

SEASON A LITTLE ONE All Crops Will Be Backward This Year. PLOWING AND SEEDING IS ON

Fall Grain is in Good Condition—Hope Beginning to Sprout—Early Fruit in Bloom and Outlook is Good for Large Crop.

The first number of the weekly crop report of the Weather Bureau, Oregon section, for 1904 was issued yesterday by Station Director Edward A. Beale. The report in part follows: Early gardens have been started, and the season, however, is very backward, the farmers generally are behind with their work, and many fear that the season will be a poor one.

Plowing and seeding has been pushed as rapidly as possible. The soil on the high lands is in excellent condition for plowing, and that on the bottom lands is fast drying. The soil on the low lands is in good condition for plowing, and that on the bottom lands is fast drying.

Early cherries, peaches, plums and bush berries have come into bloom during the week, and the outlook for fruit of all kinds is better than usual this early in the season.

LIVESTOCK MARKETS.

Prices at Portland Union Stockyards

Receipts at the Portland Union Stockyards yesterday were 175 hogs, 20 cattle and 10 sheep. The following prices were quoted at the yards: CATTLE—Best steers, \$4.75; medium, \$4.50; cows, \$3.50 to \$3.75.

EASTERN LIVESTOCK.

Prices Current at Chicago, Omaha and Kansas City.

CHICAGO, April 12.—Cattle—Receipts, 3500. Market steady. Good to prime steers, \$5.25 to \$5.50; poor to medium, \$4.75 to \$5.00; stockers and feeders, \$2.75 to \$3.00.

SOUTH OMAHA, Neb., April 12.—Cattle—Receipts, 3000. Market steady.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 12.—Cattle—Receipts, 1500. Market steady.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Grain, Flour, Feed, Etc.

The wheat market is extremely dull. Millers are buying heavily anything, and exporters are practically out of the market. There is a little demand for bluestem from California, and that is about all that is doing.

Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Etc.

Poultry receipts were heavier than usual yesterday, and the market weakened somewhat. Eggs continued in moderate supply. Butter is unchanged.

Metal Markets.

Copper was unchanged in London, closing at 88 1/2 for spot and 85 1/2 for futures. The local market for copper is reported quiet, but firm. Lead is held at 12 1/2 to 13 1/2.

Hops, Wool, Hides, Etc.

Wool—Valley, 18 1/2 to 20 1/2 per pound. Hides—Dry hides, 30 to 35 cents per pound. Hops—1904 crop, 10 to 12 cents per pound.

Vegetables, Fruit, Etc.

Four cars of oranges and two of vegetables arrived yesterday. The latter consisted of cabbage and cauliflower, and a part of the shipment was sold in need of disinfectants.

Prices of Various Goods.

Flour—Wheat, 10 to 12 cents per bushel. Feed—Corn, 10 to 12 cents per bushel. Lard—10 to 12 cents per pound.

Bank Clearings.

Portland Clearing Balance, \$86,750.00. Astoria Clearing Balance, \$25,121.00. Seaside Clearing Balance, \$10,000.00.

Money Exchange, Etc.

New York, April 12.—Money on call, easy. 1 1/2 per cent; 30 days, 2 1/2 per cent; 60 days, 3 1/2 per cent; 90 days, 4 1/2 per cent.

Stocks at London.

London, April 12.—Consols for money, 88 1/2. Anaconda, 4 1/2. Rio de Janeiro, 1/2.

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PRICES ARE SAGGING NO EFFORT MADE TO LIFT STOCKS AT NEW YORK.

Market Influenced by Government Report on Condition of Wheat—Germans Buy Steel Bonds.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Today's stock market was still lacking in the animation which had characterized trading previous to this week, and the sagging tendency of prices became rather more pronounced than yesterday.

There was not the same effort to lift prices by the stimulating effect of marking up special stocks. The market was not left to drift as a dealer, however, and a sort of nursing process was adopted. It is the prevalent opinion in Wall street that the recent campaign for higher prices has enjoyed the auspices of some industrial capitalists who believed that outside interest in speculation could be awakened in that way.

