

The Madras Pioneer

MADRAS, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1908.

NO. 19

VOL V

Green Hotel

NOW UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

House has been thoroughly renovated. No better table in Central Oregon for the money. Your wants will be courteously attended to. Headquarters for traveling men.

First-class Livery in Connection

J. W. LIVINGSTON, Proprietor

MADRAS, OREGON

Madras Harness Shop

E. M. DAVIS, Prop.

LOCATED IN POSTOFFICE BUILDING

Just received a full line of Horse Blankets, Collars, Buggy Whips, Collar Pads, Whip Stocks and Lashes, Spurs and bits.

Horse Furnishing Goods Always Kept In Stock

Repairing Neatly Done Prices Are Lowest

Give Me A Trial

A. E. CROSBY

PROPRIETOR

POSTOFFICE PHARMACY

Carries a Complete Line of Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Household Remedies, Druggists' Sundries and Photo Supplies. Country Mail Orders I give my personal attention. A Graduate in Charge. Safe delivery guaranteed. Your prescription my special. Strychnine and Pest Destroyers. Stock Foods and Dips of all kinds. Agency for Eastman Kodaks. Both Phones. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

THE DALLES,

OREGON



MADRAS MEAT MARKET

JAMES W. HURT, PROPRIETOR

FRESH AND CURED MEATS

Fish, Vegetables and Country Produce

MADRAS,

OREGON

AT ROBINSON'S BIG STORE

Christmas Goods And NOVELTIES

Big assortment of Christmas candies and nuts
Special price for public Christmas entertainments

FRESH GROCERIES And Dainties For
The Christmas Table

J. C. & M. A. ROBINSON
GENERAL MERCHANTS
MADRAS, OREGON

A. M. WILLIAMS & CO.

DEALERS IN

Dry Goods, Clothing,
Furnishing Goods

BOOTS AND SHOES
HATS AND CAPS

THE DALLES OREGON

List your property

WITH ME

I have more buyers than I
have land for sale

Ora Van Tassel

LAND AGENT

MADRAS, OREGON

T. B. TUCKER

Horseshoeing and
General Blacksmithing

WAGON AND
PLOW WORK

First-Class Work Guaranteed

Located in the old Brooks shop

MADRAS, OREGON

Blankets & Robes

NEW STOCK

Fine stock of Harness, Collars,
Bridles, Halters, Whips and
other articles kept in a first-
class Harness Shop

DURABLE LINE OF SHOES

Wheat Taken In Trade

B. S. LARKIN

MADRAS, ORE.

FURNITURE & UNDER TAKING SUPPLIES

LOUCKS BROS
MADRAS, OREGON

The Pioneer gives you the home and
county news and keeps you in touch
with your surroundings. Subscribe
for it. Price \$1.50 per year.

CROOK'S VALUATIONS INCREASING RAPIDLY

Total Assessment \$7,070,254—1903
Property Was Valued At
\$2,300,000

Crook county is growing rapidly in wealth according to figures taken from the assessment rolls. And the greatest strides have been made in the past two years while five years ago the assessable property in the county was only \$2,300,000, less than one-third of the valuation at present. The total valuation of taxable property now is \$7,070,254. The Western portion of the county has contributed a large portion of the increased property valuation with its homestead proofs, timber lands, desert lands reclaimed and the multitude of improvements consequent upon the settling up of Crook's vast domain.

The number of acres under cultivation is 59,135, with a valuation of \$367,559; the number of acres of uncultivated land is 1,203,605, mostly timber or homestead lands unentered, valued at \$4,467,125. The value of improvements on deeded or patented land is \$178,724, of all city and town lots \$118,725, of improvements on city or town lots \$188,730, and of improvements on lands not deeded or patented \$65,919.

Crook county has 10,088 horses valued at \$210,974; 30,882 cattle valued at \$310,890; 102,880 sheep and goats valued at \$176,645; 1,540 swine valued at \$4402; 17 mules, valued at \$340, and three dogs valued at \$150.

There are 54 miles of completed telephone lines, with a valuation of \$3945. Sawmills and farm engines are valued at \$38,165; merchandise and stocks in trade \$130,190; farm machinery, implements and wagons \$63,175; money, notes and accounts \$245,023; 750 shares of stock valued at \$83,955, and household furniture, watches, jewelry, etc., valued at \$47,519.

