

WINTER WHEAT GAINS

Nebraska Farmers Show Less Confidence in the Spring Cereal.

CHANGE IS ABOUT 600,000 ACRES

Department of Agriculture Furnishes Figures on Corn, Oats, Hay, Potato and Other Crops for the Season Just Past—An Encouraging Showing.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The statistician of the Department of Agriculture estimates the United States wheat crop of 1900 at 522,229,505 bushels, the area actually harvested being 42,495,385 acres and the average an acre 12.29 bushels. The production of winter wheat is estimated at 350,025,409 bushels and that of spring wheat at 172,200,096 bushels, the area actually harvested being 26,235,897 acres in the former case and 16,259,488 acres in the latter case. The winter wheat acreage, totally abandoned in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois, is finally placed at 3,522,787 acres, and the spring wheat acreage, totally abandoned in North Dakota and South Dakota, at 1,793,467 acres. The extraordinary rapid rate at which the winter wheat acreage of Nebraska is gaining upon the spring wheat acreage of that state has necessitated a special investigation of the relative extent to which the two varieties were grown during the last year. The result of the investigation is that while no change is called for in the total wheat figures of the state, 590,575 acres have been added to the winter wheat column at the expense of the spring variety.

The newly-seeded area of winter wheat is estimated at 30,232,564 acres. While this acreage is slightly greater than that sown in the fall of 1899, as estimated at the time, it is 600,654 acres less than the area that was actually sown, the discrepancy being due to the remarkably rapid development of winter wheat growing in Nebraska with which, as stated, the department's reports had failed to keep pace. A comparison of the newly-seeded acreage with that of the fall of 1899 shows that of the eleven states and territories that sowed 1,000,000 acres or upward of winter wheat one year ago Pennsylvania, Missouri, Kansas, California and Oklahoma report an increase amounting to 971,704 acres, and Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Texas and Tennessee a decrease of 1,780,191 acres. The average condition of the growing crop on December 1 was 97.1 per cent of the normal. There are many complaints of the Hessian fly. The lowest condition figures reported are from Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and Tennessee—86, 89 and 87 respectively. The condition in Kansas, Oklahoma and many other states is above normal.

The production of corn in 1900 is estimated at 2,105,102,516 bushels; oats, 809,125,989 bushels; barley, 58,926,833 bushels; rye, 23,995,927 bushels; buckwheat, 9,566,966 bushels; potatoes, 210,926,897 bushels; and hay, 50,110,908 tons. The area from which these crops were gathered was as follows in acres: Corn, 83,320,872; oats, 27,364,705; barley, 2,194,282; rye, 1,191,326; buckwheat, 637,930; potatoes, 2,611,054; and hay, 29,192,890.

The corn crop of 1900 was one of the four largest ever gathered, while the oat crop has been exceeded only once. On the other hand, the barley and rye crops are the smallest, with one exception, in acres since 1887. The buckwheat crop is the smallest since 1883 and the hay crop is the smallest since 1888, with one exception since 1888.

Shocked Woman's Modesty.
WICHITA, Kas., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Carrie Nation, president of the Barber county Woman's Christian Temperance union, entered the Carey hotel bar room and with a stone smashed a \$300 painting of Cleopatra at her bath and a mirror valued at \$100.

To Fight United States.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The vast industrial forces of Germany are organizing for a tremendous struggle with agrarian and commercial interests, according to a report to the state department from United States Consul Schuman at Mainz. He says that the manufacturing interests of Germany surely will demand the passage of a protective tariff during the present session of the reichstag. Three of the strongest industrial societies of Germany recently convened to organize a national industrial council.

Revenue Bill Up Soon.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28.—Senator Allison, who is the second member on the finance committee in point of seniority, said today that the house bill amending the war revenue law would be taken up by that committee immediately after the reconvening of congress. He also stated that no hearings would be granted by the committee.

Too Easy for Kidnapers.
PIERRE, S. D., Dec. 28.—An agitation in favor of more stringent laws for kidnaping has already begun here, as a consequence of the Cudahy affair at Omaha. The legislature bids fair to be overwhelmed with bills providing new and severe punishment for that sort of crime. Under the statutes of the state, as they stand, kidnaping is punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary for ten years, which would mean a six-year term, with the good time allowance deducted.

