

## PRICE OF WHEAT IS PURELY ARTIFICIAL

Wilson Declares Advance Is Work of Speculators Who Have Corner.

FORTY CENTS TOO HIGH

Secretary's Onslaught Causes Tumult in Pit—He Calls Patten Speculator, but Bull Chief Keeps Own Counsel.

CHICAGO, May 10.—(Special)—"Wheat is 40 cents too high. The present price is purely an artificial one, and is due to manipulation—a corner, I should call it." Such were the opinions of James A. Patten, wheat dealer and the prices he handles, as communicated by Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson, who is in Chicago to confer with the Federal meat inspectors of the Middle West.

Mr. Patten, however, despite the severe attack of the Cabinet on his methods, stood to a firm grip on the wheat market lever and drove it to the limit of the July option as far and as fast as he drove the price of May wheat. He closed himself in his office and refused to see even the most important newspaper reporter.

At the opening of the market the force of Mr. Wilson's onslaught was felt in a sudden slump in the July option. The price dropped from \$1.14½ to \$1.13½ within less than two minutes. At the close July sold at \$1.12½ and May at \$1.26.

Mr. Wilson declined to "call names," but he said positively:

"The present price of wheat was put up originally by speculators. It is not an honest price. It is put up to bring agents into the wheat field to secure misleading reports, and these figures, which are gotten up for the purpose of deceiving the public, are immediately printed and made basis for further speculative gains."

Asked what he had to say of Mr. Patten, Mr. Wilson replied:

"Patten is a speculator and not a merchant, as he claims to be. I do not wish to go further into the controversy as to the correctness of the Government reports, but they will certainly prove to be right in the long run."

Mr. Wilson's surprising assertion that "the wheat is too high by 40 cents was something that he declined to discuss further.

Mr. Wilson refused tonight to be drawn into any controversy with James A. Patten over the wheat situation.

"I am through with wheat talk," said Mr. Wilson.

"Is the present price of wheat real or fictitious?" the Secretary was asked.

"If farmers could be assured of \$1 a bushel for wheat all the time," he replied, "we would have acres of pasture land in the Midwest that would be plowed up and sown to wheat."

"Couldn't the brokers have just as reliable a system of getting crop reports as your department?"

"I don't think so. We have been perfecting our system of gathering reports for many years. I think ours is better."

HAY OPENS WAR ON ROSS

(Continued From First Page.)

he does not appoint and of their friends, Washington never has reached the state of political development where appointees are loyal to the man who gave them their place. Hay was honest in his desire for the secret service, because he had been overwhelmed with charges against him.

Ross, confident in his own honesty, protests against such charges being even half way believed, and demands that if any investigation be had it be done openly and fairly.

Chairman of Land Commissioners E. W. Ross has offered Governor Hay all funds necessary for a legislative investigation of the Land Office in the event the funds available for the investigation committee run dry. Governor Hay admitted the truth of this report today, but declined to add any more detail further.

Ever since Ross took office he has been acquiring a bunch of enemies. When he forced the appraisement of timber lands to more than double that under his predecessor, that won him the enmity of the timbermen, who refused to follow the old custom of renting Eastern Washington wheat lands for 10 cents an acre and demanded rentals more remunerative to the state, hundreds of leases rose in their value, condemned lands and when he fought before the Federal Land Department to get title for the common schools under the grants to valuable timber lands which speculators had sought to secure by fraudulent homestead entries, the more enemies were made. Those people have been busy for years making trouble against Ross, and two years ago a legislative investigation was had, and the charges fell flat.

Latest there has been renewed talk of investigating the Office. Present indications are such may be done. At any rate, Ross has publicly stated he will be glad to have a thorough investigation made. One matter which worries some of the critics is that Ross carries a fair debt in the Capitol National Bank, Olympia, and these people hint that President Lord, of that bank, pays Ross interest on such deposits, this in spite of the fact that Ross is a good lawyer, knows full well the penalty for accepting such money and knows further that if paid, if made at all, are sure to become public.

This money is carried in the bank because of the law which prohibits paying any money out of the state treasury except upon appropriation. For instance, suppose a tract of timber is sold for \$75,000. The purchasers has to pay cash at the time of sale. If, before that date, it is confirmed by the State Land Board, anyone else should make a bid of 10 per cent more for the timber, the sale would have to be set aside and a new bid ordered. If the bid had gone into the treasury, that \$75,000 would have to lie there nearly two years, possibly longer, or until the next Legislature had passed a relief bill to authorize its return.

In a week the balance of the bank held as sales pending aggregates \$150,000. Of this, \$7000 are miscellaneous sales awaiting action by the State Land Board, about \$6000 are first payments on leases where the leases have not been signed, the remainder of the money is awaiting action by the commissioners, awaiting payment of the money.

