

THE MADRAS PIONEER

MADRAS, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1912

NO. 46



Combine Thresher, 60 H. P. Caterpillar Engine, Operated by T. A. Taylor, Madras Rancher. Most Modern Machinery for Harvesting Grain, in General Use in Northern Crook County.

TWO ARE DROWNED IN THE DESCHUTES

Irving Williams and E. M. Walker Lose Life in Treacherous River

BODIES NOT RECOVERED

Homesteaders in Boat Walk Swamped One Mile North of Sherar. Prof. Caustland of Seattle Rescued by Train Crew

Irving Williams and E. M. Walker, squatters, living on the Metolius River, were drowned in the Deschutes River Wednesday afternoon, when the boat in which they were riding was swamped about a mile above Sherar. E. J. McCaustland, professor of Municipal Engineering, at Washington, University, Seattle, a companion in the ill-fated boat, was rescued by trainmen from an Oregon Trunk freight train, throwing ropes to the man desperately clinging to a rock in the river. The bodies of Williams and Walker had not been recovered Thursday evening.

Prof. McCaustland had spent some time this summer sounding depths, estimating water flows and power of the Deschutes and tributary rivers, and had just completed his work in the neighborhood of the Indian Reservation. Wednesday afternoon he left Mecca in a skiff, with Williams and Walker as guides, intending to continue his investigations northward until he had reached the Columbia River. No details of the tragedy could be obtained other than that the men and been thrown into the river when the boat and capsized. Williams and Walker, both young men and unmarried, came into Central Oregon about three years ago, squatting on land on the Metolius. Their former home was in the Willamette Valley. Walker has a mother and sister who are in Pullman, Wash., and Williams has relatives at Harrisburg, Oregon.

ought to have been. But this second shot Pearce speaks of is a dream, as we are prone to believe the whole story to be. The report of only two shots were heard in camp, only a quarter of a mile away, so we are forced to believe that Pearce was only pulling at knot-holes in his war club when he thought he was firing that second shot. "Slats" admitted that he saw no deer, but simply shot at the place from which it seemed the snorts had come, and only after Pearce had opened hostilities.

The entire affair is enveloped in mystery, and the inability to get the straight details from either of the participants, prevents an accurate account, the circumstances related above having been gathered after hearing the story told and retold many times, each time however with more or less variation as to the important details. This much is sure, that the first time the story was told in camp, the deer only weighed 150 pounds, and the last time it weighed over 200.

Whether or not there was a deer in that immediate locality that evening, will never be known, with strong evidence tending to strengthen the negative side of the question.

RURAL CONFERENCE TO MEET AT O. A. C.

All Organizations interested in Country Life are invited to Join Movement

Oregon Argicultural College, Corvallis, Ore., Aug. 10.—A rural conference for the discussion of farm problems is to be held at the Oregon Argicultural College this fall, and a big farmers' excursion to the college will be organized, with special rates from different parts of the state, to enable progressive farmers from the various communities to attend and take part in the program.

All organizations interested in rural life, including all religious denominations and those interested in the country schools and the improvement of the farming communities, are expected to join in threshing out vexed questions. The discussions will cover the rural church, school and home, the farm, rural social and economic conditions.

Prof. R. D. Hetzel, director of extension at the college, has been receiving letters from all sections of the state commending he plant and offering assistance.

The railroads will be asked to run excursion trains to bring the farmers and their families to spend a day or more at the college during the conference. The different departments of the college are preparing a large number of exhibits and demonstrations of better methods of agricultural practice and home making, and some of the best speakers and farm experts in the west will be present to lecture.

The date is not yet set, as the college wishes to avoid conflict with other important meetings, but announcement will be made as soon as possible.

without serious consideration, and you will have but an idea of the fun of that trip. The outfit was duly organized and incorporated, and expect to repeat the performance next year.

Half a deer was brought home by the vanguard which appeared last week, and was served Saturday night to boys around town, under the supervision of Charles Hobson, Chef, who certainly did himself proud. About forty had a taste of the venison, which never tasted better, even in camp after a hard day's hunt.

BUSY SCENES ABOUT THE HARVEST FIELDS

Rain of Past Two Days Delays Threshing—Handicapped by Lack of Men

The harvesting of the tremendous wheat crop on the Agency Plains and the country surrounding Madras is in full swing this week, every kind of harvesting machinery being pressed into service and the farmers working early and late to get the grain in marketable shape.

Labor is hard to get and many of the outfits are running short handed, which makes it bad, as they are not able to do the amount of work that the machines are capable of accomplishing. However with the extra effort being put forth by the farmers, the harvesting generally is progressing favorably.

Reports from several directions in regard to large yields have been circulated. The two records that are here quoted, which we believe to be authentic, are to the effect that J. H. Horney, whose place is seven miles south of Madras, threshed 75 acres that yielded 35 bushels per acre, summer fallowed land, sown early last fall. The other large yield is that on the Charles McCall place, the 160 acres being in cultivation, averaging 40 bushels as estimated by Parkey Bros., lessees this year, who are now operating their combine on this tract. Many other yields are reported equally as large as these.

The little rain that fell during Wednesday night did not hurt any of the crops, only causing many of the machines and crews to stand idle a day or two.

After a careful count of the machinery in operation north of Crooked River this season, it was found that there are seven threshing machines and ten combines harvesting the crops. The threshing machines will average probably a 100,000 bushels each and the combines probably from thirty to forty thousand bushels each during the season. In this way one can get a good idea as to the amount of wheat that will be harvested in the dry farming section in 1912. There will be at least half as much other grains, and when taken altogether, will make this year the banner year for Central Oregon.

