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CHICAGO MEDDLERS BLAMED FOR RISE

Secretary Wilson Explains Shortage of Wheat.

CROP IS ABOVE THE AVERAGE

Head of Agricultural Department Says Cause of Abnormal Price Must Be Sought in Other Directions—Unable to Say When Condition of Market Will Be Improved.

With wheat still maintaining its high price level, and apparently more firmly entrenched than ever, James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, declared last night his former position was maintained—that the crop was not short, and that the cause of the abnormal price must be sought in other directions.

"I don't know what to attribute it to, except the meddling of Chicago operators," he said. "But wheat speculation and the wheat corner are academic questions not within the scope of the Department of Agriculture, and if a certain coterie of speculators is keeping the price of wheat at an artificial level, other officials must determine the legality and propriety of the proceeding."

"The crop is not short. According to the last reports, it amounts to 146,000,000 bushels, which is somewhat above the average. Last year's crop, it is true, was 150,000,000 bushels, but this was an extraordinary crop, and the average of preceding years will be found considerably higher than this year's."

"You cannot account for high prices on the theory of a crop shortage, because there isn't any. The Department of Agriculture deals only with facts, and it is not undertaking any investigation to find the cause of the present price level. This is not its sphere. I cannot say whether the indications are that the price will break soon or whether it will go still higher."

Old Case Recalled.

"It is true that a Chicago corner once drove the price of wheat to \$1.50 a bushel; and what it has done once, it may do again. There are other elements entering into the question of high prices. It is true that all farm products are rising. They have been going up steadily for some time past. The reason is not far to seek. It is simply the shortage of farm labor. This shortage has been growing greater for years, and the movement is still that way."

"The industrial pursuits offer yielding men of the farms so much higher wages than they could possibly earn at agriculture that the movement away from the farm is constantly going on. It is purely a business question. Vigorous young men, raised on the farms, find an outlet for their energy in manufacturing concerns, in mines, in stores, in a hundred and one urban pursuits. It is little wonder the farm cannot hold them."

Leaders Will Be in Session.

The international leaders of the movement known in T. M. C. A. circles as "Special Religious Work for and by Labor" will meet Tuesday night in the assembly hall of the Association building. They will present brief and comprehensive surveys of the present lines of endeavor now being promoted. Before meeting in the assembly hall the leaders will be given a dinner. Among those who will be present are Fred B. Smith, Harry W. Arnold, Fred S. Goodman, Dr. Clarence A. Barbour, R. Alfred Waite, Jr., and C. R. Drum.

All advertising contracts made by The Washington Herald are based upon its bona fide circulation—a circulation in Washington larger by thousands than was ever before attained by any morning newspaper at the Capital. Its books are open.

CANNON BALKS ON GOOD ROADS PLAN

Continued from Page One.

the Constitution to make experiments and give to all citizens the results of these experiments. He proposed doing this in regard to good roads.

Mr. Cannon said the plan of distributing the cost of road building was more feasible than by indirect taxation, in that better results would be obtained and no embarrassing precedent would be established. He then spoke of the good roads built in his own State by the citizens.

The proposed plan of building a Jackson boulevard from Chicago to New Orleans was ridiculed by Mr. Cannon, who also told of objecting to the proposed Lincoln memorial road to Gettysburg, saying that he did not think all the States should be taxed for something in which they were indirectly or not at all interested.

Government Would Be Forced.

The Federal government would be forced to maintain the roads, if they were built by Congressional appropriation. He said he was very much against any appropriation being made for roads, and said he had frankly told his constituents this and yet had been returned to Congress.

Mr. Jackson was the next speaker, and after thanking the Speaker for addressing the congress, said he had been invited, even though his antagonistic views were well known, in the hope that he might be convinced.

He said it is more important to have good roads than to return any man to Congress. He urged that Congress should not only direct, but give financial aid. The immediate construction at an expenditure of more than \$5,000,000 for good roads, said the speaker, was not urged, merely a gradual construction being desired. He declared it to be more economic to build good roads than deep waterways, and asked why some other appropriation might not be curtailed to give money for roads.

Opposition to spending money for rural free delivery was mentioned by the speaker, who said it was a blight on American intelligence to wait for private concerns or individual bodies to construct roads.

Former Senator Dodge, of Ohio, at one time director of public roads in this city, was the next speaker. He urged that the roads be built by Congressional appropriation, saying the money might be obtained by using part of the internal revenues for this purpose. He spoke at some length and was interrupted several times by Speaker Cannon, who made corrections and offered suggestions.

