

RIXEY SEES MANY HOSPITALS.

Will Make Recommendations as to the Service in U. S.

Surgeon General Rixey of the navy in a trip around the world acquired considerable information concerning the hospital service of several countries, but more particularly the hospital service of the United States. At San Francisco he found much that could be improved at the hospital station and he will recommend that a detention house for enlisted men similar to that at Newport be constructed there. At Honolulu he found health conditions satisfactory.

At Yokohama the United States has a large naval hospital, over which the medical corps exercises complete jurisdiction. This was found in good condition and work was in progress upon a new administration building. At Nagasaki and Shanghai the sanitary conditions of the hospitals where the sick sailors are taken were found in a fair condition, but not so satisfactory as the hospital at Yokohama. Surgeon General Rixey passed some time in the Philippines and not only visited the hospitals of the navy, but went through the hospitals in Manila, and especially studied the sanitary conditions of that city. The naval hospital at Cebu, near Cavite, is declared to be in good condition, especially from a sanitary point of view. At Olongapo, which is the proposed naval station for the Philippines, but which is still in a state of incompleteness, the sick quarters were found unsatisfactory.

At Paris and London the general visited the hospitals. From the naval hospital at London, an institution similar to the building this government is erecting at Norfolk, he obtained information that will be useful in the arrangements of the Norfolk hospital.

AVALANCHE OF MUD.

Russian Town Overwhelmed by a Mountain Landslide.

An avalanche of mud and slime overwhelmed the township of Kwareli, a few miles from Tiflis. Practically without warning the side of a mountain rising over the district broke away and people and cattle were buried.

At least 255 persons have been buried alive. The streets are flooded six feet deep with yellow mud. Acres of crops have been destroyed and hundreds of head of cattle.

The township of Kwareli occupies an area of about five kilometers in the valley of Tsalaw, in the Caucasus. Similar disasters, but of less magnitude, are frequent in the valleys of the Transcaucasus, but never before has such an avalanche brought down such wholesale destruction. Tiflis itself is a city of 120,000 people. For days the Greek priests in the mosques have issued warnings of an impending calamity. In the panic which followed the landslide these warnings were recalled. Many fled for refuge to the holy mountain Avlabar, upon the summit of which stands the white Church of St. David.

Kwareli is in the mountainous regions of the Caucasus, where the mountains are of a semi-volcanic nature and where hot sulphur springs abound. Disasters of the kind occurring at Kwareli are so common the people have learned to disregard them, but it is comparatively seldom that towns are destroyed, much of this region being sparsely inhabited.

PACKERS' BUSINESS INCREASE.

Grilling Has No Appreciable Effect on the Domestic Sales.

The output of products of the Chicago stock yards packing companies for domestic consumption, for the first seven months of this year has increased materially over the volume of business for the same period in other recent years, in spite of the severe grilling of the big packers received during most of that time at the hands of federal, state and city officials and the newspapers of the entire world. The report of the Department of Commerce and Labor, made public in Washington, shows this to be a fact. The figures of the trade movements of the country are given for July and for the seven months ending with July.

Shipments of packing house products from Chicago, with comparisons, follow: July—1904, 136,660,716 pounds; 1905, 192,490,724 pounds; 1906, 203,252,000 pounds.

First seven months—1904, 1,400,000,000 pounds; 1905, 1,280,000,000 pounds; 1906, 1,675,436,262 pounds.

The three largest items were 670,941,665 pounds of dressed beef, 510,712,163 pounds of cured meats and 248,929,252 pounds of lard.

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There are now 303 schools in Canada for Indians, who number 107,637.

In Milwaukee college graduates receive \$100 more salary a year than others.

Forest sanatoria for weekly school children have been established by the Berlin municipality.

The New York City board of education has adopted a list of 300 words with simplified spelling.

The children of Kansas City spelled 10 per cent better than those of Springfield, Mass., in 1846.

Russia devotes 20 cents a head to education. This is but half of 1 per cent of her total budget.

South Carolina is discussing public high school system, recent legislation having been passed in its favor.

