

THE JOURNAL

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THE COUNTRY'S FARM WEALTH.

THE ANNUAL report of no other cabinet officer is interesting to so many people as that of the secretary of agriculture. It deals with an industry or family of industries in which more people are engaged than any other, and on which people depend more than on all others.

The farms of the country, exclusive of dairy, livestock and poultry products, yielded crops amounting in value to \$7,412,000,000, or about \$88 for every man, woman and child in the country.

Several crops were not so great in quantity this year as in some others. This is true of both wheat and corn, but the price is higher. Corn remains the most valuable crop and was about up to the average of the last five years in quantity.

Next in value comes hay, or cotton, the value of the former crop being not easy to estimate accurately, but it is thought to be worth \$65,000,000 more than that of 1906, the record crop up to that date.

The earlier portions of the cotton season were unfavorable, but it turned out better than expected, as corn did, and its value, including that of seed, is estimated at \$650,000,000 or \$675,000,000.

Wheat is the fourth crop in value and falls 5 per cent in quantity below the average of five years, but the 675,000,000 bushels produced will have been worth at the farms at least \$500,000,000.

Oats show a falling off, both in quantity and quality, barley gained heavily, potatoes are worth \$190,000,000. The tobacco crop is smaller than for many years, yet its value is more than ever before except last year.

In the summary of the secretary's report sent out, no mention is made of the fruit crops, or of vegetables except potatoes and sugar beets, which would add greatly to the total.

AKOKI'S RECALL.

AMBASSADOR AKOKI'S explanation that his recall was to give him an opportunity of making a verbal report on various matters, need not be accepted very literally.

The language of diplomacy is frequently framed to avoid close contact with the truth. Yet there is no good reason to doubt the sincerity of his further statement, as follows: "My return cannot be construed in any way as an indication of unfriendliness on the part of Japan for the United States."

different points of view; its object may be chiefly, as Aoki says, to confer with him verbally at length; but either one or all these motives do not necessarily indicate hostility.

WHERE GAMBLERS PLAY THEIR STAKES.

THERE IS sound common sense in the movement in the south for the suppression of gambling in cotton futures.

The best sign in the situation is that it is gathering such strength that it promises to be successful. Texas has passed a law prohibiting the practice and so has Arkansas.

The practice of gambling on crop futures is an evil, the elimination of which is long overdue. It is a national curse, and the fact that it has long existed without public protest is a national blemish.

The fact that great national staples like wheat, cotton and corn should be, in their marketing, a mixture of business and gambling is mischievous and wicked.

The cause of the farmers' union in moving to reduce their crop marketing to a legitimate and business basis has the rays of sunlight in it, and it will be good for the country if the organization strengthens and broadens its work.

AGAINST THE PEOPLE, OF COURSE.

SPEAKER CANNON, according to a Washington dispatch, is opposed to Postmaster-General Meyer's projects for postal savings banks and a parcels post.

The speaker has great potential power over legislation, so much that if he chooses to exercise it he can probably defeat these measures, even if a majority of the members of the house favored them.

But we do not believe for a moment that Speaker Cannon, if his report is correct, really acts in the interest of the country merchants. He only uses the known opposition of some of them as an excuse for serving the railroads and express companies, as he has always done when their interests came in conflict with those of the people at large.

Among the things the price of which had been reduced did you hear about milk? Perhaps the dairymen have raised wages. But we are glad if they are prospering; if they will sell only pure, unadulterated milk, all else will be forgiven.

interest of about ninety-nine hundredths of the people of the country. It would hurt only the express companies that enormously overcharge the people, and the express companies' owners, the high-finance railroad magnates, men like Harriman and Gould.

PARTISANSHIP IN ITS ULTIMATE.

DISMAL CONDITIONS prevail in Kentucky. They are reflected in the trial of Caleb Powers for alleged complicity in the Goebel murder.

The impartiality of the courts is questioned, and the spectacle the other day was the sheriff, accompanied by partisans of each side in the selection of veniremen.

When the coin is in the teapot, then somebody has a score. And the party is bothered by the lifting of his hair.

