SUGAR-BEET CULTURE

Historical Sketch of the Industry in America.

FIRST ATTEMPT A FAILURE

It Was Established Near Philadelphia in 1830—Factories Now in the United States.

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 estalbishment. 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 $160,000. 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 Lehi, Utah; Grand Island, Neb., and Nofrolk, 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 valueless without the beets.

The farmer has the land, which he knows will produce good beets, but the capitalist will not venture his wealth until he sees the beets growing, and unless the capitalist is also the landowner, and appreciates the advantages of the sugar enterprise, it is most difficult to inaugurate the business."

News comes from Round Valley, Cal., to the effect that an Indian named Dick Bell had killed a man named Thomas Steele. Bell has been arrested. Steele was shot in the back.

Real Tragedy on the Stage.

Armand Castlemary, while singing the role of Tristano in Flotow's opera of "Martha," at the Metropolitan opera house, New York, dropped dead in front of the footlights and almost in full view of one of the most brilliant audiences which has filled the theater this winter. So quiet was the matter kept, however, that few in the audience knew a tragedy had taken place before their very eyes.

In the last three years 49,000 acres of timber in New York State have been destroyed by forest fires.

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 afternon. 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 Michell 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 sugestion was adopted by the committee.

Senator Mulkey proposes an amendment to the road laws, providing that the viewers of a proposed road, when damages are claimed by persons residing in the vicinity, shall appraise damages at the same time they view the road. The notice of the proposed road is considered sufficient notice to all probable claimants, enabling such claimants to file their petition at the time of the hearing of the petition. The measure is thought to be practical and economical.

Two hundred and thirty-one bills have been so far introduced in the senate. Honors are even between Senators Gowan, McClung and Smith, as authors of the greatest number, there being now 17 to the credit of each. The list is as follows: Bates 4, Brownell 9, Calbreath 4, Carter 3, Daly 10, Dawson 8, Driver 9, Dufur 10, Gesner 6, Gowan 17, Harmon 11, Haseltine 7, Hobson 4, Holt 7, Hughes 3, Johnson 10, King 14, Mackay 6, McClung 17, Michell 5, Mulkey 9, Patterson of Marion 6, Patterson of Washington 5, Price 9, Reed 7, Selling 6, Smith 17, Taylor 2, Wade 6.

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 leigslature, 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 conevntion adjourned immediately following the roll call.

The Senators.

When the senate reconevned 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; Daly, 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.

The Davis House.

The Davis house met Monday and immediately adjourned.

Firecrackers Caused It.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 11.—A boy named Albert Auld was killed through the shying of a coal cart horse at fire crackers in Chinatown this evening. The load was overturned, and crushed Auld's skull. Mayor Redfern stopped the firing of crackers in the streets.

A French Cruiser Starts.

Toulon, Feb. 9.—The French cruiser Tronde has started for the island of Crete.

Spokane Typographical Union, No. 193, has passed a resolution protesting against the establishment of a printing office in the penitentiary, in accordance with Governor Rogers' recommendation.

On some parts of the coast of France, where the wind is in the east, the mist that appears bears with it a very noticeable perfume.

We can afford to have you try all five flavors—one after another—of *Schilling's Best* tea, and get your money back if you don't like any.

Your tea-trade for the next ten years is worth having.

A Schilling & Company
San Francisco 421

A Bath (Me.) hunter has presented to each of his eight children a fat feather bed, stuffed with the plumage of birds he has shot.

White quartz with a great deal of free gold has been struck near Hill City, in the Black Hills.

Glycerine is derived from the lye left after making soap, which for ages was considered of no use.

A Pennsylvania court has decided that to call a man a Mugwump is not a libel, but a compliment.

At Salem, Mass., the Roentgen ray discovery is asserted to have caused hair to grow on a bald head.

A SOLID BASIS.

