

RECORD CROP HARVEST STARTS

BINDERS, COMBINES, HEADERS START THIS WEEK

ESTIMATES REACH A MILLION AND A HALF BUSHELS

Within the week all machines will be ready for harvesting and threshing of banner grain crop of the Grande Ronde valley—early estimates may have been too low.

Hum of binder and clatter of header is the harmonious sound in Grande Ronde valley this week in which will commence the harvest of the largest crop of wheat ever recorded in this county. The binders are already running in various sections and out on the Sand Ridge the headers will commence Thursday or Friday. On the following Monday several combines will be set in motion, and the many threshermen through the valley are getting their separators into readiness to glean the bumper wheat crop.

As is true over a greater section of the Pacific northwest, the local wheat crop outshines anything in former years or history of wheat raising. Peculiarly enough the acreage has been decreased, yet the total output will be far in excess of former records. The past decade record was reached two years ago when a million bushels were threshed in this valley, but that record is doomed to be broken this year.

Just as soon as the threshing machines and combines get going there will come a definite estimate of the wheat crop which during the anteharvest and threshing season has been conservatively placed at 1,500,000 bushels, about 500,000 bushels in excess of former records. Men who are versed in the estimating of grain crops while on the stalks, say this is extremely conservative.

Flourmen and threshers who have visited other so-called banner wheat sections this year affirm that nothing yet has been found to equal the Grande Ronde valley outlook, and now that threshing is under way, and that steady, favorable weather is indicated there is no known reason by the crop should not be granaried without mishap. If it does, wheat land will be extremely profitable this year.

INLAND EMPIRE HARVESTING.

Largest Crop in Several Years Being Cut in Ideal Weather.

Spokane, July 24.—Harvesting of one of the largest crops of several years in the inland empire began today. Ideal harvesting weather is reported.

WOULD OPEN COLLEGE HERE

CALIFORNIAN COMING TO LA GRANDE TO INVESTIGATE.

Writes That He Will Consider This City Carefully.

La Grande as the home of a business college is assuming bright prospects. This is seen in a letter from a man named H. G. Phelps of Red Bluff, California, who has written to S. M. Slough of the Commercial club here that he will come to La Grande this summer or fall to investigate the conditions relative to establishing a business college. He is coming north to look over the country but has already decided that La Grande shall be given careful consideration.

PREMIER CALLED TRAITOR

Hisses and Shouts Drown Efforts to Explain Veto Bill.

London, July 24.—For the first time in England's history a premier was howled down when he officially attempted to explain the government's course on the lord's veto bill, in the house of commons. He tried to talk for half an hour, but his utterances were drowned by cries and hisses of "Traitor," which the conservatives kept up the house speaker was unable to preserve order. When he could be heard Asquith said if the veto bill did not pass the lords the liberals would ask the king to create enough liberal lords to pass it. Then he sat down.

Huckleberries Have Inning.

Huckleberry patches are teeming with berries and during the present week a great many pickers will take to the mountains.

HURT UNDER FALLING POLE

BOTH LEGS BROKEN BY FALLING LINE POLE.

While at Work on High Pressure Line Pole, Accidents Occur.

Caught between a falling high pressure electric line pole at the Puckett place where the Cove and Union junction is situated and the embankment John Young, an employe of the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company is in the hospital here this afternoon with both legs broken. It was believed at first that he had sustained internal injuries but this has proven incorrect. The young man with others was raising a pole when the pike broke loose, swinging the heavy timber to one side. Young tried to get away but the embankment was too steep and he was crushed under the heavy weight. Both legs were broken.

Amputation Believed Necessary. Late this afternoon it was reported that it would be necessary to amputate both limbs.

HOTEL MEN MEET.

Seattle Gathering Place of Washington Inn Keepers Today.

Seattle, July 24.—Two hundred hotel men representing \$50,000,000 in hotel properties are here today for the opening of a session of the State Hotel Men's association. Officers and the next meeting place will be decided late this afternoon.

