

### BIG GUNS ON DEFENSE.

Uncle Sam Has Enormous Rifles to Guard Shore Lines.

Despite the fact that the United States has one of the longest coast lines of any great power it will shortly afford that coast line ample protection from one end to the other on both the Atlantic and Pacific sides. Work will soon be begun to put on the finishing touches of defenses and fortifications in the insular possessions. Altogether the outlay necessary to fortify and protect the United States proper and its outlying possessions is over \$200,000,000, of which amount considerably more than half has been expended.

The scheme of national defense upon which work was in progress between 1898 and 1906 was based primarily upon a report submitted to the President by the so-called Endicott board in 1896. This board investigated the entire continental coast line of the United States and recommended the construction of fortifications which were estimated to cost about \$126,000,000. Along the lines mapped out by this board Congress has appropriated approximately \$75,000,000.

In 1905 the President again appointed a board to revise the work done under the Endicott board and this time Secretary Taft was its president. After an exhaustive investigation the new national coast defense board recommended an additional expenditure of \$51,000,000 to provide fortifications for new places and to modernize the defenses already built on the recommendation of the Endicott board.

As a result of the work of both boards the following twenty-six ports may be said to be provided with ample sea-coast defenses: Kennebec river, Me.; Portland, Me.; Portsmouth, N. H.; Boston, Mass.; New Bedford, Mass.; Narragansett Bay, R. I.; eastern entrance to Long Island sound; New York, N. Y.; Delaware river; Baltimore, Md.; Washington, D. C.; Hampton Roads, Va.; Cape Fear river, N. C.; Charleston, S. C.; Port Royal, S. C.; Savannah, Ga.; Key West, Fla.; Tampa bay, Fla.; Pensacola, Fla.; Mobile bay, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; Galveston, Texas; San Diego, Cal.; San Francisco, Cal.; Columbia river, Oregon and Washington; Puget sound, Wash.

A glance at the list shows twenty-two of the twenty-six sea-coast defenses on the Atlantic coast, mounting approximately nine-tenths of the sea-coast guns of the United States.

Outside of continental United States, under the recommendations of the Taft board, sea-coast defenses and naval stations are being constructed at Guantanamo, Cuba; Honolulu and Pearl Harbor in the Hawaiian Islands; San Juan, Porto Rico; Subig bay, Philippine Islands; Kiska in the Aleutian Islands and Guam.

The manning of the sea-coast defenses is at present in charge of the artillery branch of the United States army. In the estimate provided by the national defense board it was shown that when all the sea-coast defenses were completed it would require 57,387 men to properly man the guns and the batteries.

Yet, according to the last report from the War Department, there were only 18,941 men in the whole artillery branch of the army, of whom 4,912 were in the field artillery. The last Congress, however, authorized the formation of thirteen full regiments of coast artillery, which, when fully recruited, will add approximately 13,000 men to that branch of the service.

The Order of Railway Conductors has voted to hold its 1909 biennial convention at Boston.

More than 100,000 railway servants in England are required to work from twelve to fifteen hours a day.

The sixty-hour-a-week schedule will be put in force in the cotton mills of South Carolina Jan. 1, 1908.

Average wages in Canada have increased 27 per cent in five years, according to the census report.

The number of wage earners employed in Virginia cotton mills in 1905 was 6,619, receiving \$1,047,739 a year.

Eight hundred union barbers in Chicago, have been granted a schedule of wages and working conditions by their employers.

An effort is being made to establish a federation of labor in Oklahoma. If it is organized it will have about 145,000 workers under its jurisdiction.

The Amalgamated Society of British Engineers will, after this year, cease attending the Trades Union Congress, and absent itself for at least four years.

A National Association of Carpet Workers of America has been organized. This will have jurisdiction of about 20,000 persons employed in carpet mills.

The demand of the Havana cigarmakers that they be paid in American money has been granted by the Cuban manufacturers, and the factories will immediately be reopened.

