

The Farmers' Leader

CANTON, SOUTH DAKOTA.

ARTHUR LINN.

PUBLISHER.

CONFERENCE OF RACES.

A CONVENTION OF WHITES AND BLACKS.

To Be Known as "An Educational, Scientific and Industrial Convention"—Leading White Citizens Will Address the Convention On Various Subjects.

Whites and Blacks to Meet.

OCALA, Fla., special: Leading colored men of Florida, including many preachers, editors and teachers, have just issued a call for a gathering in this city, which they call an educational, scientific and industrial convention. The prime object is to enable the whites and negroes to arrive at a better understanding of their true relations to each other, with a view to promoting the welfare of both races. Leading white citizens have been asked to address the convention, and the topic, "Attitude of the White Man in Florida Toward the Negro," will be discussed by Gov. Mitchell, ex-Gov. Fleming, Comptroller Bloxham, ex-Congressman Bullock, W. N. Sheats, State Superintendent of Public Instruction; D. U. Fletcher of Jacksonville, and A. J. Russell. A list of forty subjects is announced for discussion, including education, race, temperance, economy, negro emigration, agriculture, science, divorce, etc. This is the first conference of this character ever arranged between the leaders of the two races in the South, and its deliberations are expected to be of great interest. The promoters of the plan are very enthusiastic, and predict an immense gathering and that it will lead to better feeling thereafter.

Andrew Carnegie's Plans.

PITTSBURGH special: Immediately following the announcement that Andrew Carnegie will build a \$25,000 free library at Braddock, comes the statement that the employees of the Duquesne mill will be compelled to work at a reduction in wages of 20 per cent. The Duquesne plant has been closed for a month undergoing extensive repairs and will resume operations. The improvements made dispense with the services of several hundred men. A strike has occurred at this mill every spring since it was erected five years ago. The unsettled condition of labor and the defeat at Homestead may prevent a strike this year.

Caught a Female Burglar.

PHILADELPHIA special: A female burglar, Pauline Kurtz, has been captured by the police of the Twenty-sixth District. Officer Dunlap caught her in the act of robbing the home of Henry Priestly, Kensington, and had to chase her over fences and roofs, up and down side streets and through alleys before he could lay hands upon her, and the girl made a desperate stand for liberty even when caught by the officers. Pauline Kurtz, the burglar, has committed numerous robberies, and one by one old cases are coming to the attention of the police. She is a tall girl of prepossessing appearance, with a very pink complexion.

That Deadly Folding Bed.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., special: Mr. and Mrs. Wm. B. Scott narrowly escaped being smothered to death in a folding bed. Mr. Scott awoke to find his wife nearly unconscious and himself very much oppressed by the lack of air. The folding bed had sprung up and caught them. He worked his way to the side of the bed with much difficulty and after shouting for nearly three-quarters of an hour, he attracted the attention of neighbors, who rescued the couple just in the nick of time.

Leased Convicts Surrendered.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., special: The act abolishing the convict lease system in this state has gone into effect and 700 leased convicts were turned over to the care of the state.

IN THE EAST.

BURLINGTON, Vt., special: The Home for Destitute Children burned. Fifty inmates were rescued. Loss, \$50,000.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, special: Two sections of a freight train on the Dayton & Michigan Railroad collided at Tadmor, killing five persons, and three wounded have since died. The first train stopped at the crossing, and the second one ran into it. Six tramps were stealing a ride and five were killed and one injured. The trainmen escaped without injury.

MELROSE, Mass., special: There has been an attempt to secure control of an 18-year-old Melrose boy, Henry Smith, who has recently become heir to between \$100,000 and \$150,000, by a New Orleans relative, the money being left by a rich New Orleans grandparent. Young Smith states that his New Orleans uncle showed him a newspaper which he claimed made him the boy's guardian. Smith's suspicions were aroused and he eluded his uncle, who then consulted legal authorities, but learned that there was no power to force the young man to go to New Orleans, where he, as one of the heirs, would have control of the property.

BALTIMORE special: The reports from all parts of the State indicate an unusually heavy peach crop this summer. On the eastern shore the trees are in excellent condition and the growers are expecting large yields. It is a curious and interesting fact that the best peaches are now grown in the mountain region of the state. Five years ago a gentleman owning farm land on the western slope of the Blue Ridge mountains tried fruit raising as an experiment. He was astonished at the result. The peaches were superb in size, color and lusciousness, and they easily brought advanced prices in the markets. The effect of his success was to stimulate the fruit raising interests of the mountain region and the Cumberland valley. Land that was being for a few dollars an acre jumped to \$100 and some of it now could not be had for \$200.

