

CULTURE OF SUGAR-BEETS

Number of Factories Now In Operation.

HISTORY OF THE INDUSTRY

Facts Regarding Beet Sugar Furnished by Albert Gerberding Before the Chit-Chat Club, of San Francisco

Mr. Albert Gerberding delivered an address before the Chit-Chat Club, of San Francisco, which contained a brief history of the beet-sugar industry in this country. As the subject of starting the industry in the Northwest is being agitated, it is thought information from its perusal may be obtained. The historical sketch of the industry is as follows:

"Europe has 3,000,000 acres of fields, producing say, 4,500,000 tons of sugar annually, and of this amount is selling to the United States sugar to the value of \$20,000,000 a year. Although the industry has been established in European countries for years, it has been slow to gain a hold in America. Its history on this side of the Atlantic is short, although the same climatic conditions prevail.

"Our first commercial experiment in making sugar from beets was near Philadelphia, in 1830, contemporaneously with the final establishment of the industry in France, but with widely different results. Intelligent pursuit in that country brought success; ignorance in our own, disastrous failure. The experiment was tried again in 1838 by a man in Massachusetts. His sugar product cost him 11 cents a pound. He was the victim of the theory that beets must be dried before processing. He had his experience, and those who came after him profited by his failure.

"For twenty-five years thereafter America made no attempt to manufacture beet sugar. In 1863 a factory was established in Illinois. The land was unfavorable to beet culture, and, after six years of unintelligent endeavor, the factory was moved to another part of the state, not more favorable, and failure was again the result. Again the machinery was moved, to Wisconsin this time, where both the soil and climate were unsuitable, and since 1871 nothing has been heard of the establishment. A factory was afterward started in Fond du Lac, Wis., and attracted much attention.

"In 1869 the owners, two German chemists, came to California to superintend a new enterprise of the same sort at Alvarado, started by Mr. Dyer, who is entitled to the credit of inaugurating the beet sugar industry in this state. He still resides in close proximity to the Alvarado factory, and we are pleased to note that he is yet a stockholder in what is now a dividend-paying enterprise, the ultimate result of his long years of persistent effort. After years of indifferent success the company was reorganized in 1889, the plant enlarged, and since then the business has been a success.

"Sacramento started a factory in 1869, with machinery costing \$100,000. In 1875 it was sold for \$45,000, and used to re-equip the Alvarado factory, which from that time until 1889 was the only beet-sugar factory in America.

"In 1889-90 the Western Beet-Sugar Company erected its factory at Watsonville, Cal. Chino, Cal., was the scene of the next factory, started about 1891, and about the same time factories were built at Lodi, Utah; Grand Island, Neb., and Norfolk, Neb. New Mexico and Virginia also claim a factory each now.

"A new factory is now being constructed at Alamantis, in the vicinity of Anaheim, Cal., and one has been commenced at Salinas. Thus we have at present eight factories in the entire United States, three of which (with two more in process of construction) are located in California. In this vast state of unlimited acreage, favorable climate and soil, there are perhaps today about 60,000 acres, or one-twentieth of 1 per cent of the area of California, devoted to beet culture, and yet we are paying annually \$6,000,000 to our friends across the water for what we could as well and better produce ourselves.

"This sugar beet has been bred, and bred for desirable points, such as shape, color, size, soilage and saccharine contents, until, by careful selection, these qualities have become fixed. The seed planted in California has been imported from France and Germany, but, under the influence of the climate and soil, a higher percentage of saccharine matter has been developed than in any other known place. Beets are known to grow in this state on about 22,000 acres in four counties, and, while we know they flourish in the neighborhood of three factories, it is interesting to describe the method of testing and bringing to public notice a new territory. It has been the experience of all the factories that for the first few years the greatest difficulty has been in securing a sufficient quantity of beets, but as soon as the farmers begin to understand the business, the supply taxes the utmost capacity of the factory.

Beets, as a crop, are of but little use without the factories, and factories are useless without the beets.

