

THE MADRAS PIONEER

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Thursday, February 15, 1912.

LOCAL PROSPERITY

Few seasons in the past has nature been so lavish in her mid-winter contribution to the crop situation, as she has been this winter. Although plowing our way through two feet of cold wet snow, and anything else could be more pleasant, and later moping around in a cold drizzling rain and fog that made us prone to remember the courteous, but thoughtful, suggestion of the Governor of North Carolina to the Governor of South Carolina yet even while suffering from, and complaining of these inconveniences, those who would but look ahead, could see that nature was but preparing the soil for a bumper crop for the ranchers in 1912, (for all of which we will be thankful in due time) for each of the unpleasant varieties of weather is essential to successful dry farming.

Now then is coming the spring season, the time for man to do his work, to insure the rancher the record crops that nature has promised. Much of the land that was summer fallowed is in growing grain. Reports from the country are to the effect that the fall sown grain never looked better. But the land which has been summer fallowed and was planted last fall is not alone sufficient to insure the big crops that the county so badly needs. There are many large tracts of land in the near vicinity of Madras that could be put into cultivation with but little work on the part of the owner, and every piece of land in cultivation will mean more dollars not only to the owners, and the owners will profit most directly, but to the entire community. Furthermore it means that when the immigrant comes into this country this spring, he will see a community well settled and well cultivated, capable of bringing in big returns to the community. He will immediately be impressed with the country, and the value of every piece of cultivated land will immediately increase.

Thus it is incumbent on every ranch owner in northern Crook county to get as much grain planted this spring as it is possible to plant, for by actual cultivation and tillage is the only manner whereby he can assist nature to bring this section of the county to the high state of development which means prosperity to all concerned.

An Eastern college paper makes the announcement that Adam and Theodore Roosevelt are to be mentioned among the greatest twenty names in all human annals. Perhaps it does not matter, but some of us have curiosity as to the identity of the other eighteen.—Portland Telegram.

A month and a half of Leap Year is gone. It would be interesting to know if any of the letters obtained as a result of the bachelor "ads," published in the PIONEER the first week in January will ever amount to much.

COUNTY COURT

PROCEEDINGS

The following excerpts from the official report of the last meeting of the County Court, are of interest to Pioneer readers:

An adjourned term of the County Court was held at 1 o'clock P. M. on Monday, the 5th day of February, 1912. Present—H. C. Ellis, judge, presiding; commissioners R. H. Bayley and James Rice; Warren Brown, County clerk, and T. N. Balfour, sheriff.

Road fund warrant. Whereas, at the January term of this Court, claim No. 8 for \$4000 in favor of R. H. Bayley, was ordered drawn, and whereas the county clerk drew warrant No. 661 in payment therefor, and whereas said warrant was ordered drawn by mistake, it is therefore ordered that the county clerk cancel said warrant and mark the same null and void. It is further ordered that said county clerk notify the county

treasurer to cancel the registration of said warrant upon his books.

Road supervisors for 1912. The court appoints the following persons to serve as road supervisors for the ensuing year within their respective districts. As to appointing supervisors for the remaining districts, the same is continued until the next term of court.

District No. 8, Haycreek—Roy Newbill.

District No. 10, Cross Keys—Perry Monroe.

District No. 29, Lamonta—Charles Paxton.

District No. 30, Lyle Gap—Wm. Farrell.

District No. 11, Ashwood—J. G. Clark.

Expert accountant employed. Whereas Max Crandal, expert accountant, has been employed by this court to expert the books of Crook County at the earliest possible date, it is therefore ordered that the said Max Crandal make a careful examination into the financial condition of each and every officer handling public funds and that he report to this court fully the result of such investigation; that he further recommend such changes as he may deem expedient in the several offices; that he make a report of the expenses of the respective offices in addition to the salaries, and the allowances provided by law; that he expert the emergency road fund handled by H. C. Ellis and make a full and complete report thereon; that he examine and audit the accounts of R. H. Bayley in reference to the moneys expended under the direction of said R. H. Bayley. That all of said reports be presented to this court and filed herein and made a matter of public record and that said reports and recommendations, or a summary thereof be published in the official county paper.

Cruising Timber Lands. It is ordered by the court that W. A. Bell, co-operating with the County assessor and the County Court, forthwith examine and submit a proposed contract and advertisement calling for an estimation of the amount of merchantable timber upon all lands in Crook County by 40-acre tracts, showing in a general way the topography, kind, quality and amount of merchantable timber upon each of said 40-acre tracts. That said bid and contract call for the completion of said work on or prior to some date in September 1912, and that he thoroughly investigate and make written return as to the details of such work.