Garden truck bearing union labels is the latest thing proposed in Newburgh, N. Y., farmers in that vicinity having organized and asked for affiliation with the Central Labor Union.

There are thousands of women and girls who are members of unions of trades in which most of the workers are men, and these unions are, naturally, controlled by the male members. The printers, telegraphers, garment workers, tobacco workers and several other trades admit women to membership in their unions, and their rolls show a goodly number of women members.

The Council of the canton of Tessin, Switzerland, has decided by 34 against 21 votes to repeal the act prohibiting night work in bakeries. The men are badly organized and will probably not be able to resist the attempt of the masters to reintroduce night work.

The Union of Sawmill Workers in the north of Sweden has beaten one of the biggest employers after a most bitter and prolonged fight, during which several hundreds of families were evicted from their dwellings, the employer in question having adopted for some time the device of housing the men in his own cottages.

### OKLAHOMA GOES DRY.

Election Returns from New State Indicate Success of Prohibition.

Oklahoma has ratified the enabling act and become a State so far as Oklahoma and Indian Territory are concerned. Returns from the largest cities and counties of Oklahoma and Indian Territory up to midnight Tuesday indicated that the constitution of the proposed new State has been adopted by a large majority; that the prohibition clause of the constitution has been adopted and that the Democratic ticket, headed by C. N. Haskell of Muskogee for Governor, has been elected over Frank Prantz, the present territorial governor of Oklahoma, who was the Republican nominee. In the enabling act Congress provided for prohibition in Indian Territory for twenty-one years from Jan. 1, 1906. The prohibition clause voted on applies the same provision to the Oklahoma side of the new State.

All of the elements of a national campaign were at hand in the canvass. Secretary of War Taft was the chief representative of the Republican side and William J. Bryan was brought in to answer Secretary Taft and to lead the Democratic fight for the constitution and the Democratic ticket.

The election was held under the terms of the act of Congress granting joint statehood to Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory. The statehood bill was passed at Washington after a strenuous fight which was carried through several sessions of Congress. President Roosevelt intervened on behalf of the people of the territories, and, while each territory was anxious for separate statehood, a compromise was effected by which the friends of statehood accepted the joint bill rather than have none at all. Immediately after the statehood bill was signed by the President the battle for the political control of the new State opened.

1402—English defeated the Scots at Homelton Hill.

1504—Columbus took final leave of the New World and sailed for Spain.

1600—Henry Hudson discovered the river which bears his name.

1640—Lord Stirling, to whom James I. gave a large section of what is now the United States and Canada, died in London.

1645—Covenanters defeated Montrose at Philiphaugh.

1742—Faneuil Hall completed and presented to the town of Boston.

1759—Wolfe landed troops at Quebec.

1775—Gen. Washington began to commission war vessels.

1778—Benjamin Franklin sent to France as minister plenipotentiary.

1781—Gen. Washington arrived at Williamsburg and assumed command.

1782—Congress accepted the offer of Virginia's western lands.

1786—Connecticut deeded western land to Congress.

1788—Congress made New York the capital city of the United States.

1789—Alexander Hamilton became Secretary of the Treasury.... Henry Knox of Massachusetts became Secretary of War.

1803—Lord William Downs appointed chief justice of Ireland.

1814—Battle of Plattsburgh, N. Y.... British made an unsuccessful attack on Baltimore.... British bombarded Fort McHenry, near Baltimore.... British abandoned their expedition against Baltimore.

1820—Treaty of Adrianople, ending war between Russia and Turkey.

1841—Walter Forward of Pennsylvania became Secretary of the United States Treasury.

1846—First Mississippi riflemen, under command of Company I, Jefferson Davis, charged the Mexicans at Fort Terena.

1847—American army under Gen. Scott marched into the Mexican capital.... Many lives lost in hurricane off Newfoundland.

1850—Jenny Lind first appeared on an American stage at Castle Garden, N. Y.... Alexander H. H. Stuart of Virginia became Secretary of the Interior.

