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PRUNE MEN COMBINE

Packers of Northwest Organize for Protection.

FIX PRICE TO EASTERN BUYERS

Settlement of Disputes No Longer be Left to New York Exchange—Also Instruct Growers.

Salem, Or., June 30.—Representatives of all the prune packers of the Northwest met here last night and organized an association for mutual protection and promotion of the interests of their business.

The organization is one that has long been desired by some of the packers, but which could never be effected heretofore for the reason that competition among packers has been too severe. In the season now about to open, the packers will work together for their common interests. The association will control all the Northwest prune pack.

Among the packing houses in the organization are H. S. Gile & Co., Willamette Valley Prune Association and W. C. Tillson & Co., all of Salem; the Roseburg packing houses, owned by Gile & Co. and Tillson & Co., Allen's packing house, of Eugene; Lang & Co., of Portland; Mason, Ehrman & Co., of Portland; French Packing Company, of Myrtle Creek, and the packing house at Vancouver, Wash.

The new association has formulated two forms of contracts which all the firms in the combine will use. One contract is that to be used in selling fruit to eastern buyers, and the other in buying from local growers. The packers have determined that they will no longer sell according to forms of contract put out by eastern buyers, but will dictate the terms of the contract or not sell at all.

The new contract contains a number of provisions favorable to Oregon packers. It gives the packer unlimited choice in selecting an arbitrary case of dispute where, as in the past, the arbitrators have been chosen from the New York Fruit Exchange. The new contract gives the packer the privilege of filling his contracts with smaller sizes of prunes if the crop produced does not contain the required quantity of large sizes. It gives the packer the right to route the fruit in shipping. It exempts the packer from liability in case shipment is delayed by congestion of traffic.

It provides that in case of dispute as to quality, samples for test shall be taken from one-fifth of the boxes of fruit; that no allowance for short weight shall be made unless it amounts to more than one per cent, and that in the counting test the size shall include the seventh prune and not the fifth only; thus, that 47 prunes shall be deemed in the 40-50 size and not 45 only.

The new form of contract with growers will be very explicit in requiring growers to deliver fruit cured in a first-class manner, free from all burned or slack-dried fruit. The packer is to be sole judge of quality and there is to be no arbitration in case of dispute.

The packer is to have the right to weigh back to the grower any fruit slack dried or otherwise unsatisfactory. The packer will not be required to take more of a grower's crop than 10 per cent in excess of the quantity estimated in the contract, but the grower must deliver all his fruit if the packer demands it, regardless of how much it overruns the estimate.

Arrest Divine Healer.

Salt Lake City, Utah, June 30.—The law against manslaughter has been invoked to punish Charles H. Titus, a "divine healer," who, it is alleged, permitted two of his small children to die from diphtheria without medical attendance. A third is very ill with the disease. A warrant for Titus' arrest was issued. Attention was first called to the case by an undertaker from whom Titus attempted to buy a coffin for his 2-year-old baby. He admitted that he had no burial permit and intended to bury the child in his yard.

Japanese Steamer Makes Record

San Francisco, June 30.—The new Japanese turbine liner Tenyo Maru raced through the Golden Gate yesterday, breaking all previous records between this port, Yokohama and Honolulu. The trip from Yokohama was made in 14 days, 12 hours and 45 minutes, and the Tenyo Maru made this port in 4 days, 18 hours and 50 minutes out from Honolulu, establishing new records for both distances. The best previous time from Honolulu was 5 days and 2 hours, made by the Nippon Maru.

Curtail Oil Output.

Findlay, O., June 30.—James C. Donnell, general manager of the Ohio Oil Company, yesterday issued a request that oil-drillers of the country curtail their production until a market can be had for the present supply of oil. He says it is impossible to build tankage for the production, and that there is being produced daily in the Illinois oil field alone more than 100,000 barrels.

Life Sentence for Orchard.

Boise, Idaho, June 30.—The case of Harry Orchard, sentenced to be hanged next Friday for the murder of ex-Governor Steunenberg, will be considered by the state board of pardons Wednesday. In spite of the fact that Orchard is anxious that sentence be carried out, it is believed the board will commute the sentence to life imprisonment.

Deliver Gifts of Dead King.

Lisbon, June 30.—The Portuguese royal yacht Amelie left this week for Rio Janeiro, having on board the gifts which King Carlos had intended to present to President Penna during his visit to Brazil, which he had planned to make this year.

