

## FARMER'S SCHOOL AND COOPERATION

Thomas H. Gentle Gives Interesting Address at Educator's Meeting

One of the speakers of the National Educational Association meeting in Seattle recently was Thomas H. Gentle, director of Training Schools at Monmouth, Oregon. The summary of his address on "The Farmers' School and Cooperation" follows:

Twenty-five years ago, most of the American farmers who are now 40 years of age, were leaving the upper grades of the rural school. To what kind of influences had they been subjected? What was the dominating idea which has kept prominent in their minds in these schools? A bit of history will answer both questions.

At that time there were probably 150,000 one-and-two-room country schools. These were presided over by about 250,000 teachers, one-half of which had no professional training whatever. 200,000 of them had not even completed high school. 56-2/3 per cent of them did not remain longer than one year in the same school. Only a negligible number of them believed themselves to be earning more than they were paid. Those who did believe it had left and gone to the city schools. Many of them were not country bred and intended to return to the city as soon as they had acquired teaching experience. Practically none of this vast army of instructors had formulated any well thought-out view of life—they possessed no educational vision which might have enabled them to forecast the future for which they were to prepare their pupils. They did not conceive the schools as functional or dynamic. On the contrary they believed it to be a static institution. Their conduct of the school was individualistic. It was not social. The school had no socialized recitations, quite on the contrary forbade their charges to work together.

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## DRIVE TO REDUCE ILLITERACY; DUTY

Commissioner of Education Presents Figures Concerning Work in Nation

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Local impulse and favorable action by state legislatures is needed to reduce illiteracy in this country, believes Dr. John J. Tigert, U. S. Commissioner of Education. He estimates there are approximately 5,000,000 illiterates in the United States.

Discussing the probable revelations of the new literacy census which will be taken in 1930, Dr. Tigert said:

"No program of public instruction ever was universally and instantly adopted in this country. Development always has grown as communities, at the instigation of their leaders, reached out for a higher standard of education."

Department of interior statistics show slightly more than 20% of the population illiterate in 1870. By 1920 illiteracy had dropped to 4%. Only 14% of all children enrolled in high schools. "Nevertheless," Dr. Tigert continued, "popularity of the high school idea has developed rapidly in late years. In 1880 only about 8 1/2% of the children of high school age actually attended, whereas 47.1% were enrolled in 1925."

The first public school in America opened in Boston in 1821 with about 60 boys. By 1925 there were 22,500 high schools with a total enrollment of 3,650,993 boys and girls.

"The high school system became more popular," Dr. Tigert said, "with the incorporation of trade and business courses." Colleges and universities have kept relative pace, growing in number from 602 in 1910 to 913 in 1924 and in attendance from 286,654 to 664,764.

The total cost of public elementary and secondary education in 1924, as reported by state departments of education, was \$1,820,743,936, or according to the 1927 federal report. This is 27.84% of the volume of state and local taxation, and 22.64% of the whole tax burden.

It amounts to 2.87% of the total income of the American people.