The speaker referred Mr. Cannon to roads within ten miles of the hotel and some even within the city limits, that he said, were at present impassable.

The discussion in the morning was carried on by Mr. Jackson, Representative D. T. Morgan, of Oklahoma; James F. Colbreath, of Denver; Col. W. F. Beasley, of North Carolina, and several members of Congress. George Ward Cook, field agent for the Good Roads Association, declared last night he would call a meeting of a large conference in the New England States within a few months.

CALIFORNIA SOCIETY MEETS.

At a meeting of the California State Association, in the red room of the Ebbitt House, last night, officers were elected and plans for the coming year discussed. It was decided to give an excursion to Marshall Hall and to Great Falls, hold a celebration of "admission day," September 3, and a reception to the California delegation on December 15.

The following officers were elected: M. F. O'Donoghue, president; Riggs Nathan, first vice president; Mrs. Marie Smith, second vice president; Charles W. O'Leary, secretary; C. T. Vogel, recording secretary, and A. J. Boyer, historian.

GUARD MAY CAMP IN NEW ENGLAND

Indications Point to Maneuvers in Massachusetts.

MAY BE A JOINT EXPEDITION

Rumors Circulated About Headquarters to Effect that District Brigade Will Embark on Transports August 12 for Trip with New York and Connecticut Militia.

Present indications are that the District National Guard will embark on army transports, now at Newport News, on August 12, and be taken to the coast of Massachusetts to participate in extensive maneuvers in conjunction with a force of regular troops and a detail of the organized militia from the States of New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. The entire expedition will probably be under command of Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, U. S. A., with Brig. Gen. Harries, of the District; Maj. Gen. Rowe, of New York, and Brig. Gen. Clark, of Massachusetts, as aids.

The rumor that the District Guard is going to Massachusetts could not be verified at militia headquarters yesterday, as Col. Smiley, adjutant general, would neither affirm nor deny it. Gen. Harries could not be reached, as he is out of the city. Col. Weaver, of the division of militia affairs, was equally noncommittal. Several officers in the War Department know that the project has been under consideration and believe the matter is already settled. Officers of the Massachusetts volunteer militia are already making preparations for the joint exercises. A detail of New York troops has been made, and two regiments of Connecticut guardsmen are under orders.

It has been announced in Boston that the problem will probably consist of an attempt to make a landing on the Massachusetts coast, and that the Bay State militiamen will be called out to repulse the attack. Five batteries of field artillery, including the first Battery, of the District, three from New York, and one from Connecticut, are expected to accompany the landing force. A troop of cavalry from New Haven and some regular cavalry is expected to participate.

Brig. Gen. Paw, of the Second Brigade of Massachusetts, assisted by Capt. Davis, U. S. A., detailed as aid by the War Department, will in all probability have charge of the defending force.

Trip Begins August 12.

It is reported that militia headquarters knows definitely where the encampment will be, but the only information that Col. Smiley will give out is that the encampment will begin on August 12 and will last for about two weeks. Several officers in the guard, who have followed up the rumor that the brigade will go to Massachusetts, are convinced that this is true. They point out further that these exercises would be of great value to the guardsmen as it would give them their first actual experience in loading and unloading on transports, and in the routine work during the voyage.

Experience in entraining and detraining, and in traveling on transports, is, the officers say, an important part of the military training of any command. When it is first done there is always more or less unavoidable confusion, and in order that this may happen in times of peace instead of after war is declared, practice in doing this kind of work is made a part of the regular training of the troops. The District Guard has had considerable experience in traveling by rail and in loading and unloading horses, field artillery, and baggage, but their experience on water has been confined to crossing the Potomac on visits to Alexandria.

A trip to Massachusetts, the officers say, would be of great interest to the men, and the experience would be of great value to them. They point out, furthermore, that a trip of this character would bring in a large number of recruits who would like to make the journey and take part in the attempted landing.

Members of the guard are evincing considerable interest in the outcome of the first general court-martial, which was in session on Tuesday and Thursday nights at militia headquarters. Private William Flood, of Company B, Second Regiment, was brought before the court charged with a violation of the twenty-first and

thirty-third articles of war for alleged disobedience of orders and absence from drill without permission. The witnesses to the charges were Capt. Samuel Feland, First Lieut. Clarence N. Walker, and First Sergeant Bouzard. Capt. Harry Coope, judge advocate, had charge of the prosecution, and First Lieut. Daniel B. Miller, Jr., of the First Regiment, acted as counsel for the accused.

