

# The Madras Pioneer

Published every Thursday by  
**THE PIONEER PUBLISHING CO.**  
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
 One year.....\$1.50  
 Six months......85  
 Three months......50

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION  
 Entered as second class matter August 29, 1904, at the Postoffice at Madras, Ore., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

THURSDAY - February 21, 1907

## WILLIAMSON'S HUMOR

At the Powell Butte meeting for the discussion of county division, Ex-Congressman Williamson injected a little humor into the discussion (although he probably thought he would be taken quite seriously) by the statement that Western Crook county owed Prineville only good will, as it was to that generous little village that the Western portion of the county owed the beginning of its development. He explained that several years ago, when irrigation was first talked of in the section of the county to the south of us, forty valiant citizens of Prineville hid themselves to the irrigation congress in session at Portland, and there drew attention to the irrigation possibilities of Western Crook.

To those who remember that meeting in Portland, and the part the Prineville delegation played in it, it is easy to recall that they vigorously opposed the reclamation of the upper Deschutes country by private irrigation enterprises, pretending that they desired to see the government take hold. It was contended by them that the land now being reclaimed by various large irrigation enterprises in Western Crook was not desert land subject to entry under the Carey Act, and it was at that time that Mr. Williamson made his famous statement that "it is not desert land because it has juniper trees growing upon it." The fact of the matter was that what is now the promising irrigation district of the county was then the sheep range of Williamson and other Prineville stockmen, and the great activity displayed by the Prineville delegation at the irrigation congress was directed solely at the defeat of the private enterprises which were ready and willing to undertake the reclamation of that territory. Then, as now, Prineville's citizens were actuated by purely selfish motives, and recalling that time but emphasizes the fact that never since settlement and development began in Western Crook has any citizen of Prineville bestirred himself, except in an effort to hinder and delay or defeat every project for the development of this section. Mr. Williamson's memory is bad, and he should refresh it before pleading unselfish generosity for Prineville's citizens, lest he acquire the reputation of a humorist.

## OTHERS SEE IT TOO

Silver Lake Oregonian.  
 There is no doubt that the property owners in Western Crook have been over-taxed and that they have not received their just dues at the hands of the county officials, who have been, for the most part, Prineville men or men having interests in Prineville. The papers of that place may continue to explain and print official (?) figures till dooms day but they will find it hard to convince the people that Prineville is not the headquarters for a grafting ring who stick to each other like sweet-hearts and are always out with the "big mitt." \* \* There are many reliable citizens in the proposed county

who certainly deserve fair consideration at the hands of the state legislature, and while the new county may not be formed this year it is sure to come before long. As for Prineville her days of "bull-dozing" it over the surrounding country are about to come to a close—and the people outside of Prineville territory are not sorry.

Sherman county expenses last year amounted to \$13,054.89.—Moro Observer.

There was a time when Crook county could get along comfortably on from seventeen to twenty thousand dollars for county expenses, each year, but that was before development began in Western Crook, when a large part of the burden of taxation fell upon citizens of Prineville, and economy in county affairs was a personal matter with them. In recent years large areas of timber in Western Crook have come into private ownership and now are on the tax roll, and this, with other development in that section, has shifted the burden of taxation on to the other section of the county, with the result that last year more than \$80,000 was levied for taxes, and this year nearly \$90,000 more will be collected, nearly all of which will be spent in embellishing the town of Prineville in an attempt to permanently hold the county seat at that place. While tax valuations have been increased 50 and even 100 per cent in Western Crook during the past year, favored friends of the county seat ring are permitted to swear in their property at ridiculously low figures. As an example of the way it is done over there, one merchant who advertises that he has a \$70,000 stock for sale, was permitted to swear in that stock at \$5000. Many similar cases have been unearthed by an examination of the tax-roll for 1906. The feeling which has been aroused in Western Crook against the county seat ring is not without cause, but is the direct result of the unscrupulous methods by which Western Crook is made to bear the burden without an equal participation in the benefits of county taxation.

