

# STORMS HURT GRAIN

## Many Sections of Northwest Feel Effect of Hail.

### CROP DAMAGES REACH \$300,000

#### Nex Perce and Camas Prairie Districts Are Affected Most—Man Struck by Lightning.

Portland, July 16.—Various sections of Oregon and Washington have been visited by unusually heavy rain, hail and electrical storms throughout the past days, causing considerable damage, especially to grain fields. The storms, which began Monday with a heavy downpour in Morrow, Wasco, Gilliam and other eastern counties, were followed by severe hail and electrical disturbances in several sections.

Perhaps the most serious damage occurred in the Nez Perce and Camas prairie districts. In this section a hail storm began Tuesday and continued yesterday. The ripening grain in a belt 15 miles wide is reported as practically ruined. The yield in this section would have been very heavy, and the damage is estimated at \$300,000.

In the vicinity of North Yakima, Wash., yesterday, there was a violent electrical storm. The damage was small, but one man, C. M. Harrington, was struck by lightning and perhaps fatally injured.

A heavy hail storm in the Des Chutes district has ruined some of the best grain fields in that vicinity. Crops on five of the best Tygh ridge farms are a complete loss.

In all the counties south of the Columbia rain has been falling. In some cases it has been of benefit, but in most instances the grain is too far along to be greatly helped, and the yield will be considerably below normal.

### RUEF BONDSMEN PROTEST.

#### Assessor Takes Them at Their Word on Property Valuation.

San Francisco, July 16.—Abe Ruef is again in trouble. The latest woes of the fallen boss make Job look like a rank beginner. Ruef says he feels like an automobilist who has just been stranded in the middle of a prohibition state and not a horse in sight. Abraham's troubles began afresh when the men on his bail bonds discovered that the luxury of writing their signatures upon the documents was going to be expensive work. They find they will not be allowed to pay just once for the joy of helping their old friend, Abe, but that every inquisitive deputy assessor would endeavor to learn whether they had been making or losing money.

Announcement made at the assessor's office that the sworn statements made by the persons on Ruef's bond would be accepted as the basis for their tax this year is the bombshell that has created such widespread consternation. Of course, no one ever tells the assessor how much money he really has, but ordinarily there is no harm in letting the court know your financial standing. As a result of the latter course increases of from 50 to 100 per cent will be made in the assessments of nearly every person who signed the Ruef bonds. In one instance the amount will be raised from \$600 unsecured personal property to \$15,000 cash in the bank which the bondsman told the court of, but forgot to mention to the assessor.

### TRAIN WRECKS OVER.

#### Railway President Invents Device That Stops Them in Danger Zone.

Chicago, July 16.—Preparations are being made by the members of the interstate commerce commission for next Friday's tests of devices which, it is believed, will prevent the collision of railroad trains. A joint committee of the American railroad commission will see the tests that are to be made.

George Wristine, president of the Tennessee Central, who invented the device, believes it will prove effective, so that by its use collisions will be made impossible.

The device is placed at each end of a railroad "block." While a train is in the block this device serves as a lookout, and should another engineer disregard the stop signal at the block, the device catches and sets the air brakes, bringing the encroaching train to a standstill.

### Laughs at Old Durkee Suit.

San Francisco, July 16.—Attorneys for the Southern Pacific railroad here yesterday said they are not worried over a suit filed in the federal courts Tuesday by John A. Kuykendall, administrator of the estate of former Governor Charles Durkee, of the territory of Utah, against the Harriman lines for \$38,220,000. The suit is filed as the result of an old claim against the Harriman lines, growing out of a sale of stock made in 1865, when the Union Pacific and Central Pacific lines were constructed.

### DRY TICKET CHOSEN.

#### Chafin and Watkins Will Carry Banner for Prohibition Party.

Columbus, O., July 17.—For president, Eugene W. Chafin, of Chicago. For vice-president—Aaron S. Watkins, of Ada, Ohio.

