

UNREST IS DEEP AMONG FARMERS

High Cost of Goods Bought
Goes Against Grain.

HENRY FORD MESSIAH

Rural Districts Declared Ready
to Take Up With Any Kind
of Financial Heresy.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.
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The most conspicuous condition that stands out in a survey of political feeling throughout the country is expressed in a phrase, almost as old as American politics, namely, discontent among the farmers. The farmers are sullen and grow more so every day. If you should ask each of 100 farmers the reason for his discontent he would answer in practically the same words: "Low prices for what we have to sell, high prices for what we have to buy."

The prices for what the farmer has to sell are unquestionably low. The statistics show it and the market reports show it. Even more vividly it is shown by the concrete experience of the farmer who takes his goods to the warehouse and gets his money for them.

Wheat 85 Cents.
Whatever facts the statistics may show (and they vary only slightly from the actual experience of the individual farmer), the prices received by farmers living in some of the four or five richest agricultural counties of the United States are 85 cents for their wheat and 80 cents a bushel for their potatoes.

This is what the farmer receives when he loads his produce on his wagon and takes it to the station to deliver it to the warehouse or to the freight car. (It should be added that these two commodities, wheat and potatoes, are the ones of which the prices are lowest, relative to other commodities and other times. But these happen to be crops which this year especially are raised over a wide stretch of country and tinge the mental attitude of the largest number of farmers.)

Strains Is Severe.
These prices are low. They are low in relation to everything else. They are low in relation to what were the prices of farm products even before the war. These prices mean a severe strain on the farmer. With such prices as these the farmer feels that he cannot afford to hire the help he needs and that he cannot get along without the things in the way of farm machinery and other supplies that he would like to buy.

The consuming power of the farmer, his capacity to buy products made in the city, is at a low ebb. The merchants who sell to the farmer know this as well as the farmer himself. In the farm districts, when you talk to the local dealers in the small towns, they supply the farmer with reapers, mowers, fertilizers, lumber, coal and the like, they all tell you that they are carrying the farmer on their books to a degree not often equaled before. The situation is such that these dealers try to avoid extending any more credit to the farmer and try to persuade him of what every prudent farmer knows, namely, that it is risky for him to go further into debt.

Financial Heresy Rampant.
Whenever this condition exists the farmer tends to turn to thoughts of money and currency. He begins to think in terms of cheap money. He recalls the time when Bryan's election and the agrarian movements of a generation ago. Being no more familiar than the average man is with the intricacies of finance and currency, his thoughts on this subject, whenever they are not completely vague, turn to various kinds of financial and economic heresies.

In this state of mind, at this time, the one national figure that the farmer begins to turn to is Henry Ford. He is coming to have, among other roles, the one that Bryan had for so many years. The papers print everything Ford says, and on one or two occasions during the past year, he has made some outgivings on the subject of currency, based on natural wealth, or something of the kind—utterances which have given the farmer the idea that Ford has some sort of cure-all for his financial troubles. Further than this, the farmer thinks hopefully of Henry Ford in other ways.

Farmer Wants Rates Cut.
He thinks of Ford as a man who has some magic for keeping the prices of manufactured goods and of transportation low. The farmer thinks if Ford were president he would reduce freight rates, is universal, with the farmers—and freight rates are a source of great concern to the farmers.

The farmer, in short, shows the beginnings of what may soon turn out to be a widespread disposition to look upon Henry Ford as a Moses. The other day a man, who knows the politics of the Mississippi valley thoroughly, said that Henry Ford is a candidate for president on any ticket whatever could carry Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota and Nebraska. The man who said this is one of the habitually prudent statements. Your correspondent has not yet been through this territory to verify it. But it is clear that this is a territory in which politics has come to be less a matter of republican vs. democrat, than of radical vs. conservative. And the radical feeling increases daily.

