

THE MADRAS PIONEER

MADRAS, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1912.

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OL IX

FIRST CONNECTIONS COMPLETED WITH NEW MADRAS WATER SYSTEM

CRITICISMS MADE OF HOMESTEAD LAWS

Question of Fraud by Settler Belittled

FRANCE IS THE CAUSE

Office Officials Are Unfair to Settlers in Regard to Their Residence in New Country

Secretary Fisher's objections to the Borah-Jones three-year homestead bill betray ignorance of the conditions under which homesteaders must live. Lack of information on the part of officials has been the obstacle to fair treatment of settlers. United with it is a prejudice against settlers; that land officials assume a settler is guilty of actual intentional fraud and place upon him the burden of proving innocence. This is contrary to the whole spirit of the law, which assumes a man's innocence until he is proved guilty. The objection raised by Mr. Fisher to the provision that a homesteader be given six months of absence each year, and a suggestion that he be given leave only during the winter months, ignores the actual conditions under which settlement is made. In a forested country particularly the best a settler can do in the first year is to build a cabin, clear and cultivate a small patch as a garden, order to make a living and the heavy expenses of this year he must earn money elsewhere. Mr. Fisher would have him to do so only in the winter, when there is least demand for labor. His best opportunity to earn money is in the summer and fall, when there is no one to be picked and packed, no grain to be threshed and no logging to be done. But Mr. Fisher would tie him down to his claim throughout the season when labor is in demand and release him when the demand is least.

It is a desire to put the settler at a disadvantage as against his neighbor. A man accused of a crime is allowed to hear the indictment read and to know the charges and the names of the witnesses; is the guilty of the heinous offense of trying to make a home tract of public land to have worse treatment? It is not that he may use the information to "frame up" a defense. Why should he not? His neighbor has had every opportunity to frame the indictment. Is he entitled to equal opportunity to defend himself?

The words "frame up" appear used in an invidious sense suggesting fraudulent manufacture of evidence by the settler. No doubt evidence has been manufactured in some cases, but it has also been manufactured by special agents anxious to make a record for themselves and sometimes inspired by sinister motives.

The United States Land Office is messaged with the idea that a settler is a thief and pervert, and thus early in Mr. Fisher's administration he applied to have poisoned his mind with this idea. The practical application, by some subordinate official, of the plain directions of the law for the relief of Siletz homesteaders suggests that no one remains open to secure a deal for the settler except to throw a few bureaucrats out of office, says the Oregonian. A settler's residence on back-land homestead would both improve their bodily health and give them their views on the land

MADRAS TO REVIVE OLD PUBLIC SALES

March 7 Has Been Set As Date For First Sale to Be Held This Spring

Thursday, March 7 has been set for the date of the first Farmer's Public Sale to be held in Madras this spring. The exact place of the sale will be announced in a later edition of the Pioneer. All ranchers who have farming machinery or implements of any kind, or any stock to dispose of, should notify N. C. Poulsen or J. A. Colter, who are making the preliminary arrangements. A list of all stock and implements to be disposed of will be published before the date of the sale, thus giving the seller the advantage of the best advertising, also informing prospective purchasers of what will be offered for sale. Further announcements will be made before the date of the sale.

WILL HOLD MASS AT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Father Sheehan of Bend Will Conduct Service At Local Church Monday Morning

Father Luke Sheehan, of Bend, will be in Madras Monday to conduct mass at the Catholic church. No definite arrangements as to the time of the services have been made as yet, though it is probable they will be held at 10 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to be present.

N. P. Railway Issues Booklet

Another attractive booklet, issued by the Northern Pacific Railway Company, setting forth conditions and prospects throughout Central and Eastern Oregon, has been distributed, copies being received at The Pioneer office. The booklet discusses the conditions first of the entire section of the state east of the Cascades, then goes into a more detailed exploitation of the resources and conditions as met with in each county in this large area, and then sets forth the advantages of each of the cities and towns in the interior, being in the whole a complete and accurate index of this part of the state. In the back of the book are the testimonials of prominent Crook county men, also valuable statistics in regard to the state.

There are splendid pictures throughout, showing the various sections to the best advantage.