In New Jersey the average annual salary of the teachers is \$568.83, an increase of \$5.58 over the preceding year.

An Iowa County Superintendent has his teachers send in a report of the planting of trees and shrubs on the school grounds to be kept and displayed in his office.

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



- 1410—John, Duke of Burgundy, murdered.
- 1432—Columbus sailed from the Canary Islands on voyage of discovery.
- 1532—Pizarro landed in Peru.
- 1630—First church founded at Charlestown and Boston.
- 1636—Harvard College founded.
- 1642—British defeated the Irish at the battle of Lisacarril.
- 1645—New Netherland colony observed Thanksgiving for restoration of peace with the Indians.
- 1654—Cromwell's first parliament assembled at Westminster.
- 1700—Montreal surrendered to the English.
- 1774—First Continental Congress assembled in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia.
- 1776—Nathan Hale executed as a spy.
- 1777—British marched upon Philadelphia, and Americans retreated across Brandywine.
- 1780—Benedict Arnold's treason discovered.
- 1781—Naval engagement off the Virginia capes between the British and French fleets. Fort Griswold taken by the British under Arnold.
- 1783—Treaty of peace, acknowledging independence of the United States, signed with Great Britain.
- 1804—Storm resulted in great loss of life and property at Savannah, Ga.
- 1813—United States brig Enterprise captured brig Boxer off Seguin. Both commanders killed. Perry's victory on Lake Erie.
- 1814—American and British land and water forces engaged in battle of Lake Champlain.
- 1816—Kia King, Emperor of China, de-throned. Algiers surrendered to British and Dutch fleets.
- 1831—Warsaw captured by the Russians.
- 1837—Congress convened in extra session to devise measures to relieve the financial embarrassments of the country.
- 1840—First safety beacon fixed on Goodwin Sands, off mouth of Thames river.
- 1844—Two hundred lives lost in hurricane at Metamoras.
- 1847—Battle of El Molino Del Rey, Mexico.
- 1850—House passed bill admitting California to statehood.
- 1853—Religious liberty adopted in Holland.
- 1854—Great loss of life and property in tornado at Louisville, Ky.
- 1857—Loss of the ship Central America and 451 lives off Cape May.
- 1861—Gen. Grant took possession of Paducah, Ky.
- 1862—Confederate army crossed Potomac river and entered Maryland.
- 1863—Gen. Burnside occupied Knoxville.
- 1864—The Confederate Gen. Morgan's forces routed at Greenville, Tenn.
- 1871—The mare Goldsmith Maid trotted mile in 2:17 at Milwaukee.
- 1893—Irish Home Rule bill rejected by British House of Lords.
- 1896—William J. Bryan notified of his nomination for the presidency. First National bank of Helena, Mont., closed.
- 1898—British troops entered Khartoum. Empress Elizabeth of Austria assassinated. French occupied Fashoda. Czar unveiled monument to Alexander II. at Moscow.
- 1905—New York legislative investigating committee began examination of life insurance companies. Japanese and Russian envoys signed treaty of peace at Portsmouth, N. H.

UP GOES THE PRICE OF LIVING.

Mint Director Says Era of High Prices Is Just Beginning.

There is general agreement on the proposition that the cost of living has reached the point in this country where it is pinching, but it is next to impossible to get men to agree on the cause of the increase. It is a subject which the spellbinders will dilate upon in the fall campaign. George E. Roberts, director of the mint, predicts that the era of high prices is only beginning and that the cost of living will go higher.

"Even at the present excessive prices," he said, "we are not back to the average cost of living twenty years ago. Living is higher than it was ten years ago, but it is not as costly as it was in the middle 80's. This is clearly shown by official tables on the average prices. Our people are complaining over a comparison of present prices with those of the panic years, when the whole country was on the bargain counter. It is not fair to compare years of relative prosperity, when everybody has work and money to spend, with years of universal depression, when, no matter how low prices may have been, a considerable portion of the people was without employment and, therefore, unable to take advantage of cheap prices.