Case Different in Cities.
So much for the farmer and the farming communities. In the cities and manufacturing districts, the case is different. Labor is everywhere well employed and high wages. It would be hard to find anyone who wants work and can't get it. Some of the labor leaders talk the familiar thing about the lack of capital, about the unfair distribution of wealth, and all that. But almost universally, the rank and file of labor is not dissatisfied, and not seriously subject to the infection of radicalism. He gets high wages for his work, and the prices he has to pay for food are generally low. They are low for the same reason already mentioned—because the farmer is getting low prices for what he sells.

Not only is the business man apprehensive about the final net cash results of the business he is now doing, but is also apprehensive about the future. Out of the rapid ups and downs of the last few years, he is "gun-shy." He has the apprehensive and slightly timid attitude of a man who feels that at

SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL WHO IS PROMINENT FIGURE IN BRUNSWICK DOUBLE MURDER INQUIRY.



PEARL BAHMER.—Photo from Underwood.

Pearl Bahmer, the 17-year-old girl of New Brunswick, N. J., who, with Raymond Schneider, found the bodies of Rev. E. W. Hall and Mrs. Eleanor Mills, has been committed to jail on a charge of incoercibility, and her stepfather, Nicholas Bahmer, is held in \$10,000 bail on her charge that he criminally mistreated her.

any moment some kind of calamity or other may strike him and he may find himself on the defensive. Into this situation the new tariff has not yet begun to penetrate. It has not yet been in effect long enough for the public generally to become familiar with it. In the few weeks since the law was passed, there has been no material change in the prices of commodities. The effects of the tariff, whatever they may be and whatever other effects will be ascribed to the tariff, rightly or wrongly, are matter for the next presidential campaign. They are not affecting the present campaign to any measurable extent. There are thoughtful persons who, looking forward to the trend of things, believe the tariff will ultimately be damaging to the party in power. The present tariff is the first one in our history which was written primarily with the design of pleasing the farmer. But with all the high duties the farmer has been given, he still finds he gets low prices for his highly protected commodities. The reasons for his low prices lie, of course, in the cessation of normal consumption in Europe, in the paralysis of international trade, and otherwise in conditions not related to the tariff. But if these low prices for farm goods should continue for any reason whatever, the farmer will tend to think that the tariff is the cause. To that extent the republican party and the farm bloc lose whatever political advantage they may have hoped to gain by writing a tariff bill especially designed to please the farmer.

In short, there is in the country more dissatisfaction, more material for a political overturn, more sullenness against things as they are, than will show itself in the coming election.

Portland Gets Cement
(Continued From First Page.)
James A. C. Tait, prominent dealer in building materials, yesterday said: "In the past Oregon has depended on her own two mills and those of California for her cement supply. But during the summer there has been so much construction work going on in California that the products of the mills of that state were used entirely in California, and Oregon was cut off from that supply. The local mills were unable to supply the demands made by builders and contractors. This shortage has existed for about two months. 'The two special trainloads of cement, which have been ordered from a mill near Salt Lake and another near Devils Slide, Utah, should leave for Portland without delay. The material will be divided among the various dealers and contractors. Other shipments will be ordered, and in a few days the dealers will be able to take care of all demands. 'There will be a slight increase in cost, due to transportation charges. Cement has been selling for \$3.40 a barrel in the past. The price will be advanced 25 cents, making the price \$3.65 on the Utah product. 'There are several cement mills in Washington, two near Spokane and one at Bellingham, but these are on the Great Northern railroad, and that line is unable to furnish cars for shipment to Portland. The O.-W. R. & N., though, has cars at Salt Lake and wants to move those cars to the coast. 'According to H. E. Lounsbury, general freight agent of the O.-W. R. & N. company, the railroad company attempted to put the rate in effect, a month ago, but it was not. But a protest from the owners of the Metairie Falls Cement company, who operate a mill about 125 miles north of Spokane, sent the proposed new rate to the Interstate Commerce commission. According to law, the commission had the right to declare the rate illegal at any time within a 30-day period. That time expired at midnight, Sunday, and as the commission took no action by Saturday night, the new rate becomes effective immediately. It will continue in effect until December 31. 'The application for the emergency rate on cement shipments was made by a number of local dealers, contractors and the state highway commission,' said Mr. Lounsbury. 'It was shown that a serious shortage existed in Oregon and that there was a large surplus held by the Utah mills. We expect heavy freight movements of Utah cement to Portland under this new order. 'According to Mr. Hughson, home building in Portland has suffered as a result of this shortage. There has been some cement in Portland, he stated, but it was the property of contractors who were engaged in big industrial projects and the construction of large buildings. These men, as a precaution, took care to order their supplies as soon as they accepted contracts. 'There never has been such a demand for cement in the state,' he said. 'The mills, in the past, have set their capacity by the demand. But this unexpected call for a still heavier supply simply swamped Oregon and California mills. I understand that there is quite a surplus on hand in the Utah mills, due to the fact that there has not been so much work carried on in that state. With these shipments that are now en route, there should soon be enough cement for every demand in Oregon.'"

