

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER.

J. F. STEWART, Editor and Proprietor.

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Official County Paper.

LOCAL NOTES

We are requested to announce that school will begin at this place next Monday.

Harry Denlinger returned yesterday from a week's camping at Seal Rock yesterday.

Thos. Strong, a son of Joe Strong of this place, arrived the first of the week from Cowlitz county, Wash., on a visit to his folks.

C. B. Crosno and children Ade, Effie and Cliff, and Ruth and Eli Gaither started this morning for Otter Rock for a short stay.

Alex. Raymond, of Silverton, arrived in this place today. He will assist Capt. Collins to run a fish boat during the salmon season.

The Walluski has been taken to Newport where she lies awaiting the arrival of the inspectors, who are expected at an early date.

Chas. Brown, of Drift Creek, who has been suffering with a bone felon on his finger came to town Tuesday and had the offending affair lanced.

G. W. Meyers, of Neah Bay, Washington, has been appointed superintendent of the industrial school at the Siletz, vice Miss Lydia Hunt, transferred.

Rev. Wallace returned to his home at Junction City last Tuesday, after laboring in the service of the church here for two weeks in protracted meetings.

Mrs. Armstrong has resigned the position as matron at the Agency, and has returned to her home at Corvallis. A Mrs. Barker, of Corvallis, will fill the vacancy.

The excursion on the Claremont to Newport last Saturday was a jolly affair. Twenty-four persons went down, taking their dinners with them and picnicked on the beach.

M. Hansen, the jeweler who was located here about a year ago, returned to this place today. Since leaving here he has been at work at Salem and Astoria, but thinks he can do better here. He will probably open a shop here.

The protracted meetings which have been in progress here for several days closed last Sunday night. There were eleven who united with the church. On Sunday afternoon three were immersed, and at night four were sprinkled at the church.

Frank Mulvany, Fred Kiffer, W. D. Griffiths, Albert Meaker and George Hodges have just returned from a week's hunt on the head of Fall Creek. They report a very good time, and succeeded in getting eight nice deer, among them being a buck with eleven points. They were on the lookout for elk but did not get sight of any.

To the people on Yaquina Bay, I will state, that I have brought to Toledo a large assortment of wall paper, paints, oils, brushes, notions, stationery and fancy goods. Especially is my stock of wall paper very large, of good quality and away down in price. It will pay to call on me before purchasing elsewhere.

OTTO O. KROGSTAD.

We failed to mention the very pleasant picnic party to Newport of the Episcopal Sunday school of this place on Wednesday of last week. The children were taken down by the teams of Messrs. Wm. Brazelton and John McCluskey. After arriving at Newport a short service was held at the church, after which the children adjourned to the beach and spent an enjoyable day. The children are indebted for their treat to Rev. Booth and F. D. Carson, through whose efforts the picnic was successfully brought about. Due appreciation is also given to Mr. McCluskey and Mr. Brazelton for their kindness in furnishing conveyances for the occasion.

Judge S. V. Burt went to Pioneer on business yesterday.

B. F. Sanborne, of Stanford, was in this city on business last Monday.

G. T. Smith and family went to Newport yesterday for a few days' outing.

There has been several parties in this city the last week on the look out for land.

Mrs. Geo. Bethers left yesterday for Philomath, on a visit with her parents at that place.

A. M. Collins came in from Astoria where he has been fishing during the last season.

Clyde Trapp had his foot severely mashed while at work at the Pioneer quarry last Thursday.

Wm. Alexander went to Kings Valley last Tuesday where he will look after his harvesting at that place.

A son and daughter of County Treasurer Hyde came down from their home on Little Elk last Tuesday.

Eli and Miss Ruth Gaither came over from the Siletz last Sunday, and will make their home in this city once more.

Willie Powers, of Pioneer, started for McMinnville last week, where he will attend college during the ensuing school year.

The first chinook of the season was caught last Friday night by Al Taylor. He brought eight nice fish to town Saturday.

Sy. Copeland, of Depot, was in town yesterday with an old friend, Charles Frank, telling old soldier yarns and as jolly as ever.

The steamer Volanta was up to the Mackay place last Monday and took down D. F. Scott's hay crop of fourteen tons, also sixteen cords of wood.