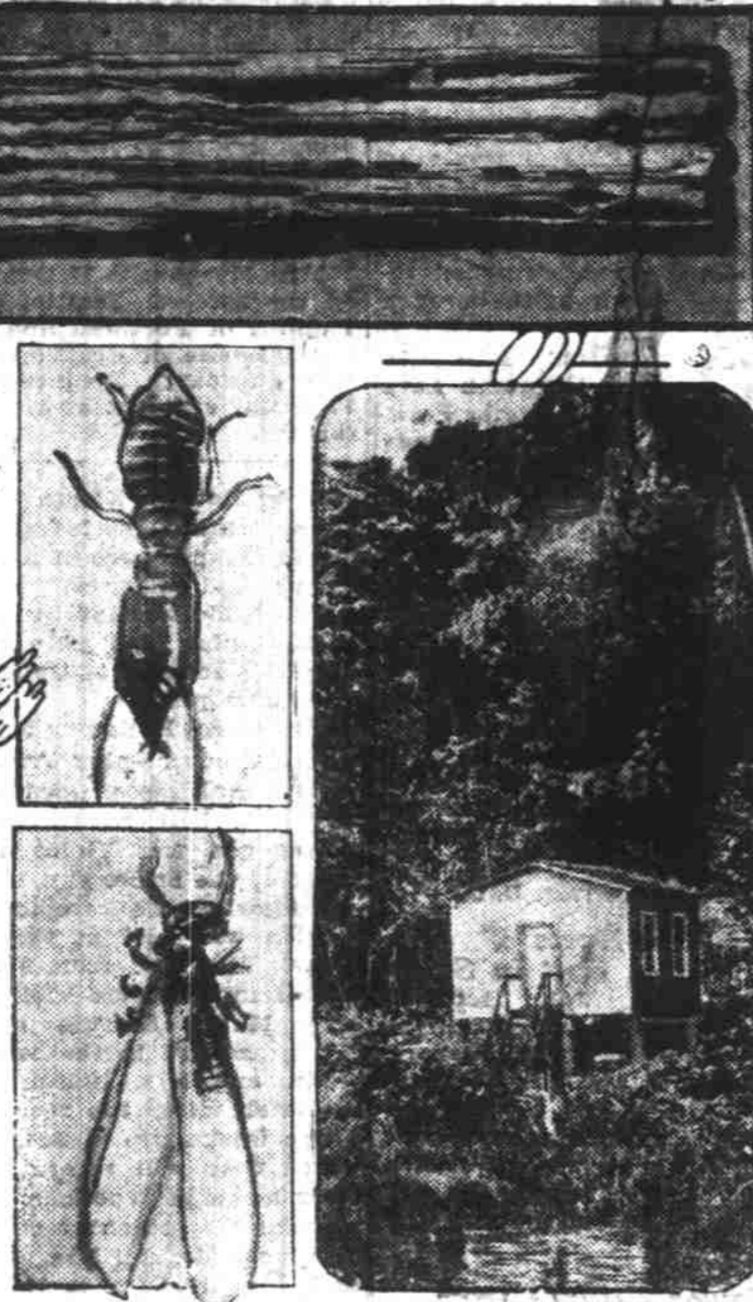
## HOME BUILDERS WARNED AGAINST WHITE ANT



WHITE ANT ENLARGED MORE THAN NATURAL SIZE  
RIGHT—TOP VIEW OF FLOORING TUNNELED BY TERMITE



LEFT—\$25,000 DAMAGE DONE BY TERMITES TO THIS TEMPORARY WAR STRUCTURE.  
MATURE SOLDIER TYPE OF WHITE ANT.  
(RIGHT) WINGED FORM TERMITE.  
RIGHT—TEST SHACK IN CANAL ZONE BUILT OF CHEMICALLY TREATED WOOD.



## GUARDS, BOLTS AND SEALS TO PROTECT

Experts Prepare Crop Reports and Utmost Secrecy Maintained by All

A United States marshal stands guard.

The doors are padlocked. Government seals fasten the windows, and the shades are drawn. Inside eight men sit at an oblong table. Before them are sheets of priceless figures. The United States Crop Reporting Board is at work.

Why the secrecy? Within a few hours the nation's most nearly perfect estimate of farm yields will be flashed to all the markets in the world. Instantly prices will rise or fall. Speculators everywhere stand close beside their private wires, or bend in tense anxiety above the ticker tape. At the next minute fortunes may vanish, just a moment's lead, be made or lost. One word in advance would give opportunity for tremendous profit—to buy or sell with accurate knowledge of the market trend.

That's the stor of a federal function. Reporters know its value to each tick of a signal watch.

In a bare room the newspaper reporters stand, behind four white chalk lines. Four feet away their private telephones are "set up," ready for the first word. When the report is finished a tabulated sheet is laid, face down, beside each phone. None is allowed to see it. A timekeeper calls each man to his mark. Nerve-taut, they stand neither having slightest advantage. At "Go!" they spring to their wires, and shortly the quantity, quality and value of crops are known wherever a newspaper is read.

To the crop reporters themselves the incident means nothing but work. If preparing a forenoon release, they assemble at 5:30 a. m. Their breakfast is sent in to them. If the report is finished before schedule release it must be held in confidence until the designated hour.

There is no end to precaution. Even the window glass will not

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## Iowa Farmers Growing Brand of Strong New Oats

DES MOINES.—(AP)—For the first time Iowa farmers will harvest this year a new selection of the Kherson oat under the name of "logold."

The specie was developed from a single plant selected by Prof. L. C. Burnett of Ames, Iowa, in 1906. It was brought to its present stage after 20 years of cooperative experiments by the Iowa agricultural experiment station and the U. S. department of agriculture.

Outstanding characteristics of "logold" are high yielding power, stiffness of straw and resistance to stem rust. The average acre yield is 63.3 bushels as compared with 61.3 bushels for "lowar."