AERONAUTS ARE DISLIKED

Handling these moneys was investigated by both the 1907 and 1908 Legislatures, and both in the laws requiring state collections to be promptly remitted to the Treasurer, specifically exempted these land office receipts, on the contention that they were not state moneys until the sales had been closed.

NO VOUCHER FOR MRS. LORTON

Error of One Letter Makes Wrong Name in Olympia Story.

WALES, ALA., Wash., May 10.—(To the Editor)—Olympia story in the Oregonian mentioning my wife's name as among caterers for the house-warming at the Governor's mansion is either a mistake or a deliberate falsehood. She was never in Olympia, and no voucher was ever issued to her or myself for anything furnished or served on that occasion or at any other time. Please make correction. EUGENE LORTON.

The person in whose favor the voucher referred to was drawn was Mrs. Eugene Horton. By an error the L was substituted for the H, as the item appeared in the Oregonian. The Mrs. Horton referred to is a resident of Olympia.

DEFICIENCY IS MADE GOOD

Order of B'Rith Abraham Not to Prosecute Secretary.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—A deficiency of about \$39,000 in the funds of the Independent Order of B'Rith Abraham which was discovered as the result of an investigation by Superintendent of Insurance Hotchkiss, of New York, some

## ANNIS' MURDER IS CALLED 'ACT OF GOD'

McIntyre, Defending Hains, Is Eloquent in Last Plea for Slayer.

UNWRITTEN LAW NO GOOD

All Reference to It Is Objected To and Objections Sustained—Attempt to Prove Insanity—Case to Jury First Thing Today.

FLUSHING, N. Y., May 10.—One hour more was consumed by the prosecution and afterward the defense's charge, then the case of Captain Peter F. Hains, Jr., charged with the murder of William E. Anns, will pass into the hands of the jury tomorrow.

Today's session of the trial was marked by the final appeal of John F. McIntyre for the defense, and part of the final plea of George A. Gregg of the prosecution.

Peter C. Hains, Jr., displayed neither emotion nor interest. Mr. McIntyre argued strongly in behalf of his client. One of his declarations was that Anns met death "by an act of God." All references to the unwritten law were objected to and the objections were sustained by the court.

Anns' Widow Present.

During the summing up by the prosecution the prisoner's mother and father withdrew and Mrs. Helen Anns, in deep mourning, appeared with her mother and sister. They sat silent in court while Mr. Gregg was speaking.

The prosecutor denounced the insanity plea, declaring it was manufactured by the defendant's lawyers as a last resort. Instead of holding "an act of God," he blamed the shooting as a "cowardly murder," committed with deliberation and premeditation.

In opening his plea, Mr. McIntyre said:

"The Act of God."

"It was the act of God that directed Captain Hains' hand when he took the life of the man who ruined his home. The meeting between Anns and the defendant was accidental. There was no intention to kill."

Taking up the question of Captain Hains' sanity, Mr. McIntyre said:

"Was it a mental shock sufficient to unbalance his mind when this unfortunate man learned of his wife's infidelity from his own lips? It was then that melancholy took hold of him. Seated on the throne of reason, and afterwards tainted by reason, he tortured his brain, accelerated his mind and altered the emotions of his heart."

"I don't doubt that this man had lucid and rational moments when he talked and acted like a normal man—many insane persons have such periods."

TWO PIONEERS ARE GONE

Mrs. Mary Kaiser and W. H. Ringo Die Same Day at Salem.

SAY ONLY SMALL SUM INVOLVED IN MUSKOGEE TOWN LOT SUITS.

GUTHRIE, Okla., May 10.—Governor Charles N. Haskell tonight issued a statement minimizing the importance of the Mott civil land suit in regard to Muskogee town lots, in regard to which Justice Campbell on Saturday entered a decree suspending the jurisdiction of the court. The Governor says the decision was in the cases brought by the Government to recover additional money for town lots in Muskogee and several other Creek nation towns.

The Government alleges that there was a conspiracy between the owners and schedulers of the lots and that the Creek nation had no knowledge of the plans or scheming. An attorney for the Indians said the fact that the United States officials not only had knowledge but approved the plan, and the decision had no bearing on the criminal prosecution.

The Government continues by saying that the Government complains that the whole instead of half the valuation of certain unimproved lots should have been realized, and that the loss does not exceed \$25,000. The complaints involve over 1000 people in Muskogee alone, but only 1000 people in the nation have been affected. The claim against the corporation is less than \$750, in which Haskell's alleged interest is about 2 per cent.

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TAFT WILL PRESS BUTTON

To Open Gunnison Tunnel at Trans-Mississippi Congress.

