

The Madras Pioneer

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ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

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THURSDAY — MAR. 11, 1909

ONLY ONE ROUTE

The Interior Department, in holding up the application for right-of-way up the Deschutes canyon, seems to have gone off on the idea that there are other routes for the railroad into Central Oregon and that the Deschutes canyon should therefore be saved for its very valuable possibilities of power development.

Admitting the value of the power possibilities of the Deschutes river, however, the position of the Interior Department in this matter is still wrong for the reason that the other premise to its conclusions—that there are other routes into Central Oregon—is absolutely wrong, if the country to be tapped by the railroad is to be given any consideration at all. The Deschutes canyon is the only direct, water-level route to the natural market for the product of this country. There are other ways for a railroad to get into Central Oregon, but only by climbing up the mountain and letting itself down on the other side, and that means increased cost of operation and higher freight rates. And every cent added to the freight rate means that much of a tax imposed upon every product of this country which is to be marketed, for all time to come. In that sense the Deschutes canyon is the only route to Central Oregon, and it should not be closed to us.

THE COMMERCIAL CLUB

The organization of a commercial club in Madras last Friday evening was a move in the right direction, and has placed in the hands of the business men of the community an instrument which they will find that they can use to good advantage. There is strength in unity, and the business interests of the town have needed some medium through which they could get concerted action on matters of importance to the community. The membership should include every resident of the town and the adjoining district, for the commercial club will be found working as a unit for the advancement of the best interests of Madras and the Madras country.

THE POINT OF VIEW

No one is going to deny the value of the power that could be developed along the Deschutes river, but there seems to be a pretty well established opinion in Central Oregon that the canyon through which the river flows was put there for an outlet to this country, and that the railroad is the consideration of first importance. The Reclamation Service sees only the power possibilities of the river, and Central Oregon sees only its railroad hopes go aglimmering, so that the value of the Deschutes River canyon depends largely on the point of view. It would be a happy solution of the difficulty if the experts sent to investigate the questions at issue between the railroad and the Reclamation Service could strike some practical basis for a compromise, by which the railroad could be permitted to occupy the canyon

and the power possibilities of the river could still be conserved.

The public, and especially the tax-paying public, feels relieved to know that the special session of the legislature called for March 15 has pledged itself to pass no new legislation, but will confine itself to curing defects in laws passed at the session just closed. If this kind of a pledge could be secured biennially for the next 10 years, there might be some hope for the old state yet.

THE SPECIAL SESSION CALLED FOR MARCH 15

Legislature Will Pass No New Laws
—To Correct Defects Of
Former Session

Salem, Or., March 5.—Governor Benson issued a proclamation this afternoon calling the Legislature in special session at 10 o'clock Monday morning, March 15, for the purpose of passing the appropriation bill which failed at the regular session because of a defect in the proceedings.

In a statement to the press, Governor Benson says that a majority of the members have voluntarily promised that no new legislation will be taken up, but he indicates that there may be a number of minor defects in acts of the regular session which will need correction at the special session. In this, he evidently has reference to the game code, the tax commission law and some minor bills in which defects were found.

The appropriation bill which was found defective carried appropriations for improvements at the insane asylum, penitentiary, reform school, soldiers home, blind school and other state institutions, and without this appropriation for the next two years these institutions would be in a very bad plight. Through some oversight in the rush of the last days of the session final action on this bill was not taken, and it is principally for the purpose of curing this oversight that the present session is called. A number of minor mistakes and omissions in other bills will also be corrected.

PROMISES NO DELAY ON RIGHT-OF-WAY

New Secretary Will Act Promptly On
Railroad Project Up Deschutes Canyon

Washington, D. C., March 9.—Secretary Ballinger of the Interior Department said today that there would be no undue delay in passing upon the application of the Harriman railroad for a right-of-way through the Deschutes canyon. He has called upon the Land Office and Reclamation Service to prepare for him a report of all facts in the matter, and when the state reports are ready he will give them thorough and prompt consideration and act as he believes the facts justify.

Engineer Schlecht, who is now at Deschutes making an investigation, will be expected to report at the earliest practicable moment.

COUNTYSEAT NOTES

Contractor Shipp expects the plastering on the new court house to be finished Saturday, the 13th of this week, and already has a large force of carpenters at work finishing the woodwork and expects to have the building practically completed and ready to turn over by May 1, 1909. He is cleaning and grading the yard. The heating plant, which is being

used by the plasterers, is giving good satisfaction and is very economical in the consumption of fuel. Only necessary electric lights and chandeliers for the circuit court room and halls have been ordered, and these are already for installation, as is also the large tower clock.

At a meeting of the Crook county high school board all of the present high school teachers were re-employed at the same salaries. This speaks well for the efficiency of the old teachers and with the addition of a thoroughly competent Normal teacher the attendance at the Crook county high school should be double during the ensuing year.

NEAR-TROUBLES AT PRINEVILLE

The council made a noise like nailing down the lid last Tuesday evening. A new ordinance prohibiting the sale of "near beer" was enacted. And that, too, just as the warmer days are approaching, and the near-joy of extracting the amber colored liquid from beneath its near-froth had begun to be near-appreciated.—Crook County Journal.

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GOOD CHICKEN DINNER Every Sunday at the Hahn Hotel—25 cents.—W. C. Moore, Prop. m11 f

LOTS FOR SALE CHEAP.—For a short time only the Madras Town-site Company is offering lots for sale at very low prices. Their advertisement on the back page of this paper contains map showing location of Madras with reference to the several railroad surveys through this section. Construction of either of these roads will make Madras the trading center of a large territory. The time to buy is now, before the railroad starts, when prices will advance.

PAINTING and Paper Hanging—First-class workmanship. Call on, or address J. M. Larsen, Madras.

SEED OATS For Sale—Gray oats at Joe Marnach's place, 6 miles south-west of Madras. m15

A GREAT SLAUGHTER SALE of groceries, clothing, shoes and other general merchandise has begun at A. C. Sanford's. Stock will be sold out at once, and purchasers can save one-third by buying during this sale. For full particulars see my advertisement in this issue. A. C. Sanford, Madras. 15

DAYLIGHT STAGE—There will be a daylight stage leaving Madras for Shaniko every morning. The stage will leave from the Green Hotel.—J. W. Livingston. 15

HOME CURED BACON—At Madras Meat Market. 15

A complete supply of legal blanks for sale including warranty and quit claim deeds, real, chattel and crop mortgages, etc. Justice court blanks and justice court work a specialty. Notary Public—F. J. Brooks.

A Good Clubbing Offer

We have arranged, for a clubbing rate with the publishers of Campbell's Scientific Farmer and are able to offer it to our subscribers for only 50 cents in addition to the subscription price of the Pioneer. This offer applies to both new subscriptions and renewals of old subscriptions. The Scientific Farmer is edited by Mr. H. W. Campbell, the originator of what is known as the "Campbell system" of dry farming. His magazine is filled with useful information for the farmer in sections where the rainfall is deficient or irregular, and every farmer in this section should be a subscriber. The regular subscription price is \$1 per year.

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