



# THE PULLMAN HERALD



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## SEPARATOR FIRES MAR WEEK'S HARVEST

Three Separators Destroyed Since Monday—Jake Ailor, C. T. Krous and E. E. Snyder Suffer Losses

The week's harvesting operations were marred by three separator fires, the machine in each case being totally or almost totally destroyed.

The Jake Ailor separator, which was operating on the H. C. Sodorff place, near Johnson, is a total loss as a result of a fire Monday and several sacks of wheat, oats and barley were damaged. The machine was working in wheat, after threshing 800 sacks of barley and oats in the same setting, and the explosion, which preceded the fire, was very slight, the machine bursting into flames almost without warning. Except for the fact that the wind was in favor of the crew the entire setting of nearly 1000 sacks might have been destroyed.

Tuesday evening the C. T. Krous machine, operating on the Mrs. Taylor farm, rented by Floyd Bush, was almost totally destroyed, and 144 shocks of wheat were burned. The setting contained 400 sacks of wheat, which were saved. Both the machine and grain were fully insured. It was the third fire of the season for Mr. Krous, the two former ones being extinguished by keeping the machine running at full speed, the burning straw being ejected from the separator. In this case, however, the flames spread so rapidly that the drive belt was burned in two, stopping the separator.

The E. E. Snyder separator was almost totally destroyed Wednesday evening. The outfit was just finishing a setting of 700 sacks, and was cleaning up prior to moving. The threshed wheat was damaged slightly, the damage being estimated at \$200, fully insured. No insurance was carried on the separator. Mr. Snyder at once ordered a new machine, and will resume operations as soon as it arrives. The outfit was working on the Jesse Gray farm, seven miles southwest of Pullman.

Previous to starting the season's run Mr. Snyder is alleged to have received an anonymous letter which stated that he would not finish the season, but many persons claim that there was no indication of incendiary in the fire which destroyed his separator. Mr. Snyder last year suffered two explosions, and in connection with the second two harvest hands, Alex Payne and Ben Thorp, were arrested, but were later released after being bound over to the superior court.

It is a noticeable fact that none of the fires thus far this year are preceded by heavy explosions, the machine in nearly every case bursting into flames without warning. The greater part of the explosions, also, have occurred in wheat which contained not an unusual amount of smut. There is a growing sentiment that the majority of the fires are caused by static electricity, generated by the fast moving parts of the separator, which ignites the dust and smut particles after they have become mixed with air.

## SUDDEN DEATH OF MRS. E. M. SARGENT

Aged Mother of Mrs. Ira N. Nye Passed Away Wednesday Evening—Funeral Next Sunday

Mrs. E. M. Sargent died suddenly at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ira N. Nye, Wednesday evening, aged 73 years, four months and six days. Since the death of her husband about 11 years ago deceased had spent her time visiting at the homes of her daughter and five sons. Last May she left here to visit a brother in Wisconsin and returned to Pullman about two weeks ago. Her health seemed good, but she complained of not being able to sleep. Wednesday she suffered considerable pain in her arms and shoulders and was given a treatment by Dr. Holt, which seemed to relieve her. She was lying on a bed in the evening, resting and talking, when she suddenly exclaimed, "I am fainting." Mrs. Nye lifted her up, but death followed almost instantly.

Besides Mrs. Nye, her only daughter and eldest child, deceased leaves five sons: R. C. Sargeant, pastor of a Christian church at Tacoma; Dr. Clark E. Sargent, who is practicing at Isabel, S. D.; Lester E. Sargent, superintendent of schools at Missoula, Mont.; V. O. Sargent of Colfax, and Frank B. Sargent, a lawyer at New Bedford, Mass. She also leaves one sister, Mrs. Edwin Nye, of Venair, Cal., and a brother, Byron L. Taylor, of Iola, Wis.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at the Christian church. Deceased's sister and all of her sons except the one in Massachusetts, will be present. The remains will be taken to Seymour, Wis., and interred by the side of her husband.

Mrs. Sargent had a large circle of friends in Pullman, who mourn her loss and deeply sympathize with her children in their sudden bereavement.

## TO SUCCEED SIMMERS

G. C. Robinson, a graduate of Harvard University, has been tendered the position of assistant professor of education at the college, vice Professor C. L. Simmers, who recently resigned and went to the Agricultural College of New Hampshire, where he will be head of the department of education.

## BAD CHECK ARTIST STINGS MERCHANTS

Smooth Stranger Is Alleged to Have Forged Elmer Little's Signature to Two Checks

A couple of weeks ago a stranger of slender build and medium height stepped into Lee Allen's hardware store and asked Mr. Bean if he knew Elmer Little. Receiving a negative reply he remarked that he was going to work for Little and wanted to find out if he was a square kind of man who paid his help. Bean called up Dug Henry by telephone and the latter vouched for Little's integrity. The stranger thanked Bean for his trouble and walked out.