ALL CLERKS DISPENSED WITH

Resolution Passed by the Senate—It Caused a Hot Fight.

A stirring and very personal debate took place in the senate at Salem Thursday afternoon. It arose primarily over the question of clerks, but it took a broader range, and covered the entire ground of the legislative hold-up and the candidacy of Senator Mitchell. Just after the senate met in the afternoon, Reed introduced the following resolution:

"Whereas, the organization of the legislature has not yet been perfected and public business is being retarded and necessary legislation, such as appropriations for public purposes, abolishment of useless and expensive commissions and other legislation promised the people of this state by all political parties, is being denied by the refusal of certain persons elected to the house of representatives to qualify; and

"Whereas, notwithstanding the facts aforesaid, and the fact that this senate is practically transacting no public business and there is no work for senate committee clerks to do, there is, nevertheless now employed by the senate committees, at public charge, a large number of clerks; and

"Whereas, None of the said clerks are engaged in the discharge of any public duty, and there is no probability of their services being immediately required; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That all clerks of senate committees be, and they are hereby, discharged, and no compensation shall be allowed any such clerk from and after this date, unless the employment be hereafter authorized by the senate after perfect organization of the legislature shall have been secured."

Senator Dufur made quite a lengthy speech in which he set forth his position on questions of economy. He was followed by Driver and Mitchell and a number of others, some of whom had amendments to the resolutions as presented. A vote was finally reached. The amendments were cleared away, one by one, and the ayes and noes being called on the original question, but one dissenting vote was cast. The president voted no, more in a spirit of jest than anything.

The Joint Convention.

The joint convention has met daily, but at no time have more than thirty-nine been present. Each day developed some fiery oratory, accusing the opposing faction of blocking legislation. Thursday thirty-seven members were present, eleven senators and twenty-six representatives. Senator Reed came in for the first time. Representatives Hudson and Vaughan sent letters asking to be excused on account of sickness. When the session convened it was the general expectation that it would be purely perfunctory, but the spectators were agreeably surprised. The first surprise was when Nosler's name was reached. Nosler arose and the house became intensely quiet, as everyone thought that Nosler was going to announce his withdrawal, but the sequel proved a contrary intention on his part.

Nosler first spoke of his having been in his seat ever since the session opened, answering every rollcall and ready to do his duty. Said he:

"I am ashamed to see such child's play and must enter my protest."

Referring to Senator Carter's speech, he said:

"Would it not have been better for him to have made the forty-first man instead of the forty-sixth?"

Continuing, he declared that some one was responsible for the situation. The Republican party was not responsible for its recalcitrant members. The people would hold these responsible as individuals.

In conclusion Nosler said:

"I am here to answer to my name and I expect to be here to the end."

Nosler's speech was of peculiar interest in view of the fact that his seat is to be contested when the house organizes. Nosler was elected as a Populist.

Senator Reed was the author of the next incident. He said that he was occupying the seat of Representative Hudson, who was ill, and he would continue to occupy the seat as long as he, Hudson, was absent. Reed then said:

"I don't come here as a Mitchell man, but I will vote for him if I get a chance. I don't propose to be held up by fifteen Populists, and I tell you I am going to stay here now."

Reed then said he would like to ask what doctors were attending Vaughan and Hudson. He suggested that they might be jobbed by the opposition. Chairman Brownell appointed Reed, Patterson and Chapman a committee to see who was attending the sick members. Reed's motion was not made seriously and was intended only as a "josh."

Chapman continued the speechmaking by saying he was here ready to redeem every pledge he had made.

The senate committee on judiciary, to which was referred Gowan's sweeping salary bill, has considered the suggestions of the various county delegations as to the salaries in their respective counties. The Multnomah delegation recommended that the same salaries be maintained for their county, but all fees and emoluments of whatever kind were cut off. The suggestion was adopted by the committee.

TWO DEMOCRATS GO IN.

Bilyeu and Lee in the Mitchell Joint Assembly.