HARRISBURG, Pa., special: Nineteen years ago Mrs. Emanuel Enders, who had separated from her husband, retaining her 3-year-old son, William Enders, made a contract with her father-in-law, William J. Enders, by which she was to give him the custody

of the child, in return for which he was to give her \$20,000 when the boy became of age. When the period of time had passed Mrs. Enders asked for her \$20,000, but the executors of the grandfather, who had died in the meantime, refused. She brought suit and the jury awarded her the full amount. Judge Simonton has set aside the verdict on the ground that such a contract is against public policy, for the reason that the relation of parent and child creates an obligation which cannot be bartered away for the pecuniary advantage of the parent.

EAST WINN, Me., special: A man named Martin, about 35 years old, has for a long time been giving offense to the citizens of this town by maintaining illicit relations with a number of depraved women of the place, some of them married. Martin is a married man, but his wife left him sometime ago. One night during the past week a party of men disguised with white marks and strange looking high peaked hats called at a house where Martin was carousing, and dragged him over the rough roads to a lonely spot in the woods a mile or two from the village. There he was given a good lecture, stripped naked and given a coat of tar and feathers. He was then mounted on a rail taken from a neighboring fence and carried to his home, where he has left with an emphatic admonition to leave town within twenty-four hours.

IN THE WEST.

SAN FRANCISCO special: The steamer Belgic, which has arrived brings news of the capture recently near Tachow Island by a war junk disguised as a merchantman, of a formidable band of pirates who, for the last eight or nine months, had made themselves by their ferocity and blood-thirstiness, the terror of all junks trading between Ningpo, Tachow and Wenchow. Of the fifty-one pirates on board, the captured alive, the remainder being killed in a desperate attempt to repulse the attack of the sailors on board the war junk, who, though inferior to the pirates, pluckily attacked the enemy and finally gained a bloody victory, losing twenty-two of their forty-eight men on board, including the captain and the second officer of the war junk. A curious incident in connection with the case is the capture of three Buddhist monks, who were found fighting side by side with the pirates, and proved to be the most desperate men in the lot. These monks are very probably the same band that made a raid upon a nunnery near Tinping in December last and carried away the youngest and prettiest of the votaries, gagging the ugly ones in a cruel manner and throwing them under the great altar, where the poor creatures were found two days afterward nearly famished.

PARSONS, Kan., special: A bold and partially successful train robbery, committed by six bandits, took place at Pryor Creek, Indian Territory. When the Missouri, Kansas & Texas south-bound passenger, which left here at 4:30 in the afternoon, reached Pryor Creek, six masked men emerged from the darkness and after signaling the train to stop, they ordered the engineer, fireman, conductor, and brakeman were quickly covered with revolvers and marched from the train. While two men guarded the trainmen the other four entered the express car. They threatened the messenger with pistol and knife, and ordered him to open the safe, but he refused to accede to their demands. Falling in this they went to the back part of the train and relieved all the passengers of their money and valuables. Considerable consternation obtained and several ladies fainted. After depositing the money and valuables in each of the baggage racks out of the car, firing pistols into the air, and escaped in the darkness. The amount of booty secured is unknown, but is supposed to be considerable over \$2,000.

CHRYSENE special: One of the most curious and interesting mineral discoveries in Wyoming is the recent find of a natural soap mine on the line of the Burlington Railroad, near the town of Newcastle, which is situated in the northeast corner of the state. The deposit, which is from 14 to 20 feet in thickness, is a kind of talc saturated with potash. In its natural state it makes a fair laundry soap, and when rendered with water increases its bulk about fourfold and makes a rich lather. Experts who have examined the stuff say it can easily be manufactured into a superior quality of toilet soap. Five hundred pounds have been forwarded to this city and samples are being sent abroad in response to numerous requests from eastern makers who wish to test its quality and cleansing properties. It can easily be mined at an expense not to exceed \$1 per ton. Accompanying this deposit are found seams of silvery white asbestos. The owners are confident of the excellence of their product, and are already making plans to establish a large manufacturing plant near the deposit, which is in easy reach of railroad facilities.