WETS VICTORS IN TEXAS WAR

LEGAL BATTLE TO FOLLOW FIRST VICTORY.

Five Thousand for Wets Is Majority of The Election.

Austin, Texas, July 24.—Although returns thus far today indicate a majority of about 5,000 for the wets in the bitter state wide prohibition election, a legal fight to determine the result is certain. The total vote is about 500,000, and the official count will be completed Wednesday.

LILLIAN GRAHAM DISAPPEARS

Authorities Think It Is a Press Agent Stunt and Don't Worry.

New York, July 24.—The police today declined to get excited over the disappearance of Lillian Graham, one of the girls who shot and wounded Millionaire Stokes. The authorities think it is a press agent's stunt. The press agent declares she is kidnapped.

WILD WAR TALK PREVAILS

London, July 24.—All England is hysterical today over the Moroccan situation. There are wild rumors that Germany has declared war against France, and another that the Kaiser is expected to sever diplomatic relations with England. Despite these alarmist reports, the government announced today it entertained no apprehensions of war.

CIRCUIT COURT IN SESSION; TWO PLEAD GUILTY TO CHARGE

A plea of guilty to larceny opened the resumed session of the circuit court this morning, when, simultaneously, the grand jury reconvened its deliberations. Bantree and Henry, both of them hold-over cases from the early part of the term, were to have been tried today on a charge of burglary not in a dwelling house but they pleaded guilty to larceny and will be sentenced shortly.

Tomorrow court will be occupied with the prosecution by the state against Nelson and Blonquist, who are charged with burglary.

GRAFT OFFICIAL IS SENTENCED TRENCH FORMS WITH ALACRITY

EIGHT YEARS IN PRISON IS HIS PORTION.

Alameda County Official Comes to Hear Sentence Today.

Oakland, July 24.—Former County Assessor Dalton, convicted of having solicited a \$5,000 bribe from the Spring Valley Water company, was today sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary. He will not appeal.

In March Dalton was asked by the company to reduce the assessments of its holdings in Alameda county. Dalton said he would, provided the company gave him \$25,000. The district attorney was notified and detectives put on the case and officials heard several conversations. In May Dalton was arrested and was sentenced today.

COMMISSION MEETS TONIGHT

Executive Appointees Will Confer Relative to Commission Plan.

Business men appointed sometime ago by Mayor A. L. Richardson to consider the best amendments to make to the city charter relative to the form of government to be adopted in La Grande, will meet this evening to go into the matter with care. This will be an important session of the committee.

EVIDENCE OF GIANTIC SCHEME UNFURLED BEFORE INVESTIGATORS.

Washington, July 24.—Evidence that 11 of the largest steel manufacturers this country had entered into a pooling agreement in November, 1900, forming a steel plate association, was presented before the Stanley committee today. The committee believes the pool agreement will still be enforced.

The agreement allowed the companies to sell only a certain share of steel stock. Among the signers were



—Here in Philadelphia Press.

the Carnegie Steel company, the American Steel Wire company, the Tidewater Steel company, the Crucible Steel company of America. The Carnegie company was accorded 46.25 per cent of the total output.

F. B. Kaufman, a printer, who printed the agreement between the steel companies, testified: "After President Houston, of Lukens Iron and Steel company, had the agreements printed, his secretary came to my shop and destroyed all the proofs and copies we could find. He said the president of the Illinois Steel company made a mistake in having it printed, and that they were afraid they might go to jail if the agreement was discovered. Later my brother told me he had a copy of the agreement."

A committeeman asked if he could get a copy. He replied he had asked the department of justice time and again for information concerning such pools but had always got the answer that it was inconsistent with public policy to furnish it.

APPLES TO CANADA

CORRECTION OF TARIFF AFFORDS NEW FIELDS.

Formerly Excessive Rate Displaced by a New Tariff.