Fifteen million dollars damage every year is the toll which federal entomologists estimate is taken by the boring proclivities of the termite or white ant, of which there are 42 species in the United States.

The little pale-colored, soft bodied, social insects of the order Isoptera, some of which are totally blind, destroy the foundations and woodwork of buildings and articles in them, as well as living fruit and other trees, crops and various forms of vegetation.

The federal bureau of entomology has several specialists constantly at work to determine methods to keep this enormous damage down to a minimum. It is urging city building officials to slightly modify their building codes to thwart the pests and is advising county agents to give helpful advice to farm home builders.

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## CIVILIZATION TAMES LAND OF CATTLE WAR

Days of Cattle Baron Rustler Wars Dim Memories in Many Places

PECOS, Texas.—(AP)—If Billy the Kid were to come back to the land west of the Pecos, from which he was summarily banished by Pat Garrett's barking six-gun in '80, an alien scene would meet his gaze.

For civilization has leaped that narrow, serpentine stream which meanders down from New Mexico across Texas into the Rio Grande, and the days of the cattle baron-rustler war are but dim memories of the past.

The government has appropriated \$2,000,000 for the building of the Red Bluff dam in New Mexico to bring water to the irrigation

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## OUR NATIONAL HYMN SHOULD BE CHANGED

Phi Beta Kappa Meeting Suggests Should Be "America the Beautiful"

(Writing in the current number of The Congregationalist, Boston, leading journal of that denomination, James S. Stevens asks that "America the Beautiful" be made our national hymn, in the following article:)

At William and Mary college there has been recently celebrated the sesquicentennial of the Phi Beta Kappa fraternity. One of features of the program was the singing of America the Beautiful written by Katharine Lee Bates, and honored member of the fraternity.

More recently there has been offered a prize for the best tune which shall be composed to accompany the words of this anthem. All this is as it should be. In the first place we have no proper national anthem, and in the second the piece to which I have referred is admirably adapted to fill such a role. When I say that we have no national anthem, I am not unmindful of the fact that the Star Spangled Banner has been designated to fill that position. During the war it shared about equally with America in popular usage. America has an excellent tune, if one's patriotic pride is willing to permit him to use the property of other countries and its sentiment is excellent. The Star Spangled Banner is a very stirring piece of music when played by an orchestra or band in which high-pitched instruments are conspicuous. As I listened to it, last summer, on a journey from Amsterdam to the Isle of Marken, as it was played by a cornetist who stood several feet above us while we were in the locks, it had a marvelous appeal. When, however, it is undertaken by voices less trained and powerful than that of Caruso, it usually becomes a dismal failure. Someone has written:

Oh, say, don't you wish that someone would write A singable tune to our National Anthem? 'Tis The Star Spangled Banner, that wonderful thing That everyone loves, but no one can sing.

Even though this anthem could be readily sung, the sentiment is not everything that might be desired for a national hymn. If we have to have wars it may be appropriate to sing of "the rockets' red glare and bombs bursting in

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## CITY AWAITS RETURN OF VETERANS



Audiernarde, Belgium, taken from fleeing Germans by local soldiers extends welcome.

PORTLAND, Ore.—(Special)—The city of Audiernarde, Belgium, captured from the Germans after four years of occupation by the soldiers of the 91st division from this state, has extended a warm welcome for local veterans to pay a visit while abroad with the American Legion for the ninth annual convention to be held in Paris, Sept. 19 to 23, Howard P.

## THE BLACK HILLS BY "JIMMY" ELVIN

Our Former Salem Pastor Tells How the West Welcomes the President

(Everyone in Salem knew Rev. James Elvin, pastor of the First Congregational church for several years, who was chairman of the committee of the Salem Chamber of Commerce that had to do with developing new ideas of advertising; who in that capacity invited all of the other 47 or more or less Salems in this country to get off the map; to change their names and leave in peace our peerless Oregon city with the name meaning peace, Salem, to enjoy the title—for various and divers reasons that Mr. Elvin mentioned in his invitation. All of which led

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## RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY SALEM DAYS

Mrs. A. H. Farrar Tells Fred Lockley of Some Pioneer Oregon History

(The following appeared on Wednesday in the department of the Portland Journal conducted by Fred Lockley super historian and biographer of the Oregon country:)

