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Times-Mountaineer.
SATURDAY, SEPT. 3, 1908.
THE WHEAT OUTLOOK.

The following from the Portland Commercial Review is not encouraging to the farmer, but the truth is no one can forecast what the price of wheat will be. The Review says: "The work of the wheat apicults in Western Oregon has put a blight upon the excellent prospects by shortening the yield, and the decline in price adds still more to the depression. On the market question the feeling locally is one of extreme weakness, based upon the depression existing in the wheat trade of Europe, where values are almost daily dropping and prices at writing are largely nominal in character. New wheat is being offered freely throughout Western Europe. The condition of affairs in our market is extremely unsatisfactory. Sellers generally have false ideas regarding prices, and show little disposition to meet the advances of buyers. This position must in the end result disastrously to the selling interest, although at present having a temporary advantage. For exporters, after providing for urgent wants, will not make the same prices later on. More wheat will be offered than can be placed on the market, and the consequences will be that values will probably be lower than the market level. Farmers and sellers must bear in mind that prices here are subject to selling values in England. It is well known that present bids put out by shippers are much above a parity with selling prices abroad, and unless a reaction should set in, which at present is far from promising, losses will be sustained on earlier shipments. The movement of wheat to tidewater is increasing, but the amount received to date, present season, is rather below receipts for the same time during previous years. The same is also true as to deliveries by farmers at interior warehouses, and is quite willing to sell at whatever prices are made, while Eastern Oregon is holding off, expecting that they will be able to regulate the market and make their own prices. The market, in the meantime, is going against them daily. As to selling prices, it is quite difficult to give accurate figures; the real market value is easily figured out. Based on best cable bids for prompt shipment, Valley is worth 60 cents, bluestem 60 cents, and club 60¢/75¢ per bushel. Bluestem this season will command an unusual premium, on account of the demand from California.

THEY CAN AFFORD IT.
The Railway News Bureau has issued a circular on the decline in freight rates on railroads during the past 30 years and shows it to have been 58 per cent. This we presume is about correct, yet when one takes into account the difference in the cost of building railroads ago and now, it does not appear to be very great reduction.

Thirty years ago railroading was almost in its infancy. It cost twice as much to build a mile of railroad then as it does now, and the operating expenses were very much greater. Then freight cars were built to carry from 15,000 to 25,000 pounds, now they carry from 50,000 to 60,000 pounds. An engine then would draw a train of ten of those small cars, or 250,000 pounds; now an engine will haul 30 of the larger cars or 1,800,000 pounds. By the use of air brakes the number of train hands has been reduced from seven to five on a train. Owing to the decline in the price of material and the better facilities for manufacturing, the cost of the large engines and cars of today is no greater than the cost of the small ones thirty years ago. Thus with the same investment and with two less hands a freight train of today can handle over five times as much as could one of thirty years ago. And within thirty years the traffic has so increased that there is more business for the roads than there was in 1868. Wages have also decreased and the price of coal has fallen off so that it costs no more to operate one of the big engines of the present than it did to operate one of the little engines of thirty years ago.

Taking all these things into consideration, there is more money for the railroad in hauling freight across the continent at one dollar per hundred than there was at three dollars per hundred when the first transcontinental road was built. Then why should there not be a decline of 58 per cent? The decline should really have been greater. Had it been 75 per cent it would not be out of proportion.

GOOD ROADS.
There is nothing more essential to the people of a country than good roads, and good roads over which to haul their products to market, nor is there anything that tends more to build up the trade of a city than good roads leading into it. This is then a matter in which the farmer in the country and the merchant in the city have a common and direct interest. The farmer wants easy facilities for getting his produce to market at the least possible expense and it is to the interest of the merchant that his customers have every convenience for reaching him. Therefore both should work in unison to secure the best roads possible.