The above ticket was nominated yesterday by the Prohibition national convention, both men being chosen unanimously. The full endorsement of the convention was not, however, given to Mr. Chafin until after three ballots had been taken.

Chafin, who was a delegate to the convention, was escorted to the platform. He was formally declared by Chairman Scanlon to be the presidential nominee, and in a speech returned his thanks for the honor which had been thrust upon him, declaring that he would rather be the nominee of the Prohibition party than the successful candidate of any other party.

Both the presidential and vice-presidential nominees are candidates for governor in their respective states on the Prohibition ticket.

Eugene W. Chafin, who leads the Prohibition party this year is an attorney residing in Chicago. He is a native of Waukesha, Wis., and for some years practiced law there. He was at one time candidate for governor of Wisconsin on the Prohibition ticket, and was this year placed in the running for the same position in Illinois by Prohibitionists of that state.

The forenoon session of the convention was devoted to the discussion and adoption of a brief platform, which is possibly the shortest on record, containing not more than 350 words.

### TRIES NEW EXPERIMENT.

#### Fleet Maneuvers Controlled on Land by Use of Wireless.

London, July 17.—England tried yesterday a new experiment in naval warfare, the conducting of a battle from land by wireless. Over 300 vessels are now maneuvering in the North sea, engaged in a sham battle, the movement of every vessel being controlled by wireless by experts in the admiralty office in this city.

As each ship changed her position or fired on the "enemy" the move was reported to the naval experts here. They sat before a map showing the situation at every minute. Markers were moved about on the map, much as pieces would be moved on a chess board, the moves being flashed to the vessels by wireless.

It is claimed that this system would be better in the controlling of vessels than by an admiral in action, as the men on land can receive reports from the front and work out the problems while removed from the exciting scenes of battle.

The experts who conducted the battle from the admiralty office would not comment on the result. They simply said it was satisfactory.

### DREADED ARGENTINE ANT.

#### Will Destroy Orange and Fig Crops of California if Not Killed.

Oakland, Cal., July 17.—Professor C. W. Woodworth, head of the department of entomology of the University of California, has reported to Governor Gillett that the dreaded Argentine ant has made its appearance in California, in East Oakland.

Professor Woodworth states that unless measures are taken at once to drive out the pest it will utterly destroy orange and fig crops in the state.

The Argentine ant is a small insect only an eighth of an inch long, but is of a fighting nature, and has driven all other ants from East Oakland.

It is one of the most dangerous pests that has ever been brought to the United States from a foreign country. According to a report by the Louisiana crop pest commission, the ant has destroyed millions of dollars' worth of property in that state.

### Express Train Goes Into Ditch.

East Stamford, Conn., July 17.—One person was killed and several others injured when the fast White Mountain express was ditched a few miles east of here yesterday. Physicians and a wrecking crew were rushed to the scene on a special train. Dashing along at a rapid rate of speed the engine struck a defective rail. The injured passengers will be brought to this city, and it is believed that prompt medical attention will prevent more deaths, although some of those injured are said to be in a precarious condition.

### Millions to Lower Grade.

New York, July 17.—According to a statement made yesterday by an official of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, the cost of the Pacific coast extension of that system will be about \$5,000,000 more than the original plans called for. This increase in the cost of work is due, it is said, to a decision to run the road at a lower grade over the mountain division than the officials first figured on. The whole work now calls for the expenditure of \$77,000,000, but there will be no shortage of funds.

### Mosquitoes Kill Cattle.

High Island, Tex., July 17.—Mosquitoes are killing cattle by droves on ranches around the Gulf coast region. Great clouds of the insects hover over pastures where cattle feed, and literally drain the animals of their life blood, causing them to die from weakness. One ranchman has lost 200 head in ten days, and pastures are strewn with the carcasses of dead cattle.

