

ESTIMATES ON CROPS.

GOVERNMENT AND COMMERCIAL REPORTS VARY.

Department Methods of Collecting Data May Be Changed—Dark Side of the Klondyke Is Being Brought to View.

Official Figures Too Low.

The Department of Agriculture officials have had their attention called very frequently of late to the wide discrepancy between commercial and official estimates of the wheat crop. The official estimates indicate approximately a crop of 450,000,000 bushels, while commercial estimates range from 500,000,000 to 550,000,000. It is very plain that there will have to be a radical change in the governmental methods which now obtain of collecting crop statistics or they will be entirely discredited in every quarter. The crop reporters of the Department of Agriculture are nearly all farmers, and therefore directly interested in placing a low estimate on production. Year after year the shipping and milling results show that the department estimates have been too low, oftentimes ridiculously so, but nevertheless the same system of gathering data is in force now that obtained fifteen years ago. It is altogether probable at the next session of Congress a new plan will be vigorously discussed, and it is hardly possible that the crop-reporting bureau may be entirely reorganized.

KLONDYKE'S DARK SIDE.

Thousands Will Fall a Prey to Disease, Starvation, and Crime.

In the mad rush for Klondyke gold men are already starving to death. Of the thousands now hastening to Alaska many will never return. Their bones will bleach under the snows of the deadly passes. Gold there is in plenty. But it is not easily obtained, and this is not all. Starvation, disease, treacherous Indians, desperadoes who will commit murder for a biscuit, frightful storms and all the perils of an unknown, inhospitable and barren country await the inexperienced. Men who are abandoning their homes to join the mad scramble for the new El Dorado should remember that once they have passed over the gang plank of the Alaskan steamer there is no way of getting back unless they turn about immediately while they have money for transportation and strength to clamber into the boat. Over the entrances to White and Chilkoot passes there might well be strung the legend, "Who enters here leaves hope behind," for it is the sheerest luck if a fair percentage of those going in ever return to civilization or live to see fruition of their wild hopes. George L. Fish, a prominent grocer of Oakland, Cal., made the trip in order to see whether there was any chance for rushing supplies into the Klondyke this fall. He found the outlook hopeless. He said: "I advise men and women to stay away from Dyea and Skagway. The day I left there were three funerals. Two were those of young men who had attempted to cross Dyea river. The last funeral was that of a young man who had reached the summit of Chilkoot pass. He was entirely out of provisions, and, gorged to starvation, he stole a side of bacon. He was detected by two of the party from whose outfit he stole, and was shot to death. An inquest was held and the verdict was justifiable homicide. At least 5,000 people are camped at Dyea and Skagway, and the majority will remain there through the winter. Starvation and death will stalk among them. There are many lawless adventurers in the two little towns on the bleak coast; men and women of a stripe who will not hesitate at the commission of any crime when money and food become scarce. There are about 3,500 from Skagway road to Dawson through White pass and down to Lake Bennett. It is impossible to get through the pass and there is a swamp of seven or eight miles to cross before reaching Lake Bennett."

Town is Captured.

The oft-repeated threats of the crusaders who are trying to induce coal miners to strike to force their way into the village of Coffeen, Ill., were carried out amid great excitement Tuesday afternoon. They formed eight abreast, 400 strong, the Staunton band of eleven pieces bringing up the rear. Sheriff Randle placed twenty deputy sheriffs, armed with muskets and with fixed bayonets, across the highway. The other deputies were stationed to guard the mine, where 100 men were at work getting out coal. President Traynor ordered the column of marchers to halt. With regular step they marched on, brushing the village president aside without ceremony. The strikers in the front ranks grasped their guns and the column by sheer force of numbers pushed the deputies, many of whom were considerably frightened, from their places. Sheriff Randle asked for troops, but was again refused.

Standing of the Clubs.

