

**THE BEND BULLETIN**

"For every man a square deal, no less and no more."

CHARLES D. ROWE, EDITOR

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**  
 One year \$1.50  
 Six months .75  
 Three months .40  
 (Invariably in advance.)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1907.

**GATHERED FAR AND NEAR.**

County court was in session last week.

A case of small pox is reported at Klamath Falls.

A new county bridge is being built over Trout creek at Bolter's place.

The school census at Silver Lake shows that there are 130 children who draw school money in that district.

Mrs. A. J. Harter of Laidlaw, who has been ill for several months, has been taken to Spokane for special treatment.

Sufficient water for all ranch purposes has been struck in the N. H. Pinkerton well on Agency Plains at a depth of 102 feet.

A religious census of Prineville will be taken Saturday, Dec. 14. Some 30 or more workers have been secured for the work. These will go in twos and visit the territory assigned them. In this way the whole city will be taken in one afternoon.

Chas. Low has just returned from Ontario and he says the railroad situation looks good from that end. He says the O. R. & N. has just completed a \$25,000 depot and that as soon as spring opens up they expect to extend west from Vale.—Laidlaw Chronicle.

The tules over at Tule lake are on fire and Tuesday evening the smoke hung in the horizon in such a way that the light from the burning tules reflected in the sky, and the fire was plainly visible in Lakeview, 100 miles away, and over a mountain.—Lakeview Examiner.

Genial and Jolly Joe Taggart came down from Rosland last Saturday and spent the evening with the boys at this place, leaving next morning for his home. Every one was glad to see Mr. Taggart, and the only regret expressed was, his stay was too short.—Silver Lake Leader.

The three railroad surveying crews that have been working in the vicinity of Lakeview all summer—60 men in all—have completed the surveys and have been discharged, all excepting the office force which will remain at Lakeview. The Examiner says: "There now remains nothing for the railroad company to do but commence construction work on the new routes."

Portland capitalists have bought a power site on the Deschutes seven miles from Moro, and will install a power plant to furnish electricity to the towns of Wasco, Moro and Grass Valley. At present all mills and small factories in Sherman county are forced to use either wood or gasoline to generate power, which is a heavy expense. The new power will aid greatly in the development of Sherman county.

A great whirlpool has formed in Tule lake in Klamath county which, it is believed, has been caused by the bottom dropping out, thus forming an underground drainage for the lake. Already the lake has fallen two feet and it will probably be entirely drained. If such proves to be the case it will bring under cultivation 200 square miles of the richest agricultural land in the world, according to Frank Adams of Klamath Falls. It will also save the government much work, as the draining of this lake was to be done by the reclamation service in connection with the Klamath Falls project.

The Prineville papers state that the dedication of the new M. E. church at that place on Sunday, Dec. 1, was an event that will long be remembered in Prineville. During the day \$1,500 was raised which was needed to liquidate all indebtedness. At the evening service the building caught fire and a stampede of the large crowd in attendance followed. The Journal said: "While Mr. Skipworth was read-

ing the scripture, smoke began to come through the floor of the assembly room and a stampede was made for the doors. Excepting that one woman fainted and others were badly frightened no harm was done by the rush. An alarm was turned in and the department responded; but the fire had been subdued by several buckets of water. The joists above the furnace had caught and were blazing."

**COMMENT BY OTHER PAPERS.**

**Is This the Test of Efficiency?**

Oregon has four able representatives in congress—just how able will be decided by what they do, or honestly attempt to do for the state during their incumbency of office. And differences about the bestowing of public favors to get political patrons will scarcely be considered of vital importance when the people sum up the result of their labors. Oregon is justly entitled to favorable consideration at the hands of the national government, and if our representatives combine and go after it with determination, no doubt much lasting benefit will follow.

**Fighting the Saloons.**

The saloon at this place was wide open all day last Sunday and business was good. Three drunken men were plainly visible to our citizens during the day. No attention was paid to the provisions in their bond in which they bind themselves not to sell intoxicating liquors on Sunday, or to a man in an intoxicated condition. We have a wide open town here at Silver Lake, and would suggest to our honorable county court that in case those who are now petitioning for a saloon at this place, and which petition will be presented to your honorable body at the January term, be successful in getting their licenses granted, that no bond be required of them, as the requirements of saloon keepers' bonds are never lived up to by the applicant nor do they intend to when they give them unless forced to do so. Requiring bonds of a saloon keeper is a farce unless we have someone in authority who will order and command them to be obeyed.

**Decrease in Tax Rate is a Myth.**

In spite of the fact that the tax roll has tripled in the last four years, property owners in this section of the county are paying more taxes in proportion now than they did four years ago, and it is against this unfair and unequal burden of taxation that vigorous protest has been filed by this end of the county on numerous occasions during the past year.

As an instance of the methods employed by the present county administration, a decrease in the tax rate was promised last year, that is on the 1906 tax roll, which amounted to approximately \$6,000,000. The tax rate was reduced from 21 mills to 15 mills, but at the same time valuations were increased in Western Crook to such an extent that property owners in this end of the county found themselves compelled to pay a heavier tax this year than on the same property in the previous year. For example, in the previous year farm land was assessed at \$4 an acre and the tax

levy was 21 mills. This year the value was increased to \$6 in the assessment, and even at the lower tax levy of 15 mills the rate of taxation was higher per acre than on the previous year.

**Value of Bend Property.**

The assessor's tax roll shows that within the incorporation of Bend there is property valued at \$72,000. In Prineville the value of assessable property is \$445,317. The value of all property in Crook county totals about \$7,000,000. In 1903 it was \$2,300,000. The Journal says that "the amount of timber lands that are passing to patent this year will increase the amount of assessable property before the first of March next perhaps \$1,000,000."

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