



Journal

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YULETIDE GREETINGS

Industry Injured By The Tariff

Most of Shingle Mills in British Columbia Operating While 90 Per Cent of Those of Washington Are Closed Down.

Practically all of the shingle mills of British Columbia are operating while those of this state are nearly all closed, according to a report brought into this country. The British Columbia mills are able to get the raw material at a much lower figure than can the mills of this side, and as a result can market their output in this country at a much lower figure than the Washington mills, now that the tariff has been removed.

Attention has been called in the past to the fact that the records in the ports of entry at Sumas and Blaine no not show any great increase in the number of cars of shingles being brought into this country. This fact was used in the argument that the British Columbia mills are not marketing their shingles in this country.

An investigation, however, has shown that practically all of the British Columbia mills are on the Canadian Pacific railroad and that this railroad insists on getting the long haul of the carloads of shingles marketed in the Middle states. Therefore the cars are taken mostly to Moosejaw on the Canadian road and then sent into the United States. Very few of the Canadian shingles are used in the western part of the United States, it is pointed out, but it is in the Middle states, where the Washington mills have found their best market in the past, where the foreign mills are now cutting into the business. Even at the prevailing low prices for shingles it is said the Canadian mills can ship and sell their shingles in the Middle States at a profit.

Several days ago Congressman Humphrey called the attention of congress to the condition of the shingle industry in this state and demanded an investigation. He pointed out that 90 per cent of the mills are now closed, whereas nearly all of them were operating at a profit before the tariff on foreign shingles was removed.

Hunter Kills Friend In Moment of Anger

Ernest Gradke Surrenders After Shooting Charles Maudsley and is Sent to Skagit Jail

ANACORTES, Dec. 16.—Ernest Gradke of Bellingham was committed to the county jail at Mount Vernon tonight as the result of the verdict of the coroner's jury this afternoon which found that he had shot and killed Charles Maudsley in a quarrel last night while they were hunting near here. Gradke surrendered immediately after the shooting.

The two young men were members of a party of five from Bellingham who had been spending a few days hunting on Samish island and had run into Anacortes for provisions. The launch was anchored at the Anacortes dock. A dispute arose over whether the party should continue the hunting trip or whether Gradke should disband the company and take a new party of clam diggers from Anacortes on a short trip. In the heat of anger, Gradke told the marshal, he grabbed his rifle and fired a bullet into his friend's jaw.

Sheriff Ed Wells and Prosecuting Attorney Beagle of Mount Vernon attended the inquest held here by Coroner Baker of Sedro-Wooley.

STATE CROPS WORTH \$4,967,000 MORE

DECEMBER FEDERAL REPORT SHOWS WASHINGTON FARMERS WILL RECEIVE THAT MUCH MORE FOR SMALLER 1913 YIELD THAN FOR 1912'S PRODUCTS—HIGHER PRICES PAID FOR POTATOES, WHEAT, CORN AND HAY—BARLEY AND RYE LOWER.

Increased prices received by the farmers of Washington for their products this year as compared with 1912 are the features of the December and final 1913 crop report of the department of agriculture, issued this week from the Seattle office.

For example, Washington potatoes, of which some 11,356,000 bushels were grown last year, sold for but 36 cents a bushel December 1, 1912, while this year's crop, amounting to only 7,380,000, brought 60 cents a bushel December 1 last. Similarly, corn is 80 cents this year where it was 77 last, wheat 73 as against 68 in 1912 and hay \$10.90 per ton as against \$10.10 last year, while the price of oats is the same. The only crops to show a reduction in price are rye, which sold at 60 cents December 1, 1913, as against 65 cents last year, and barley, which is 52 cents now and was 53 cents in 1912.

The crop report is:

Crops.	Washington		United States.	
	1913	1912	1913	1912
CORN, bushels	952	846	2,446,988	3,124,746
Price December 1	0.80	\$0.77	\$0.69	\$0.49
Value	\$762	\$651	\$1,692,092	\$1,520,454
WHEAT, bushels	53,300	53,728	763,380	730,267
Price December 1	\$0.73	\$0.68	\$0.80	\$0.76
Value	\$38,909	\$36,535	\$610,122	\$555,280
OATS, bushels	14,210	13,689	1,121,768	1,418,337
Price December 1	\$0.40	\$0.40	\$0.39	\$0.32
Value	\$5,700	\$5,476	\$439,596	\$452,469
BARLEY, bushels	7,290	7,369	178,189	223,824
Price December 1	\$0.52	\$0.53	\$0.54	\$0.50
Value	\$3,791	\$4,171	\$95,731	\$112,957
RYE, bushels	168	180	41,381	35,664
Price December 1	\$0.60	\$0.65	\$0.63	\$0.66
Value	\$101	\$117	\$26,220	\$23,636
POTATOES, bushels	7,380	11,356	331,525	420,647
Price December 1	\$0.60	\$0.36	\$0.69	\$0.51
Value	\$4,428	\$4,088	\$227,903	\$212,550
HAY, tons	1,794	1,707	64,116	72,691
Price December 1	\$10.90	\$10.10	\$12.43	\$11.79
Value	\$19,555	\$17,241	\$797,077	\$856,695

(Production and value figures in thousands, i. e., 000 omitted.)

