

## THE RANCH.

### THE STATE OF TRADE.

people, governors and sheriffs to this organized system of plunder is a strange spectacle, and its result is a far greater expense than would result from compelling the "industrials" to work on public highways, etc., or go hungry. Yet many of those lately in Yakima say they would willingly work for 75 cents a day and board; while some aver that they have refused \$50 a month to \$2.75 a day. Allowing them to start from the coast cities was of itself a most selfish, if not a criminal procedure in the beginning, for they could only reach and do worse harm in the more congested east. If the movement had been suppressed from the first day of train and car and ride stealing in San Francisco, that would have been the end of it; the result is a big expense on its earlier aiders and abettors.

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The lower Yakima is pushing the ranching vigorously. Around Kennewick the early vegetables predominate. There will be fully 150 acres in melons alone; 250 acres of early potatoes are up and hustling toward harvest; over 600 acres have been set in fruits; late potatoes are going in fast; sweet potatoes and peanuts are being planted experimentally by nearly every rancher; alfalfa and small grains cover large areas. Altogether, 4,000 to 5,000 acres are being planted this spring out of the total of 12,000 acres of irigable lands under the Kennewick canal, now owned by the district. As water from the canal was first used last July, this is a remarkable record. Over 100 families have come from Illinois this spring to settle under this canal. The seventy-five acres in small fruits and the big melon crop will help that Yakima cannery project, and the 1,000 odd acres of potatoes should encourage the starch factory proposition. All Yakima must work together in these matters.

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Not alone the irrigation canals, but also the new railroad recently mentioned in THE RANCH, and now become a certainty, will doubtless hasten the opening of the Yakima Indian reservation, and simply because the railroad is an agent of civilization that has a wonderful power in the development of any and every new country when it enters. Engineer G. C. Mills has just completed a preliminary survey with Promoter Schofield, that follows a route over the mountains at a moderate grade, without a tunnel. This railroad will open up new coal and timber fields, and a vast body of fertile lands, and greatly promote the development of the whole Yakima country.

There is absolutely nothing new to say of the general condition of trade. The same disturbing elements remain at work to keep the revival of commerce in check. Transactions in the great grain centers are limited, and there is no revival in prices. There is a continued slight advance in canned goods, but trading is limited, dealers preferring to wait until consumers demand more goods. The general tendency to economize affects nearly all classes of manufactures. In the meantime the farmers of the country go along as usual, planting and cultivating for next fall's harvest, with confidence that they will reap a fair reward for their labor, and hoping that something will turn up to revive the trade of the country. According to reports from all parts of the North Pacific country, prospects are good for hay and fruit. It is too soon to say anything about the cereals further than that everything is doing well.

#### Condition of Wheat.

The May report of the agricultural department places the condition of wheat at 81.4 as against 86.7 the previous month. In 1893 at the same date the condition was 75.3, a little over two points lower than the average for the previous month. The averages for the principal states are:

Ohio.....	90	Missouri.....	83
Michigan.....	86	Kansas.....	75
Indiana.....	90	Nebraska.....	59
Illinois.....	85	California.....	52

While the improvement during April has been considerable in most of the states, the result of the cold weather in March is shown to have been more than reported at that time. Advices from Kansas and Nebraska indicate that the damage from cold weather has been augmented by drouth and high winds, and much of the area has been abandoned and plowed up and put in other grain. In California the long continued drouth, accompanied a great portion of the time by high winds, has proven very disastrous. In other states the plant is doing very well, especially in Washington and Oregon, considering the setback by cold weather.

#### NORTH YAKIMA MARKETS.

An increased supply of butter weakens the market somewhat, though a good article brings 40 to 50c per roll. Eggs are coming less freely, and prices have advanced to 13@15c per dozen. Potatoes are quoted at \$10@15 per ton according to variety and quality.

MEATS—Retail—Steak, sirloin and porterhouse, 12½c; round, 10c. Roasts, 10@12½c; stewing pieces, 5@8c; mutton roasts, 5@8c; pork, 10c; sausage, 10c; ham, 15c; shoulder, 12½c; lard, 12½@15c.

STAPLE GROCERIES—Retail—Granulated sugar, 14 lbs for \$1; coffee, green, 2½@3½ lbs for \$1; teas, 30c to \$1 per lb; rice, best, 12 lbs for \$1; canned fruits, \$2.40 per dozen; canned vegetables, \$1.50 per dozen; starch, 10c lb; soda, 3 lbs for \$1; coal oil, 5 gallons for \$1.35.

#### North Yakima Lumber Market.

Rough and sized, per M.....	\$	13 00
No. 2 flooring and rustic.....		16 00
No. 1 flooring and rustic.....		20 00
No. 1 finish.....	20 00@24 00	
Posts, each.....		10
Wood, per cord.....		4 00

#### North Yakima Grain Markets.

Following are the prices paid to farmers:

Wheat, No. 1, per bushel.....	50
Wheat, No. 2, per bushel.....	40
Corn, per bushel.....	50
Barley, per ton.....	\$13 00@15 00
Oats, per ton.....	17 00@20 00

The prices at which milling produce is sold are as follows:

Flour, hard wheat, 50lb sacks.....	\$ 1 00
Flour, patent grade, 50lb sacks....	85
Flour, straight grade, 50lb sacks...	80
Flour, low grade, 50lb sacks.....	65
Flour, graham, 10lb sacks.....	30
Flour, corn meal, 10lb sacks.....	30
Bran, sacked, per ton.....	13 00
Shorts, sacked, per ton.....	17 00
Rolled barley, sacked, per ton....	18 00
Wheat chop, sacked, per ton.....	\$15 00@17 00
Corn chop, sacked, per ton.....	18 00
Chicken wheat, sacked, per ton....	16 00

#### THE WHEAT MARKETS.

PORTLAND—Valley, 85c; Walla Walla, 75@77½ per cental; Valley for milling, 90c per cental.

SAN FRANCISCO—Market very dull. Shipping, 87½@90c per cental; milling, \$1.00@1.07½.

CHICAGO—Cash, 56½c; July, 57¼@57½c.

#### Visible Grain Statement.

Following is a statement of the visible supply of grain at the close of business Saturday, as compiled by the New York produce exchange:

	Bushels.	Decrease.
Wheat.....	65,511,000	1,647,000
Corn.....	920,000	1,439,000
Oats.....	2,574,000	85,000
Rye.....	340,000	12,000
Barley.....	187,000	38,000

#### Chicago Live Stock.

Cattle—Fair demand; market steady; prime to extra native steers, \$4.40@4.60; medium, \$4.00@4.25; others, \$3.35@3.95. Hogs—Market active and 15c lower; closed strong; rough heavy, \$4.25@4.75; packers and mixed, \$4.95@5.05; light, \$5@5.05. Sheep and lambs—Steady; top sheep, \$4.25@4.50; top lambs, \$4.75@5.15.

#### Seattle Green Stuff.

San Francisco vegetables and fruits arriving quite freely; cherries are quoted at \$1.00@1.25 according to quality; new potatoes, 1½c per lb; string beans, 6@8c; cucumbers, \$1 per dozen; strawberries, \$1.75 per crate.