

THE MADRAS PIONEER

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Thursday, July 4, 1912.

Nigger in the Wood Pile

In other columns of this issue, we are printing a story taken from last week's issue of the Metolius Central Oregonian, published under the caption "Wool 13 Cents at Metolius Sale." Other statements made in the head, under which the story was published were "Sale a Great Success," "Price Paid Here Higher than at Shaniko or Madras," and "Quantity Sold Exceeded Madras Sale by Nearly One Hundred Thousand Pounds."

The attempted sarcasm of the entire article is absolutely ridiculous to one who is familiar with the facts regarding the wool sales in Central Oregon this winter and summer, for the story is so consistent with misstatements, that one cannot fail to infer that the Central Oregonian has intended to mislead the public.

We will try to state the facts in regard to wool sales, and let the readers determine whether these facts are sufficient "to place Metolius on the map as the leading wool market point of Central Oregon."

At the wool sale in Madras there were over 111,000 pounds of wool sold. The Madras Pioneer was responsible for the dispatch in the Portland Evening Telegram to the effect that "an amount of wool exceeding that sold was held at Madras." And the Madras Pioneer is prepared to prove that close to 500,000 pounds of wool were offered for sale, all being in the warehouse at the time of the sale with the exception of one car, and over 300,000 were held for the simple reason that the price offered was not large enough. To prove that the judgment of the wool growers was correct in estimating the value of their wool, Mr. C. H. Green, who bought most the largest quantity of wool offered at Madras and Metolius, the day following, paid about \$1500 more for this 300,000 pounds than was offered at the public sale the previous day. Moreover, to the credit of the veracity of the Central Oregonian, 204,000 of these 300,000 pounds were owned by Jim Rice and were not "sold several months ago at private sale," and a large part of the remaining 100,000 pounds was owned by Morrow & Keenan and Morrow & Vaughn, and were not "sold several months ago at private sale," as stated in the article in the Central Oregonian. Jim Rice and Morrow and Keenan both "sold several months ago at private sale" their buck clip which was small, amounting to only a few thousand pounds, but not their main clip, which was sold at private sale to Mr. C. H. Green, as stated above, on Saturday, June 22, the day following the regular sale date.

We don't pretend to know as much about our neighbor's business as the Central Oregonian professes to know, and therefore are not prepared to state positively the exact amount of wool sold at the Metolius sale, but we are informed that the sale did not reach 200,000, nor even 150,000. We are further informed, and we believe correctly, that one sack of wool only was sold at 18 cents, that being owned by M. R. Biggs, of Prineville, not quite enough to have any tendency "to place Metolius on the map as the leading wool market

point of Central Oregon."

"Madras made a hue and cry" for a sale date, because it was entitled to it for no other reason than that a majority of the wool growers preferred to haul to Madras rather than to Metolius, and got the sale date because it had the wool, nearly 500,000 pounds, to go along with the "hue and cry." And Madras got the wool because the wool growers organized a corporation to handle their wool on the most profitable terms to themselves, leaving out of consideration all railroads and middle-men. They, themselves, chose Madras as the location of their warehouse, and although there is not a Madras man directly interested in that warehouse company, we are exceedingly glad that the wool men prefer to do business at this place. It will not be necessary "to fix up any hot-air mixture next time to get a wool sale date," for "them that has, gits," and Madras will have sufficient wool on hand next year when the time comes around to get another sale date, and will get the balance of the wool coming in for the next month's sale.

In conclusion, we would apologize to our readers for taking this much space in a controversy with a neighboring contemporary. We don't believe in internal strife, and Central Oregon, to insure the development we are so much in need of, should pull together, and not against each other. There are enough resources for all if they were only developed in harmony, rather than in petty strife. But this matter was brought up in such a little, contemptuous way, that it could not be overlooked.

Madras Ball Club

We are pleased to copy below a story published last week in the Terrebonne Oregonian, anent the recent Madras-Terrebonne ball game, played in Madras, in which the score was 26 to 1 in favor of Madras, we thought, but which the Oregonian claimed to have been 22 to 1. We will not dispute that point with them, however. Below is the story to which we refer:

"About the most gigantic joke of the season, in the base ball arena, was pulled off at Madras last Sunday when the Terrebonne team went down to defeat to the score of 22 to 1. However, our boys did not expect to be compelled to play a combination of Madras, Metolius and Prineville players together with an umpire so unfair that it was apparent to the Madras players and spectators. Had the umpire been inclined to be fair and Madras used their own players the game would have been less one-sided and more interesting. As it was the play was disgusting to players and spectators alike."

We heartily endorse the Oregonian's view of the matter in that it was the most gigantic joke of the season. We further agree with them that it was disgusting. We have had the pleasure of seeing a good man ball games, including some few in the major leagues. We keep ourselves reasonably well posted on base ball matters through the large city dailies, and one or two of the sporting papers to which we are subscribers. We cannot recall a single occasion when a ball team displayed the "white feather" as clearly as did that Terrebonne club. With the exception of one or two men, they quit, no other phrase expressing their action so well. And quitters are always, hard losers.

