

POLAND BIDS FOR OUR WHEAT CROP

FILES TENDER THROUGH UNITED STATES GRAIN GROWERS, INCORPORATED.

EUROPE MUST HAVE WHEAT

W. F. Schilling, Head of Big Company, Makes Offer Known—Bulk of Order Would Come to the Northwest.

In a recent interview in Spokane W. F. Schilling, president of the \$100,000,000 finance corporation of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., announced the receipt of an offer from a large New York exporting company to purchase 3,333,333 bushels of wheat for shipment to Poland.

Whether the order will be filled depends upon the ability of the purchasers and the grain growers' organization to agree upon terms of payment that will safeguard the producers who would furnish the wheat, Mr. Schilling said. If filled, the greater part of the grain will be furnished by growers of Washington, Oregon and Idaho, since these states are the leading producers of wheat of export quality.

Mr. Schilling Explains Offer.

In his interview Mr. Schilling said: "This offer simply emphasizes to me the worldwide demand for American wheat this year. The world is wheat hungry, and, as usual, is looking to this country for everything in the way of food that we can supply. Europe must have food, and the United States must see to it that adequate credits are made available to supply their need. Foreign countries have been bending every effort toward production since the armistice was signed, but there are too many of their men still under arms for production to be adequate for their own needs. If there was sufficient wheat available in Europe this offer would not have come as it has, almost before our harvest is on."

EIGHT BATHERS OF SWEEPED TO DEATH

Baptist Young People's Union Delegates Perish in Gulf of Mexico.

HOUSTON, Texas.—Eight persons were drowned and three others near death were rescued when 16 delegates to the Baptist Young People's Union annual state encampment at Palacios, forming a bathing party, were caught in the undertow of the Gulf of Mexico at the mouth of Green's bayou. The dead: John Price, Palacios; Drue Cumble, Grace Courtney, 14; Mrs. B. Mayes, Miss Vi Buster, Miss Iona Hodges, James E. Dykes, all of Bockinridge; Archer Bryant, Abilene.

Gives \$4,500,000 to Charity.

CHICAGO.—One of the largest individual gifts to charity ever announced in Chicago was disclosed recently through the transfer of several valuable pieces of property to the Chicago charitable corporation. The first property deeded to the corporation is valued at \$4,500,000 and was given by Mr. and Mrs. Werner A. Wireboldt.

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Washington State News Items

Claims City Line Profit.

SEATTLE.—Profits totaling \$46,154 were made on the municipal street railway here during the first six months of 1921, according to figures made public by the mayor.

Buys LaCrosse Light Plant.

LAORSE.—The LaCrosse roller mills has disposed of its electric light plant and power line for \$40,000 to a corporation being formed and which will be known as the LaCrosse Electric company.

Gets Title to Gardner Cave.

NEWPORT.—W. H. Crawford, pioneer merchant of Metaline, has obtained a government patent to Gardner cave at the north end of Pend Oreille county, known to tourists as one of the prettiest caves in the northwest.

Expects \$50,000 From Prune Crop.

YAKIMA.—Andrew Olson's prune crop will be handled by the Hays Fruit company again this year. About 35 cars of prunes are expected from 55 acres, the largest single tract in the Yakima valley planted to prunes. Olson expects to realize \$50,000 on his crop.

Sounds Jitney Death Knell.

SEATTLE.—Within 30 days not a jitney will be left on the streets of Seattle, Carl H. Reeves, superintendent of public utilities, predicts, following the news that the state supreme court had upheld the right of cities to regulate motor busses.

Evict Strikers From Homes.

SEATTLE.—Approximately 4,000 coal miners and their families are affected by the notices mailed by operators requiring that those on strike vacate by the end of August all houses situated on property owned by the companies. Efforts to arbitrate the strike which has tied every commercial mine in the state since March last have failed.

Noah Shakespeares Elected.

EVERETT.—Major Noah Shakespeares of Everett was elected commander of the United Spanish War Veterans' department of Washington and Alaska, at the annual encampment here recently. Yakima was selected for the 1922 encampment.

The Pen Makes Shoes.

OLYMPIA.—All shoes needed by wards of the state of Washington will in the future be manufactured by prisoners in the state penitentiary at Walla Walla. As the penitentiary job mill has been losing money, it probably will be closed and a shoe manufacturing plant installed. Women prisoners in the state institutions will operate knitting machines and turn out 20,000 pairs of cotton socks a year, according to present plans.

