

DISCOVERER DEFENDS "ALASKA" WHEAT

Abraham Adams, the discoverer of the famous Alaskan wheat of which so much has been said, writes the following lengthy letter concerning the new wheat.

"To the Public: In the last Sunday issue of the Spokesman-Review Professor Elliott of the Washington Agricultural college appeared with a 'report' denouncing my wheat as a fraud. After studying my wheat all summer he has discovered that there are eight distinct groups of wheat and my wheat belongs in the 'seventh' group, which is, so he says, fit for nothing—not even for stock feed. As to his classification of wheat I have nothing to say. For all I know there may be another additional eight groups, although that is hardly probable, since, if there were, Professor Elliott would no doubt have succeeded in 'scientifically demonstrating' my wheat to be still further remote from a bread wheat than he did. But that is neither here nor there. Professor Elliott makes some assertions so flagrantly unjust that I wish to call attention to them.

Says Picture is Unfair.
"At the outset I wish to call attention to the photograph which is published in connection with the report purporting to be 'specimens of the Alaska wheat.' It seems hardly necessary to say that the photograph is extremely unfair. It is always possible to go into any field of growing grain and find 'freak' heads and also undeveloped heads. In the photograph are six heads which Professor Elliott asserts are representative heads. One of these six seems to have been a head of red Russian another seems to be an undeveloped secondary shoot and the rest are heads more or less 'freakish' in development.

"Professor Elliott states that he has personally visited the growing fields. He seems from reports, to have visited a field near Moscow, Idaho, and he is convinced that the Alaska wheat is a poor yielder. The following statement was made in writing by the man who threshed that field of my wheat.

Statement by Thresher.
"I threshed some of your Alaska wheat and also some red Russian wheat in the adjoining field. Your wheat yielded about three bushels to one of the red Russian. The red Russian was a better stand than the Alaska. Yours truly,

"FRANK BENNETT."
"Professor Elliott asserts that the wheat is of a low milling value. This broad assertion he qualifies a little later by saying that 'the millers are yet to be heard from.'

"All in good time and by it my belief that the wheat will make flour will be fully established. In case the test proves that I am mistaken I will feed the wheat to the hogs—that is, provided they will eat it.

"How does Professor Elliott know that it will not make flour before such a test is made? He has made no milling test. I do not even know that he has gone to the trouble of making a chemical analysis. The cereals of the agricultural department at Washington is more disposed to be fair in regard to the wheat. He admits, at least, that the wheat may make flour and that it should not be condemned because it happens to resemble a known variety, before it has been given a fair test. It seems that Professor Elliott was, to say the least, a little premature with his sweeping 'report' condemning my wheat as worthless.

Head Size No Objection.
"Further on in his report the professor explains that my wheat 'stools very sparingly and will not cover ground like the little club or red Russian,' and moreover that the weight of the heads is so great that it 'causes the stems to droop heavily. In fact the very size of the heads is almost serious objection to the variety, as it can not stand erect and in spite of a fairly stiff straw is sure to lodge badly.

"I might say that there is certainly no danger of the heads in Professor Elliott's photograph of 'specimen heads' lodging any straw on account of size and weight, but that would be merely quibbling. However, I have personally counted as many as 39 straws in a stool and, having raised the wheat now for three years, I have never seen it lodge. But, in order that the public may not be forced to rely upon my unsupported word, I have the following affidavit from the farmers who raised my this year's crop:

"The farmers are A. H. Roberts, B. W. Bingham and Ralph Roberts. 'Whereas, Certain conflicting stories are being industriously circu-

lated concerning the Alaska wheat, we, the undersigned farmers, do hereby certify that, in the year of 1908, we raised the said Alaska wheat for Abraham Adams of Juliaetta, and the following statements are true to the best of our knowledge:

"1. We raised the said Alaska wheat on land which had already grown several crops and stood badly in need of summer fallowing.

"The said Alaska wheat will flourish in spite of drought better than any other wheat that we have seen.

"3. We seeded one (1) bushel or less to the acre. The seed was given up very poorly cleaned and at least 40 per cent of it cracked, in which condition we put it in the ground.

"4. The spring of the year 1908 was cold and wet, materially retarding the growing fields, the Alaska wheat among others.

"5. The cutworms were bad, destroying large portions of the growing grain. The Alaska suffered heavily.

