

MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

and
OUR MINERAL WEALTH

Official Paper of Mohave County
Issued Weekly by the
MOHAVE PRINTING and PUBLISHING COMPANY
Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice at Kingman,
Mohave County, Arizona, under Act of Congress of Mar. 3, 1879.
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Subscription rates \$2 per year, payable in advance.

SILVER STILL \$1.00 PER OUNCE

The Mohave County Miner has maintained that the price of silver under the Pittman act could not well go below the price of one dollar per ounce, no matter what the market action might be. The absurd quotation of close to 80 cents the past week is an evidence that the brokers are trying to put something over on the public. The fact is that the government mints are buying silver at the figure set by congress and there cannot well be sales by any reliable producer for less than that figure. In a recent letter to an inquirer Key Pittman, senator from Nevada, stated that smelters were required to pay to producers one dollar per ounce and that these smelters in turn would receive one dollar per ounce at the mints. Of course, we know that effort is being made to pound down the price of silver, both in the New York and London markets, but the stabilizing influence of the Pittman law puts it out of all possibility to drive the price down as these manipulators would wish. Every producer of the white metal should keep informed of the actual condition of the market and let go of their product only when it is bid above the dollar mark.

ROADS AND THE LAND MOVEMENT

After the Civil War we had the homestead law, and then came the timber and stone acts. In those days when agriculture was promoted because it was the backbone of the Nation every measure intended to aid the farmer and to make new farmers, was pushed to the limit. The greatest concern nowadays appears to be in building good roads for automobiles, and in finding new ways so that the farmer can live in town and enjoy "community life". All this is well enough, but the fact remains that the country is dropping behind in agriculture. There is a lot of enthusiasm for the cash bonuses for soldiers but none at all for plans that will furnish substantial assistance to young men, who if aided, might join in a "back-to-the-land" movement.

THE HIGHER RAILROAD RATES

Many of the shippers from different parts of the country have been appearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission are urging an increase of passenger rates, as well as freight rates, to meet the railroad situation. There has been no one, in the hearings, to question the necessity for increased railroad rates, but the manner of making the increases has been discussed in all its phases. The railroad companies have asked that the increased rates be applied to freight alone, but some of the Commissioners are inclined to distribute the burden among passengers who travel and the shippers.

The probabilities are that everybody will be satisfied with increased rates before the situation is solved, since the railroad workers are pushing their claims for increased wages at the hearings in Chicago. If the increased freight rates that are asked for are granted by the Interstate Commerce Commission the amount will be only sufficient to take care of present railroad financing, so that increased passenger rates will likely be necessary to provide for expected wage increases.

PROBLEMS FOR THE WISEACRES

Besides the election of a President and a Vice President there are other incidental matters that the electors of the country will be called on to settle. Four hundred and thirty-five Representatives in Congress are to be selected. At present the majority in the lower branch of Congress is Republican, but most of the time during recent years it has been Democratic. It will be a fight in every Congressional district to turn the balance. Thirty-three Senators are to be chosen. At the present time the party strength stands 49 Republicans, 46 Democrats and one vacancy. Passed upon the complexion of party control in the thirty-two States having elections the Republicans appear to have the best of matters; but the Democrats, who have been "sorter laying low" have quit conceding anything, and they are getting ready for their San Francisco to match up with the Republican Chicago. The results of next November may look easy to political partisans, but the wiseacres who wear out lead pencils and smash adding machines in making their calculations are free to admit that the contest throughout the country does not give any assurance of a walk-away to either side.

