

AS TO THE CROPS

CORN EXPERIENCES A VERY FAVORABLE WEEK.

WEATHER IS A LITTLE COOL

Except in Upper Missouri Valley Growth Has Been Satisfactory.—Spring Wheat Promising Except in Overflow Districts.

WASHINGTON—The weather bureau weekly bulletin summarizes crop conditions as follows:

In the districts east of the Rocky mountains temperature conditions were favorable though cool in the Missouri valley. Over much the greater part of the country from the south Atlantic gulf coasts northward to the lake regions, Minnesota and the Dakotas, excessive rainfall greatly retarded the cultivation of crops, caused rapid growth of weeds and in places injured hay and harvested grain. There was practically no rain in New England, only light showers on the immediate middle Atlantic coast and none in the Rocky mountain and Pacific coast regions. In central and northern California and portions of Oregon and Washington intense heat prevailed during the latter part of the week.

The corn crop has experienced a week of very favorable conditions for growth except in the upper Missouri valley, where its progress has been rather slow on account of insufficient heat and lack of sunshine. While rains have interfered with cultivation to some extent the crop as a whole is in a fairly good state of cultivation and is largely laid by except in the more northerly districts. Winter wheat harvest continues in the northerly districts and is largely finished elsewhere. Rainy weather has extensively interfered with threshing and has caused damage to grain in shock in portions of the middle Atlantic states and central valleys. The abnormal heat on the north Pacific coast during the latter part of the week probably caused damage to the wheat crop in Washington.

In portions of South Dakota and Minnesota spring wheat on lowlands has suffered from overflows, but elsewhere in the spring wheat region the crop is in promising condition. Rust continues in South Dakota and Minnesota, though not materially increasing, and is beginning to appear in North Dakota. Spring wheat continues promising on the north Pacific coast, although exposed to trying heat conditions during the latter part of the week.

Both standing and harvested oats have suffered considerably from wet weather, which has caused lodging, hindered harvesting and injured oats in stack or shock. A fine crop, however, is generally indicated.

HEALTH OF WORKMEN TO BE PROTECTED

WASHINGTON—Life on the isthmus of Panama is to be made healthful, comfortable and enjoyable before the real work of digging the canal is begun, according to an announcement of policy made by Chairman Shonts of the Panama canal commission. Mr. Shonts said that twelve and one-half per cent of the total number of employees are now assigned to the work of creating healthful conditions. In conclusion the announcement says:

"A cablegram received from Governor Magoon reports no additional cases of yellow fever and no deaths, and but one case under treatment on the isthmus of Panama."

NEBRASKANS SEARCHING FOR MISSING DAUGHTER

CHICAGO—A. G. Smith, superintendent of the Central City, Neb., schools, and Mrs. Smith have come to Chicago and taken apartments at the Saratoga hotel to search for their missing daughter. Heartbroken, the parents declare that they will not return to Nebraska until some trace of their daughter is found.

"Florence was such a good girl," said Mr. Smith. "I cannot understand why she left the young woman's school—the Deaconess seminary for girls, at Aurora—to come to Chicago. We were educating her there. The last we heard of her was that she started out to earn her own living as a nurse."

Shonts and Stevens Busy. WASHINGTON—Chairman Shonts of the Panama Canal commission, and Mr. Stevens, the newly appointed chief engineer, are in Washington. Both expect to leave for Oyster Bay Friday. They will leave for Panama July 18, and Mr. Stevens' family will follow him in the fall. Mr. Stevens is now considering the question of filling the vacancies in the engineering corps and will familiarize himself with the available matter here before he inspects the forces at Panama. No plans will be made till he reaches the isthmus.

Arkansas Negro Lynched. ST. LOUIS—A special from Dumas, Ark., says: A negro named Joe Woodruff of Rives, Ark., was lynched here after having eloped with the daughter of J. S. Small, a white man. The elopement occurred yesterday and Sheriff A. J. Fine Bluff caught the couple at Tamo on board a train. The girl was returned to her parents and the negro was placed in jail here. All was quiet during the night but today the jail was found broken open and the negro's body dangled from a tree a mile distant.

ROOT FOR PRESIDENT.

