

# The Madras Pioneer

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THURSDAY June 6, 1907

## UNWARRANTED OPPOSITION

Much indignation is felt here among those who are interested in securing better school facilities for this school district, over an article which appeared in last week's Crook County Journal over the signature of C. B. Dinwiddie, County School Superintendent. The desire for better school facilities at this place is a natural one for the residents of this district, and especially for those who have children advanced beyond the public school grades taught here. That such a desire on their part should have aroused the opposition of the county school superintendent can only be explained on the theory that Superintendent Dinwiddie's policy is to oppose the growth and extension of school facilities in other sections of the county, in the interest of Prineville and its high school. It is just such offensive partisanship on the part of officials of Crook County that has tended to create the present inharmonious relations which exist between Prineville and the western portion of the county, and it is to be regretted that the educational interests of the county could not have been kept out of these sectional "rows."

Those who have been promoting the plan for a district, or, if possible, a union district high school have done so because they felt that such an institution was needed in this locality, which is admittedly the most populous section of the county. There are children in this locality, and quite a number of them too, who have passed the grades taught by our public schools, and whose parents do not care to or do not feel able to send them away from home to attend the Prineville High School. We realize that there will be an additional tax to support the local high school, but we are willing to pay it, and we believe that a majority of the people of the district will be willing to pay it, in order to secure better school facilities. There are a number of adjoining districts in this section of the county, none of them more than one or two hours drive from this place, and if it is possible to do so, we would have preferred to form a union high school district. It was for the purpose of ascertaining what opposition there would be to such a project, that the proposal was submitted to other districts. Certainly, opposition was not expected from the County School Superintendent, whose position should have made him the champion of any effort to extend the educational facilities of this section or any other section of Crook County.

As to the cost of the district high school, the provision of the law regarding the character of the school necessary before exemption from the county high school tax is obtained, was well known to those who are urging the matter here. And, incidentally it may be said that they are among the heaviest taxpayers of the district. This paper will not agree with Mr.

Dinwiddie's interpretation of those provisions, if the article in the Journal correctly represents him. We do not believe it means that before a district supporting a high school shall become exempt from the county high school tax in this county it shall own a \$25,000 high school building and be equipped with \$2000 worth of furniture. The law merely says that the school shall be "equivalent in efficiency." A high school at Madras would not expect to start off with that high a standard, nor to attain it for several years, but the growth of the school would in time make that possible, and meantime the patrons of the high school do not care to have economy preached to them by their school superintendent, at the expense of their educational facilities. Talk of economy in county taxation comes with bad grace from Prineville and its partisans, anyhow, in the face of the recent absolute over-riding of the public's wishes in the extravagant expenditure being made for a new court house.

The law under which the effort is being made to establish a high school at this place was passed at the last Legislature for the relief of school districts situated just as this and other adjoining districts are. That districts so situated would avail themselves of its provisions was contemplated when the law was passed. Although the law does not make it obligatory upon the county school superintendent to support such a move, it doubtless presumed upon his impartial interest in all sections of the county to dictate that support.

## STORY NOT BELIEVED HERE

Questioned regarding the story published in last Friday's Portland Journal, reflecting upon the present administration of affairs upon the Warm-spring Indian Reservation, Superintendent Covey stated while here last Tuesday, that the story was furnished the Journal's correspondent by a disgruntled ex-employee of the reservation, whose hostility towards the present superintendent had manifested itself in numerous attempts to cause trouble and discord between him and the Indians on the reservation. As to the charges contained in the Journal's story, Mr. Covey would be inclined to laugh at them did they not reflect upon him personally and officially, so ridiculous and inconsistent with facts are they. He states that he will very gladly welcome an investigation of his administration at any time, and since the publication of the highly-colored story in the Journal, he has asked that an inspector be sent to investigate the charges.

In connection with the Journal's story, or rather in contradiction of it, it may be stated that Mr. Covey enjoys the reputation at this place, the nearest town to the agency, and where he is quite well known, of being an exceptionally competent and conscientious official, whose administration of affairs upon the reservation is of the highest order. He is highly esteemed by the businessmen of the town, personally and officially and the Journal's story is generally disbelieved.

Californians are indignant over a story going the rounds of the press to the effect that the oldest tree in the world is one that was planted in Ceylon 2200 years ago. Our neighbors on the south assert that they have a number of trees which are from 6000 to 8000 years old.

