The Madras Pioneer

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ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

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THURSDAY April 11, 1907

THE OREGON TRUNK LINE

There will be general satisfaction among the residents of this district over the settlement of the right of way difficulties of the Oregon Trunk Line up the Deschutes canyon. At the time the building of this line was obstructed by the reclamation service this action was vigorously condemned on all sides, and numerous protests were forwarded to Washington against the great injustice being done to Central Oregon. The irrigation project for which the railroad was held up has since been abandoned and it has not taken long to get the approval of Commissioner Ballinger of the General Land Office to the railroad right of way up the canyon.

Of all the railroad lines projected into this section, none would be more welcome than the Oregon Trunk Line. The line up the Deschutes to Central Oregon is unquestionably the most practical route into this territory, not only because of the easy grade upon which it can be built, but because it will afford the shortest route and a water level grade to the market for all the product of this section of Central Oregon—and that is an important item when the product to be transported is grain.

These advantages have been sufficient to make the Oregon Trunk Line a popular project in this locality, but back of that popularity lies another reason—the redemption of some of its promises of construction. For five or six years the Harriman interests have issued their annual allotment of railroad promises for Central Oregon, and just as regularly these promises have failed of redemption. Last year the Oregon Trunk Line, an independent project, surveyed its line up the Deschutes, to Madras, and the announcement was made that construction would begin in the near future. And, within a few weeks of that time, a force of men and teams were at work on the grade for this line. This work was stopped by the action of the reclamation service, but not before an effort had been made by the Oregon Trunk Line to redeem its promises. And but for that interruption, it is only fair to believe that construction would have been well under way, possibly nearing completion by this time.

The embargo on the Oregon Trunk Line has been raised, and although Mr. Nelson has not announced his plans, it may be assumed that the construction work begun last year will be resumed, and will proceed to completion. And, the day when the last spike in the Deschutes line to Madras is driven will soon arrive, if the good will of a community can help the enterprise along.

BY RULE OF CONTRARY

The consistency of the Prineville Review is something to be marvelled at. In its issue of two weeks ago that paper was pointing to the troubles of the Columbia Southern Irrigating Company as the result of the flaws in the Carey Act, under which that company is operating, and at the same time declaiming upon the far-seeing statesmanship of Mr. Williamson and his fellow delegates to the irrigation congress four years ago, who were able thus far in advance of actual trial, to discern the dangers in that law.

Those statements fell down of their own weakness, and so last week the Review changed front and appeared in the role of champion of the Columbia Southern Irrigating Company, which company, it says, is being greatly maligned. The Review now takes the position that the troubles of the Columbia Southern Irrigating Company were due to the water famine of the past year, which upset all previous calculations. Those calculations, based upon actual measurements, had been made by both the state engineer and the company's engineers, who reported that the Tumalo would furnish sufficient water to irrigate the 27,000 acres. The dry year followed, however, and the Tumalo would supply only enough water to irrigate less than half of that amount of land. Hence the present troubles.

And so, after all, it wasn't the Carey Act which was responsible, and the far-seeing wisdom of Prineville's statesmen was a case of mistaken identity. As to the Review's defense of the Columbia Southern Irrigation Company, that can only be accounted for by the "rule of contrary", the Review assuming this new attitude when it discovered that the Westside papers, generally, censured the Columbia Southern company for permitting its affairs to get in such bad shape.

REV. C. A. WAASA VISITS

The Rev. G. A. Waasa of Portland held quarterly meeting at the German M. E. Church last Sunday, substituting for the presiding elder, the Rev. C. A. Priesing. Mr. Waasa is known as one of the most highly educated German ministers on the Coast, being a graduate of the famous University of Basel, in Switzerland. One of his accomplishments is that he speaks an unusually beautiful German, which is rarely found among German ministers who receive their education in this country. The sermon Mr. Waasa preached Sunday morning made a deep impression on the congregation and culminated, at the afternoon service, in an old-fashioned Methodist revival. Monday Rev. Waasa accompanied Rev. J. G. Moehring and several friends on a trip to Opal Springs, the beauty of which he greatly enjoyed.

