

CIRCUIT COURT AND OTHER COUNTY SEAT DOINGS

JURY'S REPORT IS OUTLINED

APPROVES COUNTY AUTO PURCHASE

Recommendations Are Made For Jail Improvements and For Cruise of Timber For "Practicable Estimates at the Best Prices."

PRINEVILLE, May 16.—The following is practically the entire text of the grand jury's report to Judge Bradshaw:

"We have examined the books and offices of the various county officials and while our time is so limited that we are unable to pass on the correctness of the accounts, we find that as far as we are able to judge, the offices are being systematically conducted and everything appears to be done carefully and with due regard for the law.

"The county property we find to be in good condition and being properly cared for."

"Furthermore, as there will be three terms of court in Crook county hereafter, we feel that the present salary of the janitor is insufficient for his present and future services and we recommend that his salary be increased to \$90 per month.

"As crime in Crook county is apparently increasing, taxing the accommodations of the county jail to its utmost capacity, we recommend that certain improvements to the jail be made, namely:

"That toilet and other conveniences be installed in the female ward, including a cell, as since January 1, 1912, there have been four arrests of women, necessitating the keeping of one and sometimes two women in jail for an indefinite period.

"That a vestibule be built leading from the sheriff's office to the jail entrance, cutting off communication with the outside and giving protection to the jailor and officers and preventing prisoners from getting outside assistance unknown to the sheriff's office; this improvement could be made of strong netting or of sheet iron and in our opinion is an emergency that should at once be attended to.

"Two steel cells should be added to the tier already in place in the main jail, which in our opinion can so be done without changing the entrance to the cells now installed and leaving a most modern appearance and better accommodations for prisoners who must be locked up at night."

"We have briefly considered the feasibility of a timber cruise for the purpose of getting at a just and equitable basis for assessing the timber of the county and we unanimously recommend that the county proceed to have the timber cruised under such conditions that will give the county the best practicable estimates at the best prices.

"We have furthermore examined into the action of the county court in purchasing an automobile for official business. Our investigations show that the purchase will ultimately be a saving financially to the county and from an economical standpoint we heartily endorse the purchase.

"We have also examined the culvert recently replaced by the ditch company at the south end of the steel bridge across the Crooked river near Prineville and condemn it as being a poor piece of work and we hereby call the attention of the county court thereto.

"In conclusion we wish to call to the attention of the juvenile court the condition of the family of C. L. Reames and respectfully desire that the closest attention be given to a condition there that is grave and merits the closest scrutiny of those who are experienced in the handling of similar problems.

"Having concluded our labors we respectfully ask to be discharged.

"J. W. Livingston, foreman; Isaac Martin, Jerry Achey, J. W. Barry, C. R. Henry, Fisher C. Logan, C. P. Becker."

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.

I have not been able to meet a few people and get from them statements of their personal property for taxation. As I have been obliged to return to Prineville, I hereby ask such persons as I have overlooked to take up the matter at once with J. N. Hunter.

Z. M. BROWN,
Deputy Assessor.

EXPERIENCED OPTICIAN COMING

Dr. Kenneth T. Long, optician and refracting specialist, will be in Bend for a period of ten days beginning on May 22. Dr. Long is a competent and experienced optician and will be prepared to make examinations and prescribe and fit glasses. While in Bend he will make his headquarters at the office of Dr. U. C. Coe and appointments may be made with Dr. Coe.—Adv.

NO TRESPASS SIGNS MAKE FUN

JUDICIAL DIGNITY IS INJURED

When Grand Jury's Order Checks Official From Customary Use of Court House Lawn, Diplomacy Alone Saves Situation.

PRINEVILLE, May 19.—The county seat, which seems to be acquiring something of a reputation for its good yarns, has another one. This time it concerns the outraged dignity of the judge of Crook county.

After careful sifting of several versions, all more or less touched up, the facts of the matter seem to be that last week the grand jury instructed the courthouse janitor, H. H. Clow, to place signs on the nice green court house lawn forbidding trespass thereon, it appearing that a path was being worn across said greensward.

This Clow did, for his is not to reason why, his but to do and—penraps—die when he's ordered. Now, it appears that the chief offender, the deep-dyed villain who ventured to defame the sacred award, was no less a personage than Judge Springer. And when Judge Springer saw those "No Trespass" signs placed in the way he was wont to tread, all his angry passions rose, and forthwith he went forth to destroy them.

According to some, the judge swiped at 'em viciously with his No. 6 shoe. But as Clow narrates the facts, he simply removed them, method unknown, last Friday eve. When asked why they were taken away, he was quick to explain that he considered them an insult to his judicial dignity, says Clow. Well, somehow the dove of peace came fluttering along about then, and a compromise was effected, whereby Clow agreed not to replace the dignity-offending notices, and in return the judge promised not to walk across the nice grass.

SHERIFF GOES INTO AUTO DEAL

ELKINS' REPORT TO GRAND JURY

Scores Springer Roundly And Maintains That Purchase Will Prove Economical For the County in the Long Run.

PRINEVILLE, May 16.—The opening paragraphs of the sheriff's report to the grand jury are chiefly devoted to recommendations regarding jail improvements.

After making these, Sheriff Elkins continues:

Another matter that has caused some comment, both favorable and otherwise, is the county automobile. This was suggested as a means of reducing the immense cost of transportation of county charges, both criminal and others. Also a means of getting quicker action in the way of apprehending criminals, conveying the county commissioners on their inspection tours of the roads and bridges whether under construction or proposed, and with the idea that at least one-half of the cost would be cut off. Last year the county paid considerable money for transportation at the rate of 25 to 30 cents per mile. This was not unreasonable when it is remembered that the owners of stage or livery cars not only have a good sized piece of money tied up but are entitled to a living and interest on their investment. Up to the present date the county car has made 2275 miles, at an estimated cost of 10 cents per mile, this includes oil, gas and estimated deterioration. It must be remembered that as time passes there will be some increase in maintenance as some repairs will naturally become necessary, but at the same time it was a saving to have a county motor car. The miles already traveled were in the prosecution of criminal work almost entirely, trips being made as far as Westfall in Malheur

COURT RESULTS SHOW ACTIVITY

MANY CASES ARE DEALT WITH

After This Term County Attorney Willard Wirtz Supplants Bell Here. McDaniel's Guilty of Murder in Second Degree, Mother Freed.

(Editorial Correspondence)

PRINEVILLE, May 20.—With the Circuit Court on the last lap of a record session, it becomes apparent that this sitting has proved notable in accomplishment as well as in time consumed.

On the docket the following disposition of criminal cases has occurred: W. L. and V. M. Robertson, up for wholesale larceny of horses shipped from Bend were convicted and have been sentenced to from one to ten years. Roy Clarke, tried with Garret, and defended by V. A. Forbes of Bend, was acquitted. H. F. Jones was convicted of gambling and fined \$150, as reported last week. A. J. Holton pleaded guilty to embezzlement and has not been sentenced yet.

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ceived the same sentence, Alonzo Weaver, who plead guilty to larceny from dwelling, has not yet been sentenced. As he was the principal witness against Messinger, there seems good reason to believe that he will be treated leniently.

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