Doubtless Have the Help of Present Chief Executive.

WASHINGTON—It is asserted by certain men competent to speak upon the matter that a frank understanding has been reached between the president and Mr. Root, whereby the latter is to receive the full support of the president at the republican national convention three years hence. Secretary of War Taft is to be allowed to gain fame through the executive direction of the Panama canal.

It will be recalled that Mr. Root frankly avowed when he resigned as secretary of war, several months ago, that the step was dictated by a desire to make money. It is an open secret that since he returned to the practice of law in New York his income has been practically \$1,000 a week, and some place it at half a million a year. It is reasonably certain that Mr. Root's income would remain at this figure for an indefinite period.

UNION PACIFIC EXTENSIONS ARE TO BE BUILT

CHICAGO—Julius Kruttschnitt, director of maintenance and operation of the Harriman system, says:

"The Union Pacific and Southern Pacific roads will build a number of short lines from points where they seem feasible and paying. We are engaged in surveying and looking over a number of proposed extensions in the west, but have definitely decided on very few as yet."

The Union Pacific may use the Burlington stub from Hastings to Kearney, Neb., in connection with the new line from Kansas City which is being built. However, that point is not settled and the Union Pacific may use the tracks of the St. Joseph & Grand Island from Hastings to Grand Island to connect with the main line instead of using the Burlington to Kearney.

Rebates to Grain Dealers.

WASHINGTON—The inter-state commerce commission proposes to conduct an investigation in St. Louis, beginning July 22, into the question of alleged allowances made by railroads to companies or persons owning grain elevators or by such companies or persons owning elevators to shippers of grain.

INDIAN STATUE UNVEILED AT THE EXPOSITION

PORTLAND, Ore.—Sacajawea, the Indian bird woman who, bearing on her back her Indian child, guided the explorers, Lewis and Clark, through old Oregon, received public recognition for her heroic services at the Lewis and Clark exposition when the handsome bronze statue of the Indian woman and her papoose was unveiled. The statue stands at a prominent place on Lake View terrace between statues of Capt. Merriweather Lewis and William Clark. It was draped in a huge American flag when the unveiling ceremonies opened. Invocation was pronounced by Rev. Anna H. Shaw and "America" was then sung by Charles Cutter, an Alaskan Indian, with a well trained voice. The speaker of the day was Miss Susan B. Anthony, who addressed the assemblage on "Women in Discovery."

BONDS ARE A LIEN UPON TOBACCO MONOPOLY

NEW YORK—Semi-official details concerning the latest Japanese loan of 150 million dollars were made public. The bonds will bear interest at 4 1/2 per cent and will be secured by a second lien upon the tobacco monopoly.

The syndicate underwriting the loan consists of Parr's bank, limited, of London, the Hong Kong and Shanghai banking corporation and the Yokohama specie bank, limited, with whom are associated Kuhn, Loeb & Co. of this city, and the Deutsche Asiatische bank of Berlin. The National City bank and the National Bank of Commerce, both of New York city, will assist Kuhn, Loeb & Co. in the flotation in this country.

Washington Lawyer Gets Place. WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt has named D. W. Baker of this city for United States attorney for the District of Columbia. The appointment will take effect upon the retirement of District Attorney Morgan H. Beach on August 31.

Proclaims a Siege. SAN DOMINGO—The government has issued a decree suspending the guarantee and proclaiming a siege in the Barahona district. The trouble apparently is local. All other districts of the republic are quiet.

Nebraska Man Honored. PORTLAND, Ore.—The American Library association closed its convention today. Among the officers elected were the following: President, Frank P. Hill of Brooklyn public library; secretary J. I. Wyer of Lincoln, Neb.

New Head of Admiralty. LONDON—A dispatch to a news agency from St. Petersburg today announces that Vice Admiral Birleff has been appointed head of the Russian admiralty in succession to Admiral Avellan, who resigned.

Omaha Boy Drowns at Fair. PORTLAND, Ore.—Frank Sitera, aged 17, whose home is in Omaha and who was attracted to Portland by the exposition, was drowned in Guild's lake, a deep artificial body of water on the grounds.

