

The Madras Pioneer

MADRAS, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1906.

NO. 14

We Pay Cash For Wheat
Bring it to us

LENA M. LAMB
MADRAS, OREGON

C. E. ROUSH

We Can Supply You
Give Us A Call

PROPRIETOR

MADRAS MEAT MARKET

Keeps Constantly on Hand the Best Fresh and Cured Meats

And pays highest market price
for fat stock, butter, eggs
and farm produce

Madras, Oregon

SAME PLANS COST \$25,000 LESS

BIG SAVING TO COUNTY BY INJUNCTION SUIT

New Bids Expose Graft Contained in First Bids for Building New Crook County Court House
—Contractors Investigate Conditions

Bids for the construction of a new court house at Prineville were opened by the county court at their November session. The plans and specifications submitted were the same identical plans offered when bids were called last June, but at that time the contractors did not visit Prineville to inform themselves as to the local conditions for prosecuting the work. This time the various contractors came here and inspected our quarries, brick yard, etc., and submitted their bids with a better understanding of local conditions. These bids are now in the hands of the county court and that body positively refused to consider them unless the people of Prineville would guarantee the sum of \$6400 to be used for heating and plumbing purposes. A committee of business men is now at work to see what they can do toward raising the amount. It does not follow that the building will go up even if the amount is raised. The county court has not committed itself on this point. One thing was stated positively and that was if the building was undertaken it would not cost the county more than \$40,000, and might be built for less.—Crook County Journal.

If Crook County is to have a new court house, which doesn't appear to be a settled fact as yet, it is encouraging to know that it is to be built at a figure nearer its actual value by \$25,000 than was the bid submitted on June 2 last, when one lone bid was put in at a figure of \$65,000. After all, the injunction suit which saves \$25,000 to the taxpayers of the county is not altogether wasted energy.

Considerable light is thrown upon the methods employed by the old county court when it at-

tempted to "railroad" the contract through last June, by the statement contained in the Crook County Journal, that "at that time the contractors did not visit Prineville to inform themselves as to the local conditions for prosecuting the work. This time the various contractors came here and inspected our quarries, brick yards, etc., and submitted their bids with a better understanding of local conditions." Another and a most significant fact is that the same firm of contractors who bid \$65,000 last June are trying to get the contract now at a figure "around \$40,000". That any contractor or firm of contractors will put in a bid on work of that magnitude, without knowing anything about "local conditions for prosecuting the work", displays either a grossly careless method of bidding upon contracts, or else an absolute assurance that the bid is all right. The knowledge that the contract price is all right is a mighty comforting assurance, too—for the contractor.

At any rate there is considerable satisfaction in the thought that this new building will not cost the county over \$40,000, and the citizens of Western Crook who brought about this very material reduction in the price of the article are to be congratulated upon their success in driving a bargain. The Crook County Journal's explanation of the reduction forms a valuable addition to the county court's store of knowledge on the subject of making county improvements, and hereafter all advertisements for bids for county improvements should contain the clause "Contractors will be required to examine local conditions for prosecuting the work".

WHY EXTRA EXPENSE

Less Branch Lines and Less Mileage
Ought to Cost Less

The expense of running the extra stages has been very properly overlooked by the petitioners. A little matter of \$4000 is trifling when the government foots the bill.—Prineville Review.

Will the erudite editor of the Review please tip off to an inquiring public, the process of reasoning by which he arrives at the above conclusion? The difference in distance between the old route from Shaniko to Bend by way of Prineville and the proposed new route by way of Madras is so slight as to be immaterial, and it surely cannot be argued that it will cost more to carry the mails over the incomparably better road of Western Crook. Then the difference in the cost must arise from the expense of operating branch routes to serve the various offices off of the main route. Let us see. The proposal is to have a direct route from Shaniko to Bend, serving Youngs, Madras, Culver, Lamonta, Oneils, Cline Falls, Laidlaw and Bend, with a branch route from Heisler serving Haycreek, Grizzly and Prineville, this entire service requiring but the one direct route and the one branch route of 35 miles. To serve the same offices now it requires the main star route and the following branches: Heisler to Madras 12 miles, Madras to Culver 12 miles, Grizzly to Lamonta 7 miles, Prineville to O'Neil and Cline Falls 25 miles, Bend to Laidlaw 8 miles. Eliminating the cost of operating the main line, which can certainly not be greater by way of Madras than it is by way of Grizzly Mountain and Prineville, we are reduced to the conclusion that it costs more to operate one branch line of 35 miles from Heisler to Prineville than it does to operate six branch lines aggregating a total of 71 miles by the old route, if there is anything in the Review's argument.

