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LUTHER R. MARSH DEAD.

Noted Spiritualist and Victim of Disasters.

SWEPT BY TIDAL WAVE.

Portion of a Mexican Town on the Pacific Coast Destroyed.

Not Known at Mexico City.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 15.—A telegram received here tonight stated that a rumor was current in the United States that 50 persons were drowned in a tidal wave at Altata. Nothing is known here of such a happening.

Burned to Death in a Boat.

ANTWERP, Aug. 15.—During a torch-light procession held here tonight in connection with the communal fete, a car representing Winter caught fire, and one representing Spring was burned to death. Four other women sustained injuries.

GOOD WHEAT CROP

Columbia River Counties Show Large Product.

SOME DAMAGE BY SPRING FROST.

Morrow County Will Produce 1,000,000 Bushels—Secrecy of Labor-Moore Bros' Latest Transportation Scheme.

Harvesting is now at full swing in the Columbia River counties of this state, and from this district alone, which is exclusively Portland territory, approximately 25 per cent more wheat will be available than was handled last year. There was some damage by Spring frosts and some loss by shattering at harvest, but the crop as a whole is very satisfactory in its dimensions, with the quality unusually good.

IONE, Aug. 14.—(Staff correspondence.)—With the passing of the Willamette Valley as a factor in the wheat trade of Portland and Oregon, the prestige of the metropolis has suffered slightly in the past two years. This shrinkage, or rather lack of growth in the industry, has been made unduly prominent on account of the marked increase in wheat production in Washington. With diversified farming cutting down the yield of the Willamette Valley from 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 bushels to a scant 2,500,000 bushels, and practically all of this ground into flour or fed to the hogs, the increased yield in Oregon east of the Cascade Mountains has been insufficient to offset the loss. With the Willamette Valley eliminated from the situation, Portland's exclusive territory now lies in the Oregon counties lying along the Columbia River in the Grand Ronde Valley and along the Snake River below Lewiston.

Not for a moment should it be inferred that Portland's wheat trade is limited to these districts, for, as is well known, Portland draws more wheat out of the Puget Sound cities. It is on these river counties, however, that Portland can figure to a certainty on securing all the wheat that is shipped, and this year the outlook is much more promising than it was a year ago.

Wasco's Good Yield. Wasco County, which is first on the list, is now thrashing out a crop which will average up about 25 per cent greater than that of 1901. Dame Nature played some queer pranks with the wheat fields of the river counties, and with her cold waves last Spring left numerous "streaked" patches where heads show only half the berries that should be there, and fields which a month earlier promised yields of 40 bushels to the acre are doing well to turn off 25 and 30 bushels, although I have heard of a few fields which ran 35 bushels and 40 bushels to the acre. While Wasco County will have about 25 per cent more wheat than she had last year, her dealers will not handle a proportionate increase over last year's business. This is due to the fact that Klickitat County, Washington, just across the river, has a crop approximately 25 per cent smaller than that of last year. The Spring frosts, which cut down the yield on the south side of the Columbia River, played greater havoc in Klickitat County, and there was no increase in acreage to make a stand-off for this decrease, as was the case on the Oregon side.

The Dalles Milling Interests. In actual wheat, the Dalles will probably have smaller shipments this year than she has had for many years, but the decrease will be greatly to her advantage, as she is now equipped with a flour mill of sufficient capacity to handle over two-thirds of the wheat crop of the wheat. The Wasco Warehouse & Milling Company has just completed a 600-barrel mill, and is already grinding for the export and local trade. It has one of the finest power plants in the West, and has built its mill so that its capacity can easily be doubled. Another new mill is nearing completion at Wasco, on the Columbia Southern, while a small custom mill is under construction at Moro, Sherman County.

