

HALF OF CROP SOLD

Umatilla County Wheat Moving at Good Rate.

BUYERS HAVE NEW SYSTEM

Buy the Grain in the Field and Pay the Cost of Hauling to the Warehouse, Farmer Standing Storage Charge.

PENDLETON, Or., Sept. 8.—(Special.)—Wheat buyers estimate that over half of the wheat crop of Umatilla County has been sold.

The average price received since the beginning of the harvest season has been between 67c and 68c a bushel. Many farmers sold their crops when quotations were at 70c, while others, earlier in the season sold for 65c.

This year wheat buyers introduced practically a new system in Umatilla, and it has proved generally successful. Agents were sent into the country to purchase wheat just as it was threshed.

The terms of the sales were that the company would carry the grain to the various warehouses at its own expense, or pay the farmer for delivering the wheat at the warehouse. In order to offset the cost of storing the grain, a small margin less than the market price was, of course, offered.

The farmer may at first demur, but when the situation is set at once explained, he will invariably jump at the chance to sell, although he may not know exactly the market price.

The agents are either known to the farmers, or the wheat buyers in Pendleton whom the agents represent are known to the growers, the contracts are made in good faith and the farmers are given fair treatment.

This system has been in operation the past two or three weeks, and it is estimated that nearly 50,000 bushels of wheat have been bought in that manner. So far no complaints have been heard concerning any of the wheat deals that have been made.

Up to the present time, scarcely more than 1,000,000 bushels of wheat have been bought in the city offices. For that reason, it was not generally known that much of the Umatilla wheat crop was being sold in this manner.

Over 50,000 bushels have been sold in the city offices. The fruit was shipped to East.

CORDVALLIE, Or., Sept. 8.—(Special.)—The load of seven carloads of dried prunes, owned by the Cordvallie & Benton County Prune Company in New York, is to leave for the East Saturday, nine other being already on the way.

All but the seventh car were packed in boxes, neatly labeled with the company's stamp. The present car goes, at the request of the buyers in New York, to be sold in the city offices.

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HOOD RIVER BARLETS FOR PORTLAND. HOOD RIVER, Or., Sept. 8.—(Special.)—The report reaches here that there are 8000 bushels of barlet peas in cold-storage in Portland.

The Hood River barlet peas are the first lot of peas to the Holmes Canning Company, at Portland. They are receiving a cent a pound for the fruit.

Two cars have gone out, and another is being loaded tonight. The market is being loaded tonight.

REDUCTION IN IRON PRICES WILL PREVENT FURTHER CUTTING. CLEVELAND, Sept. 8.—(Special.)—The condition of the iron market at large, the Iron Trade Review this week says.

The uncertainty that has been an embargo on business in finished steel and plate broken by the action of the beam and plate pools on Tuesday.

On plates about 24 inches in width, the reduction is \$4 a ton, and on narrow plates \$5 a ton. Beams and channels are reduced to \$10 Pittsburgh, or the lowest price that has prevailed in four years.

It is understood that arrangements have been made that will prevent the cutting of prices on finished material. Another reduction of the week was in wrought pipe, the leading interest taking the initiative and cuts running from \$1 to \$2 a ton.

TENDENCY IS UPWARD

STRONG INFLUENCES BACK OF RISE IN STOCK PRICES.

Steel Preferred Reaches the Highest Point on Present Movement.

NEW YORK, Sept. 8.—The mixed strength and weakness of the market continued today, but the strength again predominated.

The speculative forces which are behind the present rise seem to be accumulating more stocks than they were distributing, as against the tendency to take profits which affected yesterday's market.

But the mixed process was still going on. That is to say, sales were made in one quarter under the sustaining influence of the buying in new quarters.

The favorite for the advance were picked from the railroad list again after yesterday's preference for the industrials, and especially the steel stocks.

The news of the day was un- favorable to value, but it was of a general character, and did not account for the disproportionate strength of special stocks.

The early market saw a continuance of yesterday's strength in the steel stocks. United States Steel Preferred was lifted a full point to the highest point on the present movement.

A good effect was produced by the August 25th report of output and consumption of iron, showing an expansion of 60,000 tons in the weekly capacity of the furnaces and a reduction of 150,000 tons in the stocks at the furnaces.

The time-money market was inclined to harden somewhat. Interior demands for funds are growing, and \$1,000,000 will be transferred to the Treasury through the Subtreasury to San Francisco, supposedly for use in connection with the expenditure in the West.

The market closed irregular. Bonds were firm. Total sales, par value, \$5,370,000. United States 2 percent declined 1/8 cent on call.

CLOSING STOCK QUOTATIONS. Atchafalpa, Sales High, Low, Bid, Ask. 400 100 100 100.

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