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ANYONE RECEIVING A COPY OF THIS PAPER WILL CONSIDER IT AN INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE.

IT IS A DISGRACE TO OUR GOVERNMENT that the Piegan Indians are starving. They are shut up in a reservation in the mountains of Montana, where they cannot grow the necessities of life easily, even if they knew how. They are not allowed to go off the reservation and they literally are starving. The sight is deplorable and the fact is disgraceful to our nation, for government officers who make treaties with such tribes know well enough that they cannot become self-supporting.

THE WORLD HAS NO KIND WORDS FOR THE man who leaves abruptly and whose departure leaves many to grieve on account of their losses from trusting him. W. D. Pittinger, of Hillsboro, has absconded and owes sixty thousand dollars, much of it to people whose all was in his hands. He was county treasurer and his bondsmen are heavily involved. He carried on a large business and trusted many who cannot pay. It is a sad affair. Sad for his family left behind to unutterable sorrow; sad for the few who have lost their all by him; sad for him, because it may be possible he meant honestly and became involved and so failed. It is a pity he could not have been man enough to stay and make the best of himself and all his circumstances.

THIS YEAR WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DISCOUNT California as to several lines of fruit we have had to import in former years, peaches especially have proved excellent and abundant. When we do grow peaches in this valley they are of the best quality. Much good fruit is grown in our gardens here in Salem and the best is to be found along the slough in the gardens on Gaitly hill. Above our own are the gardens of C. S. Woodworth and A. L. Buckingham, who raise much beautiful fruit. Mr. Buckingham furnished last spring some of the finest cherries possible and now sends us a bag of Early Crawford peaches that are large and luscious. Whenever a peach tree has half a chance it bears abundantly this year.

SAVE EVERYTHING.

HARD TIMES SOMETIMES TEACHES LESSONS of economy and of good management that pay well in the long run. We have hard times because wheat and wool, the great staples of production here, are at a low figure. Wheat will be produced and sold below its actual cost to the farmer, but wool is not the sole production of a sheep, and with the natural increase—the mutton and the fleece—even at a low price for the last, the sheep farmer will do well.

THE HOP-GROWER SEEMS TO HAVE A GOOD prospect and hop yards are to be found all over the country. Stock men do well with horses, cattle and swine and pastures are paying better than grain. The dairy business is receiving more attention among farmers, and the raising of fowls is found of importance to those who invest carefully. The fruit crop is good as to apples and it is to be hoped that those who have orchards will try to dry the fruit well and so add to the general revenue.

THIS IS A TIME WHEN FARMERS MUST save every thing they can and turn all into cash that will pay for the labor. It is not alone Oregon and the Pacific Northwest that suffer, the farmers of the East have as much difficulty in making both ends of the year meet. The Husbandman relates the general conversation that was had at a meeting of the Elmira Farmers' Club, only a week or so ago. The members all looked forward to a hard year on the farmer and talked over the situation fully to come to the conclusion that there was but little that could pay them this year.

IN CENTRAL NEW YORK WHEAT WAS ONLY ninety cents a bushel and they thought it could not pay. General depression resulted from the drop in breadstuffs and there, as here, they found it necessary to economize in all respects and to make every thing count that was possible. Farmers the world over have hard times. After all the talk about diversity of crops

there is only so much possible and wheat and wool must be the leading staples of all new regions like ours. Whatever we can do to increase the number of products should be done and the man who succeeds in creating a diversity will usually thrive best.

THE WORLD'S NEEDS.

Good English authority says that in any case, whatever the harvest at home may be, Great Britain will need 14,000,000 quarters of 500 pounds, and can use 16,000,000 quarters of breadstuffs from other countries. Sixteen million quarters are equal to four million tons, or four times the probable surplus the Pacific Coast can spare. This illustrates the effect of our products on the world's market. Only a few years ago, say a quarter of a century, such a thing as breadstuffs from this side of the world was unthought of, so it was with regard to the fact of wheat-growing in India. All this has come upon the world suddenly and we stop to inquire the outcome and judge what farm production will take in the immediate future.

