

STRONGER PLANT

May be Necessary to Bring Rain in Sherman

Repeated Success Gives Mr. Hatfield Confidence in Method Which Has Not Yet Drawn Showers From Sunny Eastern Oregon Sky

In spite of the fact that no startling results have as yet been obtained, Charles M. Hatfield, the "rainmaker," is still operating on Gordon Ridge, and without feeling the least discouragement. On three different days since operating here he has witnessed very cloudy sky. On one of these days, Friday, May 31, rain was precipitated along the John Day river and in the neighborhood of Kent, and on this same day a heavy rain is reported from Gilliam county.

That results, so far, are not measuring up to his best hopes, Mr. Hatfield is willing to admit, but after having been repeatedly successful in other attempts to produce rain he sees nothing discouraging in present conditions. It may be necessary, he says, to install a stronger plant. A reasonable test with the present one will have to decide this point. But, under any circumstances, Mr. Hatfield is confident of satisfactory results.

As to his methods of procedure, while they are not to be made public, it is claimed they are purely scientific and based upon the principles and laws of nature. A combination of chemical and electrical processes are involved. What weird and unnatural conclusions may be drawn is shown by the report of an exchange which asserts that combustibles are shot high into the air and exploded, on cloudy days and nights. Mr. Hatfield, assisted by his younger brother, operates continuously, and to produce a cloudy condition is as much a part of his task as to produce rain.

STATISTICS OF PAST RAINFALL.

Table Showing Actual Precipitation Over the Plateau Section

May 25, 1886, .00, Jun .00, Jly, to 25, .00
May 25, 1887, .00, Jun 11, Jly, to 25, .00
May 25, 1888, T. Jun .00, Jly, to 25, .00
May 25, 1889, .08, Jun 52, Jly, to 25, .00
May 25, 1890, T. Jun .47, Jly, to 25, .00
May 25, 1901, .04, Jun .20, Jly, to 25, .00
May 25, 1902, T. Jun .15, Jly, to 25, .10
May 25, 1903, .01, Jun 2.11, Jly, to 25, .12
May 25, 1904, T. Jun .46, Jly, to 25, .40
May 25, 1905, .00, Jun 1.27, Jly, to 25, .00
May 25, 1906, .50, Jun 1.05, Jly, to 25, T.

An average struck from the table of which the above is an extract, covering the period from May 25th to July 25th, and extending back over a period of thirty years, shows sixty-five hundredths of one inch to be the standard of precipitation.

WORD TO FARMERS OF WESTERN LANDS

Every writer on the agricultural possibilities of the western continent, every recent experiment station bulletin, every observant traveler agrees that the greatest development of agriculture in the next half century must be in what is now as the semi-arid region of America, which includes parts of all the states west of the Missouri river and of Canada and Mexico.

Here is to be the real winning of the west; and it will not be with gun and knife, nor will it be with boots and spurs, but it will be with such intelligent cultivation of the soil that the mystery of the so-called great plains will disappear beneath fields of waving grain. It is worth while again calling attention to the fact that the achievements of the farmers of this region have far surpassed the dreams of the pioneers. Farming is a reality in the semi-arid region. From a hundred different directions comes undisputed testimony that practical men are tilling the soil with good results. The work started a dozen years ago by H. W. Campbell, of Lincoln, Neb., whose experiments first drew the attention of the world to the possibilities of this region, has been carried on faithfully by him and others who have learned of him, until today it is not a question of scientific soil culture, but how much and just

where and how can soil culture methods be applied. Mr. Campbell has directed work on many model farms in the past and his operations this year will be more extensive than ever before, and in recent years the states have taken up similar investigations and everywhere business associations are taking the liveliest interest in what is being done.

The successes of the past but indicate in a small way what is in store for the future of this region. Scientific soil culture has opened the door for an era of expansion which is to result in the making of homes for millions of farmers and orchardists and dairymen on land hitherto listed as almost worthless. The search for gold is directed in a new channel and the search will not be in vain.

Some day when the story of this new development in the winning of the West is written the world will be amazed at results actually achieved. —Communicated

WASCO SCHOOLS COMMENCEMENT

Eighth and Tenth Grades do Honor to Our Little City

Wasco is proud of her public schools. This was evidenced by the hearty greeting which the class of 1907 received from the audience at the Akers Opera House last Friday evening. There were nine members in the class this year. Two, Miss Eliza Love and Miss Veva Dunlap, were graduates from the tenth grade. Those completing the eighth grades were: Flora Louise Whiting, Alberta Jennie Porter, Edna Alta Everett, Amy Della Burres, Ross Clayton Ornduff, Samuel Perkins Walker and Florence Louise Tate.

The class met at McKees drug store and marched to the opera house where they were greeted by an immense audience of their relatives and friends. The program which followed was of more than ordinary excellence. Original productions, which were delivered by both members of the tenth grade and by Edna Everett, Florence Tate and Louise Whiting of the eighth grade, are especially worthy of praise. Outside of the assistance given them by their superintendent these productions were the students own work.