Tuesday afternoon he appeared in the store again and presented a check for \$17.50, drawn on the First National bank of Pullman in favor of S. A. Kelly and signed with the name of Elmer Little. He asked to have the check cashed and Bean referred him to Lee Allen, who, knowing of the stranger's previous visit to the store and inquiries regarding Mr. Little, let him have the money.

The same afternoon the same stranger visited Hungerford's grocery store, where he cashed a similar check for \$20. When the checks reached the bank the signatures of Mr. Little's name and Mr. Kelly's name were pronounced forgeries.

It is alleged that the stranger had been working for Mr. Little, under the name of J. R. Montgomery, and was paid off by a check which he cashed. S. A. Kelly is working for Mr. Little, which probably suggested the use of his name. The alleged forger is described as wearing a dark suit and dark colored soft felt hat.

## MANY CHANGES AT THE COLLEGE

The completion of the basements and first floors of the two new buildings at the W. S. C. will result in a general moving around of several departments. The stenographers and mailing clerks of the experiment station, who have been occupying a room on the first floor of the Administration building will now be given a large room in the basement of that building contiguous to the office of the director of the station. This room will be fitted up with cabinets for the storing of bulletins.

Auditor Kruegel, who has been occupying cramped quarters, will move his office into the room left vacant by the stenographers and mailing clerks, and will be provided with a vault and safe.

The postoffice sub-station will be located in the room in the basement of the Auditorium building formerly occupied by the Y. M. C. A.

Many other changes will be made as the rooms in the new buildings become available for use.

## Want Lower Taxes in Whitman

J. M. Reid, L. C. Staley, J. N. Scott, W. L. Greenawalt and H. Folger went to Colfax Wednesday to assist in the organization of a county taxpayers league. They report that about 40 representatives from several towns were present and perfected a temporary organization with F. J. Wilmer of Rosalia as chairman and S. M. McCroskey of Colfax as secretary. The chairman was authorized to call another meeting about the 20th of next month, when a permanent organization will be perfected and plans of work outlined.

The meeting Wednesday was the result of the efforts of John T. Severny of Prosser, a leader of the Benton County Taxpayers League, who has been instrumental in organizing similar leagues in Adams, Franklin and Columbia counties. All these county leagues are affiliated with a State Taxpayers League. The object of the organization is to reduce state and county taxes by eliminating extravagant appropriations and keeping close tab on the expenditure of public funds.

To show the need of a taxpayers' league Mr. Severny has compiled a comparative statement showing the amount of taxes levied for all purposes in Whitman county for the years 1910 to 1914, inclusive. The figures show that during the years 1910 to 1914, inclusive, the amount of state highway tax raised in Whitman county was \$371,526.02. The state highway tax in 1910 was \$33,936.08, while the amount raised for this purpose in 1914 was over three

times the amount raised in 1910, or \$117,873.78, denoting an enormous increase in state highway taxes. In view of this large amount of money expended in the county for state roads, it would seem that the amount of money raised in the county for the construction of county roads would gradually decrease, but this is not true to a very great extent, as is shown by the following figures:

During the year 1910, when there was an expenditure for state highways of only \$33,936.08, there was expended the sum of \$167,747.77 for county roads. During the year 1914, when three times as much money was expended by the county for state roads as was the case in 1910, the amount of money expended for county roads was \$154,049.41, only about \$13,000 less than was expended four years previous. The total amount of money expended for county roads during the five years up to and including 1914, is \$826,393.52, and the total county and state road tax for the five years is \$1,197,919.54. The total county school tax for the year 1910 was \$293,571.28, while the amount expended for the schools in 1914, was \$372,844.39. During the years 1911-2-3, there was expended for county school purposes on an average of nearly \$10,000 more than was expended last year, which would indicate that the county is not growing appreciably and general taxes should therefore not increase to the extent that has been the case in the county for the past five years.

## LUCKY ESCAPE

R. A. Emerson and family returned Monday from the Bitter Root valley, Montana, where they visited relatives. They made the trip in his automobile and had a remarkable escape while coming through the Fourth of July canyon. The bank on one side of the narrow road caved and the automobile tipped over, pinning the whole party underneath, but all escaped serious injury. They managed to crawl out and, with the assistance of a crew of lumber jacks who were working nearby righted the car and got it back on the road. The top and windshield were smashed, but otherwise it was little damaged and they were able to continue their journey.