GOOD ROADS EPIDEMIC CONTAGIOUS

Making good roads is becoming contagious, and the beneficent epidemic is spreading all over the country. The south has caught the fever, and in many localities elaborate systems of improved highways are contemplated, under way or have been completed. A good road is an effective object lesson.

New Electrical Discovery.

At a meeting of the National Academy of Sciences Professor M. I. Pupin of Columbia university said: "I have discovered a device which magnifies an electric current. I applied only a feeble current to my first machine and it was broken to pieces by the increased power derived." He went on to say that with his new invention he could drive a train with the current used in the telephone and could take a weak wireless current and make it strong enough to be easily read. He said he was certain the principle was heretofore unknown and that he would go into details at the next meeting of the academy in April.

Pointing Brick Walls.


When pointing up a crack in the mortar between bricks it is necessary to cut out the mortar a little longer than the crack and about half an inch deep. This should be filled with a half and half mixture of cement and clean sharp sand. In replacing cracked or broken bricks, great care should be taken to see that the brick is firmly bedded into the mortar on all sides or the wall will leak and eventually settle in that particular spot.

GOOD ROADS ATTRACT THE POPULATION.

Counties which are neglecting the improvement of their highways need not be surprised when the census figures show that they are losing population, while more progressive counties are gaining. Good roads attract population, while bad roads drive it away.

See line of CHINA and GLASSWARE at Mrs. Crosby's.

POULTRY NOTES
BY
C. M. BARNITZ
RIVERSIDE
PA.
CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED



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INSIDE PIGEON INFORMATION.

When pigeons mate it's generally a lovey dove union for life, the cock selecting the nest and bearing the nest material, which the hen arranges and then proceeds to lay her first egg at 5:30 p. m. one day and the second at 2:30 p. m. the third day. They sit alternately, the hen from about 3 p. m. to 10 a. m. and the male then to the afternoon hour.

About seventeen days after the first egg is laid it hatches. The other one two days later, the first squab generally being the male.

Like kittens, the downy squabs are born blind, and the parents at once begin to feed them pigeon milk, nature wonderfully providing for the helpless by so constituting parent pigeons that they are able to change grain to chyme, a milky, predigested food, and they simply take the bird baby's beak in their own and by a spasmodic action of their crop inject the liquid into the squab's crop.

As squabs grow the old birds modify the feed to coarser, and when young birds are able to digest it the whole grain is simply soaked in parents' crop until, at five weeks, the squabs feed themselves.

If small squabs die it is often necessary to borrow young of same age from another nest to feed off the old birds' milk or they get sick, and it's sometimes the case that squabs choke to death when parents begin to feed whole grain, their throats being too small to receive it, and an examination will show one or both parents have the same bad defect, which unfits them for anything but popple.

Pigeons are wonderfully prolific, twelve pairs a year being no unusual



Photo by C. M. Barnitz.

SQUABS JUST HATCHED.

record, birds often feeding one set of squabs and hatching another at the same time.

Pigeon fanciers to succeed must be watchful and resourceful, for many things occur that require quick action.

Pigeons at times refuse to warm their young, and they quick chill.

At once the breeder transfers them to a vacant nest, and if there is none he kills a pair of inferior or younger squabs, transfers the waifs and saves them.

At times old birds desert squabs, or, strangely, only feed one. If there is no other nest to transfer to, the fancier must play mammy to save the starving ones.

He chews stale bread to a milky state, or corn, peas and red wheat, according to squab's age, and, taking bird's beak between his lips, he injects the soft feed into squab's crop, and the little fellow soon becomes attached to his wet nurse and thrives.

"Horrible!" says one. But the pigeon lover, the successful squabber, is not squeamish; he does not belong to the kid glove fraternity and would sooner a hundred times take a bird's beak in his mouth than the cigarettes smoked by these yellow fingered, soft headed society dudes.

DON'TS.

Don't let hens run in cold fall rains. They will not pick up enough to pay their undertakers' bills.

Don't feed cut clover with coarse stems. These should be sifted out, as they are apt to cause hard crop.

Don't expect hens not to break eggs in nests that are too small, and don't get mad if they fight and scramble eggs where there are not sufficient nests.

Don't expect your hens not to loaf if you let them fill up. Feed just enough to keep them working well all day, and let them have the full meal for supper to keep their grinders going all night.

Don't get discouraged and blame that failure on the hens. You must not only study your hens, but yourself, and the results of your methods and failure may nearly always be traced to the fellow behind the hens,

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**FARM LOANS AND INSURANCE
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For Good Farms

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