

# The Madras Pioneer

MADRAS, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1908.

NO. 15

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MADRAS, OREGON

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## THE OREGON KING MINING CASE DECIDED

Present Owners Of Well Known Crook County Mine Get Favorable Decision.

It is reported that the well known Oregon King mine at Ashwood is once more out of litigation, a decision favorable to the owners of the mine having been rendered in the federal court at Portland last week, in the suit brought against the company for a forty-seventh interest in the mine. The suit was brought by Richard McHaney, who alleged that he furnished the money that "grub-staked" the locators of the mine, from whom the Oregon King Company bought the property. This decision sets at rest the title of the Oregon King Mining Company in this valuable property, over which there has been a great deal of litigation during the past six or seven years.

The Oregon King mine is one of the best known properties in the Northwest, although it has never been operated as a mine. A short time after the present owners acquired the property, and while they were seeking a patent to their claims, an adverse claim was filed against the property and a suit was brought in the federal court by the adverse claimants. This suit was tried out several times in the federal court, and a settlement was finally effected between the company and the adverse claimants. This litigation, it is claimed, cost the company in the neighborhood of \$75,000. Subsequently to that, and when it was thought title had been quieted, the second suit was filed by another claimant, who claimed the property, or four-sevenths of it on a grub-stake. This is the suit which has just been decided in favor of the owners.

The mine has been developed to a depth of over 600 feet, with drifts at each hundred foot level, and numerous experts who have examined the property have pronounced it one of the great mines of the state. The ore is rich in both gold and silver, with increasing values in copper as depth is acquired.

It is unquestionably a great property and it is to be hoped that now, since title is quieted to the property, the mine will be further developed, and active operations begun on an extensive scale.

## DEATH OF ISAAC FRANK SMITH

Isaac Frank Smith, a brother of Mrs. B. S. Larkin and Miss Elva Smith of this place, died in the hospital at The Dalles, Sunday, November 15, death being due to paralysis, brought on by hemorrhage of the brain. Mr. Smith's home was in Brownell, Kansas, which he left six weeks ago to visit relatives in California and Oregon. While climbing a mountain peak in California he ruptured a blood vessel of the brain, and later suffered a severe hemorrhage. He was taken to The Dalles from Madras and placed in one of the hospitals of that city, his sisters from this place accompanying him and securing the best of attention for him, but from the first there was little hope of his recovery.

Deceased was a farmer by occupation, and 55 years of age. He leaves a wife and two sons in Kansas and one daughter in California, besides other relatives in Oregon, to mourn his death. His body was taken to his home at Brownell, Kansas, for burial.

## WILL TRY CAMPBELL SYSTEM

Robert Osborn was in town Monday from his ranch near Culver. Mr. Osborn has subscribed for Campbell's Scientific Farmer, which is devoted largely to the exploitation of the famous "Campbell system" of dry land farming, and he expects to make a careful study of the system with a view to applying it in the cultivation of his land. He had remarkable success with a portion of his crop this year, which he attributed to the care with which he cultivated the land upon which this crop was grown. He expects to follow up this success with a more extensive application of approved methods of dry land farming in the coming year.

## NEW COMMISSIONER AT ANTELOPE

H. C. Rooper has been appointed a United States Commissioner at Antelope, and the appointment will meet with the approval of all who are acquainted with the new appointee. That district has been without a Commissioner for over three years, during which time persons having land business to transact have either had to go to The Dalles, or come before the Commissioner at Madras, necessitating the loss of two days in either case. The appointment of Mr. Rooper will, therefore, prove a great convenience to the settlers of that section.

## WILL HAVE BIG RABBIT DRIVE ON AGENCY PLAINS

Rabbits Are Doing Much Damage--Extensive Preparations Being Made To Kill Them--Drive Commences December 14

The first rabbit drive ever made on Agency Plains will be undertaken by the farmers of that section December 14 and preparations are being made to insure the success of the drive. A large killing corral will be built with wings extending a quarter of a mile on each side of the corral so that the rabbits can be driven into the corral, 2-foot wire netting being used for the wings and 4-foot netting for the corral. The drivers will assemble early Monday morning, December 14, at A. Monner's farm, and the drive will start at the North end of Agency Plains and cover a large territory South and East of that point. No dogs or guns will be allowed.

The Indians from the Warm Springs reservation have been invited to come over and participate in the drive and it is expected that a large number will avail themselves of the invitation. The drive will begin on the 14th of December, and will be continued as long as the success of the undertaking warrants.

The rabbits have become more numerous in this section than they have

been in a number of years. Several years ago the rabbits throughout this section were almost exterminated by a disease which made great ravages in their ranks. Experts from the government biological department were sent here to investigate the disease, with a view to utilizing it for ridding other sections of the rabbit pest by inoculation, but the disease baffled the experts who were sent to investigate it and the matter was not pursued further. The disease seems, however, to have spent its force and in the past two years there has been an alarming increase in the number of rabbits. In the past year many farmers in the more sparsely settled districts have complained that their crops were entirely destroyed by the rabbits, while all have complained of some damage from these pests. It is this condition of affairs which has aroused the farmers to action and an effort will be made to rid the country of rabbits by a series of drives. It is expected that in the first drive on Agency Plains several thousand rabbits will be corralled and killed.

