

# MADRAS MINSTRELS

SANFORD'S HALL

Friday, November 17th

ADMISSION 25 CENTS, Accompanied by a Pleasant Smile

NO GROUCHES ADMITTED

Dance After the Show

Watch for the Big Parade at 4:30 P.M.

## The Madras Pioneer

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### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

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THURSDAY - NOV. 9, 1911

### PASSING OF THE WHEAT FARMER

The demonstration train, which is practically the Oregon Agricultural College on wheels, is completing a tour of four Eastern Oregon counties undertaken to show the distinction between the wheat farmer and the wheat grower. The former is the husbandman who puts all of his eggs in one basket; if the basket breaks the owner is broke. The wheat grower is he who diversifies his wheat growing with other crops, raises more and more forage, feeds his grain and forage to livestock, has his eggs in many baskets.

One of the foremost agriculturists of the day, E. H. Webster, Dean of Agriculture, Kansas Agricultural College, says, "The wheat farmer has no place in the development of the dry-farming area." Continuing, he says, "The failure to recognize this fact has caused untold suffering and loss to settlers who were enticed to occupy this country with the hope of growing wheat for profit." And again, "The transition from the open range to the abandoned wheat farm has taught that forage crops are, to a workable degree, sure; that Kaffir corn, milo and sorghum will produce sufficient grain for the needs of the stock farmer."

The wheat farmer who has a couple of thousand dollars invested is comparable to the man who would go into the dry goods busi-

ness in the city and invest all his money in calico, or the grocer who would put his entire capital in canned tomatoes. Such a man could expect nothing but failure. He would deserve nothing else.

The wheat farmer is an enemy of himself and the state. He goes broke, sometimes through crop failure, sometimes through low prices, often through a bumper crop and high prices, for he is the most optimistic man on earth and when prosperity strikes him he goes in debt for new machinery and equipments and the next year or two finds him again in financial distress.

It may be said that these conditions prevail only in dry-farming sections, i. e., in neighborhoods where the precipitation is much below normal (30 inches.) While it is just as true of other sections, we may, in the case of Oregon and Washington, confine it to the dry-farming communities, and then call attention to the further fact that the greatest sufferer through the wheat farmer's density is not the farmer himself, but his family.

Take any section you choose where wheat farming prevails; look at the homes! Look at the dearth of vegetable, fruits and flowers; the absence of society and all those conditions going to make country life pleasant. More than likely there is no well on the place, water has to be hauled from one to ten miles. There are no cows, no pigs, and every drop of water used is doled out as niggardly as a miser pays out his gold.

If such a farmer would sell half, three-fourths, even seven-eighths of his land and with the money thus secured dig or bore a well, and put in a pump and gasoline engine he could make more money from the remaining land each year than he ever made in a bumper year from his entire holding.

And think of the garden, the roses, the fruits and berries, the home life and home comforts! Something could be turned into money every day. Milk, butter, eggs, poultry, pigs, calves and beef would be coming on all the time, the land would be growing more valuable, and if the owner were thrifty he could soon buy back the land he sold to get the money to start him on the road to prosperity.—Oregonian.

### THE MADRAS DRAMATIC CLUB

From a social standpoint, the Madras Dramatic Club will keep things lively here during this winter. Already the membership is close to a hundred and at each meeting new names are received from people desiring to become members. The movement was started by a few ladies, who sought to revive interest in social conditions, and the success of their first endeavor was attested by the fact that the largest crowd ever gathered together in the city attended their presentation of a "Spinster's Convention," a few weeks ago. The affair was a gigantic success both socially and financially. The ladies realized that what the community wanted was sociability and their organization was enlarged to include any lady or gentleman who wished to become a member.

Although but a few weeks old the membership has increased almost phenomenally. The first dance by the new organization was given last Friday night and it drew the largest and most jovial crowd of dancers seen in Madras in many a day.

Each week there will be some kind of amusement for the members and their friends, both in town and in the country. On the 17th of this month they will give a production of the "Madras Minstrels," followed by a dance.

The characters are all local people and the Club expects to amuse fully as many as they did at the last entertainment.

Tillman Reuter, wizard of the Central Oregon dry farming country, has won fame for the state by capturing the prize cup for the best exhibit at the recent Dry-Farming Congress at Colorado Springs, and in addition, won 11 first prizes, 12 second and 3 third prizes. Other Central Oregon ranchmen helped to win a total of 34 prizes for Oregon. Mr. Reuter has what he considers only an average quarter section of land in the Madras district but he has done wonders. He contends that any farmer of intelligence can do likewise.

If you love your wife take her to the "Madras Minstrels," Friday night, November 17. It's the real sensation of the season.

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## MADRAS HARNESS SHOW

30 Days Clearance Sale Commencing Nov.

- |                      |                      |        |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------|
| CONCORD HARNESS      | SINGLE BUGGY HARNESS | BITS   |
| GRANGER HARNESS      | RIDING BRIDLES       | SPURS  |
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