The course of today's market was evidently influenced by the Government report on the condition of winter wheat. The free offerings in the wheat market served to modify the impression of the report, but there was a belief that wheat market would be better off against the benefit in other parts where a slump was needed.

The report that the United States Steel Corporation had secured an option for the purchase of 55,000 tons of Bessemer pig iron possibly helped to depress the preferred stock. The concentrated absorption of the second round bonds was the feature of the market, in which some \$2,000,000 or upward of these bonds were taken by one firm.

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CLOSING STOCK QUOTATIONS.

Table with columns: Stock Name, High, Low, Close. Includes: Union Pacific, Santa Fe, Missouri Pacific, etc.

RECEIPTS SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns: Port, Receipts, Shipments. Includes: Portland, Astoria, Seaside, etc.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE AT NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Wheat—Receipts, 46,170 barrels; exports, 12,600 barrels. Market very dull and unchanged.

GRAIN AT SAN FRANCISCO.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 12.—Wheat and barley, strong. Wheat—Receipts, 1,500,000 bushels; exports, 1,200,000 bushels.

CHICAGO, April 12.—On the Produce Exchange today the butter market was easy.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Butter—Unsettled; creamery, 18 1/2 to 19 1/2.

EUROPEAN GRAIN MARKETS.

LONDON, April 12.—Wheat—Cargoes on passage, easy; English country markets, steady. French country markets, quiet.

WHEAT AT TACOMA.

TACOMA, Wash., April 12.—Wheat—Unsettled. Bluestem, 10c; club, 7c.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Cotton futures closed steady.

LIVERPOOL, April 12.—Wheat—Easy; May, 6 1/2; June, 6 1/4.

TACOMA, Wash., April 12.—Wheat—Unsettled.

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TO FORECLOSE MECHANIC'S LIEN.

A suit to foreclose a mechanic's lien for \$28 was filed yesterday by Hughes & Kelly, contractors, against the Enterprise Investment Company. Hughes & Kelly alleged that they had contracted for a three-story frame building for stores and other purposes in Holladay's Addition to the city of Astoria.

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Oregon Potatoes in Strong Demand—Advance in Onions Checked—By Australian Supplies.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 12.—(Special.)—Weather Bureau predictions of showers for tonight and tomorrow in California, and rain already falling in parts of the South, together with the slump in Chicago, caused speculative sales of wheat at lower prices. Early options weakened at the opening, but closed firmer. Spot prices of both cereals were steady. Most of the large receipts of barley for two days past are for shipment to Japan on the steamer Korea, and spot offerings are light. Oats and bran were firm. Hay was weak, except for choice wheat.

Chicago, April 12.—A fair degree of strength was evident in wheat at the opening, the influence being the bullish character of the Government report, and advance of delayed seedling operations Northwest. It did not take long to minimize the effect of the condition of winter wheat as shown by the official figures when conditions prevailing since April 1 were taken into consideration.

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RAILROAD STOCKHOLDERS MAKE PEACE.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Difficulties between the majority and minority stockholders of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company have been settled. According to the Herald, a settlement is said to include the purchase of the stock held by C. H. Venable, of Boston, and the dismissal of his suits. Mr. Venable held in his own name 100 shares of the stock of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company, the original organization, which he claimed in his bill to be worth \$300 a share.

SURVEY ON COLUMBIA SOUTHERN.

MORO, Or., April 12.—(Special.)—A survey party left here for Shaniko to commence work on the Columbia Southern Railway extension.

STAGE REPRESENTATIONS OF ROOSEVELTS.

BERLIN, April 12.—Stage representations of President Roosevelt and Miss Alice Roosevelt were introduced to a Berlin audience last night in a roaring farce entitled "A Mad Year," at the Metropolitan Theatre. The President is represented in rough-cut costume, Miss Alice in three-quarters of a mile of it last fall, but it has not been down long enough to test its wearing qualities. We have been using brick and wooden blocks, and now to expect to use a great deal of asphalt.

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