IS WHEAT TO BE PRODUCED IN INCREASING ratio as new fields are explored and made ready for the plow? If all the world has no other resource and knows of nothing else that can be done, then it is possible the same old channel will be followed and no new paths of trade be opened. This supposes that man resembles the ant or the bee whose instinct knows no change and whose needs know no variety from the fashions that ant and bee have followed from beginning. But man, even the plodding farmer, has more outside than that and will discover new paths in the field of agriculture. It has come to this: We must develop something of variety in production, so as to find revenue more reliable than wheat-growing affords.

A YOUNG FRIEND WHO HAS DEVELOPED great energy and skill at farming and has broad acres that overlook Salem, eight miles off, in the Waldo hills, sends us word with unfeigned rejoicing, that he has grown 5,000 bushels of wheat on his hill acres. We appreciate his enterprise and his immense labor in securing such success in production and the query that comes to us is: "What will he do with it?" Take wheat under its best phases, and the most we can hope for will not be a remunerative crop.

THE WRITER REFERRED TO AS HIGH AUTHORITY considers that October must come before wheat will settle down to a steady and reliable figure. By that time the world's statisticians will figure out the supply and make some estimate of the coming demand. As we have intimated heretofore low wheat and flour will cause more extended use of them. The poor will eat white and not black bread any longer and manufacturers will work up low grades of flour in various ways. Our country will not equal the great surplus of two years ago, and it will be possible that all our bread can find hungry mouths to feed.

ONE DECIDED FACT SHOULD BE BORNE IN mind: The world has a vast surplus of shipping. During late years England and Norway and Germany have been building many ships expecting our commerce would require them, but commerce has gone down and all over the world the general tone of trade is very slow. This will insure us cheap freights if we manage well and do not throw the opportunity away. Freights should be as low in proportion as all trade generally is. We may not realize as low freights as have prevailed but the world that needs our wheat has ships to send for it that will be glad to carry it for a low rate.

IN THE RED HILLS.

THE LASTING NATURE AND GOOD QUALITY of the soil of the red hills in this valley can be judged from the yield of many farms south of Salem, where the hill range is ten miles wide. Mr. Coffey owns the old land claims of Dr. Belt and John C. Bell, eight miles from Salem, overlooking the Santiam and the Willamette bottoms, the highest land between here and the Santiam, where he has harvested 3,300 bushels of the choicest winter wheat off of 128 acres, averaging twenty-five bushels to the acre. They say at the mill here it is as good wheat as grows, averaging 64 pounds per bushel. An old field that has been in cultivation a third of a century, to our knowledge, averaged 41 bushels, and not on summer-fallow. It never was fallowed but once and that was not last year. The red hills, and Prospect hill in particular, are hard to beat.

ORGANIZE FOR SELF PROTECTION.

WE HAVE NO HESITATION IN SAYING THE hard times are calculated to bring farmers closer together and enable them to

see how their best interest lies in co-operation. If they could control, in some measure the products of the country, the result would be that there would be less glutting of markets with unsaleable things. The world may have need, within a twelve-month, of all the farms can produce, but to rush the proceeds of all the harvests onto its markets as soon as the harvest is over is certain to overstock the demand and to depress prices. This can only be avoided by co-operation among producers. There must be organization and mutual understanding and also a financial system by means of which a producer can borrow on the value of his products and be able to hold at least to prevent over-supply. We have never seen any thing suggested as a sufficient guard and protection of the interests of producers, save the Grange. The order of Patrons of Husbandry covers all that ground in its intentions and if those plans can be thoroughly tested there is reason to believe that they will secure the best possible results.

FARMERS IN A PANIC.

IF FARMERS WERE ORGANIZED FOR SELF-protection they could make a much better defence of their own interests than now. It is impossible to organize the great mass of producers so as to control markets, but some protection could be secured if farmers were able to command financial assistance in times like the present when a necessity exists for preventing the breadstuffs market from being overstocked. In times of abundance it would be folly to try to maintain high prices by any sort of organization, though it might be that prudent management could prevent prices falling to a rate as ruinously low as now prevails. The policy of millers and all other buyers is to let the markets become overstocked and buy at the lowest possible figure. A panic in breadstuffs acts much the same as in stocks in Wall street. The limit is easily passed of actual value and all the world sells at a sacrifice.