Gold is a solid basis of financial transaction, and for business that's the best thing for us. It is so in the physical conditions. If by some carelessness or exposure to sudden cold the muscles of the back are contracted and stiffened, we have at once lumbago, or lame back, sometimes called "crick in the back," which is disabling and unfits all who have it for any activity. Now, to get back to a solid basis of health and strength, St. Jacobs Oil should at once be used to relax the twisted muscles and restore to their natural condition. It takes but a short time to perform the cure and the cure is certain. The back is then on a solid basis for strength and work, and nothing will bring about the change like this great remedy for pain.

Fossil animals, bearing a close resemblance to our horses, have been found in many parts of the world.

VIBRATING IN TUNEFUL ACCORD,

Like the strings of a musical instrument, the nervous system in health harmonizes pleasantly with the other parts of the system. But weakened or overwrought, it jangles most inharmoniously. Quiet and invigorate it with the great tranquillizer and tonic, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which promotes digestion, bilious secretion and a regular action of the bowels, and prevents malarial, rheumatic and kidney complaints.

Dropping or striking a steel magnet, or causing it to vibrate by any other means, diminishes its magnetism.

HOME PRODUCTS AND PURE FOOD.

All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from glucose. *"Tea Garden Drips"* is made from Sugar Cane and is strictly pure. It is for sale by first-class grocers, in cans only. Manufactured by the PACIFIC COAST SYRUP CO. All genuine *"Tea Garden Drips"* have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

In Germany asparagus is peeled before it is canned by the aid of a special machine.

I never used so quick a cure as Piso's Cure for Consumption.—J. B. Palmer, Box 1171, Seattle, Wash., Nov. 25, 1895.

Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

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WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

The wheat market in Chicago last week had a strong tone early, rallying 1c, and then breaking 4c, the close being at a loss of 3¼c from the close at the end of the previous week. The range on May was 73¾ to 77 7-8c, with the close at 73¾ to 73 7-8c. The foreign situation afforded but little substantial encouragement and the spot trade in America was not broad enough to force the upturn that the decrease in visible supplies warranted. The condition of the trade in England is shown by the failure of a grain house in Bristol, who were long floating California cargoes, the recent decline there of 15c from the high point being too much for them. Foreigners, both on the continent and in England, are long, and are placing great confidence in the strong statistical position. All the foreign papers are filled with bullish statistics, and have been for the past ninety days. Those sent uot lately have been a rehash of what the trade has been stuffed with ever since the advance started. There have been at least ten official Russian crop reports, each differing slightly from the other. There also has been a fresh estimate on the world's wheat crop, the Corn Trade News' latest making it 96,000,000 bushels short of last year. A few months ago Beerbohm was out with an estimate of 136,000,000 bushels short. It is generally conceded that the Argentine crop is short, as at this time of the year that country commences to ship heavily, but last week it only sent about 20,000 bushels, against 800,000 bushels last year. Bradstreets estimates that the world's available supply will be 75,000,000 bushels, against 105,000,000 bushels last year, and 131,000,000 bushels in 1895.

Cash wheat is being held back all over the world for higher prices, and occasionally a section is heard from that has a little that it desires to sell.

Speculation with commission houses has increased slightly, but is still small.

Market Quotations.

Portland, Or., Feb. 16, 1897.

Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, $4.25; Benton county and White Lily, $4.40; graham, $3.50; superfine, $2.75 per barrel.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 80@81c; Valley, 82@83c per bushel.

Oats—Choice white, 39@40c per bushel; choice gray, 38@40c.

Hay—Timothy, $13@13.50 per ton; clover, $10.00@11.00; wheat and oat, $10.00@11 per ton.

Barley—Feed barley, $18.00 per ton; brewing, $20.

Millstuffs—Bran, $15.00; shorts, $16.50; middlings, $26.

Butter—Creamery, 50@55c; dairy, 25@35c; store, 17½@30c per roll.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 65@85c; Garnet Chiles, 70@80c; Early Rose, 70@80c per sack; sweets, $2.25 per cental for Merced; Jersey Red, $2.50 per sack.