Farmers in all sections of Eastern and Central Oregon are jubilant over the prospects for a bumper crop next harvest, the heavy snows and extraordinary precipitation of the past six weeks having soaked the ground to a great depth. For the first time in three years there is sufficient moisture stored away to insure the maturing of a crop, and conditions have never been so favorable for a big yield. For the preceding two years there has been a shortage of rainfall and snow amounting almost to a continuous drouth, and in consequence when the hot, dry weather of early summer came, there was not sufficient moisture stored in the soil to mature the crops. During the past season the failure of crops was attributable primarily to the hot winds which swept over this section, burning up everything in its path, but with sufficient moisture in the ground to have matured the crops the damage at that time would have been slight. Deficient rainfall is the cause of the failures of the past two years, but this year there promises to be an abundance.

Rev. Homer Street is entitled to a good soft job among the elect at Prineville. Why not appoint him "spiritual adviser" to Judge Bell, with liberal perquisites in the way of mileage and per diem?

Deficient rainfall is the greatest obstacle to successful farming in this section, but in other sections of the arid West where they have no greater amount of rainfall than we have here, and no more reasonable, this great obstacle is being overcome by improved methods of cultivation, and by the application of the principles of the Campbell system of dry land farming. Frequent cultivation, keeping the surface loose and in a finely pulverized condition, prevents the rapid evaporation of the moisture, which is thereby saved for the maturing of the crop in the hot dry days of early summer. Farmers of this section, who now have such bright prospects for a big yield at the coming harvest, should not be prodigal of the moisture that is in the ground, but they should use all means to conserve it for future use. Frequent cultivation, will not only save the moisture for this year's crop, but it will prevent the ground from drying out as it did in the past two years, and help out in the years of deficient rainfall that may follow.

Representative Belknap learned his lesson well before he left Prineville. At Salem he wholly disregarded the petitions of a large majority of his constituents in Crook county, opposing Jefferson and Deschutes counties over the petitions asking for the creation of those counties, and assisting Nesmith county against the remonstrances of a large number of the residents who are included in that territory. Then he introduced a bill increasing the salary of Judge Bell to \$1200, and other county officers proportionately. As a representative from Prineville, he was a "howling success".

The Crook County Journal is advocating a sewerage system for the town of Prineville, and suggests increasing the bonded indebtedness of the town as a means of providing funds for the purpose. Why not take the matter up with the County Court, which will have at its disposal something like \$90,000 for Prineville's adornment?

**A. M. WILLIAMS & CO**  
 DEALERS IN  
 Dry Goods, Clothing,  
 Furnishing Goods  
 BOOTS AND SHOES  
 HATS AND CAPS  
 THE DALLES OREGON

Watch this space for the  
 Announcement  
 of the  
 Bend-Madras-Shaniko  
 Stage Line

**Z. F. MOODY**  
 GENERAL COMMISSION &  
 FORWARDING MERCHANT  
 Large and Commodious Warehouse. Consignments Solicited.  
 Prompt attention paid to those who favor us with their patronage.  
 SHANIKO, OREGON

**HERMANN ON TRIAL**  
 The trial of Binger Hermann, ex-Congressman from the First Congressional District of Oregon, was begun in Washington City last Thursday, on the charge of destroying letters and copybooks alleged to be the property of the government. The letterbooks in question were destroyed by Hermann while he was Commissioner of the General Land Office, and at about the beginning of the investigation of the land frauds in this state. It is claimed by him that the letters and copybooks contained only his private correspondence.

The roads throughout Eastern Oregon are in the worst condition they have been in for many years, owing to the rapid thawing of the heavy snows which fell the first days of the month and the floods which followed. Roads and grades are badly washed, bridges have been carried out, and at places the roads are almost impassable. Mud is everywhere, and bottomless. Persons returning from Portland to Central Oregon last week were compelled to stage it from The Dalles, owing to the washouts on the Columbia Southern Railroad, and it required three days of hard staging to make the trip from The Dalles to Shaniko. From there to Bolter's, 20 miles, required another day. The greatest damage to grades resulted from the washing out of side-hill grades, where the sudden thaw turned loose torrents of water which poured down the grades, covering the roads with earth and boulders, or washing great gullies through them.