DENVER special: The coal and coke business of the state is now in the hands of four companies. The business of the People's Coal Company and that of J. J. Thomas & Co. were amalgamated. The capital stock of the organization is \$800,000 and controls several large mines in northern Colorado. J. J. O'Neill is president and J. J. Thomas general manager of the consolidation, which gives the Colorado Feed and Fuel Company, Citizens' Coal and Coke Company, United Coal Company and People's Coal Company complete control of the trade in the state.

SAN FRANCISCO special: Senator Harrison will deliver his series of lectures to the students of Leland Stanford, Jr., University in the early part of next term. The last lecture will be an expression of Harrison's views as to the best plan for compiling an international code of law to govern all the prominent nations of the world. This will be printed and sent to the leading nations. Senator Stanford believes a code of the kind suggested would do away with war.

HELENA, Mont., special: There have been twenty-four violent deaths in this state within the past ten days, of which number thirteen were due to accidents in mines, three to accidents on railroads, one to the turning on of gas, one to drowning, five to suicide, and one to homicide.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., special: The coal sheds of the Northwestern Fuel Company fell shortly before noon. Fifteen men were buried under a great mass of coal.

FOREIGN JOTTINGS.

PRESNLO, Mexico, special: A remarkable duel that resulted in the death of one of the principals and the fatal wounding of the other, occurred here. Jacob Valdez, a merchant, and Plutarco Margro, an attorney, had been suitors for the hand of a young lady in this city. They mutually agreed to settle their difference in the usual Mexican way. Knives having blades three inches long were selected. A ten-foot space was roped off and the men went at each other. They fought desperately in the darkness for twenty minutes. Margro felt pierced to the heart with a knife. Both men were horribly mutilated. Valdez's injuries will prove fatal. The seconds were arrested.

CITY OF MEXICO special: The conflict between the Government troops and the Indians near the village of San Mateo Atenco was more desperate than at first reported. The Indians were incited by a young lawyer to attack a party of students from the State Institute at Teotihuacan. The students fled, and a detachment of soldiers was sent out to bring the Indians into submission. Opening fire upon the Indians the troops killed five and wounded ten of them. Several soldiers were badly wounded. Another party of Indians in the meantime attacked a large force of soldiers in their barracks and killed two officers.

LONDON special: A Madrid cable from the Captain General of Cuba is published, in which he confesses that his forces are inadequate to quell the uprising. Instead of the 12,000 troops he was supposed to have, he has less than 8,000, which under normal conditions cannot be considered strong enough; the cavalry, which is most required in a campaign of this sort, being especially weak.

NAPLES special: Great interest is taken in the case for damages against the Anchor Line Steamship Company by the families of 515 Italian immigrants who perished in the wreck of the Utopia in March, 1891. Ex-Premier Crispi and Sig. Lebano have been retained for the defense.

LONDON special: An accident by which twenty persons lost their lives is reported from the Province of Saragossa near Santa Eulalia. A religious procession was crossing a river near on pontoons, when one collapsed. Twenty perished and a score of others are in an exhausted condition.

HAVANA special: A dispatch from Holguin says all the rebels, including the two Sartore brothers, surrendered themselves to Caaturo Verades. The party consisted of only thirty men.

SOUTHERN SUMMARY.

LITHIA SPRING, Ga., special: Dr. W. K. Glover, who has for years been prominent in the town affairs, was found in the bushes near a road at the outskirts of the town, with the top of his head blown off. All day scouting parties have been looking for some trace of the assassin or assassins, but for some one who is now being sought. Dr. Glover at one time occupied the position of Town Marshal with his other duties, and it is the theory of some that he has paid the death penalty for some of his official acts. But another theory, and one which finds many supporters, is that he was killed for some one who is now passing as his friend. The night before, he and several others were at a neighbor's playing cards. They all left about 11 o'clock. Shortly afterward shots were heard and many people believe Dr. Glover was killed by some one who had been with them. His pockets had been rifled, but this is taken by detectives now working on the case as being a blind to make it appear that he was killed for purposes of robbery.