New Acreage in Sherman County. Umatilla has long enjoyed the distinction of being the banner wheat county of the state, but Sherman has aspirations, and is in a fair way to contest the title of the reservation county before many seasons roll by. There was quite a material increase in the acreage in Sherman this year, the territory south of Grass Valley showing an exceptionally large amount of new land now producing its first crop. As was the case in Wasco, the frost left occasional trails of pinched heads through the fields of this county. There are also numerous complaints of loss through "shattering," some farmers claiming as high as eight bushels per acre lost in this way, although others assert that two bushels per acre would be nearer correct on most of the fields where the trouble is reported. The cause of this unusual shattering is explained in many ways, all of which are plausible, and all probably contributory to a condition which has left Sherman County's fields well seeded for a volunteer crop.

Why Wheat "Shattered." One theory is that the belated Spring, with attendant cold weather, affected the growth of the mesh or husk of the berry, so that it is abnormally weak, and unable to support the plump berries, which filled out remarkably well, and are loose and ready to roll out as soon as the stalk is touched. Others claim that the most of the damage has been done to grounded wheat with a good stand on the ground. There was more wind than usual while the wheat ripened, and as the beads rubbed against each other the wheat rattled out. Whatever the cause, the fact remains that there has been more wheat lost through

shattering than ever before, and farmers have plugged up the cracks in their header wagon boxes, and drive very gingerly in order to make the loss as small as possible.

Many Combines Running. It is with a crop like this that the combine harvester proves its superiority over other methods of saving the wheat, for no matter how badly the wheat shatters, it all finds its way into the sack on the combine. There are about a dozen of these machines in Sherman County, and some of them have records of 60 acres in a single day's run, although the average run of a good machine is between 30 and 40 acres a day.

These machines are operated with four and five men, and the saving over the old method of harvesting is very great. About the only complaint heard is where a man attempts to do too much with the machine. Thousand-acre wheat fields are not uncommon in Sherman County, and accordingly a combine is kept busy for at least 25 days, taking care of the crop. Twenty-five days of burning sunshine bustles a crop along toward the ripening stage at a lively rate, hence it is obvious that, to get the most work out of the combine, the first wheat must be cut a trifle green, while the last of the run is liable to be over-ripe. Some farmers do not attempt to get too much work out of the machine, but as they are expensive affairs, there is always a tendency to work them to the limit.

Harvest Hands Scarce. The periodical scarcity of harvest hands is again noticeable, and is causing much anxiety for the farmers, as the returns now coming so rapidly that it is very important that it should be cut at once. At every station along the Columbia Southern numerous farmers line up at the car steps and eagerly accept every man who has the appearance of being in search of work. The wages are good, and the help is so scarce that they are governed largely by the needs of the farmer. For driving header wagon from \$2 to \$3 per day and board is paid, while for threshing machine hands the wages run up as high as \$3 at \$3 per day.

The harvest hands are in perfect touch with the situation, and some of them exact the last possible farthing from the farmers. I listened to a long argument at Wasco a few days ago between a farmer and a new settler, and it was not until the stipulated \$3 per day had been supplemented by a meal, bottle of whiskey and the promise to drive five miles out of the way, so that the new hired man could call on a friend, that the son of toil consented to accompany the farmer. The situation is easing a little for the thrasher, as the headers are completing their work, but there will be a brisk demand for all kinds of labor for several weeks.

Banner Yield in Morrow. The Heppner branch of the O. R. & N. Co. will this year handle more wheat than ever before, and, from the returns now coming to hand, the crop of Morrow County will approximate 1,500,000 bushels, and may exceed that amount. At Ione, which is the principal wheat-shipping point on the Heppner branch, between 400,000 and 500,000 bushels of wheat will be handled, and the quality will average higher than ever before, much of it weighing from 60 to 62 pounds to the bushel. Last year the entire crop on the Heppner branch was only about 600,000 bushels, and the quality was about the poorest that ever came out of Morrow County. Very little barley and only a few patches of oats are to be found in Morrow County, but in Sherman and Wasco it is estimated that the output of barley will be about 250,000 bushels, with probably half that quantity of oats.

