

BANNER TRAIN OF SPUDS IDEAL

MARVELOUS GROWTH OF INDUSTRY IN THREE YEARS

MEN FINANCIALLY INTERESTED ACCOMPANY TRAIN EAST

First Consignment of the 90 Carload Crop Goes East—Pictures Taken Today—H. H. Weatherspoon, Barnes, Stoop and Others Go With the Train to Its Destination.

Elgin's 21-car train of potatoes, representing the first of its kind ever shipped out of Eastern Oregon and which is only the vanguard of two other similar trains that will go east this winter, arrived in La Grande this morning, completing the first lap of its long journey. In charge of seven men financially interested in the welfare of the trainload, the train departs this afternoon for Kansas City and from there will be distributed to the Houston and Oklahoma markets. Hand sorted, and of even size, the wonderful trainload has become the admiration of Union county people, and a great deal of interest is attached to it. Photographs were taken of the train by Photographer Ritter this forenoon.

H. H. Weatherspoon, L. A. Stoop, D. A. Barnes, Lee Ferguson, Jack Har- garth and Henry Pierson are in charge and will accompany the train on its way, devoting their special attention to proper heating and ventilation of the cars. This requires extreme care and attention for in crossing the mountains cold and ever zero weather will be encountered. One of the chief problems to contend with is to keep the hatches closed that may have been opened by tramps seeking shelter in the cars. Too warm atmosphere in the cars is fully as disastrous as the cold, hence the task cut out for the men going with the train is a stupendous one. But because all the seven men are financially interested in the shipment, they will, of course, lend every effort to bringing the trainload to its destination in good order.

Growth of Industry Marvelous.

The growth of the "spud" industry in the Elgin territory is marvelous to say the least. In 1908, Elgin shipped out two carloads of potatoes. In 1909 the industry grew to 24 cars and in 1910 the shipments increased to 35 carloads. The 1911 crop was 90 cars, the present trainload being only the first crop shipment.

200 Cars Ext Year.

So profitable has the business become to the Elgin country that unless there is a crop failure next year, the total output will reach 200 cars. This is the aim of the community, and will very probably be attained.

Weatherspoon the Spud Father.

H. H. Weatherspoon is the real father of the industry. In 1903 he interested himself in the industry and soon had other followers in the business. The figures quoted above show the wonderful results from the original efforts.

Grown on Cheap Land.

The fact that each sack weighs 110 pounds, and is bringing one cent a pound to the grower, means that on land which was purchased for \$30 an acre—though not saleable at that figure now, of course—a crop of spuds has netted on the average \$60 to the acre. This pays for the land and leaves a profit of \$30 to the acre the first year. Stump land has been most generally devoted to the spud business. The raw logged off land has sold all the way from \$10 to \$30 per acre. The cost of clearing brings the land up to a very reasonable cost, however.

Traveling Passenger Agent Jack O'Neil has been here today securing data of the train which will be used to good advantage by the Harriman lines in future boosting literature. Elgin and Harriman literature, explaining Oregon's industries, will go with the men in charge of the trainload.

Argentina Expects War.

Buenos Ayres, Jan. 25.—War between Argentina and Paraguay is threatened and Argentina is preparing for battleships for war.

BABY SCALDED BY WASHTUB

WHILE MOTHER IS ABSENT, GIRL PULLS PLUG.

Water Streams Out on Little Girl's Limbs, Burning Them Badly.

Because she pulled the plug out of the washing machine her mother was operating yesterday afternoon, little Miss Wilcox, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilcox, suffered considerable pain but for all that had a miraculous escape from fatal scalding. Mrs. Wilcox who lives in South La Grande—the family having recently arrived from the east—had just filled the washing machine and turned to leave the room for a moment. Her two-year-old daughter had seen her mother open the stopper and tried to emulate her, with the result that boiling water spurted out on her legs, striking the little miss just below the knees.

Speedy attention by a physician prevented as serious consequence as might be expected and the little girl is able to walk about today. Through the pain the little maiden showed great fortitude and grit.

OPERATORS, MINERS MEET

FIRST SESSION OF ITS KIND IN MANY YEARS.

Mine Owners and Miners Try to Reach Settlements.

Indianapolis, Jan. 25.—For the first time since 1906, the bituminous coal operators of Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana and other states, will meet with the miners here today to discuss the new wage scale and changes in the working conditions. The present contract expires March 31st. The miners demands will be endorsed by the United Mine Workers and provide that all coal shall be weighed before it is screened and that the men's wages be increased ten cents per ton, with a seven hour day and weekly pay.