The prosecution completed its case on Tuesday evening, and then Lieut. Miller asked for time to prepare for the defense, which he had to submit in written form. The court then adjourned until Thursday evening, when Lieut. Miller presented the defense that the prosecution had failed to make out its case, inasmuch as the witnesses to the charges were practically the men who made them. The court then went into a recessive session, and reached a verdict which will be submitted to Gen. Harries, and if approved by him will be published in General Orders and its execution placed in the hands of the marshal of the District.

SEES A CONSPIRACY

Haskell Demands Removal of Government Officials.

PETITIONS ATTORNEY GENERAL

Alleges that Men Retained by Government in Land Fraud Cases Have "Combined to Secure Unlawfully" Indictments and Hired Press Agent to Influence Public Sentiment.

Tulsa, Okla., May 22.—In a long petition forwarded to Washington a few days ago by Gov. Charles N. Haskell, and which, according to press dispatches, reached there to-day, charges are made against W. J. Gregg, United States attorney for the Eastern district of Oklahoma, and Sylvester Rush and M. L. Mott, special attorneys for the government, and Richard E. Taylor and Edward B. Lemmon, Secret Service agents of the government, who have been engaged in the work of preparing and prosecuting the cases against the governor and other defendants growing out of charges of alleged frauds and conspiracies touching town lots in Muskogee.

While the attorney general has refused to make public the character of Gov. Haskell's charges, their contents became known here to-day, and have aroused the greatest interest. Gov. Haskell has demanded that the attorneys and agents of whom he complains shall be withdrawn from the cases, and assigns as his reason that they have "combined and confederated together to secure unlawfully and by improper means" indictments against him.

Hired Press Agents.

A number of exhibits were forwarded to Washington in support of the petition to establish the charge that the attorneys and agents have attempted to prejudice and intimidate witnesses examined by them during the sitting of the grand jury, and that they have inspired publications in the newspapers, and have even hired press agents to prepare articles which the governor insists were written with a view of influencing the grand jury, then in session, timing the publications to appear just at the time when they would be most influential for the purpose.

Certain manuscripts and notes written out for the press by M. L. Mott, one of the assistant attorneys, were forwarded to Washington as an exhibit, also a letter purporting to have been written by

WINGATE'S DESIGN WINS.

New York Artist Gets First Prize for Red Cross Stamp.

Carl Wingate, of New York City, was awarded the first prize of \$100 for the design for the Red Cross Christmas stamp of 1909. The second prize of \$50 was awarded to Augusto Bisiri, of South Framingham, Mass., and the third prize of \$25 to Miss Gracie D. Gerow, of Jersey City, N. J. The awards were announced yesterday afternoon by the art committee of which Francis D. Millet is chairman.

Ten other prizes of \$10 each were awarded to the following: Joseph N. Pearce, of Philadelphia; Sara B. Hill, of New York; Mary W. Bonas, of Philadelphia; P. McDonald, of Cincinnati; John H. Zee, of Philadelphia; Maud H. Lanktree, of Berkeley, Cal.; William von Zell, of Indianapolis; Silvio Paine, of Columbus, Ohio; R. A. Dunn, of Providence, R. I.; and William F. Rauschnabel, of San Francisco.

President Taft, who is president of the American National Red Cross Society, visited the exhibit yesterday, accompanied by Miss Helen Boardman.

Madison Hall Commencement.

At Madison Hall Seminary to-morrow evening, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith Maxwell and Miss Regina Elizabeth Winston will give a joint recital at 8:30 o'clock, which will be preceded by a reception to the senior class. The exercises will take place on the evening of May 25, at 8 o'clock. The graduating class of 1909 is composed of Misses Nanie Rose Moss, Virginia; Mae Lee Rowan, Texas, and Christine Carnathan, Mississippi.

Women's Society Meets.

The regular May meeting of the Washington colony of the National Society New England Women, was held at "Wicklow" the summer home of Miss C. Cook, when reports were heard and luncheon served. Reports were made on the contributions to the scholarship fund, the day nursery, and the picture to be presented to the board of education to be hung in one of the high schools.