Hog Raising Profitable

With stockyards and packing-houses assuring a ready market and with hogs at good prices, there is every reason why the Oregon farmer should make hogs at least an important side issue. The hog is a valuable aid to fertilizing land and pays a good return on the crops he consumes. With larger areas of orchard yearly coming into bearing he will devour large quantities of inferior fruit which is not otherwise marketable. He will thus yield a profit on what is now wasted. The yearly increase in young pigs keep the supply rapidly increasing from a small beginning. He is a lucrative investment.

The secret of success in farming, as in other industries, lies in finding a use for everything. There is no more use why the culls and windfalls of the orchard should be thrown away than there is wanton destruction of the slabs and sawdust of the sawmill. There is a use for everything on the farm, if the farmer will but seek until he finds it.—Oregonian.

Councilman Pearce First to Enjoy City's New System

CONTRACTOR JEFFERY IS PUSHING WORK

Mains Will Be Thoroughly Tested For Breaks and Leaks Before Being Covered—As Fast As Connections Are Made Water May Be Had in Every Residence and Business Place

That Madras has a water system is an actual, existing fact. The first connections and fittings were made Thursday in the home of Councilman O. A. Pearce, and he enjoys the distinction of being the first resident of Madras to have running water from the new system in his house. He is happy now in the hope that his days of carrying water are at an end.

All of the pipes are laid, the pumping plant is in operation, the reservoir is ready and water was pumped into it today, and now all may have water in their homes and places of business as soon as their private connections are made and their house fittings attached. The city officials who have spent a year or more of hard, patient work, overcoming difficulties of every nature which at times were the cause of much inconvenience and discouragement may take a breath of relief, for the hardest work is all finished.

Although water can be had in the residences at present, the water system is not completed. Several days will be spent in testing the pipes for leaks and breaks, connections must be made, fire hydrants put in place, ditches covered, and many other more or less important details to be attended to before the plant is officially turned over to the city by the contractors.

The pumping plant was first put into operation Thursday, water pumped through all of the pipes and into the reservoir, ready for use. In all there are about three miles of pipe mains laid, extending from the reservoir along Fifth street as far north as Willow Creek, going four blocks east of Fifth street and west as far as the depot and railroad, and around by the Madras mill. With the twelve hydrants distributed over this area, Madras will be well protected from fire, and practically every house in the city will be so situated as to be able to connect with the water system at a small cost.

Councilman Pearce has visited many of the merchants and property holders in the city, and

has met with encouraging success in securing water subscribers. The disadvantage of being without water has been felt so long, that it is not necessary for him to have to point out the advantages to be enjoyed by having water in every business and residence. The Oregon Trunk Ry. Co. has made arrangements whereby they will connect with the city system and obtain all of their water from the reservoir.

"CALICO BALL," ST. VALENTINE'S NIGHT

Madras Dramatic Club Plans For Party to Celebrate Popular Holiday

Another big dance, this time the "Calico Ball" will be held St. Valentine's night, Wednesday, February 14. All ladies are expected to wear calico dresses, and each to make a gentleman's necktie of the same material, seal the necktie in an envelope and deposit the same in a box, provided for that purpose, in the dance hall.

Each gentleman, as he enters the hall will be allowed to take an envelope from the box. The lady who wears the dress to match the necktie he draws is his partner.

Everybody is expected to be there, for this is one of the last big holiday dances of the season, and all of the ladies are expected to dress according to plans, and not forget the necktie, for unless there are enough ties for all the fellows, some poor swain must spend the evening all alone.

Special decorations will be had for the evening, good music will be provided, and a big night is promised to one and all. But the fellows had best come early and take their pick of the envelopes.

See new line of Gold-stone jewelry at Mrs. Crosby's.

REPUBLICANS HOLD MEETING IN BEND

Discuss Prospective Candidates and Political Situation of Crook County

For the purpose of discussing the political conditions in the county, a number of prominent Republican voters of Bend, Redmond, Madras, Metolius, Laidlaw, Prineville and other parts of the county met at the Pilot Butte Inn in Bend last Saturday night. It was decided that the voters in the various precincts over the county express their choice of candidates for the respective county offices, hoping thus to prevent the strength of the party being broken by a superabundance of candidates in the field.

The Oregon Trunk train, on which all the representatives from the northern part of the county went, didn't arrive in Bend until 3 o'clock Sunday morning, thus delaying the session until that unholy hour.