Seek to Restore Coal Pact.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 25.—Whether there will be a general suspension of coal mining on April 1, when the present wage agreements expire, depends upon the success of the joint conference of operators and miners which went into session behind closed doors at the Hotel Claypool this afternoon. The miners are represented in the conference by the special conference by the special committee appointed by the United Mine Workers.

Nearly all of the mine owners of Indiana, Illinois and Ohio are represented, together with some of the independent of the western Pennsylvania and West Virginia fields. The demands to be presented by the miners concerning wages and working conditions for the future were agreed upon by the convention of the miners' organization which has been in session here the past two weeks. Some of the demands are regarded as of a radical character by the mine owners and there is little possibility of an agreement being reached unless the demands are substantially modified. Some of the prominent Pennsylvania and Ohio operators have declined to join in the conference, and this makes it possible that the joint conference may adjourn without doing anything, and that negotiations may then be carried on for a later meeting of operators and miners for that purpose. There is a firm belief on the part of many persons well acquainted with the situation that the operators who are now holding aloof finally will be brought into the joint conference, and that if a wage scale is negotiated it will cover the five states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Steel Bill Favorable.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The house ways and means committee reported favorably today on the Underwood bill to revise the iron and steel tariff measures. The house democrats will hold a caucus Thursday in an effort to secure the adoption of the bill.

ROOSEVELT'S BOOM LOCAL

HOFFER SENDS PETITIONS HERE FOR VOTERS TO SIGN

WASHINGTON ADHERENTS TO FURTHER COLONEL'S CAUSE

Governor Osborn Unqualifiedly for Roosevelt—Bryan's Commoner Today Picks Flaws in Career of Judson Harmon—Indiana Republicans Hold Forth Today in Meeting.

E. Hofer's self-instituted campaign in behalf of Theodore Roosevelt has reached La Grande. The petitions necessary to be signed to get the name of the sphinx-like nabob of Oyster Bay on the Oregon ballot have been sent out to the county court house officers of the entire state, the one destined for La Grande having now reached here. The campaign emanates from Salem, of course, and local county officials are not in any way responsible for the presence here of the petition. It is the aim of Hofer, and other Roosevelt cohorts to have the petitions at the state's court houses where they can be signed freely by those anxious to have Roosevelt's name appear on the tickets at the primary election.

The campaign has now become state wide and friends of the colonel aim to crystallize the ante-primary campaign with a united effort in Roosevelt's behalf even before he has come out of his "nothing to say" attitude.

Osborn for Roosevelt.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 25.—Governor Osborn of Michigan came out flatly today for Roosevelt. "I favor Roosevelt first, last and all the time," he said.

Washington Men Active.

Seattle, Jan. 25.—A boom for Roosevelt will be launched here on February 22nd, when Roosevelt supporters will be called together either here or at Tacoma and plans for capturing the Washington delegation to the national republican convention will be made.

Bryan Flays Harmon.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 25.—Hot denunciation of Governor Harmon by Col. Bryan appeared in the Commoner today. Bryan says: "Fifty measures, many of them distinctly progressive, failed to become laws in Ohio because the governor did not sign them within the period required by the constitution. Now the managers of the Harmon campaign are endeavoring, through pamphlets, to induce the people to accept him as a progressive democrat."

Indiana Republicans.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 25.—The annual round-up of the Indiana republican editorial association in this city today caused an influx of editors and politicians from all over the state. Especial interest attached to the meeting from the fact that the proceedings are expected to reflect the sentiment of the rank and file of the republican party in Indiana on the subject of the presidential nomination.

The selection of Senator Norris Brown of Nebraska to deliver the principal address at the association banquet is regarded as of much significance. Senator Brown is a Taft supporter and a staunch defender of the Taft policies.

BOXING IN DANGER.

New York Legislature May Repeal Present Boxing Law.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 25.—The lid may be clamped on again on boxing exhibitions in New York state as the result of a bill introduced in the lower house today by Assemblyman Allen. The measure calls for a repeal of the law legalizing boxing. Allen declares the law is being violated continuously.

ABE ATTELL SUSPENDED.

New York Commission Disciplines the Champion for Faking Fight.

New York, Jan. 25.—The New York Athletic commission today suspended Abe Attell, the featherweight champion, for six months, for faking a fight here with "Knockout" Brown.

