

## GLAD HANDS ARE GIVEN TO EACH

### Wheat Draws All to a Friendly Meeting.

#### EVERY INTEREST IS PLEASED

#### Growers Discuss How to Raise Big Grain Crops.

#### SHIPPERS COME TO TALK

#### Pullman Has Convention, Where All Phases of Industry Are Treated by Miller, Exporter, Transporter and Farmer.

By E. W. Wright.

PULLMAN, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Staff correspondence of The Oregonian.)—The convention which closed a two days' session at Pullman today was a good deal of a surprise party to all who attended. The farmers were surprised to find that the exporters and millers in attendance did not wear horns, spiked tails and cloven hoofs. The millers and exporters were surprised at the earnest, respectful attention given their remarks by the farmers, and the railroad men were surprised that neither the exporters, millers nor farmers took the customary "side-swipe" at the railroads. Altogether the meeting was productive of much good, and has undoubtedly resulted in a much better understanding of the vast number of diversified conditions surrounding the great industry of growing and marketing wheat.

The millers, exporters and warehousemen presented clean-cut and convincing arguments showing that wheat which was smutty or dirty with wild oats and other refuse, will not command No. 1 prices, and that the man who gets the gold brick in this case is the farmer himself. There were protracted discussions of the best grade of wheat to sow in different parts of the state, of the best methods for sowing, harvesting, threshing, storing, shipping; in fact, all branches of the industry were taken up pretty thoroughly. The millers handed their end of the story with a wealth of figures and facts, covering the entire range of time from the days when milling was done with the pestle and mortar down to the Wisconsin boycott.

#### Mr. Reed Spills Melody.

The only unharmonious strain in this melody of good feeling was indicated at the afternoon session by W. M. Reed, ex-State Grain Inspector. The devil was never more than half as black as he Mr. Reed pictured the exporters, and he alluded to them as brigands, grafters, bunco men and a number of other equally bad characters. Mr. Reed considers it a perversion of the will of the Almighty that any wheat should be shipped from Portland. Tacoma and Seattle exporters along with those of Portland came under his lash.

#### Little Ginger, Much Good.

There wasn't quite so much ginger in the proceedings as in those of some other conventions that have been held in the Evergreen State, but as an interesting, instructive and valuable exchange of ideas regarding the greatest industry in the state it was a grand success, and is certain to be of great value to the growers. The exporting, milling and shipping interests of Portland, Seattle and Tacoma were well represented, and every phase of the wheat industry was discussed by experts in the different lines.

Wheat King McCroskey and a number of other prominent farmers gave their less fortunate brethren the benefit of their years of experience, and half a dozen prominent millers told their side of the story.

The affair was under the auspices of the Washington State College and President Bryan and his able assistants presented a programme of unusual merit. The proceedings were enlivened by exceptionally well-rendered selections by the musical department of the college. In the absence of President Bryan, who did not return from the fruitgrowers' meeting at North Yakima until noon, the convention was called to order yesterday morning by Professor E. E. Elliott. He gave an outline of the object of the meeting, and discussed the wheat situation at length. R. C. McCroskey, of Garfield, was elected permanent chairman, and J. H. Smith, of Pullman, secretary.

#### McCroskey Tells How.

What was probably the most valuable paper read at yesterday's session was by Mr. McCroskey on "Soil Preparation and Cultivation." As the broad acres of the McCroskey farm have seldom failed to turn off big yields for the past 25 years, the treatise was received with rapt attention. He summarized his objects in cultivating, as first, the conservation of moisture; second, the pulverizing of the

soil, so it will readily yield plant food; third, the development of bacterial life which contributes to the fertility and productivity of the soil.

J. E. Klemm, of Pullman, read a paper on "Seeding," comparing the advantages gained by employment of present-day machinery with old methods. Harvesting was discussed by A. J. Stone, of Rosalia, and Oscar Young, of Pullman, the latter presenting some interesting figures showing the cost of harvesting with combined thrasher including interest on the investment and repairs, to be but \$2 per acre.