DRILLING NEAR REDMOND

Thursday the toot of the engine for the well drilling machine took on a new sound. Work had begun. Forty feet was the record for the first day and 60 feet the next day, with about 50 feet of casing in. However the lower half of the well caved in and operations were suspended for a time. Work was progressing quite rapidly through a kind of pumice stone which could be cut quite easily with a knife. Monday drilling had again been resumed and the drill had reached a depth of 95 feet with 80 feet of the smaller casing in. This nearly made up for the loss caused by the cave-in.

An expert from the oil fields of the East has charge of the work. The machine drills a six-inch hole.—Bend Bulletin.

Patrons of the Madras post office who have not already signed the petitions for a direct mail service from Shaniko to Bend, via Madras, giving this office a daily mail instead of six times a week, are requested to do so at once, as the petitions will be sent in within the next week. Copies of the petition may be found at any of the stores.

BROOM CORN PAYS

Yields Three-Quarter Tons Per Acre
At \$110 Per Ton.

Deputy Sheriff James Haviland brought in a fine specimen of broom corn from the Stone ranch near Gardena, says the Walla Walla Statesman. Mr. Stone has five acres planted to the corn, which yields about three-quarters of a ton to the acre. The present market price of the product is \$110 per ton. The yield varies from half ton to a ton per acre. Stone and one other farmer in the Gardena country are experimenting with it.

The process of raising it is interesting. It is planted in rows similar to ordinary corn. The part from which brooms are made is a sort of flower to the plant and is picked by hand, much like corn is harvested. The broom corn raised in

Walla Walla county is shipped to Portland and sound cities for manufacture.—East Oregonian.

WILL PLANT FRUIT TREES

Frank Irvine, the Antelope merchant, who recently bought the DeHaven place at the mouth of Trout Creek, will set out about twentyfive acres of fruit trees on the property this fall. The land is irrigated with water from Trout Creek, and is ideally located for successful fruit culture. At different points along the Deschutes fruit culture has been successfully tried, and no finer fruit is brought into this country than that grown upon these Deschutes ranches. With the development of the Central Oregon country, Mr. Irvine will find a ready market right at home for all of the fruit which he can produce upon his Trout Creek ranch.

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Dental Work at reasonable prices.
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NO. 3851.
First National Bank
PRINEVILLE, OREGON
ESTABLISHED 1898
Assets and Undivided Profits
\$80,000.00

THE PEOPLE'S BIG STORE

Thanksgiving Suggestions

REMEMBER the turkey shoot, also remember that this is the place to get one of the "Self-boiling Granite Roasters" of the "Lisk" make. They are the best on the market. Send in your order early for cranberries, sweet potatoes and bananas, we are going to have them. Heavy winter underwear for men and boys, prices to suit your pocketbooks. Bedding, including blankets, woolen and cotton, comforts, bed spreads

EAT HEARTY AND SLEEP WARM

W. & M. A. ROBINSON & COMPANY
GENERAL MERCHANTS
MADRAS, OREGON

MADRAS-HEISLER STAGE LINE

J. H. LOCKARD, MANAGER

Daily except Sunday. Every attention paid to comfort and Express matter promptly and carefully handled. Office at McTaggart & Bye's

\$1.75 DISTANCE 19 MILES

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Dry Goods, Clothing,

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OREGON