**ELK DRUG STORE**  
 Carries a full line of clean fresh drugs, perfumes and toilet articles  
**FRED J. DAMON**  
 MADRAS, OREGON

**THE DALLES HOSPITAL**  
 The Dalles, Oregon  
 A PRIVATE HOSPITAL  
 for the treatment of all medical and surgical diseases, except such as are contagious.  
 PATIENTS MAY EMPLOY THEIR OWN PHYSICIANS  
 Training School for nurses in connection. For information concerning the same address Supt. of Nurses.  
**HOSPITAL RATES**  
 From \$10 to \$21 per week, according to room, including hospital care and board.  
 For further information address  
**DRS. FERGUSON & REUTER,**  
 The Dalles, Oregon.

**STEVENS**  
 "Out-of-doors" with a STEVEN'S best thing for a growing boy Learning to shoot will acquire qualities of SELF-CONTROL, DECISION, MANLINESS  
 Ask your Dealer for Stevens Rifle Shotgun—Pistol. Insist on our guaranteed make. If you cannot obtain we ship direct, express prepaid, upon receipt of Catalog Price.  
 J. STEVENS ARMS & TOOL CO.  
 P. O. Box 4097  
 Chicopee Falls, Mass., U.S.A.

**NO MAIL FOR 10 DAYS MORE**  
 Reports received from Shaniko yesterday afternoon indicate that there will be no trains over the Columbia Southern railroad for the next ten days or weeks. It is three weeks today since the last mail from outside points reached this place, with the exception of the bundle of letters which came last Sunday, and residents of this section are wondering if the mail service with the resumption of traffic over the railroad to Shaniko. This section received mail regularly from The Dalles before the railroad was built to Shaniko and it appears that such a service will be temporarily reinstated until the service is resumed, if a proper regard is paid to the need of some mail service in this country. Short delays are sometimes unavoidable and the patrons of the post office put up with them uncomplainingly, but the complete suspension of the mail service for five weeks appears to be inexcusable and unnecessary.

**Fine Handmade Harness**  
 When in need of harness call and see my full line of hand-made heavy, medium and light harness. Made from the Best California Oak Tanned Harness Leather  
 All Harness Strictly first-class and GUARANTEED  
 A Full line of whips, Bridles and Halters, Harness and Saddles Always on Hand, Shoes Repairing. All work neatly and promptly done  
**B. S. LARKIN, MADRAS,**

**CHARTER OAK**  
 Heaters and Cook Stoves. When you get a Charter Oak you get the best stove on the market. Paper your house with our new  
**WALL PAPER**  
 Get a Charter Oak Heater and live comfort this winter.  
**LOUCKS BROS., JR.**

Blue Print Township Maps corrected date showing names of all entries, land rivers and creeks, 50 cents each.  
**LAND SCRIP FOR SALE**  
 For securing title to all kinds of Government land without residence or improvement at lowest market prices. Write us for particulars.  
 All kinds of Land Office business a specialty. Twenty-five years' experience. Refer to French & Co., bankers.

**HUDSON LAND CO.**  
 THE DALLES, OREGON.

**STEVENS**  
 "Out-of-doors" with a STEVEN'S best thing for a growing boy Learning to shoot will acquire qualities of SELF-CONTROL, DECISION, MANLINESS  
 Ask your Dealer for Stevens Rifle Shotgun—Pistol. Insist on our guaranteed make. If you cannot obtain we ship direct, express prepaid, upon receipt of Catalog Price.  
 J. STEVENS ARMS & TOOL CO.  
 P. O. Box 4097  
 Chicopee Falls, Mass., U.S.A.

Timber Land, Act June 8, 1878.

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**  
 U. S. Land Office, The Dalles, Oregon, December 10, 1906.  
 Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress, June 8, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Nevada and Washington Territory," extended to all the public land territories by August 4, 1902,  
 Eugene A. Gillett,  
 of Madras, county of Crook, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his statement No. 3067, for the purchase of the following described lands, to-wit:  
 And will offer proof to show that he is entitled to purchase the same under the provisions of the act of Congress, June 8, 1878, and to establish his claim to said lands before Frank Osborn, U. S. Commissioner, at his office in Madras, Oregon, on the 10th day of April, 1907.  
 He names as witnesses: A. F. G. A. G. and Joseph D. Bland, all of Crook county, and John B. Brown, of Haystack, Oregon, and John H. Brown, of Haystack, Oregon, and all persons claiming an interest in the above-described lands are notified to file their claims in this office on or before the 10th day of April, 1907.  
 MICHAEL T. NOLAN, Deputy