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ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

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THURSDAY February 7, 1907

Of all the arguments yet presented against county division, the one that the people residing in the territory into which it is proposed to form new counties don't want it, is beyond question the most unfounded on fact. This is especially true of the residents of the proposed Jefferson county, and the truth of this statement is so apparent to anyone who has been in this district since the proposal has been under discussion as to hardly need any notice at all. The general mass of citizens are most enthusiastic supporters of the movement and are doing everything possible to assist it. The matter, on its merits, has simply resolved itself into the question of whether Prineville can sap the tax money out of the enormous territory contained in Crook county, for her own upbuilding, or whether these proposed new counties, both of which would have plenty of money to conduct their own affairs upon, are to govern themselves, which is the desire of their residents. That they are able and willing to conduct their own community governments is very plain. Why they should not do so, no argument containing a grain of truth in it has ever been advanced—except that Prineville doesn't want it. That is absolutely the only outcome that can be reached by following any thought ever put forward against county division. Prineville doesn't want it.

Every benefit of keeping Crook county intact reverts to Prineville.

Every benefit of division would revert to the rapidly developing sections embraced in the proposed new counties. On the one hand we have Prineville endeavoring to hold people under her thumb and to force them to pay tribute to her through the unjust manipulations of the county court. On the other hand we have honest and progressive people who desire a square deal and are endeavoring to get a chance to run their own affairs without Prineville's dominion.

That Prineville opposes it, is hog nature. That the people residing in the new districts want their rights, is human nature. And they have on their side the argument that has ever been strong in the minds of honest men—the consent of the governed.

That farmers of this section will this season harvest a good crop there is every reason to believe. It is the earnest hope of every one that they do. There is nothing so vital to the progress of this country as the matter of getting good crops. But there is also a danger in it, and that is that the harvesting of a good crop by the ordinary methods of farming will have a

tendency to put off the adoption of methods of scientific farming which would insure a good crop every year. Farmers will be prone to reason that as they were able to raise good crops in the old way they could do it again. But the result of the past two years ought to be sufficient argument against trusting to luck for a wet winter. But will it be? In this lies the danger. Scientific soil culture would not only give a better yield in the wet season, but would conserve the unused moisture from the wet season to develop the crop of a possible dry season following. The Pioneer is honest and earnest in its idea of urging every farmer in this district to inform himself upon these methods of scientific soil culture and to apply them in his every day work for it believes that in no other way can successful crops every year be realized in this semi-arid region. It will be a bad thing if a temporary success blinds the farmers to methods which would insure a profitable crop every season, which would mean prosperity in the highest degree.

The bill providing for the creation of Jefferson county was introduced in the legislature at Salem last Tuesday. This was the information received in Madras Wednesday by a wired message from Max Luëddemann and is the only definite information that has reached Madras concerning the new county since the departure of the delegation, who went from this section to work in the interests of the bill. Mr. Luëddemann's message stated that he had written, showing that they do not appreciate the fact that we are separated from the outside world and are not having any mail service at present. But the mere fact that the bill has been introduced is a hopeful sign, for unless there appeared to be some encouragement for the measure creating Jefferson county to pass, it is not probable that it would be placed before the legislature.

The Pioneer this week appears in an all home print edition for the reason that our ready prints are somewhere on the way from Portland, held up by the washouts on the railroads. On the whole news matter is scarce this week but we trust that conditions will soon be normal again and that our readers will bear with us through this brief period, which is doubtless as distressing to us as to anyone else.

GROWING STEADILY

Business of Madras R. F. D. Increasing From Month To Month

Every quarterly report of the Madras R. F. D. No. 1, since its establishment June 15, 1905, has shown an increase of the business handled over the preceding quarter, and Chas. M. Disney, who has been the regular carrier on the route during the entire time, states that he believes every month shows an increase over the one immediately preceding it. The growth of the postal business is very good evidence of the general development of this country. The carrier handles registered

letter and money order business, sells stamps to patrons along the route and is in fact a traveling postoffice.

The route is 27 miles long and covers the Methodist Hill and Opal Prairie settlements as well as many who reside along the road between Culver and Madras. The service is six days a week, and on only two days since the order creating the route went into effect has there been a failure to cover the route, and that was during the past week, when there was no mail to carry and when the roads were practically impassable. While a carrier is supposed to cover the route without fail, the law plainly provides for such emergencies as existed during the past week when weather conditions make it practically impossible to give the service.

Although the postal service lacks millions of dollars annually in paying its expenses it is the policy of the government to give the best service possible, regardless of cost for the reason that no other matter comes so close to the people, nor is of so direct a benefit to the business and social life of the nation as a convenient and efficient postal service. The rural free delivery routes are a part of this great system and that they are popular with, and beneficial to, the people, there can be no doubt.