REBELS ADVANCE.

Apparently Going to Loot Rich City of Torreon.

El Paso, June 29.—El Correo, the conservative daily Mexican newspaper of Chihuahua, in its issue yesterday morning, which arrived here last night, has a story that an army of a strength variously estimated at from 4000 to 7000 men is marching on Torreon, one of the richest cities in the state of Coahuila.

The story, after reviewing the attack on Viesca tells of reported attempts to rob the pay train of the Mexican Central railroad, and says that the country around Torreon which is so closely settled that there are stations about every four kilometers, is swarming with armed men, who appear at the railroad stations with guns and cartridge belts.

"These same reports," says El Correo, "say that three bridges on the railroad between Parass and Torreon have been burned, probably with the object of impeding the passage of troops into Torreon. The incendiaries also probably selected Torreon for invasion because they considered it a rich city to loot. Among the reports that we have heard is one which says that about 4000 armed men, nearly all of whom are inhabitants of ranches, are said to have passed Hornos, in the state of Coahuila, on the Coahuila & Pacific railroad, about 65 kilometers from Torreon.

"Whether the movement is directed against the government of Coahuila or against the federal government, no one is able to say. It is generally supposed the movement is not against the state, but against the federal government. One version says the revolution is wholly against the state of Coahuila, that the governor is not acceptable to the people of that state, and that he was forced upon them by the president of the republic.

"It is also said that a train of infantry has been sent to Torreon from Monterrey and a small detachment of cavalry."

Torreon, the town named by El Correo as the object of attack is one of the richest towns in the state of Coahuila. There are six banks—the Banco Minero de Chihuahua, meaning a branch of Banco Nacional de Mexico; the Banco de Coahuila; the Banco de Nueva Leon, and the Banco de Durango. The Banco Laguna, recently organized, has a capitalization of \$6,500,000. There are about 25,000 inhabitants.

DEATH IN TORNADO.

Minnesota Twister Kills Seven and Does Immense Damage.

Clinton, Minn., June 29.—A tornado struck this town at 5:25 o'clock yesterday afternoon, killing seven people and injuring twenty-five, some seriously. Twenty houses, a printing office and two churches were blown down.

The tornado, which was unaccompanied by rain, started three miles north of the town, destroyed two farmhouses that were in its path and swept over Clinton, which is a place of about 400 people.

A Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul mixed train was just pulling into the station as the storm struck the town and 15 cars were blown off the track, as was also a passenger coach containing 17 people. All were injured among them Father Keavey, of Graceville, Minn.

The two churches destroyed are the Norwegian Lutheran and the First Episcopal.

Telegraph lines were blown down, but as soon as possible news of the disaster was sent to the neighboring cities. Soon help was on the way from Ortonville and Wheaton, near Minneapolis, and from Millbank, S. D., which is but a few miles away.

SAW MRS. GUNNESS.

Two Witnesses Inform Detroit Police She Is Alive.

Detroit, June 29.—The Detroit police believe they are on the trail of Mrs. Belle Guinness, of La Porte, Ind., who is accused of wholesale murders on her farm near that city.

Two young women Lulu Raymond and Grace Benson, whom the police had in custody yesterday afternoon and evening, are said to have met Mrs. Guinness since her supposed burned body was found in the ruins of her home.

The police claim that the statements of the two young women convinced them that Mrs. Guinness is still alive. They gave the names of other persons who are also said to know that the woman is alive.

Collision on Elevated.

New York, June 29.—Two trains on the Third avenue elevated railroad collided at One Hundred and Second street, and part of one train was left hanging from the elevated structure. No one was killed in the collision but 12 persons were injured, though probably none of them fatally. It was a rear-end collision, both trains being bound uptown, when the following train crashed into the other. The colliding trains were going at a moderate speed.

Bryan's Fortune.

Lincoln, Neb., June 29.—The taxable property belonging to Mr. and Mrs. William J. Bryan, real and personal, has been listed with the assessor at a total valuation of \$84,500. The returns show that Mrs. Bryan owns 50 acres of real estate, and Colonel Bryan 87 acres, a total of 137 acres. This is valued at \$29,125. The residence is returned at \$21,000, and personal property not mentioned above at \$12,300.

Deadlock Broken.