The greater part of the buying already reported in the river counties has been on milling account. On the new lands very strong wheat is grown, which is admirably adapted for the manufacture of macaroni and breakfast foods. For these grades of wheat a slight premium is paid over export values. No matter what the export price of wheat may be, any premium over that price is almost certain to loosen up some of the cereal at any and all stages of the season. For that reason there has been a fair selling movement since the crop will move fairly free, even should there be no improvement over present prices, which today are about 50 cents at most points on the Heppner branch and Columbia Southern.

Latest Transportation Project. Sherman County farmers are much interested in the proposed railroad from Biggs to The Dalles. Agents of the company are circulating contracts among the farmers and warehousemen, asking them to agree to ship all of their freight over the new line for a period of five years. The leading promoters of the new scheme are Moore Bros., the Moro bankers, who are also large stockholders in the Columbia Southern, and own wheat lands by the township in the Sherman County but in the Horse Heaven country in Washington. The Moores are quite confident of the success of their enterprise. Their plans include in addition to the railroad from Biggs to The Dalles, a line of boats from Biggs to the present head of navigation on this portion of the Columbia River. Plans for two of these boats, one for the passenger and freight traffic and one for freight, have already been submitted to bidders. The larger of these boats is to cost about \$60,000, and the other about \$40,000.

The promoters of the latest project for getting past the obstructions above The Dalles do not see anything in the failure of the Paul Mohr scheme to cause them uneasiness over the success of their plan. The principal point of advantage over the Paul Mohr road lies in the fact that, had Mohr hauled his freight over the portage road, he would still be without a railroad connection, while the new road, if it goes through, can deliver the wheat at The Dalles, to either or both rail and steamboat.

It is not clear yet what kind of an agreement can be made with the Columbia Southern, but the promoters are figuring on handling a large share of the business which is now turned over to the O. R. & N. at Biggs. The contracts now in circulation among the farmers do not promise an immediate reduction in rates, but as they imply so much, and promise an additional outlet for one of the greatest wheat districts of the state, they are being signed quite readily.

E. W. W.

GUNBOAT CAPTURED

Colombian Revolutionists Take the Boyaca.

SECURE A LOT OF SUPPLIES

Three Hundred Government Soldiers and Two Generals Taken Prisoners—Panama Feared an Attack From Insurgents.

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, Aug. 15.—News has reached here from the camp of the Colombian revolutionists in the Aguila Dulce district that after a naval engagement the Colombian Government gunboat



HENRY E. DOSCH

WHO WILL GO TO JAPAN TO ESTABLISH OREGON EXHIBIT AT OSAKA EXPOSITION.

Boyaca was captured by the revolutionists. Three hundred government soldiers and two generals were taken prisoners. The revolutionists are reported to have secured a gasoline launch which was in the government service.

(According to advices from the Isthmus, the Boyaca left Panama July 25 with 200 troops of the Colombian Government, destined to reinforce the command of the government under General Morales Bertel at Agua Dulce. The Boyaca was said to have been attacked by the revolutionary fleet and obliged to retreat, since when nothing had been heard of the vessel on the Isthmus.)

Panama Feared an Attack. KINOSTON, Jamaica, Aug. 15.—The British steamer Florida, from Liverpool, July 24, for West India and Central American ports arrived here today from Colon and reported considerable insurgent activity in the neighborhood of the Isthmus. An attack on Panama was feared, and the Colombian Government was making strenuous efforts largely to reinforce the garrisons there and at Colon.

PORTO CABELLO NOT TAKEN. Castro's Forces Still in Control of the City. CARACAS, Venezuela, Aug. 15.—The report of the capture of Porto Cabello by the revolutionists is untrue.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The Navy Department is in considerable doubt as to the exact status of affairs at Porto Cabello, Venezuela, as it developed today that there had been some confusion in the transmission or interpretation of the dispatch of yesterday relating to the control of the town by the revolutionists. As originally deciphered, Commander Nichols' dispatch announced that there was no immediate danger of bombardment, and from this it was assumed that the revolutionists had obtained possession of the town. After studying the dispatch more closely today in the light of previous reports, several Navy Department officials have come to the conclusion that the situation is practically as it has been, the Castro forces being in control of the city. Up to a late hour tonight Acting Secretary Durling said that no answer had been received from Commander Nichols in reply to the dispatch sent him inquiring into the exact condition of affairs.