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

### OREGON HAS SURPLUS.

#### State Treasurer's Report Shows Almost \$375,000 on Hand.

Salem.—State Treasurer Steele has issued his semi-annual report for the period ending June 30. It shows that \$842,726.02, or over half the state taxes, had been paid in up to the close of the report, which remonstrates the good financial condition of the state generally. The tax on foreign insurance companies, being 2 per cent of their net premiums during the period covered by the report, amounted to \$60,039.01, and the state income for inheritance taxes totaled \$17,162.88, the largest amount ever collected in six months before.

Cash on hand in the several funds of the state, June 30, was \$374,303.02, as against \$116,377.08 at the close of the previous semi-annual term, January 1, 1908, and shows a gradual and healthy increase of the state funds in all departments over the same period of a year ago.

The total amount of the income from the loan of the irreducible school fund during the year closing June 30, from all sources, was \$227,792.07, of which amount \$6,169.94 was paid out in warrants, and \$119,100 was apportioned among the several counties in April of this year, leaving a balance of \$102,522.13 on hand, to be apportioned August 1. The cash on hand in the irreducible school fund January 1, 1908, was \$293,281.60, and this has been increased to \$373,995.93 up to July 1.

The total amount of the irreducible school fund, including outstanding first mortgage loans, school district bonds and certificates of sale of state lands, is \$4,953,294.92, and this will be increased to the \$5,989,000 mark before the close of the present year.

### REGENTS PLAN EXTENSIONS.

#### Important Announcements Expected From University of Oregon.

University of Oregon, Eugene.—The board of regents of the University of Oregon will meet in annual session here. The meeting will be one of the most important ever held. Plans for the future are extensive and when the board has adjourned it is expected that some very definite and gratifying news will be made public in the way of improvements to the state university. The conditions demand the addition of instructors in some departments. President Campbell will go east shortly in the interests of the institution. Improvements and enlargements will be made in several departments.

### Heavy Yield of Good Wheat.

Pendleton.—Every bushel of wheat threshed in Umatilla county so far this season, according to reports which have reached this city, has made grade one when tested, and the reports from those portions of the county in which threshing has been carried on during the past week show that the yield is going to be much heavier than the most sanguine had hoped for. Many farmers are harvesting just as large crops as they ever did.

### Laying Rails on Northwestern.

Baker City.—Following the statement given out by officials a few weeks ago, the Northwestern railroad, which is building from Huntington north to Copperfield, on the Snake river, has begun laying steel. One mile in four hours is the record made by one steel gang, and there is considerable rivalry among the workmen to make a record in this department.

### Fight High Insurance.

Astoria.—On account of the exorbitant rates for fire insurance that are being charged by the companies, a resolution has been adopted by the Astoria city council directing that an amendment to the city charter be submitted to the vote of the people in December, authorizing the city to make contracts with citizens to carry insurance on their property at cost.

### Cement Industry in Sight.

Klamath Falls.—Abel Ady, owner of thousands of acres of tule lands in this county, reports the finding of a large ledge of gypsum on his property, and states he has all the ingredients necessary for making cement. He claims that a few feet below the surface of the marsh there is a layer of mineral sand, which when washed is better building sand than is found in this section.

### Silverton Mill to Resume.

Silverton.—After having been shut down about four weeks, the Silverton Lumber company's mill, in this city, is expected to start up this month. The company has received eastern orders for more than 60 cars of lumber, which will clean out the yards. The mill was shut down owing to temporarily unfavorable conditions of the market.

### First Step for Fair.

Salem.—Frank A. Welch, secretary of the state board of agriculture, has taken up his office and headquarters at the fair grounds. It is the first step toward preparations for the annual state fair to be held in September. The grand stand and exhibition buildings are to be enlarged at once.