DENVER, May 10.—The Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress, which will be held in this city August 18 to 21, will bring together the largest gathering of eminent men ever assembled in the West. President Taft will be present and will press the button that will turn the water into the Gunnison tunnel, the great Government reclamation project. The Governors of the Trans-Mississippi States will attend with but few exceptions.

Among the former members of the congressional who will be present are William J. Harney, David R. Francis, president of the St. Louis Exposition, and John Henry Smith, one of the apostles of the Mormon Church.

The railroad interests of the West will be represented by E. H. Harriman, James J. Hill, E. P. Ripley, of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, and President Winchell, of the Rock Island-Frisco system.

HARPER WITHDRAWS SUITS

Ex-Mayor Abandons Libel Charge Against His Accusers.

LOS ANGELES, May 10.—Ex-Mayor Harper today withdrew three libel suits against the Evening Express for \$30,000 and \$10,000, and against ex-City Prosecutor Thomas Lee Woolwine for \$30,000. The suits followed the publication in the Express of charges by Mr. Woolwine that he was being protected by city officials.

CONDENSED NEWS BY WIRE

MEXICO. Mexico—Hundreds of people are on the verge of starvation in the mountains of this district, following a forest fire which has done damage to the amount of \$200,000.

CHICAGO.—Just as the members of Cheetham Kennel Club were preparing to leave for a trip to the west after a hard winter, their sport was stopped by the Cruelty Society, an officer of the Anti-Cruelty Society.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Slept out of her course by a wind shift, the ship at the foot of Market street, the Key Route ferry-boat Fernwood, crashed into the pier, causing a hole 12 inches square, which was snapped off and a stringer 12 inches long.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah.—In Parley's Canyon a big tourist car ran off the roadway and down a hill, crashing into a rock, killing four occupants from the machine, the third occupant being the driver.

NEW YORK.—John W. Crooks and wife, C. G. Lovejoy and wife and Carl Larson, the drug store, were arrested on a warrant charging them with felonies.

ARGENTINE STRIKE END.

Buenos Ayres, May 10.—The strike maintained here last week as a protest against the authorities flared up again on a gathering of May-day demonstrators, ending today in the men returning to work.

The necessity for this method of

We Are Exclusive Portland Agents Royal Worcester and Bon Ton Corsets

## Olds, Wortman & King

Have You Bought One of Those Suits at a Fourth Off?



If you missed yesterday's remarkable sale you must have had something important to keep you away. We don't see how any woman who wears attire of the very best quality could stay away, and we're sure that all who didn't take advantage of the first day will want to come today and share in the greatest values possible, as well as having a chance to save on the very best garments shown in Portland this season.

Don't blame us if you come at 11 o'clock or after and find the saleswomen all too busy to wait upon you, or the very costume that you'd be more than glad to buy at this reduced price being borne off by someone who acted more promptly. These are rich and beautiful three-piece models—every one in the house is included. They're in all the most favored shades and models; regular values run from \$26.50 to \$85.00, and for today the main efforts of our sales force will be directed to selling these, as the tremendous business of yesterday made great inroads into the stock of suits we had to sell at \$12.98. All three-piece dresses quarter off.

\$26.50	\$22.50	\$35.00	\$26.25
\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....
\$40.00	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
values,	values,	values,	values,
\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....
\$75.00	\$85.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
values,	values,	values,	values,
\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....
<b>\$19.87</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>	<b>\$56.25</b>	<b>\$63.75</b>

**Suits Worth to \$50, \$12.98**

We promised you in Sunday's papers that this would be the most sensational sale of the season, and yesterday's results verified our assertion. Women who came mildly critical became intense enthusiasts the moment they caught sight of the suits we offered in this lot. Styles are superb, materials are very high-class—in fact, the sort that you'd look for only in a much higher priced lot than this. Colors are good and values are startling. Practically all sizes remain for today's selling. That's all you need know. Ask your neighbor who was here yesterday about the values. COME EARLY IF YOU WANT TO BE WELL CARED FOR. Just 120 suits, values up to \$50.00. Special for today again.

**Trimmings at 1/2**

**COLORED LACES AND TRIMMINGS**, the largest and best selected stock in the city, embroidered bands, edges and galloons to match shades that blend with the new Spring dress goods. All the latest, most wanted shades and patterns:

\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50
vals.,	vals.,	vals.,	vals.,
\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....	\$pecial at.....
<b>\$0.50</b>	<b>\$0.75</b>	<b>\$1.25</b>	<b>\$1.75</b>

**Blue and White or Gray Enamel Ware**

White lined enamelware in blue, in four coats of enamel. Every piece guaranteed quality. Very special prices, as follows:

1½-quart Pans, special at.....	16c
2-quart Pans, special at.....	20c
3-quart Pans, special at.....	22c
4-quart Pans, special at.....	27c</td