The O.-W. through its local agent, J. H. Keeney announces that a correction of shipping tariffs between Union county points and Canada gives carload rates that should afford a good market for local shippers. The announcement says in part:

The east bound fruit and vegetable tariff No. 33, applying to points in western Canada, has been corrected to apply on apples in straight carloads, via Spokane, to points in western Canada on the Canadian Pacific railway and has been reduced to some extent.

This rate should permit shippers to find a good market in the Canadian territory for their apples.

These rates now open up to the apple growers in this territory a market for their products which has hitherto been prohibited on account of excessive rates.

SEAL FUR TREATY RATIFIED.

Washington, July 24.—The senate this afternoon ratified the fur seal treaty which prevents Great Britain, Japan, Russia and the United States from pelagic sealing for 15 years, commencing December 15.

FIRE BURNS IN DEAL CANYON

TIMBER IN THAT COULEE BEING DESTROYED.

Huckleberry Mountain South of City Also in Fire Zone.

During the afternoon the blaze in Deal canyon increased in ferocity and extent, and is working toward the crest of the foothill. Telephone communications will be sent to Deputy Fire Commissioner Galloway at Elgin unless the blaze burns itself out somewhat before night.

Fire is running loose in the small area of timber in Deal canyon near its mouth today, and while there is no danger of it becoming at all menacing to La Grande, the blaze might work back up the canyon and catch one or two cabins along the roadway penetrating the canyon. The fire started in the clump of trees at the first curve of the canyon and is easily seen from La Grande.

Huckleberry mountain is said to be the scene of a large forest fire today, the blaze having been seen by tourists on Mt. Emily yesterday.

RECIPROCITY FIGHT SHIFTS

CANADA NOW SEAT OF WAR OVER THE MEASURE

TAFT COMPLIMENTED FOR TACTFUL STATEMENT MADE

Canada May Not Ratify the Measure Though Premier Laurier Affirms It Will Eventually Occur—President Thanks Democrats and Republicans Alike for Passage of Bill.

Ottawa, July 24.—A bitter fight in parliament is predicted here today before the reciprocity agreement with the United States is ratified. Since congress passed the measure opposition transferred their activities to Canada. Premier Laurier said the bill will pass, but he won't say when.

TAFT COMPLIMENTED.

Beverly, Mass., July 24.—President Taft has received many telegrams of congratulations today for his statement on reciprocity. His friends declare his laudation of the aid given by democrats and republicans alike will ultimately prove "good politics" by preventing schisms in the republican party.

It is reported that President Taft has received direct assurances from Canada that she will confirm the reciprocity agreement.

"BACK TO FARM" CAMPAIGN.

Chicago, Ill., July 24.—Governors of states, national philanthropists and state immigration commissioners assembled in Chicago today to formally launch the "back to the farm" campaign. The object of the movement is to aid workmen and others living in congested districts in large cities, as well as state charges, in obtaining farms in northern, southern and western states. It is proposed to maintain a permanent bureau for the dissemination of information relative to conditions existing in the various states.

PHOTOGRAPHERS IN CONVENTION.

St. Paul, Minn., July 24.—Several hundred of the leading photographers of America have arrived for the 31st annual convention of their national association, which will get under way tomorrow. All were busy today opening cases containing pictures for the national exhibit, which promises to be the largest ever hung by the association.

MORSE CONTINUES FIGHT.

New Orleans, July 24.—Charles Morse, the convicted ice king and bank wrecker, now confined in the federal prison at Atlanta, today continued his fight for freedom. This afternoon his attorneys filed an appeal from the decision of the United States judge, Newman, who refused a writ of habeas corpus.

LOSTINE WANTS 40 WORKMEN

IS BUILDING WATER SYSTEM OF HIGH CLASS.

Wants Good Water and Needs Men to Do the Work.

Lostine is ready to construct its new water system and is in the market for laboring men to do the work. The officials of the little town have advertised for 40 men to do this work, and as soon as the crew is sufficiently large, the work will be commenced. Lostine wants high class water and is spending good money to do it, agreeing that only the best supply possible is good enough for the town.