

LIDLAW CHRONICLE

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W. P. MYERS, Editor. STELLA D. MYERS, Business Mgr

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CROOK COUNTY IN GENERAL;
LAIDLAW AND THE IRRIGATED DISTRICT IN PARTICULAR.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1908.

REPUBLICAN TICKET.

For President, WILLIAM H. TAFT, Of Ohio.
For Vice-President, JAMES S. SHERMAN, Of New York.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

J. D. LEE, of Multnomah County,
F. J. MILLER, of Linn County,
A. C. MARSTERS, of Douglass County,
R. R. BUTLER, of Gilliam County.

Wonder what has become of Seabury's Directory of Crook County. Guess it 'died a bawwin' like his Inter-Mountain Socialist.

Next to railroads are wagon roads in the development of a new country. The railroads are coming and we should have good wagon roads radiating over all parts of the county to meet them so as to enable the farmers to deliver their produce to the markets in the most speedy and economical manner. Our County Court has been and is doing well in the matter of roads; they are granting and opening up new ones where at all practicable; they are spending much money in road improvement, bridge building and other necessary road work. All this is commendable but the fact should not be overlooked in road building that the bad pieces of road are the ones that need care in the building.

In this county the roads must of necessity cross many rocky ledges and these, as well as boulders, stumps etc. must be removed from the road bed leaving big holes to be filled. When these holes are filled with dirt it leaves a soft spot in the road bed. The drawing of heavy loads over such places causes them to cut out and form dangerous chucks. It takes time and money to keep repairing these places and they are constantly causing trouble to those who have heavy loads to draw over the roads.

This defect in our roads can be easily overcome by the purchase and use of a rock chrusher for the County. The law allows the purchase of two chrushers for each county, and we believe that the County Court could make no more judicious an expenditure than in the purchase of these machines. By its use the holes and the soft places caused by the removal of rocks, stumps, and ledges could be easily, quickly and cheaply filled with crushed rock and the covering of earth would then have a firm foundation so that the chucks or ruts would be avoided

and Crook county would soon have the finest roads in the State. Let's have a rock chrusher and good roads!

In starting an irrigated tract nothing counts but experience. You can talk and explain to beginners in the irrigation field until the cows come home; but they know, know for sure, that if ten or twenty inches of water during the season will produce good results, then twenty or forty inches will be doubly as good, and then they go on to failure until they wake up and get down to moderation.

—Irrigator.

The above is only one of many who have made irrigation a study who say that failure in an irrigation section just opening up is usually the result of injudicious use of water. The cry usually goes up, according to those who have made it a study, that there is an insufficiency of water; that crops do not make the yields they should because enough water has not been available etc. Experience, however, has proven the reverse to be true and after the irrigationist has gained wisdom through experience he looks back upon those days and sees where he had water enough and to spare for two acres but he used it all on one.

Water in the arid region is a precious article, an article to be used with wisdom and economy that it may cause the parched earth to give up its fruits in bounteous quantities. No man has a right, legally or morally, to use more water than he needs to actually put to a beneficial use. When he does so he is using that which does not belong to him but by right belongs to another, to the one who can and will put it to a beneficial use. To be sure, the laws of Oregon are meager and inadequate for the proper control of the water supply and its proper distribution but such laws as we have are ruthlessly disobeyed and in many instances an advantage is sought to be taken by some who say

Lodges



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Laidlaw.

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"We have no irrigation law in Oregon." Those who make such claim will learn to their sorrow, some fine day, that Oregon has some water laws and some very stringent ones at that and the ruthless destruction of property, the forceable taking of water without color of right is not tolerated either by the statute or the courts.

J. N. B. GERKING,
Soleman.

W. P. MYERS,
Attorney.

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