

ONE DOLLAR WHEAT

Society of Equity Will Fix Minimum at Omaha Convention.

ALSO PREVENT GLUT IN MARKET

Farmers' Trust Has Organized System to Control Price and Distribution—Bankers Help.

Omaha, Neb., April 18.—In the five great wheat producing states of the country the minimum price of this cereal this year will be \$1 a bushel. This, at least, is the plan of the American Society of Equity, the grain growers' department of which will hold its annual convention in Omaha June 5, 6 and 7. Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas will send large delegations to the convention. Oklahoma, Iowa and other states are also to be represented.

The purposes of this society and the scope of its membership were explained at length today by J. A. Everitt, of Indianapolis, its president, who said:

"The American Society of Equity is a business organization of farmers, with local societies in 2,700 of the 3,000 agricultural counties of the United States. Its purpose is to carry on its organization work through local societies, organized into state unions. Its business side is being strongly developed along the line of departments, covering various farm products, such departments already organized being those of fruit and produce and of tobacco. The grain growers' department is the third.

"The convention at Omaha in June will launch this department on a solid basis. A central bureau will gather and disseminate information concerning supply and demand; fix a minimum price below which the farmers agree not to sell, and handle and divert the grain from the source of supply to the points of demand, as needed, not causing a glut of the market at any point at any time.

"The state union of North Dakota, at its annual meeting, was invited by the State Bankers' association to appoint a committee to confer with a like bankers' committee to arrange for carrying along the poor farmers who might otherwise be forced to sell below the minimum price."

REGULATE 2-CENT FARES

Nebraska Commission Rules on Terminal and Pass Matters

Lincoln, Neb., April 18.—The Nebraska railway commission issued its first order today basing on 2-cent fares and streetcar passes. It is a notice to steam railroad companies to post placards in every station calling attention to the fact that the 2-cent passenger fare does not apply to tickets purchased to a destination beyond the state border.

In addition to this order the commission has addressed a letter to the Lincoln Traction company, the Citizens' Railway company, of Lincoln; the Omaha, Lincoln & Beatrice Interurban and the Omaha & Council Bluffs Street Railway corporation, notifying them that they are subject to the terms of the new anti-pass law and will be expected to obey it.

GO FROM COPY TO CROPS.

Newspaper Men to Take Up Farms in Colorado.

Denver, Colo., April 18.—A colony of newspaper men is to be established in the Little Snake river valley in Routt county, Colorado, where the state of Colorado will throw open for settlement this summer, under the Carey act, 50,000 acres of land. This land is under the Little Snake river canal system. The plan is to make this colony an up-to-date farming community, where each man will own his own farm and improvements, the only connection in which the community idea will prevail, if at all, being in regard to labor.

Shocks Still Continue.

City of Mexico, April 18.—Owing to the great difficulty in establishing communication with the cities situated in the region of the earthquake shocks are coming to this city slowly. From the latest reports it is learned that shocks occurred as late as noon today. In the list of known dead, which now totals 50, and of the injured, which approximates 300, are many names of Mexicans prominent in the official and social life of the region. So far the name of no American has appeared in the meager list.

Cubans Want No Regular Army.

Havana, April 18.—Opinion here is opposed to the plan of the American general staff to establish a Cuba regular army of 12,000 men to replace the rural guard. It is said that it will be difficult to recruit that number of men.

DEEP SNOW ON PRAIRIES.

Six Inches Ruins Fruit Prospect, But Benefits Wheat.

Omaha, April 19.—Five inches of snow fell during the night, and the storm continued during the forenoon. The fall was general over Eastern Nebraska, and is the heaviest known in April for many years. The extent of damage is not known. Opinion as to the storm's effect upon fruit and early vegetables varies. In some counties along the southern and central belts cherries, peaches, plums, and berries are said by some authorities to have been ruined almost entirely, while other growers report that fruit was not far enough advanced to become seriously endangered.

In grain circles it is believed the snow will kill all the green bugs that have been threatening the winter wheat crop and spreading over the central portion of the state.

A Norfolk dispatch says Northern Nebraska, Southern South Dakota, Northeastern Wyoming and the Black Hills are covered with a blanket of snow six inches deep upon the level, which is still falling. At Northwestern railroad headquarters here it was said the storm was practically over the entire system west of the Missouri river.

DEATH LIST GROWING.

Mexican Earthquake Proves to Have Been Most Disastrous.