President Bryan opened the afternoon proceedings yesterday with a half-hour talk devoted to the general conditions of the industry and the necessity for improving them. He pointed out the advantages of improving the quality of the wheat grown and the opportunity for numerous economies in moving the wheat from field to tide-water. He stated that Washington, by reason of the adjacent mining, lumbering, dairying, stock and other industries, which do not compete with wheat, was particularly favored by nature over the wheat belt of the Middle West. Wheat is so firmly entrenched in the affections of the Palouse people that President Bryan sounded only a mild note of warning in his advice for farmers to take up diversified farming.

#### Which Seed Is Best?

The topic, "Varieties to Plant," was handled by C. B. Kealey, of Pullman, who recommended for the Palouse section red Russian and Forty-Fold for binders, and Jones' Pike and Walla Walla for combines. On the same topic, T. C. Elliott, of Walla Walla, the pioneer wheat county, of the state, recommended Bluestem, except for the foothills, where the growth became too rank, and where Walla Walla and Turkey Red were preferable. T. C. Frye, of Davenport, said Bluestem was the best variety for the Big Bend, because it matured earlier on the dry soil of that section.

Professor C. W. Lawrence, ecologist at the State College, discussed the methods of improving the varieties, and Professor George Severance spoke on "Better Seed." He said the present methods are so unsatisfactory that the land has become foul, and both yield and price are affected to an alarming extent. He said he would select wheat for seeding with the same care and on the same lines as the breeder of fine stock selected the best animals in his herd for breeding purposes. He insisted that the basis for improvement in seed was in the wheat now here, and not in that brought in from other countries.

The smut evil was handled without gloves by Professor Healy, who said that the Washington farmers lost 2,000,000 bushels of wheat in 1904 by smut, and sustained a heavy loss in price on a great deal more. He warned the farmers against the use of vitriol in preparing the seed, and said that formaldehyde, one pound to 4 gallons, was the only safe method for eliminating the smut germ.

#### Small Farmers Should Combine.

Handling, storage and shipping was discussed by D. B. Pullman, of Pullman. He advised the small farmers to get together and buy threshing machines of their own and to use reapers and binders, instead of combines. He recommended the building of bins instead of buying bags. He said farmers should not be dishonest by demanding No. 1 prices for dirty wheat. The hall did not shake with enthusiasm when he expressed the belief that no warehouseman would cheat a farmer, but everybody approved his desire that state grain inspection take place in the rural districts instead of at tide-water.

S. C. Armstrong, of the Pacific Coast Elevator Company, put up a strong plea for the adoption of the elevator system and the warehousing of wheat on the farm until it was sold. He said that grain barges last year cost the Washington farmer \$1,200,000, a sum sufficient to erect bins enough to hold one-third of the crop. He figured the loss by the use of sacks at \$600,000 a year as compared with the cost by the elevator system.

#### Judge Grosscup Speaks.

The principal speakers at the evening session were R. E. Grosscup, of "The Relation That Should Exist Between Common Carriers and Agricultural Producers." John T. Bibb, manager of the Tacoma Grain Company's mill, on "The Milling of Wheat," and State Grain Inspector Arrasmith on "Grading." The contention of Mr. Grosscup was that the interests of the wheatgrower and the railroads were mutual and that anything that hampered the prosperity of the farmer was felt with equal force by the railroad. He presented these views so admirably that he was greeted with frequent applause and with tremendous cheering at the close of his address. Mr. Bibb discussed the different varieties of wheat grown in this country and landing some body blows on the hated red Russian which is crowding the better grades out of the Palouse country. He illustrated his argument with samples of gluten from red Russian and bluestem and with a wealth of figures to prove his charges. His talk made a profound impression on the farmers, especially those who have become addicted to growing the scrub red Russian.

#### Must Grow Better Wheat.

At this morning's session Samuel Glasgow, of the Centennial Mills, Spokane, gave a brief review of the milling industry, tracing it through its various degrees of development and closing with an earnest appeal for better grades of wheat. He also touched on the Chinese boycott, stating that it was the culmination of 36 years of indignities thrust on the Chinese by the Americans and in answer to an inquiry intimated that it might take 30 years to remove it.