## MUSICAL KENSINGTON

In honor of Mrs. L. E. Moore, a Kensington was held recently at the home of Miss Leila Moore. Vocal and instrumental music was enjoyed at various intervals during the late afternoon. Among the selections rendered Miss Alma Darrough of Rose City, Cal., sang some beautiful and very interesting numbers. The following guests were present: Mrs. E. N. Clark, Mrs. Chas. Hunt, Mrs. Beulah W. Moore, Mrs. Marie Thompson, Misses Alma Darrough, Abbie Darrough, Virginia Weaver, Ann Nystrom, Mary Batts, Marie Melvin, Elizabeth Weeks, Myrtle Ricketts, Lethe Fisher, May Ellen Plaskett, Marie Plaskett, Nellie Gaines, Zoe Zimmerman, Florence Hunting, Grace Cain and Vera Jaques.

## Refuse to Lower the Bank Assessments

The bankers of Whitman county lost the first step in their endeavor to secure a lower rate of assessment for taxation purposes Saturday, when the board of equalization of the county voted, three to two, to raise the rate from 40 per cent of the capital, surplus and undivided profits—the figures used by the county assessor in preparing the rolls—to amounts which approximate 50 per cent. The three members of the board of county commissioners, Whitlow, Manchester and Thompson, voted together on the affirmative of the question, and Assessor M. C. True and Treasurer H. H. Wheeler, the other members of the equalization board, cast their votes against it.

The banking interests of the county were well represented at the board meeting Saturday, they having been summoned to appear and show cause why the rate adopted by the county assessor should not be raised. Sixteen county banks were represented by officials or attorneys, most of whom took part in the discussion of the question. When the board convened the session was moved to the court room, in order to provide sufficient room for all those interested.

The discussion waxed warm in a short time and many arguments were put forth by either side. It was claimed by the bankers and their attorneys that the state law ordering a valuation of 50 per cent of the capital stock and surplus was not observed in other counties of the state and that other property was valued at a much lower rate. It was further claimed that while a few banks of the county could survive a higher assessment rate, the majority did not

have sufficient earning power to justify an increase. E. E. Flood of the Bank of Rosalia, and owner of considerable land in the county, declared to the board that last year his land holdings had netted him a return of eight per cent and his bank stock but six per cent, yet that the bank stock was assessed higher than the real property. In answer, the commissioners stated that the assessment could not be determined by the earning power of the property.

During the discussion Assessor M. C. True stated that the real property throughout the county had been assessed at a rate of 40 per cent and less of its actual value, and he and Treasurer H. H. Wheeler maintained that the same rate should stand for the assessment of the bank stock. The matter was brought to a head by the introduction by Commissioner M. W. Whitlow, himself president of the First National bank of Pullman, of a list of banks and a rate of assessment which amounted practically to 50 per cent of the capital and surplus. On the vote the three commissioners lined up for the raise and the treasurer and assessor voted to leave the rate at 40 per cent.

It is thought extremely probable that the bankers will carry the case into the courts to lower the rate. It is maintained that the lower rate was sanctioned by the state tax commission and that the courts have already held that the rate should equal that used in the assessment of real property. M. A. Sherman of the Bank of Endicott expressed his determination Saturday to see the case carried into court and a number of other bankers share his intention.—The Palouse.

## NEW PRINCIPAL FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Luther Case, last year principal of schools at Arlee, Mont., has been secured as principal of the Pullman high school for the coming year. Mr. Case was highly recommended and his application had been under consideration by the board for some time, but the final decision was made on the advice of E. L. Breckner, who made such a marked success as principal of the local school last year. Mr. Breckner had met Mr. Case at the summer school of the University of Montana at Missoula, and formed a high opinion of his ability and character.

Mr. Case is a native of Ohio and was educated in the schools of that state and Kentucky. He received his degree of bachelor of science at Berea College, Kentucky, and has been engaged in teaching with uniform success ever since. He will teach history in the high school.

The election of a principal fills the last vacancy in the teaching corps of the Pullman schools and Superintendent Graham is looking forward to a year of successful work.

Miss Juanita Strong left Sunday for Lakeview, Idaho, to visit at the summer home of E. A. Bryan.

## NEW COACH IS EXPECTED DAILY

Coach William H. Dietz at San Francisco and Expected Here Soon—Twelve Old First Squaders Will Report at Training Camp

William H. Dietz of Carlisle, W. S. C.'s new football and baseball coach, is expected in Pullman daily, his contract becoming effective September 1, and the new mentor having stated that he will probably be here several days previous to that date to get a line on athletic matters at the local school and in the Northwest conference. Athletic Director Bohler received word from Dietz that he is now in San Francisco taking in the exposition, but Mr. Bohler has been unable to reach Dietz with a telegram to ascertain the exact date on which he will arrive, to enable Mr. Bohler to make arrangements for a get-together meeting of football fans and alumni of the college in Spokane.

