

THE MADRAS PIONEER

MADRAS, CROOK COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1912

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NORTHERN CROOK COUNTY HAS BECOME A RICH PRODUCER

Misrepresentation of This County's Resources is Avoided and Facts Only Are Furnished Prospective Eastern Settlers in Regard to the Productivity of The Land, Whose Agricultural Exhibits at Dry Farming Shows Won Sweepstakes and First Prizes, Made the State of Oregon Famous, and is Attracting the Attention of Thousands in the East, West, North and South.

EIGHT years ago a farmer in quest of cheap land where he could make a start in life, located near Madras, in Crook County, Oregon. He went with the belief that fall sown wheat could be made a profitable crop there most seasons, and, as land was cheap, the cost of plowing and harvesting low, this farmer, Tillman Reuter by name, figured that he could make a fortune within a fair time.

Eight years later this man is opening the eyes of the world to the possibilities of dry-farm development in the semi-arid region of this county. Instead of confining himself to wheat, he is growing more than sixty varieties of grains, with which he is conducting the most careful experiments. In addition, there is not a hardy vegetable known



TILLMAN REUTER, CROOK COUNTY'S DRY FARMING WIZARD AND HIS PRIZES

to this region which he does not produce at will. His forage for livestock ranks with that of many irrigated districts, alfalfa, vetch and choice feeds being the rule.

All this the hardy farmer of Crook County has done with an average rainfall of about 10 inches. Two years ago the district got but 10.5 inches for the entire year, and much of it not seasonal at all. One year ago the entire twelve months brought only 8 inches of precipitation, while this season the rainfall has climbed up to the abnormal total of 15 inches. There is not a drop of water for irrigation on any square foot of Tillman Reuter's farm. He looks only to the heavens for life-giving moisture, and so prepares his soil that he may utilize every drop that falls.

LOCAL WHEAT MARKET SHOWS LITTLE CHANGE

Price of Grain is 62 to 64 Cents Per Bushel. Very Little Grain Being Delivered at Warehouse

The local wheat market remains about the same as it has been for the past two weeks, the price is ranging from 62 cents to 64 cents per bushel. There is very little grain coming in at this time, as the farmers are doing their fall sowing, and are not taking the time to haul this crop to markets.

This seems to be the case all over the Northwest as indicated by the article taken from the Commercial Review however it will let the large grain dealers and the railroads get caught up on their shipments and unloadings.

During the past week there was very little doing in the grain markets of the North Pacific coast. No change of prices were reported and there seems to be a general lack of interest both by exporters and millers, and neither of them showing any disposition to purchase supplies for future use. Stocks on hand and at terminal warehouses are over four million bushels at the present time, and this seems to the exporter plenty of wheat for all chartered tonnage due or nearly due. The outlook for quiet grain markets for the next four or five weeks seems assured unless there is some disposition on the part of foreign importers to purchase wheat more freely in our markets. In the last two weeks cargo quotations have suffered a material decline, and with freight values firmly maintained at the maximum figures, exporters have quietly withdrawn from the market as to new business. We hear considerable talk at the present time of a great scarcity of cars, but this will soon be obviated, as more cars are being dispatched to interior points from coast ports as rapidly as cars are unloaded; this will enable the buyer to receive the wheat here purchased some time back. The market is still a merchandising proposition. Speculation for the last month, and perhaps a month and a half, has only a small factor in price making. Throughout the season wheat has been passing into consumption on a tremendous scale, and there is no indication that this is not to continue for considerable time yet. With the shift in the trend of foreign markets and the sharp dropping off in the export demand, there is naturally a greater reaction in domestic prices and a feeling of great heaviness. The European markets, however, are still at a premium over domestic prices, and the commercial situation must still be accounted as on a healthy basis. The Balkan troubles in Europe seem to be on the eve of settlement. There is a possibility of a considerable break in prices abroad in the next few weeks in the event of a return to peace; the latter now seems probable. Importing countries have bought very heavy on the war possibility and they are beginning to get their wheat. The European visible supply is now practically the same as the enormous total of a year ago. All indications are of another big crop in Argentina, and in fact, sales have already been made from it in a moderate way.

Albert Simms and James Garrett of Bilzard Ridge, were business visitors in Madras Friday of last week.

CITY GRANTS FRANCHISE TO THE COVE POWER CO.

