

The Madras Pioneer

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ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

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THURSDAY May 9, 1907

SUPPORT STATE UNIVERSITY

Oregon cannot afford to fall behind the other states of the Pacific Slope in her support of educational institutions, at a time when thousands of colonists from the Eastern and Middle Western states are heading toward this coast in search of homes. To do so would be to handicap ourselves in the very keen competition for the desirable class of settlers who are finding homes in the Northwest, by the idea that Oregon is a "backwoods state". Failure to properly support the State University would justly be attributed to indifference towards educational interests in this state.

The state Legislature at its last session displayed a proper spirit of liberality towards the State University by the appropriation of \$125,000 annually for two years, for the support of that institution. That sum is not too much if Oregon wants its State University to take rank among the universities of the Northwest. The state of Washington has just appropriated \$225,000 per year for the maintenance of its state university. Idaho gives \$125,000 per year to its state university, while California appropriates a million annually.

In some localities, however, a movement is on foot to invoke the referendum to defeat the appropriation. The movement is in our opinion ill-advised and ill-timed, and if the appropriation for the State University goes to a vote before the people it should certainly be sustained. The state should support her chief educational institution in a manner befitting a progressive people, which will be permitted by the appropriation passed by the last Legislature.

HORSES ARE IN DEMAND

The demand for draft horses both in city and country districts has not been so great in many years and, of course, the price of standard animals is high. Buyers have bought all the horses they can and are at their wit's end in a vain effort to supply the market. The Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington farms and ranges have been cleared of all the desirable horses that are for sale and second-grade animals are being bought at good prices.

Those who have predicted that the advent of the gasoline buggy and freight truck and electric cars would sound the death knell and relegate horses to the history of the past, will have to revise their calculations. The horse can do work that man has so far been unable to invent a machine to do. Like the skilled human hand, he will never be entirely useless.

The reconstruction work in San Francisco is said to kill or fatally injure 15 horses every day. Half-buried nails, irons, broken glass and other debris left in the track of the awful conflagration which destroyed that city a little over a year ago, pierce his faithful feet while he assists in clearing up the ruin.

Unprecedented activity in all lines of construction work is

employing thousands of horses. Even farmers in the Hood River valley are unable to secure what horses they need. Portland's street sprinklers cannot all be operated because the lack of horses to draw them and similar shortages are said to exist all over the Coast.

RURAL HIGH SCHOOL LAW

On and after May 25 union high schools may be organized in any of the counties of this state, by means of which schools in country districts may be provided with courses for students who have completed the grammar grades, says the Oregonian. This is possible under a recent act of the Legislature, passed to meet a demand for higher education for suburban districts. By grouping several districts together a central high school may be formed to be supported by the several districts so grouped together. To form a union high school district petitions must be prepared in the districts to be united, addressed to the boundary board.

These petitions ask the boundary board to submit the question of a high school to the several districts for a vote at the annual meeting of each district. To bring about a union a majority vote must be cast in all the districts. If one of the districts votes against a union it is enough to defeat the whole measure. The law provides that where two third-class districts unite the school boards become the governing power. If three third-class districts unite, the Board of Control is composed of the chairmen of the respective boards. If any other combination is formed the governing board is composed of five members appointed by the boundary board to serve until the next annual election, when the taxpayers elect.

Arrangements may be made to use the school house in any of the districts for high school purposes. Districts having high schools are required to admit pupils from other districts. Union high schools thus formed will be maintained by special tax. The expense is estimated by the high school board and then apportioned among the districts that have been united according to the assessed valuation of each. Each district is required to levy its share after the apportionment has been made.

Under the law as interpreted by a Pendleton jury, it is "open season" for the tin-horn gambler all the year around. While that was not the phraseology of the verdict, it is the effect of the interpretation of the law by that particular jury, if generally applied. And yet, the verdict of the jury and the acquittal of McManus is generally approved throughout the state. In Pendleton the verdict is said to be regarded as a decided victory for the better element of the town, in their fight with the gambling element. It is unquestionably true that had the victim of McManus's gun been a reputable citizen, his slayer would not have escaped without some punishment. But it is equally true that had the victim been a reputable citizen, the circumstances which led up to the killing would not have occurred. Under our law it is as great a crime to kill a tin-horn gambler as it is an Episcopalian bishop, but juries seldom regard it so.

Here's wishing success to the farmers in the Deschutes country who are boring for artesian water. When they have a supply of water for domestic purposes there will be few more

prosperous homes in Oregon than in the Agency Plains country and the region farther south.—Oregonian.

COW FOR SALE

Fresh milk cow for sale. For particulars inquire of Dave Peck at ranch on Opal Prairie. m2-23

Try our Imperial washing machine, it is the best. McTaggart & By.

RANCH FOR SALE OR TRADE

Good stock farm in Lane and Douglas counties; 100 acres of rich bottom land; good pasture for 100 head cattle; soil rich and productive, requiring no irrigation; finest of water and climate ideal; healthfulness of locality unsurpassed; no insect pests in garden or orchard; fish and game plentiful. A bargain at \$4,000; closest inspection invited. Will either sell, or trade for wheat land in this section. Inquire of John McTaggart or Max Lueddemann, Madras, Oregon

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Stallion for Service

The big Belgian, property of the Haystack Livestock Breeders Association, will be kept at the Leach place, three miles west of Lamonta, during season commencing April 7th. This horse has proven a sure foal-getter and his colts are giving good satisfaction.

Haystack Livestock Breeders Association

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