"I was born in Oregon City, March 28, 1850," said Mrs. Abigail H. Farrar when I interviewed her recently in Salem. "My father with his wife and child came to Oregon in 1843, from Honolulu, on the bark Pama. With him were Mr. and Mrs. Francis W. Pettygrove and their child, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Foster and four children, and Nathan P. Mack. Mr. Pettygrove came from Maine. He opened a store at Oregon City and built a warehouse at Champeog to store the wheat of settlers on French Prairie. Phillip Foster was also from Maine. After a year or two at Oregon City, Mr. Foster settled at what is known as Foster's, 16 miles up the Clackamas river from Oregon City. This was the first settlement the early-day emigrants came to, so most of them remember the Foster's. Mr. Mack hailed from Massachusetts. After several years at Oregon City, working as a carpenter, he took up a place east of Salem and later moved to Salem.

"My father was born in Maine, December 20, 1810. He shipped through a whaler as carpenter, though really a blacksmith. He sharpened harpoons and did the carpenter work on whaling ships. In 1838 he settled in the Sandwich Islands. At Honolulu he met Miss Susan Colcord, born in Maine. They were married in the Islands August 7, 1841, and their child, David, was born there. Curiously enough, my half-brother, David Hatch, voted for years in Oregon without realizing he was not a citizen. Susan, the next child, was born shortly after their arrival at Oregon City. My father's first wife died in 1844.

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## ALASKA SETTLEMENT HAS LITTLE THEATER

Class Meetings Held in Red Dragon Clubhouse; Interest Manifested

CORDOVA, Alaska.—(AP)—The Red Dragon Little Theater of Cordova is the "farthest north" little theater in America, if not the world.

Performances of John Kendrick Bangs' "A Proposal Under Difficulties" and August Strindberg's "The Stronger Woman" have been given successfully to an audience of 125 persons, many of whom saw for the first time in their lives a dramatic production of the speaking stage.

The program was presented on two successive nights because of the limited seating capacity of the building.

W. F. Parish, U. S. Commissioner of Cordova, is the founder of the Alaskan movement in the little theater, and the Rev. L. F. Kent, pastor of St. George's Episcopal church, is his lieutenant, who attended to the mechanics of the project in every detail.

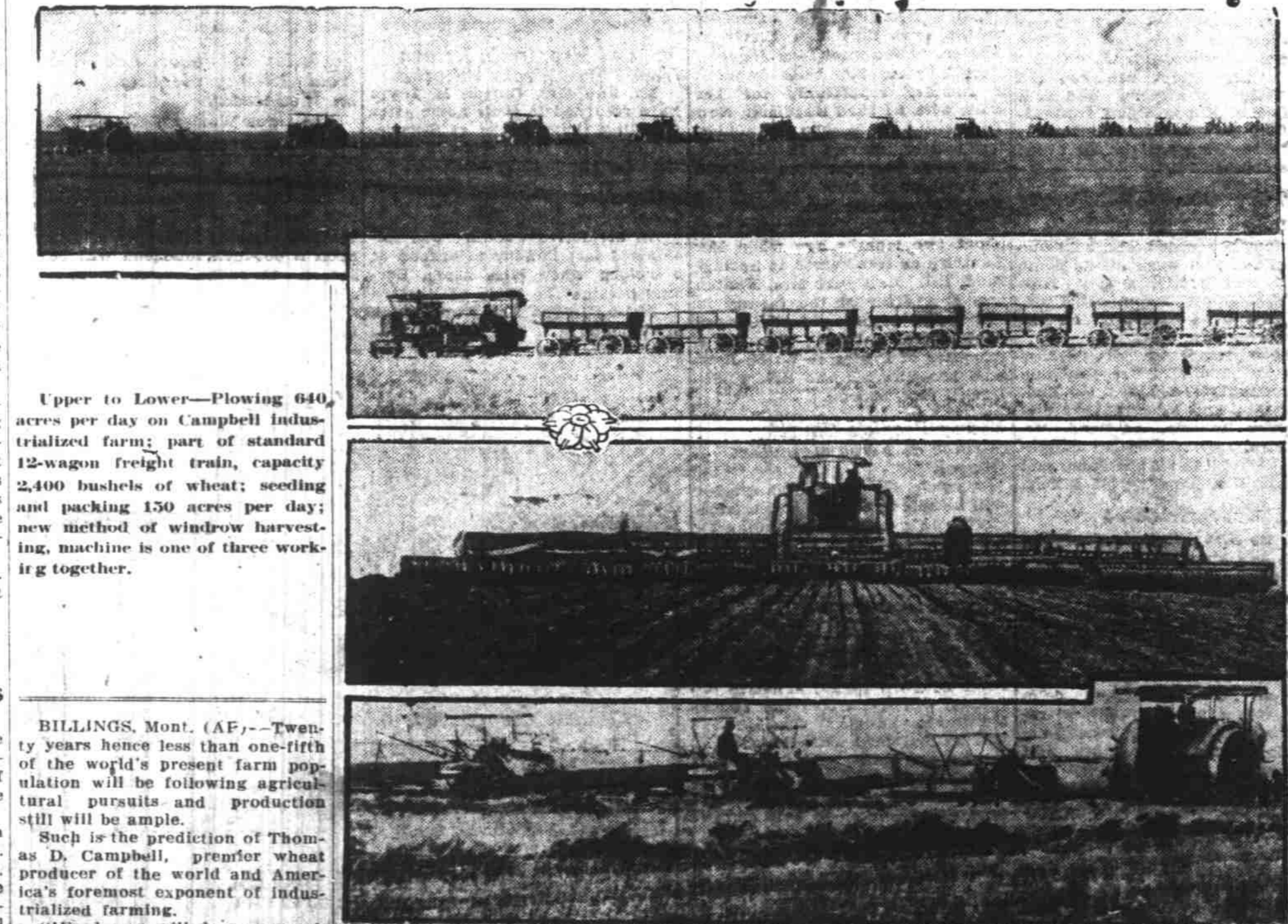
The little theater project made such an impression locally that already, while casts are at work preparing the plays for the second performances, there is talk of having the company present a program at Valdez, a "neighboring" community in southwestern Alaska, reached by a day's steamer travel.