Director Bohler, always conservative, is somewhat optimistic concerning football prospects, although he is laying no claims to a conference championship team this early in the game. He states that between 30 and 40 men will be on hand at the Liberty Lake training camp, which opens September 6, and that of this number at least 12 will be members of last year's first squad, with several second stringers of last year and a goodly number of Freshmen recruits.

Coach Dietz will use his own training methods at the early season camp, being given an absolutely free reign. He will be assisted by Athletic Director Bohler and Assistant Coaches "Tommy" Tyrer and "Eddie" Kienholz.

All the old men with whom Director Bohler has come in touch state their anxiety to meet the new coach and train under his methods, and each states that he will be on hand September 6 ready to give the best he has to Coach Dietz.

Of the 12 old varsity men who will be on hand, a goodly number are juggling bundles in the harvest fields, and all state that they will be in excellent physical condition when they report. Captain Ace Clark is working on his parents' farm, north of Pullman, and Benton Bangs is working in Pullman. Carl Dietz and Basil Doane are helping Pullman farmers garner their record crops and "Hack" Applequist is juggling wheat sacks in a local warehouse. "Doc" Heg is working on his father's farm at Port Ludlow and Art Durham is employed in the Coeur d'Alene forest reserve. Ray Loomis is driving an undertaking wagon at Seattle, and Silas Stites, Ray Finney and Al Langdon are harvesting, the two former near Waitsburg and the latter near Palouse.

## HEAVY YIELDS ARE REPORTED DAILY

Several Reports of Better Than Sixty Bushels to the Acre in Fall Wheat

—R. W. Gwinn Has Record Acre

Nearly half of the grain in the vicinity of Pullman is in the sack, and many grain men who have studied the situation declare that the Pullman farmers are garnering one of the best, if not the best, wheat crop in the history of Whitman county. Yields of 60 bushels and even better of fall wheat are reported by the farmers who have harvested their crops, and 50-bushel yields are somewhat common. The reports indicate that the early-season prediction of grain men that fall wheat in the vicinity of Pullman will average 40 bushels to the acre were correct, although spring wheat will probably average considerably under normal.

The farmers are showing a marked reluctance to sell on a declining market, with the result that local grain men are decidedly inactive.

The record wheat yield of the season is claimed by R. W. Gwinn, who is farming the big C. W. Young farm five miles south of Pullman. On a small piece of bottom land, slightly over an acre, which last year produced potatoes, Mr. Gwinn secured a yield of 41 sacks of college hybrid No. 143, weighing 140 pounds to the sack and grading No. 1. The acre yield of the tract would exceed 80 bushels. Mr. Gwinn has 350 acres of college hybrid which he is threshing with combined harvesters, and estimates the yield on the entire acreage at 50 bushels per acre.

O. C. Matsen, who is farming one of the H. W. Price farms, reports a yield of 65 bushels to the acre on 160 acres of red Russian. Samples of the wheat were submitted to grain men and graded No. 1, being totally free from smut.

V. Meeks threshed 3066 sacks of red Russian wheat from 120 acres, a yield considerably above 50 bushels to the acre.

W. M. Walker reports a yield of better than 50 bushels of the same variety.

M. W. Whitlow's hybrid wheat is going 45 bushels to the acre, machine measure, which is equivalent to 50 bushels by warehouse measure.

Oscar Kincaid got 23 sacks of red Russian to the acre on 140 acres after leaving several shocks for hay, a yield of close to 50 bushels.

T. Thoney reports 50 bushels to the acre of red Russian and hybrid, and James Christopher secured 46 bushels of red Russian to the acre.

## GRAIN PRICES DECLINE

Very little grain has changed hands during the past week, the cause of the inactivity being the declining grain quotations, which have slumped steadily almost daily. Yesterday's quotations were as follows:

Red Russian wheat .....72c  
Club wheat .....75c  
Fortyfold wheat .....77c  
Oats, per cwt. ....\$1.05  
Barley, per cwt. ....\$1.05

## ENTERTAINS AT KENSINGTON

Miss Ruth Renfro was Tuesday evening the hostess to a number of her young lady friends at a delightful Kensington party on the Renfro lawn on West McKenzie street. Conversation occupied the greater part of the evening, and watermelons and lemonade proved very appropriate refreshments. Those present were Ruth Renfro, Mae Lochlin, Mamie Johnson, Beth Bolsinger, Maud Seneco, Viola Dargan, Zoe Zimmerman and Mrs. R. P. Turnley.

## INFORMAL RECEPTION

Soon after the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Moore in Pullman an informal reception was given them at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Moore. Music and readings were enjoyed during the evening. The most intimate relatives and friends were guests, who joined in wishing the young couple just entering upon their married life a long career of happiness and prosperity.