Messrs. Powers and Dalaba, of Elk City, have arrived with their nets and boats to take in the salmon season. They are located at Craggy point at present.

Miss Media Hobart, who has been visiting her cousin, Mrs. J. H. McNeil, in this city, returned to her home at Silverton, last Saturday.

A Mr. Rantche, of Albany, has been in this city this week looking for a ranch. Mr. Rantche will move his family over on the Bay after hop picking.

Coll Van Cleve, editor of the Yaquina Post, was in the city yesterday. He says he expects to sell out his newspaper and other interests and go to the Sandwich Islands to live.—Albany Herald.

Mr. Gilbert, who just completed a successful three months' term of school in the Parrish district, left last Monday morning for Eastern Oregon where he will spend the winter, returning here in the spring.

Miss Eunice Alexander came in from Corvallis last Sunday on the excursion, but returned in the evening. She has accepted a position in the county clerk's office at that place and begun her duties there last Monday.

H. G. Luker has leased a quarry site at Pioneer, and has a small force of men at work opening up the same. The lease is from Barney Morrison and runs for fifty years, and at the expiration of that time Uncle Barney says he expects to operate it himself.

One day last week while the people at the Monterey were taking their daily bath the life line broke and there was some hasty scrambling for a time. The greatest danger was from excitement, but fortunately there were cool heads present and all the bathers were safely got ashore.

Joe Ludwig caught a huge black bear in his trap on the Perkins farm. After shooting it in the head with his shot gun he was in the act of cutting it up when he was objected to that kind of treatment and raised up to strike. Joe stepped back out of the bear's reach and concluded to wait until he was dead before skinning him.

Messrs. Fred Wittenstrom and Wm. Toner have leased the stone quarry on John A. Olsson's place near Elk City, and are preparing to develop the same. They have had several samples of the stone tested and it has proven satisfactory in every respect. The location of this quarry makes it easily accessible and the lay of the stone will bring the cost of stripping down to the minimum.

Geo. Moore, of South Beach, was in the city yesterday.

Our thanks are due Robt. Campbell for favors rendered.

Jno. Cromer, of Drift Creek, made proof on his place yesterday.

Chas. Gordon was in this city yesterday as a witness for John Cromer.

D. C. Rosebrook and wife left for Corvallis on the excursion train Sunday evening.

Karl Ludwig, of Yaquina, was in town yesterday making proof on his land.

Johnny Akin, the Siletz mail carrier, has a road cart on the route now which makes it convenient if any one wants to go to the Agency.

THE SILETZ RESERVE.

A Description of the Reservation's Topographical Features.

The following interesting descriptive letter concerning the Siletz reservation written by B. F. Jones, of this place, appeared in a recent issue of the Salem Journal, and was also reproduced in the Oregonian of last Saturday. It is the best article that has been written concerning the reservation:

"As there have been a number of statements made through the press concerning the lands on the Siletz Indian reservation soon to be thrown open for settlement, will you kindly give one who has lived in the vicinity of the reservation for the past 24 years, space in your valuable paper for a brief description of this locality? As we do not wish to mislead any home-seeker, or boom the country by misrepresentation, we shall endeavor to describe the lands as they appear having lived on the reservation for a time and being well acquainted with it.

This country was formerly a part of Tillamook county, but the act creating Lincoln county gave this land to the latter county. Within the boundaries of the reservation are about 232,000 acres of land, 48,000 of which has been designated and allotted to the Indians in severalty, the balance to be opened to settlers under the homestead law.