That the roads leading into The Dalles are not so good as they might be made, is beyond question, and that should be improved is a matter on which all are agreed, though how this is to be accomplished has not been determined. True, the surrounding country is not an easy one to build roads over, but that they can be built is demonstrated by the few good roads in the country. All that is required is sufficient labor judiciously applied. The road most in need of improvement, because it is more traveled than any other in the county, is the one leading from here to Tygh ridge, connecting with the Shearer toll road, and it is said it can be put in perfect repair for \$2000. Since this road is traveled by a great number of taxpayers, it cannot be expected that it will be put in repair by the individual donations of the merchants and business men of The Dalles, although they

have been very liberal in their donations to roads in the past. It would be repaired out of the general funds of the county, because it would be of benefit to a majority of the taxpayers. We trust the county court will consider the matter at the September session of court, for it is now the time of year when farmers demand good roads on which to haul their grain to market.

WHERE THE BLAME LIES.

The war being over it may not now appear unparliamentary to inquire into the unnecessary suffering that has been endured by the soldiers who have been sent to the front and those who have been mobilized at different points of rendezvous. Even during the civil war, the nation's future was held by a slender cord, and when the credit was uncertain, there was not such a shamful neglect of the army as there has been during the war with Spain, when men were anxious to enlist and when ample means were at hand to command the nation's future supply every necessity required for the army and to provide them with comfortable quarters wherever they were mobilized.

Of course the direct blame for selecting an unhealthy and uncomfortable place for mobilizing the troops must rest upon Secretary of War Alger, but indirectly the blame rests with the administration. President McKinley himself was responsible for Alger's being put in office and retaining a place in the cabinet after his incompetency was so vividly displayed. But the real cause of this blotch in conducting the war reaches back beyond the beginning of hostilities. It dates back to March 4, 1897, when President McKinley chose his cabinet officers. Instead of selecting statesmen as his advisors, he gave out cabinet appointments as political rewards. In the first place Senator Sherman was induced to resign his place in the senate and accept the office of secretary of state in order that M. A. Hanna might be rewarded for his services in the campaign of 1896 with a seat in the senate. Sherman soon displayed his incapability, and had the decency to resign.

General Alger was possessed of great wealth, and had contributed liberally to the campaign fund. As a reward he was made secretary of war. Early in his official career he began exhibiting his incapability in establishing a military reserve at the mouth of the Yukon, where he and his associates might realize millions in their speculations at the expense of the prospectors going to the Klondike. Although the government was tilted, and it was evident he was in office for the "graft" there was in it, he was not removed but was retained in office until a time came last spring when he could more fully display his incapability and greed for gain at the expense not only of the nation of our soldiers having died from exposure, the lack of proper food and from having been huddled together in unwholesome quarters. When Simon Cameron showed his fitness for secretary of war at the close of 1891, President Lincoln held him directly responsible for the conduct of his cabinet officers. Had McKinley done likewise, there would be fewer graves filled today by victims of Alger's incompetency.

TRADE RELATIONS.
It is now claimed that Cuba and Porto Rico within four years of peace and under the new trade relations that will be established will furnish the United States with all the sugar needed annually. Some people think this will be a blow at the sugar beet industry. And so it may be. But a matter of still greater financial importance is what is to become of the tobacco, cigar and cigarette business under the new relations that are to be established in the islands mentioned and in the Philippines. With a trade protectorate over the Philippine islands good cigars of Manila manufacture can be sold in this country for one cent apiece. Of course the destiny of the world depends the right of man to sell in the dearest market and buy in the lowest, and in any event we cannot deny to the islands to which we dictate these rights which our forefathers demanded when they threw the tea into Boston harbor. Taxation without representation is as unjust and indefensible in 1908 as in 1776.

INTERNAL REVENUE TAX.
It will undoubtedly be years ere the people of this country are free of the extra tax burdens that have been imposed on them since war was declared with Spain. Of course, they were ostensibly created to pay the expenses of conducting the war, but as it is a well known fact that the direct bill is a failure so far as production of revenue to meet the current expenses of the government, even in time of peace, it is not at all likely that we shall be free from the extra burdens imposed as special taxes since the breaking out of the war, for years to come, if ever.