Following is the standing of the clubs in the National Baseball League:

W. L. W. L. Boston . . . . . 65 31 Pittsburgh . . . . . 43 51 Baltimore . . . . . 62 30 Louisville . . . . . 43 55 Cincinnati . . . . . 59 32 Philadelphia . . . . . 42 55 New York . . . . . 56 36 Brooklyn . . . . . 38 56 Cleveland . . . . . 50 44 Washington . . . . . 38 56 Chicago . . . . . 47 51 St. Louis . . . . . 26 72

The showing of the members of the Western League is summarized below:

W. L. W. L. Indianapolis . . . . . 69 29 Detroit . . . . . 52 53 Columbus . . . . . 62 33 Minneapolis . . . . . 34 72 St. Paul . . . . . 65 40 Kansas City . . . . . 34 73 Milwaukee . . . . . 64 41 G'd Rapids . . . . . 32 69

Big Increase in French Exports.

The official returns just published show that the imports into France for the last seven months were 20,217,000 francs below those of 1896. On the other hand, the exports foot up 177,637,000 francs more than during the same period of 1896.

Overpowered the Jailer.

At Rawlins, Wyo., five prisoners charged with burglary overpowered Jailer Ben Carroll, choked him into insensibility, bound his hands and feet, took his revolver and keys and escaped from jail.

Woodmen in a Fight.

In an attempt by people of Rock Island Friday afternoon to secure possession of the books and belongings at the headquarters of the Modern Woodmen of America in Fulton, Ill., a general riot ensued. One man was probably fatally injured and several others received wounds of a more or less serious nature.

Blaze at Frisco.

Sparks from the engine ignited a pile of shavings at the factory of the San Francisco Furniture Manufacturing Company on Bryant street, resulting in the total destruction of the factory and its contents, valued at \$20,000.

AFTER AMERICAN GRAIN.

Large Fleet of Vessels Sails from England in Ballast.

The largest fleet of vessels that ever left England in ballast has sailed within the last week for the Delaware Breakwater and Hampton Roads for orders. Their owners have found it more profitable to have them without cargoes than to have them wait. The machinery of some of them is rather antiquated, but the demand for steam tonnage has induced their owners to give them another trial in competing with the more modern craft. Several vessels arrived at the Delaware Breakwater from Europe in search of business. Large purchases of grain have been made in this country by Italy, Austria, France, and Germany, with rarely before have purchased vessels in the United States. Several charters have been effected at Philadelphia to carry grain to Marseilles, Genoa, Trieste and Alexandria and other Mediterranean ports.

TRADE ON THE MEND.

All Parts of the Country Report Start of Better Times.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: "Every city reporting this week notes increase in trade and nearly all bright crop prospects. The great change in business is emphasized by the presence of a multitude of buyers from all parts of the country, by their statements of the situation at their homes, and more forcibly yet by the heavy purchases they are making. The strong rise in stocks, the growth of bank clearings and railroad earnings, the heavy speculation in many products, but most of all in wheat, have made the week one of surpassing interest even to those who remember the upward rush in 1879. The great crops and the haste of foreigners to buy and ship wheat, in view of shortage elsewhere, have made the week memorable. Taking of profits by a pool lowered the price three cents, but it afterward rose five cents."

ALL OF INDIA TREMBLED.

Earthquake in the Famine-Stricken Country Was Disastrous.

Additional details of the great earthquake in June, which made all India tremble, received in recent mail advices, confirm the original reports of its severity. In northern Bengal, Assam and Cachar the shocks continued for some time. The mortality in the Cherra hills is estimated at from 4,000 to 6,000. At Goal Para, a tidal wave destroyed the bazaar and sixty lives were lost. The earth is fissured and the country is covered with mud and sand. The telegraph office at Cherra and all pucca buildings were destroyed and the natives were forced to flee for their lives. The country is flooded, as the earth has subsided along the banks of the Brahmaputra, causing great damage to the crops. Similar reports are received from many other places.

OBEY THE SHERIFF.

The first blood shed during the present miners' strike was that of Jacob Mott, a drummer of the McDonald band. The trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple, in Pennsylvania. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to Center school house and the others to the miners' houses. The Center squad was headed by the McDonald drum corps. Sheriff Lowry reached Center about 5 a. m. He drove from Turtle Creek to the place near the Plum Creek tipple, and the trouble took place near the Plum Creek tipple. The 1,000 strikers in the camp at Plum Creek left the camp at 3 a. m. and divided into two squads at Center, one body of the marchers going to