RICHMOND special: Gen. E. Bird Grubb of New Jersey has concluded negotiations for five acres of ground adjoining Salem Church in Spotsylvania County, about four miles from Fredericksburg. It was on this sanguinary field, on the occasion of the battle of Chancellorsville, in 1863, that the Confederates made a desperate charge and lost a large number of men. He intends to make a beautiful park of the grounds and will erect thereon an imposing monument to commemorate the brave deeds of his men. Negotiations are now pending which will likely result in the purchase of other properties in that section for similar purposes. Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania Court House, Wilderness, Salem Church, and Bloody Angle are all within a radius of fifteen miles.

KEY WEST, Fla., special: A schooner arrived from Gibrila, Cuba, reports the Cuban revolutionary flag floating from the fortress. The revolutionists number 1,100, and have possession of the city. Expeditions are being fitted out in Jamaica and San Domingo for the southern provinces. The Cubans here are enthusiastic over the news. It is admitted to the Cuban papers that there are 2,000 revolutionists in the province of Santiago.

CHARLESTON, S. C., special: A tornado passed through a portion of Lexington and Newbury Counties, unroofing houses and mills and destroying barns, stables and outhouses. Much damage was done to orchards and woods. A white woman was killed and a number of persons injured.

VAN BUREN, Ark., special: Two waterspouts struck northern Crawford County and washed out bridges and railroad tracks on the Santa Fe. All reports are not in and it is feared the damage done is immense and that many lives were lost.

THE MARKETS.

CHICAGO.	
Cattle—Common to prime	4.75 @ 5.30
Hogs—Shipping grades	7.50 @ 7.60
Sheep	5.10 @ 5.45
Wheat—Cash	77 1/2
Corn—Cash	44 1/2
Oats	34
Rye	54 1/2
Flax	1.09
Butter—Western Dairy	21 @ 25
Eggs—Western	14 @ 15

ST. LOUIS CITY.	
Cattle—Fat steers	4.25 @ 5.00
Cattle—Feeders	3.00 @ 3.50
Hogs	7.15 @ 7.25
Sheep	4.25 @ 5.45
Wheat	59
Oats	30
Flax	30

OMAHA LIVE STOCK.	
Cattle—Common to prime	3.25 @ 5.00
Hogs—Shippers	7.10 @ 7.25

NEW YORK PRODUCE.	
Wheat	77 1/2 @ 78
Corn	51 @ 52
Oats—Western	27 1/2 @ 30 1/2

THE OUTLOOK IS GOOD

NEWS FROM THE GREAT WHEAT FIELDS.

Reports of May 1 Show That Wheat in South Dakota is Nearly All Sown and Some Peeps Above Ground—The Outlook is Encouraging.

ARMOUR.—Seeding is all done in Douglas and Charles Mix Counties. Some grain is up and is green. Farmers all feel confident of a good crop. Business is good. No corn has been planted yet to speak of.

ORDWAY.—Owing to continued wet and freezing weather, seeding in the north half of Brown County has been delayed greatly. About one-third of the acreage has been sown. All the low places are full of water. Farmers who are sowing up to the last of the month, but even then will be unable to get the usual acreage sown. The prospects for a good crop are excellent.

FAULKTON.—Farmers in this vicinity have about one-half their seeding done. Seeding was begun about April 1, but continued rains and occasional snows have delayed farm work. About two more weeks of fair weather and seeding will be completed. With fair weather the acreage of wheat will be somewhat larger than last year. The acreage of flax will be much larger. The rains and snow the past month have done no damage further than delay farm work.

PARKER.—Wheat in this locality was all in the ground nearly two weeks ago, and oats and barley were nearly all in before the big storms of the past week. Wheat is already up in many places. The prevailing opinion is that the acreage is not as large as last year. The high price of pork will induce farmers to plant more corn and less small grain. The recent rains and snow have been a crop prospecter and never brighter at this time of the year.

BRITTON.—Throughout the county seeding has been greatly delayed by the successive rain and snow storms. Through the hills not an acre has been sown, snow to the depth of from four to five feet covering the low ground. Unless a favorable change in the weather occurs at once, the wheat acreage will be considerably decreased from last year. No such precipitation of moisture has been seen in this vicinity since the days of its first settlement. Indications at present promise big yields from such lands as can be seeded in time.

MITCHELL.—In spite of the unseasonable weather of the past six weeks, seeding, which began about a month ago, is nearly completed in this locality, fully 90 per cent. of the wheat being in the ground. The acreage is about the same as last year, and the effect thus far has had a beneficial effect than otherwise on the seed put in. There will be considerable flax sown in place of late wheat that would have been put in but for the cold, wet weather. The crop prospects up to date were never better, but warm weather is an immediate necessity for the realization of present prospects.

