

**The Madras Pioneer**

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 THURSDAY July 18, 1907

**"A STITCH IN TIME"**

We are giving space elsewhere in these columns to a news story telling of the ruinous spread of noxious weeds in certain wheat districts of Washington and Oregon. The publication of these stories, we believe, is timely, because of the warning they contain to the farmers of this section, who are invited to read the story and take the lesson to heart. Oregon has anti-weed laws which if enforced to the letter, would prevent the spread of noxious weeds, but the laws are not enforced and the farmer is thrown upon his own resources in combatting the weeds. Under these conditions the best, and in fact the only, protection lies in co-operation among the farmers. There are in this district a number of ranches which are foul with weeds, and not only are they ruinous to those ranches, but they are a menace to the adjoining lands. A very small effort will clean them now, but if delayed too long, this district may be confronted by as serious a condition as prevails in certain sections of Umatilla county, Oregon, and Franklin county Washington.

**WHEAT CONTRACTED AT 75c**

Several small crops of new wheat in the east end of Umatilla county have been contracted by flour mills for 75 cents per bushel this week, which has given a decidedly strong tendency to the wheat market in this city, although none is being bought or contracted at any price here.

Old wheat is quoted at about 70 cents today, while there is little being sold at any price. It is thought the new crop will start at better than 70 cents, although none of the buyers have authorized the statement or have given any intimation of what they will pay.—East Oregonian.

The course of the Chicago wheat market at this critical stage of the season would indicate that the crop reporters have been indulging in some remarkable lies, or else the "talent" is slated for a surprise. With a decrease of about 4,000,000 bushels in "quantities on passage," a slight decrease in world's shipments, only a moderate increase in the American visible and unfavorable weather for harvest in Kansas, the price was hammered down nearly 2 cents per bushel yesterday. Wheat above 90 cents per bushel is generally regarded a high, out if, as generally reported, there is a pronounced shortage in the crop on both sides of the Atlantic, it may look cheap before the turn of the year.—Oregonian.

Applications for the purchase of coal lands in Crook county appearing in the Madras Pioneer, are the first of that character that we have seen in Oregon. The land was applied for, fortunately, before the withdrawal of all such lands from entry by the Secretary of the Interior. The land in question is in the discovery east of Hay Creek, where the Observer advised farmers to go last winter and haul their fuel supplies. It may have to be so next winter.—Moro Observer.

**MAY POOL WHEAT CROP**

**Agency Plains Farmers Desire Shaniko Prices at Madras**

**MEETING HELD TO DISCUSS QUESTION**

**Promoters Have Apparently Overlooked Some Essential Points in Reasoning For Its Success**

It is reported that a meeting of ranchers on Agency Plains was held last Tuesday, for the purpose of discussing the marketing of, and the price for, this season's crop of wheat, and that an effort will be made to effect a pool, to hold for the same price in Madras as will be paid at Shaniko, the nearest railroad point. Those promoting the pool advance the argument that by holding their grain they can demand that price here and secure it.

In taking that stand they overlook, however, the most important factor in fixing the price of any product, which is the matter of supply and demand. Last year there was a short crop in this district, the local demand exceeding the visible supply, and as a result wheat brought 75 cents to 85 cents per bushel here, while out at the railroad it was selling for 55 to 57 cents. This year the conditions are reversed, and while the shortage of the wheat crop throughout the world is running the price of wheat up to the dollar mark, this district is blessed with the banner crop of its history and has a large surplus over and above the demands of the local market. And so, in order to take advantage of the high prices outside, the farmer must take his crop into those markets where the shortage is felt. And, if he does that, he must figure out of the price he gets, the cost of freighting 45 miles to the railroad, in order to arrive at the net price he receives for his grain. It is a simple problem of supply and demand, and emphasizes the need this section has for a railroad.

To follow out the argument of the promoters of the wheat pool on Agency Plains, suppose that the pool can be effected, and that every farmer in this section would go into it and hold his wheat for a certain price. If there were no "leaks" that would assuredly compel the consumer to pay the price for what wheat he had to have, because at present prices he couldn't go out to the railroad and haul it in. But the weak point in the pool is again the question of supply and demand, and whenever the pool was dissolved and the wheat put on the market, the supply so largely exceeds the demand that the price would immediately go down again. The point is made that only so much would be put upon the market as would satisfy the demand, but that fails to be a saving clause for the reason that the large surplus remaining on hand would still have to be marketed at the railroad before a new crop comes on, and there is no assurance that the price there would advance.

If supply and demand regulates the price where adequate transportation facilities are enjoyed, its rule is even more absolute in sections remote from the railroad, and it is only in very exceptional years like this that the outside market enters into active competition with the local market in the interior wheat districts. Without that competition this year

our bumper wheat crop might go begging for any kind of a price.