DELAYED BY HIGH WATER

The Westside Bend stage was held up for three hours by the high water in Antelope creek, last Sunday morning, and already late because of the Shaniko train, it did not reach here until after noon. Antelope creek was booming after the hard rain Saturday, and when the stage driver came to the first crossing below Durbin's, it looked too dangerous to attempt a crossing, and so they waited three hours for daylight when a safe crossing was made.

DIGGING DEEP WELL BY HAND

B. Doubrowe has resumed work on the well which he is sinking by hand on his homestead. He has reached a depth of over 70 feet, and puts in as much time on the well as he can spare from his other work on the ranch. The big well which he is sinking will cost more than a drilled well, but he believes that it will be more serviceable when he once secures water.

Campbell Talks On Farming

Says the Right Method Has Been Discovered for Successful Farming, But That It Must Be Thoroughly Understood

At the Saturday morning session of the Dry Farming Congress Professor Campbell took the stand and answered questions for two hours. Some of the questions and Mr. Campbell's answers were as follows:

The Secret of The Whole Thing

Mr. Adams of Arizona: "Mr. Chairman, I am very greatly interested in one thing. I do not know that it has been brought out. Dry farming, as I understand it, means two things—first the deposit of a water system below—you might call it a reservoir of moisture—and cultivation on top. What I would like to know is how deep that reservoir of moisture ought to be placed below the surface under different conditions or amounts of rainfall in different seasons.

Professor Campbell: I would say if a man had four feet of moisture he could go through almost any condition we have had in the past year. Now, let me explain a little my idea with reference to the storage of water. That is almost a secondary consideration.

"The preparation of the soil to get it into such a condition that we can utilize not only the element of water, but the elements of water and air together with heat and light is necessary. The storage of water below so that it can keep that soil filled with a certain percentage of water in order to carry on the development of bacteria and nitrates is the secret of the whole thing."

A number of written questions were handed in. Among them were:

"On a piece of land well prepared in the fall, would you recommend sowing oats and barley?"

Professor Campbell: "My idea is to put oats in as early as you can get them in. They will stand some frost. With barley you can't do that. It won't stand frost. To fix the exact time is impossible. You must be governed by the spring time.

"The next question is: 'Is the sub surface packer needed equally as much on land plowed with the disc plow as it is with the mould-board plow?' Yes I would say more, as a rule. Now, let me elaborate again upon this point of the condition of the ground. If you go into your ground with a disc plow when it is somewhat dry and turn it over, breaking it into lumps, then go on with the sub-surface packer and attempt to get an ideal condition, you cannot do it. Neither can you do it with the mould-board plow. The ground must be moist, and as I said yesterday, the important thing is to precede the plow with the disc harrow. In other words, the minute your crop is off, if possible, follow your harvester with the disc in order to loosen up that ground and not permit the sun's rays to reach down there as soon as the crop is removed and draw that moisture out.

Equipment for a Farm

"Another question: 'Will you please state how many horses and and what tools will be required to run 160 acres of land as required in your system of farming? At the Pomeroy farm at Hill City we opened up 220 acres. For three years that was farmed with six horses and two men. The last three years we had eight horses and now have twelve horses there. At the Burlington farm at Holdredge, Nebraska, just now on its fourth year, we have eight horses and two men. This year we are putting on four more, making twelve horses, and are going to put on three men. We now have 238 acres under cultivation. We had just about 210 acres under cultivation when we were handling it with eight horses and two men. Now, this would indicate that one man with four horses and the proper tools could handle a hundred acres. He cannot do it quite as easily as two men with eight horses would handle two hundred acres, because there are times when you have a part of that land that should be gone over quickly and with two teams you can get over it very much more easily. It is my opinion that with the proper tools one man can handle a hundred acres and do it right.

Mr. Arthur R. Briggs: "Before you get away from the subject of plowing, I would like to ask one more question. The statement was made last night, I think, that good success has been achieved by following the plow immediately after the reaper in cutting the grain.

Professor Campbell: "I do not think it is a good idea, not with us here. But I am speaking of conditions with which I am familiar. If you were to follow the harvester with the plow, in the majority of cases that ground would be somewhat dry.