A considerable portion of the government revenues will doubtless hereafter have to be raised by social taxes, as is not at all probable any tariff bill that stands any show of becoming a law will ever be framed that would produce enough revenue. Whether that special tax will be in the shape of an income tax or be placed on articles of every-day use, is a question that will be settled by the dominant political party; however, the method, special taxes are with us and the end thereof no man can safely foresee.

THE SPANISH VERSION.
The written address to the American soldiers by a Spanish private is being made over by the Associated Press. After years of robbery and ruteness Spain has lost Cuba and Spanish soldiers and government alike want to return to the old Spain, but to govern themselves. It will be well to pay no attention to the garulous Spanish. They have murdered and pillaged, outraged and burned, and after being whipped by the United States, seek to load us with gallantry at the expense of the Cubans whom they claim shot at them when they ran away to the bush. The Cubans were privileged to shoot and run. It was their only method of warfare. They were weak and could get ammunition and aid only through the kindness of the Americans. The Cubans should not and will not carry much water with the Americans.

MARK HANNA ON THE WAR.
"We have spent \$300,000,000," said Mark Hanna to a St. Paul Pioneer Press reporter, last week. "We have done ourselves a good turn while enhancing the cause of humanity."

Perhaps the senator from Ohio did not intend to be so frank in thus summing up of the results of the war, says the Spokesman-Review. "We have done ourselves a good turn while enhancing the cause of humanity," he chuckles, and he thinks of the yachts sold the government at an enormous profit, of the shoddy clothing and shoddy and rotten food furnished the soldiers, by the contractors who were "friends" of the administration, and of Mark Hanna; of the silts that had been cut in the money bag of Uncle Sam by the "loyal" sharpshooting and little, who took advantage of the nation's need to despoil her, but he evidently has his thoughts upon the high and the low of the war, and the awful hardships they had to undergo as the result of the incompetency, mismanagement and inhumanity of the Alger appointees in administrative offices. Verily, Mark Hanna and his friends have "done a good thing for themselves." If his estimate of a "good thing" is accepted—an estimate that measures everything, even patriotism, in dollars and cents.

This interview of his, given to a gold republican newspaper, is entirely characteristic of the man. Unintentionally it betrays his sordid, selfish, money grabbing, narrow nature. Here is a sample sentence taken from it: "We will control Cuba. It makes little difference now whether the insurgents can maintain a stable government. In less than 20 years the United States will practically own the island. It will require 20,000 men to hold Cuba, but we will get good returns for our investment."

THE SPECIAL SESSION.
There is now scarcely a doubt that the general assembly will call a special session of the legislature next month to wind up the business that should have been transacted at the session of 1907, which never met. Of course the session will last twenty days and will cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000, as the session of 1907 was conducted on much less than \$2,500 a day. An investment for the already overburdened taxpayers, the session will be a failure, but for the politicians and "grafters" it will be a howling success. There will be no less than ninety clerks appointed, or rather they will be rewarded at the rate of five dollars per day for the services they rendered in the June election, and besides there will be the usual number of small jobs to be worked that will satisfy the longing of the professional politicians, those who are in politics for revenue, and they will all declare the special session a brilliant achievement. Then there will be no doubt but that the senator elected, and the great state of Oregon will have her full representation in congress. This of course can require but little time, since the republican party has an overwhelming majority in both houses, and the members should be able to elect some good standard senator on the first ballot, one who will stand in with the administration and Mr. Hanna.

But where are the taxpayers going to get off? Where will they get even on the expenses of the legislature? It will probably be agreed that an appropriation bill will be passed that will stop the interest on the present outstanding state warrants, which amount to something like \$500,000. The interest on this is \$4,000 a month. This is not a large sum, but at the best only three months' interest, or \$12,000 can be saved, and it will be an expenditure of \$50,000 to say \$12,000. This, of course, will be good "financing" for the grafters.