1858—Steamship Victoria, Southampton to New York, burned at sea; 471 lives lost.

1861—President Lincoln revoked Gen. Fremont's emancipation order.

1862—Governors of fourteen States met at Altoona, Pa., and approved of emancipation as a war measure.... Gen. McClellan appointed to command the defense of Washington.

1864—Gen. Sherman entered Atlanta, ending the four weeks' siege.... Gen. Sherman ordered all civilians to leave Atlanta.

1869—National Prohibition party organized at a convention in Chicago.

1871—Henry Irving first appeared in "Fanchette" at the London Lyceum.... Mont Cenis tunnel opened.

1872—Alabama claims against England decided in favor of the United States.

1886—Canadian Pacific railway telegraph line opened for business.

1893—Gov. William McKinley of Ohio opened his campaign for re-election with a speech at Akron.

1894—Hinckley and other Minnesota towns swept by forest fires.

1898—British forces defeated the Derwishes at Omdurman.... Admiral Cervera and other captured Spanish officers sailed for Spain.

1906—Emperor of China issued an edict promising constitutional government.

**NEW CHARTER BEATEN.**

Chicago's Proposed Measure Is Defeated Two to One.

Chicago's proposed new charter was defeated at the polls Tuesday by a vote of more than two to one. The measure was snuffed under in many strongholds of both parties alike, losing in all but four of the thirty-five wards. Fifty per cent of the registered electors turned out, and their ballots killed the act by a vote of 59,581 for to 121,479 against.

Knowledge had hardly been obtained that the charter was dead than a movement was on foot to secure another instrument that will contain the good features of the defeated measure while holding none of the alleged defects that led the voters to turn it down.

An analysis of the vote shows that the campaign made by the United Societies bore much fruit in the shape of ballots against the measure. A survey of the situation indicated that the defeat of the charter was due most largely to the contention that taxes would be raised under the instrument, and that the Sunday closing laws would be put into force.

On the North and West Sides hundreds of small property holders turned out to register an adverse vote because of the taxes argument, while in the thickly settled foreign sections a heavy vote against the act was tallied because of the "personal liberty" appeal.

The ward gerrymander, too, undoubtedly played an important part in the defeat. The political aspect it gave to the charter led many an independent voter to show his resentment by marking an adverse ballot.

**STANDARD OIL PROFITS.**

Earnings from 1899 to 1906 Shown to Be \$490,315,934.

Sensational disclosures regarding the fabulous earnings of Standard Oil were brought out in New York at the hearing in the suit of the United States government to dissolve the corporation. Adroit questioning drew from the reluctant lips of Clarence G. Fay, resident comptroller of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, the admission that in seven years Standard Oil's total profits amounted to \$490,315,934, or something over \$70,000,000 a year.

Mr. Fay was also forced to admit that in 1899 the profits were nearly \$80,000,000 instead of \$34,000,000 as set forth on the books of the company. The Standard Oil managed to cover up its great earnings in that year by deliberately falling to credit the earnings of nineteen subsidiary companies that contributed vast sums to the parent corporation. This is the first time the company's earnings have been made public.

Figuring on the capital stock now outstanding—\$98,339,482—this is an annual profit of something over 70 per cent. Figured on the basis of the Standard Oil trust, which had a capitalization of \$10,000,000 when it was dissolved and reorganized into the present company without any additional investment on the part of Mr. Rockefeller and his associates, the annual profit is something like 700 per cent. On the basis of the original Standard Oil Company, with a capitalization of \$1,000,000, the annual profit is a little more than 7,000 per cent. On the basis of the little refinery Mr. Rockefeller had when he started out, with an invested capital principally of nerve, the percentage of annual profit is—well, the statisticians haven't figured that out yet.

**BLAST ON JAPANESE SHIP.**

Twenty-Seven Men Killed by Explosion on the Kashima.