According to these figures, then, the value of Washington's production of these five products in 1913 reached the magnificent total of \$73,246,000 as against \$68,279,000 last year, the increase for the year being \$4,967,000, indicating that it was a prosperous one for Washington farmers. It should be remembered that this table makes no account whatever of the value of the fruit crop of the state, which in itself totals in the millions, nor of the berries, vegetables or garden truck marketed during the year.

CUTTING THE COST OF LIVING

By Berlah Brown.

It is noted that in various parts of the country there are organizations of housewives, inspired by the purpose of bringing down the price of eggs. They are banding themselves together and pledging that they will use no more eggs until the prices comes down to a reasonable figure, say 35 cents a dozen, or something approaching that.

In a simpler age, housewives used to accomplish similar results, not through organization, but by each one practicing the habits of thrift which she had acquired for the greater part of her life. It did not require a joining of forces for the wives of men working for wages to boycott eggs when they had soared to appalling figures. They were therefore not used. They were purchased only when on the market in such quantities that they were an economical article of diet.

When beef was cheap, as it was a generation ago, it did not follow then that, on that account, the women whose husband was working for modest wages purchased porterhouse steak for him, although porterhouse then cost less than the humble round or the chuck does today. The cheaper cuts of beef were in even more demand in the past generation when meat was cheap, than they are now, when there is a steady wall about the appalling heights to which the price of meat is reaching.

There is and always has been a lot of faking about the "days of rufe plenty" in this country. There never was a time when, high prices and all, the great mass of the American people lived as well, and enjoyed, so many of the luxuries of life as they do now. The high cost of living is due in a very great measure to that very fact. When the cost of everything in the food line was low, the earning capacity of the workingman was mighty low, too.

In the days before the Civil war wheat flour was a luxury, not seen daily in the form of bread on the tables of all. Today, bread is the most insignificant item in the family expense account. It is only within the present year and then only in a few of the New York restaurants, that bread has been charged for as a portion of a meal purchased a la carte. Bread still remains the staple food of the millions of people in Europe who work for wages.

When a dollar a day was the fixed wage for a day laborer, and a man does not have to be tottering down the closing aisles of life to recall that food was so much cheaper, but because the food allowance was distributed in a radically different manner from what is the case today. Indeed, the era of really cheap food in this country was not in the remote past, but merely during that series of years when the great rush of emigration to the

28,394 Pupils Are Enrolled

OLYMPIA, Dec. 16.—There are 28,394 students enrolled in the high schools of the state according to the new high school directory being prepared in the office of State Superintendent Josephine Preston. While nearly 4,000 of these have already reached their last year before graduation, it is evident from statistics contained in the report that not to exceed half of all those now attending high school will continue until they are awarded diplomas of graduation.

According to the directory, only one of every three who enter high school persists to graduation. It is also shown that of the little folks who enter the first grade of the common schools only one out of ten finally reaches graduation from high school.

Statistics in the superintendent's office show also that approximately half of the pupils who enter the first grade fall by the wayside before reaching the end of the eighth grade year. While the first grade registration is undoubtedly much in excess this year of what it was eight years ago, when the present eighth grade class first started to school the approximation is shown by the figures, 36,781 enrolled in the first grade this year and only 18,312 enrolled in the eighth grade preparing for graduation either at the end of the first semester or in May.

The directory of high schools, now in course of preparation, shows that there are 453 high schools in the state, of which number 115 are accredited four-year schools.

Of the 28,394 high school pupils in the state, 12,162 are freshmen, 7,191 are sophomores, 5,224 are juniors and 3,817 are seniors.

Money In Postal Bank Safe From Creditors

Cashier Refuses Information and the Postmaster General is Asked to Instruct Him to Testify

Are the postal savings banks to become the refuge of slow paying debtors? That was the question that came up before Justice of the Peace Otis W. Brinker. The answer to it has been sought from Postmaster General Burrellson in a telegram sent by District Attorney Clay Allen.

George Panayatos was sued for a \$48 board bill by the Washington Bakery company. He declared that he had no money other than \$38 due him from the Great Northern Railroad company, for which he worked.

"He has money on deposit with the postal savings bank," the attorney for the bakery declared. Panayatos said he had not. Justice Brinker issued a subpoena for A. Drake, the cashier of the postal savings bank in Seattle.

Drake declined to testify, reading from the act of congress creating the postal savings bank the following extract:

"No person connected with the postal depository shall disclose to any other than the depositor the amount of any deposit unless directed so to do by the postmaster general."

Officials of any other than the postoffice banks can be compelled to testify by the court. The gist of Federal District Attorney Clay Allen's telegram to Postmaster General Burrellson was: "Can the cashier of a postal savings bank testify as to whether the defendant has any deposit at all, irrespective of the amount?" The case was continued pending the answer of the postmaster general.

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