DEPEW EXPLAINS

WHAT HE SAYS OF LOAN MADE BY EQUITABLE.

HE DID NOT ADVOCATE IT

Never Could Have Been Made if Official Appraisers Had Reported Property—The Sum of \$250,000 Was Borrowed.

New York.—Senator Chauncey M. Depew has made a statement to the Paris correspondent of the New York Tribune regarding the loan of \$250,000 made by the Equitable society to the Depew Land Improvement company on property alleged to have been worth only \$150,000, in which he says that he never had advocated or recommended any such transactions, because he was a director of the Equitable.

Senator Depew further says: "That loan never could have been made unless the official appraisers of the Equitable had reported after examination that \$250,000 was only 60 per cent of the property's value, such being the rule of the society, and that on such a report the officers of the company had unanimously approved it."

"The Depew Land Improvement company was organized and in operation some five years before it was induced to become a stockholder. It then had about 3,000 inhabitants, and many thriving industries, including the New York Central shops, and connection with several trunk lines. The company appointed a general manager who built houses, a hotel, opened streets, extended the water and sewer systems and incurred great liabilities in improvements. A few of the larger stockholders formed a plan to pay off all liabilities and provide working capacity, but the stockholders were so numerous, a large number living abroad that co-operation could not be secured, and went into the hands of a receiver five years after the Equitable loan. Appraisals of the property has been made by the officers and independent persons, the lowest valuation being \$200,000 over and above all liabilities. If the Equitable and other creditors join and take the property out of the hands of the receiver, and put on a going basis, there is no possibility of loss. On the contrary in the judgment of those best acquainted with the property there is a certainty of profit."

"A few days before I sailed from New York I placed my resignation as counsel in the hands of Chairman Morton, and I am very glad that he accepted it. I had passed my 71st birthday, and I had made up my mind before I reached 72 to secure something of that rest and freedom from incessant work that has been denied me year after year."

THE RUSSIAN EMPRESS WITH THE WAR PARTY

ST. PETERSBURG—The Associated Press has high warrant for the statement that M. Witt, president of the committee of ministers, was strongly urged on the emperor for head of the peace commission. Even Foreign Minister Lamsdorf is said to have joined in recommending his election. The emperor, however, flatly declined to appoint him, and after M. Nelidoff, ambassador at Paris, pleaded illness, his majesty personally chose M. Muraviev, the ambassador at Rome. Two of the five councillors to the plenipotentiaries, though, M. Pokotiloff, minister to China, and M. Shipoff, director of the imperial treasury and former president of the zemstvos, are distinctly Witte men.

APPLICATION IS MADE TO RETURN HOME

VALLEJO, Cal.—More than one hundred members of the crew of the Russian cruiser Lena, which is interned at the Mare island navy yard, have made a demand upon Commander Genter, in charge of the vessel, that they be accorded the same privileges as are granted to the enlisted men on the Russian ships interned at Manila, that is, that all of the crew except enough men to man the ship be paroled and allowed to return to their homes in Russia. Commander Genter told the men that he would communicate their wishes to the state department at Washington.

GEN. STOEESSEL UNDER ARREST.

Held Because of Result of Investigation of Port Arthur Fight. ST. PETERSBURG—The Nashashim prints a report that Lieutenant General Stoessel has been placed under arrest at Tsarskoe Selo in consequence of the revelations made by the commission which has been investigating the defense and capitulation of Port Arthur and that the sword of honor donated by a number of French admirers of General Stoessel will not be presented.

Will Import Many Laborers.

WASHINGTON.—In order to test the capacity for work of Italians, Chinese and Japanese and also the contract method of securing and handling laborers, the Panama Canal commission has decided to import 2,000 men of each nationality for a 500-day contract, subject to renewal. It is the object of the commission to reduce the amount of this sort of labor as much as possible by the introduction of modern machinery, but it will be necessary to secure several thousand additional workmen.

Castro Creates a Monopoly. WASHINGTON—Norman Hutchins American charge at Caracas, has reported to the state department that the president of Venezuela has issued a decree practically making the sale industry of Venezuela government monopoly.

Streets Full of Troops. TIFLIS, Caucasus—The streets are occupied by troops, but the city has been quiet since the proclamation of martial law. The Official Gazette has resumed publication.