MADISON.—About 90 per cent. of wheat and oats had been sown in this county ten days ago, but the westwinds since have prevented further operations. Much flax and barley is yet to be sown. The acreage of wheat will be about the same as last year, but there will be an increase in oats, flax, barley, and corn equal to the new land brought under tillage. A week of weather like this is now necessary to complete all seeding operations except corn planting and some flax. Seeding began in this county (Lake March 18, but has been greatly retarded by wet weather. The seed, however, is sprouting finely as a rule, though there is some complaint of rot. The prospect for a fine crop is excellent.

STURGIS.—Seeding of wheat and grass seeds is finished with the exception of a few sections on low ground. Wheat and grass seeding began March 28. Oats seeding not begun on account of rain and snow for the past ten days. Wheat and grass are appearing through the ground and the rains and the snows of the past two weeks will insure a heavy crop. Wheat acreage will be heavier than last year by 20 per cent. This year will be a considerable wheat to hogs this year. Tame grass acreage, clear, timothy and alfalfa exceeds last year's acreage by 50 per cent. Oat acreage will exceed last year's by 25 per cent. Corn crop about the same as last year. The potato crop will exceed last year by 50 per cent. The seedling appearance of an exceedingly good year for crops. Stock is in first-class condition.

YANKTON.—Seeding of small grain is well advanced in this vicinity. The recent rains and snow retarded the work nearly ten days, but farmers are confident that the small grain will all be in by the 10th inst. This is two weeks ahead of last year. The wheat acreage in this immediate vicinity will be some larger than last year. The prospects for a good crop are excellent. The acreage of corn planted in this and adjoining counties will be fully 20 per cent. larger than that of last year, but as the larger part of this is on new ground the total yield will probably exceed 5 per cent. more than the crop of 1892. The potato crop, which was almost a failure last year, will probably be the largest ever grown in South Dakota. Oats, barley, and flax will also be cultivated extensively, and the acreage will be as large, if not larger, than ever before.

HOT SPRINGS.—The farmers of Fall River County finished seeding during April. In fact the greater portion of the wheat was sown during the months of January and February. The acreage of small grain is much larger than that of any previous year within the history of the county, and the prospects for a good crop could not possibly be better than at the present time. Up to within the past week this portion of the county has not been visited by the usual spring rains, but there was sufficient moisture in the ground to cause grain to come along in good shape, and much of the wheat has been up for weeks and growing nicely. The past week has been one continuous snow storm, the snow melting almost as rapidly as it fell, and the ground is ex-

cellent condition for the growing of all cereals. So far as agriculture is concerned, a more favorable spring could not have been made to order.

TO KEEP OUT TEXAS FEVER.

Gov. Sheldon Issues a Proclamation Importing Cattle.

In view of the fact of the existence of contagious diseases among the cattle of certain portions of Texas, Gov. Sheldon has issued a proclamation prohibiting the importation of Texas cattle into the state except under the following conditions: "The proclamation describes in detail the infected district, which includes most of the state, and then says:

1. All cattle in whole or in part from south of the 36th parallel of north latitude between the 28th day of April, A. D. 1893, and the 1st day of December, A. D. 1893, must show by affidavit of two responsible parties (a) name and Post-office address of the owner, consignee and consigner; (b) the brand or brands on all of said cattle; (c) the county or counties in which said cattle have been held during the preceding ninety days and the total number demanding entry.

2. Each train load or herd, if driven, must be accompanied by a certified copy of the original affidavit.

3. Unless satisfactory proof is presented to the President of the State Board of Health or the State Veterinarian or their duly authorized inspectors, that the cattle have been at least ninety days north of the 36th parallel of north latitude or west of the line describing the infected district, such cattle shall be deemed to be diseased and condemned as diseased under regulation of the above order.

The State Board of Health and the State Veterinarian and his deputies are hereby charged with the execution of the provisions of this proclamation.

The Crop Report.

The following is the crop bulletin issued by the Government Weather Bureau in Huron, showing crop conditions in South Dakota for the week ending May 2:

The week has been more or less favorable to all farm work. It has been cloudy with frequent rain or snow and cold. There was frost and ice on nearly every morning. The temperature was considerably below the average, and there was comparatively little sunshine. Over that portion of the state lying east of the Missouri River the amount of rain and snow was considerably below the average, but it appears that there is a deficiency of moisture in the Black Hills region.

