

The Madras Pioneer

MADRAS, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1907.

NO. 32

Bring us any
WHEAT, HOGS, EGGS,
BUTTER or PRODUCE
You have to sell

WE PAY YOU THE HIGHEST PRICE

Try our SUGAR CURED HAMS
From now on we will sell only that which we
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Give Us A Call
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Keeps Constantly on Hand the Best Fresh and Cured Meats

Keeps highest market price
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Madras, Oregon

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All kinds of Dental Work at reasonable prices.
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Diseases cured without drugs or surgery
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of drugless healing. Chronic cases a
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References given to prominent parties of
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MADRAS, OREGON

Willow Creek Basin

— IN —
CROOK COUNTY, OREGON

New Farming District on Threshold of
Central Oregon—Mecca of Seeker After
Cheap Land

Central Oregon, comprising all of Crook and the northern portions of Lake and Klamath counties, is on the eve of an era of vast and rapid development. Its large areas of productive agricultural lands have become the Mecca of the home-seeker from the crowded East and Middle West. Its mines and timber and its large tracts of irrigable lands have attracted the eye of Capital, and under that magic touch its industrial possibilities are unfolding. North, south, east and west, development is under way, and this vast Empire of Undeveloped Resources, which for generations has been the home of the stockman and his migratory bands of sheep and cattle, is feeling the throbb of a new life, and happy homes and prosperous industries are springing into being.

Along the banks of the Deschutes River, in Crook County alone, four hundred thousand acres of fertile land are being brought under irrigation. Virgin forests, containing billions of feet of timber, are being made ready for the saw, and within a short time lumber from this district will be finding its way into all the markets of the world. Awake to transportation possibilities in this vast empire, railways are hurrying their surveys across Central Oregon, and before the end of the Summer construction work will be under way on lines that will cross this territory from north to south and east to west.

Lying at the very threshold of this magnificent empire is the Willow Creek Basin, known locally as "The Agency Plains Country." Located in the northern portion of Crook County, it extends north and south for thirty miles and east and west for twenty-five, and in that area of seven hundred and fifty square miles lie more than half a million acres of fertile, productive wheat lands. This territory comprises the plateau lands along the Deschutes River, and takes in the Agency Plains, Little Plains, Methodist Hill, Opal Prairie, Culver and Lamonta districts, all draining into Willow Creek, from which it takes its name. The altitude of these districts is about two thousand feet, and in general character they are practically level prairie lands. The soil is of volcanic formation, fertile and productive and easily tilled.

No section of Oregon offers a more equable or delightful climate in Winter or Summer, the Winter season being of short duration and rarely preventing outdoor work, while the summers are never excessively warm, or sultry and oppressive. It is a fact often commented upon that in this favored district the farmer can pursue his work the year 'round.

Up until the year 1900 this large territory was but little known and sparsely settled, but in that year the homesteader began to arrive in this domain of the stockman, and within three years thousands of homesteaders' cabins dotted the prairie lands. Communities have sprung up within that time, and today this is the most thickly settled and densely populated district in Central Oregon, with more than 100,000 acres of land in cultivation at the present time. Comfortable ranch homes are being built, shade and fruit trees are being planted, and the rolling prairie has been converted into a prosperous farming district.

All the conveniences and comforts of community life are found here. Free public schools are found in all the districts, all of them prosperous and flourishing. Churches of various denominations, Methodist, Baptist, German Methodist, Free Methodist, Christian and Mennonite, have their organizations in this district. Fraternal orders have been organized, and by their numbers indicate their prosperous condition. These things foster the neighborly spirit, and have added to the community life of the district.

The grain crop is the principal product of this section. Wheat, barley, oats and corn are successfully grown, and fruits and vegetables of all kinds do well. Since this section became a farming country there has been no surplus of grain produced, the home market consuming all that has been harvested, at prices as good or better than have been paid during the same period in the best grain markets. This home demand is created by the various development enterprises under way in Crook county, requiring the use of many teams, which consume large quantities of grain and forage. In addition to this market, a large demand for grain comes from the big stock plants adjoining the

farming district, which are feeding thousands of head of sheep and cattle. Permanent surveys for a railroad have been made through this country and construction will begin during the present Summer, so that, by the time the production exceeds the local demand, rail transportation to outside markets is assured.