THE REMEDY FOR THIS STATE OF THINGS IS to relieve wheat growers of necessity to sell their crops as soon as the harvest is over. There should be some financial institution at the command of the farmer where he could borrow money on his warehouse receipts, and so be able to handle himself well. The freight market to-day controls the price of wheat; high freights are a controlling influence to keep wheat low in price. Selling too freely will overstock all markets. The salvation of the wheat-grower lies in holding aloof from buyers. If not compelled to sell it will be but a short time before the markets everywhere must improve. The wheat producers are "bearing" their own product by rushing to sell in haste. The Grange is intended to give farmers more unity of interest and action. Its purpose is to aid agriculture in all possible ways. If its influence was permanently established it would come nearer to accomplishing all desired ends than any scheme ever proposed for the benefit of working agriculture.

ABOUT FRUIT.

SOME ONE TELLS US THAT PEOPLE THROUGH the country are picking green fruit off the trees, in some instances to work up in their driers. If green fruit would make good dried product but to be worth a fair price dried fruit must be made from actually ripe fruit. We have been working up some fruit that was over-ripe and one person interested undertook to show that it was wasted effort. A tray full of very ripe plums was pitted and put in the drier and when it came out it was found to be super-excellent. It is a positive fact that fruit must be ripe and cannot well be too ripe to dry well. In drying Bartlett pears, one year, we found some pieces that looked and tasted leathery, while the remainder was very tender, encrusted with sugar, and tasted and looked like confectionery. The poorer quality was merely unripe. Ripe fruit will evaporate quicker and be better every way and will bring more money as a matter of course.

THERE ARE MANY FAMILY DRIERS THROUGH the country and this year the apple crop is very large through this part of Oregon. There are also many pears and there is no reason why the dried fruit interest should not be made important. There is some question as to a market, because dried apples come to us from the East and it looks very much as if we might have to sell very low if we depend on the home market or expect to send East to compete with the old orchards we left behind when we crossed the plains. That is the reason why we say so much about the necessity of manufacturing a good article.

HERE AGAIN COMES IN A QUESTION OF IMPORTANCE. The farmer generally dries his fruit and puts it in anything that is

handy, barrel, box, or sack and sells for what he can get, whereas he can easily buy boxes and good paper to line them and pack his fruit in No. 1 shape, so packed his fruit would sell better and his reputation would be considerably enhanced. However, we don't expect to see many farmers try to pack fruit in No. 1 shape and only throw out that remark as a proper suggestion.

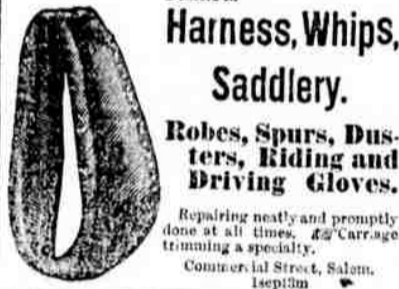
NEW ORLEANS CENTENNIAL.

MR. W. H. WADHAMS lately gave us a copy of a letter received by him from Mr. Marvin, of Minnesota, who is U. S. Commissioner for the great exposition to be made at New Orleans, and urges that Oregon shall have a good exhibit there. It seems that in response to request received by Governor Moody he in February last, appointed Mr. Jacob Mayer of this city and Hon. Jos. D. Lee of Dallas as commissioners from this State to take entire charge of the matter. Owing to business engagements and to further aid in making the exhibit a creditable one to our State, Mr. Mayer a few weeks since appointed as his assistant Hon. John W. Crawford of Salem. It is to be hoped that something may be done that will give visitors at the centennial some idea as to what Oregon can do in the way of an exhibit of grain, minerals, woods, fruits, vegetables and fish.

THIS EXPOSITION WILL OPEN THIS FALL and continue until next June, and will be a grand affair. Congress appropriated a million dollars towards its success and the Southern people will carry it through to a grand termination. Our harvest is now being gathered and we shall have many products worth exhibiting. Our State can compete in many lines of production with the whole world and Oregon can be made widely and favorably known if our people will send samples of their products to be exhibited at the great New Orleans centennial.

NEW THIS WEEK.

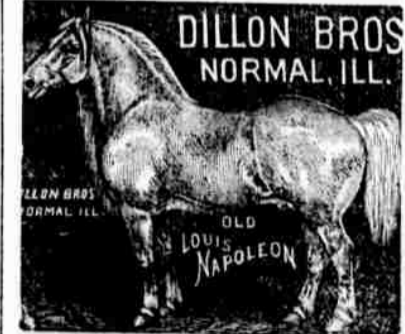
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