature—SUCCESSOR TO GOVERNOR—Purpose: To amend section 8, article V, Oregon Constitution, providing for filling of vacancy in office of governor caused by removal, death, resignation, absence from state or other inability to discharge gubernatorial duties, by making the president of senate governor until such disability is removed, or until such vacancy is filled for the unexpired term of outgoing governor at ensuing general biennial election; or if both governor and president of senate are unable to discharge gubernatorial duties the speaker of house of representatives shall in like manner become governor until disability removed, or until vacancy is filled at such election. Vote YES or NO.

308 Yes
309 No

Submitted by the legislature—HIGHER EDUCATIONAL TAX ACT—Purpose: Providing in addition to annual tax levy now provided by law, a tax of 1.2 mills for Oregon Agricultural College and University of Oregon, and .08 mill for Oregon State Normal School, totaling approximately \$1,247,000, beginning 1921; appropriating for current year from money now in treasury a sum equal to said annual tax levy; said money being for support and maintenance, including salaries, additional buildings, making repairs, purchasing supplies, and equipment; providing that a vote for enactment of this act shall make said tax an annual levy though in excess of tax for the preceding year plus six per centum thereof. Vote YES or NO.

310 Yes
311 No

Submitted by the legislature—SOLDIERS' SAILORS' AND MARINES' EDUCATIONAL AID REVENUE BILL—Purpose: Providing for a two-tenths of one mill tax for educational financial aid to soldiers, sailors and marines in addition to that now provided by law, and submitting the question whether such taxes shall be levied each year in a sum in excess of taxes levied by the state for the preceding year plus six per centum thereof. Vote YES or NO.

312 Yes
313 No

Submitted by the legislature—STATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FUND TAX—Purpose: To levy a two mill tax upon all taxable property, commencing with the year 1920 and annually thereafter, for the support and maintenance of public elementary schools; to credit each county with such tax levied therein against the amount due from the county on state taxes and to distribute the amount so credited among the several school districts of such county in proportion to the number of teachers employed in the elementary grades in each district and providing said tax is not to be deemed withheld in the constitutional six per cent limitation of section 11 of article XI of the constitution of Oregon. Vote YES or NO.

314 Yes
315 No

Submitted by the legislature—BLIND SCHOOL TAX MEASURE—Purpose: Providing for erecting and equipping in Portland an institution for teaching to the blind the arts and trades deemed advisable by the state board of control; providing a tax levy for 1921 of one-sixth of a mill for erection and equipment, and an annual tax levy commencing in 1921 of one-twenty-fifth of a mill for maintenance, on assessable property in the state, and providing that proceeds from the sale of finished products be turned over to the general fund, and allowing a certain fixed sum as compensation for labor to such inmates to be paid out of the general fund. Vote YES or NO.

316 Yes
317 No

ORATORICAL CONTEST FOR BALDWIN PRIZE

The Oratorical Contest for the Baldwin Prize of \$50.00 will be held at the Club Hall Thursday evening, May 20 at 8 o'clock. This is an annual affair with the Crook County High School and the only persons allowed to enter into the contest are the students of the High School, excepting only those who have previously won this prize.

BEND TO PRINEVILLE IN 17 MINUTES

Seventeen minutes is ample time to travel the thirty-five miles from Bend to Prineville these days.

Time was in the memory of many when a day of hard travel was required by saddle horse to make the sage brush ride from Farewell Bend to this city and later the old thoro-brace stage coach would under favorable conditions make the trip in six hours.

Bicycles were but little better, and the automobile cut the time to two hours and later to as short a time as one hour or perhaps three quarters.

Tuesday evening aviator R. S. Thompson, who has been showing Bendites their first airplane in home atmosphere, flew over from the mill city in just seventeen minutes. His trip was somewhat retarded by choppy air conditions over Powell Butte he said.

Thompson made a number of flights over Prineville during the past week with local citizens who wished to look at the city from that angle.

OLD ARREST BROUGHT TO MIND

The following clipping from the Malheur Enterprise brings back to minds the days when whiskey flowed freely in Prineville, and shooting scrapes and other forms of amusement were an every day occurrence.

William Wild was arrested five years ago in the building across from the Journal office, now occupied by Wallace's carpenter shop.

When sheriff Knox and deputy Rowell arrived upon the scene to apprehend him, Wilde attempted to pull a gun, and after a struggle was felled with a blow on the head, and taken into custody and turned over to the Vale sheriff.

The clipping from the Malheur Enterprise reads as follows:

"William Wild, serving a five year sentence in the Idaho State Penitentiary will be remembered as the man who put up such a decided scrap with a smoking and lead pumping gun on the streets of Prineville about five years ago, when he was apprehended by sheriff H. Lee Nee of Vale together with Sheriff Froman of Caldwell Idaho, after they had looked for Wild for 11 days wanted on the charge of horse stealing. He was finally subdued and taken into custody and was later tried, found guilty and sentenced to serve five years, which he was still serving at the time he was killed by a fellow convict, John C. McDonald who struck him over the head with a piece of two by four lumber intended for a turkey coop. Wild and McDonald had quarreled some time ago and the murder was the result of bad blood between them. Wild was working in the barber shop of the prison when struck down.