"6. In spite of statements to the contrary, the said Alaska wheat, which we raised on our fields, stood up without lodging or shelling out under a windstorm so severe that the heads were blown off.

"7. In our judgment, under the this year's adverse conditions and on the poorest of soil, we raised twice as much of the Alaska wheat per acre as we could have raised had we put club wheat on the same ground.

"8. The Alaska wheat does not shatter in harvesting.

"9. While other wheats are badly affected, the Alaska wheat is free from smut.

"10. All statements to the contrary notwithstanding, the fields of Alaska wheat which we harvested this year were not badly mixed with any other varieties of wheat.

"11. The Alaska wheat, harvested by us characterized by large and plump grains.

"12. Whereas, it is said that there is no demand for Alaska when among the farmers of this community, we intend to seed for ourselves as much of the Alaska wheat as Mr. Adams will sell us.

"13. Whereas, certain press reports would make it appear that the Alaska wheat stools very sparingly, we affirm that it will stool equal to other varieties of wheat.

"On top of this affidavit, here is what another threshing machine man has to say:

"I, W. A. Whitten, have finished threshing 30 acres of the Alaska wheat for Abraham Adams and, by looking over the ground, I am convinced that there was not to exceed one-third of a proper stand of wheat, and I threshed out 501 sacks of wheat.

Says Mill Was Inefficient.
"In the same issue of the Spokesman-Review appears an article under the heading 'Adams Wished No Milling Test.' In it is recited the fact that I did not permit the Vaupelet & Slegler flour mill at Leland, Idaho, to make a milling test of my wheat when they cleaned my seed wheat last fall. There were two reasons for my refusal to permit them to make the test: First, I desired to put as many acres into Alaska wheat as possible and I had only 837 bushels. Second, the Vaupelet & Slegler mill is noted for the poor quality of flour, and I did not think it worth while to let it make the test.

"The fact that this year's yield would be light has never been denied by myself. After having watched my fields mature, I am surprised to find that they are yielding as well as they are. The above affidavits explain the reasons for the light yield without any necessity for further details.

"Professor Elliott makes the prediction that 'three years from now Alaska wheat will be only a memory.' Perhaps—but then, the professor may be mistaken. Respectfully,

ABRAHAM ADAMS,
Juliaetta, Idaho.

END OF RAILWAY STRIKE IS NEAR

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Winnipeg, Man., Sept. 8.—The striking mechanics of the Canadian Pacific railroad throughout the West are seriously considering adopting the alleged offer of the railway to take all strikers back to work at their old positions. It is said that negotiations have been opened in connection with certain questions on which the men and the company do not agree. It is said here that the end of the strike is in sight, if there is no serious interruption to the progress of affairs as they now stand.

EASTERN AND LOCAL MARKETS

Chicago, Sept. 8.—December wheat opened at 97½; highest, 98; lowest, 97½; closed, 98.

December corn opened, 78½; highest, 79½; lowest, 78½; closed, 79½. December oats, 49½; highest, 50½; lowest, 49½; closed, 49½.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, Sept. 8.—Receipts, hogs, 10,000; cattle, 5,000; sheep, 28,000. Hogs opened steady; left over yesterday, 4100. Receipts year ago, 49,000. Mixed, \$6.35@7.05; heavy, \$6.75@7.10; rough, \$6.35@6.60; light, \$6.35@6.75.

Cattle, slow; sheep, weak. Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 8.—Receipts, hogs, 16,000; cattle, 24,000; sheep, 10,000.

Omaha, Sept. 8.—Receipts, hogs, 5,000; cattle, 8,000; sheep, 24,000.

SALEM MARKET.

Local Wholesale Market.
Eggs—25c.
Butter—Creamery, 31½c.
Cows—\$3@3.50.
Hens—11c; young chickens, 11c.
Local wheat—86c.
Oats—40c.
Barley—\$22.50.
Flour—Hard wheat, \$5; valley, \$4.25.
Hay—Cheat, \$10; clover, \$9 per ton; timothy, \$11@12.
Onions—\$1.25 cwt.
Hops—1907 crop, 5@6c.
Casaca Bark—2½@3c.
Mohair—18c.

Retail Market.

Oats—\$1.45.
Wheat—\$1.05.
Eggs—22c.
Butter—Country, 30c; creamery, 35c.
Flour—Valley, \$1.25 per sack; hard wheat, \$1.40@1.45.
Bran—90c per sack, \$30 per ton; shorts, \$1.30 per sack.