City of Mexico, April 19.—Today the Associated Press was in direct communication with a number of towns in the district affected by Sunday's earthquake. From the telegrams received it is certain that the death list will exceed 100. There are a number of small towns yet to be heard from, but up to date the average number of fatalities at these places has ranged from 9 to 12 and the number of injured from 30 to 40.

In Chilapa 33 persons were injured and 779 buildings destroyed. Nobody was killed, as reported yesterday.

After the first great shock the air was filled for many miles with a thick, sickening, sulphurous odor. This caused great distress to the survivors. There are many speculations as to the cause of the peculiar freak of nature and some consider it a proof that the earthquake had its origin in some subterranean explosion.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

San Francisco Remembers Earthquake Year Ago.

San Francisco, April 19.—While there was no general cessation of the work of rehabilitation, the first anniversary of the earthquake and the fire which left this city a mass of ruins was observed yesterday by appropriate religious services and commemorative exercises by the Building Trades Council and other organizations.

The crowning event of the day was the banquet of the Merchants' association at the Hotel Fairmont, at which the material and civic regeneration of the city was amply discussed and faith expressed in a new and greater San Francisco. The principal business streets were decorated with bunting and incandescent lights. Flags were flying everywhere and the dome of the city hall, still in a partly wrecked condition, was illuminated as on gala occasions "before the fire."

WILL GO FOR SIX-BITERS

Frisco Policy Holders Bring 1,800 Suits for Payment.

San Francisco, April 19.—More than 100 suits against insurance companies for the payment of policies held during the great fire a year ago were filed today at the county clerk's office, bringing the total well over 1,800. At 5 o'clock, when the office closed, there was a long line of attorneys, clerks and messengers waiting, and it took three clerks nearly an hour to dispose of the overflow.

Today was practically the last day for the filing of such suits, although in some cases the year allowed will not expire until tomorrow. During the past two days the county clerk's office has taken in nearly \$3,000 in fees on these cases alone.

After Men With Guns.

New York, April 19.—While squads of detectives are scouring the foreign quarters, working under the direct orders of Police Commissioner Bingham, arresting all the armed men they find, the judicial officers are showing evidence of their intention to co-operate with the police in breaking up the practice of carrying deadly weapons. District Attorney Jerome has prepared 50 cases against men charged with carrying concealed weapons, and will present them to the grand jury tomorrow. In all, 215 men have been locked up.

Volcano Erupts in Andes.

Valparaiso, Chile, April 19.—News has reached here that the Renihue volcano, in the province of Valdivia, is in violent eruption. The eruptions are accompanied by awful subterranean rumblings, earthquakes, intense darkness, electrical displays, ashes and boiling water. The flowing lava has set fire to the surrounding forests, and the inhabitants are fleeing in terror.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

SAYS ESTIMATE IS TOO HIGH

U'Ren Compiles Cost of Submitting Legislation to People.

Oregon City—William S. U'Ren, the father of the initiative and referendum, takes issue with the statements that have been published regarding the cost of voting under that law. Mr. U'Ren has carefully compiled the cost of initiating and referring legislative measures to the people under the act of 1907, which repealed the act of 1903. He admits that the postage expense in sending printed matter all over the state to 100,000 voters will be \$3,000, but he says that the cost of printing would be \$5,636 for 120 pages of measures, figuring on 100,000 copies, which is one-third more than have ever been printed. He says the binding will cost \$3,600 and the paper \$1,563.

The experience of Mr. U'Ren stands him in good stead in figuring on this matter. He bases the cost of addressing and filling 100,000 envelopes at \$4 per thousand, totaling \$400. The envelopes can be supplied and printed for \$5 per thousand, or \$500, and he believes that the cost of securing the names and postoffice addresses of 100,000 voters will not exceed \$1,500.

The publication of proclamations is not required by the new law of 1907, and the item of \$5,000 for that purpose must be eliminated from the cost. Mr. U'Ren believes that his estimate is conservative.

Marion Fruit Prospects.

Salem—Fruitgrowers of this section of the Willamette valley are looking forward to splendid crops in all varieties of fruits, especially in quality, and in consequence of the destruction being wrought to the crops in parts of the East by the recent severe frosts and other detrimental conditions of weather, there is also a fine prospect for good prices for Oregon fruits, both green and evaporated. Although the spurs on the prune trees are not so thickly set as last year, growers are pleased because what is lacking in quantity will be more than made up in quality and the price basis will be increased in proportion.