HOME FROM SALEM

N. H. Pinkerton arrived home from Salem Wednesday, where he went with the Jefferson county delegation. Mr. Pinkerton left the capital Thursday evening and came to The Dalles, from which point he staged through to Shaniko by way of Sherar's bridge, making this trip in one day. Snow along this route was very deep at some points and there was 19 inches of snow at The Dalles when he left there Sunday. Mr. Pinkerton states that the railroad bridge at the mouth of the Deschutes had been repaired and that trains were running on the main line. In regard to matters before the legislature Mr. Pinkerton states that there is not a very bright prospect for any of the new county bills to pass the legislature at this session. He came from Shaniko with Charles Parker who was returning from Vancouver, Wash., by private conveyance.

FUNERAL OF H. J. BACHMAN

The funeral of Henry J. Bachman, who died Wednesday of last week from injuries received from the accidental explosion of dynamite, was held Friday afternoon from the German Methodist church. Rev. John G. Moehring preached the funeral sermon and conducted the services. The remains were laid to rest in the German cemetery in the presence of a number of neighbors and friends.

J. C. Satchwell, one of the drivers on the new Bend-Madras-Shaniko stage line reached Madras Monday with one of the big coaches, being then three days out from Bend, which point he left Saturday morning. He says that when he started there was two feet of snow at Bend and more falling. The trip from there to Madras was very trying on the teams as the track had to be broken all the way. W. J. Buckley arrived in from Shaniko with another of the coaches Sunday evening, taking two days to make the trip. Shaniko had about the same depth of snow as Madras—14 inches. Both stages went south from here Tuesday morning, and staging operations on this line will probably be discontinued until the weather breaks.

STREET IS ANSWERED

Bend Bulletin Girds Up Its Loins and Proves Him an Ignoramus

HOMER DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT COUNTY

Saloon Interest Preacher Makes Statements Regardless of Truth Or Sense

The following article taken from the Bend Bulletin of last week is republished in the Pioneer for the general information concerning county affairs which it contains, and not because of any idea of "fighting" the most Reverend Homer M. Street, whose blatant utterances on county affairs and county division are at present the mainstay of the Prineville papers in lack of any legitimate opposition to county division:

The rancher-preacher-peddler, the Reverend Homer M. Street of Sisters, rushes into print in the Prineville papers in a wordy attack on county division, and incidentally calls the Bulletin a liar in no uncertain terms. If the Bulletin so desired it could hurl back at the reverend gentleman as nasty and scurrilous a set of epithets as he seems so proficient in using. It could engage in a controversy on a level with a street brawl where the man with the foulest mouth and most blatant utterances is considered the strong man. Such procedures, however, are beneath the dignity of an honest person and a decent publication—notwithstanding Mr. Street's methods—and the Bulletin will confine itself to proving that the reverend gentleman is entirely unacquainted with the subject he discusses. The Bulletin dislikes to call any man a liar; to bare back at Mr. Street with his own epithets would only be a loss of our own self respect. Hence, we do not say that Rev. Street is a base prevaricator, but rather that he does not know what he is talking about.

A perusal of this article will show many statements made with no proof. Those that deserve notice—if any of them do—the Bulletin will treat as follows:

1st. He makes the statement that holders of property for speculative purposes in the new county would be benefited; others would suffer a greater tax. In the proposed Deschutes county there is now a valuation of more than \$3,000,000. This is a matter of fact, not mere wordy statement. The figures are based on the assessment for 1906 for Crook county. This will yield \$45,000 at the present levy of 15 mills—more money than the new county would need. In fact, it could be run at a lower levy than the old county now demands. Thus Mr. Street's statement of a greater tax burden is shown to be false—not by mere mouthings, but by a statement of figures taken from Crook county's assessment roll.

2d. His second statement is that disgruntled office seekers are working for the division in the hope of getting an office. We challenge the reverend gentleman to name a single man from Bend, Laidlaw or Redmond who has taken a prominent part in this agitation who has ever sought a Crook county office. They are not the office-seeking class. Such statements are little above the twaddle of an imbecile.

3d. On a par with the above statement is the one that many favor division in order to spite Prineville business men who have refused them credit. What silly rot! A hurried canvass of Western Crook showed that 93 per cent of the population favored division. This is a statement that can be proved by counting the signers of the petition for county division.

When the Bulletin makes that statement it states a fact—not a street rumor. Mr. Street would thus have it that 93 per cent of the people have been refused credit by Prineville merchants. What a "slam" on the characters of his neighbors—and incidentally what twaddle.