Improved methods of farming are being adopted by the progressive farmers of this section, and in the next few years these new methods of "dry land farming" promise to revolutionize the industry in this section, as it has done in other sections of the West. The fine, loose soil of this locality lends itself readily to the new methods of cultivation, which can be followed in this section with no greater labor or expense than is required by the old-fashioned methods in other localities. This will improve the quality and increase the quantity of the yields, and will enhance the value of all land throughout this district.

It has been the history of all districts, that, following the rush of the homesteader, a large percentage of the first settlers sell out to the land-seekers coming in from the Middle West in search of a new location, and that invariable rule is applicable to a certain degree in this locality. Those who care to sell are holding at from \$10 to \$15 per acre, and no section of the United States today offers as fine an opportunity to the seeker after cheap wheat lands. With the advent of the railroad these lands will double and triple in value. With its advantages of soil and climate it offers exceptional opportunities to the home-seeker, at present prices. There are also large areas of government land still open to entry.

Madras The Trading Center
Centrally located in this large agricultural belt is the town of Madras, the convenient and natural trading point for all the territory embraced in the Willow Creek Basin. Situated on Willow Creek, in the center of the district, its future as a prosperous trading point for the entire district is established beyond question. Two railroads, one from the north and one coming in from the south, have their surveys completed to Madras. Good well water is easily obtainable at a depth of from 18 to 25 feet. Platted as a town within the past three years, and without any effort to boom it, the town has grown within that time until it has five general merchandise stores, two drugstores, two hotels, livery stables, a newspaper, and all the kindred enterprises which go to make up a thriving little community. This town offers splendid opportunities to anyone desiring to engage in business in a live community backed by a prosperous tributary country.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT

Following is the programme of the Declamatory Contest of the pupils of the neighborhood public schools, to be held at Sanford's Hall, Saturday evening, March 30. No admission charged and everybody invited:

PROGRAMME		At 7:30
Welcome Song	.....	At 7:30
Prayer	..... Rev. J. K. Craig	
A Little Gentleman	..... Paul Marnach	
A Visit to the Doctor	..... Della Nichols	
The Partnership Kitten	..... Jewel Loving	
The Story of Boy Blue	..... Maurice Snook	
God Is Nowhere	..... Ethel Dulling	
Selling the Baby	..... Letha Hahn	
Mother and Child	..... Ethel Stonehocker	
Song	..... Mary and Anna Marnach	
The Broken Vase	..... Lydia Strasser	
A Stray Sunbeam	..... Lela Gard	
(Selected)	..... Melba Kidder	
The Dying Prisoner	..... Mary Marnach	
John Maynard	..... Willie Wilson	
Mumford's Pavement	..... Etta Richardson	
The Inventor's Wife	..... Orpha Clark	
How Edith Helped	..... Cornelia Moehring	
Things Along	.....
The Two Glasses	..... Leita Binder	
When the Minister Comes	..... Joseph Jennings	
A Little Girl's View of Life	..... Eva Loving	
Mother's Fool	..... Lizzie Gomer	
Somebody's Mother	..... Ella Criswell	
Little Blossom	..... Lee Mays	
Song	..... Orpha Clark	
Casey at the Bat	..... Charlie Craig	
One of Our Heroes	..... Sarah Moehring	
The Curtain Hunter	..... Myrtle Harvey	
Song	..... Red Rock School	
Some of the Work of Alcohol	..... Roth Clark	
Burns of Gettysburg	..... Elie Vanderveen	
(Selected)	..... Ethel Kidder	
A Naughty Girl's View of Life	..... Ula Sanford	
Lincoln's Gettysburg Speech	..... Dolph Clark	
Asleep at the Switch	..... Susie Cowherd	
Song	..... Round Butte Quartette	

AFTER THE CRAFTERS

Portland Taxpayers Want Honey and Burns to Investigate City's Affairs

Fifty thousand dollars is being raised by Portland citizens as a fund to be spent in investigating graft, past and present, in that city, provided the services of Francis J. Heney and W. J. Burns can be secured for probing into the municipal corruption of the Oregon metropolis. It is desired to secure the

TROUBLE IS BREWING

Between Settlers and Columbia Southern Irrigation Company

WATER SUPPLY INADEQUATE FOR LANDS

Attorney General Believes Officers of Original Companies Can Be Held Responsible By State