CROWE IS WEARING SKIRTS.

Masquerading in Chicago and Buying Beer Among Saloons.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Disguised as a woman, Pat Crowe, the kidnaper of Eddie Cudahy at Omaha, has been seen in Chicago within the last few days, and may still be in hiding here, according to statements made this afternoon by Detective Sergeant James Storen, who arrested Crowe a number of times. With a view to discovering the fugitive's hiding place, a search of several houses has been made by Storen, acting on a tip that Crowe had been recognized. Christmas day the sergeant stumbled upon evidence which convinced him that Crowe has been in Englewood recently, and that in the guise of a woman and heavily veiled he went abroad with impunity in streets where he is well known. The tip as to Crowe's whereabouts came from a saloonkeeper at State and Sixty-third streets. When a tall woman entered the saloon by the ladies' entrance Christmas eve and asked for beer to be served in a private room, the muffled, but masculine voice aroused the saloonkeeper's suspicion. After the visitor departed a barkeeper asserted that he had recognized the supposed woman as Pat Crowe. The following day, Christmas, the saloonkeeper told Storen.

In a room in Sixty-third street, claimed by the landlady to be occupied by a "young widow," Storen found a pair of men's socks, whose presence could not be explained. Other evidence that the occupant was Crowe himself came into Storen's possession later and he is still hoping to secure the \$25,000 reward for the alleged Cudahy kidnaper's capture.

Two mysterious persons, one in skirts, arraigned at the Continental National bank for the deposit of \$5,000 in gold.

NO INVITATION TO BE SENT.

Report That President is to Invite the Kaiser Denied.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Nothing is known at the White House concerning the story cabled from London to the effect that the New York Yacht club would invite Emperor William of Germany and the Prince of Wales to witness the yacht races for the America's cup next summer and that President McKinley would write concurrently to the kaiser and prince inviting them to visit the United States. At the White House it is stated that nothing of the sort is in contemplation. The Prince of Wales was a guest at the executive mansion during President Buchanan's administration.

Leprosy in the Philippines.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—An appended report to General MacArthur's review of the civil affairs of the Philippines for the past fiscal year, gives some rather startling facts regarding the introduction and prevalence of leprosy in the islands. According to the estimates of the Franciscan fathers, says Major Guy L. Edie, the writer of the report, there are no less than 20,000 leprosy in the archipelago, the major portion of these being in the Visayas.

Our Colonial Cabinet.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28.—In accordance with an order issued by the War department today, the division of customs and insular affairs of the office of secretary of war, created in December, 1898, will hereafter be known as the "division of insular affairs," and will have charge of matters pertaining to the civil affairs connected with the government of Cuba and the Philippine islands, as distinguished from matters of a purely military character.

A Sensation Looked For.

ST. JOSEPH, Dec. 28.—The prosecuting attorney believes he will be able to develop all the important facts of the sensational murder of the millionaire merchant, Frank Richardson of Savannah, at the inquest to be resumed tomorrow. Mrs. Richardson will take the stand and it is understood she will give testimony that will clearly show the murderer to be a very prominent resident of Savannah.

C. P. Huntington's Will.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 28.—The will of Collis P. Huntington was admitted to probate today. The only property belonging to the estate of the deceased in this city consisted of a mortgage interest to real property in the value of \$50,000. Aside from this there was no personal property of any description, the mansion on California street standing in the name of the widow.

Germany is Silent.

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—When the attention of the German foreign office was called today to a dispatch from Washington, announcing that the United States government would decline to accept responsibility for the losses of Germans in Cuba from the Spanish-American war and the insurrection which led to it, the officials refused to offer any expression of opinion on the subject.

Porto Ricans Go to Hawaii.

SAN JUAN, Dec. 28.—The New York and Porto Rico Steamship company's steamer Arkadia, sailed from Ponce yesterday for New Orleans, having on board 400 Porto Ricans, 65 per cent of whom were women and children, destined for Hawaii.

Alleged Irregularities in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The senate committee on relations with Cuba probably will meet immediately after the expiration of the holidays for the purpose of further considering the question of irregularities under the Cuban service, as directed by the resolution of last session. The Lawhe report made to the secretary of war has not been received by the committee. It is presumed that if Secretary Root concludes to send this to congress, all he will send it direct to the senate under the terms of the Bacon resolution.