4th. He states that it would cost three times as much to keep up three groups of county officers and three sets of county buildings. Grant that

it does, and we can show that it would be cheaper for the taxpayers of Western Crook to have county division. Under the assessment for 1906 Western Crook must pay fully half of the tax burden, or \$44,192.30. This again is from figures taken from county records. As stated above that is more than the new county would need. So the argument of increased taxation has no terrors for Western Crook. It will only be a matter of justice, if division forces a higher tax on the people of Prineville with their stocks of merchandise and valuable ranches heretofore sworn in to the assessor at such criminally low valuations. And as the Bulletin has previously stated, there will be a great saving in the mileage of jurors, witnesses and citizens to and from a nearby county seat.

5th. Mr. Street asks if the county officers are not capable of doing the work for the whole county and dwells on the efficiency of their work. With the present sheriff, clerk and treasurer, the Bulletin has no fault to find. They are efficient men. However, proof that they cannot take of the growing county business is shown when it is known that County Clerk Brown is two months behind in his work. A representative of a large timber firm at Bend was forced, in order to get his papers recorded, to hire a man and pay him out of his own pocket to the work. He had previously sent a fee with the papers to be recorded. Hence, he was forced to pay two prices to get work done that should have been done by county officials.

Deeds sent from Bend a year ago to be recorded have not yet been returned. Two months salary of the preceding clerk—\$300—was retained by the county court to pay for recording documents that he had failed to record. More evidence of the efficient way in which Crook county's business is done. Clerk Brown offered to clean up this back work for reasonable pay. Judge Bell refuses to pay him, though he retained \$300 for that purpose. But, you see, that \$300 must go into a new courthouse. That's the highly efficient manner in which our county business is done.

6th. Mr. Street refers to the records and says that last year \$17,000 was spent on roads, and that Western Crook received \$5000 more than Eastern Crook. An expert could find record of only \$5400 spent on roads—the amount the road master's voucher calls for. Of this, only \$295.50 was spent on roads in the proposed new county during 1906. That was all an expert could find on the records. Mr. Street speaks of the road work done in Western Crook very highly, while every man hereabouts asks where it has been done, they having seen none of it. Does the reverend gentleman know that not a bridge in the new county has been built, but for which the citizens contributed practically the entire cost? Such is a fact, however. On the other hand when a bridge was wanted across Crooked river at Prineville, the corporate limits of the city were drawn in so that the county would have to pay for the new bridge and the new grade leading out of Prineville. Prineville's city limits originally extended beyond where the steel bridge now stands.

7th. The statement is made that the Bulletin is publishing "all manner of lies against Prineville." None, however, are directly mentioned. State particular cases, Mr. Street, and prove them. That would be better argument than broad assertions which anyone can make. In the words of the street, "It's up to you."

8th. Street not only makes state-

ments that will not bear scrutiny. He does not quote the Bulletin fully. He says the Bulletin has 4000 people in the proposed county. The Bulletin never says any such thing. What it does say is safe to say that Western Crook includes the Madras Agency Plains country, which has close to 4000 population. An incomplete enumeration of the new county shows the Madras country denser populated and has more people. So the Bulletin's statement was correct and Street is again up as an irresponsible babbler.

9th. Street says that ever since timber in the proposed county removed in 30 years (with the consequent loss of taxable property) saying it brands himself as an ass. There are from 12 to 15 feet of timber in the new belt. The total cut of all mill United States was 30 billion 1905, with 11,666 mills cutting this rate it would take more than a thousand mills to complete belt in 10 years. In Oregon cut 1,282,000,000 feet of mills at work. Thus it would more than all the mills of working in Deschutes county cut out its 15 billion feet in 10 years. How many do you suppose would be stalled here—20 or 25 at the most above figures are taken from a recent report. "Number cut for published Dec. 21, 1906. It shows in its completeness, Street's ignorance of the matter he attempts to discuss, and shows him to be a man with little regard for fact or sense.

The above takes up the statement one by one, made by the reverend gentleman. It proves conclusively that the opposition to county division has not—and can not—advance a valid reason why there should be a division of the county. It shows that the method of the Bulletin is an utter disregard of fact and truth.

The Bulletin is content to case with the public as to its statements for veracity.

Married, at Bend, Oregon, January 1907, Mr. Ralph Spencer and Miss Grace McCann. Mr. Spencer is the son of the Central Oregonian at Lake, while Miss McCann has been a compositor on the Bend Bulletin for several years. They will make their home at Silver Lake.

Several of Madras's townsfolk thought to take advantage of the rabbits in the deep snow last Saturday and loaded into a hack and went out to hunt. But it seems that Bre'r Rabbit had all about this snow storm coming was securely holed up in the ground. Only a few were found moving. One was discovered in a culvert under the automobile road. A dog went after him and C. E. Roush managed to get hold of the rabbit's head. The dog got hold of the rabbit and started back out of the culvert. The rabbit exhausted all his resources in an effort to make both ends reach, and he accidentally came off in Roush's hands. This broke up the hunt as no more rabbits could be found. Orin Hale's seven jack rabbits out of one hole the same day.

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