It is urged that the merchants here should hold the price up this year and help to get "the Shaniko price" here for the farmer. On that point the farmer wants to be assured of one thing—that every business man in Madras wants him to get the highest price possible for his product, and will help him to that end all he can. Not a merchant in Madras is able to buy wheat for speculative purposes, and his only concern is to assist the producer of this section in converting his crop into cash at the very best price obtainable. Eighty cent wheat for the farmer in Madras would mean more for the Madras merchant than if the farmer has to take 55 cents, but the merchant can't regulate the price. He can help the farmer get "all there is in it" out of his wheat, and that is the extent of his effect on the market. And to this end an effort is already being made to effect arrangements for buying the crop of this locality here, for delivery at the railroad, at the best price obtainable there.

Marketing a wheat crop in sections remote from a railroad always presents difficulties when the supply exceeds the local demand, but the unusual conditions in the world's markets this year offer a solution by giving the farmer a market for that surplus. And that suggests the best plan of holding up the local price. If the farmers can sell at the railroad enough of this year's crop to reduce the supply to a quantity commensurate with the demand, they will be in better condition financially and certainly in better position tactically to control the local price.

**TO KILL ANTS**

Use A Crowbar and Some Carbon Bisulphid, or Poison With Arsenic

In reply to a query from Mrs. Cora Alderdyce of Culver, Dr. James Withycombe, director at the Oregon experiment station at Corvallis gave the following instructions for destroying ants such as are common in this section, and do more or less damage in gardens and fields. He says:

"Regarding the destruction of the ants you mentioned, Prof. Cordley, our entomologist, says there are two general ways of destroying these ants. One is to take a crowbar and make some holes about two feet deep, putting in each about a tablespoonful of carbon bisulphid, then tamp the ground down thoroughly on top. The fumes of this will asphyxiate the ants. If the infested area is not too large, by putting a blanket or some other covering immediately over where the carbon bisulphid is applied this will facilitate the destruction of the ants."

"Another good method, although slower perhaps, is to mix arsenic or Paris green with syrup in shallow dishes and place these where the ants can reach them. This will ultimately get rid of them."

The Corvallis & Eastern Railroad is being sued by the Government for \$10,703 for the burning of timber along the right of way of that road, the destruction of the timber being charged to the failure of the company to keep its right of way clean and free from refuse. The fires occurred last year and more than 13,000,000 feet of timber was destroyed. The burned area lies in the Cascade Reserve.

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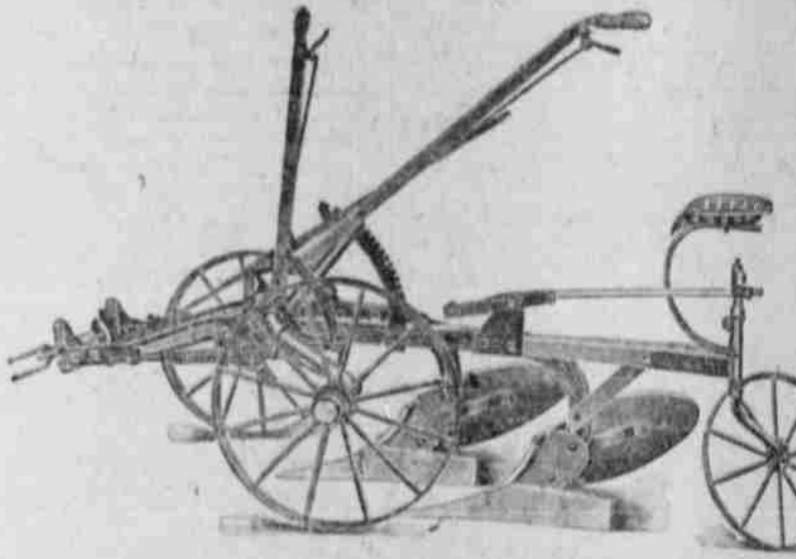
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**TIME TABLE NO. 10.**  
 Effective July 8, 1907.

South Bound No. 2.	STATION.	North Bound No. 1.
Leave		Arrive
2:35 p.m.	Riggs	11:50 a.m.
2:55 p.m.	Gibsons	11:30 a.m.
3:15 p.m.	Wagon	11:10 a.m.
3:32 p.m.	Klondyke	10:55 a.m.
3:48 p.m.	Summit	10:40 a.m.
3:55 p.m.	Hay C. Jc.	10:24 a.m.
4:25 p.m.	McDonnalds	10:22 a.m.
4:45 p.m.	DeMoss	10:05 a.m.
5:05 p.m.	Moro	9:55 a.m.
5:25 p.m.	Erskineville	9:37 a.m.
5:45 p.m.	Yall's	9:30 a.m.
5:55 p.m.	Bourbon	8:55 a.m.
6:11 p.m.	Kent	8:40 a.m.
6:21 p.m.	Wileox	8:30 a.m.
6:30 p.m.	Shaniko	8:30 a.m. Leave

For rates and other information apply to  
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