

GROWERS ENJOY PROFITS

TRADE REVIEW SHOWS ERA OF PROSPERITY.

Shipments Decreased by Car Shortage, but Prices Have Been High—Fruits Damaged by Storm.

The first three months of the current year have been months of great prosperity throughout the whole country, the volume of business showing a decided increase over the first quarter of 1906. In our immediate district reports from all sections tell of prosperity and progress in every line of endeavor, more factories established, more mining camps opening, more orchards planted. Nurserymen report unusual demand for citrus and walnut stock. It has been a record breaking year for planting of fruit trees.

The heavy and constant rains have retarded farming operations. It is estimated only half the usual acreage will be put into late cereals. Sugar beet planting has been curtailed, but unused beet land will probably be planted to beans and corn. The wet winter has caused serious damage to apricot orchards and inconvenienced shippers, but has filled the resources of our water supplies, storing up surplus for time of need. A wet season in the long run has always proved most advantageous to Southern California.

The citrus crop this season is proving a good money maker and March market conditions were never better. Shipments have been hampered to some extent by washouts and car shortage, but this fact seems to have worked to benefit the growers. To April about 1200 cars less have gone forward than last year to same date, but this condition has been offset by absence of market glut and resulting high auction prices. Prices have ranged high all the time, reaching \$4.20 as highest point. Navel oranges bringing \$2, orchard sun f. o. b. orders are plentiful and held at \$2.35 to \$2.50 for extra fancy. Lemons are in good demand, bringing fine prices, quoted \$2.35 f. o. b. few going to auction.

SHORT SUGAR CAMPAIGN.

Prospects are that sugar campaign will be short one at Oxnard, as less than one third usual acreage has been put into beets in that district. The loss to deciduous fruit by recent storms cannot be estimated with any degree of certainty, but their is scarcely a doubt that apricots suffered severely, and in some districts the crop is practically ruined. Peaches were damaged to some extent, but a fair crop is looked for. Prospects for other fruit crops are good. Bean market has lost its apathy by reason of flooding of the river growing districts and prices for all varieties except lima have advanced sharply and are firm at higher quotations.

Business is not being forced in cured fruit market either by buyer or seller. The few holders of apricots are not offering spot goods at any price.

Peaches are not so firm, being quoted down to 10 cents for choice. Supplies of spot raisins on the coast are nearly exhausted, seeded have advanced to 10 1/2 cents and options are being taken for new crop at 11 cents.

The output of olives, both green and ripe also oil will be smaller than for several seasons. Prices have advanced.

Petroleum industry continues active, the production reaching 150,000 barrels daily. The demand is growing and the price of oil increasing. Locally business in all lines keeps up good par, with every assurance of present activity being maintained well into the summer.

There is plenty of money, but commercial demands are strong and rates are a trifle higher for real estate transactions. Bank clearings for March show a gain of nearly three millions over same month last year, and postal receipts show a gain of 20 per cent for same month. Building permits were issued to the value of \$1,233,561, which was considerably below last year's March record. This is due to increased cost of building materials.

Sailors Left to Die on Island.

New Bedford, Mass.—A complaint that three men of the crew of the New Bedford whaling schooner John R. Manta were abandoned on the uninhabited island of Santa Luzia, in the Cape Verde group, and that but for the timely arrival of a small fishing vessel they would have started to death, has been received by shipping Commissioner Henry C. Hathaway of this city through the shipping commissioner at Mobile, Ala.

The Mobile official reported that he had received the complaint from two men who had reached the port on board the schooner Ralph Lee. The men assert that while they were on shore liberty at Santa Luzia the schooner sailed away.

Ride Horse From Portland to N. Y.

Junction City.—Second Lieutenant R. R. McCabe of the Sixth cavalry at Fort Riley on special duty, has received notice from Washington that he has been selected to make a ride from Portland, Ore., to New York, on an Arabian stallion. The purpose of this long ride is to test the endurance of this new breed of horses with the view of determining their value as cavalry horses. Lieutenant McCabe expects to be ordered to Portland within the next two weeks.

