

The Madras Pioneer

MADRAS, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1907.

NO. 23

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WANTS NORTH CROOK

Antelope Residents Seek To
 Include It In Stockman

WOULD PUT SETTLERS IN BAD PLIGHT

Only Excuse Is That They Need
 The Territory To Pad Tax-roll—
 Have No Common Interests

Antelope is trying again this year for a new county, with Antelope as the county seat. That portion of Wasco county which lies south of Sherman county and east of the Deschutes, and in which the effort for county division is being made, is certainly most unfortunately situated with reference to its county seat, which it must cross the entire length of Sherman county to reach. Unfortunately, however, that section of Wasco is too small for a county embracing only its own territory, and the territory to the south. In this county, is unalterably opposed to being taken in for the purpose of padding the tax-roll of their proposed new county, and giving Antelope its coveted county seat. Two years ago an effort was made to include this section with the Antelope country in the formation of a new county, but the opposition was so bitter in this section that the effort "died a boring". That opposition still exists and is just as strong now as it was two years ago, and a renewed protest will be sent to the Legislature.

The opposition to the new county proposed by Antelope people arises from the fact that the lines as proposed by them will not afford the residents of northern Crook those benefits and conveniences of county relation that they have a right to expect upon any readjustment of county lines. Northern Crook is taken into the Antelope county because without it their proposed county would not have sufficient taxable property upon which to maintain their county government. No thought is given to the result such a division will have upon these people, and so far as we have been able to learn, no petitions have been circulated on Agency Plains or in any of the populous districts in Northwestern Crook. The people of this section want a readjustment of county lines, but they want one that will better their present conditions with regard to county affairs. Their community of interests is with the populous settlements of the Willow Creek basin, and the plateau wheat lands bordering it. These settlements, if left to themselves, comprise a territory large enough, rich enough and populous enough to conduct and maintain a county for themselves. They form practically one community, with identical interests or those which prosper one with the other, and they don't want to be forced into going out of this territory, into a district of entirely different character, 30 or 40 miles to a county seat whose people have nothing in common with them. There are the conditions which exist, and no antagonism is felt towards the Antelope country itself, except with regard to the inclusion of this territory in their county. Such an arrangement would be greatly to the detriment of these people, and would for all time place them under most inconvenient relations with their county seat. Had the Antelope people taken any pains to learn the attitude of these people upon their proposed county, they could easily have found out how unanimously they are opposed to it.

DRY FARMING CONGRESS

Now in Session at Denver—Gathering of Agricultural Experts

The Trans-Missouri Dry Farming Congress, which meets in Denver today and tomorrow, will bring together the greatest number of agricultural experts ever gathered together at one time in this country. The convention was called by Governor Jesse A. McDonald of Colorado, as the beginning of a united inter-state movement for the development and settlement of the so-called "semi-arid districts" of the West. Twelve experts from the Department of Agriculture will be present. Every agricultural college and state university west of the Missouri River will have one or more men in attendance. Every governor of the sixteen states

Included in the call will either be present in person, or send a personal representative. In addition, there will be hundreds of plain farmers in attendance, who have been growing good crops in the semi-arid districts of the West, employing the dry farming methods, for many years without a failure. The purpose of the congress is to afford an opportunity for full discussion of the dry farming problems of the West, in the regions of deficient rainfall, and to perfect a permanent organization whose energies shall be directed to the education of the farmer upon the possibilities offered by dry farming methods.

MR. JENKINS WANTS TO KNOW

EDITOR PIONEER:

Our county official paper of the 17th used a great deal of her official space trying to convince her readers that the people of this county do not know what they want. Guess you had better ask Prineville before you do anything or there will be some hard feelin's over there.

One thing "Kleker" said in his article was about the people getting a "tack seat" (tax eat). They sure haven't got a padded seat now; they are most all patched with red flannel, and some are not lucky enough to have any patch at all.

In the same issue of the county Journal will be found the great West-side Protest, made by a "Citizen" who was afraid to sign his name to his protest. Oh yes, I see now, he must be looking for one of those warm seats but isn't sure where they are located, rather thinks at Prineville.

There seems to be a great cry in Prineville about taxes being high if there be a new county established. Well, now, let's see. A large business requires lots of capital to keep it going and so does a large county. A small business requires but a small amount of capital and it would be the same with a small county; isn't that true?

Now about our taxes and how they are spent. The levy was 15 mills, true enough, but you must take into consideration, that the valuation of real estate was increased 50 and 100 per cent. Farm land that was taxed in 1905 for \$4 an acre, in 1906 was taxed for \$6 per acre. That is cutting down taxes, 21 mills in 1905, 15 mills in 1906, a decrease of 6 mills—a good "showing"; taking into consideration that there must be a deficiency fund paid to the state. Now, you paid 84 mills per acre on your farm in 1905 (\$4 at 21 mills) and 90 mills (\$6 at 15 mills) in 1906 or 6 mills more, or a difference of 1½ mills on the dollar more than you paid in 1905.

The tax levy of 1906 amounts to \$88,384.00. The same year it cost \$24,536.90 to run the county, including the high school and a \$1200 road master. It looks reasonable that a new county certainly could be run for \$21,536.90, less \$1200 road master's salary, and high school expenses.

Here we have \$88,384 against the people of the county, to run a county that spends \$24,536.90 for running expenses or \$63,847.10 less than the people have to pay on 1906 assessment.