S. S. King, deputy grain inspector, read a paper on the basis for state grading of wheat, quite naturally taking the position that the Washington State system was all right and that of the Portland Chamber of Commerce all wrong. Professor R. W. Thatcher, chemist at the state experiment station, with the aid of a blackboard presented very interesting figures showing the milling qualities of the various varieties of wheat. The same topic was

(Continued on Page 4.)

## YOUNG MEN NOW RULE NEW YORK

### Will Make Laws Reforming Life Insurance and Elections.

#### ALSO MAKE GAS CHEAPER

#### New Men Supplant Old Warhorses and Will Root Out Abuses of Life Insurance Business.

#### No Direct Primaries.

#### ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—A new Legislature, in which all the old warhorses are retired to back seats, while new men run things, is the spectacle which is presented in the Empire State this session. The Speaker is serving his second term as an Assemblyman, his first year as a legislator, and his first year as a legislator, and nearly every one of his lieutenants who occupies an important position would ordinarily only be regarded as in the primer class of politics.

For eight long years the Assembly has been conducted practically without the slightest change. S. Fred Nixon was Speaker, and the same old men were continued, session after session, at the head of the important committees. President Roosevelt and Governor Higgins, the new rulers of the party, have changed all this, however, and now the old men are practically retired on pensions, while youngsters, upon whom they have looked down in the past, rule in their places.

To add to their woes, the New York Central Railroad has absolutely cut off all passes, and men who have been accustomed to obliging their friends with legislative and free tickets now suddenly find themselves bereft of everything. They understand enough to be the unhappiest-looking and acting men that ever came to Albany.

Governor Higgins declares that the present session will be short, sharp and businesslike. A good deal of important legislation is contemplated, principally on the subject of insurance and the conduct of elections.

#### Abuses in Life Insurance.

The joint investigating committee, which has spent nearly a year at work, and accomplished most remarkable results, is now busily engaged in preparing the reform legislation which will be submitted to the Legislature. A member of the committee tells me confidentially that he and his associates are convinced that the main defects in the insurance business, and the ones that have caused all the scandal, are four in number, namely: Syndicates, in which directors and other officers of the companies participate. Ownership by insurance companies of other financial institutions, such as trust companies.

The system of deferred dividends, whereby policy-holders only receive the accrued earnings when their policy has matured. This gives the companies millions of dollars, which they are enabled to juggle as they please.

Extravagant salaries to officers and excessive commissions paid to agents who secure business.

#### Remedies Which Are Proposed.

Here is an outline of the legislation that will be suggested, and, in all probability, passed without any serious objection: A bill making it a felony for officers or directors of any life-insurance company to participate, collectively or individually, in any syndicate which participates in bond deals, in which the society may afterwards be interested. At present, the law simply provides that the directors may be compelled to give the money back.

A bill prohibiting the purchase by a life insurance company of more than 25 per cent of the stock of a trust company, and providing that the combined holdings of the life insurance company and its directors, as individuals, may not exceed 40 per cent.

A bill providing that dividends on policies shall be apportioned annually, and either drawn in cash or accepted in paid-up insurance. This will do away with the present system whereby the policy-holder's heirs after his death receive as much or as little as the company sees fit to give.

A bill providing for the annual publication of the salaries paid life insurance officials, the premiums paid agents, and a list of all who receive over \$20,000 a year, together with the amounts.

#### Put Business on Sound Basis.

"I am convinced," said a Senator who was regular in his attendance all through the sessions of the investigating committee, "that these measures will undoubtedly put the life insurance business of the state on a proper basis. Excessive salaries and commissions, rebates and syndicating operations, have caused most of the trouble, and we believe we will be able to prevent them in the future. Of course, we have no power to say what the officers shall receive as remuneration, but companies that pay salaries out of all reason will be sufficiently punished by loss of business, and we are convinced that every concern will hereafter be run on a more economical basis. The insurance legislation will be pushed through with all possible speed, and the measures contemplated should be laws not later than March 15."