Charlotte, N. C., June 29.—Congressman W. W. Kitchin was nominated for governor of the 60th ballot at 6 o'clock Saturday night by a majority of 86 votes in the Democratic state convention.

MEXICAN REBELLION

Las Vacas Captured and Looted by Armed Bands.

RAID ON AMMUNITION WAGONS

Government Troops Surprised and Horses Captured—Firing Heard Across Rio Grande.

San Antonio, Tex., June 27.—Las Vacas, Mexico, directly across the Rio Grande from Del Rio, Tex., yesterday afternoon witnessed its second battle of the day in what may be the opening of a general uprising against the administration of President Diaz. All wires on the Mexican side leading across the river have been cut.

At 5:30 yesterday morning a band of 150 revolutionists silently stole upon the camp of the Mexican cavalry at Las Vacas and captured all of the horses, as well as making a raid upon the ammunition wagons. They were discovered just as they were about to leave, and a pitched battle took place. Firing continued until 10:30 A. M. More than 3000 shots were fired, and several men were killed. One wounded man made his way across the river to Del Rio, but he refused to say whether he was with the government force or the revolutionists.

Yesterday afternoon the firing upon the government troops had been renewed, and the sounds of shooting were plainly heard in Del Rio. Where the revolutionists were gathered is not known, but that the attack upon Las Vacas was to follow immediately upon that made upon Viesca, a town in the interior, there is little doubt. Viesca was attacked and captured by the revolutionists last Thursday afternoon, when several were killed and wounded.

Del Rio, Tex., wired last night that revolutionists and Mexican regular soldiers came together across the river from that point yesterday; that several on both sides have been killed and two Mexican officers seriously wounded. All communication is cut off, for the authorities will not permit any one to cross the river.

Mexican official statements that the rebel invaders were repulsed from Las Vacas are not wholly credited here.

El Paso, Tex., June 27.—In an encounter between revolutionists and troops of the Mexican government in the town of Las Vacas, in Coahuila, Mexico, near the border across from Del Rio, Tex., early yesterday morning, between 40 and 50 were killed and the Mexican commandant badly injured.

The sheriff of Valverde county, this state, telegraphed Governor Campbell, of Texas, that the revolutionists had been repulsed, and that a number of them were fleeing to the United States.

NEGROES TO DEFEAT TAFT.

Conference to Meet in Denver and Control Negro Vote.

Springfield, Ill., June 27.—Colored voters of the United States who are antagonistic to the candidacy of W. H. Taft, Republican nominee for president, will hold a national conference at Denver on Tuesday, July 7, the day the Democratic national convention opens. The purpose of the gathering, as stated in the call, is to "consider their political affiliations and conditions, and develop plans to change the political complexion of states wherein the negro vote is the balance of power."

They will also memorialize the Democratic convention "to declare against degrading a soldier of the United States army without the preliminary of a trial, and pronounce for a strict adherence to the constitution and all of its amendments; discuss the feasibility of nominating a candidate for president on the Civil Liberty party ticket, or vote direct for the Denver nominee, and issue an address to the colored citizens of the nation."

Hearst Cannot Win.

New York, June 27.—W. R. Hearst made a net gain of six votes in the recount of the ballots cast in Richmond county, according to a return made to the court in the mayoralty contest yesterday. Envelopes containing 203 votes and protested ballots in that county cannot be found, and the county clerk was instructed to make a further search for them. Mayor McClellan's plurality with the recount practically completed is 2965. The count of the election inspectors gave him 3834. This precludes any possibility of Hearst winning.

Grain Elevator Burns.

Duluth, Minn., June 27.—Elevator D. of the Consolidated Elevator company, was destroyed by fire yesterday, entailing a loss on the building and contents of \$1,000,000. An adjoining stock and warehouse belonging to the Northern Pacific railroad suffered to the extent of \$30,000. The elevator contained 300,000 bushels of wheat, 90,000 bushels of flax and 7000 bushels of barley. The buildings and grain were fully insured. The origin of the fire cannot be determined.

Steel Mills Resuming.

Pittsburg, June 27.—Ten departments of the Homestead steel works of the United States Steel corporation will be in operation tomorrow, the first Saturday that they have operated during the past three months. This will add an extra day's pay to the 2000 men employed in these departments. It is generally expected there will be almost a general resumption of the entire works next week.

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