He will be accompanied by an orderly and they will travel overland with their full field equipment. The distance from Portland to New York is 3181 miles by rail. The route Lieutenant McCabe will follow probably will be longer than that.

JAPANESE SNEAK ACROSS THE BORDER

By Entering British Columbia or Mexico Little Difficulty is Found in Reaching the U. S.

Washington.—Under the regulation governing the entrance into this country of Japanese laborers, there is no way of preventing the Japanese from Honolulu transshipping to San Francisco for British Columbia.

It is evident from inquiries that have been made by officials of this government that the Japanese, to whom the Japanese government issues passports to Mexico or to the Hawaiian islands, have no intention of remaining there.

Their destination, as the laborers themselves admitted on cross examination, is the United States. Recently several hundred Japanese laborers were interrogated in Mexico as to their intentions. Every one of them said he expected sooner or later to reach this country. Some of them were in serious financial straits.

They were awaiting the opportunity to get across the border into this country. The same is true of Japanese who are going to British Columbia. There is no work for them there and they expect to get into the United States as soon as possible.

REGULATIONS DIFFER.

The regulations governing the exclusion of Chinese laborers do not apply to the Japanese laborers. When Chinese laborers ship in transit through the United States to another country a photograph is taken of each individual and the railroad or steamship carrying him is required to give the government a bond to prevent his escape.

It is different with the Japanese. No photographs are taken and no bonds are exacted from the transportation company. If a Japanese laborer escapes from the train or steamship while in transit the government has no recourse.

That many of them do take advantage of the opportunity afforded them to get into this country is known officially, but there is no way under the regulations to prevent them from embracing the opportunity.

Commissioner Sargent of the bureau of immigration declines to discuss the subject, but it is known that Secretary Straus of the department of commerce and labor is keeping in close touch with the situation. He, too, is reticent.

Trouble is being experienced in handling the question, however, particularly in relation to the Japanese immigrants who are arriving in Mexico. It is practically impossible to prevent them from being smuggled across the border and the government has no means of identifying them after they reach this country. The question is likely to become more serious in the near future.

Platinum More Precious Than Gold.

Platinum, which is more valuable than gold, is, according to members of the geological survey, being discovered in quiet number of counties in California. They state that the survey department has issued a report on the subject. It is in the form of a bulletin on the investigation of black sands which was conducted on this coast and elsewhere more than a year ago. The inquiry was started for the purpose of locating deposits of platinum.

The report indicates that California may become one of the principal sources of platinum production. The investigation developed that there is platinum in 100 localities in the United States, but that some of the largest and most profitable fields for commercial exploitation are in Del Norte, Siskiyou, Humboldt and Trinity counties. Platinum is also found the bulletin says, in considerable quantities in Plumas and Butte counties. The future supply of platinum is likely to come in large part from California and Oregon.

Peary to Make Dash for Pole.

New York.—The application of Robert E. Peary for leave of absence of three years, which was approved by the secretary of the navy, has uncovered the fact that Commander Peary proposes to make another attempt this summer to reach the north pole.

The three years leave of absence during which he made his famous journey to the farthest point north ever reached by man—87 degrees 6 minutes—expired last Sunday and the new leave begins at once. It is expected the start will be made some time in June.

Funds for the next trip to the north pole have not yet been obtained in adequate quantity, but it is said that there is no uneasiness as to that.

Morris K. Jessup and another well known man of wealth, who caused his connection with the enterprise to be kept secret, furnished practically all of the \$150,000 for the purchase of the Roosevelt and the fitting out of the expedition.

Would Save Veteran's Positions.

Washington.—A. B. Brown, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic; Corporal Tanner, past commander in chief, and various officials of the local organization called on President Roosevelt today in reference to the alleged dismissal from the government department of many veterans of the civil war and their widows for no other cause than old age.

The president gave instructions that discriminations against veterans or their widows should cease.

During the call today of the commander in chief and his friends the president informed them of the instructions and assured them that the old soldiers should be cared for.