### LIGHT OUTPUT OF PLACERS.

#### Baker County Miners Handicapped by Scarcity of Water.

Baker City.—Coming in from his large placer holdings on Cow creek, W. J. Patterson, one of Baker City's prominent business men, says that this year the crop of gold dust in Baker county will be light owing to the scarcity of water. According to his observations there are few properties that have sufficient water to do the work that will pay and most of the placer miners are putting in their time preparing for next year, when they have hope that there will be more snow and possibly a heavier rainfall. There are a number of Baker City people interested in placer mining and in the past it has yielded a steady and certain income.

### Reclaim Hundreds of Acres.

Klamath Falls.—Specifications have been issued by the reclamation service for five additional schedules on the south branch canal, composing seven miles. It will connect the government canal and the old Adams ditch. Sealed bids will be received until July 28 at the local reclamation office. The work means the excavation of 112,000 cubic feet of dirt, within 30 days after signing the contract. Hundreds of acres of land extending far into the Merrill country below Klamath Falls will be reclaimed by the project.

### Creamery Trebles Business.

Klamath Falls.—The stockholders of the Bonanza creamery are well pleased with the first year's showing. The enterprise represents an investment of \$3000. While no dividends have been paid, the business is well established. Since its organization in 1907, Fred McKeudree has been in charge. The average price received for the butter has been about 194 cents net. There was paid out last month for butter fat \$1524, as compared to \$545 a year ago.

### More Time to Finish Road.

Eugene.—The city council has extended the time limit in which the Eugene & Eastern railway is to complete the Eugene-Springfield line to November 1. The line will be completed before that time if there are no mishaps. Piles are driven over half way to Springfield and the trestle is completed for a good portion of this distance.

### Selects Hatchery Sites.

Astoria.—H. C. McAllister, master fish warden for the state of Oregon, has returned from an official inspection trip to Tillamook bay and the streams leading into it. As a result of his visit, he has decided to establish a salmon hatchery on Trask river, as well as eyeing stations on the Nehalem river and other streams in that district.

### Salmon for Propagation.

Astoria.—Deputy Fish Commissioner L. G. Burton, of Washington, has left for Bapers bay, where he will drive a trap to be used in catching salmon for propagating purposes at the chinook hatchery. He was granted permission to place the trap outside the regular line.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 84c per bushel; red Russian, 82c; bluestem, 86c; valley, 84c.

Barley—Feed, \$24.50 per ton; rolled, \$27.50; 28.50; brewing, \$26.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$26.50 per ton; gray, \$26.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$15 per ton; Willamette valley, ordinary, \$12; Eastern Oregon, \$17.50; mixed, \$15; alfalfa, \$12; alfalfa meal, \$20.

Fruits—Cherries, 20c per lb.; apricots, \$1.25 per crate; peaches, 15c per box; plums, 50c per crate; currants, \$2.25 per crate; blackberries, \$1.25 per crate; raspberries, \$1 per crate; loganberries, \$1 per crate; blackcaps, \$1.25 per crate.

Melons—Cantaloupes, \$2.25 per crate; watermelons, 25c per pound.

Potatoes—New Oregon, 10c per pound; old Oregon, 60c per hundred.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.50 per sack; carrots, \$1.75; parsnips, \$1.75; beets, \$1.50; beans, 6c per pound; cabbage, 10c per pound; cucumbers, Oregon 50c per dozen; egg plants, 17c per pound; lettuce, head, 15c per dozen; parsley, 15c per dozen; peas, 20c per pound; peppers, 10c per pound; radishes, 12c per dozen; rhubarb, 10c per pound; spinach, 2c per pound; tomatoes, Oregon, \$2.50 per crate.

Butter—Extras, 25c per pound; fancy, 24c; choice, 20c; store, 17c.

Eggs—Oregon, 23c per dozen.

Poultry—Mixed chickens, 12c per pound; fancy hens, 13c per lb.; roasters, 70c; springs, 18c per lb.; ducks, old, 10c; spring, 12c per lb.; geese, old, 80c; young, 12c; turkeys, old, 18c per lb.; young, 20c per lb.

Veal—Extra, 80c per lb.; ordinary, 60c; heavy, 5c.