## HEISLER STATION BURNT DOWN SUNDAY

Heisler stage station was destroyed by fire Sunday morning at about 9 o'clock, the fire having caught from a defective flue which passed through the roof of the building. The building and practically all of the contents were destroyed, including the blanks and fixtures used in the postoffice, which was conducted in the same building. The building was the property of Veazie & Brown but was leased by G. M. Cornett, who used it as a stage station.

The building was one of the oldest in the county and it is claimed that it was built there in the 'sixties. It has been used for a great many years as a station on the Prineville stage line. The building will doubtless be built at once, as Heisler is a convenient point for the stage station.

The Madras mail comes by way of Heisler, John Lockard being the contractor between that station and Madras. He says that for the present he is making his headquarters in the barn, until a new building can be put up.

## FRIDAY-HOLMES NUPTIALS

Cards have been received in Madras announcing the marriage of Miss Ida Friday to Mr. A. Sovereign Holmes, which occurred at the home of the bride at Cross Keys, Wednesday morning, November 18, 1908. The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. R. Moorhead of Madras, the bride being attended by Mrs. J. D. McAndie of Antelope as Matron of Honor and John Friday, a brother of the bride, being the groom's best man. The Friday home was beautifully decorated with ferns and chrysanthemums, ferns and lilies of the valley. The relatives of the bride and a few of their intimate friends were present to witness the solemnization of the happy event. After the ceremony was over and congratulations and felicitations had been showered upon the newly made bride and groom, a wedding breakfast was served to the bridal party and the guests of the occasion.

The bride is the youngest daughter of Mrs. A. J. Friday, one of the pioneer settlers on Trout creek, and whose hospitable home is one of the landmarks of the county. The groom is a most estimable young man, for many years a resident of this county but more recently engaged in the stock business at Burnt Ranch in Wheeler county. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes are both well known at this place and throughout the county, and the Pioneer joins their hosts of friends in congratulations and good wishes for a full measure of happiness in their new estate.

The bride and groom were the recipients of a number of beautiful and useful presents, among which were many handsome pieces of cut glass and silverware and several checks from members of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes left Wednesday afternoon for their future home at Burnt Ranch.

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## SHERIFF IN A PREDICAMENT

Sheriff Frank Elkins has been placed in a peculiar dilemma this week, in his efforts to perform the duties of his office and at the same time not violate the provisions of the local option law. The stock of liquors belonging to A. B. Esteban, a Bend saloon keeper, was attached by one of his creditors. Judge Bradshaw issued an order directing that the stock be sold by the sheriff under the attachment, in front of the court house on Nov. 24. But the sale of liquor in Crook county is illegal except on prescription of a physician, and Sheriff Elkins must either violate the local option law or disobey the mandate of the court.

The sheriff passed the problem up to the district attorney, and it has not yet been learned what disposition was made of the troublesome question.

## ITEMS FROM OUR EXCHANGES

### Hanford Party Dirbanded

The T. C. Hanford surveying crew returned last night from its trip up the Deschutes. They surveyed a line from Sherars Bridge on the Deschutes to near Madras where they met Crane's gang of surveyors, who were surveying north from Madras.

The Hanford crew consists of 15 men, who with Mr. Hanford, were called into the city. The men were discharged, having completed their survey. Mr. Nelson of the surveying party returned with the crew and is in the city today.

It is impossible to gain information regarding future movements of the railroads, but there is a distant rumble of new railroads into the interior that will be built at an early date that cannot help being heard. The whistles of locomotives will be heard going up the Deschutes and on to Klamath in the not far distant time.

As soon as the surveying is all done and rights-of-way along the proposed route are all secured, then there will be something tangible to write about concerning railroad building through Oregon.—The Dalles Chronicle.

### Prohibition Troubles Them Not

Antelope, which went dry by three votes, has allowed its saloons to run openly ever since July 1 the same as if nothing had happened, and no complaints are ever heard over these violations. The fact that Shaniko, a wet precinct, is only seven miles distant may have considerable bearing upon the matter. At Pendleton, where there were a lot of indictments, the East Oregonian suggests fining certain houses which are dispensing near beer as well as the real stuff which giveth the skies a rosy tint. At Prineville we have no saloons or blind pigs, but prohibition troubleth us not.—Prineville Review.

### Surveyors At Redmond

A crew of Harriman surveyors reached Redmond last Friday and established camp there. The crew contains about a dozen men and is in charge of Engineer Mills. A special to the Bulletin this morning states that the crew is running a line toward Bend, but at present had gotten only a short distance out of Redmond.

The surveyors under Engineer Mills have run a line from Madras to Redmond.—Bend Bulletin.