Seeding has been considerably retarded. In some of the southern counties this work is finished and the grain is sprouted, but taking the state as a whole, seeding of oats, wheat, and barley is probably but half completed.

Warm weather and sunshine are much needed. There is some report of grain in the ground rotting and, in fact, this complaint is not by any means general. There is no apprehension expressed of the late season affecting the wheat crop, but it will tend to reduce the acreage devoted to this cereal. Much of the bottom lands continue too wet to work. The prospect for grass with reasonable warmth and sunshine was never better.

Will Take No Foolishness.

PUBLIC EXAMINER MYERS has signaled his entrance into office by making some sharp improvements in the rules governing the banks of the state. He has strengthened the oath required of the bank officers and has made it exceedingly dangerous for them to falsify the returns. He will hereafter require all directors to comply with the law prescribing that they personally examine the accounts, a practice which is said to be decidedly uncommon. In addition to the usual questions asked at the regular examinations he will present a new set of questions to be published with the statement, but designed to give the examiner a full view of the inside workings of the banks. The following are the additional facts to be found out: Lien on banking house; stock paid by notes; cash held not appearing on the books; cash held on collections; bills receivable given by stock holders; memoranda notes; worthless loans and discounts; interest paid on check deposits (rate); interest paid on time deposits (rate); net profits since Jan. 1; when last report was published; when last meeting was held, and is the meeting a matter of record; Are certificates of deposit issued for the purpose of borrowing money? Date of last dividend; amount carried to surplus; when did the directors last examine the accounts of the bank?

Were the Children Murdered?

INVESTIGATION of the death of the two Sjoblom children, who died from eating carrots poisoned with strychnine, near Spokane, Custer County, has revealed facts which point strongly to foul play. The ranch on which the Sjoblom family live is in litigation, and it is said that a party interested recently visited the place and tried to induce Sjoblom to surrender possession by threats and appeals to superstition, saying, among other things: "This house is cursed. You have a family and would not wish anything to happen to them. Leave and let me have my old home." Sjoblom refused. This was on Friday and on Monday the children found and ate the carrots in the cellar, which had been cut and filled with strychnine.

Struck Natural Gas. A FLOW of natural gas was struck at a depth of 800 feet while workmen were engaged in sinking an artesian well at the Government Indian School at Pierre. It is impossible to tell how long it will last. When a light was brought in contact with the gas it burned, and has been burning ever since. Much excitement has been created by the discovery and if the gas only pans out a big boom will come.

Fatal Fooling with a Gun.

At Brookings, Thomas Alton's little son, Otis, was accidentally shot and killed by a boy named Wicks. The boys were fooling with a rifle in a livery barn when young Wicks pointed the gun at Otis and pulled the trigger and shot young Alton through the stomach, killing him almost instantly.

Two Sticks in a Bad Way.

TWO STICKS, murderer of the whites at Pine Ridge Agency, was taken to Deadwood. The old chief is helpless and was carried to jail. He has been shot in several places in the body and gangrene has set in. He can hardly recover.

IS BAD FOR THE CROPS.

CONTINUED COLD AND RAINY WEATHER REPORTED.

Southern States East of the Mississippi Have a Balmey Spell, While in Other Sections the Temperature is Below the Average.

Government Crop Report.

Last week was the third consecutive cold, and unfavorable week throughout the principal wheat and corn producing States. The week was unusually cold in the States of the upper Mississippi and Missouri valleys, where the daily temperature ranged from 5 to 15 degrees below the normal and closed with freezing weather, but according to the report from Washington, the indications are for more favorable conditions during the coming week in the Northwest, and slightly cooler than usual on the Pacific coast. The temperature was slightly below the average from the lake region eastward, while it was warmer than usual generally throughout the Southern States east of the Mississippi. Excessive rains occurred during the week over the Central valleys, including the winter wheat region, the northern portion of the Gulf States, and in the southern portion of the spring-wheat region. The rainfall was unusually heavy in the Central Mississippi and Ohio valleys, interfering materially with farm work.

In the principal agricultural States considerable injury has resulted from flooding and severe frost storms throughout the West. There was also excessive moisture in the northern portion of the cotton region, where the land is too wet to work, and fears are expressed of an overflow in the lower Mississippi.