It would not be in proper condition to turn over. My idea is to follow the harvester with the disc, loosening about three inches of the surface to stop the evaporation and allow an accumulation of moisture, and if there is any moisture below it will come up. Then wait a week or two until that soil below has become moist, and then do the plowing.

RHODES-JENKINS

The following account of the marriage of Ora Rhodes, formerly of this place, is from the Hood River Glacier:

On Wednesday evening, March 27, a very pretty wedding was solemnized at the Valley Christian church when Miss Lucy H. Jenkins, of Hood River, Oregon, and Mr. Ora A. Rhodes were united in marriage, Rev. W. A. Elkins officiating.

The bride was beautifully dressed in white crepe de Paris, carrying a bouquet of white carnations. She was attended by her sister, Miss Mabel Jenkins, who was daintily attired, carrying a tied bouquet of the same.

The groom was dressed in the usual conventional black and attended by Mr. R. A. Francis, of Corvallis, formerly of Athena.

Friends of the bride and groom tastefully decorated the church. The marriage altar was backed by a pointed half-circle of Oregon grape vine (leaves) on white, based with growing plants.

The bride was conducted to the altar by her father, J. W. Jenkins. The bridal procession entered the church at 8 p. m. to a march played by Mrs. W. A. Elkins.

After the ceremony and congratulations, the young couple left for Hood River, where they took the early morning train for Portland.

Mrs. Rhodes is the eldest daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Jenkins, of this valley, and is well known in this vicinity, having here grown to womanhood.

Mr. Rhodes's former home was in Athena, Ore., where he has a host of friends, having spent the greater part of his life at that place and is known to be a young man of exemplary character.

That Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes are estimable young people is shown by the way their many friends remembered them. They received many valuable gifts from friends everywhere. It is the desire of their friends here that joy and happiness may attend them.

Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades will reside near Hood River.

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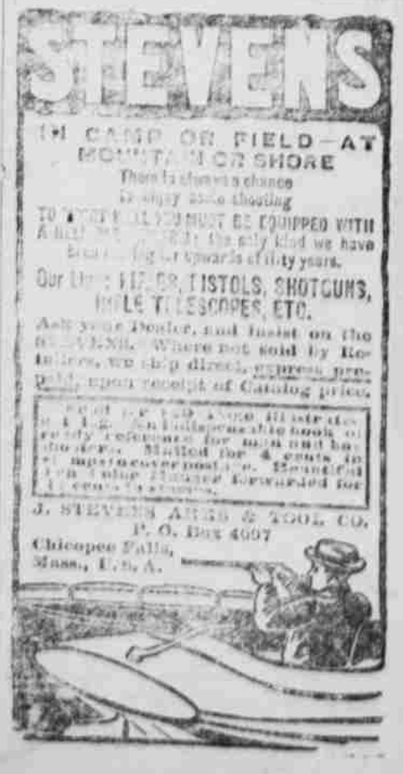

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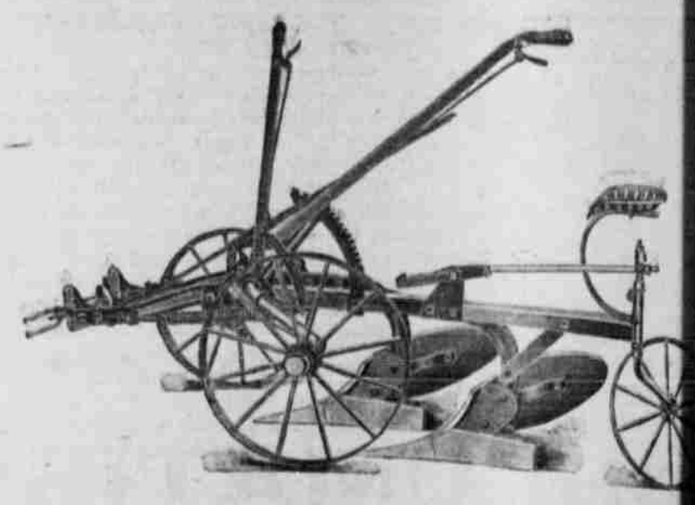

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