Trouble has been brewing for some time past between the owners of the Columbia Southern Irrigation company, and the settlers upon their irrigated tract, on the west side of the Deschutes River, over the question of the sufficiency of the water furnished by the company for irrigation purposes, the settlers claiming that it is inadequate for the amount of land embraced in that segregation. This tract, including about 27,000 acres, was to be reclaimed under a contract with the State, and a year and a half ago the work was reported complete and a patent was asked for. When the examination was made, by the state land board, patents were only granted for 12,000 acres, the board taking the position that only that amount could be reclaimed with the water provided. To complicate matters, still further, the original irrigation company, from which the present owners bought, had disposed of 18,000 acres of the land to settlers, a portion of which land the state land board refused to pass to patent.

During a discussion of the status of the case, Attorney General Crawford expressed serious doubts as to the legality of the transfer of the contracts from the Three Sisters Irrigation company to the Columbia Southern Irrigation company, and from them to the present owners, the Columbia Southern Irrigation company, and stated that it was his opinion that all the officers and bondholders of the three companies, including President C. Sam Smith and Secretary M. E. Brink of the Three Sisters company, and President W. A. Laidlaw and Secretary James E. Lytle of the Columbia Southern Irrigation company, could be held responsible for any deficiency, fraud or violation of the State's contract found to exist.

Mr. R. W. Wilson of Portland, head of the present company owning the segregation, says that his company has not attempted to sell any of the land in the unpatented portion of the segregation. He admits the necessity of a reservoir in order to increase their supply of water, and says that the company planned in the Fall of 1905 to build a reservoir at a cost of from \$40,000 to \$50,000, but the plan was not carried out because of the hostile attitude of the state land board. Their failure to comply with the requirement of the state land board was the cause of the present trouble with the settlers. The law firm of King, Guerin & Pollock has been retained by the settlers and steps are being taken to compel the irrigation company to either comply with their contract, or refund the money acquired through the sale of the lands and surrender their contract with the State.

Much injury has been done to the irrigation interests in this county by the trouble which the Columbia Southern Irrigation Company has had with the settlers over the question of water, and in justice to the Deschutes Irrigation & Power company, which is irrigating several hundred thousand acres east of the Deschutes River, it should be stated that that company has had no trouble with the settlers upon its lands.

The services of the great prosecutor and his assistant immediately following the close of their work in the San Francisco investigation, and the searchlight of a systematic investigation will be turned upon all branches of the city government, during the present administration and for years back. Exposures as startling as those which are being made in San Francisco are predicted if the movement for a thorough investigation is successful.

This movement for an investigation in Portland originated among some of the heavy taxpayers of the city, who state that they are willing to pledge a sum sufficiently large to carry out the most searching kind of an investigation into the methods of the "bosses", past and present, of the city. The granting of important franchises, the awarding of large contracts, and all other matters in which there may have been the slightest graft, will be subjected to the closest scrutiny by Mr. Heney and his assistant if the plan to secure an investigation is successful.

SUCCESSFUL PLOWING

Can always be accomplished, in all sections and under all conditions, by the **Success Plow**. It is a frameless plow that will last a lifetime. It has been on the market for years, has been tried and proved, and is, beyond question, the simplest, most perfect and most popular riding plow of its class now in use.

THE P. & O. CANTON
SUCCESS PLOW

Is the best and cheapest plow for the following reasons: It does the same work as plows that cost a great deal more. It costs less than other riding plows because it is made of lower parts. On account of its having fewer parts it won't get out of order.

Plows get out of order because they are complicated. The **Success** isn't complicated—it's very simple. A plow that won't get out of order is what you want, isn't it? You would call such a plow **strong and durable**.

That's why the **Success Plow** is named "**SUCCESS**".

Being less expensive than others, doing first-class work, possessing the essential qualities of strength and durability, the **Success** deserves all we claim for it. That is why it is the cheapest. The **best is always the cheapest**.

J. W. & M. A. Robinson & Co.

Equipped with the best bottoms made, adjustable front axle; dust-proof removable wheel boxes; adjustable rear wheel; easily set for any depth; works equally well with large or small horses; light draft and easily operated—a perfect plow.