FRANCE GIVES HER CONSENT.

Will Participate in Conference on Morocco Affairs.

PARIS—Premier Rouvier and Prince von Radolin, the German ambassador, reached an agreement relative to the communications to be exchanged between France and Germany regarding Morocco. France consents to participate in a conference, having been assured in the course of the negotiations that her interests will be safeguarded. The official notes on the subject will be communicated to the chamber of deputies probably on Monday.

Information obtained in diplomatic quarters shows that it has practically been settled that the conference will be held at Tangier.

NEBRASKA GRAIN DEALERS TRY SQUEEZING PROCESS

OMAHA—Before Notary Charles G. Bearsall, Thomas D. Worrall, president of the Worrall Grain company, told of the efforts of the Nebraska Grain Dealers association to squeeze his company out of the grain business in Nebraska. Mr. Worrall's testimony is taken at the request of the opposing counsel in his suit for \$128,000 damages.

The witness insisted on all the questions put to him being written out in plain sight on a typewriter before he would answer them.

An interesting portion of the testimony concerned the possession by the secretary of the Nebraska grain dealers' association of full information about a car of grain loaded by a farmer and consigned to the Worrall company before the car was anywhere near Omaha. The secretary came to Worrall and tried to induce him not to handle the particular car of grain. The plaintiff's counsel will try to show that the information was transmitted by a railroad company, thus showing collusion with the so-called grain trust.

PEARY READY TO START FOR THE NORTH POLE

NEW YORK—With \$35,000 subscribed toward his expedition to reach the north pole, Robert E. Peary announces that he will sail this week for the north. Commander Peary's new Arctic ship, the Roosevelt, has been waiting several days for supplies which could not be bought on account of the lack of funds.

The polar expedition which has been in preparation since October 15, 1904, has cost \$150,000, including today's subscription. The entire amount has been donated by American business men to the Peary Arctic club, whose members are anxious that none but Americans have any hand in this polar expedition.

THE COMING PEACE MEETING.

Portsmouth, N. H., Definitely Decided Upon as the Place. WASHINGTON—Assistant Secretary Pierce announced that the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Japan had agreed upon Portsmouth, N. H., as the meeting place for the sessions of the peace conference to be held outside of Washington. The sessions will be held in the government navy yard at Portsmouth in the new building just completed there.

Third Assistant Secretary of State Pierce has been specially commissioned by the president to make all arrangements for the meeting of the plenipotentiaries at Portsmouth and is preparing to leave for that place to confer with the commandant of the navy yard. The meeting will be held in the general store house.

BARS DOORS TO A SOCIALIST.

Germany Will Not Allow M. Jaures of France to Speak. BERLIN—Chancellor von Buelow telegraphed to Prince Radolin, the German ambassador at Paris, to inform M. Jaures, the French socialist leader, that the German government thought it best to dobar him from speaking in Berlin, July 9, as it had been announced he intended to.

The invitation to M. Jaures came from the socialist executive committee ruling the party and was designed to advance the socialist opposition to the government's Moroccan policy and to demonstrate the similarities of view on foreign questions of socialists of all countries.

Morton Cuts All Salaries. NEW YORK—Sweeping reductions in the salaries of various officials and employees of the Equitable society were announced Thursday by Chairman Morton. The decreases will amount to 20 per cent on all salaries \$15,000 per annum; 15 per cent from all annual salaries between \$9,000 and \$15,000, both inclusive, and 10 per cent decrease from all salaries above \$2,000 and below \$9,000 per year. These changes become operative on August 1 next and effect a saving of from \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year.

Attempt to Wreck Overland. LARAMIE, Wyo.—An attempt was made early Friday to wreck passenger train No. 1, the westbound Overland Limited on the Union Pacific. Only the watchfulness of the engineer and fireman, both of whom saw an obstruction on the track at the same time, and prompt action on the part of the former in applying the air brakes, prevented a disaster. As it was, the flyer was stopped just as the nose of the pilot touched the obstruction, which consisted of ties, big stones and old timbers.