Pork—Fancy, 60c per lb.; ordinary, 6c; large, 5c.

Mutton—Fancy, 74c per lb.

Hops—1907, prime and choice, 50c per pound; olds, 20c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 10c per lb.; according to shrinkage; valley, 14c per lb.

Mohair—Choice, 18c per lb.

### JAPAN CHANGES TUNE.

#### New Cabinet Bases on Army and Navy Retrenchments and Economies.

Tokio, July 15.—Marquis Katsura, leader of the progressive party, who was ordered by the emperor to reorganize the cabinet, has announced his appointments. Marquis Katsura will be both premier and minister of finance. Minister of War General M. Torachi and Minister of the Navy Vice-Admiral M. Saito are to retain their seats in the new cabinet. Count Komura, now ambassador to England, is to be minister of foreign affairs, but until his return from England General Torachi will act as head of the foreign ministry in connection with his duties as minister of war. Baron T. Hirata, formerly minister of agriculture and commerce, is named as minister of home affairs. M. Goto, president of the South Manchurian railway, is to be minister of communications. E. Komatsubara, formerly vice-minister of home affairs, is to be minister of education. Viscount Okabe is minister of justice and K. Oura, formerly minister of communications, is to be minister of agriculture and commerce.

Baron Katsura has gathered most of the members of his former cabinet about him. The new cabinet is expected to inaugurate a policy of retrenchment in expenditures for the army and navy.

The fact that Katsura is to be head of the ministry of finance as well as premier indicates that a careful watch is to be kept on the treasury. This new policy is in response to a general demand from the people of Japan.

### STORM DAMAGE SLIGHT.

#### Heavy Rains at Heppner Cause No Serious Losses.

Heppner, Or., July 15.—Monday's heavy rain storm was not so serious as at first reported. Other than the destruction of four small bridges and the covering of lawns with sand and debris, the actual loss is very slight.

A foot of water covered the floor of the electric power plant at the mouth of Donaldson Canyon, wetting the belt- ing so as to stop operation of the machinery, and the city was in darkness for the one night.

In Sand Hollow the hay crop was considerably damaged by the overflow of water, which covered the alfalfa with mud and laid it flat on the ground.

Lightning struck a barn belonging to R. F. Clark, who resides about 13 miles north of Heppner. Two horses were killed in the barn.

The O. R. & N. train was unable to go out yesterday morning, owing to drift which lodged on the track at Valentine, a small station near Lexington.

### COAL SHORTAGE ALREADY.

#### Serious Situation Expected in British Columbia This Winter.

Vancouver, B. C., July 15.—According to a dispatch received here reports gathered from various parts of the prairie west outline a rather serious prospect in regard to the fuel supply for next winter. Following a serious shortage in the winter of 1906-7 coal dealers and the consuming public stocked up largely last summer, but the winter turned out so unusually mild that the need for these precautions was not apparent.

Railways last winter had abundant rolling stock owing to the light crop, and there was never anything approaching a famine in any district. This summer, however, the financial conditions forbid the dealers to carry large stocks and prevent consumers from laying in even an average supply ahead. At the same time it is already clear the railways will likely be blocked in an effort to handle the immense crop, and in a month or two a large coal movement will be physically impossible. If, therefore, a severe winter follows, the situation may become serious.

### Escaped Convict Returns.

Michigan City, Ind., July 15.—Thomas McCarthy, aged 40 years, for whose capture the warden of Indiana state prison here has had a reward standing for three years, returned to prison last evening voluntarily and gave himself up with the prospect of serving 12 years more. He went to the Pacific Coast and after leading a precarious existence he joined the Sylvan Army at North Yakima, Wash. His conscience troubled him and after he had earned enough money he started back to prison, paying all his own expenses.