The agricultural lands are mostly along the Siletz and Salmon rivers and their tributaries. The Siletz heads in or near the summit of the Coast range, and empties its clear, sparkling waters into the old Pacific near the center of the reservation north and south. This stream is very winding and crooked and runs to every point of the compass before it reaches the ocean. This mouth of the bay is very narrow and on either side are rolling sand hills. Extending up the river on the left bank for a distance of three miles are large bodies of tide lands, very high and only overflowed in the winter or during full moon tides in June. At this point the mountain comes to the water's edge, and on the right bank is another large body of tide land. From this point on up the stream for a distance of about 20 miles to the head of tide there are upon either side of the river large tracts of bottom lands covered with crab-apples, alder and vine maple, and occasionally a small prairie of from 10 to 40 acres. Along the mountain sides back of the bottoms, except about three miles which is rocky and rough, can be seen fine saw timber, fir, larch, spruce and cedar towering up toward the sky from 100 to 200 feet; a green and living reminder of one of the many industries that are soon to spring into existence in this favored locality as soon as the president's proclamation shall have reached the ears of the homeseeker. Six miles above the head of tide is what is designated as the lower farm. During former years the reserve was divided into three farming districts. The middle farm, where is now located all the government buildings, the upper and lower farms, both of which have white farmers, but for a number of years past one farmer, located at the agency, has directed the Indians in their farming pursuits. The lower farm is nearly abandoned. Here one may travel over a fairly good road for a distance of six or seven miles to the agency farm, passing one fine belt of land after another and seeing nothing but vacated houses and broken-down fences and the fields growing up to weeds and shrubs, many of the Indians having either died or moved to the coast, there to fish or while away time according to their ancient customs. At the agency are some well kept farms, including the government farm, worked by the Indian school boys under the direction of the industrial teachers. Here many of the Indians are located—in fact, most of the Indians, they having adapted themselves to the white custom of gathering around the country stores and exchanging ideas and talking politics. Continuing, as it were, on up the valley of the Siletz through a fine farming country for about eight miles, we come to a point where the mountains again seek the river's edge. Here for several miles the country is rough,

where the bottoms again open out. Here are good homes on the bottoms and rolling beach lands.

The northwest corner of the reservation is at the mouth of Salmon river on the north bank. Salmon river is seven miles north of the Siletz bay, and like its neighbor is very winding and crooked. Along this stream are also fine tide and bottom lands, and the country between the two rivers along the coast is excellent grazing land.

The Siletz river is navigable for river boats for a distance of 20 miles, and, owing to the large amount of fresh water it affords, being fed by myriads of smaller streams, it has been said by old and experienced fishermen that more salmon enter this bay than the Yaquina and the Alsea combined. Cannermen are only awaiting an opportunity to enter this, the promised land, to open up the fishing industry.

In many places along the Coast range the forest fires have consumed hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of timber, but the hand of Providence has protected this belt of country, and it stands today as nature has left it, green and inhaling its own fragrance, towering and waving on a thousand hills, only awaiting the hand of capital and man's ingenuity to place it upon the market of the world.

While at the present time the nearest point to a railroad from this valley is Toledo, a distance of seven miles, over a wagon road, there is a possibility that as soon as these lands are open for settlement the Southern Pacific will continue its system on from Airle, in Polk county, to Newport, down by the sea, a distance of about 40 miles, as there would be plenty of commerce to justify the extension of the road.

The Indians are not allowed to sell their lands for a period of years, but they are to become citizens, and are allowed the privilege of leasing their lands, which opportunity they will speedily embrace, as farming is not to their taste.

We do not mean to cast any reflection upon any of the former agents who have been on this reservation, or the present one, when we say that the farming industry is going backward instead of forward, for the Indians do not care to farm and the agent has no power to compel them to work. Again, the Indians are all becoming educated, and, like the white man, do not want to follow in the same vocation all their lives. We make the assertion that within two or three years after the opening of the reservation there will not be over 100 Indians living upon the reserve. Twenty years ago over 3,000 Indians had their homes on this reservation; today the census shows less than 500. Civilization and the ways of the white man have thinned their ranks and many have passed to the happy hunting ground. The Indians are, as a rule, well educated, and will make good, law-abiding citizens.

While homeseekers will be able to get but little clear land, the Indians having selected the open lands, there are homes for many. The day has passed when a man can load his possessions into a wagon, go West, set his stakes and claim broad acres of prairie land. Uncle Sam's broad domain has withstood the test for many years, and has provided millions of homes for subjects, but now she has no more wild West. If we take Horace Greeley's advice and go farther West, we will find that where rolls Oregon is also civilization. The opening of the reservation means a great deal for the new county of Lincoln, from the fact that the government will assume and pay all taxes on the 48,000 acres allotted to the Indians, under the provisions of the bill which has just been passed by congress. About \$40,000 will be disbursed by the Indians, and the balance of \$100,000 will be placed to their credit and be paid out to the minor children as they become of age. Forty thousand dollars put into circulation these democratic times will grease the axles and start the wheels of industry with a merry tune, which will be heard locally, at least.

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