WORK OF COMMITTEES

Holidays Spent in Brushing Up the Appropriation Bill.

COMING DAYS FULL OF BUSINESS

Indian Measure May Have a Million Dollar Fund Inserted, for Irrigating Indian Lands—Other Matters to Be Considered.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—The sub-committee on appropriations having in charge the preparation of the legislative, administrative and judicial bill, which has been sitting daily since the holiday recess of congress, has practically completed its work and probably will not meet again until after the reconvening of the senate. The bill will then be reported to the full committee and as soon as possible, to the senate. It will not carry a much greater total than the bill carried as it passed the house. There have been few increases of salary made by the sub-committee.

Increases in the clerical forces in certain branches of the war, interior and postoffice departments have been provided for. These increases have been made in response to urgent representations by the heads of bureaus. The Indian appropriation bill received today from the senate committee on Indian affairs, the first attention that has been given it by that body. A sub-committee consisting of Senators Thurston, Platt of Connecticut, Stewart, Jones of Arkansas and Pettigrew, took up the bill and after examining many of the provisions, decided to consider the petition of the Pima Indians of Arizona for improved facilities for securing water for irrigation. Hydrographer Newell of the geological survey and others were heard as to the utility of a proposed dam for a storage reservoir on San Carlos river. It was stated that these Indians had been deprived of their water supply by the construction of an irrigation system by white men and that where before they had been self-supporting up to that time, they were now on the verge of starvation.

It was estimated that the proposed dam will cost about \$1,000,000. The committee is apparently disposed to make some provision for the unfortunate Indians.

Conger Takes a Hopeful View.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—"Mr. Conger takes a hopeful view of the situation," says the Pekin correspondent of the Morning post, wiring on Monday, "and thinks that a settlement will be effected, but he declares that not one of the envoys will recognize the emperor dowager officially, although all are aware that she has long exercised the supreme power. He believes the crisis will arise in the initiation of reforms in China."

"Senor de Colozan, Spanish minister to China, fears that the joint discussion of the note will extend for a year or more."

"It is rumored that numerous villages east of Pekin are combining to exterminate native Christians, several of whom have been burned in a local temple."

"Li Hung Chang is a trifle better."

Constitution for Cuba.

HAVANA, Dec. 27.—The various sections into which the Cuban constitutional convention was divided some weeks ago for the purpose of preparing and submitting draft constitutions for the consideration of the body as a whole are gradually getting together on the basis of a unitary government, with restricted suffrage. The convention leaders now hope to have this work completed by January 15, so that the results may be submitted to the United States congress February 1. The sectional discussions have been bitter and prolonged and therefore there will be less debate in the open sessions, the hard fights having been made in the secret sub-sessions in order to save public wrangling.

Big Pay for Mileage.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Robert H. Wilcox, delegate in the house of representatives from the Hawaiian islands, has just been paid a claim of \$1,000 for mileage. It was the largest claim of the kind ever made, but it was paid promptly by the sergeant-at-arms of the house. Every congressman is entitled to mileage at the rate of 20 cents per mile "by the most direct and practicable route from his home to Washington and return." The distance between Honolulu and Washington is figured at 5,000 miles. Mr. Wilcox will draw \$1,000 more for his return trip.

Conscience Pricks at Last.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The secretary of the treasury has received from a town in the south a conscience contribution of \$200. In the course of his letter the sender says he defrauded the government out of revenue taxes on tobacco to that amount in 1871, 1872 and 1873.

No Indians Found Hunting.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Indian Agent Myton of the Uintah and Ouray agency reports to the Indian bureau here that the search of western Colorado by the state officials for Indians hunting in the state has resulted in a failure to find one Indian.

Gives of His Millions.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—It became known today through a report made by the Baptist churches of New York that John D. Rockefeller, jr., son of the president of the Standard Oil company, has subscribed \$250,000 for the founding of an institution of learning for poor boys and girls. The school is now in course of erection in Tenth avenue, between Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth streets, and will be completed and ready for occupancy by March 1 next.

WAR ON CHINA BEGINS.