Lark Bilyeu, Democrat, of Lane, occupied his seat in the house a half hour before the Mitchell joint assembly which met at noon Monday. Bilyeu was writing at his desk. It had been rumored around the capitol during the morning that it was the purpose of the Democrats to enter the joint assembly, and Bilyeu's presence appeared to confirm the report. As the hand of the clock moved slowly toward 12, the member from Lane continued composedly to dip his pen in the ink and seemed to be oblivious to surroundings and wholly taken up with the work in which he was engaged.

At noon, Chairman Brownell mounted the speaker's rostrum, and, calling to order, directed the clerk to call the roll. The senators, the same as last Friday, answered to their names. As the clerk was concluding the senate call, Vaughan, the aged representative from Lane, who has been quite sick, appeared in the lobby, supported by his wife. He looked pale and very ill, but he walked slowly to his seat. Just about the same time, Lee, Democrat, of Polk, likewise appeared at his desk.

Bilyeu's name is third on the house roll. When it was called, he arose, and, addressing the chairman, said:

"This is the first time I have made my appearance here in the joint assembly. I am here for the purpose of assisting to complete the organization of the legislature. I want it distinctly understood that I am not here in any manner whatever to aid in the recognition of the Benson house. I have many times stated my position on that subject, and I do not believe that its organization is legal.

"I have been accused of aiding and abetting in holding-up the legislature. I am here to disabuse the mind of any one that I occupy that attitude. I inform you that if the legislature is not organized, and at once, I wash my hands of the whole business. I am tired walking the streets of Salem waiting for the majority of this legislature to get together and do its duty.

"The people who elected me know I am not a fool; or at least they believe so; else they would not have sent me here. They want me to help organize this legislature on a proper basis; and I am here for that purpose.

"I want to say that many questions have been raised in the senate and elsewhere relative to the permanent organization that are not germane to the subject. I take it that the temporary organization of the house is sufficient for the purpose of this convention. I have all along maintained that the temporary organization is the only constitutional organization, and that is where I stand now. The members of this body, which is made up of members of the legislature, are not called upon to pass upon that question. The state constitution has nothing to do with this joint convention. I believe the decisions of the United States senate are a sufficient guide for the actions of this body. When a majority of members of the legislature declare their choice for United States senator, no power in the universe can set it aside.

"We have the power here to determine this question of organization. I ask the Republicans to come forward and organize. After this I wash my hands of the whole proposition. I am present."

The call then proceeded. Lee answered to his name, but when Merrill of Columbia was reached there was no response. Twenty-nine members of the house were found to be present, and ten from the senate—thirty-nine in all, or seven short of a majority.

Chairman Brownell then stated that he had received word that Merrill would not be up till the 2:20 train. He suggested that a recess till 7:30 in the evening be taken. This was done.

There was no change when the convention met at night. Bilyeu and Lee, Democrats, were in their places, and Merrill, Republican, arrived in the afternoon and was also present. Chairman Brownell waited till 7:38 before he called to order. When the name of Vaughan of Lane was reached, Johnson of Linn asked that he be excused on account of illness. Thirty-nine were present. The convention adjourned immediately following the roll call.

The Senators.

When the senate reconvened on Monday, McClung moved to reconsider the vote of last Friday, ordering the bill fixing the legal rate of interest at 6 per cent to third reading. This was done, and, on motion of McClung, the bill was recommitted to the committee on revision of laws. The following new bills were introduced:

By Dufur, by request, enabling school districts to borrow money for a short time without issuing bonds; King, regulating the employment of legislative clerical aid; Johnson, fixing rates of express companies; King, to prevent fraud in sales of mines; Dailey, by request, accepting the terms of the act of congress providing for the reclamation of arid lands; Johnson, fixing telegraph rates. A number of bills were read the second time and referred.

The Benson House.

The Benson house met at 2:30 Monday, and after reading two unimportant bills, adjourned.

PICTURES OF THE PAST.