Onions—$1.50@1.75 per sack.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $2.50@3.00; geese, $3@4; turkeys, live, 11c; ducks, $4@5.00 per dozen.

Eggs—Oregon, 15@18c per dozen.

Cheese — Oregon, 12½c; Young America, 13½c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 10c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8c.

Hops—9@10c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, $2.75@3.00; cows, $2.25@2.50; dressed beef, 4@5½c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, $3.00@3.25; dressed mutton, 5½@6c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, $3.25@3.50; light and feeders, $2.50@3.00; dressed, $4.50@5.00 per cwt.

Veal—Large, 5@5½c; small, 6@6½c per pound.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 16, 1897.

Wheat—Chicken feed, $27 per ton.

Oats—Choice, $23@24 per ton.

Barley—Rolled or ground, $22 per ton.

Corn—Whole, $20 per ton; cracked, $21; feed meal, $21.

Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, $5.10; Novelty A, $4.60; California brands, $5.20; Dakota, $5.50; patent, $6.25.

Millstuffs—Bran, $15.50 per ton; shorts, $19.

Feed—Chopped feed, $18.00 per ton; middlings, $22; oilcake meal, $29.

Hay—Puget sound, per ton, $9.00@10.00; Eastern Washington, $14.

Butter — Fancy native creamery, brick, 25c; select, 24c; tubs, 23c; ranch, 17c.

Cheese—Native Washington, 12½c.

Vegetables—Potatoes, per ton, $18@20; parsnips, per sack, 75c; beets, per sack, 60c; turnips, per sack, 60c; rutabagas, per sack, 75c; carrots, per sack, 35@45c; cabbage, per 100 lbs, $1.50; onions, per 100 lbs, $2.50.

Sweet potatoes—Per 100 lbs, $3.00.

Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 8½c; dressed, 9@10c; ducks, $4.00@5.00; dressed turkeys, 15.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, 18c; Eastern, —c per dozen.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5½c; mutton, sheep, 7½c per pound; lamb, 5c; pork, 5c per pound; veal, small, 6c.

Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5@6; salmon, 5@6; salmon trout, 7@10; flounders and soles, 3@4c.

Provisions—Hams, large, 11c; hams, small, 11½c; breakfast bacon, 10c; dry salt sides, 5¾c per pound.

San Francisco, Feb. 16, 1897.

Potatoes —Salinas Burbanks, 90c@$1.10; Early Rose, 75@85c; River Burbanks, 60@80c; sweets, Merced, $1.50@1.65; Los Angeles, $1.50@2.

Onions—$2.00@2.55 per cental.

Eggs—Ranch, 15@16 per dozen.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 21@22c; do seconds, 18@19c; fancy dairy, 17c; seconds, 14@15c.

Cheese — Fancy mild, new, 10c; fair to good, 7@8½c; Young America, 11@12c; Eastern, 14@14½c.

Wool—Choice mountain, 6@7c; poor do, 4@5c; San Joaquin plains, 3@5c; do foothill, 6@8c per pound.

Hay—Wheat and oat, $7@10; best barley, $7.00@8.50; alfalfa, $5@8; clover, $6@8; compressed wheat, $6@$9.50; do oat, $6@7 per ton.

Tropical Fruit—Bananas, $1.00@2.00 per bunch; pineapples, $2@4.

Citrus Fruit—Oranges, navel, $1.75@3.00; seedlings do, 75c@1.25; common lemons, $1.00@1.25; good to choice, $1.50@2.00; fancy, $2.25@2.50 per box.

Apples—Common, 60@75c per box; Eastern $1.00@3.00 per barrel.

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This experience is like that of all who suffer with deep-seated blood troubles. The doctors can do no good, and even their resorts to the knife prove either fruitless or fatal. S.S.S. is the only real blood remedy; it gets at the root of the disease and forces it out permanently.

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