ISLE OF PINES CASE SETTLED

SUPREME COURT SAYS IT IS NOT UNCLE SAM'S.

Island Belongs to Republic of Cuba and Will Continue Under That Government's Jurisdiction.

Washington.—That the Isle of Pines is not American territory was officially decided today by the supreme court of the United States.

The decision was rendered in the case of Edward J. Peary vs. Nevada N. Stananan, collector of the port of New York, and the opinion of the court was announced by Chief Justice Fuller, who says that up to the present time the Isle of Pines had been considered as an integral part of Cuba and that it could not be held to be covered by article 2 of that treaty, which included only islands in the vicinity of Porto Rico.

The case originated in connection with the importation of a few boxes of cigars by Peary in September, 1903, but its hearing by the court was from time to time passed in hope that the status of the island might be definitely decided by legislation or diplomacy.

The cigars were made in the Isle of Pines of tobacco grown there, and when they arrived Peary refused to pay duty on the ground that they are of domestic origin. The collector thereupon seized them and Peary appealed to the United States circuit court, where he secured no relief, as that court sustained a demurrer filed by the government, and dismissed the appeal.

COURT'S DECISION.

Speaking of the status of the island at the date of the treaty of peace with Spain the chief justice said:

"All the world knew it was an integral part of Cuba and in view of the joint resolution of April 20, 1896, it seems clear that the Isle of Pines was not supposed to be one of the other islands ceded by article 2."

Drawing the conclusion that the island had legitimately descended from Spain's control to that of Cuba he spoke of the recognition of the island as Cuban territory as follows:

"We are justified in assuming that the Isle of Pines was always treated by the president's representative in Cuba as an integral part of Cuba. This was indeed to be expected in view of the fact that it was such at the time of the execution of the treaty and its ratification and that the treaty did not provide otherwise in terms, to say nothing of general principles of international law applicable to such coasts and shores as those of Florida, the Bahamas and Cuba."

"The Isle of Pines continues de facto under the jurisdiction of the government of the republic of Cuba and that settles the question before us."

FIVE YEARS TO FINISH THE CANAL

Tawney and Olcott Declare, After Viewing Operations, That Work is Progressing Rapidly.

Washington.—Chairman Tawney of the house committee on appropriations and Representative Olcott, who have recently returned from a visit to the isthmus of Panama, today discussed with the president conditions as they found them. Mr. Tawney is favorably impressed with the progress made in the canal work and told the president he thought at the present rate the waterway should be completed in five years.

He said he regarded it as unfortunate that the engineering world had been representing to the people an almost impossible engineering problem confronting it.

The present conditions now to be met, he said were those of sufficient railroad capacity to take care of the dirt excavated and sanitation with the view to keeping the place in good healthful condition.

Mr. Tawney also discussed with the president questions affecting congressional appropriations for canal work and it is likely that legislation pending on this subject will be recommended to congress as a result of the visit to the isthmus.

Fire Destroys 14,000 Bales of Cotton.

Chickasha, I. T.—The compress of the Traders' Compress company, with its contents of 14,000 bales of cotton, was destroyed by fire today, causing a loss estimated at between \$50,000 and \$70,000.

The loss is fully covered by insurance. The compress was owned by N. H. Anderson of Fort Worth and R. K. Wooten and T. M. Potts of this city.

The flames were fanned by a strong wind and the town was only saved from destruction by the citizens helping to fight the fire.

Peace Conference in June.

The Hague.—June 15 has been fixed upon for the opening of the second international peace conference here.

Dick—I thought you had an engagement to take Miss Rose out skating to-night?

Reggy—I did, but by Jove, she seemed so timid. She did not seem satisfied when I told her I always hugged the shore when skating.

Dick—Why didn't you tell her you always hugged the girl?

BROTHERS UNITED IN NOVEL MANNER

One Asks the Other for Aid, Is Arrested as an Imposter, Explanations Follow, All is Well.

Seattle.—After having been separated for thirty-six years, two brothers were united in a novel and dramatic manner here yesterday.