The canals and ditches of reclamation companies have been valued by the assessor at \$969,000, though under a decision the supreme court has held that these improvements are unassessable.

SMALL CHANCE FOR DRY FARM MEASURE

Non-Residence Amendment Is Not
Popular With House Of Rep-
resentatives

Washington, Dec. 21.—The outlook for the 320-acre dry farm homestead bill is decidedly gloomy. When Congress assembled the friends of the measure entertained hope that the objectionable features might be eliminated and the bill as amended be agreed to before March 4.

Representative Mondell, chairman of the Public Lands committee, who has charge of the bill in the House, has been canvassing the situation, and as a result of his inquiries believes that it will be impossible to secure any further action this congress. Members of the House are generally inclined to view this measure with suspicion, for the impression was created during the consideration of the conference report last session that the bill contained a joker and that it could be so construed as to permit the entry of almost any vacant lands in tracts of 320 acres, and under terms much more lenient than allowed in the present homestead law.

According to Mr. Mondell, the opposition to the bill hinges on the so-called Smoot amendment, which permits entrymen, under certain circumstances, to acquire title without residing upon the land. This amendment was adopted to meet conditions in Utah, but for some reason the Utah senator would not consent to confine the amendment to his state alone, but insisted that it should be general in its effect and applicable to all arid and semi-arid states.

Friends of dry-farm legislation have appealed to Senator Smoot this session to withdraw his amendment, or at least re-draft it so as to apply only to Utah. Senator Smoot has replied that Secretary Garfield is responsible for the general character of his amendment and has virtually insisted that the amendment be made applicable to all parts of the arid West, rather than to the state of Utah alone.

Whatever may be the merits of the controversy, the fact remains that the House of Representatives will not consent to the passage of any kind of a homestead bill which enables the settler to obtain title to 320 acres of land unless he is required to reside on it.

THE PIONEER JOB OFFICE Turns out neat, attractive printing. Good stock, clear type, reasonable prices.

SANTA CLAUSE WILL VISIT MADRAS CHILDREN

The Christmas entertainment Thursday evening December 24, promises to be an event of pleasure to both old and young. The auditorium of the M. E. church is being tastefully decorated for the occasion, and instead of a Christmas tree, a new feature this year will be the Christmas "log cabin," so that the children will have the opportunity of seeing Santa Claus come down a real chimney with his load of presents.

The following program is being prepared:

Song, "America,"	Audience
Invocation	Rev. Moorhead
Song	Choir
Address of Welcome	Orpha Clark
Recitation	Nellie Shutt
"	Arvella Kirk
"	Ruth McTaggart
Manger Song	Nine Little Girls
Recitation	Wanda Loveland
" Santa's Cake	Robert Cook
"	Claude Pullen
"	Meurice Snook
Song	Choir
A Suggestion to Santa,	Geo. Childers
Little Town of Bethlehem,	Minnie Brown
Song, Throw Out the Life Line,	Trio
Address to Santa Claus,	Helen Filey
Grandma's Mistake,	Inez Bennett
Song, Winter,	Intermediate Dept.
Recitation	Earl Kulp
Bells of Christmas	Lea Mayes
Recitation	Susie Cowherd
"	Lorena Hill
Song, Bethlehem Star	High School
Recitation	Roth Clark
"	Jennie Harper
Song, Holy Night,	High School
The Swan Song, Recitation,	Miss Clara Horney
Good Night Song,	Choir

WINTER WEATHER HAS A SHORT INNING

This section was visited by a touch of Winter weather last Wednesday and Thursday nights. It was all the more noticeable because there was slight indication that there was to be such a radical change. The frigid weather was preceded by a fall of about two inches of snow, which was followed by a rapidly lowering temperature and Thursday morning the thermometer registered about two degrees above zero. Thursday was clear and bright with warm sunshine but after sundown it was very evident that something would be doing and Friday morning the mercury registered about 4 degrees below zero. This is the coldest December weather experienced in several years. It was expected that Saturday night would be another cold one but there was a marked moderation during the night and by Saturday morning the weather had resumed its normal course.

There is always an apprehension as to the damage to growing crops in consequence of these cold snaps, but as the atmosphere has been perfectly still the past two weeks, so far it is safe to predict that crops have received no injury.

