

The Madras Pioneer.

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THURSDAY.....FEBRUARY 16, 1905

COUNTY SEAT ITEMS.

Dennis McCole, of Madras, made our city a visit the first of the week. While in Mr. McCole filed on a homestead in the Madras country.

Jake Stroud and son, Frank, were in town from their ranches near Lamonia the first of the week.

Last Saturday the United States Marshal subpoenaed about 30 persons from this city and vicinity to appear before the United States Grand Jury.

Ed Kutcher was in our city several days last week from his ranch near Madras.

Daniel and Pat Hastings, of Kutcher Precinct, were business visitors in this city several days last week.

J. A. Allen, of Hay Creek, spent several days in our city last week attending to business affairs.

Teacher's Examination is being held this week by Superintendent Dinwiddie. There are a number of teachers in attendance.

W. R. Cook, of Haystack, is in attendance at the Teacher's Examination this week as an examiner.

Miss Ketchum, of Haystack, spent several days in our city this week attending the Teacher's Examination.

Sheriff C. Sam. Smith returned last week from Salem, where he had been for the last month working against the formation of Jefferson county.

A petition was circulated among the taxpayers of this city last Wednesday, praying the County Court to allow the County Clerk an extra deputy, his salary to be paid by the county. This allowance is very much needed as the work of the Clerk's office is fast growing and far exceeds the ability of one person. Heretofore the court has paid no deputy hire.

Walter Ruble, of Haystack, was a visitor in our city several days the first of the week.

County Clerk J. J. Smith is again in his office and assuming his duties, which have been kept up during his six weeks illness by his deputy, Miss Ethel Liggett.

J. L. McCulloch has the work of finishing copying and extending the 1904 tax roll, the work being left by the death of L. N. Liggett.

John E. Edwards has assumed the duties of deputy sheriff, which was left vacant by the death of L. N. Liggett.

On account of absence of Judge Bell no business was transacted in either the Probate or County courts this month.

Jack Frost made his appearance last Friday and Saturday nights. The thermometer registered 20 degrees below zero both nights. This is the coldest weather that has been known in this country, and especially in prineville, for many years. The young people made good their time Saturday and Sunday skating on the Ochoco, which was frozen over, the first time for many years. Dot.

SELECTING HIGH-GRADE SEED

"Like begets like." Sow poor seeds—and reap poor harvests. Small, shrunken grain seeds produce small quantities of inferior grain. "Scrub" seed potatoes beget a scrub crop. Ordinary seed corn produces only ordinary harvest. And so on, right through the list. Even strawberry plants and fruit tree scions or buds are the better for a careful and judicious selection.

Every farmer should aim to improve the strain of seed used on the farm—to "breed up" his field seed as he now breeds up his live stock. And the key-note of either process, is: **SELECTION!**

Take wheat, as an example. Many farmers will sow almost any kind of fairly good wheat, provided it be clean. They make no effort to select the individual grains or to breed up a better-producing strain of seed. Occasionally, perhaps, they buy "new seed" from a distance, and argue that such a course offsets the yearly deterioration.

Well, the idea of new seed is all right—so far as it goes. But it does not go far enough! Our advice is this: Begin with the best seed it is possible to get, and then improve upon it by judicious annual selection at home.

How can this be done?

Very easily. Buy a good fanning mill; grade every bushel of seed, and plant the best.

To sow ungraded wheat (or any other seed which can be graded), is to have an uneven, inferior stand which unevenly ripens and produces. To sow the larger grade—the biggest, plumpest kernels—is to have a high-grade stand which ripens all at one time, and whose every stalk is a producer of plump, high-quality grain. Between the two methods there's a vast difference in yield—and profit.

Yes, and the graded planting pays better and better every year, provided that the selection (grading) is continued each season. In this way it is possible for any farmer to start with any seed variety adapted to his locality, and gradually evolve from it a strain which will "surprise the neighbors."

As regards seed corn, the principle is the same. But there is this difference in its application: In the case of corn we can, if we will, easily go into a corn field and personally select the best ears from the best individual stalks. And from such ears we can, later, select the best kernels. With corn, human eyes and judgment are only the grading machines needed.

Prof. P. G. Holden, of Iowa, has already accomplished much by a careful selection of seed corn. He has successfully shown that corn crops can be increased, and that varieties can be improved, simply by intelligent annual selection. Furthermore, by constantly selecting seed from slow-growing, early-ripening ears, he has shown that it is possible to evolve a strain of corn that will uniformly ripen its ears early and not far from the ground. And, as every practical farmer will readily understand, the latter point is a great advantage in wind storms.

What Prof. Holden has done, any farmer may do—on his own farm and with his own farm seed.

And the principle holds the same with potatoes or peanuts or other things. An annual personal selection of the best seed from the healthiest, best yielding plants, will surely improve the strain and the crop.

Our business men have a number of teams hauling lumber while the ground is frozen.

HAYSTACK ITEMS.

Warren Brown, who has been spending the winter at Willow Creek, has returned to his home.