### Honey Anxious to Let Go.

San Diego, Cal., July 15.—Francis J. Honey, who has been making a brief visit in this city, addressed a large gathering here last night. In the course of his speech, referring to the San Francisco graft prosecutions, he said: "I liken myself to a man with his hand on a bear's tail. If anyone will help me let go I will never take hold of it again."

### Tom Platt is 75.

New York, July 16.—Senator Thos. C. Platt was 75 years old yesterday. He spent the anniversary quietly at the Oriental hotel at Manhattan beach. He is very feeble, and he had few visitors.

# INCREASE IS ILLEGAL

## Railroad Rates Cannot Be Raised, Says Commissioner.

### POINT WAS DECIDED IN GEORGIA

#### All Concerned Incur Penalty Under Sherman Law As It Would Be Violated.

Chicago, July 18.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says:

In the opinion of John Clements, a member of the interstate commerce commission, the proposed general increase in freight rates discussed in New York yesterday by the presidents of many eastern railways in the Trunk Line association would constitute a violation of the Sherman anti-trust law and would render all the railroads concerned liable to severe penalties. Mr. Clements explained that the interstate commerce commission as a commission is not at all interested in the Sherman anti-trust law, the execution of which is entrusted to the department of justice, but he expressed his opinion as a lawyer and cited a recent instance where the supreme court had so decided.

"As a lawyer," he said, "I am willing to hazard the opinion that such an increase in rates as was contemplated by the eastern railways at their meeting in New York would be in direct violation of the anti-trust law. When practically all of the eastern roads, and, for that matter, all of the roads in the country, by a mutual agreement raise rates, it is to my mind a procedure which brings them under that clause of the anti-trust law which prevents 'pooling' and illegal combinations."

"Whether or not there is any necessity now for an increase of rates, I am not prepared to say. If the increase should come, the commissioners would have ample time to decide that point. I am convinced, however, that the railways will give the anti-trust laws careful consideration before they consider a general increase in rates."

"A similar case came up in Georgia some time ago during some lumber hearings. Federal Judge Speer decided that the railroads had formed an illegal combination in increasing the rates, and the supreme court affirmed the decision."

### FIRE ON STRIKEBREAKERS.

#### Alabama Miners Kill Deputy Sheriff and Wound Dozen Men.

Birmingham, Ala., July 18.—Robert Gardner, a deputy sheriff, was fatally wounded and at least a dozen miners more or less seriously hurt as the result of an attack on a train bearing strike-breakers to take the places of striking union miners at Jefferson, near here, yesterday. The train was in charge of 13 deputies, and was en route to Adamsville. It is said the union miners attempted to induce the strike-breakers to leave the train, and threatened to kill them if they went to work.

Governor Comer has ordered a company of cavalry from Montgomery to the scene, and troops already on the ground are under arms, and will patrol the district tonight, preventing further disorders. Deputy Gardner, mortally wounded, was brought to Birmingham last night. Deputy George Smith, accompanying him, estimates that no less than 1000 shots were fired on both sides in the attack at Jefferson.

According to Smith the engagement was opened when a train bearing 50 strike-breakers attempted to leave Jefferson for Adamsville. Prior to this a number of union miners had made overtures to the strike-breakers to join their ranks, threatening at the same time to kill them in case they attempted to work the mines of the operators.

### Doesn't Mind the Fleet.

London, July 18.—Criticism by the British press of Australia and New Zealand for the expenditure of enormous sums in preparation for the entertainment of the American fleet is not finding favor with the general public here. Sentiment of the people generally is with the colonies in their stand on the question, and editorial utterances on the subject are much milder today than they have been in the past. On the continent there has been no criticism of the world voyage of the United States men-of-war.

### Will Use Great Northern Track.

Billings, Mont., July 18.—It is announced that with the completion of the line of the Billings Northern railroad from Billings to Great Falls, Mont., about September 1, the Burlington trains, now using the Northern Pacific line to the coast, will proceed over the Billings Northern to Great Falls, from which place the tracks of the Great Northern will be used.