LOAN POLICY OF FORMER REGIME CONTROLS, SAYS MELLON

WASHINGTON, July 25.—The "understanding" reached by the Wilson administration deferring interest payments on loans made by the United States to allied nations will be binding upon the present administration, Secretary Mellon states. Figures were presented showing that on the foreign loans amounting to over \$10,000,000,000 there had accumulated accrued interest amounting to \$943,534,955, which is unpaid and has been deferred. Of this, France owes \$284,148,863, Great Britain \$407,303,283, Belgium \$34,007,409 and Italy \$161,078,880.

Small Quake in California.

SANTA CLARA, Cal.—An earthquake Sunday night lasted six minutes and covered a distance of 77 miles, according to the seismograph record. The shock radiated from Palo Alto and was most severe at that point. It took a northwest direction from Palo Alto. No damage has been reported in San Jose or from any near by points.

Kansas Wheat Crop Heavy.

TOPEKA, Kan.—Thrashing returns indicate that the Kansas winter wheat crop will amount to 122,000,000 bushels.

A Souvenir of the Amazon

By LATIMER J. WILSON

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The dawn drew aside her gray curtain and a necklace of pearly clouds hung across the sky dazzling the eyes of Miss Liberty standing on her little island in the bay. Dark transports and coast-plying ships were anchored in the harbor when a long-spiced and span fabricated steel vessel, freshly arrived from South American ports, slid past and docked at her pier.

A short, bow-legged sailor, carrying an oblong box, came ashore. His hair was long, his eyes looked cross over the bridge of his sharp nose and his chin wore a jungle underbrush of beard. As straight as his seaworthy legs would convey him he went to one of those small lodging houses near the waterfront, deposited his box in a corner of the room that was assigned to him by the red-faced landlady, went to a barber shop in the neighborhood and then took a subway train to Harlem.

Later he advanced up the long flights that led to the top floor of a tenement in a cross-town street. It was certainly an unconventional hour for calling upon a lady, but Dave knew his business.

"It's me, Liz—can I come in?" he shouted in response to the inquiry that followed his knocking upon the door. Instantly the door flung open and two warm arms were around his neck.

"I was expectin' you, Dave. I knew it must be about time for your boat to dock." Then presently, after other fond greetings, she asked if he wanted something to eat. A table was spread and the two sat down to breakfast.

The girl was not unattractive in appearance. Her hair was long and dark, and her eyes were blue enough to proclaim her descent from the kings of the Emerald Isle.

"What d'ye think, Liz," broke forth her fiancé with the energy that comes with a sudden idea. "Have you still got the bug about acting on the stage? I've brought what you asked for when I was here last trip, and it's a corker." beamed the sailor with anticipated pleasure.

For a moment the girl seemed puzzled, then she grinned with pleased surprise.

"You don't mean to say you've brought me one of them big snakes from monkey land? I'd most changed my mind since we talked about the snake-charming business. That girl up at Huber's didn't make near the salary she pretended. I found out. But, anyway, the stage will suit better than workin' forever in a laundry. Where's your pet—got 'im in your pocket?" she added with a broad grin.

"I left 'im over in my room, but I'll fetch 'im along tonight. Now I'm thinkin' that we'll make a good thing out of this here snake. It's one of them plithongs, or anacondas, and he's young enough to manage."

"I'm still thinkin' of makin' my day-boon in theatricals on the night that amateurs goes on, they lets anybody what's got a stunt to take a chance at gettin' the hook," said the girl. "I ain't got time to talk any more now about it, but you bring your friend over here tonight and I'll rehearse with 'im."

In a few minutes the two were walking with the rush hour crowd toward the subway. The morning sun was beginning to cast warm rays upon the pavement and the girl knew that she would be late for work.

"I'll tell you," suggested her partner, "tonight you call in the crowd. Get 'em all here and we'll have a regular dress rehearsal. Put on your flimsies and we'll see how the act takes. Cool air makes that snake dopy. You can do anything with 'im when he's cold. Wrap 'im around your neck, put your head in his mouth, just do anything," said Dave with conviction. "We'll make enough money to set us up in style. You'll give up your job and I'll quit mine and we'll both go on the stage."

That evening Dave was back in Harlem before the appointed hour. He opened the box and permitted the girl to look at the gift, the living souvenir of the swampy jungle. Not long ago he had basked hanging like the moss from the low limbs above the muddy stream of the hot country.

"I had a time gettin' 'im," commented Dave. "One of the natives brought 'im down the river and I paid a few bits and some tobacco to change his owners."

"What do you feed it?" asked Lizzie.

"Why, I ain't thought of that," said Dave. "Plithongs is as economical as goldfish. I ain't given 'im a bite since I got 'im."

"Dave," said Lizzie calmly, "I ain't goin' to act with any hungry snake. If he's hungry, like as not he'll try to eat me."

