

# THE BEND BULLETIN.

VOL. IV

BEND, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1907.

NO. 4

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BEND, OREGON

## FOR A NEW COUNTY

Action Is Taken to Create One in Western Crook.

GOOD REASONS FOR DIVISION

High-Handed Tactics of County Court Have Brought on Desire for Separation from Prineville.

The rupture has come. The high-handed proceedings carried on by the county court have produced the inevitable result. The people of this section of the county are tired and disgusted with the idea of forever feeding the insatiable maw at Prineville—putting their hard-earned money into a fund that goes to the beautifying of the county seat while appeals for roads, bridges and kindred improvements go unheeded and not a cent is spent thereon; tired of being dictated to by a ring of political hucksters and grafters whose highest ambition seems to be to bleed this section to glorify their favorite city; tired of corruption and graft. Consequently a bill will be introduced at the present session of the legislature praying for the creation of a large portion of Western Crook and a part of Klamath and Lake counties into a new county to be known as Deschutes county. The plans are laid, petitions are being signed and there is a wonderful unanimity of opinion favoring the division. Reports from Salem are very encouraging.

Many Good Reasons.

That the time is ripe for such a division is not disputed. The county court's recent bull-doing tactics in foisting an extravagant court house upon the tax payers for the beautifying of Prineville—regardless of the signed protests of more than 800 citizens—has created a determination to forever be rid of such treatment and in the future conduct their own business and spend their taxes for improvements asked for and needed. Other outrages have only strengthened this determination. Furthermore, the legislature seems favorable to such a move, which is another indication of a ripe time. That brand of politics in which Prineville takes pride is at present strongly discredited at Salem. Legislators are now aiming to more fully serve the people and a bill strongly endorsed and bearing merit on its face is sure of favorable consideration. We have the unanimous endorsement of this whole section and a bill with merit. Furthermore, this move is only for a division and not a taking away. It is not asked that a county seat be moved—only that a new one be created. We do not ask for that which belongs to and is possessed by another, but rather a division of a county which development has made too large for proper transaction of business.

Progress vs. Stagnation.

One of the chief reasons why there should be a division of the county is the difference in the class of people living in and around Prineville and those settling the western portion. For years past the leading occupation of ranchers in the vicinity of Prineville has been stock raising. That is the occupation of their choice. They desire the open range and the absence of railroads, content to let the world wag along in the good old way. This class of citizens have but little in common with the energetic and progressive class of farmers who are settling the Deschutes valley and whose chief occupation is agriculture. There will always be friction between these two classes. Why not then do away with this friction by the division of a county already too large?

A Great Development.

That Western Crook should no longer be forced to go to Prineville to conduct its county business can also be easily shown. The majority of the population of the county

lives in the section to be set aside into a new county. This can be readily shown by a comparison of figures. It is safe to say that Western Crook has close to 4,000 population. It is unjust to ask these people to go so far to pay taxes and conduct court matters. Often now when a man has a good case at law, he is deterred from procuring justice in the courts by the fact that the expense of taking witnesses to Prineville and paying their board is prohibitive.

An additional evidence of the development in Western Crook—which shows the necessity for a new county—is found in the statement that in 1906 the assessed valuation in the county figured \$5,892,307 as against \$83,388 in 1901. This increase has developed largely in Western Crook. Again: In 1901 the total county expenses were \$17,178.45; a year ago, moneys raised for roads and bridges alone was \$17,978.12, more than the total expense in 1901. These figures show development.

Advantages of Division.

The advantages of division are numerous. The D. I. & P. Co. has agreed to donate its building in Bend for a court house for five years without rent. As the location of the county seat at Bend is only temporary for the above mentioned period—after which time it will be permanently located by the people—there will be no money spent for county buildings. All moneys expended will go to legitimate uses in the building of roads, bridges, etc., so badly needed now and more so in the future. At the end of five years property valuation in the new county will undoubtedly be doubled and the county could then well afford to erect buildings. That expense, however, will be saved for five years.