EXEMPT FROM COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL TAX

In accordance with a recent decision of the County School Boundary Board the Bend school district will hereafter be exempt from the tax to support the county high school, the board having ruled that the Bend high school was equal in efficiency to the county high school at Prineville. The Bend Bulletin makes the following comment on the decision of the board:

"This means that the money heretofore paid by the Bend district to support the county high school can now be expended in behalf of the Bend school, or the tax levy for school purposes may be reduced with the consequent saving to the taxpayer. However, it is probable that the money will be expended to support and increase the efficiency of the Bend school. In 1906 Bend paid into the county high school fund the sum of \$900 and in 1907, \$500, which shows that there will be quite a saving to the Bend district."

CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS

While Charley Bye was holding a horse by the bit yesterday for another man to mount, the horse jerked in such a manner as to dislocate one of his fingers.

Peter Marnach had his right wrist dislocated Tuesday at the chopping mill by his hand on which he had a heavy mitten catching in the machinery.

Meurice Snook sustained a fracture of one of his lower ribs Tuesday, while coasting down the hill near his home.

Will Have Another Hunt For The Rabbits

NEED LARGE CROWD TO HELP WITH DRIVE

The farmers of Agency Plains and vicinity are arranging for another rabbit hunt next Monday, December 28, with the expectation of being more successful in the number of rabbits done away with in the coming drive. This time the drivers will assemble at the John Trotter place near Sagebrush springs. There is a large number of rabbits in this locality because of the nearness to water and the large, thick growth of sagebrush under which they seek protection and shelter. It is thought that the difficulties will not be encountered in corralling the rabbits there that made the former drives so unsuccessful.

An important factor in a successful drive is to have sufficient number of drivers so that the rabbits can be completely surrounded and close enough together so that the rabbit that tries to dodge back through the line will come in contact with the club waiting for him. For this reason it is hoped that every farmer who can possibly spare the time will make it a point to be present. The drive will probably continue for several days. No guns will be allowed, because of the danger of some one being accidentally shot, and dogs will be barred for the reason that they would chase the rabbits in all directions and there would be small chance of corralling them.

It is hoped that there will be a large delegation of Indians present as they will help materially with the drive, and no doubt there will be a large number of rabbits slain which they can use for their Winter's meat.

The depredations of the rabbits are a well-known source of much loss to the farmers in some localities and it is hoped that this next attempt to decimate them will prove eminently successful. And, to this end it is repeated that a large number of drivers is essential to successfully corral the rabbits.

ITEMS FROM OUR EXCHANGES

Wonderful Development

Dufur Dispatch
C. H. Stoughton, one of the enthusiastic orchardists of the Dufur valley, has an apple development that is really remarkable. Last Spring Mr. Stoughton had some old trees in his orchard cut back and grafted. He took no particular notice of the trees, except that they appeared to be doing well, until just recently, after the trees had shed their foliage. Examining the trees the other day he found a full grown apple on one of the grafts and his surprise was as great as the action of the fruit was remarkable. At first Mr. Stoughton thought the apple had been shaken from another tree and had lodged on the graft in such a manner as to appear borne on the twig. Further investigation, however, proved the fruit to be the product of a less than six months old graft. The growth is perhaps unprecedented and has been the cause of much comment and speculation on the part of local horticulturists.

Fire was discovered in the upper story of D. A. Howell's residence in Shaniko last Monday. The fire started in a defective flue and when discovered had gained such headway that nearly the entire contents of the upper story were destroyed. It is reported that Uncle Billy Kelsay, who lives with his daughter, Mrs. Howell, had a narrow escape from serious injury.—Antelope Herald.

Stone work on the courthouse was finished Tuesday at noon, and the masons are now out of positions. The carpenters have almost finished structural work and it is estimated that they will be through in about two weeks, when the building will be ready for the painters and finishers. Steam heating has been installed and in working condition for some time, so that plastering will go on right along in spite of inclement weather. The building will be an imposing one and the pride of the county.—Prineville Review.

A drove of 120 hogs passed through town Sunday last to Shaniko, where they were they were shipped to Portland markets. They were owned by Crook county men and were bought by J. H. Phizma for the Union Meat Co. The hogs were in fine condition, averaging about 300 pounds in weight.—Antelope Herald.

Subscribe for the Pioneer and get the home news. Price \$1.50 per year.