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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1905.

Into Central Oregon.

It is not the intention of the Chronicle to print each week a lot of unauthenticated "hot air" about the prospective railroads building into this country. One thing is certain however, that several different roads are looking this way and two are known to have surveyors in the field. The following taken from the Oregonian of November 10th, the Harriman side of the case so admirably we publish it:

News that the Harriman system has set aside \$4,160,000 for construction of new lines in the Northwest need not surprise any one, even though extension of it roads has not been the policy of the Harriman people in the past. Other transcontinental lines are reaching out for the traffic that has been built up in Central Oregon, and it is for self-protection that Mr. Harriman proposes to extend his lines into that region. Recent developments in the railroad world, showing that not only the Northern Pacific, but other transcontinental lines, will soon be ready to put feeders into interior Oregon, made it imperative that Harriman must act, and consequently his announcement of the appropriation of over four million dollars for the building of new roads in the Northwest.

Heretofore the Harriman lines have had freight, business of eastern Oregon without going after it. Stockmen of that region have driven their cattle and sheep hundreds of miles to the railroad and then paid all the traffic would fear for transportation to market. Wheat and wool have been hauled out to the railroad in wagons, and since there was only one line within reach, that line got the business as promptly and completely as though roads had extended to interior points. Naturally, Mr. Harriman could see no reason why he should build new roads. Energetic, persevering farmers were developing the country without his assistance, while he collected the freight. Now all this is changed. Other enterprising railroad men have entered the field. The policy of building a road into a new territory only after it has been developed by the hard labor of industrious settlers must give way to the practice of developing new territory by building roads into it.

But, whatever the motives of railroad-builders, and whatever the means by which new roads are secured, the result will be none the less gratifying and beneficial. The irrigated lands of the Deschutes country, the new wheat fields of Agency Plains, the sheep pastures of all Central Oregon, the pine timber of the eastern slope of the Cascades, will all be afforded transportation facilities that will mean increased development. The Willamette Valley will be given a more direct route to the East; Klamath county will be given railroad connection with Portland and all parts of the state will be brought into closer commercial relations. For years the people of Oregon have known of the richness of eastern Oregon and of the traffic that awaited any road that should be constructed into that region. Harriman knew of it also, and is now proceeding to protect himself.

School District 53.

Well knowing that one of the most important things necessary to a new community are good school facilities the Laidlaw Townsite Company took steps early to have a district created here. There being very few settlers in the territory asked for at that time, some obstacles were met with, and it was not until November of last year that 53 was finally put upon the county map. As this was too late in the year to derive any benefit from the county school fund, a

made it necessary that some arrangements be made for school. The Townsite Company very generously denoted the funds and Miss Grace Cook was engaged to teach a three months term beginning with an enrollment of about fifteen pupils, this number was soon increased and at the end of the three months Miss Cook had given such entire satisfaction that a subscription was taken up and the school was continued until in April.

There being urgent need of a school house a public meeting was held on February 28 at this meeting it was decided to post notices calling for a special election to be held on March 29 to vote on bonding the district for \$1500 to build a public school house, this election was regularly held and resulted in a vote as follows: Bond, "no" 10, Bond "yes" 36. Steps were immediately taken to have the bond issue put through but owing to the fact that an assessment of the district was necessary and that a certified copy from the County Assessor accompany the application to bond, the matter has been delayed as the assessor has not as yet been able to complete the roll, however, a point has been reached whereby it is now an assured fact that the district has far more property enrolled than is required for this assessment and the school board are now asking for bids both on material and construction for a two story four room school house, construction of which will be begun at an early date.

The present board which consists of J. C. Tullar, F. E. Dayton and C. M. Mudd have worked earnestly in this matter and deserve the lasting gratitude of everyone interested here.

A Little History.

In some parts of this great country of ours the word IRRIGATION is "dry" and meaningless. The thrifty housewife and the careful home builder water their flower beds and lawns, with never a thought that they are "irrigating". They know full well that the flower beds and lawns would dry up and perish without the life giving water.

A great many persons pass the subject of irrigation without a thought little realizing, or forgetting, if they ever knew, that civilization had its beginning in irrigated countries.

The story of Joseph in Egypt; in fact, the whole Bible is rich in historical facts of the wonders of irrigation, without which there would have been no Greece, no Rome, no China, Egypt or India with their science, art and literature to redeem mankind from barbarism.

All the Kings from Alexander down ruled over irrigated countries. They and their geniuses were only rivaled by the bountiful crops produced by irrigation. From Homer to Socrates, from Virgil to Dante, from King David to Mohammed, from Adam in the Garden of Eden to our Christ by the wayside, All! All! belong to the lands of the Niles and Euphrates. The same is true of India, Arabia, for all ages, teeming with vast populations, supported entirely by the products of irrigation. In brief, but for irrigation there would be but little civilization or history. Washinton Irving has said in history there were never so many people, so many great cities as existed in the Far East when the Mohammed uprising began and destroyed one-half of the world's civilization. These great cities with their millions of population would not have existed were it not for the olive and kindred products of irrigated lands.

Lake. The first season to live on game and fish, then came the first crops of grain, and then the fruits, and today it is one of the garden spots of the new world. Without irrigation the people could not have existed. That old patriarch simply followed out the teachings of the ancients in locating their city in or on the edge of an irrigated district.—Ex.

Why is it that when any petition from the "Deschutes Country" is presented to the County Court it is invariably returned for correction or continued. At the last session of the Court a petition was presented asking that a voting precinct be created at Laidlaw. This petition was drawn up by one of the best attorneys in Prineville and was certainly correct in that respect. It was also signed here by about 75 legal voters. It was presented to the Court in due time and all requirements carefully followed, yet as is the usual case it met the same fate as other petitions of a similar nature and was "continued."

We realize, of course, that the rapid development now going on in this locality makes it imperative that the Court act in new matters with deliberation for the granting of every petition presented would soon create serious complications but, on the other hand when a matter like this which has been thoroughly gone over by those interested and everything has been regular there certainly can be no good excuse why it should be held up.

Laidlaw will have at the spring elections a voting population of about 125 and while the most of them have not been born and raised in Crook county yet they are entitled to some consideration from the Court.

Crook county today offers opportunities that cannot be excelled if equalled in the west not alone is there chances for investment of money with an assurance of ample returns, but any one who has the inclination even without capital, if they have the energy and push necessary can make an unequalled success, yet conditions are not abnormal and there is no boom but a healthy growth is steadily going on all over the county and especially in what in years gone by was known as the desert, and yet this development is only in its infancy for the next three years will see the population doubled with real estate values far above what it now commands.

Now that the sale of Peruna and kindred preparations is to be taxed by Uncle Sam there will be no further argument as to their respective curative powers, and after December 1st these medicines will be taken as a "smile" and not with a frown.

The "strenuousness" of running a country weekly without scissors or exchanges is something that in time would ruin a man's health.

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