"Everybody has work in this country now or can get it. They are all buying things, and this in itself maintains a high level of prices. The consumptive demand is out of all comparison to what it was during the years of low prices. Our people are eating more and wearing more and better clothes than ever before. They are traveling more and spending money in every way from that at any other time. Our exports, it must be remembered also, practically have doubled in the last ten years. The pressure on every product is enormously greater and it is natural that prices should be better sustained."

San Francisco, Cal., is to have a building trades temple.

Over one thousand bartenders of New York City will demand higher wages.

The work of organizing the machinists of Cleveland, Ohio, is advancing rapidly.

William Foley of Boston, Mass., is the new head of the International Steel and Copper Plate Printers.

Street car men of Chicago want a weekly pay day, an eight-hour day and a minimum wage of 30 cents an hour.

Unionists of Roanoke, Va., have declared their local baseball team as unfair because they use non-union printing.

There is a movement on foot in Pittsburgh, Pa., to organize a new union labor party. Prominent trades union officials are the projectors.

Labor unions are being formed in Mexico, and when they are conducted along legitimate lines the government does not interfere with them.

The structural steel builders of New York have decided to form a national association for the purpose of fighting the unions of steel workers.

Retail Clerks' International Association will begin the payment of sick benefits to members who have been in continuous good standing on the books for a period of twelve months or more.

The United Railways and Electric Company of Baltimore, Md., has shown its interest in the welfare of its employees by fitting up a club room where its army of men can find rest and recreation when off duty.

The first annual convention of the new Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders' International Union will be held in Boston, Mass., next April. The selection was made on a referendum vote just completed.

Boston, Mass., musicians' local No. 15, of the American Federation of Labor, the same international to which the big Boston Musicians' Protective Union, No. 9, belongs, was officially organized last week. It is composed exclusively of colored men.

President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers has been roundly criticized by some of the union leaders because he dined with a number of bankers and financiers at Columbus, Ohio, on Labor day, and did not call upon the local officers of the organization.

A movement to organize the machinists at the naval gun factory, Washington, D. C., is meeting with success. The Trades Unionist, organ of the Central Union, is leading the agitation, and, despite a strong Parry organization, are bringing the competent workmen into line.

On Sept. 1 a number of German miners, who had been engaged ostensibly to fill new places in the mines at Jumet, Belgium, but who found that they were expected to take the place of a number of striking miners, flatly refused to go to work and proposed to prosecute the company for having misled them.

London (England) printers have obtained a decision from the Court of Last Appeal, which states that picketing is legal, and that no damages can be collected by the employer. The union had been sued by a large publishing house. The firm won decisions and awards of damages in the lower courts.

Chicago iron manufacturers are predicting the end of the molders' strike as a result of the installation of a new type of molding machine. It is said that this machine turns out as much as three skilled iron workers, and orders have been sent to New York for 500 of the new machines. New machines have been ordered also for the mills in Milwaukee.

Vegetarianism Defended.

The editor of the New York and Philadelphia Medical Journal says that vegetarianism now has acquired so many followers that it is the duty of the physician to pay attention to this form of living. Dr. Rudolf Stahelin, a famous German authority, is quoted as saying that vegetarianism may be rightly adopted among our therapeutics, and his experiments confirm the theory that the extract matter of meat has a dietic influence. Dr. Stahelin concludes that under a milk diet the labor of the kidneys is less than under a meat diet.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

Secretary Wilson has made a computation showing that it would require an investment of \$350,000,000 to two per cent to reproduce revenues enough to run the Department of Agriculture for one year. This is an illustration, he said, of what is being done for the farmer. The income to the department from all sources, including the direct appropriations, revenues from forest reserves, and the allowance for public printing is a little more than \$11,000,000 a year. When the new meat inspection law, the work of exterminating the cattle fever, tick, and the gypsy and brown-tailed moth, and the irrigation of dry land farming have been put in operation, the department will have a pay roll of over 6,000 persons. About half of these are scientists, trained along special lines. The average salary is less than \$800 a year. Over 12,000,000 pieces of literature are circulated each year, and this amount will be greatly increased as new lines of investigation are begun. One of the new lines provided for this year is grain inspection, and this promises to be one of the largest fields of scientific labor.