#### Reform in Election Laws.

Election legislation is still more or less up in the air, but the indications are that there will be some important changes. Governor Higgins, in his annual message, expressed himself as be-

ing strongly in favor of a corrupt practices law, making it a felony for corporations to contribute to campaign funds, and has also indicated, although more indefinitely, that he is not opposed to direct nominations and a new ballot law.

The chances are that the present Australian ballot will be done away with and a new measure, patented on the Massachusetts law adopted. Under this the candidates for different offices will be grouped together, arranged alphabetically, with the appropriate party emblem before each name. This would undoubtedly facilitate the chances of independent candidates, and is endorsed by all the ballot-reform organizations in the state. Had it been in operation in New York City last Fall, it is safe to say that District Attorney Jerome's majority would have been from 75,000 to 100,000, instead of the 15,000 that he is credited with.

The direct nominations bill is backed by the Hearst Municipal Ownership-Independence League members, but has not met with much favor up to date. It does away with political conventions, the electors voting direct at primaries for their first and second choice for the various nominations.

#### Eighty-Cent Gas Bill.

One measure in which New York City is greatly interested, and which seems certain to pass, is the 80-cent gas bill. At present the illuminating fluid is sold at \$1 a thousand feet, and all sorts of figures have been produced to show that the cost does not exceed 32 cents. The Republican opposition is on record in favor of the measure. Governor Higgins has formally endorsed it, and it will be rushed through with all possible speed.

A similar bill passed the Assembly last year, but was defeated in the Senate by a vote of 25 in favor to 24 against, it taking 26 votes for a constitutional majority. It was claimed at the time that many Senators who opposed cheaper gas became rich, very suddenly, and the men who were suspected then are being watched very closely now. In fact several of them have already declared that they have experienced a change of heart and will vote in favor of the measure this year.

It promises to be a lively session, and the scheme of putting "young men on guard" is being watched with interest throughout the state.

## STANDS WITH ROOSEVELT

### PRESIDENT A. B. STICKNEY IS FOR RATE REGULATION.

#### Head of Railroad Takes Side of People Against Rebates, Which, He Says, Foster Monopolies.

#### MENOMINEE, Wis., Jan. 12.—(Special.)

—President A. B. Stickney, of the Chicago Great Western Railroad Company, tonight delivered a remarkable address on "The Railroads and the People" at a banquet given at the Commercial Club to the bankers' convention, held here today, in which he thoughtfully discussed the whole question of monopolies and the relations of the railroads to the people, and powerfully supported the principle that, because the railroads are monopolies, the law of self-preservation as well as fairness and justice demands that the people through the Government should control railway rates by law.

On the other hand, Watson of Indiana, the Republican whip, expresses great confidence that the department will be broken by Democratic support.

#### Not as Big as It Looks.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—In an address before the Patriotic Club Society tonight Rear Admiral Coghlan, Commandant of the New York Navy-Yard, spoke on the subject, "The Navy, in Which he said that the Navy in the United States would be in second place as a naval power, yet, if there were stricken from the list such vessels as the "sainted Oregon" and "the first of the United States" would not rank better than fifth or sixth among the powers of the world.

#### Oppose Abolishing Pilotage.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Captain J. E. O'Brien, of Florida, president of the American Pilot Association, and Andrew Furuseth, of San Francisco, president of the International Seamen's Union, today appeared before the House committee on merchant marine and fisheries in opposition to the Littlefield bill doing away with pilotage on coastwise sailing vessels.

#### NEW RULES FOR GRAZING

#### Sheepmen's Protest Against Rules of Foresters.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 12.—Senator Fulton today presented to the Forest Service the protest of the Unmilled County Woolgrowers' Association against alleged discrimination against Oregon sheepmen in the Wenaha forest reserve. It was alleged in the petition that permission had been granted for grazing Washington sheep in that part of the reserve in Oregon to the exclusion of Oregon stock.