YAKIMA SESSION TODAY

RAIL CONNECTIONS WITH
PORTLAND SOUGHT.

Visiting Delegation Will Confer
With Chamber of Commerce
Committee on Route.

Means of connecting the Yakima district directly with Portland by railroad will be considered at a conference between today between representatives of Yakima valley cities and the Chamber of Commerce committee on the Yakima railroad. The members of the visiting delegation will be guests of the members' forum at luncheon and following this at 2 o'clock a business session will be held. It is anticipated that this will continue throughout the afternoon. A dinner in honor of the visitors will be given at the chamber at night. Among the cities expected to be represented are Yakima, Tappanish, Bickleton, Prosser, Harrow, Golden, White Salmon and other cities in the Yakima valley and along the general course of a road from the Columbia river into the Yakima basin.

The Chamber of Commerce committee which has the matter in charge includes E. B. McNaughton, chairman; Joseph N. Teal, R. S. Howard, John S. Beall, Roy T. Bishop, Nathan Strauss, E. L. Thompson, F. A. Freeman, H. J. Frank, P. W. Lewis and D. T. Honeyman. The logical route for such a railway is said to be from the Columbia in the neighborhood of Underwood, Wash., through Glenwood and across the Simcoe mountains to the Yakima watershed.

18 DEBATERS TRY OUT
Oregon Agricultural College Expects Good Team.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Oct. 15.—(Special.)—A group of 18 men turned out for the college debate last night and the wealth of good materials included made C. B. Mitchell, professor of public speaking and debate coach, predict another successful year for the college in forensic activities. Five of last year's college teams—Paul Knoll of Corvallis, John Gray of Santa Rosa, Cal., William Kessell of Harlan, Chester Merklein of Walla Walla, Wash., and Clay C. Miller of Corvallis—were in the group of candidates. Vernon Paine of Eugene, from last year's rook team, tried out.

Bear and Two Deer Killed.
ASHLAND, Or., Oct. 15.—(Special.)—In order that doubting friends might be convinced, three hunters returned to the city with a 450-pound bear that they had killed while hunting in the vicinity of Wagner Gap, about eight miles from here. In addition the trio brought back two deer.

STRANGE DISEASE MENACES SMYRNA

Sanitary Conditions Called
Unspeakeable in City.

REFUGEES ARE ATTACKED

Near East Declared Unhealthful
Place to Hold Conference
on Peace Terms.

ATHENS, Oct. 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—Turkey's suggestion that the near east peace conference be held at Smyrna should be rejected once for all by the powers if they have any consideration for the health of their delegates, in the opinion of American relief workers, some of whom have arrived in Athens from Smyrna with strange skin maladies requiring medical treatment. They report that sanitary conditions in Smyrna are unspeakable; the bodies of horses and other animals and some of the Smyrna residents who were killed in the disaster are still found in the streets.