Twenty-seven of the crew were killed and many were injured on the Japanese battleship Kashima by the explosion of powder after target practice near Kure. The Kashima, under command of Captain Koizumi, went to Kure, where the wounded were placed in the hospital. The dead included a lieutenant, two cadets and one staff officer.

Details regarding the effects of the explosion are lacking, but it was terrific and the ship was severely damaged. The blast followed an attempt to remove an exploded shell from the gun. A majority of the bystanders were fearfully mutilated.

The explosion is under investigation. It occurred inside of the shield of the starboard after ten-inch gun. It was not the shell which exploded, but powder, which evidently caught fire from the gas emitted from the breech when opened to reload the gun. The hull of the Kashima is not damaged.

**Photographing Thoughts.**

Dr. Hippolyte Baraduc, a noted French physician, has recently published a series of photographs purporting to represent different thoughts or prayers, thus offering some confirmation to the theories of the Theosophists. Dr. Baraduc, on the assumption that the human being is composed of fluid or gaseous bodies as well as that of flesh and blood, exposed various sensitized plates in the dark near to persons in varying states of mind and got differing results. He sometimes uses a green electric light.



**A BATTLE ON KANSAS PLAINS.**

American Artillery to Reproduce the Great Mukden Conflict.

Out on a wide stretch of Kansas plain the savage battle of Mukden is to be fought again—a mimic struggle which for ten smoke-blown days is to stagger over 80,000 acres of government reservation. There will be the crash of heavy siege guns and the stench of picric as the disrupting shells hurl earthworks and their dummy defenders in the air.

The infantry, with its siege guns and field artillery, will throw its strength against the redoubts which the engineers have constructed—a fortification which duplicates as far as possible the one behind which Kuropatkin entrenched his Russians at Mukden and over which the little brown men swarmed after their Shimose shells had blown great breaches in the works.

It is chiefly for the purpose of seeing what American artillery can do under identical circumstances that this mimic battle is to be fought. Dunitte is the explosive with which our shells are to be charged, a picric compound which takes its name from Major Beverly W. Dunn of the United States Ordnance Corps.

The works which are to be attacked by this shell were constructed by the Third battalion of engineers, now stationed at Fort Leavenworth. The redoubt is 30 feet through at the base and 12 feet at the top. It is riveted with fascines, hurdles, brush and sod and is made as strong as the nature of the soil and subsoils of the region will allow. On the inner face a banquet table, about four and a half feet below the top, has been constructed, and on this will be placed a large number of dummy figures representing men, to test shrapnel fire.

The work of making this redoubt has occupied the engineers all summer and they believe that it will put the artillery to a stubborn test. It is practically the strongest fortification that modern military science could construct.

In all about 5,000 men will be engaged in the maneuvers at Fort Riley.

**WORSE THAN BLACK PLAGUE.**

Greatest Catastrophe World Ever Known Now in Progress.

The greatest catastrophe the world has ever known is in progress at this present moment and the world reckes little or nothing of it.

This is the plague epidemic in India, which has now been raging for more than eleven years, and which, so far from showing any tendency to die out, keeps steadily increasing in intensity. Thus, during the six weeks ending May 11 last, 481,892 persons perished from it, or at the rate of over 80,000 deaths a week.

Nothing approaching the appalling horror represented by these figures has ever been recorded before. The nearest to it was in 1905, when, during the last week in March, the epidemic was responsible for 57,702 deaths.

No pestilence of ancient or modern times, of which we have any knowledge, has slain so many millions of people as has this one and the end of which, mind, is not yet.

The "Great Plague" of London, for example, about which everybody has heard, killed at the outside some 80,000 people in seven months, or about as many as are dying weekly in India from a disease which is identical with it in every respect.

The "Black Death" is said to have slain one-third of the then population of England—say 1,500,000 persons; but this is doubtful. Even admitting the correctness of the estimate, however, the mortality of the present epidemic in India has already more than doubled this huge total.

What will be the end no man can foresee or venture to forecast. It may be that all that has gone before, and all that is happening now, inexpressibly awful though it is, is but the prelude of worse to follow.