There may be some remedial legislation which our forefathers demanded for every legislator elected is pledged to reform, and they cannot afford to ignore their pledges. Besides the new lawmakers will have an opportunity to practice up, so that they can get right down to work at the start of the regular session is convened next January, and may be able to acquit themselves and their constituents with will which they never had before, or at least elected.

Every vote for H. W. Corbett for U. S. Senator is a vote to make money for the master, every vote for the slave Corbett could not be elected by the voters, but his election is a certainty. The gold-bug press cuckles in glee over the statement that the production of gold in the United States now equals the production of both gold and silver in 1873. This means that while there has been tremendous progress in all other branches the money kings have kept the money supply more and more limited.

What does the U. S. want with the Philippine islands and their 9,000,000 semi-civilized inhabitants? The islands, no doubt, are productive and full of resources, but the inhabitants are undesirable. They would never become desirable citizens. We might as well talk of annexing China as the Philippines. The campaign for the fall election is warming up in the state of Washington. Senator Wilson is posing as a political boss, and from appearances wants to make a one-man campaign of it, placing his interests above that of his party and his state. He might well take warning from the fate of a gentleman in Oregon who tried to do the same thing in 1886. Wise men learn from the experience of others.

men and who would have made just as brave a record as any, if they had been given a chance at the front. They acted their whole duty where they were placed, which is all that could be asked of soldiers.

The little friction between Secretary Alger and General Miles cannot but result beneficially to the army. There will be a shaking up of the organization, and when the fray is over a lot of incompetent hangers on will fall out. Then the army will be placed on a more business-like footing.

Strangely to say, right here in this country of the gold standard and protection to home industries an ounce of silver is worth more than a bushel of wheat. It begins to look like some of the arguments heard in 1896 about the parity in silver and wheat was more truthful than poetical.

When an investigation is made of the manner in which Secretary Alger has conducted the war there should be no white-washing. Every fact should be brought forth. The starving of soldiers on our own soil and the surrounding with plenty of ships that cannot be passed by their own guns—van though they are notoriously poor marksmen. Patriotism which causes wife or sweetheart to smile at a position in the ranks, or social prominence for the doubtful pleasure of becoming a target for the enemy's guns—van though they are notoriously poor marksmen. Patriotism which causes wife or sweetheart to smile at a position in the ranks, or social prominence for the doubtful pleasure of becoming a target for the enemy's guns—van though they are notoriously poor marksmen.

Some alleged friends of Hon. T. T. Geer are "blowing" him for United States senator. Whether Mr. Geer sanctions this move or not is not known, but certain it is he should not. He was elected governor; the people of the state want him for that place, and will not view with favor any effort to put him in some other position to serve the people well and faithfully as governor, and his party should be in power at the expiration of his term, then it will be time for him to aspire to be United States senator, but at this time such aspirations are unwelcome.

Military government in Santiago is proving very successful. The officials in charge report that after paying all salaries and expenses of the city there is \$90,000 in cash in the treasury. A thorough street cleaning system has been inaugurated in Santiago and the health of the city is improving in consequence. All kinds of business is being pushed and there is a boom on in that part of Cuba. If government by the military gives the people of Cuba such advantages what will be the result when government with the consent of the governed is organized there?

In his paper on "The Possibilities of Cuba," read before the American Association for the advancement of science, Professor Robert T. Hill, of the United States geological survey, said that although the United States has a duty of the declaration of congress to establish Cuban independence, there is a strong feeling on the part of the American and foreign residents of Cuba that the ultimate destiny of this island will be absorption into the American union. The cause has been ultimately brought about by natural and friendly means there is no doubt. In city enterprise, Glasgow, Scotland, is far ahead of all other cities. She has not levied any city tax for two years. Profits on business owned and operated by the city are expenses. It has owned its gas and water works for many years. In 1894 it bought the street railways and is now about to establish a city bank. The city provides swimming baths at 4 cents a swim, and city washhouses where householders wash their clothes, and has hot and cold water, fixed with both tubs and conveniences that only the wealthy can afford for themselves, for less than fuel alone would cost at home.