Foreigners Will Not Be Molested. WILLEMSTADT, Curacao, Aug. 15.—A correspondent of the Associated Press has had an interview with General Cruz Monagas, chief of the Venezuelan revolutionists at Barcelona, in which he said foreigners might be sure no coercion would be applied to them. According to General Monagas, the revolutionists have divided their forces into 25 sections, each containing 300 men or upward. One division of 800 men, commanded by General Matos and Domingo Monagas, is at Curacao, awaiting an attack by President Castro, who is at San Casimiro.

Marietta at La Guayra. WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The only information from Venezuela received by the authorities here today was that contained in a cablegram from Commander Rodgers, of the Marietta, merely announcing his arrival at La Guayra. He reported yesterday from Port of Spain the results of his trip up the Orinoco River.

Cincinnati Theater Fire. CINCINNATI, O., Aug. 15.—Shortly after noon today Pike's Opera-House was discovered on fire. At the time the delegates to the convention of the Interna-

tional Typographical Union were leaving the auditorium, but all escaped without any trouble. No lives were lost, and the only one injured was Fireman Beckman, from falling glass. The fire started in the subcellar, where a boy was smoking cigarettes. The fire spread rapidly, but it was controlled in less than an hour. The loss aggregated \$75,000.

THE LAW IN GUAM. Governor Schroeder Refers Some Knotty Points to Washington. WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—An anomalous situation obtains in the island of Guam in reference to the administration of justice, and Commander Schroeder, the Governor of the island, has been driven to appeal to the Navy Department here for instructions as to the limit of his powers. Congress has not legislated for the island, and the will of the Naval Government has been practically supreme. When the island was turned over to the Navy Department, and Captain Leary was appointed Governor, he decided to continue in operation the old Spanish laws, except such as should be modified by his directions or that of the Navy Department. Under the old system of laws this put in force there existed practically by a single court on the island, the



Board of Directors of the Lewis and Clark Fair held a meeting yesterday in the office of the secretary on Washington street and discussed several important matters that have intimate connection with the enterprise. Colonel H. E. Dosch was directed to make a trip to Japan with all possible haste for the purpose of ascertaining what sort of a state exhibition should be sent to the Osaka Industrial Exhibition cent Spring. It was also resolved to erect a statue in the City Park to commemorate the trip of Lewis and Clark and the Fair to be held in their honor. After several other matters had been carefully considered the meeting was adjourned.

Before the meeting was called to order there was some little discussion regarding the merits of the City Park as a Fair site. The members of the board had several different views on the matter, and all had their say, but no definite conclusion was drawn. It seemed to be the consensus of opinion that a railroad, either electric or cable, could be constructed into the park if necessary.

President Corbett called the meeting to order at 3:30 P. M. He made a few remarks that were highly complimentary to the enterprise, and stated that he would make a display of the business before the board, namely, of the advisability of sending an exhibit to the Osaka Exhibition. The members were brought up as to whether the exhibit should be sent by all means, for if a good display were to be made, Japan might in turn send something to the 1904 Fair to be held in this city. The question was brought up as to whether the board had any right to act in the matter, and if it would not be better to call on the Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce for funds to defray the expenses. The Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce were asked for instructions, and the Chamber of Commerce would appropriate the funds at the next session and repay the money thus expended. Mr. Mills suggested that if the National Government were to make a display for the Osaka Exhibition, it would be to the credit of the board, and if it would not be better to call on the Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce for funds to defray the expenses. The Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce were asked for instructions, and the Chamber of Commerce would appropriate the funds at the next session and repay the money thus expended. Mr. Mills suggested that if the National Government were to make a display for the Osaka Exhibition, it would be to the credit of the board, and if it would not be better to call on the Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce for funds to defray the expenses. The Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce were asked for instructions, and the Chamber of Commerce would appropriate the funds at the next session and repay the money thus expended. 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