**KIDNAPED BY GYPSIES.**

Child Slave Escapes From Band After Four Years' Captivity.

The flames of the great South Chicago steel mills were the beacon which a few nights ago lighted a kidnapped boy to his home. After four years spent as a child slave of the wandering gypsies 10-year-old Walter Cutler found a safe haven under their glare.

The boy was kidnaped four years ago from South Bend, Ind., where his mother and his stepfather, Frank Cullen, lived. Some time before his father, J. H. Cutler, a South Chicago shipyard superintendent, died, leaving a widow and two children, Walter and Flora. A year later the mother married Cullen and went with her husband and family to South Bend. The couple had just settled on the outskirts of the Indiana city when 6-year-old Walter was stolen by a band of gypsies. No attempt to secure a ransom was made, and for a year the captive was only a charge to his kidnapers. Then he was taught to care for the horses and children of the gypsies.

The band subsisted by horse trading and fortune telling and was commanded by Chief Joseph Casimir. The captive was abused by the gypsy children, who regarded him as a slave, and any attempt to resent their cruelty led to more severe beatings by the chief and his followers.

He was compelled to sleep and eat with the dogs and was commanded to keep out of sight when visitors came to the camp. The child became tanned to a hue almost as dark as that of his captors, and because of enforced silence he had forgotten all but a few words of his childhood tongue.

During all of his wanderings the boy remembered the great sheets of flame which rose from the scores of stacks in South Chicago at night and which lighted up the yard in which he and his sister played.

A short time ago the gypsy band in their wanderings reached the vicinity of Chicago. One night the boy looked out from his place among the dogs and saw the great stacks belching forth sheets of flame and once more the memories of his home came back to him. He crept out from among the tented wagons and stumbled out toward the great lights. When dawn came he took refuge under a bush and slept. When he awoke he pressed on again to where he could see the great mills.

When the boy reached the city he still was lost. He could not explain his stripes and for a day he wandered the streets without food. Blind chance led him to the place where his grandmother lived, and in an instant he recognized her.

**STRIKES PARALYZE BUTTE.**

The City of Butte, Mont., for six weeks has been without a telephone service on account of a sympathy strike of operators and linemen for some striking linemen in Utah. The courts have sustained mandamus writs against the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Company to compel it to operate its lines, but so far as Butte is concerned the company has made no effort to resume service. The telegraphic strike almost completely isolated the city from the outside world. The strike of the mail clerks several months ago left the postoffice service in a badly crippled condition, mail delivery being almost as uncertain as the telegraph. In addition to these troubles the strike of the machinists, who went out about a month ago to enforce a demand for increased pay, is gradually closing down the mines.

**Cuts in Ocean Rates.**

The war between the trans-Atlantic steamship lines was continued, the International Mercantile Marine announcing that first cabin rates from New York to Liverpool on such ships as the Baltic, Cedric and Celtic would be \$72.50, a reduction from \$95, and that the eastward rates would be, from now on, \$57.50, a reduction from \$80. The rate by the Atlantic Transport fleet will be \$50, instead of \$70, for first cabin to London, and the big Adriatic of the White Star line will carry passengers for \$77.50, instead of \$95. The Cunard followed suit with a first cabin rate of \$72.50, including Mediterranean ports, and \$57.50 on the Umbria and Etruria. Corresponding cuts were expected from the North German Lloyd and Hamburg-American.

**To Collect 50,000,000 Seeds.**

The forest service will collect 50,000,000 seeds of forest trees in Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona and California from the Douglas fir, Englemann spruce, western larch, incense cedar and yellow pine. The seeds will be used for broadcast sowing and for planting in forest service nurseries. The broadcast sowing will be experimental, to test the extent to which this method of renewing the forest in denuded lands of the West can be used. One method of gathering the seeds is to rob squirrels' nests. It is to be hoped that Uncle Sab will not do this without replacing the hoards of these bright-eyed little rodents with a generous amount of something "just as good to eat."