DUKE HOBNOBS WITH MR. TAFT

BANDS GREET VISITOR WITH COUNTRY'S NATIONAL AIR

DUKE DRIVES OWN MACHINE TO STATION THIS NOON

Received at British Embassy Immediately After Arrival at Washington—Then Goes to White House to Be Received by President Taft—Soldiers and Bands Escort Him.

New York, Jan. 25.—The Duke of Connaught made a democratic start for Washington to visit President Taft this forenoon. He himself took the throttle and drove an electric engine through the Hudson river tunnel to the Manhattan transfer station at Harrison, N. J. Then he entered a private car hitched onto the Pennsylvania express for the capitol. The duchess and her daughter, the Princess Patricia, remained here.

Bands, Soldiers, Greet Him.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The duke arrived late this afternoon and immediately rushed in an auto to the British embassy. From there the 15th cavalry escorted him to the white house where a reception was held at 5:00 o'clock.

The band played "God Save the King" upon the duke's arrival and upon his departure will play the "Star Spangled Banner."

EPISCALIANS CELEBRATE

Consecration of Rt. Right Whitehead Remembered by Church.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 25.—Today was the 30th anniversary of the consecration of the Rt. Rev. Cortlandt Whitehead, Protestant Episcopal bishop of Pittsburg, and the occasion was celebrated with interesting all day exercises in Trinity church. The services opened this morning with the celebration of holy communion by Bishop Tuttle of St. Louis, the senior bishop of the denomination. This was followed by an historical address, in which Bishop Whitehead reviewed the important religious events that have taken place since he assumed the bishopric.

Bishop Whitehead is a native of New York and a graduate of Yale. Following his ordination in 1868 he served for three years in Colorado and later was pastor of a church in South Bethlehem, Pa. On January 25, 1882, he was consecrated bishop of the diocese of Pittsburg.

New York Honors New Cardinal.

New York, Jan. 25.—New York's celebration in honor of the elevation of the Most Reverend John M. Farley to the cardinalate, which began a week ago with the welcome of the new cardinal upon his arrival from Rome, culminated today in notable religious ceremonies held in St. Patrick's cathedral. The demonstration was one of the remarkable of its kind ever held in the metropolis and was participated in by eminent prelates and priests of the Roman Catholic church from many parts of the United States and Canada. The leading features of the service were the celebration of the solemn pontifical mass by Archbishop Prendergast of Philadelphia, a sermon by the Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Cusack, archbishop of New York, and addresses of congratulation in behalf of the clergy and laity, delivered respectively by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Michael J. Lavelle, rector of the cathedral and Justice Victor J. Dowling. Cardinal Farley presided in the sanctuary during the celebration of the mass.

Saskatchewan House Open.

Regina, Sask., Jan. 25.—With the usual ceremonies the fourth session of the second provincial legislature of Saskatchewan was opened this afternoon in the magnificent new parliament buildings. Important measures relating to education, railways, internal improvements and other matters were foreshadowed in the speech from the throne.

BRYAN TALKS; PANTS PRESSED

COMMONER COVERS LIMBS WITH OVERCOAT IN DEPOT.

Gets Absorbed in Topics and Eventually Misses His Train.

St. Louis, Jan. 25.—Told by his secretary that his trousers need pressing, Col. W. J. Bryan today calmly slipped into an overcoat to hide his bare, rotund legs while the pants were rushed to the pressery, the Commoner in the meanwhile thrashing out presidential matters with local politicians. He was at the union depot at the time, and those in the room conversing with the half-dressed politician included Governor Folk. Then he became so absorbed talking that he missed his train for Lincoln.

Referring to Roosevelt, he declared against any man accepting a third term.

MASSACRES PLANNED ANEW

WHITE PEOPLE IN CHINA ARE ALARMED

Situation Growing Serious and Outrages May Start Soon.

Pekin, Jan. 25.—With a general massacre of the Chinese in Peking imminent by the Manchus who aim to control the city, foreign diplomats here today are demanding that the emperor disarm the imperial guard and that ball cartridges be issued to European soldiers guarding the consulates. The excitement is intense. Whites have been warned not to venture into the native section of the city. The prime object of the Manchu hate is Premier Yuan who is surrounded by 5,000 loyal troops, ready to defend him. The manchus are spreading the reports that he sold out the country to the rebels.

It is believed by many diplomats that the government is winking at the possibility of a massacre, hoping an outbreak will bring foreign intervention which now seems the only hope of saving the dynasty. In this connection it is reported that the younger Manchu princes have received assurances that if opportunity offers Japan will intervene and stop the revolution. A general massacre would make this an opportunity.