Adopt Interstate Regulations.

Salem—With the exception that the period of posting notices is fixed at ten days instead of 30, the Railroad commission has adopted the rules of the Interstate Commerce commission body, regulating the serving of notice upon the commission and posting of same in waiting rooms of railway stations when it is proposed to make a change in the regular schedule of rates, mileage, commutation, party, excursion and round-trip rates. Notice of the adoption of this rule has been forwarded to all railroad companies in the state.

The Dalles Fruit Possibilities.

The Dalles—This place is waking up to the fact that the soil and climatic conditions are perfectly fitted for the production of first class fruits, and especially for the raising of cherries and peaches. Men every day are turning their attention to the fruitraising industry, many investing in tracts of land varying in size from five to 40 acres, upon which they have planted orchards, with the prospect of splendid results. Nowhere can finer cherries and peaches be raised, and this season bids fair to be an exceptional one for a fruit crop.

Medford Road Buys Option.

Medford—Right of way agents of the Butte Falls & Western railway are purchasing options on land through which the contemplated survey will pass. The incorporators of the Butte Falls & Western have large timber holdings in the vicinity of Butte Falls, and contracts for the delivery of \$1,800,000 worth of sawed timber to the California Box company, which must be partially filled within the current year.

More interest in Farming.

Prairie City—The upper part of the John Day valley, in which Prairie City is situated, is fast coming to the front as an agricultural district. It is usually considered and spoken of as a stock country, but of late years grain and fruit raising have given it the character of a farming section. Citizens have come to understand this, and are systematically taking up the various farming features.

To Bridge McKenzie River.

Eugene—The county court has decided to build a good bridge across the McKenzie river at Hendricks Ferry. For years the cost of maintaining the ferry at this point has been considerable of an expense to the county, and the high water has often put the ferry temporarily out of commission.

Buy Timber Tract.

Eugene—The Armstrong timber tract has just been conveyed to the Monice Mill company. The land consists of 1,443 acres in the Lake creek district and the price paid, according to the deed, was \$27,500 or about \$19 an acre. The land is in township 17, ranges 7 and 8.

INSPECTION MAY BE CHEAP.

State Sheep Commission Inclined to Make Burden Light as Possible.

Salem—One of the most serious problems the Oregon Sheep commission will have to solve is the schedule of rates to be charged by county inspectors for the inspection of flocks for scab or other contagious infectious disease. It is probable the solution determined on will be to turn the duty of inspection over to the government inspectors, especially east of the Cascades, and confine the duties of the deputy state inspectors to supervising the dipping, with their compensation fixed on the basis of \$5 per day and expenses.

In order to make the expense as light as possible upon the sheepmen the commission first decided upon a minimum charge of 25 cents and a maximum of 1 cent per head per flock, where the number did not exceed 1,000 head. Then it was thought a maximum charge of \$1 per flock would be sufficient, inasmuch as there was not much work connected with the inspection, which consists principally of taking a birdseye view of the flock and looking for outward symptoms of scab and ticks, and requires only a few minutes' work.

Must Put Up Time Tables.

One of the rules of the state railroad commission is that bulletins giving the hours of the arrival and departure of all trains, be posted in every station. Practically all stations have for years been supplied with these bulletin boards but because of the carelessness or indifference of agents, time cards have not been posted for the information of the public. Newly painted bulletin boards are being sent to station agents for the O. R. & N. and the Southern Pacific, accompanied by a letter from the office of General Manager J. P. O'Brien, in which the attention of agents is called to the posting of bulletins.

Train Service Bad.

Members of the state railroad commission have addressed a letter to William McMurray general passenger agent for the O. R. & N., informing him that the local train service between Biggs and Pendleton is inadequate. In the absence of a necessary local service between these points, the commission argues that the heavy transcontinental trains have been obliged to look after this traffic with the result that these trains are frequently several hours late reaching Portland.

Grain Crop Will Be Large.