**Western Union Stands Pat.**

The expected conference between the leaders of the striking telegraphers and the Western Union officers did not materialize, and the executive committee of the company sustained the course of the officials in a formal resolution which referred to the "late strike," as though it were a closed incident. President Smith of the union and President Gompers of the American Federation were in New York, and both said that there would be no surrender. Small said that most of the telegraphers had got jobs on the railroads. The Western Union declared its regular quarterly dividend, as usual, but did not publish the earnings for the quarter, as is customary.

**Brief News Items.**

Chicago banks send millions of dollars West to aid in crop movement.

Mayor Becker of Milwaukee intimates that he will in a short time be a full-fledged candidate for Governor.

A strong sentiment favoring Roosevelt for a third term as President is seen by Secretary Straus during a trip.

During a reception at the Eagle Club rooms in McKeesport, Pa., Louis Delo, a well-known athlete, attempted to kill himself by shooting. His condition is critical.

The Panama canal cost the American government \$84,449,000 up to Dec. 31, 1906, according to a statement of the audited expenditures made as of that date and just published.

Sherman Long, a carpenter, was shot and killed at his home in Columbus, Ohio, by Frank Miller, his brother-in-law, who has had trouble with his wife, and went to Long's house in search of her.

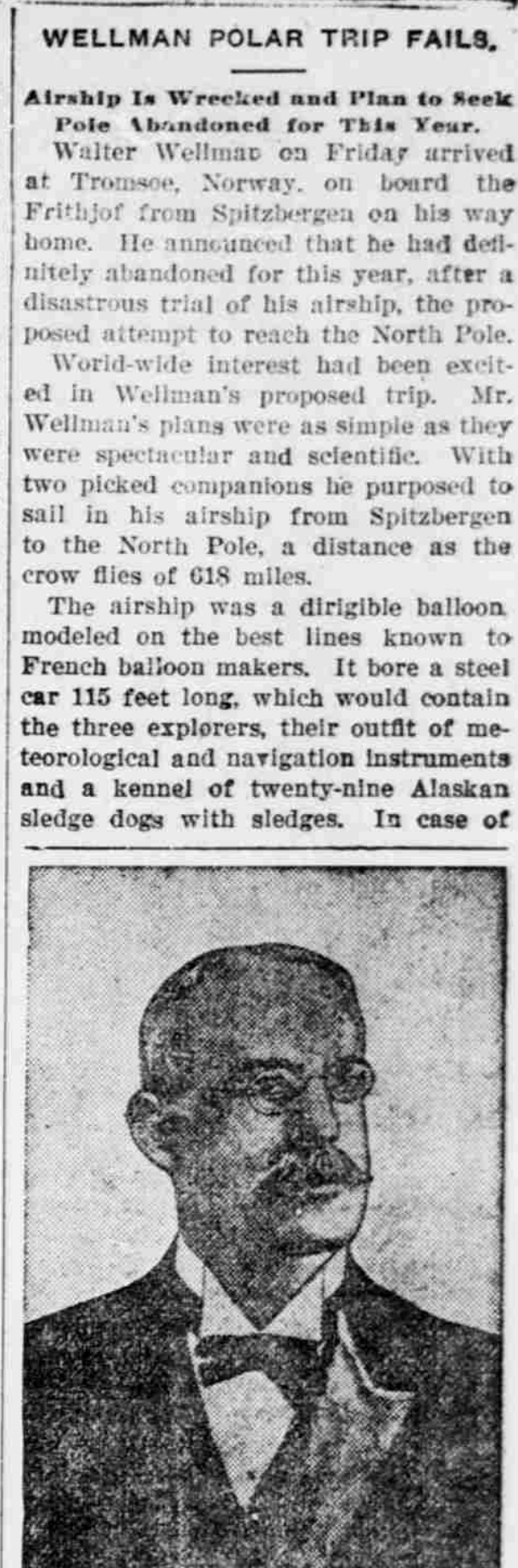
**WELLMAN POLAR TRIP FAILS.**

Airship is Wrecked and Plan to Seek Pole Abandoned for This Year.