The census bureau will soon begin collection of marriage and divorce statistics under the census authorized by Congress. A few special agents will go into the field at once to confer with county authorities and others as to scope of the information available. Over 200 clerks will be sent out to gather statistics on marriage and divorce from the records of counties, State courts and like available sources of information. It is the intention to gather data in large centers like New York and Chicago this summer, and later to obtain it in the rural districts. The census will cover the last twenty years. President Roosevelt is deeply interested in it. Uniform divorce legislation in the States is expected to grow out of it.

Nowhere in the world are bank deposits increasing in a greater ratio than in the United States. The French, justly famed for their economy and saving proclivities, are easily outclassed by the Americans, reputed spendthrifts and the most extravagant people on earth. Official figures just at hand show that in France from 1885 to 1905 bank deposits increased from \$182,000,000 to \$579,000,000, or 218 per cent. In the United States during the same years the deposits increased from \$1,248,000,000 to \$4,735,000,000, or 271 per cent. This great increase is properly chargeable to the prosperity enjoyed in the United States rather than to a healthy growth of the habit of economy.

Hereafter every man in the military service of the United States will have his thumb print taken and filed with the records of his enlistment, so that there may be no mistake in his identification whether dead or alive. The impression of different fingers will also be taken, so that the loss of a thumb would not shut off means of identification. This system has been adopted on recommendation of a board appointed by Acting Secretary Ainsworth. The board found that the chances of finger prints of two persons being alike was one in 64,000,000,000. The system will also be employed for the detection of deserters and to prevent fraudulent inducements.

The Postmaster General has issued a fraud order against the Vincesess Potato Company of Chicago, which has been advertising a substance at \$4.50 per bottle known as potatoine, which was guaranteed to produce as many potatoes in a bin of sawdust, without vines or foliage, as could be grown on an acre of ground, within a period of sixty days.

A statement made by the Secretary of the Interior showing the allotment of funds under the provisions of the national irrigation act, says that the sum of \$41,000,000 derivable from the sale of public lands is available for this purpose. Work will be continued or begun in fifteen western States.

A force of fifteen special agents of the Interior Department which had been furloughed for several months on account of lack of funds, resumed aggressive investigation of land frauds in the Western and Southern States under the appropriation which became effective July 1.

The Isthmian Canal Commission has issued invitations for proposals to furnish not less than 2,500 Chinese laborers for canal construction over a period of not less than two years. The working day is to consist of ten hours, with all overtime paid for at the time-and-a-half rate.

The War Department has awarded the entire issue of Philippine bonds to the amount of \$1,000,000 to Fiske & Robinson, New York, at 102.28. These certificates bear 4 per cent interest, are redeemable in one year and are acceptable as security for public deposits. It is the sixth issue of its kind.

The Postoffice Department has decided to test at Baltimore the use of automobiles in the collection of mail. If successful, the system will be extended

LABOR NOTES

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CANADA WHEAT CROP.

ALL REPORTS INDICATE A BIG YIELD.

Great Harvests in the Canadian Northwest Bring Unparalleled Prosperity to the Farmers of That Region.

Winnipeg correspondence: For the past four or five weeks the result of the harvest in the Canadian West has been an absorbing topic, not only with the Canadian people, but with a large and interested number of Americans—millers, grain dealers and farmers particularly. To such an extent has this interest in the Canadian grain crop been manifested that, when the Northwest Grain Dealers' Association left for their trip of inspection, they were accompanied by a number of American grain dealers who felt it necessary to have a personal knowledge of the subject.

Two or three weeks ago a public statement was made by Mr. Roblin, Premier of Manitoba, in effect that the wheat crop would reach 115,000,000, and that there would be fully 100,000,000 for export, and at that time there were many who believed that Mr. Roblin's estimate was well within the mark; but since then conditions have changed, and other estimates have been made. Every possible effort to get accurate knowledge of the crop has been put forth in many quarters.

