

The Madras Pioneer.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1905

PURCHASING POWER OF FARMERS

The value of American farm products this year is more than three billion dollars, or, according to the latest government report, \$3,200,000,000. We have become accustomed to reckon wealth in six and eight figures; but this vast sum is beyond the power of the average mind to comprehend.

Based on the figures of the last report made by the government, the value of the corn crop to the farmers of the country at the prevailing prices will be this year about \$885,000,000. This is to be compared with \$952,800,000 value to the farmers last year from their corn, \$1,017,000,000 in 1902, and \$921,500,000 in 1901.

Much has been said and printed about the failure of the wheat crop this year. The yield was under that first expected, and under the yields of recent years. But the extraordinary high prices for wheat prevailing this fall have made the crop probably the most valuable in the history of the country to the farmers.

The cotton crop of the present year is close to the best in size and quality ever produced in this country. The speculation in cotton last year, however, made an extremely high range of prices for the staple, and probably put the total value of last year's crop to the planters at a higher figure than will be realized for the crop this season.

The hay crop is one of the most valuable that the farmers of the country raise, although little is heard of it and its vicissitudes during the growing season. This year the hay crop is not up to the average of former years. The total value of the crop is estimated at \$550,000,000, as compared with \$56,300,000 in 1903, \$542,000,000 in 1902, and \$506,100,000 in 1901.

The potato crop this year is one of the best, if not the best in the history of the country, and although the price per bushel is considerably less than that prevailing last year, the remuneration to the farmers will be larger. There is indicated a total value of the potato crop of \$158,000,000, as compared with \$151,000,000 last year, \$134,100,000 in 1902, and \$143,800,000 in 1901.

The oat, rye, barley and buckwheat crops are excellent this year and prices are good. The yield to the farmers this fall are figured at a total of \$356,000,000 for the four crops, as compared with \$352,200,000

last year, \$300,000,000 in 1902, and \$368,700,000 in 1901.

Combined, the crops of the country this year represent a value to the farmers, at the prevailing prices, larger than ever before in the history of the country. The grand total of the yield of the harvests this fall is estimated at \$3,200,000,000. Last year records were \$3,073,000,000. In 1902 the harvest was worth \$2,987,000,000. In 1901 the yield to the farmers was \$2,845,000,000.

With the money from the sale of these crops our farmers could pay off the national debts of America and England, build a new navy twice as large as the one we now have, then buy for cash every railroad in the United States, and have more dollars left than a hundred men could count in an average lifetime.

No other class of people on earth has a purchasing power so great as that of the American farmer. Farmers are building more new homes and are enjoying greater prosperity and happiness than any other class of people. Our farmers, by co-operating to buy their food, clothing, farm implements and other necessities, could wipe all of the monopolistic and criminal trusts out of existence. By working together our farmers could positively buy everything they need at very nearly their own prices, and by operating their own stores, mills and factories would save the enormous profits that go to enrich the jobber, the wholesale and retail dealer.

LITERARY FOR MADRAS.

A number of young people met at the Isham home last Saturday evening to discuss the advisability of starting a literary society in town. Thus the first steps have been taken toward supplying a long felt want. Literary societies have been organized in several rural schools, but Madras is only now waking from its slumber.

The Madras society will meet again Friday evening, February 3, in the school house. A constitution and by-laws will then be adopted and officers elected.

The evening's entertainment will consist of musical selections and a debate, the question being "Resolved, That Nature is More Attractive to the Human Eye than the Works of Man."

Affirmative—Prof. P. C. Kulton, Glenn Loucks, Jessie Isham, Maud Phillips, Tice Loucks, Jr., James R. Magnus.

Negative—George Mayer, Ed Mason, Max Wilson, Mary Alberta Jennings, Kyle Loucks, Ida Phillips.

No special action has as yet been taken on county division. It is probable that a deadlock will ensue.

Sherman county has contributed \$2,000 toward the construction of the portage road.

Oregon apples sell in the Boston market for sixty or seventy-five cents a dozen—a higher price than is asked for good oranges in the same market. The reason is that they are carefully selected and carefully packed. The fact and the reason are commended "to whom it may concern."

W. J. Bryan attended the inauguration of Governor Folk, of Missouri. On invitation he addressed the Legislature and advocated municipal ownership of public institutions. He declared that if Roosevelt is in earnest in his desire to curb the power of railroads he will lead a strenuous life for the next four years.

WILLOW CREEK ITEMS.

John Lewis and Harry Pitzer have leased a wood saw from Stuart Bros. and are now engaged in sawing wood. Mr. and Mrs. Vinyard, who have been living in the Maling house this winter, expect to move to their home-stand near Mud Springs about February 1st.

Warren Brown visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mansel Wheeler last Sunday.

We have not yet visited the new saw mill of Hawkins Bros., but, judging from the amount of noise made by the whistle every day, we think they have certainly begun work.