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Mott to State Chairman Norris, of the Republican committee, last October, in which Norris was urged to procure the publication, through a press association, of a "scrutinized, false, and vicious article" attacking Haskell.

The governor avers that Norris refused to lend himself to the publicity plan, and he directs the attention of Attorney General Wickersham to certain things in the letter relating to "the White House" and to suggestions for improperly influencing a press association to distribute the matter attacking Haskell.

Press Association Involved.

The governor charges that after Mott had failed to secure the publication of the articles through Norris he personally brought about their publication in an Oklahoma newspaper. Among the exhibits forwarded by the governor to the Attorney General were numerous affidavits from witnesses before the grand jury, intended to show that they were intimidated into making affidavits in the case against Gov. Haskell by threats of prosecution if they refused to be interviewed by Federal agents.

Charges are made and exhibits submitted to show that United States Attorney Gregg was equally active with Attorney Mott in procuring the publication of press matter at a time when it was most likely to influence the grand jury in its action in considering the proposed indictment of the governor. Affidavits and other evidence adduced are designed to show that the government agents frequently said that their whole purpose in starting the land investigation was "to get Haskell."

Organized Effort to Indict Him.

The most sensational features in the governor's charges and exhibits are those in which he attempts to show that there was an organized conspiracy to indict and convict him, and to accomplish it by such unusual methods as publicity and the intimidation of witnesses, and his charge that the whole thing was carried on with the sanction of President Roosevelt, who was then in the White House.

The letter from M. L. Mott to State Chairman Norris, which makes reference to "the White House," is one of the most startling of the governor's exhibits.

MISSOURIANS IN SESSION.

State Society Elects Judge Lee T. Robinson as President.

The Missouri Society met last night at Pythian Temple. Plans for the annual picnic to be held at Glen Echo on June 26 were discussed. Judge G. A. Leavitt read an essay on "Whittier, the poet and the man." A musical programme followed, including selections on the mandolin and guitar by Miss Clara J. Wurdeman and Prof. Walter Holt.

The following officers were elected for the year: President, Judge Lee T. Robinson; first vice president, Dr. T. L. Whitton; second vice president, Prof. George A. Ross; secretary, S. H. Ridings, and treasurer, O. J. Stingleton.

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CHURCH NOTICES.

UNITARIAN.

ALL SOULS' CHURCH, cor. 14th and L sts. Classes G. R. Pierce, minister, 9:45 a. m. Sunday school, 11 a. m., morning service, sermon by the minister, 7:30 p. m., Young People's Religious Union. The public invited to all services.

COLLEAGUES HONOR COYLE.

Newspaper Men of Capital Keenly Correspondent's Death.

Funeral services for Edward E. Coyle, who died suddenly in Baltimore Friday, will be held at the home of his sister, Mrs. Herbert E. Martyn, 822 East Capitol street, at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon. Rev. Richard L. Shipley, pastor of the North Carolina Avenue Methodist Protestant Church, will officiate. Interment will be in Congressional Cemetery. Pallbearers will be selected from members of the newspaper fraternity in Washington.

Coyle was one of the most popular and capable newspaper men in the Capital. He represented the Detroit Free Press, the Grand Rapids Herald, and the Pittsburg Sun. He was a member of the Journalists' Club, of Baltimore.

At a meeting of the members of the House and Senate press galleries yesterday the following was embodied in a resolution unanimously adopted:

Few men have lived lives of such infinite kindness as "Eddie" Coyle. Few men, dying, leave behind them such sweet memories.

Mr. Coyle died after thirty-five years of a lonely life, every minute of which now rises as a monument to his memory.

His mission in life seemed to be to make others happier. His wit was tuneful. Neither sorrow nor adversity dampened it.

A year ago he suffered as few men have suffered, but with his unflinching courage and sunny disposition he triumphed over the death which nearly overtook him. His end at this time, unexpected and so sudden as to be almost beyond understanding, is one of the cruellest blows ever dealt the newspaper workers of Washington.

We extend our deep sympathy to his relatives. It is here ordered by the corps of correspondents, in special session assembled, that this expression of our affection for him and regret at his death be communicated to his relatives.

Bet Loser at White House.

Oscar E. Nulf, a citizen of East Palestine, Ohio, who trundled a wheelbarrow all the way from that place to Washington, called at the White House this morning. Nulf lost a freak election bet to his brother, and he has been paying it. The President consented to write his name in a book which Nulf carried.

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