Eglin—There is every prospect of a bumper grain crop in Union county this season, a large snowfall together with unusually large rainfalls the past few weeks, insures sufficient moisture for a large crop. Thousands of acres were sown to fall grain last fall and unless unknown conditions arise the crop will in all probabilities be a record breaker.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 75c; bluestem, 77c; valley, 72c; red, 74c.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$29.50; gray, \$28 @29.
Rye—\$1.45@1.50 per cwt.
Barley—Feed, \$22.50@24.50; brewing, \$25; rolled, \$23.50@24.50.
Corn—Whole, \$25; cracked, \$26 per ton.
Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$15@16 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$17 @18; clover, \$9; chest, \$9; grain hay, \$9@10.
Apples—Common, 75c@1.25 per box; choice, \$1.50@2.
Vegetables—Turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1@1.25; beets, \$1.25@1.50; horseradish, 7@8c per pound; cauliflower, 75c@1.25 per dozen; lettuce, head, 35@45c per dozen; onions, 10@12c per dozen; radishes 20c per dozen; asparagus 15c per pound; rhubarb 4@6c per pound.
Onions—Oregon \$3.50@4 per cwt.
Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks fancy \$1.40@1.65; extra fancy, \$1.75@2; No. 1 choice, \$1.25@1.40.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 25@27c per pound.
Butter Fat—First grade cream 26c per pound; second grade cream 2c less per pound.
Poultry—Average old hens, 15@16c per pound; mixed chickens, 15@15c; spring fryers and broilers, 22c@25c; old roosters, 10@12c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, 13@15c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18c@20c; geese live, 8c; ducks, 16@18c.
Eggs—19c per dozen.
Veal—Dressed, 5c@8c per pound.
Beef—Dressed bulls, 3c@3c per pound; cows, 5@6c; country steers, 6@7c.
Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 10@10c per pound; ordinary, 8@9c; spring lambs, with pelt, 12c@13c.
Pork—Dressed, 6@6c per pound.
Hops—7@10c per pound, according to quality.
Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 13c@18c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c according to fineness; mohair, choice, 29@29c.

WILL FIGHT HENEY.

Big Corporations Have Banded Together in San Francisco.

San Francisco, April 17.—A conspiracy which puts into the shade the \$5,000,000 affair that recently aroused the inmates of the White House has evolved from the graft proceedings in San Francisco, and, like the conspiracy in Washington, it has its headquarters in Washington. Moreover, one of the leaders of the \$5,000,000 conspiracy is one of the chief actors in this latest plot.

In short, the big corporations, which have sighted the specter of indictment, have banded together against the common foe. Combined they represent one of the most powerful forces that America has known, and they are prepared to expend a large share of the unlimited capital they control. The United Railroads, an \$80,000,000 corporation; the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph company, the Home Telephone company, and lastly the Southern Pacific company, have joined hands to fight John the graft prosecution.

The head and front of the plot are reputed to be Patrick Calhoun and E. H. Harriman. It is no secret that above all others it is the desire of Mr. Heney to direct the fire of the prosecution against Calhoun and the men who occupy the seats of the mighty in the councils of the Southern Pacific. Harriman's representative on the Pacific, W. F. Herrin, is one of the chief objects of Mr. Heney's investigation. Mr. Herrin has always refused to come into the open and even now, with public attention centered upon him, he remains in the background.

MEXICAN SHOCKS CONTINUE

Destruction Grows as Reports Come From Outlying Districts.

City of Mexico, April 17.—Heavy earthquake shocks continued on the west coast until 4 o'clock this morning. Late news of the earthquake shows that the devastation wrought was greater than at first supposed. Beside the destruction of Chilpancingo and Chilapa, it is now said that Tixtla also was leveled. Messengers reaching Chilpancingo say the towns of Ayutla and Omotepe have been wiped out.

The population of Ayutla is small, and it is thought the loss of life there will be insignificant. Omotepe is a town of about 4,000 inhabitants and the loss of life probably is large.

Tixtla, near the border line of the state of Oaxaca, is also reported to be wiped out. A report from Chilpancingo says the whole of the west coast from Acapulco south of Salina Cruz has been badly damaged.

The damaged places are remote, and news from the stricken district consequently is incomplete. Only one wire is working to Chilpancingo.

Standard Dodges Taxes.

Chicago, April 17.—Taxing authorities of Lake county, Indiana, have instigated an action against the Standard Oil company of Whiting as a result of investigations in charge of County Assessor William E. Black and his assistant, Towns Assessor Bert Escher, of Hammond. They have discovered, they say, that the company for four years has sequestered millions of dollars' worth of valuable property from tax duplicates. It is estimated by the officials that the Standard Oil company should be paying taxes on \$40,000,000 worth of property when it is assessed on the tax duplicates for only \$3,000,000 worth.

Will Test the 16-Hour Law.