"No, he won't. I tell you, we'll just keep 'im cool. That reptile don't want anything to eat while he's cold."

The girl left the room to get ready for the rehearsal, while the sailor welcomed the guests that were beginning to arrive.

When the time arrived, the girl stepped out from the next room, dressed prettily in a carnival costume of deep red. Low neck and red stock-

ings were attributes befitting the occasion. Her manager came forward and held up his hand.

"Ladies and gents," he said, "let me introduce Lady Lizza and her trained snake straight from the jungle. His name is Ana, South American for Anaconda. He eats 'em alive, but he's under the spell of the charmer. She'll show what she can do with 'im." And at the conclusion he lifted the lid of the long box and handed out the reptile.

The effect upon the audience was electrical. The python's beady eyes sparkled in the yellow light of the room, the air was hot and stuffy.

The girl instinctively drew back at the proffered souvenir of the jungle, it was such a heavy, tangled mass to be handled. But its apparent apathy encouraged her, and in a few moments she and her partner had untangled the mass and she was holding its long body at full length across her chest. First she wound it in festoons around her arms. Then with admirable courage she wrapped it around her waist. The eyes of the creature might have held a sinister expression could one have interpreted it rightly. But the performance proceeded to the utmost satisfaction of every one. Eager faces watched every move. Neck craned forward after the first impression of fear was found groundless.

The air in the room was warm. It must have approached in degree that of the home of "Ana," and thus served to bring back the dormant life of the tropics. No longer did the reptile imagine himself stretching headfirst from the inanimate limb of a moss-draped tree above the yellow swamp. He realized that a living, warm body was within his coils, and just now the girl was wrapping him around her bare throat. The instinct of hunger welled forward. It had been a long time since the last feed, and "Ana" was just beginning to realize it.

"Quick! Get 'im off!" blurted the girl as she felt the reptile tightening around her neck.

Dave ran to her aid. He tugged hard to no purpose; the python tightened his grip and the girl's face turned purple. She could make no articulate sound. Her arms waved violently, beating the air.

"Help me, for God's sake!" shouted the sailor. "Open the window; help me get her out into the air; it's the only way to make 'im let go."

In a minute the window was open and the girl's body was pressed out into the cool night air. As by magic the python stiffened into its apathetic state, and in another instant was uncoiled from the girl's neck.

Shortly after daylight the next morning, twenty-four hours after the docking of the South American vessel, Professor Anderson was passing through a deserted stretch of pavement in Union square. He noticed a bundle that at first seemed merely a pack of newspapers. Curiosity caused him to stop and prod the bundle with the end of his cane. The paper tore and he saw the glittering tip of the python's tail. A crowd collected, and a policeman came. In a few minutes the heavy club had ended the life of the denizen of the tropics.

By right of discovery the professor claimed the skin, and today he points to it hanging upon his wall and says: "That's the mystery. How a live python found its way from the jungle of a tropical country to a bench in Union square—that's what I'd like to know."

FATE HARD ON MAXIMILIAN

Austrian Archduke Really a Man of Good Intentions but Consistently Unfortunate.

When Maximilian was placed as ruler over Lombardy by his brother, Francis Joseph of Austria, he was sent to Venice. Lombardy was, of course, entirely Italian, and hated Austria with a deep hatred, although there was no personal feeling against Maximilian, a dreamer and altruist, who would have been delighted to have his subjects like him. The demonstrations that followed were aimed not at the unhappy Maximilian but entirely at the representative of Austria.

To show his good intentions Maximilian hired the leading theater and arranged for a great and very costly performance for the citizens of Venice. At the hour the opera was to begin he drove up to the theater and dismounted, only to find that besides himself and his staff there was not a single soul in the place. Later he discovered that instead of Venice being sparse in population the facts were that the citizens withdrew from the streets whenever he appeared abroad. The climax came when he gave a series of balls, dinner parties and entertainments at the palace and not a single guest of the thousands invited appeared. Shortly afterward France and Italy together took Lombardy away from Austria, and Maximilian went home—to prepare for his tragic fate in Mexico.

Charity at Home.

Dr. Thomas Crowther, the eloquent missionary, said at a Philadelphia missionary meeting:

"We have been very generous toward devastated Belgium and France, but we should not forget that in our own country we have districts equally in need of help. Take the Kentucky mountains, for instance. I remember a sick old woman I once went to see on my mountain circuit. She was in bed and I asked her how she felt.

"Terrible bad, sir," was her reply. "My insides is always a-comin' up, though I've swallowed over a pint of buckshot to keep me liver down."—Detroit Free Press.

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A Handy Spokane Business and Professional Directory.

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