McDonald has been held to answer to the charge of murder by the Coroner's jury.

Wild was serving the last part of his sentence and would have been liberated in a short time.

LADIES ANNEX STAGE A GOOD DANCE

The Ladies Annex added another dance to the list of successful affairs which they have staged in the past year on Tuesday evening, with the best crowd, the best time, and the best music that has been secured for a dance for some time in the past.

The Wilson Jazz Orchestra of Bend furnished the music for the occasion. A delicious supper was served to the dancers at midnight by Frank Johnson, and the dancing continued until almost one o'clock.

One of the notable features of the evening was the efficient way in which the lady floor managers performed their task of keeping things moving.

A large number of Bend and Redmond people came over for the purpose of attending the dance.

C. C. H. S. CLOSES SCHOOL YEAR

On Friday evening of next week, the Crook County High School will graduate a class of 27, the exercises for which will be held in the Commercial Club Hall in this city.

A very interesting program is being prepared for the occasion, which will mark the close of two weeks of intermingled with a goodly number of social events especially for the graduating class which will soon be scattered never to meet again as a class.

On official ballot, Nos. 300 and 301

Argument, affirmative

Submitted by the joint committee of the senate and house of representatives, thirtieth legislative assembly in behalf of the Constitutional Amendment Extending Eminent Domain Over Roads And Ways.

The purpose of the proposed amendment submitted to the voters of the state is clear. It is aimed at giving every land owner, large or small, an opportunity to reach main lines of transportation whether this be a road railroad or waterway, without being charged an extortionate price for the privilege.

On official Ballot Nos. 302 and 303

Submitted by the joint committee of the senate and house of representatives, thirtieth legislative assembly, in behalf of house joint resolution No. 11, Providing Limitation of State Indebtedness for Permanent Roads.

The Amendment Explained

As the Constitution now reads, bonds of the state may be issued for the purpose of building and maintaining permanent roads, not exceeding two per cent of the assessed valuation of all property of the state. If the people adopt the amendment now proposed, the limitation will be fixed at four per cent of the assessed valuation of all property in the state. Under the constitution as it now stands, and under the present assessed value of the property of the state the limit for bonds for road purposes is a little less than twenty million dollars. If the amendment be adopted, the limit will be somewhat less than forty million dollars.

On official ballot, Nos. 304 and 305, argument, affirmative.

Submitted by the joint committee of the senate and house of representatives, special session of the thirtieth legislative assembly, in behalf of the constitutional amendment restoring capital punishment.

The Effect Of The Proposed Amendment

Prior to 1914 the constitution contained no declaration upon the subject of capital punishment, but the legislature had power to prescribe the punishment of death for murder in the first degree. It was the purpose and effect of the amendment in 1914 to take this power from the legislature. The amendment now proposed will amount to this, that when a jury finds a person guilty of murder in the first degree, the punishment shall be death unless the jury shall recommend life imprisonment, and then the penalty shall be life imprisonment. This gives the jury power it did not have when capital punishment was formerly in force. This new provision means that the jury shall have the constitutional power to say, in effect, that because the defendant is convicted on circumstantial evidence, or there is a possibility that there was perjured testimony, or because the character of the defendant appears to be such that repentance and reformation are reasonably assured, or that because of any other reason, the ends of justice will be satisfied and society sufficiently protected by life imprisonment. Of course the jury shall not be required to give any reason whatever for its recommendation of the lesser penalty. This throws a great safeguard around the infliction of the death penalty, and should satisfy the scruples of those, for example, who point out that occasionally an innocent man has been hanged upon circumstantial evidence. Experience shows that the average jury is chary of sending any man to the gallows. Under the operation of this proposed amendment in only the clear and flagrant cases will the jury fail to plead for life imprisonment.

On official ballot Nos. 304 and 305, argument, negative.

The law proposed is not a well-thought out law. It reads: "The penalty for murder in the first degree shall be death, excepting when the jury trial shall in its verdict recommend life imprisonment, in which case the penalty shall be life imprisonment." In the judgment of this committee if a jury finds that a person is guilty of murder in the first degree and if it is right under the law to hang one person who is thus adjudged guilty then it is right and should be compulsory to hang all persons so adjudged; and our organic law should not be so worded that a murderer of influence, or one possessed of wealth, or one who may make an appeal to the sentiments of the jury, could use such influence, and thus get off with a term of life imprisonment where another without such influence, and without such wealth, or who could not make such an appeal would be hung. The safety of our nation and of our institutions depends upon the enforcement regardless of influence, wealth or any other thing of our organic or constitutional law.

On official ballot, Nos. 306 and 307

Argument, affirmative.

Submitted by the joint committee of the senate and house of representatives

(Continued on Page Five.)