L. H. Hamilton and Sam Sprinkle spent Friday and Saturday in Prineville.

The dance given last Friday at the hall was well attended. Quite a number from Lamonta were present. The supper given by Mrs. Joslin was said to be one of the best ever given. The oyster soup was relished by everyone present.

Morris Van Houten, of Haystack, was here on business one day last week.

Clinton Wasmir, of Whitman Co., Wash., spent a few days in this vicinity last week visiting friends and relatives.

Walter Newbill and wife, who have been visiting friends and relatives in the State of Washington, returned home last Friday.

W. E. Willis has a new graphophone in his store now, and is always ready to entertain his customers. This is one of the best instruments of the kind we have ever heard.

Mr. Buchanan returned from Shaniko with a load of freight one day last week.

Henry Montgomery and Porter Quinn have been busily engaged for the past ten days sawing wood with the Quinn wood saw.

Our snow disappeared slowly until last Sunday evening, when a steady rain began to fall and by morning several bare spots were to be seen on the hills. Andy.

"ARE BACHELORS HAPPY?"

The Mountain View Literary and Debating Society met on Saturday evening, and discussed the question, "Resolved, That Capital Punishment Should be Abolished." The judges decided in favor of the negative. Those speaking on the affirmative were: Wesley Hill, R. Gard, J. L. Gard, H. B. Meeker and L. E. Baker. On the negative were: H. W. Gard, M. O. Gard, Byron Meeker, Dosa Mounce and J. H. Jackson.

After the debate a fine literary program was rendered, in which Francis Ortman, Carrie Ortman, Claud Ramsey, Byron Meeker, Dosa Mounce, J. L. Gard and R. Gard took a creditable part. "Resolved, That a Bachelor Lives a Happier Life Than a Married Man" is the question for the next debate. Come out, good folks, and hear C. Robertson, Billie Hanson and Billie Brownhill extol the happiness of bachelor life, and Claud Ramsey, A. Parkey and L. E. Baker enlarge on the beauties of married life. G.

PETITION FOR LICENSE.

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Crook County. In the matter of the application of S. L. Willis and H. W. Hamilton for a license to sell spirits, malt and vinous liquors and hard cider in less quantities than one gallon.

To the Honorable County Court of the State of Oregon for Crook County: We, the undersigned, being a majority of the legal voters of Kutchah Precinct, Crook county, Oregon, would most respectfully petition that a license be granted by your Honorable Court to S. L. Willis and H. W. Hamilton to sell spirits, malt and vinous liquors and hard cider in less quantities than one gallon in the Precinct of Kutchah, Crook county, Oregon for the term of six months from the granting of the said petition.

Kutchah Precinct, Crook County, Oregon, January 25, 1905.

John A. Palmehn, A. Eagles, Jas. R. Magnus, S. E. Gray, John McTaggart, T. J. Malloy, L. H. Cochlin, J. W. Jackson, J. N. Tunstall, W. A. Patten, John Mayer, Frank J. Brooks, Charles McKelroy, William McKelroy, Fred Davis, T. M. Burden, D. B. Burden, W. F. Fields, J. H. Lockard, L. Volbrath, A. H. Parkey, W. K. Rutter, M. L. Loucks, Jim M. Mayer, T. W. Jones, C. S. Cowles, C. F. Delano, C. S. Banta, Charles Kirk, G. M. Gard, Ira Barber, F. Rodman, F. C. Osborn, F. M. Loveland, John Isham, Don P. Rea, R. T. Jones, C. G. Ramsey, Andrew Larsen, James Lee, I. H. Lee, N. S. Jennings, Ode Barton, H. K. Nelson, S. F. Robertson, H. E. Jacobs, Frank Whitney, Geo. R. Loucks, L. E. Baker, Budd McCaskey, Wm. Coakley, F. G. Hutchinson, C. E. Hayes, F. G. Garney, J. C. Rich, J. R. Campbell, J. F. Chasch, Jr., C. K. Loucks, W. H. Ramsey, J. J. Chilcote, T. H. Tucker, H. M. Gardner, J. C. Rothman, Walter Arney, J. C. Trotter, W. Hanson, J. P. Hahn, Fred Gutendorf, Ernest V. Doty, B. C. Dove, S. P. Leelling, J. A. Arney, G. V. Dillon, L. Evick, John Dillon, Peter Kilberg, Miles Fox, C. C. Fox, Charles Pinsky, O. L. Hoffield, Geo. W. White, E. H. Young, J. A. Young, Henry Sachs, Eugene Williams, S. V. Richardson, Charles Dillon, W. H. Stouffer, James Williams, T. E. Higginbotham, A. Blanchet.

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, the 13th day of March, 1905, the undersigned will apply to the Honorable County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Crook for issuance of the license mentioned in the foregoing petition.

WILLIS & HAMILTON, Applicant.

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Lela Camp, Royal Neighbors of A.—Meets every second and fourth Friday of each month at 8 p. m. M. E. Snook, Oracle, L. M. Hahn, Recorder. Visiting neighbors welcome.

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