While there is a possibility that the Californians may have over-estimated the age of their trees by a few thousand years, the ancient Ceylon tree is still several centuries younger than some of the Oregon trees. At numerous points in Central Oregon there are patriarchal Junipers which began lifting their branches heavenward more than 500 years before Christ came on Earth. Aside from a railroad into the state there is nothing in Central Oregon that is so slow of growth as the ancient Junipers, and when the railroad does reach Prineville, Bend and vicinity, not the least of the attractions for the tourists will be these wonderful trees with which time has almost stood still.—Oregonian.

## A CARD

We see in the Crook County Journal two and one-quarter columns of advice and praise for the Prineville high school, which came into print with the view and intention of defeating our plans here for a better and higher school, signed by C. B. Dinwiddie, county school superintendent.

For Mr. Dinwiddie's information we will say that this move here for a high school is not a county division fight, county courthouse fight, nor one word

against the Prineville school. We admit we must go according to law. We did not intend to go any other way. We also know it will cost something to do these things, but as long as we go according to law, and if we choose to maintain a high school here by joining in with several of the nearby districts, it is your place, Mr. Dinwiddie, to give us such aid and help as the law provides, rather than to try and knock it out.

When we want your advice as county school superintendent we will ask you for it, and when we have advanced far enough along with our school we then will refer such matters to you as lawfully come to your office.

A. C. SANFORD,  
N. H. PINKERTON,  
J. W. ROBINSON.

## Notice for Publication.

Department of the Interior  
Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon,  
May 28, 1907.  
Notice is hereby given that William O. Bicknap, of Madras, Ore., has filed notice of his intention to make final five-year proof in support of his claim, viz:  
Homestead Entry No. 10993 made May 17, 1902, for the 1/2 sec. 34 and 1/2 sec. 35, T. 12 S., R. 13 E., W. 1 M., and that said proof will be made before Frank Osborn, U. S. Commissioner, at his office in Madras, Oregon, on July 9, 1907.  
He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of the land, viz:  
D. W. Barnett, Fred Green, both of Crook, Oregon; W. J. Richards, R. H. Barnett, both of Madras, Oregon.  
J. W. MOORE, Register.

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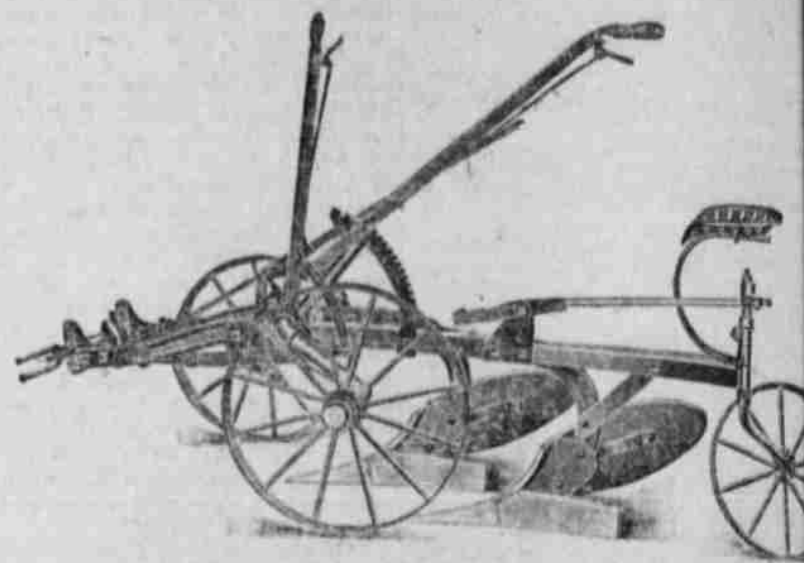
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# Grizzly Lake Lumber Company

The company's mill is now running and will soon be able to fill orders for

Rough and Dressed Lumber  
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The yard at Madras will be stocked with building materials including DOORS and WINDOWS

The salesman at the yard will also find time occasionally to build TANKS, WAGON BOXES, CUPBOARDS, ETC. The company is installing more machinery, and is better than ever prepared to supply the demands of its customers.

Grizzly Lake Lumber Co., Lamonta, Oregon

# Stallion for Service

The big Belgian, property of the Haystack Livestock Breeders Association, will be kept at the Leach place, three miles west of Lamonta, during season commencing April 7th. This horse has proven a sure foal-getter and his colts are giving good satisfaction.

Haystack Livestock Breeders Association

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