Hon. Fred Mendi, of Moro, addressed the classes. His address was filled with good sound common sense, clothed in powerful, well chosen language. Mr. Mendi is an orator, of whom Sherman county will be proud.

Personal credit is due a number of participants. The hall was furnished free by Mr. Akers, the pupils and their parents and teachers and the school board all have worked diligently for success of the school year, and Superintendent Russell is, undoubtedly, one of the most able and energetic young men among the educators of the state.

From the Metropolis

Portland, to show her appreciation of the Oregon Development League, has organized the Portland Rose Show and Fiesta during the session of the convention, and it promises to be one of the best attractions yet given in the state.

North Bend has a great commercial club, and among its members, \$300 was raised in 300 seconds to present a set of North Bend furniture made from Oregon timber, to Governor Chamberlain, and none of the subscribers were permitted to pay more than \$5.00.

The Portland Country Club and Live Stock Association was organized at the Commercial Club Thursday, and among its incorporators are many of the leading financiers and business men of the metropolis. The purpose is to give a great annual live stock show, which will have for its object the thorough and complete development of the live stock industry of the Pacific Northwest. Capital stock \$150,000.

Last Saturday, June 1st, tourist rates from all points in the United States to all points in Oregon went into effect. Tickets are on sale for a little more than one fare for the round trip. Inform yourself through your local agent and write to your friends and insist on their coming to visit you and seeing the advantages your community presents.

WILLAMETTE VALLEY ACREAGE 1001 acres for sale or exchange

350 acres of bottom land on Pass creek
plenty of water for irrigation purposes
8 million feet good saw timber on the place
Progressive State Normal school within 4 miles
Fine fruit and dairy county, grows any kind of fruit
Cream company operates a cream gathering route to place

THIS WILL GO QUICK!

Would consider a good Sherman County wheat farm as part payment

J. O. ELROD
MORO

Fighting For Fire.

A great ceremony in Jerusalem is on Easter Saturday, and commemorates the ancient tradition of the celestial fire that was said to rise from the tomb of Christ. The Greek patriarch enters the sanctuary of the sepulcher, the door closes behind him, and the surging, tossing, tumultuous multitude await the coming of the fire. Suddenly out of the right hand window in the wall of the sepulcher shoot flames of fire, and in an instant every one of the thousands has produced a candle and dashes madly forward to light it at the mystic fire. The light thus taken from the holy sepulcher is instantly carried to all the Christian villages round about Jerusalem, and fleet footed young men vie with one another in being first to light their local shrines with the divine flame. The writer has seen two rival runners put down their candles and indulge in a sanguinary battle with knives and sticks until the light of one of them is put out. There is no joke meant here, but each is striving desperately to extinguish the flame of the other. —Travel Magazine.

A New Orleans Dish.

The greatest, the most toothsome and sustaining of all dishes is the gombo file one encounters in New Orleans—not at public eating houses, but in private residences. It is a strange yet haleon compound of five different ingredients, each cooked separately and afterward joined in a most delectable and fragrant mess. There are fried chicken, broiled bacon, stewed oysters, peppers and smothered onions, all prepared with unutterable skill. These one by one are emptied into a pot of most celestial "stock," and then when the conglomeration is complete for service the presiding genius of the kitchen pours into the ecstatic confection a shower of fine green dust—the powdered leaf of the sassafras—and there you have a plate that would have made Lucullus gasp in simple wonder. There is none like it nor shall we till our summers are deceased. —New York Sun.

Hammers.

Hammers are represented on the monuments of Egypt twenty centuries before our era. They greatly resembled the hammer now in use, save that there were no claws on the back for the extraction of nails. The first hammer was undoubtedly a stone held in the hand. Claw hammers were invented some time during the middle ages. Illuminated manuscripts of the eleventh century represent carpenters with claw hammers. Hammers are of all sizes, from the dainty instruments used by the jeweler, which weigh less than half an ounce, to the gigantic fifty ton hammer of shipbuilding establishments, some of which weigh as much as fifty tons and have a falling force of from ninety to a hundred. Every trade has its own hammer and its own way of using it.

The Very Worst.

Schoolmistress—Now, tell me the truth, Johnny Jones. You know what will happen if you tell a lie, don't you? Johnny Jones—Yes, ma'am; I'll go to a bad place. Schoolmistress—Yes, and that isn't the worst of it. You'll also be expelled from school.

Man's Character.

According to an old French saying, "A man's character is like his shadow, which sometimes follows and sometimes precedes him and which is occasionally longer, occasionally shorter, than he is."

There is no grace in a benefit that sticks to the fingers. —Seneca.

Dickens and Schoolmasters.