Now will some one please tell me what goes with this \$63,847.10 of the taxpayers' money? Surely we don't owe the state all of that.

Yours truly,
 R. V. JENKINS.

Madras, Oregon, January 22.

HELP OREGON GROW

Slow as the railroads are in building new lines in Oregon, it is only a question of a short time when there will be roads extending across the interior of the state from the Valley to the Coast and down the Coast from the Columbia to the California line. The building of these roads will make great industrial changes affording many opportunities for enterprising men to make good investments. The motto of every man should be, not "Watch Oregon grow," but "Help Oregon Grow." Those who do the helping by going into the country newly opened up will reap their reward in a financial way.—Oregonian.

BOURNE AND MULKEY

Are Elected United States
 Senators From Oregon

BOURNE GETS 80 VOTES, MULKEY, 87

Quietest Election Of United States
 Senators Ever Held in State—
 Required Only 20 Minutes

SALEM, Or., Jan. 22.—By the unanimous vote of the House and the vote of all the members of the Senate present, Fred W. Mulkey of Portland was today elected United States Senator to succeed John M. Gearin for the short unexpired term of the late Senator Mitchell, and Jonathan Bourne was elected for the full term beginning March 4, with only 4 votes in the Senate and 3 votes in the House against him. Mulkey and Bourne were the choice of the people for the short and long terms respectively, as expressed at the June elections.

The three representatives who did not vote for Bourne were Reynolds, Rodgers and Settlemeir of Marion. These representatives explained that in the campaign they did not pledge themselves, and as their constituents gave a plurality against Bourne, they felt free to use their own judgment. The four senators who did not vote for Bourne were Booth of Lane, Laycock of Grant, Miller of Linn and Marion, Wheelodon of Wasco.

The election was the quietest election of a United States Senator ever held in Oregon, and the voting occupied about 20 minutes. There was no discussion in the House and very little in the Senate. Coshaw, a democrat, rose to explain that he voted for a republican for senator because he believed in the principle of electing senators by the direct vote of the people.

For election, 16 votes were required in the Senate and 31 in the House, making a total of 47. Bourne received 80 votes and Mulkey 87.

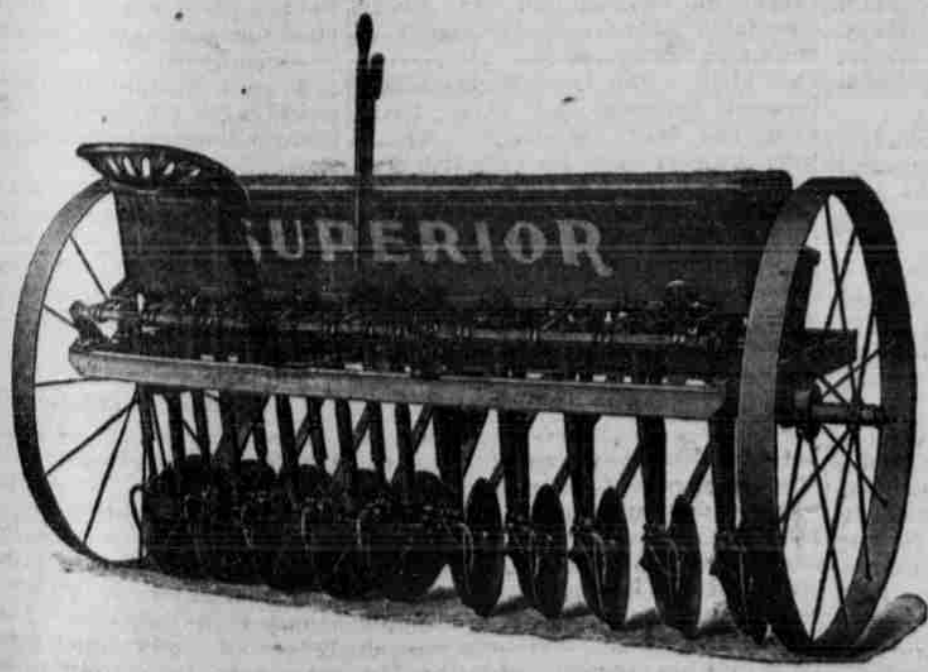
THE TIME IS RIPE

Speaking of the proposed division of Crook County, the Bend Bulletin says: That the time is ripe for such a division is not disputed. The county court's recent bull-dozing tactics in foisting an extravagant court house upon the taxpayers for the beautifying Prineville—regardless of the signed protests of more than 800 citizens—has created a determination to forever be rid of such treatment, and in the future conduct their own business and spend their taxes for improvements asked for and needed. Other outrages have only strengthened this determination. Furthermore, the legislature seems favorable to such a move, which is another indication of a ripe time. That brand of politics in which Prineville takes pride is at present strongly discredited at Salem. Legislators are now aiming to more fully serve the people and a bill strongly endorsed and bearing merit on its face is sure of favorable consideration. We have the unanimous endorsement of this whole section and a bill with merit.

Furthermore, this move is only for a division and not a taking away. It is not asked that a county seat be moved—only that a new one be created. We do not ask for that which belongs to and is possessed by another, but rather a division of a county which development has made too large for proper transaction of business.

J. T. Robinson of Culver, spent Monday and Tuesday in Madras, looking after business matters. Mr. Robinson has been a resident of this section for 20 years past, and says that the cold weather of last week was the coldest we have had with one exception during that period. Sixteen or 17 years ago, he says, it was colder than it was here last week.

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