Livestock.

Hogs—Fat, \$6.25.
Stock hogs—\$4.50.
Steers—3½c.
Veal—5@7c.

Tropical Fruits.

Bananas—\$6.50.
Oranges—\$4.25.
Lemons—\$5@6.

Portland Markets.

Poultry—Hens, 12c; ducks, 12@14c; pigeons, old \$1 per dozen.
Millstuff—Bran, \$26.
Flour—Valley, \$1.20 per sack; hard wheat, \$1.45.

HOW THE ENGLISH HOLIDAYS ARE SPENT

A diversion which hardly exists in America, but which still holds its own in England, is the walking or bicycle tour.

England is not a country given to sudden crazes in the matter of sports. There are seasons, of course, in which some game like ping-pong or diablo carries everything before it for the moment and is then suddenly dropped.

But, on the whole, a sport that has once become popular in England remains so. Bicycling is a case in point. My American friends are astounded to hear that more cycles are being sold in England, as fashionable as they once were, and the days when cycling in Battersea Park competed with riding in Rotten Row have long gone by.

But as the vehicle of the masses the cycle still predominates, and the whole country is a network of cycling clubs, whose members organize successive tours of a fortnight or three weeks throughout the summer months.

The English, again, have always been great pedestrians, and many thousands of them devote their vacation to tramping the Welsh hills or the lake district or Devonshire, or some other of the almost countless regions that in England offer one a combination of faultless roads, beautiful scenery and historic associations.

Touring by caravan is not so popular a pastime, but is still not uncommon, and those who once take to it declare that it knocks all other forms of holiday making on the head. And besides all this, there are the joys of motoring for those who can afford them, while even a tenth-rate resort boasts its golf links, its tennis courts and its cricket club. —Sydney Brooks in Harper's Weekly.

TEA
There's plenty of humbug in tea; not one ounce in a ton Schilling's best.

AT HOME

For Business in our new building on Court street with a new, complete and up-to-date line of Housefurnishings, etc.

We are not quite straightened up yet but we herewith tender you a hearty welcome to visit us in our new quarters whether you purchase or not

Buren & Hamilton
HOUSE FURNISHERS

SHOT

(Continued from Page 1.)

day when a bullet passed close to the chief executive's head, said that he did not place credence in the report that the shot was fired by a would-be assassin.

"I am convinced that the bullet was fired by persons engaged in target practice on the Emlen Roosevelt farm, and do not believe it was aimed at the President," said Major Wadsworth.

Major Wadsworth said that neither he nor the President was much worried by the incident, but that at the time he did not think it advisable for the President to make a personal investigation, and advised against his dismounting and trying to find the man who fired the shot.

Crank Not Guilty.

Mineola, L. I., Sept. 8.—After an examination of the prisoner, Drs Wright and Buris today declared they were convinced that John Coughlin, arrested yesterday at Sagamore Hill, was not connected with the supposed attempt upon the life of President Roosevelt Saturday.

To a representative of the United Press, Coughlin said today that his home is in Waltham, Mass., where he lives with his father, James Coughlin. He denied any intent to harm the President, and asserted that he was no where near Oyster Bay last Saturday.

The man talks in a rambling fashion, and is demented. He explained that he carried a revolver for his own protection, and said he had no idea of ever using it except in self-defense. There is no indication that the revolver has been fired recently. He could not clearly explain the rambling story he told at Sagamore Hill last night about wanting the President to send troops to Boston to capture yegg men.

It is probable that the man will be confined in the Long Island asylum, unless his relatives arrange for his being cared for otherwise. It is believed that he is harmless.

In Missouri.

Jefferson City, Mo., Sept. 8.—Complying with the provisions of the new primary law, all state conventions in Missouri are being held today, and this city is crowded with politicians who are here as delegates.

The principal business of the convention, outside that of the election of chairman, will be the adoption of party platforms, which must be made public by 6 o'clock tomorrow evening. Today each party has 215 delegates in attendance, who were selected at the recent primaries.

Today's political activities mark the formal opening of this year's campaign in this state. A warm fight is predicted between Cowherd and Hadley, the respective Democratic and Republican gubernatorial candidates. The Stone-Palk fight, for senatorial nomination, to be decided at the November election, has grown to be exceedingly bitter.