Scenes of Surpassing Beauty at the Bradley-Martin Bal Masque.

New York, Feb. 12.—Beautiful beyond description was the bal masque of Mrs. Bradley-Martin tonight. Columns have been written about the affair and pictures drawn, but the fancy of the reporter and the artist did not picture scenes one-half as lovely as were presented at the Waldorf. For weeks Mrs. Martin has worked in the preparation of the sumptuous affair. Her efforts were richly rewarded. The bitter criticism hurled at her were forgotten, and the hundreds who were present vied in making her the happiest woman in America.

The decorations throughout the Waldorf were exquisite. American beauties, lilies and the rarest of imported blossoms, with vines and palms, were intertwined in a marvelously beautiful scene. Never in New York has a greater floral display been made at a ball. Tiny electric lights and mirrors were used in a bewildering and artistic manner, all combining to transform the already beautiful hotel to an enchanting fairyhouse. The arrangements for the ball were tested to their fullest, but, with excellent good fortune, they were equal to every emergency. Thousands of men and women crowded the streets around the hotel, but the police kept them moving, and no conflicts or excitement of any kind resulted. Detectives swarmed in and around the house to prevent trouble, but their presence was not needed.

The costumes were exquisite. All the great men and women of the last three centuries were represented. Arranged in raiment costly beyond the dream of the originals were the men and women who appeared tonight as ladies and gentlemen of olden periods. At midnight the great ball was at its height. All society was there gathered to portray the regal splendor of past centuries. The great ball-room of the Waldorf, beautiful with a wealth of roses and fragrant flowers, was then a scene of grandeur never before equaled in this country. Courtiers of old, of every clime, mingled with grand dames and ladies, kings and queens, princes and princesses, but here and there the old spirit of loyalty had manifested itself in the presence of colonial men and women of the old and quaint ways in America.

Great social functions of the past in this city were eclipsed, even the memorable Vanderbilt ball of 1883, with which since then all other affairs have seemed to suffer in comparison. For lavish expenditure, for artistic decorations and surroundings, for a reflection of the most picturesque episodes in Old World history, and as a gathering of the fairest and richest in the New World life, the ball tonight marked an epoch. It was more than a mile-post in New York's history; it was the event of a decade. Months of preparation and the outlay of hundreds of thousands of dollars were exhausted in five hours. It was very fashionable. Men and women traveled across the continent for the honor of being present.

As many as fifty dinners preceded. Every coterie that makes up swiftdom had a dinner. Those who were going to the ball appeared in their fancy gowns, that cost thousands of dollars, and which they will wear but once, and in their jewels. After the dinner their friends were invited to admire, in order that the beauty and the gorgeousness of it all should not be lost in future generations.

WITHDRAWS THE BILL.

Senator Morgan Vents His Keen Disappointment.

Washington, Feb. 12.—Senator Morgan, the champion of the Nicaragua canal bill, announced in the senate today his abandonment of that measure for the present session of congress, and thereupon it was displaced by the bankruptcy bill. The senator made this move after a protracted contest, covering several weeks, which had disclosed the fact that obstructive opposition could not be overcome. He gave notice that he would renew his advocacy of the bill at an early date of the coming extra session.

Morgan bitterly criticised the British opposition to the canal, and, addressing himself directly to Sherman, declared that if the next secretary of state permitted himself to be fed on the anodines of flattery of Great Britain, the people would not support him. Mr. Morgan asserted also that Sherman would not succeed in negotiating a treaty relating to the canal, as the genius of Talleyrand or Matternich could not stand against the "thimble-rigging" of those republics.

The bankruptcy bill succeeded to the advantageous position of "unfinished business," but the debate went over until tomorrow.

The agricultural appropriation bill was taken up late in the day, and passed at \$3,255,500. It led to a lively debate, in which Secretary Morton was sharply criticised by Senators Vest, Chandler, Tillman and others.

The house bill was passed extending the time for complying with the requirements of the act forfeiting railroad lands, McBride explaining that the bill applied to lands along the Northern Pacific route.