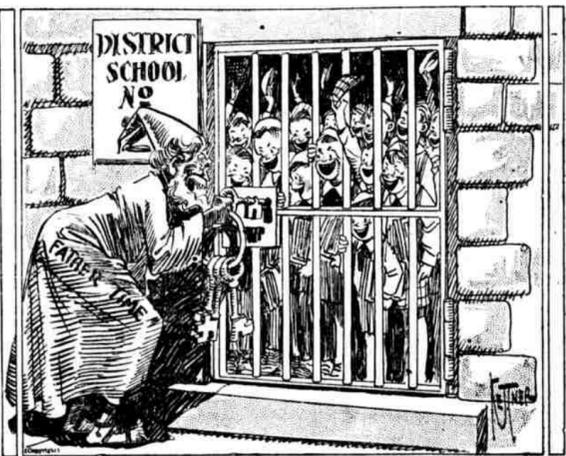
TAXING BACHELORS AND SPINSTERS

A proposal in the French senate to tax bachelors and spinsters, also childless couples of two years or more of wedlock, has created a new kind of excitement in the country where invasion of the Hun caused all to join together as brothers and comrades to repel a common foe. Violence in the senate has reached the point of riot and only missed the dueling stage by equally violent forms of intervention.

Taxes upon bachelors had passed out of date as a standing joke, but never before was that upon spinsters proposed even for comic opera purposes, much less as a serious matter for the purpose of raising revenue with which to pay the war debt.

But this taxing of childless couples in France, if reports are reliable, might be quite a money-getter, and gives edge to the Roosevelt anti-race suicide propaganda. It is worthy of French consideration.

Vacation Time



ARIZONA CROPS REPORT FOR JUNE 1920

The condition of Arizona's wheat crop on June 1 was 95 per cent of normal, which indicates a total production of about one million bushels, according to the Federal crop report just issued by L. M. Harrison, Arizona Field Agent for the U. S. Bureau of Crop Estimates. Last year on June 1 the condition of the crop was 95.

Oats conditions June 1 were reported at 96 per cent of normal. This compares with 96 last year at this time and 94, the 10-year June average. The acreage is estimated at 13,000, the same as last season. Coconino County reports 4,000 acres; Apache, 4,000; Maricopa, 1,500; Navajo, 1,500; and Yavapai, 700.

Barley conditions were reported at 96 per cent, compared with 97 last year on June 1, and 93, the 10-year average. The acreage shows a decline of 5,000 from that of last year, being estimated at 24,000 acres. Maricopa County reports 8,100 acres; Pinal, 6,000; Graham, 3,000; and Pima, 2,500.

The condition of the alfalfa crop was only 90 per cent of normal, due to the late season. Last year at this time the condition was 97. The 10-year average condition is 92. There are 50,000 fewer acres for hay than last year, the acreage this year being reported at 90,000. Maricopa County reports 40,000 acres; Graham, 12,000; Yuma, 9,000; Cochise, 4,500; Pima, 4,000; Pinal, 5,000; Apache, 3,500; Navajo, 3,200; Greenlee and Gila, 1,600 each; Santa Cruz, 700; and Mo-

have, 500.

Fruit conditions are the poorest for several years, the late frosts having greatly damaged the crops. Peaches suffered the most, being reported at 30 per cent of normal. This compares with a condition of 90 on June 1 last year, and 74, the 10-year June average. Pinal County reports 75 per cent of a normal crop; Pima, 72; Maricopa, 56; Graham, 28; Yavapai, 10; Cochise, 10; Santa Cruz, 5; Coconino, 2; Apache 1; and Navajo 1. The apple crop is placed at 58 per cent of normal, compared with 95 per cent last year at this time, and 69, the 10-year average on June 1. Coconino County reports 68 per cent of a full crop; Yavapai, 50; Navajo, 55; Graham 85; Santa Cruz, 45; Cochise, 35; and Apache, 5.

Pasture conditions are excellent, being reported at 100 per cent. This compares with 93 last year on June 1, and 86, the 10-year average June condition.

The acreage of cantaloupes is estimated at 2,500, and the condition at 80 per cent. Last year there were 4,500 acres and the condition at this time was 96 per cent.

While the condition of the cotton crop about June 1 was only 80 per cent of normal, the present outlook is considerably better than could reasonably have been hoped earlier. The acreage of American-Egyptian is placed at 210,000 acres, and of short staple, at 20,000 acres. This compares with 87,000 acres of American-Egyptian, and 20,000 acres of short staple in 1919.

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