The Forest Service informed Mr. Fulton that no one had been authorized as yet to issue permits for grazing and that in this reserve, and for this reason the department believes the protest is without foundation. When permits are issued it is the policy of the department to permit Oregon sheep to occupy the range in Oregon end of the Wenaha reserve and confine Washington sheep to that part of the reserve which is in Washington, except in a few instances of persons living along the state border. In each instance it is probable that the sheep of one state may be permitted to cross into the other, but this will work to the mutual advantage of both states.

It was further explained to Mr. Fulton that next season a charge will be made for grazing stock within all forest reserves. It is proposed to charge sheep in the Cascade reserve 8 cents a head and cattle 30 cents during the summer months, or 45 cents for the full year. In the Wenaha reserve, the sheep tax will be 6 cents a head and cattle at the same rates as in the Cascade.

#### Commission Men for Rate Reform.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 12.—The National League of Commission Merchants at the closing business session this afternoon adopted a resolution addressed to President Roosevelt, pledging support in his efforts for the abatement of the transportation evils.

## LEADERS AGREE ON RECIPROCITY

### Will Pass Maximum and Minimum Tariff for That Purpose.

#### ADVANCE DINGLEY RATES

#### Dingley Tariff Minimum, Increase of 25 Per Cent Maximum—Stephood Insurgents Claim Votes Enough to Defeat Rule.

#### WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—The Republican leaders of Congress have practically entered into an agreement to pass a maximum and minimum tariff bill before March 1. The purpose of this is to allay what appears to be a growing sentiment for tariff revision. It is also agreed to meet the situation presented by the new German tariff laws.

After a conference with his lieutenants, Speaker Cannon put the matter up to the Senate leaders. He declared that, if they cannot give him assurances, the House cannot pass a bill fixing the minimum tariff at the present rate, and the maximum at 25 per cent increase, to be enforced against foreign countries that discriminated against American exports. The Senate leaders, after a conference today, decided that the Speaker could have the assurance he wished, and that, if the House passes such a bill as outlined, the Senate would pass it before March 4.

#### Speaker in Statehood Fight.

The situation over the statehood bill has reached a very serious stage, which threatens some sharp division among the Republicans. It has become necessary for the Speaker to enter the fight with unusual vigor. It is said that the Speaker caused it to be made known that the content had developed to a stage where it cannot be overlooked by the party management, and that somebody will have to go under.

The Representatives who are opposing the statehood rule were just as insistent today as ever that they will win, and just as determined. From this time on no quarter will be asked or given on either side. Representative Babcock, who is prominent among the Republicans opposing the statehood plan, said this afternoon:

#### Insurgents Claim Victory.

At this moment the rule is as good as dead. The men who are opposing the rule have the signatures of 31 Republican Representatives to a paper, and themselves to vote sufficient to defeat it, as not a full member of the majority is present. There will be 20 other Republicans who have signed the paper, but who will vote against the rule.

The position of the opponents is that they simply ask for a division of the rule so that the House may vote upon the admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as a condition and upon the proposed admission of Arizona and New Mexico to joint statehood as another.

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er time. There are other Western Senators holding this view, and it is quite likely that this will become a live issue during the present session of Congress.

## KAISER FEARS SOCIALISTS

### Troops With Ball Cartridges Will Suppress Demonstrations.

#### BERLIN, Jan. 12.—According to the Tageliche Rundschau, the most comprehensive measures to preserve order will be taken January 23, when the Socialists will hold 50 immense mass meetings in Berlin to commemorate the St. Petersburg "Red Sunday" (January 22), and to protest against the existing suffrage restrictions in Prussia.

The police will be out in full force and will forbid access to the square in front of the castle, and the troops within the castle will have their rifles loaded with ball cartridges. The troops throughout the city and in the vicinity will be held in readiness from Saturday evening at 10 o'clock. At 10 o'clock on Sunday morning they will be mustered in marching order, with ball cartridges, in the barracks yard, ready for duty.