Among those present were Mayor Jones, J. W. Brewer, J. A. Wilcox, W. C. Walker, G. E. Dobson, G. D. Wells, of Redmond, W. D. Barnes, J. B. Wimer, of Laidlaw, W. B. Lottman, of Metolius, Howard W. Turner, O. A. Pearce and John McTaggart, from Madras.

Senate Passes Homestead Law

While Secretary Fisher was before the House public land committee last Monday making an argument against the Borah-Jones three year homestead bill, Senator Borah called up this very measure before the Senate and secured its prompt passage, without a dissenting vote. So thoroughly was the Senate convinced by Senator Borah's recent speech that it passed the bill in a few minutes.

Secretary Fisher told the House committee that this bill would make it altogether too easy for the homesteader to get title to public lands and he thought also it would tend to induce fraud. At most he would require five successive years of cultivation and continuous residence on land for the last three years.

He said he might consent to a change in existing laws permitting homesteaders to be away from their lands during the winter months, but he would not favor a bill giving them six months' leave of absence each year. That, he said, was too much.

A card party and dance Tuesday night and a dance Wednesday night were enjoyed by Madras people this week. Tuesday night was the regular meeting night for the Dramatic Club, and a pleasant evening was had. After the card games, a most appetizing lunch was served by the ladies, after which dancing was enjoyed until midnight. On Wednesday evening another informal dance was held, Fritz Feuerbach, Ben Ashley, Clyde Ogden and Charlie Eagles furnishing the music.

S. J. Sellers and wife will leave Saturday morning for Mr. Sellers home in Ceder county Mo., their hurried trip being occasioned by a telegram received Friday saying that Mr. Sellers father was not expected to live. No further information was given in the message. Mr. Sellers received a letter from his father last week in which he said that all was well at home, and the sad message received Friday came without warning.

The revival services at the local M. E. Church will continue Sunday and throughout the week, preaching each evening at 8 o'clock by Rev. John J. Pacey. Sunday afternoon there will be a special meeting for men held at Metolius. The public is cordially invited to all services.

IDEAL CONDITIONS FOR RECORD SEASON

Ranchers Expect Biggest Crops this Year

FALL SEED FLOURISHING

Happy Smile that Wont Come Off Met With in All Parts of Crook County

Every condition points to a record crop in Crook County and the entire eastern section of the state for 1912. Ranchers from every section who have been interviewed are unanimous in expecting a great crop this year. The big snow, the rains which followed, the mild weather of the past two or three weeks and the heavy fogs are the ideal conditions which will help to bring about the bumper crops.

And the farmers are not neglecting to do their part. Not only has there been a much larger number of acres sown, or else prepared for crops, but the ranchers have used more care in preparing their ground than in previous years. Much of the time which has previously been used for hauling crops and provisions and supplies has this year been used in the preparation of the ground for crops, and the general improving of conditions about the ranch.

The fall sown grain never looked better. If the present weather conditions, which have been ideal, continue, there will be a well rounded smile of satisfaction this summer on the faces of many Crook County ranchers who think they have seen their share of hard luck, and are now entitled to a slice of prosperity.

Reports from the Willamette valley, the Columbia River basin and all the interior points of Oregon are of the same nature as those which prevail in Crook County, and unless something goes wrong before immigration, Oregon will have evidences of prosperity to show her visitors this summer, the like of which have never been shown before.

WILL NOT ISSUE ANY ROAD BONDS

Prineville Mass Meeting Takes No Action Because of Recent Ruling of Supreme Court

A. H. Parkie returned Wednesday from Prineville, where he had gone to attend the mass meeting called for the purpose of discussing the probability of issuing bonds to build the Crook county section of the north and south trans-state road. Although the meeting was well attended, and all were unanimous in declaring for better roads, nothing was done toward furthering the proposed trans-state road, owing to recent decisions of the Supreme Court in which it was held that any measure, whereby a county would issue bonds for road building was unconstitutional.

A short time ago Jackson county voted bonds for the purpose of building a modern highway from Medford to Crater Lake. The measure was opposed in the courts, with the result that the Supreme Court declared the measure unconstitutional. No further steps will be taken at present toward promoting the proposition.

Chas. M. Disney, assistant postmaster in the Madras post-office, was in The Dalles the latter part of the week attending the United States Civil Service examinations held there.

THE GREATEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD.



—Garter in New York Globe.