One of the brothers, Johan Weber a resident of Pennsylvania after complying with requests for money made by his brother, Yost Weber, a longshoreman of Seattle, came west to see if the Seattle man were really his kin.

On arriving here the man who had asked for assistance was pointed out, but the Pennsylvania man declared that the longshoreman was not his brother, and immediately had him arrested as an imposter.

After returning to Pennsylvania he was again called west to be a witness. Notwithstanding the denial of Johan that he was his brother Yost maintained that he was a long lost brother whom he had not seen since leaving Germany for a seafaring life thirty-six years ago.

United States Commissioner Kiefer, before whom the case was tried, hit upon a plan of having the brothers, separately, write their cousins' names. Both did this and they tallied. Other tests were made including a recital of the longshoreman's class at his confirmation.

When it became plain to both that they were brothers an affecting scene followed, and the men left the court arm in arm after the judge had dismissed the case.

English Warships Not Desired.

New York.—According to a Havana dispatch to the Sun the American government, sooner or later, will meet with pressure from abroad regarding the Cuban situation.

The French minister is said to have informed his government that there will be no certainty of the protection of property if the republic is re-established and the Cubans are placed in control.

"It is learned further," the dispatch continues, "that certain powerful British interests recently asked the foreign office in London to request permission of the United States to station three British warships in Cuban waters when the Americans leave."

"American officials here, however, do not believe that Great Britain will make any such embarrassing request, because the answer would probably be that America will be able to attend to her own affairs and being responsible for Cuba's conduct she would preserve order and protect property in Cuba herself, as at present. However, these two instances show the feeling of disquietude."

Taft Says Not Yet But Soon.

Havana.—The members of the committee of insurgents with whom Secretary Taft arranged for peace in Cuba last September had a conference with the secretary lasting three hours.

Secretary Taft refused to give his visitors the date of the withdrawal of the American troops from Cuba.

At the close of the conference Senators Zayas and Gomez informed the Associated Press that Mr. Taft had declared it impossible to hold elections in Cuba until a complete census of the island has been taken, which will occupy about four months.

He added that municipal and provincial elections would probably be held in September, but he would not give any probable date for the presidential elections.

Not to Regain Control Until 1908.

Havana.—It appears tonight that July 4, 1908, will be the day when the control of the Cuban affairs is to be given back to the Cuban people.

The Liberals want the elections to be held in December, 1907, and the government turned over May 20, 1908, the anniversary of the inauguration of the first Cuban republic; they also want municipal and provincial elections held simultaneously.

The Conservatives on the other hand desire that the final elections be held later than December and the municipal and provincial elections be held six months apart.

In view of this divergence of desire a compromise which will result in the turning over the control of Cuban affairs on the American holiday is probable.

Tariff Rates With Germany.

Washington.—Baron Sternburg, the German ambassador, and Secretary Root have reached the basis of a modus vivendi which will continue to American goods imported into Germany the privilege of minimum tariff rates.

This arrangement is temporary in character being intended to prevent a break in the present tariff rates on American goods until such time as congress may have an opportunity to pass upon a permanent treaty.

The modus vivendi will be taken to Germany by Ambassador Sternburg. The reichstag must give its approval in order to render the arrangement effective.

To Work in Harmony.

Paris.—The Madrid correspondent of the Eclair says that he has knowledge that some of the main points of the Anglo-Spanish understanding were discussed by King Edward and King Alfonso at Cartagena. England, he says, will help Spain in the reconstruction of her fleet and Spain will see to it that certain important naval positions does not fall into the hands of any other power.

MINES AND MINING

POINTS FOR THE MINER AND PROSPECTOR.

Method of Proving Up Annual Assessment Work on Claims in the Mineral Region.

Valuation of Work.—The amount of money paid is not the only method of establishing the fact that the annual assessment work, as required by law, has been fully performed, but it is an important factor in that direction, and is admissible in evidence, and tends directly to show the good faith of the party. Whalen Consol. Copper Min. Co. v. Whalen, 127 Fed. Rep. 211.

