

The Madras Pioneer

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ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION

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THURSDAY Dec. 26, 1907

PLANTS AS RAINMAKERS

One of the wettest storms ever known in this district has been prevailing during the past week, snow and rainfall alternating. The ground is wet down several feet, which insures that the precipitation to follow will be stored deep in the soil where it will be available for crop growth next Spring. While it may be too early in the history of this country's settlement and cultivation to state that the breaking up and tilling of the raw lands has, through the force of Nature, begun to cause more precipitation in this district already, this seems to be a fact. This has been the result in so many instances where arid and semi-arid regions have been brought under cultivation that it is now accepted as a scientific fact. While no theory of this increase of rainfall has been proven, it may be that plants and trees during growth and decay exhale gases, which on rising into the air and coming into contact with the clouds, condense the moisture held in them and cause it to fall as rain. It is some such theory as this on which the rainmakers work, only that they generate the gases artificially. No doubt the plants and trees could teach the rainmakers a valuable lesson in the business, for it is safe to say that there is some good and sufficient reason for the increase of rainfall in a section of country after it is put in cultivation, it doesn't just happen. With a wet Winter last season and prospects for another this season, it makes us wonder if the increased rainfall has not already begun.

INDIANS WORSHIPED COYOTE

During the coming month the stockmen throughout the state of Oregon propose to make a concerted war on the coyotes, in an effort to free themselves from the depredations of these cunning pests among their flocks of sheep, besides losses of swine and poultry. The coyote has not a friend on earth among beasts and it has been supposed that the hand of every man is against him, and it will doubtless surprise many to learn that not more than one generation ago the coyote was held sacred by the Warm Spring tribe of Indians, and was, in fact, knelt down to and worshiped by them. It is said that there are still those among the old Indians on the reservation who will not under any circumstances kill or molest coyotes.

According to the tradition three or four coyotes would be taken captive, whereupon the tribe would gather around them and bow down and "momuk hiyu wawa." The cunning of the coyote, his ability to extricate himself in safety from seemingly impossible situations and his proverbial luck in keeping his hide whole, doubtless appealed to the Indian imagination as something akin to the supernatural, and they fell down and worshiped this thing which possessed to such a high degree those traits esteemed as virtues by uncivilized Indians, while his weird and

lonesome cries in the night probably took the place of songs from choirs of heavenly angels.

But, how are the mighty fallen! In this rimrock and sagebrush country, where his godship once roamed and howled at will, in a land once overflowing with jack rabbits, the white man has set up his house and introduced the faith of another God. The Indians attend Christian services on Sunday, the sagebrush wastes grow crops of golden wheat, the jackrabbits are becoming scarce and the erstwhile coyote-god is "sore put to it," being shot at, trapped for, hounded and harassed by every available means. Now a general war is declared against him, with even poisoned carcasses introduced as a means toward his end. Vale coyote.

MADRAS IS THE GATEWAY

The news contained in the story that the Mount Hood Railway & Power company has purchased the Laidlaw townsite, if true, means that that line is headed for Central Oregon, and is of as much importance to Madras as to Laidlaw. A railroad coming into Central Oregon from the north could not, if it were desired to do so, miss Madras, and, located as it is in the heart of a great agricultural district, this place will be an objective point. A line from Mount Hood south to Laidlaw could not be engineered up the west side of the Deschutes River for the reason that the topography of the Matoles region and that section lying east of Mount Jefferson would make the cost of construction prohibitive, even though it did not present impossible barriers to engineering skill. If the route, as reconnoitered by the Mount Hood company's engineers, follows down the Warm Spring River to the Deschutes and then up the Deschutes canyon, it would not follow the river above the mouth of Willow Creek and blast a roadbed for every foot of the way from the basalt cliffs, when by coming up the Willow Creek gorge to Madras the remainder of the line southward would be on a level plain where curves could be eliminated and the cost of construction would be only practically the cost of materials, beside passing through the heart of 700 square miles of wheat land. Madras is the gateway to Central Oregon for any railway line from the north and is surely destined to be a town of importance and a heavy shipping point in the event of a railroad coming in from that direction.

NO GRAFT IN D. I. & P. CO.

In reference to the recent passing to patent of the application of the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Co.'s reclaimed portion of their segregation of 38,400 acres, the Bend Bulletin says:

"This action by the government discounts completely the charge of 'graft' that was lodged against the company a few months ago, and proves conclusively that the parties responsible for the complaint were spreading a malicious and damaging falsehood. The work of the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company now bears the stamp of the government's approval."

The members of the Oregon delegation in Congress have agreed among themselves that hereafter Land Office and Presidential Postmasters shall be nominated and recommended for appointment by the two Senators and the Representatives from the district, a majority deciding. All officers acting

in state capacity such as United States District Attorney, Collector of Customs, etc., will be appointed by the entire delegation, a majority vote deciding in each case. No one but republicans will be appointed.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, the administrator of the estate of Julius Peyenski, deceased, to all persons having claims against said deceased to present them with the proper vouchers to the undersigned at his residence near Madras, Oregon, within six months from the first publication of this notice. Dated this 19th day of December, 1907.
TILLMAN REUTER,
Administrator of the estate of Julius Peyenski, deceased. d19-j23

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA

A few of the reasons why so many are joining the Modern Woodmen of America:

We have 960,000 members with 20,000 outstanding certificates, which is far more than the two next largest Societies combined.

Three assessments missed the first ten months of this year; all claims paid and \$3,000,000 cash on hand.

First eight months of this year we issued 100,122 new certificates.

There are 175 of the leading Fraternal insurance societies that have six million members at the present time. The Modern Woodmen have nearly one-sixth of this entire membership.

There are six billion four hundred and fifty million dollars of protection for the widows and orphans carried by the members of these societies.

The M. W. A. carries One Billion Three Hundred and Fifty Million of this amount, or a little more than one-sixth of all the fraternal insurance carried in the United States.

The management expense of this great order has cost each member not to exceed the price of one postage stamp per week since starting in business.

We are furnishing GOOD RELIABLE INSURANCE to our members for about one-half what other societies charge.

Net increase in the following societies and cost per thousand, 1906:

	Net Increase 1906.	Cost per \$1000 at age 30
Artisans	500	\$ 7 80
Maccabees	Decrease	12 00
A. O. U. W.	Decrease	10 80
Royal Arcanum	Decrease	13 20
W. O. W.	5,802	10 20
Modern Woodm'n	90,080	5 85

The cost at 30 years of age in the M. W. A. has never exceeded \$5.85 per thousand in one year. Compare this with the cost in other societies. These are a few of the reasons "WHY" we are writing an average of 12,516 members per month. If this record suits you we want your application for membership. Yours fraternally, J. E. Shears, District Deputy, 522 Chamber of Commerce, Portland, Oregon.

For further information see C. A. Waterhouse, local deputy, at Madras, Oregon. n21ti

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MADRAS, OREGON