Considerable acreage of oats and wheat is reported under water in Illinois, and the indications are that considerable injury to farming is to be expected from high water in the States of the lower Mississippi and lower Ohio valleys in the lowlands near the rivers. Telegraphic reports:

Pennsylvania—Grain and grass have good color, but have made little growth; large acreage of potatoes and some corn are slightly injured.

Mississippi—Conditions favorable, except for very heavy rains in the lower portion, which were injurious; some cotton replanted, other crops doing well; fears of overflow in bottom lands along the river; some damage to deep water in delta.

Arkansas—Excessive rains caused high water in all streams, with much damage to corn and corn not doing well.

Kentucky—All farm work suspended; corn damaged; some wheat and oats slightly injured; wheat, oats and rye fine.

Missouri—Little advance in vegetation; farm work practically suspended; much replanting probable.

Illinois—Rainfall excessive; conditions unfavorable; conditions of wheat, corn and oats submerged; hail slightly damaged oats in some sections; oats, corn, and potatoes rotting in ground; wheat and corn little injured; Indiana—Excessive rainfall prevented seeding and seeding; wheat and grass still in a condition.

Ohio—Continued rains overflowed streams, damaging crops; little of the wheat and tobacco plants improved; oats and potatoes rotting in some localities.

Michigan—High winds, cold weather, and excessive rain have combined to materially retard progress of crops; some spring seeding retarded.

Wisconsin—Two weeks' suspension of farm work; nothing done in north portion; seedling done in central and southern portions; full of water and no growth of vegetation.

Minnesota—Cold, cloudy and wet, permitting no work; soil too cold; seed on low ground in danger of rotting; rivers high; marshes flooded; seedling backward.

Iowa—Another unfavorable week; farm work and vegetation at a standstill; late sown grain rotting to some extent; numerous reports of loss of seed.

Nebraska—Slowly cloudy and cold, with hard frosts and snow in central and northern sections; corn and tobacco plants in poor condition for corn planting.

Kansas—Heavy rains with colder, cloudy weather in eastern portion; little corn and retarded vegetation except wheat and oats; drought injured wheat in central and western counties; some thought high rains have improved condition.

Oklahoma—All crops improved. Montana—Season much delayed by cold weather.

Wyoming—Snow will prove beneficial, but have retarded a good deal of the farm work.

Idaho—Generally unfavorable for farm work, and too wet in northern portion; potatoes and seedling done in some localities.

Utah—Frost 25th and 30th; too cold for crops to grow.

Washington—Flouring and seedling have begun everywhere in improved localities.

Oregon—Conditions more favorable to farming operations; in eastern portion seeding is completed; in western portion considerable plowing yet to be done; shearing commenced; wool crop season three weeks late.

California—Abnormally cool; drying winds injured growing grain; peaches and apricots early crop; good yield of grapes; hops improving rapidly.

CLEVELAND AT WASHINGTON.

The President and Members of the Cabinet Pleased with the Fair.

President Cleveland and his official family have returned to Washington from their World's Fair trip. Mrs. Cleveland drove to the depot to meet the President and all his associates gathered to see the travelers return. During the trip the President has seen more of his Cabinet associates and their wives than at any time since the administration began. The members of the party are lavish in praise of the Exposition, as a whole, and of the superb structures, exhibits, and various details. The magnitude of the Fair was far beyond their anticipation. They do not share in any of the grumbling of the Eastern newspapers as to the alleged unfinished condition of the Fair. As Secretary Herbert remarked, the world never saw an exposition that was in complete running order on its opening day. Mr. Herbert and all his associates say that a month will see the Exposition in perfect running order. Secretary Morton is so pleased with the Fair that he has concluded to return to Chicago for a more extended visit within the next three weeks.

Overflow of News.

DAMAGE to the oyster beds on the Connecticut and Long Island coast by the storm is placed at \$500,000.

C. P. HUNTINGTON, of the Southern Pacific Road, has bought the Fueno coal mines, in Mexico, for \$500,000.

THREE men were seriously burned by an explosion of molten metal in a Carnegie furnace at Braddock, Pa.

DAVID A. DISCHLER, who has been on trial at Rome, N. Y., for aiding in the escape of Bunker O'Brien, was acquitted.