When the coin is in the teapot, then somebody has a score. And the party is bothered by the lifting of his hair. For he fears a gloomy future when to-morrow he is charged with a bill.

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When the coin is in the teapot, then somebody has a score. And the party is bothered by the lifting of his hair. So it's all of us together that have caused unpleasant times.

A Tribute to Our Governor.

From the Los Angeles Herald. George E. Chamberlain, governor of Oregon, is probably the smallest chief executive, so far as physical stature is concerned, of any American state.

There are those in the Weboot state and they are not so scarce as we of California are wont to say that the timber which enters into the composition of their "little giant" has the same grain and fiber and luster as that which enters into the composition of the White House in the past.

John Hays Hammond has resigned a position as mining engineer for the Guggenheim trust that is said to have commanded a salary of \$1,000,000 a year.

From Dr. Wilson's Diary.

We passed in the course of an hour, two dead cows and more than 50 dead chickens. A strong smell of gasoline pervaded the atmosphere and there were wheel tracks in the dust.

Letters From the People

HARD TIMES. Buena Vista, Or., Dec. 4.—To the Editor of The Journal.—The cry of hard times is all a-buzz. Come, let's reason together. Our country was never more prosperous than now.

The restoration of public confidence is all that is needed—don't let a few frenzied "Wall Street" speculators shatter the confidence of the masses.

Did you ever stop to think how foolish it was for depositors to make a run on a bank?

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When the Coin is in the Teapot

By William D. Nesbitt, in the Los Angeles Herald.

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Lincoln Steffens, in the American Magazine.

The first innovation the Californians had that their next governor would be Mr. Gillett came long before they were thinking of politics.

There never was a boy ruined in the wide world that his mammy and daddy didn't have a hand in the ruin.

Paternalism.

Joel Chandler Harris, in Uncle Remus' Magazine.

Do you think the best way to automobiles in the next world?

THE PENALIZATION OF PATRIOTISM

From the Philadelphia North American. The president of a national bank, which has \$100,000 capital stock, has asked the North American to inform him how his institution can share in the 26 per cent profits made possible by the remarkable treasury plan of financial relief.

The North American asked in return how much circulation had been taken out by his bank. His answer was that the bank already had issued practically the full amount of notes allowed by its capitalization.

Patriotism is penalized. A 26 per cent premium is paid for conduct which is patriotic.

Running Shots. By Fred C. Denton. (Written for The Journal.)

If a special session of the Oregon legislature can be arranged for with little expense and as much expedition as the recent California special session, "our George" should be persuaded to call it.

The people of Oregon could afford to build 1,000 miles of railroad and run the lines at a loss of several millions a year.

Some 20 years ago a few crazy populists said that the nation should guarantee deposits in the national bank.

It will be Bryan vs. Roosevelt next year. Seeing as how Roosevelt has done so much for the people, it is not likely that Bryan will have a chance.

California's Governor.

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Small Change

Enough's enough, of holidays as well as of anything else. But Secretary Taft did not attempt to borrow money.

The financial doctors disagree as to the efficacy of the gold cure. Nobody wants to walk from Portland, Oregon, to Chicago, if he lives here.

Chicago has a young woman policeman in attendance at the theatre, and a lot of loafers think she is the flower of the finest.

Suppose there are persons who will make a great deal of money if the president decided which of two men should get an office by flipping a coin.

Again the revolver, one accidentally discharged sent a bullet into the face of a Union county man, and it ranged down into the muscles of the neck, causing a serious injury.

Oregon Sidelights

Milton has organized a fire company. A sawmill with 100,000 feet a day capacity will be built at Pockegama next summer.

The Clatsop Mill company and the Astoria Box company have cut the wages of their employes 25 cents per day.

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Cuba.

There is a significant unanimity in the appeals of the big Havana newspapers for the United States to remain in Cuba as long as practicable.

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President Roosevelt Is Sincere.

From the Kansas City Times. President Roosevelt has done all that he can do to check the discussion of his name with reference to the next Republican nomination for the presidency.

After being conducted through an old church by the verger, a visitor was pleased with the appearance of the interior.