NOW TIME TO GATHER LAND SHOW EXHIBITS

Hotel Men Launch Campaign to Attract Eastern Tourists to Oregon

Portland, Ore., Aug. 13.—Complete instructions have been sent out by Secretary C. C. Chapman, of the Oregon Development League, to the commercial bodies of the state having membership in the organization, directing the collection and shipment of exhibits for the land shows of the Middle West. The samples of fine grains, grasses, fruits and vegetables will be assembled at Portland and when shipped to the Oregon State Immigration Commission, Commercial Club Building, Portland, they will be carried by the railroads without freight charges.

Many sections of Oregon are busy making a collection to ship to the Portland headquarters and it is expected the state will be able to make a strong showing, both at Chicago and Minneapolis. The Pacific Northwest Land Products Show at Portland will also attract exhibits of soil wealth, not only from this but neighboring states. Farmers who have samples of their crops they can send in for exhibits, may get full directions from their nearest commercial club, or by addressing C. C. Chapman, Portland Commercial Club.

The Oregon State Fair will celebrate its 51st birthday this year with the biggest and best showing of Oregon products ever gathered. Not only are the crops so excellent that fine exhibits may be made, but new departments will be added for the first time. Among these are the competitive showing of farm products grown by the school children of the state and the exposition of Eugenics, both of which are arousing wide interest.

First Car Grain Shipped

Six hundred and three sacks of wheat, consigned to the Tri-State Terminal Warehouse Co., of Portland, shipped by T. A. Taylor, comprised the first carload of 1912 wheat shipped out of Madras, the consignment going out Tuesday morning over the Oregon Trunk. The O. W. R. & N. road carried a carload out Wednesday morning.

PEARCE AND "SLATS" ENGAGED IN MATCH

Neither, However, are Able to Land First Deer Seen on Recent Hunting Trip

Scene—A favorite deer haunt near where Snow Creek crosses the Santiam Road.

Characters—O. A. Pearce and Merle Strite, alias "Slats."

Time nearly sun-down.

After remaining quietly concealed behind snow brush and mountain laurel, in all their war paint, for some time, Pearce and "Slats" are suddenly awakened to the highest nervous pitch by a terrific snorting, and each prepares his gun for immediate action, rising at the same time, to learn if possible, the exact location of the deer they are about to slaughter. Mr. Deer has been as careful in selecting a hiding place as have the hunters, and all he presents to Pearce and "Slats" as a target is a large area of moving brush. However the hunters are stripped for action, and are not to be denied. The banker carefully aims his gun at the harmless hillside and lets drive a charge of sufficient intensity to annihilate all the deer in the Cascades. "Slats" not to be outdone, fires in the opposite direction, to make sure that the first game shall not escape. Pearce as soon as the second shot is fired, thinking there is nothing left to do but skin the game, drops his gun, calls to "Slats" that he is a big one, weighs over 150 pounds, and starts in pursuit, gathering up a club enroute with which to administer the last rites, forgetting he has a hunting knife in his belt.

Side by side in the highest state of anticipation, they race to the crest of the hill, fully expecting to find the big buck quietly waiting to be carved. Their disappointment was pitiful to behold when they came into camp nearly an hour later, announcing that they had let the first game get away.

In an effort to justify themselves, each had sufficient excuses. Pearce declared that the deer was hidden so he could merely see the outline of his back and neck. He claims, or admits that he fired a second shot with no visible target, but simply aimed where the deer

WHAT DOINGS TOLD BY HAPPY HUNTERS

Boys Back From Cascade Mountains

VENISON HOME

Tales Told of Conduct of Party in the Mountains—Party Incorporated and Expect to Return Next Year

A sample of their game in packs, and a supply of the last of which will not last until time to start again next year. O. A. Pearce, L. G. and P. T. Atkins returned Saturday night from their two-day trip in the Cascade Mountains. Ashley returned a few days later, owing to trouble he had with an eye, and Campbell remained to take part in the huckleberrying. Thus the members of the cavalcade which left here July 26 are all home.

The boys all report the time of their lives, though they had but a few days of deer hunting, a deer each and Campbell accounted for the total game bagged on the trip. However, for such a short trip, the actual securing is but a small part of the joys to be had, and was lacking in venison, was made up in the life camp. With such a collection of "Slats" on hand, with Pearce to encourage and John Campbell ever ready to torment him to the extent of the point, there was something all the time.

Over three hundred miles covered on the trip. The party crossed the Deschutes River, following the old Indian trail up the Metolius River, crossing Jefferson Creek, and proceeding through the huckleberry patches, at the foot of Mt. Jefferson. On July 23, all went to Guild Lake, at the foot of the snow-line, and the morning went coasting and taking pictures on 40 feet of film.

In camp at Guild Lake, the boys gave an exhibition of jumping that was not equalled by any of the circus stunts seen in Madras. Hearty to out-do a horse, at the time was practicing using the bed in which he had been sleeping as a hurdle. All are satisfied with the jump. The party headed by way of Marion Lake, crossing the Santiam road at Lake, and pitching their camp at Snow Creek, 11 miles west.

Breaking the monotony of life, a pleasant day was spent at Upper Soda Springs. Savage at the repeated invitations of his friends (?) to eat some raisins from the dress, a maiden whom Pearce can properly describe as he was apologizing for the enormous meal the party had just devoured, "Slats" just devoured, "Slats" the whole proposition without a breach of etiquette.

A complete account of the conduct of each of the party can be had at one sitting. List all the tales that are told from time to time, add the amount of local color and emotion, swallow the whole