The labor must really and actually be of the value of \$100. Twenty days' work under a local regulation providing that "in doing all assessment work in his district there shall be allowed \$5 per day," was held to be insufficient when the labor performed was shown to have been really worth an amount greatly less than \$100. Woody v. Bernard, 69 Ark. 579.

That \$400 had been paid for excavating shafts on four claims, was held a compliance with the statute, when it appeared that the shaft exceeded in dimensions the requirements of the local rules as to what work should constitute the regular assessment work of the district, and that the remoteness of the mines and lack of facilities for doing the work would increase the expense and trouble, when there was nothing in the evidence justifying the inference that there was any intention to evade the law or come short of its requirements by the mine owner or by the men whom he employed to do the work. Wright v. Killian, 132 Cal. 56.

Mere proof of the expenditure of \$100 is not of itself sufficient, but it furnishes an element tending strongly to establish the good faith of the owner. One of the main tests of determining this question is not what is paid for the work, or the contract price, but whether or not the labor, work and improvements "were reasonably worth the said sum of \$100." McCulloch v. Murphy, 152 Fed. Rep. 147.

When several claims are held in common, necessary work to keep them all alive may be done on one of them.

Expenditure of Money.—The expenditure of labor or money must equal in value that which would be required on all the claims if they were separate or independent, and the claims must be contiguous, so that each claim thus associated may in some way be benefited by the work done on one of them. Chambers v. Harrington, 11 U. S. 353.

Work can be performed on one claim for the benefit of several when there is a community of interest in all the claims for the benefit of which such work is done. Little Dorrit Gold Min. Co. v. Arapahoe Gold Min. Co., 30 Colo. 431.

When the testimony tends to show that several claims were selected and worked for development purposes, and that work on a tunnel and shaft was done to apply on the respective claims, and that the development work was a benefit to all the claims, it sustains a finding that the work done on the tunnel and shafts was beneficial to all the claims and a compliance with the statute. Fissure Min. Co. v. Old Susan Min. Co., 22 Utah 414.

Work done by any of the grantors of claimant, whether holding the legal or equitable title during the performance of the work done in the interest of the claim, is available to preserve the claim. Jupiter Min. Co. v. Bodie Consol. Min. Co., 11 Fed. Rep. 677.

Work done by receiver by order of court—appearing from the testimony that, during the year in which it was alleged that there had been a failure to do the necessary amount of work, the property involved was in litigation; that a receiver was appointed by the court to take possession; that an order was made pending the proceedings, authorizing and directing the receiver to borrow \$1500 for the purpose of preserving the property by performing the annual assessment work thereon for that year; that this money was obtained by the receiver and expended for that purpose; that his report was presented to the court and an order was made approving the report of the receiver, it was held that the action of the court made out a prima facie case of a compliance with the statute. Whalen Consol. Copper Min. Co. v. Whalen, 127 Fed. Rep. 611.

Work done by a mere trespasser or a stranger to the title will not inure to the benefit of the locator, but when parties at the instance of a co-owner have in good faith, performed \$100 worth of labor or improvements, the mine cannot be subjected to a relocation, although it might turn out on judicial investigation that such parties had no legal or equitable title to any interest therein. Nesbit v. Delamar's Nevada Gold Min. Co., 24 Nev. 283.

Smuggling in Paris.

During a period of over six months the customs employes at the various barriers of Paris saw two men pass before their offices carrying a very fine funeral wreath. Naturally they never asked for duty on such an article as that. The wreath contained nearly 40 quarts of alcohol. The smugglers took every precaution against discovery, never passing through the same barrier twice running, but the trick was discovered at last by an inquisitive officer.

Don't wait for Dame Fortune to knock at your door. She may be kidnaped by some one who is willing to meet her half way.

Just Possible.

Muggins—I wonder why artists always sign their pictures?

Buggins—So the purchasers won't hang them wrong side up, I imagine.

BANK ACCOUNT AS REFORM MEASURE

Prisoners Paroled by Chicago Courts to be Given a Chance to Accumulate a "Nest Egg."