Electric Light Will be Switched on at Madras, January 1, 1913, is Statement of Chief Engineer

At the adjourned meeting of the City Council, Friday evening of last week, the matter of the final passage of the ordinance granting the Cove Power Company the right to construct and maintain electric light and power lines within the limits of the city was discussed and several changes made in it, as recommended by the committees who had the matter in charge.

After thoroughly threshing out all of the points, the franchise passed without any material opposition, and from the chief engineer of the Power Company, Mr. Kelly, it was learned that the work of constructing lines to all of the different towns along the railroad would be pushed as fast as the material could be put on the ground. He says that they have several carloads of poles and other material that they expect to be here any day and the line will at once be continued from its present terminus at Metolius, on to Madras, and the juice turned on January 1st.

Many of the old time residents of Central Oregon do not realize the vast amount of water power that can be developed in the streams and do not realize the benefits that can be derived from the electric power, which can be furnished at a reasonable rate by these power companies to Madras and all of the surrounding country. Electricity now holds the leading place in the developments of the world's resources and will be the principal means of transportation within a very few years, as many of the railroads are changing their systems as fast as they are able.

The rate as specified in the franchise will not exceed 12 cents per kilowatt hour on the meter system and for electric street lights of a 100 candle power they will install them and keep them in repair for \$2.00 per month.

This is much cheaper than the present system of gasoline lighting now used. And the company will furnish power for the operation of the pumping station at about \$20.00 per month, which will be a considerable saving when the operators time is taken into consideration.

With electric light and power at a reasonable rate, along with the water system installed early last spring, Madras should be one of the best interior towns in Central Oregon, and the residents should be proud of the substantial improvements and appreciate the possibilities now before them.

WITH PROPER CULTIVATION BIG CROPS ARE GROWN HERE

Unlimited Prosperity Follows Those Engaged in Agricultural Pursuits, Under Dry Farming Conditions, in Northern Crook County--The Country That is the Pride of Oregon, And Which Won Sweepstakes in Canada

Getting settlers on the land, actual settlers and actual producers, is what is being done in the great farming country tributary to Madras. The land is here, and it is of a quality that commends itself.

There are many sections in the west that either do not suit the prospective settler, or have been misrepresented. In the former case, it cannot be helped; in the latter, it can be helped and should not be practiced, as the ever unsuccessful scheme of attempting to furnish facts that do not exist will always prove a very difficult task to accomplish, and will only prove detrimental to the advancement of that particular locality.

In each issue of The Pioneer, we publish facts, absolutely, concerning the productivity of the soil under dry farming conditions, and this paper exercises great care to eliminate "big claims" for the country, and takes particular pains to avoid statements that cannot be substantiated.

Northern Crook County has become famous as a dry farming country. Almost every product raised under irrigation is also grown here without a drop of water. The majority of the farmers located in this part of the county came here as "homesteaders." They recognized the advantage of Uncle Sam's offer of homesteads and grasped the opportunity that knocked at their door. In answering the summons they welcomed the chance that very seldom visits a man more than once in a lifetime, and in doing so, paved the way for a successful career in a new country.

Little of anything was going on in Crook County a few years ago. Those following agricultural pursuits produced a quantity sufficient for their family consumption only. At that time railroads were unknown here, and without transportation for their produce they would be unable to transact business with the consumers, and consequently

no effort was made to farm on an extensive scale.

But yesterday has passed into oblivion. We know the past; we are living in the present, and expect great things in the future. Today, Northern Crook County has the advantage of two big railroad systems. Produce can be shipped from this point to one of the largest markets in the Northwest in less than twenty-four hours, and the farmers receive the highest market price for everything they ship.

Four years ago there were vague rumors afloat that a few farmers in this section were "making good." Three years ago Northern Crook County attracted the attention of experts by the excellent agricultural display at the Dry Farming Congress held at Spokane, Washington, and was awarded first prizes. Two years ago the county won additional fame at Colorado Springs, Colorado, and captured first prizes again for the exhibits. Last month, those in authority at the International Dry Farming Congress held at Lethbridge, Canada, unanimously decided that Northern Crook County was entitled to grand sweepstakes and many first prizes for famous exhibits, and this land of prosperity and sunshine became the pride of Oregon.