The expenses of the new county can be met with a rate of taxation less than half what will have to be paid for the roll of 1906 under the present policy of beautifying Prineville at the expense of this section. For instance: An assessment of \$3,000,000 for the new county is very conservative. Basing the expenses for the first year on what Crook county's were in 1901, \$16,000 is another very liberal estimate. A rate of six mills would give a revenue of \$18,000. The rate for 1906 for Crook county has been placed at 15 mills. Thus there would be a saving to the tax payers in the new county of \$27,000.

Furthermore, their money would be spent in improving the country. It was stated above that a year ago \$17,978.12 was raised for roads and bridges. Hardly a cent of this was spent in Western Crook. The county court turned down every road petition that came before it. Roads in this section were to far from Prineville to merit attention. Such treatment would be a thing of the past under a new county, and roads and bridges would be built.

Tax Robbery.

The readers of the Bulletin are familiar with the methods employed by the county court to railroad through contracts for a new court house in a secret and underhand manner; are also familiar with that court's high-handed and haughty refusal to consider the protests of 800 taxpayers, stating that the expressed wishes of the county's taxpayers was not a matter worthy of consideration. They are also familiar with the fact that property values have been increased so that the assessment for 1906 is \$5,892,307 as against \$2,391,392 for 1905. The attempt to blind the people was made by cutting the rate from 21 mills to 15 mills. In 1905 with a rate of 21 mills \$50,219.23 was raised; for 1906 with a rate of 15 mills \$88,384.69 will result; or \$38,165.46 in excess of the 1905 levy. This is the way taxes are reduced and a new court house erected.

The increase in valuation comes largely in an arbitrary increase in property hereabouts. For example: One of Prineville's leading stores is assessed at about the same as stock of goods at Sisters. A Bend residence is classed at \$1,250. The residence and stock of merchandise

(Continued on page 5.)

## DITCH LAND GOES UP

Price for 40 Irrigable Acres Raised to \$700.

TUMALO FAVORS A DIVISION

Correspondent Reports That in Spite of Deep Snow Cattle Are Doing Well—Powell Buttes Notes.

REDMOND, Jan. 14.—It is understood that the D. I. & P. company has been given power by the state land board to raise the price of their land, the augmented price being \$100 for a forty plus \$15 for each and every irrigable acre. This makes the price of a full forty, or one all of which is irrigable, \$700, an increase of \$110 over the old price. Some who wish to convert their holdings into cash are very much pleased over this, but some of us who are here to stay feel that our land is worth just what it will produce and that this move adds nothing whatever to our wealth. It may have a tendency to hasten the settlement of the segregation and if it does we feel that it is a good thing both for us and for those who are coming.

Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor returned last week from their Portland trip. Vic found his fireplace at the office frozen. He called it a potato but it looked more like a fireplace.

And still the severe weather continues and because of that a general dearth of news.

We notice F. C. Rowlee of Bend again in our midst and presume that well drilling will soon begin again. Mr. Muma was expected to bring in more casing on this trip. He has been gone two weeks now.

At the Settlers' Association Saturday night we had talks by G. Springer of Culver, Max Luedemann of Madras, Kirk Whited of Laidlaw and others. Their talks were enjoyed by all and a cordial invitation is extended for them to come again. We hope that others who see these notes will take occasion to drop in on us occasionally and give us a word of greeting, advice, cheer or criticism as the case may be.

C. R. McLain's ditch outfit has broken camp and returned to Redmond. It looked quite natural to see the old cook shack sitting out back of the commissary once more. Some of the men, we understand, will strike for the government irrigation project at Umatilla. Work here will necessarily be closed down until open weather comes again.

All who are interested in fine hogs are invited to stop any time when passing and see one we received a few days ago from one of the best and best known breeders of Poland Chinas of eastern Nebraska. He is certainly a fine animal and although it was 13 days from the time he was shipped until he was put into the pen he came through looking fine. We will say this for the different express companies they have taken good care of him. G. Springer of the Haystack country stopped this morning to have a look at him and our Black Langshans, being interested in fine stock himself.

W. J. Buckley and family spent a day or two in Bend and vicinity.

John Trisler has bought the Ward forty and is making arrangements to crop 15 acres or more of it this year.