Merit Rule in the Army. OYSTER BAY, N. Y.—An important order was issued by President Roosevelt announcing the policy hereafter to be followed by the administration in making of appointments or promotions in the military branch of the government. The president orders that if any officer of the army or navy shall solicit influences aside from the records of his service on file in the war or navy departments, in order to obtain promotion or assignment, he shall be debarred thereby from the advancement which he is seeking.

ONE MAN RESIGNS

MURAVIEFF STEPS OUT AS PEACE PLENIPOTENTIARY.

WITTE IS TO SUCCEED HIM

M. Muraviev Tenders His Resignation Because of His Experience in Diplomatic Matters Does Not Qualify Him for Post.

ST. PETERSBURG—M. Muraviev has resigned his position as chief peace plenipotentiary.

It may be regarded as practically certain that he will be replaced by M. Witte, president of the committee of ministers, who all along has been considered the Russian statesman pre-eminently qualified to undertake the difficult task of negotiating peace with Japan.

Though the emperor on two previous occasions has flatly declined to accept M. Witte, he has now indicated his readiness to make the appointment. The commission, however, will not be actually signed until Foreign Minister Lamsdorf, who throughout the war has been M. Witte's warm supporter, has had an audience of the emperor. To that extent only the matter may be regarded as unsettled, nothing being certain in Russia, as a prominent diplomat remarked recently, until the emperor's signature has been affixed. M. Witte's selection undoubtedly will be hailed as a practical assurance of peace. While it would be a mistake to denominate him as a "peace at any price" man, M. Witte earnestly believes that the struggle should be ended and should be succeeded by an understanding between Russia and Japan which would insure peace in the far east for half a century. Indeed, he is personally believed to be in favor of a Russo-Japanese alliance.

The conduct of negotiations by M. Witte, it is felt by the peace parties here, would inspire instant confidence in Japan.

The only handicap under which M. Witte labors is his lack of familiarity with the English language, as the only foreign languages he speaks are German and French.

M. Muraviev's retirement, ostensibly owing to reasons of ill health, is in reality due to the fact that the emperor became convinced that the negotiations might be jeopardized if he went to Washington. M. Muraviev himself, upon consideration, frankly recognized his lack of diplomatic training and his want of acquaintance with the questions involved and with equal frankness expressed satisfaction that he had been relieved.

Neither Washington nor the Tokio governments has yet been officially advised of M. Muraviev's withdrawal, the foreign office probably preferring to announce the name of his successor at the same time. The change in the chief of the plenipotentiaries does not involve any postponement of the date of the sailing of the peace commission for Washington.

FRAUD OPERATORS IN LIVE STOCK INSURANCE

WASHINGTON—The grand jury of the district of Columbia reported an indictment for conspiracy against Orrin G. Staples, prominent in hotel and business circles; Tracy L. Jeffords, former United States district attorney; John L. Fehr and Elisha Fitch, all of this city. It is charged that the defendants unlawfully conspired to defraud the citizens of the District of Columbia and others by making false representations as to the financial standing and responsibility of the Interstate Live Stock Insurance company of the district.

MAY HAVE A CHANCE TO RIDE CHEAP

DULUTH, Minn.—The Western Passenger association ended its convention here and adjourned to meet in Chicago the second Tuesday in September. Much of the time at the session was taken up by a discussion of the differential rates, but no conclusive action in regard to them was taken, owing to the fact that three roads of the association—the Missouri Pacific, the Wabash and the Chicago & Alton—were not represented at the meeting. The general opinion is that there is to be a rate war between the Chicago-New York roads.

Attempt to Wreck Overland. LARAMIE, Wyo.—An attempt was made early Friday to wreck passenger train No. 1, the westbound Overland Limited on the Union Pacific. Only the watchfulness of the engineer and fireman, both of whom saw an obstruction on the track at the same time, and prompt action on the part of the former in applying the air brakes, prevented a disaster. As it was, the flyer was stopped just as the nose of the pilot touched the obstruction, which consisted of ties, big stones and old timbers.

Merit Rule in the Army. OYSTER BAY, N. Y.—An important order was issued by President Roosevelt announcing the policy hereafter to be followed by the administration in making of appointments or promotions in the military branch of the government. The president orders that if any officer of the army or navy shall solicit influences aside from the records of his service on file in the war or navy departments, in order to obtain promotion or assignment, he shall be debarred thereby from the advancement which he is seeking.