There are 300,000 acres of dry land tributary to Madras. There are three grain warehouses in this city, and during the wheat season 300,000 sacks of wheat were shipped. There were 60,000 acres in crop during year 1912. Madras is nine years old, has a climate that cures many ailments and induces none, with 10 months of sunshine thrown in for good measure. What more do you want? You can't find a more desirable country in which to locate. If Crook County fails to win your admiration, and does not appeal to you, we advise you to visit Saint Peter, and probably, within the pearly gates thou will discover that which thou seeketh, for thy search upon this earth will prove futile.

WOMEN WILL BE ALLOWED TO VOTE AT CITY ELECTION

They May Also Seek Political Gifts at That Time--Rumor Current Women Will Run for Office

With the passage of the woman's suffrage amendment on November 5th, the women of Madras will be allowed to cast their first vote at the coming city election that is to be held December 3d, if the statement of the Secretary of State comes true, who says that in his opinion all of the returns of the state on the Suffrage Amendment will be canvassed within twenty days after election, so that the Governor may issue the proclamation, as required by law, of giving the women the full power to cast their ballot the same as any male person.

There is a rumor afloat that there is a ticket in the field consisting mostly of women, other than the ticket now duly nominated at the citizens meeting a couple of weeks since, however we are unable to confirm the report definitely at this time.

Should this be the case, Madras will probably have the distinction of having the first municipal ticket in the field for city offices.

Special Tax is Voted Upon

Pursuant to a call issued by the directors of the Union High School District, that a meeting be held Saturday last for the purpose of voting a special tax in the districts interested in the High School, the meeting was held with a quorum present from all of the districts, although it was understood by many that only the chairmen of the boards of the different districts were to vote on the proposition, it being open to any tax payer, however.

It was voted at the meeting that a two and three tenths mill tax be levied for High School purposes for this year, and on the approximate assessed valuation of the territory included which is about \$850,000 there could be raised \$180,000 which it is estimated will meet all the expenses.

It was also voted that the Executive Board expend \$200.00 for apparatus, principally for the use of the Physics and Botany classes, and also to hire an assistant teacher after the first of the coming year.

PRODUCTS SHOW AT PORTLAND BIG SUCCESS

Oregon is Well Represented by Present Farmers From Madras, Culver and Prineville

Washington, Idaho, British Columbia are on parade with the best that the Pacific Northwest produce at the Pacific Northwest Land Products Show, opened yesterday in the exhibit building at East First and Morrison streets, at Portland, Oregon.

Wheat and tuber, grass and alfalfa are there in quantity and variety. Products of dry farming are in excellence and the best that the irrigation methods have to offer, and many a man's triumph over adversity is told in the

land show is fulfilling its mission—bringing the cities into contact with the land and showing them that the land is capable of producing more than 10,000 persons at the exhibition Tuesday. The attendance throughout the remainder of the week was large. When the doors opened at 10 o'clock Tuesday, the appearance of the exhibit was so attractive that it drew a great crowd of interested men, women and children through the floors of the building all day long. Most of the people who came to the show, though, and lost no time in getting out the particular part of the exhibit that demanded their interest.

Central Oregon is well represented. Madras, Culver and Prineville each has a booth. That of Madras district is in charge of Tillman Reuter, the known dry farming expert who has won prizes at the big national dry farming exhibition recent years.

County Court Meets

The court met Wednesday, Nov. 6, for regular term of said court. Present: H. C. Ellis, judge, and Commissioners R. H. Rice, Sheriff Balfour, and Clerk Brown.

Several items of interest to this county were taken up at the county's official paper. The Moore et al county road petition approved by the board of road viewers meet at the beginning of the proposed road on the 26th of December, 1912, view, and survey said proposed road and report thereon at the next term of this court.

W. Hunter et al county road petition for said road approved by the board of road viewers meet at the beginning of said proposed road on the 19th day of December, 1912, view, and survey said proposed road and report thereon at the next term of this court.

The petition of the Interior Warehouse Co. for a license to store grain in a warehouse at Madras was continued because it did not comply with sec. 6045, L. Further action is continued until the next meeting of court.

W. Bivens et al county petition for said road approved by district attorney. It was ordered that the board of road viewers meet at the beginning of said proposed road on the 19th day of December, 1912, view, and survey said proposed road and report thereon at the next term of this court.

The petition of Geo. Monner for said road was denied in accordance with the opinion of the district attorney.

J. L. Windom et al petition for said road is dismissed because of a greater number of petitioners than petitioners. County Court adjourned until next regular term, Dec. 9th.