First Formal Meeting of the Diplomatic Representatives.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—A cablegram received at the State department from United States Minister Conger, dated at Pekin on the 24th inst., states that the first formal meeting between the diplomatic representatives and Prince Ching took place on the 24th. Ching presented the credentials of himself and Li Hung Chang, who was unable to attend owing to illness, to the diplomatic representatives, who handed to him the official note. The officials of the State department are unwilling to venture a guess as to the length of time that will be consumed by the Chinese government in consideration of the note. The last article notified the Chinese government that the occupation of Chi Li and Pekin may continue until the Chinese government has complied with the terms of the note. It may be stated, however, that the United States is not bound or affected by this condition. Our occupancy from a military point of view has terminated and there is no disposition to renew it.

As for the other powers, it is expected that the main obstacle they will encounter in withdrawing under this condition will be found in the difficulty of obtaining satisfactory guarantees upon the Chinese promise to pay indemnities.

PAT CROWE IN MANY PLACES.

Located in Ohio, Indiana and Missouri at the Same Time.

FINDLAY, O., Dec. 27.—Pat Crowe, the man suspected of being one of the abductors of young Edward Cudahy in Omaha, is believed to be in hiding in this town or vicinity. He has a number of relatives in this neighborhood, including a sister in McComb, ten miles northwest of this point. The Omaha chief of police has telegraphed here to have the officers keep a watch for Crowe.

MUNCIE, Ind., Dec. 27.—The Muncie police late tonight received telephone calls over a farmer's private line to come to a point near Shideler, eight miles north of Muncie to arrest a man who fills the newspaper description of Pat Crowe, so frequently mentioned in connection with the Cudahy kidnaping. Detectives Benbow and Puckett have started for the scene.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Dec. 27.—Five more Pinkerton detectives arrived in the city tonight from Chicago to ferret out the hiding place of Pat Crowe, the Omaha kidnaper. Chief of Detectives Shea is still of the opinion that Crowe is harbored by friends in this city. Chief Shea and Policeman Jack Purcell, now of Denver, armed with Winchester, expected to capture Crowe tonight, but the house they visited did not hold the desperado.

Handsome Elk's Bravery.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Dec. 27.—News has reached the city from the Brule Indian agency that Handsome Elk, the most dangerous and most desperate redskin of the northwest, beat his squaw in a brutal manner with a neckyoke. It is thought the squaw will die. Elk then seized another Indian woman, Bear Bird's daughter, and scalped her. Then arming himself with his rifle and other firearms, he went into the hills a short distance and left word that friend or foe must not approach him.

Miss Morrison Out on Bond.

ELDORADO, Kan., Dec. 26.—Jessie Morrison was released this morning on \$5,000 bonds. The woman's father accompanied the sheriff to the jail and Jessie was released from custody. The party then went quietly to the Morrison home.

Miss Morrison has not yet made known her plans for the immediate future. It is thought, however, that she will spend some time visiting her old home in the east.

Wright Goes to Alton.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—J. F. Barrett, general superintendent of the Southern railway, who tendered his resignation several weeks ago, will, after January 1, be connected with the Chicago & Alton railroad. Mr. Barrett refuses to discuss his future course. He states that he will not serve the road as general superintendent.

Farm Boys Wanted for Sailors.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—A plan of recruiting sailors for the United States navy from the farms and the country towns is now under consideration at the Navy department. The recruiting now is carried on outside of the large cities, but it has not reached the interior sections remote from large centers.

Hartford Goes to Venezuela.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The Hartford, which was ordered to watch American interests in Venezuela and co-operate with United States Minister Loomis in their protection, has left Curacao for La Guaira. The Navy department announces that it will visit Trinidad and Barbadoes after leaving La Guaira.

"Didn't Know It Was Loaded."

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 29.—Hazel Horton, the sixteen-year-old daughter of Mrs. Pearl Horton, was shot and probably fatally injured at her home. The shooting was accidental and was another case of did not know it was loaded.

What the Turk Must Pay.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Details are not obtainable here of the placing of an order by the sultan with the Cramps for a war ship, but it is understood that the statement to that effect from Constantinople is correct. From the character and size of the ship ordered it is believed that the contract will involve the payment by the Turkish government to the Cramps of about \$2,500,000, which should afford an ample margin for the settlement of any proper claims against the Turkish government.



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