It is anticipated that, if the crowds refuse to obey the police and try to form processions, troops will be requisitioned forthwith. The Socialist executive committee declares in a public statement that no disorder will occur. The Police President says that street demonstrations will be prevented.

## BIG STEAMER ON BEACH

### Passengers on Cherokee Wait to Be Pulled Off.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Jan. 12.—The Clyde line steamer Cherokee, from San Domingo, for New York, ran ashore today near South Brigantine life-saving station, and tonight is still fast aground. None of the passengers has been taken off. After assuring them that they were in no immediate peril, the life-savers stood by the steamer to be ready for any emergency.

Thus from Atlantic City are also at hand to endeavor to pull the vessel into deep water at any favorable opportunity.

## THE DAY'S DEATH RECORD

### President Polk's Sister-in-Law.

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 12.—A dispatch from Warrenton, N. C., tells of the death there yesterday of Mrs. Lucy E. Polk, the venerable widow of Colonel William H. Polk and sister-in-law of President Polk. She was buried at Warrenton today.

### Sir M. E. Grant Duff.

LONDON, Jan. 12.—Sir Mount Stuart E. Grant Duff, fourth Secretary of State for the Colonies, Governor of Madras and president of the Royal Geographical Society, is dead. He was born in 1829.

### Governor of Algieras.

MADRID, Jan. 12.—General Hernandez Caceres, Military Governor of Algieras, died suddenly today.

### Lawyers Honor Ethel Root.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—Ethel Root, Secretary of the American Society of International Law, died today.

## CONTENTS TODAY'S PAPER

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 59 deg.; minimum, 38. Precipitation, 0.48 of an inch. TODAY'S—Rain. Fresh southwest breeze.

### Foreign.

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## SENATE TO TRY CANAL-DIGGERS

### Committee Actually Will Be Judges.

#### WILL AIR EVERY SCANDAL

#### Try to Make Case Against Roosevelt and His Aids.

#### MAY ABOLISH COMMISSION

#### Latitude Will Be Given in Taking Testimony in Hope of Showing Mismanagement—Wallace Will Be Summoned.

#### MAY ABOLISH COMMISSION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—A suggestion has been advanced in the Senate committee on inter-oceanic canals that the Panama Canal Commission be abolished and the management placed in charge of the War Department.

#### WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—

While the Senate has labored to mask the truth, the fact is that next Tuesday Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft, Theodore P. Shonts, John F. Stevens and, incidentally, John F. Wallace are to be arraigned and tried before the none too impartial judges who constitute the Senate committee on inter-oceanic canals.

The trial is to be called an investigation, but it means simply that every supposed scandal, every petty criticism, every report of friction between officials, every story of an unearned salary, every tale of a discharged employe and every fleeting bit of gossip is to be told in public, and from them all the members of the committee expect to get—possibly some of them hope to get—the basis for a direct charge of incompetence, or it may be of guilt. There is not a soul in Washington who believes that anything will come of the investigation save the knowledge already held that some of the heads of the enterprise have had their bickerings and their disagreements.

#### May Learn Why Wallace Left.

It may be that in the course of the hearings the public may learn the real reason for the resignation of Mr. Wallace. It may learn whether or not there was any truth in the reports of friction between Mr. Taft and Mr. Shonts. It may learn whether or not Poutney Bigelow drew the long bow, but that anything substantial can come from the investigation no one in his heart believes.

It is understood that the greatest latitude will be given in the matter of asking questions, and, if curiosity about personal differences between officials is to be considered one of the chief things which it is necessary to satisfy, the Senate and the people may have their fill of satisfaction.

#### May Abolish Commission.

The Senate declares that President Roosevelt practically challenged the investigation and that it has been decided not to deny him. There was nothing for the President to do, apparently, in the present condition of affairs, except to "challenge" an investigation. There is a feeling in Washington that he took the course that he did to win eventually the right to conduct the canal construction unhampered by a commission of seven men.

If the result of the investigation leads to the statutory abolition of the canal body, it may be that trouble and rumors of trouble will disappear