PREFECT IS KILLED.

General Count Shouvaloff Assassinated While Receiving Petitions.

MOSCOW—Major General Count Shouvaloff, prefect of police here, and formerly attached to the ministry of the interior, was assassinated while receiving petitions. One of the petitioners drew a revolver and fired five times at the prefect, who fell dead. The assassin was arrested.

The assassin, who was dressed as a peasant, has not yet been identified. He was recently arrested as a political suspect, but escaped from the police station before his examination.

The assassin waited in the anteroom of the prefecture and, entering the audience room, he advanced toward Count Shouvaloff, firing five shots at close range. The bullets passed through the body of the prefect.

ADULTERATED FOODSTUFFS MUST BE LABELED

NEW YORK—Secretary Wilson of the department of agriculture has sent out an order and circular letter in regard to a large amount of adulterated foodstuffs imported since the pure food law went into effect and which have been held up because the chemistry department found that all kinds of adulteration had been practiced. Secretary Wilson in this order modifies a former one in which he declared that the goods must be sent back to Europe. The secretary's order which arrived in New York custom house provides that goods already imported shall not be sent back but may be sold in this country. He orders, however, that cans of peas colored with sulphate of copper shall be distinctly labeled so as to show this fact, various strawberry jams shall bear the label reading "artificially colored," and some canned mushrooms must be sold as "stems and scraps."

TREMENDOUS WHEAT CROP IN REPUBLICAN VALLEY

INDIANOLA, Neb.—A grain harvest greater than the big crops of 1891 and 1892 is now being gathered in this country. Binders are running day and night and Sunday. Hundreds of acres are lying in bundles unshocked for want of hands. Good shockers are getting fifty cents per acre. Two hundred to three hundred hands could get good wages in this county alone. It is estimated a great many fields of barley will yield 60 to 75 bushels per acre; wheat and rye 30 to 50 bushels per acre. Three hundred and four hundred-acre fields are a common sight. Corn and other crops are immense.

WILL BE AN IDEAL PLACE.

Portsmouth Possesses All the Advantages of a Summer Resort.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.—Rear Admiral Meade, who is in command of the navy yard, said that having had no intimation that the peace conference would be held at the navy yard, he could not at this time tell what arrangements would be made for their accommodation.

The new general store building just completed is the largest and most imposing of any in the yard, being four stories in height and of ample dimensions. It is of brick and brown stone and at present is not occupied. Senator Admiral Meade said that it could readily be furnished for the needs of the conferees.

SUGAR DROPS 20 PER CENT.

Heavy Crop in Europe, Due in August, Causes Decline. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—A reduction of 20 per cent in all grades of sugar has been announced. The cut is attributed to the weakness of the raw sugar market, the price of that article having recently dropped 1 1/4 cents per pound.

The decline in raw sugar has been in a measure caused by the excellent prospects in Europe for a large increase in the beet sugar output and the crop, which forms a little more than one-half of the world's output, will come into the market in August.

Hill's Railway Bill Passes. OTTAWA, Ont.—The Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern railway bill passed the senate Thursday and now awaits the royal assent. This is J. J. Hill's road.

POTEMKINE TO BOTTOM OF SEA.

Mutineers Open Seacocks and Allow Vessel to Sink. KUSTENKI, Roumania.—The announcement that the battleship Kniaz Potemkine sailed with Rear Admiral Kruger's squadron yesterday evening, turns out to be incorrect. Before leaving the Kniaz Potemkine and flooded her hold. She is now lying at the bottom, but it is expected will be raised in time to go to Sevastopol July 12.

Millionaire Shoots Himself. WINSTED, Conn.—The body of Winthrop Turney, a millionaire owner of a mine in Sonora, Mexico, was found in a pasture in the town of Colebrook. There was a bullet wound in his head and his hand clasped a revolver.

Canal Employee Has Fever. WASHINGTON—Gov. Magoon of the canal zone called that Alfred W. Provo, an American employe, was stricken with yellow fever at Corozal, July 4.