

## The Madras Pioneer

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THURSDAY - OCT. 29, 1908

### POLITICS AND BUSINESS

"There is an almost unanimous opinion that if Mr. Taft is elected to the Presidency the local realty market will continue steady and strong. There is nothing said by any of the principal dealers that would indicate that Taft's election is to bring about a great advance in values, only that business will keep along on the lines experienced for the past few months. Few large deals are being negotiated for immediate closing, but several dealers report conditional options made to hold after election."

There is a world of good argument for Republican success in the approaching election, in the above news item taken from a Portland daily. Similar expressions of confidence in a continuation of prosperity to follow Mr. Taft's election, and of distrust as to the result should Mr. Bryan be successful, can be heard on all sides. That is the attitude of the business world on the approaching election—not only of the great business enterprises of the country, but of the masses of small investors, the aggregate of whose riches makes up the bulk of the nation's wealth. And, it is this attitude of the business interests of the country which will certainly precipitate a spell of hard times, a tightening of the money market and a decrease in business activity, should Bryan be elected. It is a condition and not a theory, and should be met as such. No great boom is promised to follow Taft's election, but the public is satisfied that present conditions will continue, and that investments will be safe. It is not so sure about conditions, should Bryan be elected, and it will not invest its money until it knows what the conditions will be.

The subject is especially interesting to the voters of Central Oregon. There are good prospects of railroad construction into this section immediately after the election, if there is no up-setting of present business conditions. Why take any chances of bringing on a period of depression and delaying indefinitely the building of our railroad and the development of our country?

### UP THE DESCHUTES CANYON

The most important development of the past week in the railroad situation in Central Oregon, is the activity of the Harriman interests in securing right of way along their recently surveyed route up the Deschutes canyon. It was reported here the last of the week that a right of way agent was negotiating right-of-way along the Harriman line, and the press dispatches announce that condemnation proceedings have been instituted in five cases where the right of way could not be bought.

While not absolutely conclusive that construction will be started at once, the purchase of right of way along the Deschutes by the Harriman people is the strongest indication yet given that those interests have selected the Deschutes route for their proposed line into Central Oregon. The Harriman

people have run a good many surveys into Central Oregon before, but no right-of-way was ever purchased along the surveys after they were completed. The purchase of right-of-way is especially significant from the fact that the Oregon Trunk Line, said to have the backing of James J. Hill, has already secured 95 per cent of its right-of-way along the river, so that the purchases of the Harriman people cannot be for the purpose of obstructing the Oregon Trunk Line by securing the right of way at strategic points along the river.

In connection with the purchase of right-of-way, it is also significant that the entire engineering work under way by the Harriman interests in Central Oregon is being centered on the Deschutes route. No surveying parties are working on the Corvallis & Eastern extension, nor on the Natron road, while four large parties are engaged in locating the Deschutes line. While no definite announcement has been made by any of the Harriman officials regarding the selection of the route into Central Oregon, it begins to look quite certain that a decision has been made, and that the Deschutes route has been chosen for the promised line.

### OUR MOST IMPORTANT ROAD

The petition for a county road from Sagebrush flat to connect with the Prineville-Shaniko road should receive favorable consideration at the hands of the County Court, and doubtless will when the matter comes before the Court. It is the shortest and most direct outlet from all of Western Crook county to its nearest railroad point, and is one of the most important roads in the county. In addition to serving practically all of Western Crook during a good portion of the year, it serves the Prineville country as well, for when the roads are bad the heavy freight teams loaded for Prineville almost invariably pull around by way of Madras, in order to take advantage of the better roads.

The Lyle Gap road is as important to Western Crook as is the main Prineville-Shaniko road to Prineville and that section. Every year a good deal of money is spent in improving the latter road, and last year several thousand dollars was spent on the McPherson grade alone. It is not too much to expect, therefore, that the Court treat Western Crook county liberally with regard to its most important highway, and that the road not only be opened up by the county, but that it be kept in good condition.

### SEND THEM TO CROOK COUNTY

The hundred thousand or more disappointed home-seekers at the late Rosebud reservation opening in South Dakota could find homes for themselves and plenty of cheap land in Crook county and all through Central Oregon. There were 114,000 registered in that opening and of these only 6000 could secure one of the 160-acre tracts into which the reservation was divided, so this invitation is extended to the 108,000 who failed to win Dame Fortune's favor in the South Dakota drawing.

There isn't anything in South Dakota better, if as good, as can be found here in Central Oregon, but a "government land drawing" gets the crowd and \$2,000,000 was spent in the mad stampede to participate in the Rosebud opening. Land in Crook county and Central Oregon is cheap, both irrigated and dry land, but it is cheap because of a lack of transportation facilities. With Harriman and Hill both rushing their sur-

veys with a view to beginning construction at once on roads into this section, this handicap will soon be removed and the public will learn, too late, that it has missed an opportunity to secure, for a song, good agricultural land in a country where soil and climate are all that could be desired.

### MORE HOUSES NEEDED

Every dwelling house and every available room of any kind in Madras which could be temporarily converted into residence quarters has been quickly rented, and still there is a demand for houses. This is due largely to the number of families who have moved into town in order to take advantage of our excellent school facilities. The demand for houses offers a splendid field for investment in small cottages to rent, for the prices paid for rent here insure a good return on the investment.

Several persons who are now occupying rented houses have announced their intention of building and occupying their own houses in the Spring, and one or two are considering the matter of building cottages to rent. This promises relief in the Spring, but in the meantime new families are moving in every week, and there is a constant demand for houses. So far it has been possible to find a room or a "corner" for them somewhere.

### FINED \$200 FOR SELLING LIQUOR ILLEGALLY

First Conviction For This Offense In Crook County

A. B. Estebenet, the Bend saloon-keeper who was arrested several months ago on the charge of illegally selling liquor, and who was bound over to await the action of the grand jury, was indicted on four counts. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$200. This is the first conviction in Crook county for the illegal sale of liquor.

Estebenet was also arrested on charge of having burned his liquor warehouse for the purpose of collecting the insurance, but the grand jury evidently considered the evidence insufficient to base an indictment upon, and no true bill was returned against him, and the charge was dismissed.

Dance at Sanford's Hall, Friday, October 30, 1908. Tickets \$1.50, including supper.

### For Sale

Having been transferred to Minnesota, I hereby offer for sale the following: 1 Decker upright piano, used 2 months; cost \$370, will take \$325; 1 riding pony, gentle and tractable, with bridle and saddle, \$35; 1 bicycle, \$15. The above prices are for immediate acceptance, and for cash, or will exchange towards farm property.

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