Chicago.—A "savings bank annex" as a branch of the municipal court, presided over by Judge Clelland, has been announced by the judge as an additional means of reform held out to unfortunates who come before him.

Arrangements have been completed whereby any person paroled by the court will have started for him a savings account in a Chicago bank with a gift of \$5 from the bank to start the account. The gift carries with it the condition that the person to whom it applies will not violate the parole and will deposit to his own account at least \$2 each month. The amount deposited may not be withdrawn until the end of the year.

The plan is intended to encourage thrift and economy and to check the neglect of families by the men usually brought before the court on the charge of drunkenness. It is a development out of Judge Clelland's present plan of paroling the men to responsible positions in the neighborhood. Semi-monthly reports are made to the judge.

The principal condition imposed on the paroled person is that he will stay away from drink for the period of a year and is not sent to jail in that time.

INTELLIGENCE OF A TREE.

Lesson Taught by the Struggles of a Centenarian Laurel.

It is not only in the seed of the flower but in the whole plant, leaves, stalks and roots, that we discover if we stoop for a moment over their humble work, many traces of a prudent and quick intelligence, says Maurice Maeterlinck in Harper's Magazine. Think of the magnificent struggle toward the light of the thwarted branches or the ingenious and courageous strife of trees in danger. As for myself, I shall never forget the admirable example of heroism given me the other day in Provence, in the wild and delightful Gorges du Loup, all perfumed with violets, by a large centenarian laurel tree.

It was easy to read on its tortured and, so to speak, convulsive trunk the whole drama of its hard and tenacious destiny. A bird or the wind, masters of fate, had carried the seed to the flank of the rock, which was as perpendicular as an iron curtain, and the tree was born there, 200 yards above the torrent, inaccessible and solitary, among the burning and barren stones. From the first hour it had sent its blind roots on a long and painful search for precious water and soil. But this was only the hereditary care of a species that knows the aridity of the south.

The young stem had to solve a much graver problem; it started from a vertical plane, so that its top instead of rising toward the sky bent down over the gulf. It was therefore obliged, notwithstanding the increasing weight of its branches, to correct the first flight, stubbornly to bend its disconcerted trunk in the form of an elbow close to the rock and thus, like a swimmer who throws back his head, by means of an incessant will, tension and contraction to hold its heavy crown of leaves straight up into the sky.

Thenceforward all the preoccupations, all the energy, all the free and conscious genius of the plant had centered around that vital knot. The monstrous, hypertrophied elbow revealed one by one the successive solicitudes of a kind of thought that knew how to profit by the warnings which it received from the rains and the storms. Year by year the leafy dome grew heavier, with no other care than to spread itself out in the light and heat, while a hidden canker gnawed deep into the tragic arm that supported it in space.

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OPPORTUNITY NOT ENOUGH.

You Must Know How to Act When It Confronts You.

There was a young man of Kansas City who had the business intelligence necessary to success, but he had little opportunity to exercise it. He hesitated one evening whether he should take dinner at a cheap restaurant or should eat at one of the cafes patronized by the best people of the city. He chose the latter, and this is what happened:

"Come over to our table," was the invitation that came from a friend, and he accepted.

He was introduced to a widow who owned a piece of ground lying close to the business part of the city but which had never been utilized for building purposes. He found in his conversation with her that she needed a steady income and finally told her he would take a lease of the ground for 90 years at \$125 a month, and she made the bargain.

On this lease he borrowed \$25,000 and built an office building that rents to-day for enough to pay the interest and give him a profit of \$750 a month. He has nothing to do but collect his money, and the rental value of his property increases daily, as the city is growing in that section.

The dinner in the first-class cafe was the start; but, of course, it took business acumen and ability to carry on the enterprise after he had it started. The man dull of comprehension might eat in the cafe for months and make no headway financially.

The young man who seeks to get ahead must have something more than opportunity. He ought to see the best way to do things as well.

A shell from a twelve-inch gun makes its flight of nine miles in forty-two seconds.