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PORTLAND—OREGON—U.S.A.

THE PIANOOLA

Manufactured and for sale only by

THE AEOLIAN COMPANY

M. B. Wells, Sole Northwest Agent

353-355 Washington St., cor. Park

DEATHS IN A TORNADO.

Four Lives Lost in a Storm in North Dakota.

GRAND FORKS, N. D., Aug. 18.—A terrific storm passed over the eastern part of this state last night. Reports from Dakota say that four deaths occurred eight miles east of there as a result of the tornado. The house of a settler was blown down and his wife and three children were killed.

Cyclone Strikes Kansas Town.

WICHITA, Kan., Aug. 18.—Meager information reached the Rock Island offices here tonight that a cyclone struck the town of Lost Springs this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, demolishing a grain elevator, a church and five residences and blowing three freight cars off the Rock Island tracks. Three men whose names are not given were seriously hurt and several persons slightly injured. Lost Springs is a small town on the Rock Island road a few miles west of Herington.

Electrical Storm in Iowa.

KEOKUK, Ia., Aug. 18.—This city was almost cut off from telegraphic and telephone communication today. Sunday afternoon lightning, wind and rain worked havoc all over the country around here. The total damage will be great.

England at St. Louis Fair.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—The government's official exhibit at the St. Louis Exposition will be limited to subjects of education and fine arts, but it is expected that the wide range of non-official exhibits will include various features of applied arts. The fine art exhibit is to be controlled by a committee of the Royal Academy. Arrangements for this exhibit are being made by Sir Edward John Poynter, president of the Academy. The foreign office will facilitate all industrial exhibits.

Director of Venice Conservatory.

ROME, Aug. 18.—The Italian government has decided to tender Professor Adolpho Tassinari, director of the Conservatory of Music, who has just arrived here, the directorship of the great Venice Conservatory of Music.

IN THE GRAND RONDE

Wheat Crop Larger Than That of Last Year.

PORTLAND SHIPMENTS HEAVIER

Early Estimates Have Been Cut Down by Excessive Shattering and Damage by Rain—Inroads of Diversified Farming.

The wheat crop in the Grand Ronde Valley promises to be about 500,000 bushels greater than that of last year, and as the possibility of Eastern shipments this year are remote, practically all of the surplus over home requirements will find a market at Portland. Diversified farming is making inroads on the wheat acreage, and it is believed that the limit of wheat production in that valley, as in the Willamette, has been reached. The barley acreage in the Grand Ronde is comparatively small, and that cereal has suffered worse than wheat by shattering.

Big Wheat Farms.

The wheat fields of the Grand Ronde, in the aggregate, occupy a very limited area in comparison with those of the Palouse, Big Bend, or even Walla Walla and Umatilla, but there are farmers here who grow wheat by the shipload, and conduct their operations on the same magnificent scale as the big farmers further up the country. A. B. Conley, who is known as the Wheat King of the Grand Ronde, farms about 10,000 acres, and has enough of it in this year to produce over 100,000 bushels of wheat. He has grown wealthy in the business, and with warehouses and sidetracks on his farms, he is in a position to handle his wheat to the best possible advantage. He has farms on both sides of the valley, and in fact clear across it, his holdings extending "as far as you can see and almost as much farther as you can think." Mr. Conley's facilities for handling and storing his wheat enabled him to get the best price obtainable last season, the greater part of his crop going to the mills at a premium over export values. The land which he is farming would probably sell for four times as much as similar areas would command in the Big Bend, or in some portions of the Palouse, but with wheat at 50 cents per bushel it still pays a good dividend on the investment, and as crop failures are rare indeed in the Grand Ronde, the element of chance which is predominant to a considerable extent further up the country is missing, and it is reasonably certain that at least a fair crop will be reaped each year. Seldom, indeed, has this locality suffered from lack of moisture, but the wheat crop last year received the greatest injury it ever sustained by a severe frost in the spring, the output being lessened at least one-half. Such serious damage is so rare, however, that it is regarded only as a very remote contingency.

Barley and Diversified Products.

There are a few good-sized fields of barley in the Grand Ronde, but this cereal is not in good favor here, and those unfortunate enough to sow barley instead of wheat are losing heavily by the shattering, the loss from this cause being greater in the case of barley than with wheat, the luxurious whiskers on this cereal affording a fine mark for the wind.

Improved Transportation Equipment.

Over 50,000 tons of farm products have been hauled out of this valley for shipment to Portland in a single year, and in order to handle this as well as the through traffic to the best advantage, the O. R. & N. Co. within the past year has spent vast sums of money in perfecting its roadbed and equipment in this vicinity. Eighty and ninety-pound steel rails were laid on both sides of the mountains, half a dozen costly bridges were abandoned to get a straighter track, and thousands of carloads of gravel were hauled 80 miles to perfect the roadbed, which is now one of the finest in the country. The possibilities in the way of speed on such a track were shown last Spring when the Harlan special was rolled along at a speed of 74 miles per hour. The equipment on this division has been improved this season by the addition of 12 monster consolidated compound freight engines, weighing with tender 25,000 pounds each, and capable of pulling enormous trainloads at a low cost. E. W. W.

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MOROS ARE UNRULY

Renewing Their Attacks on American Outposts.

AGGRESSIVE ACTION NECESSARY

Commander in Mindanao Asks Permission to Move Against Bacolod

—Chaffee Given Full Authority to Act.

There is a good-sized milling plant at Island City, another at Cove, Or., and smaller ones in other parts of the county. These mills, if run to their capacity, would take care of quite a large percentage of the wheat grown in the valley, but except in unusual years like last season the bulk of the flour finds its way to market by way of Portland. Land values are higher here than in any other part of the state, hardly anything that is fillable being obtainable at less than \$40 and \$50 per acre, while some of the best farms are held as high as \$60 and even \$75 per acre.

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