The Bend Bulletin

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY
LUEDDEMANN & LAWRENCE.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One year $1.00
Six months ..... .50
Three months ..... .25
(Invariably in advance.)

FRIDAY - DEC. 16, 1904

Bend's special election will take place next Monday. The question whether the town shall be incorporated is to be decided at this election, and the officers to serve the proposed new town are to be chosen.

Who would be hit hardest if Bend should fail to prosper? Who is most interested in having the town thrive, and so organizing its powers that the burden of government will be the very lightest possible on everybody?

The land thieves are now taking a new tack at the Portland trial. The pretence of chilled steel innocence, through which no amount of accusation could penetrate, has been abandoned and we may now look for some of the tallest swearing that has been noted in these parts for many a day. But will it avail?

Who in Bend would suffer most by any act or policy that should retard the progress of the town? Who would gain most by a policy that should promote the prosperity of all the people and secure general advancement of the town? If conditions here are made unfair the public will steer clear of Bend, and a townsite without people doesn't bring much profit to anybody in this practical age.

The taxable valuation in Bend school district this year is $136,040. Last year it was about $50,000 and the year before about $30,000. The coming assessment will show a vastly greater increase than took place last year, though the district has been split in two. This division will show greater increase than the whole did last year. The school board has a serious problem on its hands to provide educational accommodations for the children in a community that is growing so fast. But a good school is our most drawing card.

Doubling Pilot Butte Mill.

At the Pilot Butte sawmill extensive improvements are under way that will nearly double the capacity of the plant. The concrete setting for the new engine was put down this week. The new boiler will be here Saturday. A new steam pump is being installed to flume sawdust a distance of about an eighth of a mile from the river, where it will be burned. A steam feed is also being installed and a new planer room built and new tracks for the carriages. The mill will turn out about 35,000 feet a day when these improvements shall be completed.

Chance for History Students.

Portland, Oregon, December 1, 1904.

The Oregon Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is an organization composed of descendants of those who assisted in establishing American independence. Any male descendant of such ancestor is eligible to admission into the society. Its objects are purely patriotic and historical. One of them is to stimulate interest in the history of the American Revolution and loyalty to its principles. For this purpose the society offers three prizes of $25.00, $15.00 and $10.00 respectively for the best essay written by any student under twenty-one years of age, in any public school in Oregon, on either of the following two American Revolutionary subjects:

1. The Quebec campaign.
2. The co-operation of the French, how brought about and the results.

Essays are limited in length to twenty-five hundred words, must be written on legal cap on one side of the paper in the student's own hand writing and must be accompanied by the certificate of the principal of the school attended by the author, to the effect that the author is a bona fide student in the school and has been in attendance therein not less than six weeks during the school year of 1904-05. Essays must be forwarded to the chairman of the committee in charge, General Thomas M. Anderson, 251 North Twenty-fourth street, Portland, so as to reach him not later than February 1, 1905. In awarding the prizes the committee will be governed by these three considerations:

1. Historical accuracy.
2. Manner of treatment.
3. Orthography, grammar, syntax, and punctuation.

Any additional information relative to the competition which may be desired will be cheerfully furnished by the chairman of the committee. The essay which is awarded the first prize will be published in full, with the name of the author, in the public press.

THOMAS M. ANDERSON, Chairman,
B. B. BEEKMAN, Portland.
W. H. CHADIS, Portland
D. D. CLARKE, Portland.
F. S. DUNN, Eugene, Oregon.

SOIL OF THE BEND REGION.

Will Produce Excellent Fruit and Other Farm Crops.

No subject is perhaps as frequently discussed in Bend as the character and possibilities of the land under the Pilot Butte and Central Oregon canals. Some of this land will be farmed by settlers during the coming season and the crops that grown will give a fair idea of their value for agricultural purposes. This soil will no doubt prove as productive as other land cultivated in Crook county. Volcanic soil has for a long time been known to be fertile and we may therefore expect ours to yield good crops.

Our soil is finely pulverized and of excellent texture. It does not puddle nor bake but is easily worked and will readily lend itself to cultural treatment for the conservation of soil moisture. It seems to be of the same character to a considerable depth and the subsoil does not differ from that on the surface.

Determinations of the chemical composition of soils enables one further to judge of their value as they show what amounts of the different plant foods are present. We know of only two analyses of soil from Crook county, viz: A sample from Cross Keys and another from Mr. Mutzig's land on the west side of the Deschutes river. The rock on and about Mr. Mutzig's place is the same as that occurring on the plateau extending from Bend and Cline Falls to Powell Buttes. Since the soil has very obviously been derived from this rock we are safe in concluding that the sample analyzed is fairly representative of the soil on this plain. The analysis referred to shows that the soil contains most of the essential mineral constituents of plant food in sufficient quantity. It is especially rich in potash and is well supplied with lime. It is poor in phosphoric acid but the amount present is not regarded as insufficient in a virgin soil. Like the soils of most plains and plateaus in the west it is deficient in humus or decayed organic matter. This defect can readily be remedied by the use of manure and by cropping the land with alfalfa, clover and other legumes.

With intelligent use of water and proper crop rotation to preserve the fertility of the soil we believe that these lands can be farmed with profit. This soil will probably produce an excellent quality of fruit and as it is rich in potash we may expect plums, cherries and prunes to do well here. ELIAS NASON.

Will Crook County Have an Exhibit at The Fair?

In order that the people may meet and decide as to whether they desire to have the resources of Crook county exploited at the Lewis and Clark fair in 1905 I hereby call a meeting of the people of this county to meet at the Court House in Prineville, Oregon, December 24, 1904, at 10 o'clock a. m. I would suggest that each precinct hold a meeting and send as many representatives to this meeting as possible, and also select someone in each precinct to receive and collect exhibits, and recommend their name to the meeting here Dec. 24, 1904.

Hoping that the people of this county will take an active interest in this matter, I remain

W. A. BELL,
Judge Crook County, Oregon.

The News of Laidlaw.

LAIDLAW, DEC. 14.—T. G. Mulkey, of Moscow, Idaho, who owns 80 acres of land two miles southwest of town is stopping at Long's hotel and will remain for a few weeks. He is making arrangements for fencing and clearing his land.

Daniel Greenbalgh, of Pullman, Wash., was in town this week getting supplies for his new place near White Bluff.

E. B. James expects his family to arrive from Forest Grove next week. He just received another large lot of goods this week.

The new bank building is up and will soon be enclosed.

Agent J. H. Cook expects to spend Christmas with his family in Portland. He will be away for a few weeks.

Colonel F. Smith has gone to Prineville for a few weeks. He is threatened with a round of the grip.

The Laidlaw school was dismissed for one week, while the school building was being enlarged and repaired.