The Winnipeg Free Press put a corps

of correspondents in the wheat field for twenty consecutive days. In this way thousands of miles were traveled by train through the wheat district, over 1,400 miles were driven through growing wheat, and 93 pivotal points were visited and observations made. As a result of the work a straight announcement is made that the wheat acreage is 4,700,000; that the average yield is 19 bushels to the acre; and that the aggregate crop will reach 90,250,000.

Bank statements regarding crops are usually of a dependable character, and the figures furnished by the Canadian Bank of Commerce more than endorse those given by the Free Press. The bank estimate places the figures at: Wheat, \$1,812,900; oats, \$8,854,680; barley, 17,535,790. Wherever a good wheat section exists in Western Canada there is an elevator (or elevators) and a good shipping point; and where there is a good shipping point, a thriving bank (or banks) will be sure to be in the midst of it; and the local manager of the bank, who has the most accurate knowledge of the farming conditions and crop results, is the man who usually does the business. Hence the necessity for careful crop compilation.

Then, there are others who watch the growing crop with a careful eye—the grain dealers and shippers, for instance. Winnipeg has a Northwest Grain Dealers' Association which is so much interested in the crop return that this year, accompanied by the city bankers and a number of American grain dealers, they made a tour of inspection through the principal grain areas by special train. The

been the difficulty of obtaining needed help at harvest time. As each year an additional area has been put under crop this scarcity of help has been accentuated, and during the present harvest the cry all along the line has been "Harvesters Wanted." The work of preparation and seeding is spread over several months, but the ingathering of the harvest has to be done in a few weeks; hence the necessity for additional assistance at that particular time. The crop of 1905 required 18,000 harvesters from outside, and this year it has been estimated that from 22,000 to 25,000 will be required to supplement the work of the farmers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The demand for harvest hands is not permanent, the work for which they come lasting only from early in August until the end of the threshing season. Many of those who come to work in the grain fields, however, remain and become grain growers themselves, creating additional demand for the same class of help, and thus the problem becomes more acute every succeeding year. The time was when a sufficient number of harvest hands could easily be obtained from Ontario, but in recent years the area taken in by the harvest excursions has been extended and in 1904 and 1905 it reached clear down to Nova Scotia in the call for men to work in the fertile fields of the West. This year the limit has been further extended, and a new movement of British farm laborers has been inaugurated, which will be of incalculable benefit to the prairie country, giving a stimulus to immigration, and disseminating among

the agricultural classes in Britain a knowledge of the life, conditions and opportunities in the three prairie provinces that should greatly quicken the stream of settlement from the rural districts of Britain to Canada.

From the Western States, too, valuable assistance has been received in the work of harvesting the crop this year, and some of the finest fields in Saskatchewan and Alberta have been worked almost exclusively by Americans. So successful has been the settler from the Western States, usually, that he is invariably the fore-runner of a colony from that portion of the State whence he came, and, through the new provinces particularly, there is a very strong representation from North and South Dakota, Oregon, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas, Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Missouri and other States of the Union. These are amongst the most progressive settlers, as they come well provided with money, completely equipped with stock and machinery, and possessed of knowledge of western farming which cannot possibly be possessed at first hand by the settler from beyond the ocean.

A careful examination of all the figures at present available would lead us to believe that the yield will probably be about 90,000,000 bushels. These figures may seem disappointing to many who believed that the increased acreage under

First Hint of the Truth.
"When did you first become acquainted with your husband?"
"The first time I asked him for money after we were married."—Los Angeles, Cal., News.

Belief and Understanding.
"Does that man really believe all he says?"
"Believe it!" echoed Senator Sorghum, "why he doesn't even understand it."—Washington Star.

Some Advantage at Least.
She—I can never marry you, but we can at least always be friends.
He—I suppose that is one of the advantages of not getting married.—Philadelphia Record.

Hopes.
Tess—Mr. Mugley has actually asked Miss Passay if he might call upon her.
Jess—You don't say? I'll bet she got her bridesmaid picked out already.—Philadelphia Press.



HARVESTING WHEAT NEAR KILLARNEY, MANITOBA.



THRESHING NEAR THORNHILL, MANITOBA.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

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