A WATER EXPERIMENT AS TRIED IN CEDAR RAPIDS

Those who complain that the city already has debts enough should bear in mind that the water plant debt is not a debt, but an asset. At least that is what we were told a few years ago when we were in the hysterical process of acquiring a worn-out plant which today needs two or three thousand dollars in the way of repairs and improvements.

But the people are finding out the difference now. They are paying just as much for water as they did under the old system, and at the same time they are being taxed to pay interest on the plant and to pay for repairs.

The city used to receive taxes on the plant; now it does not receive any thing except free water for the city hall and few other city institutions. There are also several thousand people who are helping to pay interest and repairs and purchase price on a plant from which they do not receive any benefits at all, since the water is not brought to them.

They used to tell us in large letters that the plant was not only able to pay for itself out of its earnings, but the surplus could be used to build city halls, bridges and beautify the city until it should resemble a modern paradise.

All these dreams are now jokes. We are up against the real facts, and the management of the water plant has not been such as to make any of these realizations as yet, and there is no promise that they will be realized in the future. But these things should not discourage us. We should regard the water plant as an asset, not a debt. Let us stick to that and be as happy as we can.—Cedar Rapids Republican.

SHACKLING THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER A BIG UNDERTAKING

Perhaps there is no fact regarding the attempts to make a tame and navigable stream of the Mississippi more interesting than the one that the contractors and boomers demand that the river itself be controlled, at a least possible cost of \$200,000,000. Between New Orleans and Cape Girardeau there are hundreds of miles of caving banks and rolling waves of sands to be matted and jetted, in order to secure a permanent depth of 14 feet throughout the channel's course. A canal dug down the river lowlands would reduce the distance from over 1000 miles to less than 600 miles. The cost of dredging a canal down the bottoms, putting in the 25- or 30 necessary locks and rights of way, would amount, all told, to less than \$75,000,000. The canal would at one stroke, solve the question of draining the St. Francis and Tensas bottoms. It would reduce the cost of maintaining a permanent depth of 14-foot navigable channel from \$10,000,000 a year to less than \$1,500,000, and it would cut the time required to secure a 14-foot channel from an uncertain number of years to two or three years.

The fact that the Mississippi valley demands the taming of the Mis-

issippi itself can be traced to the river's own lawless challenge flaunted in the face of humanity time out of mind. The people of the Mississippi valley are at heart not so anxious for a deep-water way and for sight of ocean-going steamers at the wharves of St. Louis, Vicksburg, Memphis and other river towns, as they are for sight of the river humbled and humiliated and in shackles. —R. S. Spears in the September Atlantic.

AMERICANS GETTING BUSINESS IN INDIA

Consul General William H. Michael of Calcutta cites the following example of how one American manufacturing concern is securing an excellent trade in British India:

The town of Barhampur, in Madras province, has taken the preliminary steps toward introducing water works for the supply of pure water. The Madras government has sanctioned an estimate of \$103,660 toward the enterprise.

A filter company of the United States will put in the filtration plant. This same enterprising company, which has constantly on the lookout for business in India a thoroughly trained mechanic, with fine business capacity, and a corps of assistants, and an abundance of stock available on the ground, is gradually taking possession of the filtration business of the country.

Dacca, the old capital of Bengal, and Bangalore, the capital of Mysore state, have decided to install the American system. The truth is that all American concerns offering goods needed in India in the right way are laying the foundation for long continued and profitable business. They are doing it by personal solicitation through American agents who are capable, deeply interested and in the field all the time.

BANK PRESIDENT.

KILLED IN WRECK

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Seattle, Wash., Sept. 8.—Dr. Caleb Whitehead, president of the Alaska Banking & Safe Deposit Company and general manager of the Seward Peninsula railroad, is dead from injuries received in a train wreck on his own road, according to a dispatch to the United Press today. The train was ditched yesterday at Iron Creek, and the observatory car, in which Mr. Whitehead and a number of friends were riding, tipped over into the creek. Dr. Whitehead was in the water several minutes before he could be rescued, and, in spite of all attempts to save his life, he died without regaining consciousness.

His body will be shipped on the first steamer.
Dr. Whitehead was chief assayer at Washington, D. C., for a long time, but left the service about eight years ago to come to Alaska. Besides being connected with the banking institution and railroad he was the owner of several of the best paying claims in this district, and was wealthy. His wife is at present visiting in Seattle.
Those sheath gowns will hardly do in Salem as an everyday affair.