

**The Madras Pioneer**

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**THURSDAY** Sept. 14, 1905

The rain this week purified the air, laid the dust, and has given a more cheerful aspect to everything. It has also fully inaugurated the season of Indian Summer, one of the most pleasant periods of the year.

The results of the unusual drouth of this year are noticeable in all the streams of the state, and many of them are lower than ever known before. The Willamette is among the rivers which show the effect of the dry year, and Willamette Falls at Oregon City are perfectly bare, the canal locks carrying off the small amount of water in the river. It is now possible to walk across the river at the falls.

Mail will be carried over the new route, recently created, tomorrow morning for the first time. The mail will leave Heisler at 6 o'clock and reach Madras by 10 o'clock, returning in time to make connection with the Shaniko stage from Prineville in the evening. It is reported here that the contract for carrying the mail was awarded to G. M. Cornett, who has been operating a stage from Heisler to this place for several months.

Representatives of a colony from Oklahoma were in Harney county last week looking for a location for about 50 thrifty families from that territory. They desired to locate in Oregon and were looking for some section of the state in which government land was still to be had in considerable quantities. Many of them had homestead rights which they desired to use, and in addition it is stated that they will purchase a large amount of deeded land in the locality in which they locate. Oregon is attracting the attention of the Eastern and Middle Western farmer, and within the next few years there will be few acres of desirable government land remaining unentered.

**ROAD DOWN NORTH BANK**

It now seems assured that the Northern Pacific is going to realize the long-cherished dream of a railroad down the north bank of the Columbia into Portland, and engineers and right-of-way men are reported to be busy along the proposed route. Valuable water-front property has been bought in Portland and every indication points to the conclusion that the Northern Pacific is going to build the line which will enable it to enter into competition with the O. R. & N. Company in handling freight from tidewater points.

These latest rumors of the building of a north-bank road into Portland recall the oft-repeated story told last spring, that the Great Southern or Dufur road was really a Hill line. Certainly it is not a Harriman line, and the recent assurances of its president, John Heimrich, that the Great Southern would stop but a short time in Dufur and would push right on into Central Oregon is given greater significance when coupled with the promise of a north bank route into Portland. With a

water level route down the north bank and an easy grade up the Deschutes, Central Oregon may yet have its transportation needs satisfied independent of Mr. Harriman, and by a route that would serve it more adequately than any of the other proposed routes.

**New Business House for Madras**

J. T. Alexander of Portland bought the N. S. Jennings lot on Fifth Street, three lots north of the Malloy building on Friday, the price of the lot being \$200. He also contracted for the construction of a two-story business house upon the lot at once, the house to be 18x40 feet in dimensions and to have six lodging rooms above. Edward Sweeting has the contract for building the house and it will be completed within the next 30 days.

Mr. Alexander did not come to Madras with the expectation of investing in town property, but after spending several days in this locality, looking over the immense wheat belt which is tributary to Madras, he was impressed with the exceptional prospects of this location for commercial supremacy in this section of the state, and his investment followed.

Henry Windom of Culver was in town yesterday. Mr. Windom has been one of the successful farmers of this section of the county for the past 20 years, and this year he had in about 350 acres of wheat which made a pretty fair crop in spite of the unusual drouth. He says that his experience has shown summer-fallowing to be the most successful way of farming in this locality, and that during eight years in which he summer-fallowed, his smallest crop of wheat averaged 2 1/2 bushels to the acre.

Theodore Hartnagel, living near Methodist Hill, presented this office with a 20-pound watermelon yesterday, which was delicious. He raised a fairly good garden this year without irrigation. In a season of ordinary moisture the possibilities of this section for produce are almost unlimited.

Timothy Brownhill has purchased the East Multnomah Record, published at Gresham, Oregon, and has entered upon his duties as editor of that paper. Mr. Brownhill has a number of friends in this locality whose good wishes he will have in his new venture.

Miss Pearl Dean, who is living at her homestead about six miles east of this place, was in town on Saturday for medicine for her father, E. H. Dean, who is quite ill at his home.

If in need of a tombstone, write a postal card to the Watts Marble works of The Dalles and they will send you designs and prices on their first trip out this way.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris of Trail Crossing spent last Sunday with the Cresswell family near Mud Springs.

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**SHANIKO OREGON**

Rev. J. K. Craig and family arrived from Antelope the last of the week and are temporarily making their home over the old Malloy building. Work on the parsonage will be commenced at once and it will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. Mr. Craig will conduct services at the school house in the morning. Rev. J. K. Brown of Ione will preach in the evening.

The Madras literary society, composed of several of the young folks of this vicinity, is announced to meet in the school house Saturday evening, October 7. This gathering spent many pleasant and instructive evenings last season, and no doubt they will be more so this winter.

Jerry Cramer returned Saturday evening from Prineville where he spent several days looking after business interests.

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