COOPER MORRIS OBSTINATE.

Will Demand Dismissal of His Own Charges at Once.

Portland, Jan. 25.—Admittedly holding the whip hand, Cooper Morris, former cashier of the defunct Oregon Savings & Trust bank, today demanded dismissal of all indictments returned against him before he will testify against Banker Louis Wilde who is charged jointly with Morris in the embezzlement of \$90,000 from the bank.

Morris' testimony is vital, and it is as yet unknown what the state will do.

NURSES STILL HELD.

Italy Reconsiders and Will Not Give up Captured Nurses.

Rome, Jan. 25.—Rome is still holding the Turkish nurses captured on board the French boat, Manouba, as prisoner. Italy maintains her right to search the vessels in the war zone and told France she is willing to have The Hague decide and pay an indemnity if found wrong.

Italy maintains that the International code allowed her action as the Manouba was suspected of carrying contraband.

WILLIE DELANY DEAD.

Old Time Promoter and Fight Manager Passes Away.

Oakland, Jan. 25.—After a long illness with stomach and liver ailments, William Delaney, aged 58, and famous as a prize fight promoter and manager, died here today.

SEID'S SLAYER MAY BE HERE

CHINAMEN SAY SUCH A FELLOW HERE YESTERDAY

AFTERWARDS DENY THEY KNEW MISSING ORIENTAL

Murderer of Seld Bing in Portland, Wanted by Portland Police Force May Be in Weiser Now—Girl Implicated in the Affair—Chinese Here Thrown Into Pandemonium.

Circumstances that go to indicate that Cho Sin, wanted in Portland in conjunction with a Chinese girl named Sol Sen, for the murder of Seld Bing, whose body was chopped to pieces in Portland and shipped to Seattle, was in La Grande yesterday and left last night for Weiser was unearthed here this afternoon when the Chinese colony in the new quarters on Fourth street stated vehemently that Cho Sin left here last night for Weiser. They afterwards contradicted themselves—when told the Chinaman in question was wanted at Portland on the murder charge.

Old-time Chinese of the city know nothing of the man or the girl who are said to have committed the outrageous crime in Portland last December referred to in dispatches from Seattle yesterday. In the new quarters, however, recently populated principally by Chinese from Idaho, an Observer representative found men who knew a fellow by the name of Cho Sin, but they claimed he had left last night for Weiser. They were emphatic in this, until told why the information was wanted.

"No, him named Cho Parks," instantly ejaculated the spokesman, and others, who conversed in good English, were equally emphatic in making the fellow out as Parks. Their spokesman showed conversable knowledge of the crime and knew of the disappearance of Beck's relation, who it is believed, was the victim in the trunk, but as far as knowing any details that might have been gleaned from newspapers of the last developments, the men were reticent and professed complete ignorance.

In view of the fact that Cho Sin is wanted badly in Portland and that he lived in Pendleton about a year ago, and is thought to have been in La Grande recently, there may be some truth in the theory that he has been in La Grande since the crime became public knowledge. The theory that he hiked for Weiser on learning of the discovery of the crime yesterday is not entirely out of reason, but on the other hand, as the Fourth street Chinamen now assert, they may have misunderstood the original query. For all that, however, the men were emphatic in their statements that they knew Cho Sin, and corroborated it by recognizing the name on paper, until their attention was called to the underlying motive in the query.

Girl in the Case.

Portland, Jan. 23.—Traced from Portland to Dalles, Oregon, thence to Seattle by the police, the northwest is being searched today for Sol Sen, aged 19, a Chinese girl, and a Chinaman who, together, are suspected of the murder of Seld Bing, whose body was found in a trunk in Seattle. Maybe the girl is in San Francisco where her parents reside.

Robbery is supposed to have been the motive for the murder.

Cho Sin, the officers say, lived in Pendleton, Oregon, about a year ago and was also at La Grande for a time.

Rare Stamps at Auction.

New York, Jan. 25.—The sale of one of the finest stamp collections dispersed in a long time in this city attracted a large gathering of dealers and collectors to a Broadway auction room today. Among the rare varieties included in the sale were a St. Louis postmaster's stamp, of 5 cents denomination, issued in 1845, and valued at \$150, and an unused, specially printed 12-cent blackish purple government issue of 1880, valued at \$100. Among the other rarities were a number of early issues of revenue stamps.