Butte, Mont., April 17.—A Helena special to the Miner states that Attorney General Albert J. Galen in an opinion rendered today states that he holds the recent enactment by the legislature of the statute limiting the hours of employment of railway employees to 16 hours to be valid. William Wallace, Jr., counsel for the Northern Pacific, has served notice upon the board of railway commissioners that the company will ignore the new statute. Mr. Galen has advised the commissioners to at once begin a test case against the railways.

Accused of Taking Bribe.

Chicago, April 17.—Perry L. Hedrick, chief sanitary inspector of the city health department, was arrested today on charges of soliciting and accepting a bribe. It is alleged the \$200 paid to him by George A. Beckway, an inventor, was found in his pocket when he was arrested. Hedrick was released on \$10,000 bonds. According to the charges made against Hedrick, he agreed with Beckway that on payment of the money he would recommend Beckway's invention to the health department.

Wisconsin Central is Guilty.

Winnipeg, April 17.—A jury in the United States District court last night found the Wisconsin Central railroad and two of its officials guilty of rebating. Burton Johnson, general freight agent, and G. T. Huey, his assistant, were convicted on all the 17 counts named in the indictment.

FIRE IN PHILIPPINES

Ilo Ilo, Second Town in Islands, Suffers Heavy Loss.

TYPHOON IN CAROLINE ISLANDS

One-Fourth the Population of One of the Islands Dead and Rest Are Starving.

Manila, April 20.—Latest reports from Iloilo say the fire has been checked. The native quarter of the city was destroyed. The property loss is estimated at \$100,000 gold. The business section of the city was untouched, it being saved by the military and constabulary.

Seven hundred houses were destroyed and 800 or 1,000 natives made homeless. Adequate relief measures have been taken. The homeless have been housed in schools and other buildings. The province and the city will provide for the refugees and no physical suffering is feared.

There was no loss of life by the earthquake. The shocks, while the most severe experienced in 15 years, were not violent enough to cause much destruction. Dispatches from points in several provinces report severe shocks but little damage.

The total damage caused by the earthquakes in the entire archipelago will not exceed \$10,000.

Typhoon Sweeps Caroline Islands.

Berlin, April 20.—Colonial Director Dernburg informed the budget committee of the reichstag today that a cable message had been received from the governor of the island of Yap, announcing that a disastrous typhoon swept over the Caroline islands on Good Friday, March 29, and that 230 of the 800 natives of the Uliuthi group were drowned, that the coconut trees were destroyed, and that famine threatens the surviving natives.

The steamer Planet, of the German navy, which has been engaged in geodesic work, and the steamer Mani, of the Jaluit company, proceeded to Uliuthi islands, taking food and help. It was proposed to bring as many of the suffering natives as possible to the Pelew and Ladron islands.

Less Than 100 Lives Lost.

Mexico City, April 20.—Communications have now been opened with all the important points in the section most affected by the earthquakes. The latest reports indicate that the loss of life will not reach 100, but many persons have been injured and the property loss is very great.

Vice President Corral, in a communication published here today, declares that the whole of the state of Guerrero has been devastated.

Thousands of dollars are being subscribed to the fund being raised in this city for the relief of the earthquake sufferers.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

Bryce Speculates on Result if Revolution Had Failed.

Philadelphia, April 20.—James Bryce, ambassador from Great Britain, in an address at the banquet of the Trans-Atlantic society of America here tonight, declared that, if America had remained as a colonial ward of England, President Roosevelt would not have been confronted with such world-important problems as he is now called to solve.

Had the countries not been separated, Mr. Bryce said, the development of the United States would have been more gradual. He was of the opinion that slavery would not have endured so long and would have gone, perhaps, without bloodshed. There would have been fewer railroads, less internal strife and consequently fewer big economic problems to solve.

Build Terminals at Oakland.

San Francisco, April 20.—The Western Pacific railroad has decided to commence immediately the construction of its trans-bay terminal along the north retaining wall of the Oakland estuary. This work will involve the filling in of a mole 1,000 feet in width and between 4,000 and 5,000 feet in length. The construction of the mole, together with the erection of a modern depot building and slip approaches at its western end, will take about 17 or 18 months, and will involve a financial outlay of something like \$2,500,000.

Georgia Peaches Killed.

Atlanta, Ga., April 20.—State Entomologist Smith today received reports from the various peach growing districts of the state, a summary of which shows that at least 75 per cent of the crop has been killed by the recent cold weather.