Walter Wellman on Friday arrived at Tromsø, Norway, on board the Frithjof from Spitzbergen on his way home. He announced that he had definitely abandoned for this year, after a disastrous trial of his airship, the proposed attempt to reach the North Pole.

World-wide interest had been excited in Wellman's proposed trip. Mr. Wellman's plans were as simple as they were spectacular and scientific. With two picked companions he purposed to sail in his airship from Spitzbergen to the North Pole, a distance as the crow flies of 618 miles.

The airship was a dirigible balloon, modeled on the best lines known to French balloon makers. It bore a steel car 115 feet long, which would contain the three explorers, their outfit of meteorological and navigation instruments and a kennel of twenty-nine Alaskan sled dogs with sledges. In case of



**WALTER WELLMAN.**

mlshap to the airship or unfavorable winds, the men purposed to abandon the America and take to the sledges for the remainder of the way.

With winds in their favor and the airship standing the strain well they figured that the trip to the pole could be made in three days. With ordinary delays, but still sticking to the airship, it might take them twenty days. Forced to abandon the America, their trip might last three months. They had provisions for 275 days.

Starting from Spitzbergen, they figured that they would have to travel 1,236 sea miles to the pole and thence to Alaska, the trip would cover 1,750 sea miles; to the pole and thence to Northern Norway, 1,740 miles; to the pole and thence to Northern Siberia, an average of 1,500 miles; to the pole and thence as far south as human habitations in Canada, 2,440 miles.

The airship made an ascent Sept. 2 in a strong northeasterly wind, which drove it southeastward over the land. It was found necessary to cut the balloon drift from the other parts of the airship, but it was recovered after two days' search.

**INCREASE FARMERS' EARNINGS.**

Big Gain for Year Due to Higher Prices of Products.

According to a preliminary report on crops, published in the American Agriculturist, the American farmers' earnings are \$1,000,000,000 greater this year than last. This big gain will be entirely due to the increased prices of farm products, as the production in general will be fully 10 per cent less in quantity than in 1906, which was the bumper year.

"The farmer was never in so healthy a position as he is to-day—financially, socially, politically, mentally and spiritually," says the report. "The increase in the value of his real estate has been prodigious. He owes less money than ever before. He has greater assets than ever. Again, the farmer's wants are greater. He is in the market for more and better breeding stock, farm implements, household goods and other merchandise."

**A Rate Law Test Case.**

That State control of interstate railroads has ceased by virtue of the Hepburn rate law is the broad ground of an appeal to the federal courts now made by the Missouri Pacific railroad from a writ issued by the Supreme Court of Kansas. The writ was issued in favor of the Larrabee Milling Company of Stafford, Kan., to compel the Missouri Pacific to continue the practice of delivering cars to the mill over Santa Fe tracks, which cross at that point, at the old rate of \$2 a car. It was conceded that three-fifths of the mill's business was interstate. The defendant railroad now asserts that the State court has no jurisdiction, and that the road is wholly under the control of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

**Possible Arizona-Nevada Union.**

Since the proposition for joint statehood with New Mexico has been rejected by the people of Arizona it has been suggested that in case Congress shows a disposition to withhold statehood honors from Arizona separately a move might be made toward a union of that territory with Nevada. Such a measure, it is said, will be strongly supported by the very people who have opposed the union with New Mexico.

**Use of Seismograph in War.**

According to dispatches from Vienna, some important experiments were made during the recent Ostend gunnery trials by Prof. Belar, director of the Lillbach earthquake observatory, who used the seismographic apparatus to see if it was possible to calculate scientifically the vibrations of the earth the location and direction of distant artillery fire. The experiments were satisfactory, and they will be continued during the coming autumn artillery maneuvers in the Karawanken hills.