The Terrebonne paper would intimate that they lost the game through unfair decisions of the umpire, and through a combination of Metolius and Prineville players, rather than their own poor playing. Both of these statements are biased a little. As a member of a ball team, we would hate to admit that we had

played a game to a finish, which the umpire had succeeded in throwing to the extent of 22 to 1. If the umpiring was so manifestly unfair, the only thing to do from a sportsman's standpoint was to leave the field, if the home club refused to supply a new umpire. The visitors would not do that for fear they would not get their little expense money.

However we won't admit that the umpiring was unfair, nor did the Terrebonne players make any protests of the umpiring during the game. The only two decisions that were made the subject of much protest were against the Madras club which hollered long and loud against them, but to no avail.

That two men, Ellis and Brewster, of Prineville, played with Madras, there is no dispute. But the loss of the game to Madras could not be entirely attributed to them, when Terrebonne was almost helpless at the bat.

If we remember rightly, Terrebonne got about four clean hits, and drove only four balls beyond the infield, two of which were flies, and were easily caught. The pitching was done by Baker, a Madras boy, so their defeat can not be attributed to the two visiting players.

But why grouch? Is the Oregonian not familiar with the fact that base ball is a business these days, and ball players are bought and sold as a commodity, and then paid fabulous prices as salaries? Does the Terrebonne paper know that Barney Dreyfuss, of the Pittsburg Club, paid \$22,500 to the St Paul Club of another league, for the privilege of contracting with Marty O'Toole for his services, and then is paying him a salary of about \$6,000 for six months' work, the other six months of the year belonging to the player to be used as he may see fit? The personnel of a ball team is often changed from day to day, no questions being asked.

It is an admitted sporting axiom that good winners are also good losers when the time comes to lose, and that hard losers are poor winners.

Today in History

It is not unusual at the time of each national convention for political writers and speakers to warn the people that a crisis has been reached and that the particular convention pending or in progress marks an epoch. In point of fact there have been only two epochal conventions in the long history of the Democratic party. The first one was not really a convention. It was the caucus that proposed Andrew Jackson to the Democratic party as its candidate for President. That nomination marked the rise of the "plain people." Before that time the Government of the United States had been much of an aristocracy. The election of Andrew Jackson was the triumph of the people. Next came as a crisis the Democratic convention of 1860. That convention made history. It brought on the Civil War and put the Democratic party out of business for many years. But for the "split" in the Charleston convention a Democratic President would have been elected and there would have been secession in 1861.

The present crisis in the Democratic party is comparable with that of 1828. Then the fight of the great masses of the party was against aristocracy. The men called in the jargon of the day the "wealthy and well born," had theretofore kept the Federal Administration well in hand to the exclusion of the real representatives of the great body of the people. Now in the year 1912 the fight of the people is against oligarchy. For many years the machinery of the national Republican party has been in the hands of a coterie of bosses, financed by those to whom the Republican party has accorded special privileges. The Roosevelt secession at Chicago is a revolt against that oligarchy and it bids fair, whether Mr.

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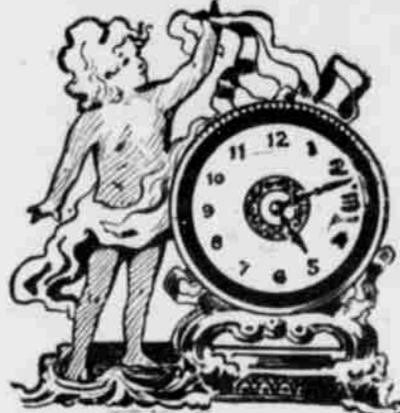
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JEWELER

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Roosevelt is elected or not, to smash the Republican machine.

The Democratic party as a national party has not been so highly organized as the Republican party. Nevertheless, it has had, and has now, its bosses in almost every State and city.

These bosses are opposed to all progress—to all increase in popular influence and power. They are just as much reactionaries and standpatters as Cannon and Penrose. In every Democratic convention the line of cleavage has been between those who desire the convention to work for the benefit of the party—that is to say, of the people—and those who have selfish interests to subserve.

The conduct of the great convention which will assemble in this city at noon today will probably determine the course of history for many years to come. The Republican party is hopelessly divided by an irrepressible conflict. There is nothing in common between the followers of Taft, Crane, Aldrich and Cannon and the followers of Roosevelt, Cummins and La Follette. Nothing just now conceivable can reunite them. They are just as much apart as the Democrats who followed Breckinridge in 1860 and those who followed Douglas.

What can the Baltimore convention do? It can make such a nomination and adopt such a platform as will put the Republican party out of business. But if it pursues the course of the Republican convention just adjourned, it can and will send an army of Democrats into the ranks of Roosevelt's party.—Baltimore Sun, June 25.



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