Dickens, with something in his disposition peculiarly sympathetic toward children, was a bitter foe of any one—relative, teacher or official guardian—who tyrannized over them. A writer in the New York Post points out that he seems to take special delight in exposing the misdeeds of mercenary and cold hearted pedagogues. "When one's notice," says the Post, "is first directed to the attention the novelist gave to schools and their methods, it is interesting to try to recall the number mentioned. Six come to mind instantly—Dotheboys Hall, Dr. Blimber's, David Copperfield's two schools—Dr. Strong's and Mr. Creakle's—the Gradgrind school and Bradley Headstone's in 'Our Mutual Friend.' But even the most devoted reader of Dickens is amazed upon special investigation to discover the sum total of twenty-eight. There is not a phase of education that he does not touch upon, and wrong methods are revealed and commented upon in tones so caustic and with reason so unerring that better conditions were the natural result."

Wooden Anchors.

The Basques, a strange race intermediate between French and Spaniards, have for all time been great fishermen, and some of their craft and seagoing gear are totally different from any other known types. Perhaps the most remarkable relic of bygone civilizations is the primitive wooden anchor still in use among them and to be seen in the fishing settlements round Biarritz, Guethary or St. Jean de Luz. These wooden anchors are in all probability of the identical type in use among the Phoenicians twenty centuries ago. The wooden anchor is rough hewn out of three branches, so fastened to a crossbar, also of wood, as to inclose a great stone of twenty or thirty pounds weight. Here is a cheap but effectual anchor for comparatively light boats. It can be made on the spot, and it entails little loss if, in a sudden squall, it has to be left imbedded in the rocks.

Properties of Gold.

Pure gold is unaffected by the atmosphere either at ordinary temperatures or when the metal is heated. It is also proof against the action of common acids when used singly. Moreover, it confers its properties more or less upon copper and silver when these metals are alloyed with it. Thus, for example, twelve karat gold will withstand the action of nitric acid and the atmosphere at ordinary temperature, but some of the copper will be oxidized during annealing. Nine parts of gold may be alloyed with ten parts of platinum in an ordinary crucible and fire, but such an alloy will not be uniform. A larger proportion of platinum will free itself from the gold on solidification, and a homogeneous alloy of the two metals cannot be obtained. —Jewellers' Circular-Weekly.

Before the Bar.

The terms "admitted to the bar" and "before the bar" are of English origin. The "bar" in question is the barrier or railing which separates the judge and the other officers of the court from the rest of the courtroom. In earlier days the parties to a suit presented themselves before this bar, accompanied by their counsel. A lawyer, after keeping the required number of terms at the Inns of court and passing a satisfactory examination, was then entitled to appear before the bar on behalf of a client, or, in other words, he was "admitted to the bar." The English word "barrister" suggests the technical meaning of this word. —Scrap Book.

COME!
WRITE!!
PHONE!!!
WIRE!!!!

Plants of the desert, as a rule, possess few leaves, the cactus, for instance, being mostly spines. There is a very good reason for the lack of leaves in desert plants. The object is to check the transference of moisture by offering as small a surface as possible to the dry air. For the same reason the roots of desert plants usually run deep into the soil so that they can suck up all the available moisture. In some instances the leaves assume a vertical position and thus avoid the direct rays of the burning desert sun. On the other hand, the leaves of trees in very wet countries are provided with points—such as the maple—from which the rain drops off. Were the leaves flatter the rain would collect and make them rot.

A Surprise.

A cook at a cheap boarding house played a little game on a grumbling boarder by serving him with a piece of sole leather instead of beefsteak.

"You've cheated your butcher, Mrs. Hascher?" said the boarder, looking up at the landlady after seeing two or three minutes at the leather.

"Same butcher as usual," replied the boarding mistress, with a patronizing smile. "Why?"

"Oh, nothing much," said the boarder, trying to make an impression on the steak with his knife and fork. "Only this piece of meat is the tenderest I have had in this house for some weeks." —Strand Magazine.

In a German Law Court.

A German law court was the scene lately of an amusing incident. The magistrate, a tiresome and long winded person, was deciding a small case in which the plaintiff claimed damages for abuse. "To call a man a 'pig' or a 'dog,'" replied the judge, "is certainly an insult, but to say that he is a 'pig-dog' is offensive, for no such animal exists." The plaintiff plared at the bench. "Schweine-Hund!" he remarked, with bitter emphasis. —T. P.'s London Weekly.

The Innocent Joys of Youth.

"Gracious, Fanny!" exclaimed a mother to her little daughter. "Why are you shouting like that? Why can't you be quiet like your brother?" "He's got to be quiet," replied Fanny. "He's playing papa coming home late."

"And who are you playing?" "Oh, I'm playing you!" —Harper's Weekly.

Always on Guard.

Friend (to draper in his shop)—I notice that all your assistants squint most horribly. Couldn't you have got some better looking ones?

"I chose them purposely. They are most useful in keeping a watch on people. My customers never know on which side they are looking." —Nos Loisirs.

Baby's Mamma.

Sister (teasingly)—Mamma's more my mamma than she is yours. She was my mamma ever so long before she was yours. Baby (stoutly)—That don't make any difference. I'm the littlest, and the littlest a person is the more mamma she is.

The Honor of Brave Men.

"You refuse to fight me?" "Certainly." "I believe you are a coward." "Of course you do. Otherwise you never would have dared mention the matter."

Elephants are always drawn smaller than life, but a flea always larger. —Swift.