We hear that the new stages on the B. M. S. stage line are models of comfort, elegance and luxury. We are glad to see the line established and wish its promoters much success.

And now comes more talk of county division: We smelled a rumor in the air but could not get hold of anything tangible. With such a large county and such rapid development it is bound to come sooner or later. It may be that the time is ripe now.

We hope it will quit storming or The Bulletin may have to get out a supplement.

**TUMALO FAVORS IT.**

Is Much Pleased at the Prospect of County Division.

TUMALO, Jan. 15.—There is a report that there is a petition out for the division of Crook county. We hope it is true. Let the good work go on and let every good, industrious citizen of West-

ern Crook sign it and help to tear up the cozy nest and quit stall feeding the court house ring at Prineville we are now obliged to trust our county affairs with. Why not make a county of our own, and run it ourselves and let Prineville run theirs? (We are only fattening the purses and profiting them while we must submit to their say and be "THE LITTLE BOY.") Let us put a stop to it. How? By simply putting our shoulders together and pulling together and vote them clear out of our class. If we can not have justice as it is let us have it some other way. HERE'S A VOTE TO DIVIDE THE COUNTY.

We have been having some cold weather during the past week. This morning thermometers in this part varied very much. At Hightower & Smith Co.'s mill it was 30 below zero, at I. E. Wimer's 18 below, at Tumalo postoffice 22 below, and at J. H. Edwards' 20 below. Nevertheless, everyone is in good spirits and cattle are doing exceedingly well as the snow is light and dry and they have good feed and bedding grounds. The snow covers the fall sown grain and we have plenty of fuel so there is nothing to kick about.

John Edwards passed through here going to Bend today.

F. F. and Claude Smith returned Friday from a business trip to Portland. They report heavy storms on the Columbia river while they were down there.

Several teams have been hauling sawdust to Laidlaw the past few days to be used by the Laidlaw Ice Co.

Geo. W. Wimer & Sons are storing ice for the coming summer, and in fact everyone is who has a pond to freeze ice on.

We are glad to state that Mrs. J. H. Edwards is so much improved as to be able to be up again.

**Powell Buttes Items.**

Tuesday's climate rather cool for summer clothing.

C. H. Ellis is expecting some friends who want land with some improvements. E. R. Halderman will sell them his land. He says he only wants \$50 per acre with sagebrush off, not plowed.

Perry Jams is talking of importing a fine horse of over 2,000 lbs. Mr. Jams is the brother of the noted Frank Jams, the French horse importer. Last August it took a full special train to bring his horses to his Kansas home.

E. R. Halderman and John Jones are cutting fence posts. Look out for fences now.

Jim Turner is very industrious these days, filing saws out of doors in zero weather and with a lame tooth at that.

When you are looking over so-called pure-bred Barred Plymouth Rock hens, take a side glance at a small flock of one dozen owned by C. H. Ellis, Powell Buttes.

Moses Niswonger is about to lose a valuable Short Horn heifer, which ate a sack of grain. We are informed Mr. Niswonger had been offered two Jersey cows for her.

E. A. Bussett is on the sick list, he having had some teeth pulled and taking cold.

P. N. Turner is fattening. We think he is about ready for market, but not wishing to be sold cheap—matrimonial market.

**More Railroad Activity.**

It is reported here that all the available engineers in the employ of the Harriman lines in Idaho have been transferred to the central Oregon line of survey and now several crews are working between here and Vale, says the Burns Times-Herald.

Several of the head men have been in Burns the past week conferring with Chief Engineer Waggoner, but they are giving out nothing for publication. However everything indicates the immediate construction of the line across the state as soon as spring opens.

The most favorable indication is the fact the survey is being pushed as rapidly as possible and that certainly means business.

**Notice.**

Strayed—From my ranch one roan cow four years old, and one roan stag five years old, marked with underhalf crop in right ear, and crop off left, branded with shoe on left hip. Any one knowing their whereabouts please notify Chas. H. Spang, Laidlaw, Ore.

### PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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