Poor Alger is again in a fix. When General Miles went to Cuba he was recognized by the war department and in fact is the ranking general of the army and was given explicit instructions regarding the management of the campaign; then Alger sent a dispatch to Shafter that Miles was not sent to supersede him. Of course the war department was not pleased to have brought about a clash had it not been for the good judgment exercised by the two generals. Shafter is entitled to all the praise deserved for the management of the Santiago campaign and no one would seek less credit for it than General Miles. The cross purpose instructions of the war department alone gave cause for any friction.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 30.—The executive council of the National Association of War Veterans of the United States has issued an invitation to the survivors of the confederate army and navy to fraternize and parade with the association veterans in Cincinnati September 6. It is in the purpose of the association to make the reunion in the nature of a peace jubilee.

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WISCONSIN DEMOCRATS.
MILWAUKEE, Wis., Aug. 30.—The democratic state convention meets in this city tomorrow, to nominate a full state ticket. All interest so far has been confined to the head of the ticket, Judge Hiram W. Sawyer, of Hartford, and Timothy Ryan, of Waushara, are the most active aspirants for the governorship nomination. The platform will declare for free coinage of silver.

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HEALTH AT CAMP MERRIAM.
SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 30.—Major Matthews, surgeon in charge of the division hospital at the Presidio, says that since the removal of the troops to Camp Merriam the health of the men has steadily improved. He denies that typhoid fever is epidemic, the cases being confined to a few companies.

PARTITION OF SAMOA.
Likely Soon to Follow the Death of Malietoa.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—The state department has not yet been officially advised of the reported death of King Malietoa, of Samoa, and in all likelihood must remain in official ignorance of the event for some time to come, owing to the slow means of communication at the disposal of the department.

It is the general impression here that the death of the king will result in the overthrow of the present form of government of the islands, maintained as it is by the joint action of the United States, Great Britain and Germany.

CLASH THREATENED AT MANILA.
LONDON, Aug. 30.—The Hong Kong correspondent of the Daily Mail says: The relations between the Americans and the Filipinos are much strained in consequence of the collision at Cavite last Wednesday. The insurgent general at Cavite has been ordered to evacuate the place and remove his troops two miles into the country, in order to prevent further disturbances.

General Aguinaldo said his chief purpose in maintaining his army near the city was to be prepared to cope with the Spaniards in case the United States left Manila to Spanish control.

THE FATE OF THREE SPANISH FUGITIVES.
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If You Are Going

Camping, Hunting, Fishing, Picnicking, Prospecting, or if you are going to stay at home, just take a look at Pease & May's Grocery Windows. They contain a large assortment of canned goods of every description, and of the very best packs to be had in this and foreign countries. It has been selected expressly for serving cold, thus INSURING HEALTH and ASSURING COMFORT to the cook at your house this hot weather.

Also California Loose Muscatel
....Raisins, 3 1-2c per lb.
PEASE & MAYS
During the month of August our store will close promptly at 8 o'clock P. M.



This Reservoir Cook Stove, Eastern make, best foundry iron; warranted good; large oven. \$15.50

Remember
We carry the best line of Cook Stoves, and Steel Ranges. Our Air-Tight Stoves can not be surpassed. We have them as low as \$3.25. Do not fail to call and see us.

Hotel and Restaurant Outfitting a Specialty
Our Goods are the Best and Prices the Lowest.
GREAT NORTHERN FURNITURE STORE
East End, opp. Fred Fisher's Grocery Store

BAD TREATMENT OF OUR SOLDIERS
Methods of the War Department Should Be Investigated.

at the commencement of the war the Cuban officers were ordered to put themselves under of the American commander, and therefore the letter from Garcia to Shafter is looked upon as a breach of discipline. Garcia's resignation is not accepted, but he is relieved of his command. General Rodriguez, commanding in the east under Gomez, will succeed him.

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