F. H. Sizer, of West Bergen, owns a Bible printed in London 297 years ago.

NATIONAL HOUSE.

House Agrees to Conference Report on Immigration Bill.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The house today agreed to the final conference report on the immigration bill by an overwhelming majority—217 to 33—and passed two more pension bills over the president's veto. The modifications of the immigration bill contained in the conference report, by which an intending immigrant was required to be able to read and write "the English or another language," and which permitted his illiterate wife and minor children to accompany an eligible immigrant, removed the main objection to the bill, but Mahany, Maguire and Kiefer opposed the whole theory of the bill on general principles. Bartholdt and McCall both spoke in favor of the bill as modified.

The beneficiaries of the pension bills passed over the veto were both of the class known as "remarried widows." President Cleveland has disapproved a number of these bills, but he has also allowed several to become laws without his signature.

A bill was passed to place the naval officer on the board appointed to examine the deep-water harbor on the southern coast of California on the same footing as other members of the board in the matter of per diem allowance.

The senate bill to commission post assistant surgeons of the United States navy was passed.

A bill was passed to prevent the fraudulent use of the word "copyright" on books and other publications.

In the Senate.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The open session of the senate today was wholly perfunctory, and after transacting some routine business, the doors were closed and an executive session continued throughout the day. The routine business was cleared away by 12:35 P. M., and, on motion of Sherman, the senate went into executive session, and at 5:45 P. M. adjourned.

A TOUR OF THE WORLD.

Extensive Trip Planned by President Cleveland.

Toledo, O., Feb. 11.—A passenger agent of the Canadian Pacific, now in the city, is authority for the statement that President Cleveland will take a trip around the world immediately after the inauguration of his successor.

The president and his party will go to the Pacific coast over the Canadian Pacific road, and Division Passenger Agent Sheehy, of that line, will conduct the party in person.

It is the desire of the president to start as soon as possible after the inauguration of McKinley. He desires to avoid public functions as much as possible, and intends to make the circuit of the globe as a private citizen.

Private Secretary Thurber and several members of his cabinet are expected to accompany him. Mrs. Cleveland and the children may accompany the party; that matter has not been fully decided upon.

Thurber Did Not Deny It.

Washington, Feb. 11.—Private Secretary Thurber refused tonight officially to confirm or deny the statement. He preferred, he said, to await the publication of the story before making any announcement about it.

A CHECK ON GREECE.

Powers Will Not Permit Isolated on Her Part.

London, Feb. 11.—A special dispatch from Canea says the commanders of the foreign men-of-war, now concentrated off the island of Crete, have notified the Captains of Greek warships that no isolated action on the part of the Greeks, such as bombarding Canea or the landing of troops, will be permitted.

Greece Sees an Opportunity.

Athens, Feb. 11.—The latest reports from Canea are to the effect that the situation on the island of Crete is critical to say the least. In Canea it is said that the Christians have hoisted the Greek flag and invited the commander of the Greek fleet to train his guns on the city, in the name of the king of Greece. It is also stated that the Greek squadron, on arriving at Canea, did not salute the Turkish flag.

If these rumors are true the whole island is probably in a turmoil of war, and the foreign fleets may have to take action to prevent further disorders.

Switch-Tender Was Negligent.

Omaha, Feb. 11.—The Union Pacific eastbound flyer was derailed at the "puzzle switch," at the west end of the yard, this evening. The train was running at high rate of speed when the accident occurred. Engineer W. H. Van Noy was picked up unconscious, and is now at the hospital. Fireman Thomas Krautz was caught under the over-turnd engine and scalded to death. No one else on the train was injured. Negligence of Switch-Tender Henn, it is charged, caused the accident. Henn was arrested at 11 o'clock, and is held at the central station, charged with criminal negligence. The track was cleared and trains running again at 9 o'clock. Engineer Van Noy will probably die. His injuries were found to be very serious.