R. O. Carland, after spending a few days on his homestead, has returned to Cross Keys.

A card party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Boyce last Thursday night. About 15 invited guests were present, and, judging from the time the crowd left, it is safe to say that all enjoyed themselves. During the evening Mrs. Boyce served the visitors with candy and popcorn balls.

Miss Gussie Banta, who has been very low with typhoid fever at the home of Mrs. Bartlett, is slowly improving.

Clarence Ingraham has given up his school at Lamonia and returned to his home in Lin county. Mr. Ingraham thought it would be unwise to begin teaching so soon after having the measles.

A surprise party was given at the home of George Miller last Saturday night. Although the night was very cold, about 20 guests were present, and all report having had a good time.

Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart went to Prineville last week to receive medical treatment.

Mrs. Wilson has been quite sick for the past two weeks, but is now improving.

One of our young bachelors in this vicinity is the owner of a new suit of clothes. We do not understand why he should be buying new clothes at this time of year unless he has hopes of finding a cock.

J. D. Harrell spent Tuesday and Wednesday in Prineville.

Mrs. Grant's children, who have been tussling with the measles for the past two weeks, are nearly all able to be out again. Some of them have been very sick.

Roy Lee, adopted son of A. W. Boyce, passed his eighteenth birthday last Thursday. Roy hopes to see to snow on his next birthday. He thinks he would prefer to have his face washed with water.

Warren Brown has been breaking his saddle horse to work. We think there is no doubt of Warren's marriage if "Steamboat" proves to be a good driver.

NEAR ENOUGH HEAVEN FOR HIM

Our old friend Thomas M. Burden was in town the fore part of the week and while here made this office a pleasant visit. Thomas was one of the judges of the debate held at Agency Plains school house a week or so ago on the question, "Resolved, That Married Life is Happier Than Single Life." Friend Burden is a bachelor, but he says that any blackey blank bachelor that says that a bachelor's life is happier than a married life needs fixing. He asks where would our country go to without women and children? How and where would our men be without the presence of women? Tom says: "Give me a good woman; her company is near enough heaven for me."

PETITION FOR LICENSE.

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Crook County.

In the matter of the application of S. L. Wells and H. W. Hamilton for a license to sell spirituous, 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 Kutcher Precinct, Crook county, Oregon, would most respectfully petition that a license be granted by your Honorable Court to S. L. Wells and H. W. Hamilton to sell spirituous, malt and vinous liquors and hard cider in less quantities than one gallon in the Precinct of Kutcher, Crook county, Oregon, for the term of six months from the granting of the said petition.

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

John A. Palmgren, A. Eagles, Jas. E. Magnus, S. E. Gray, John McTaggart, T. J. Malloy, L. H. Cochran, J. W. Jackson, J. N. Tunstall, W. A. Pullen, John Mayes, Frank J. Brooks, Charles McKelroy, William McKelroy, Fred Davis, T. M. Burden, D. B. Burden, W. F. Fields, J. H. Lockard, L. Volrath, A. H. Parkey, W. K. Rutter, M. L. Loucks, Jim M. Mayes, T. W. Jones, C. S. Cowles, C. F. Delano, C. N. Banta, Charles Kirk, G. M. Gard, Ira Barber, F. Rodman, F. C. Osborn, F. M. Loveland, John Isham, Don P. Ren, R. T. Jones, C. G. Ramsey, Andrew Larsen, James Lee, I. H. Lee, N. S. Jennings, Ode Barton, H. K. Nissen, S. F. Robertson, H. E. Jacobs, Frank Whitney, Geo. R. Loucks, L. E. Baker, Dodd McCauley, Wm. Conkley, F. O. Hutchinson, C. R. Hayes, F. G. Carney, J. C. Rich, J. E. Campbell, J. F. Church, Jr., C. K. Loucks, W. H. Ramsey, J. I. Chilcote, T. B. Tucker, H. M. Gardner, J. C. Rothman, Walter Arney, J. C. Trotter, W. Hannan, J. F. Hahn, Fred Gutendorf, Ernest V. Doty, B. C. Dove, S. P. Luelling, J. A. Arney, G. V. Dillon, L. Evick, John Dillon, Peter Kilberg, Miles Fox, C. C. Fox, Charles Diney, O. L. Hohlfield, Geo. W. White, H. R. Young, L. A. Young, Henry Seals, Eugene Williams, E. V. Richardson, Charles Dillon, W. H. Ronschewer, 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.

WELLS & HAMILTON, Applicant.

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OUR MENAGERIE.

Have you seen it? No; then you have missed a good thing. Next time you are in Madras go to George Loucks' and ask him to show you through it, and then you will be surprised, for George has on exhibition a splendid collection, consisting of mountain sheep, wild cats, coyotes, bats, squirrels, with birds of all kinds, lynx and others too numerous to mention. George is a scientific taxidermist and the above are all samples of his own handiwork.

LODGE DIRECTORY

Madras Camp, M. W. A., No. 8226.—Meets every second and fourth Saturday of each month at 8 p. m. Frank J. Brooks, Council C. W. H. Snook, Clerk. Visiting neighbors cordially invited to attend.

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

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