The Alaskan little theater project is a development in the progress of a winter class in the appreciation of modern drama, a course which was offered local residents by Judge Parish. For many weeks during the winter's darkest nights a few faithful ones huddled around the Red Dragon stove, imbibing culture from the lips of a septogenarian educator while the wind chased its tail around the building and the sleet beat against the window panes.

Judge Parish, formerly director of extension work at Bellingham, Wash., Normal school and director of the Metlakatla Indian settlement, continues the course in modern drama.

Class meetings are held in the Red Dragon clubhouse, which houses the public library as well. The building is located on church property.

## POWER AND EFFICIENCY WILL MEET N EEDS OF FUTURE, BIG WHEAT GROWER PREDICTS



Upper to Lower—Plowing 640 acres per day on Campbell industrialized farm; part of standard 12-wagon freight train, capacity 2,400 bushels of wheat; seeding and packing 150 acres per day; new method of windrow harvesting, machine is one of three working together.

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP)—Twenty years hence less than one-fifth of the world's present farm population will be following agricultural pursuits and production still will be ample.

Such is the prediction of Thomas D. Campbell, premier wheat producer of the world and America's foremost exponent of industrialized farming.

"Hired men will do more work and earn more," explains Campbell, who is farming 100,000 acres on a Montana Indian reservation. Of this acreage 35,000 acres are in winter wheat, 5,000 in spring wheat and 10,000 in flax. The remainder is summer fallowed. Skilled labor on the farm ultimately will bring as much as skilled labor in the city, Campbell believes. Such a situation exists on his farm.

"Modern farming is 90 per cent engineering," he continues, "Industrialization of farming, together with cooperative marketing,

will do more to solve the farmers' problems than any other plan so far suggested. I feel cooperative marketing is inevitable, but it will never be a success until at least a majority of all of the different crops grown in this country are under control of some central head."

Born on a farm in North Dakota, Campbell learned in the school of experience the lessons he since has applied with spectacular success.

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## Fad for Big Dogs Arouses Protests of Hotelkeepers

LONDON.—(AP)—Dogs are on the defensive in English hotels. They used to have the run of hotels, even those of the first rank. That was when women carried Pekings and Pomeranians in their muffets and fed them cake at public dining tables.

But since pet dogs have taken on the size of overgrown wolves and "kindly" Alsatian pets have bitten a number of persons the long-suffering public has turned.

"Keep dogs out of the public rooms of hotels" is a cry that has risen all over England. This is especially true of motoring areas.

"Why turn hotel lounges into Zoos?" "Provide arenas for folks who carry packs of trained wolves around with them." "Why can't I be allowed to drink my tea without having an Alsatian swish his tail in it?" are samples of the protests which reach the British newspapers.

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