Harry Ellsworth Boyd of Pittsburg, auditor of the international committee of the Y. M. C. A. in Turkey, arrived here yesterday, after escorting 500 refugees to Mitylene aboard the United States shipping board steamer Casey. He is a member of the committee organized by Rear-Admiral Mark Bristol and has been working in close co-operation with A. K. Jennings of the Y. M. C. A. in his relief efforts.

Flies Real Plague.
Mr. Boyd said to the Associated Press correspondent today:

"Two 700 refugees just taken from Mitylene were the last to be taken out of Smyrna. Their condition was terrifying. These people were actually being devoured alive by flies. It is so throughout Smyrna, for the flies, thriving on the decomposed matter lying about, have multiplied by millions. 'No girls between the ages of 15 and 25 were found in our band of refugees; they had been taken by the Turks. 'Captain Glover of the Casey, by strategy, saved the lives of 70 young Greeks, ex-army officers. He was sauntering through the streets of Smyrna when he found the Greeks under arrest and began to berate them for having abandoned his ship, threatening to beat them unless they returned instantly. The Turks were much amused and foreboding punishment for the Greeks by the American, allowed them to reach the steamer. Captain Glover hid them in the hold until the vessel reached Mitylene."

Pestilence Is Threatened.
Mr. Boyd told how an aged refugee, mad with hunger, seized his wrist as he was waiting on the quay, imploring him to rescue her. In her frenzy she accidentally lacerated his arm and, he believed, infected him. A violent eruption was caused, which spread to his forehead. This skin eruption is appearing in Athens among foreigners who come in contact with refugees. It also is developing among those who meet refugee workers. The indications are that effective organization is necessary if serious pestilence is to be avoided in Greece.

Greeks Battle Turks.
(Chicago Tribune Foreign News Service.)
ATHENS, Oct. 15.—General Nider telegraphs from Rodosto that Greek patrols were in battle with irregulars near Kovdel Kouk, killing one wounding one and taking three prisoners.

Two Clash Over Rent.
WALLA WALLA, Wash., Oct. 15.—(Special.)—Fred Wehring obtained his release early today on \$100 bonds to face a hearing Monday on the charge of hitting Mrs. May Crowley with a rock. The two had a dispute over the rent of a house and Wehring is accused of bolstering up his argument with "exhibit A" in this case. Mrs. Crowley has a black eye which she will offer in evidence, she said.

Two Salem Stores Robbed.
SALEM, Or., Oct. 15.—(Special.)—Two business houses, the Paris Shoe store and the Nelmeyer Drug store, were robbed here last night but in neither instance did the loot amount to much. At both stores entrance was gained through rear windows.

Highway Work Begun.
WHITE SALMON, Wash., Oct. 15.—(Special.)—The North Bank road crew is making camp at Bingen, Wash., and work on the new highway is well under way.

Man Shoots Girl, Self
(Continued From First Page.)

ploy of Olds, Wortman & King. She came to Portland with her parents two years ago from the east. Her father is a traction company employee, stationed at the Ankeny street barns. Helen, stockhouse, dark brown eyes, darker hair, very calm and with dry eyes, told her story from her bed two hours after the shooting.

Girl Tells Story.
"I had been engaged to him eight months and we were to be married in February. He was a nice boy, but his temper was very bad and I knew that if things kept on as our marriage as they have been in these months it would have been a great mistake. I told him so. There wasn't any scene. 'He came Friday and Saturday nights and tried to argue with me. And then he came yesterday and here I am. 'And then she recalled that he had said many times that if she ever broke the engagement that life wouldn't be worth living and that he

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which gives a
delicious flavor

LUCKY STRIKE
CIGARETTE

Opening Dance Tonight
VIC MEYERS' ORCHESTRA

The Season's Sensation
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Admission 25 Cents

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would end his life and take her with him. 'But I didn't think much of that. Everybody hears that or says that once in their life, don't they? 'A wan smile spread over her fragile features, their daintiness heightened by their paleness. 'I don't feel bitter toward him, but I do feel, after today, that he was a coward. Any man is a coward to commit suicide. He didn't want to face his people with an explanation. 'He was a very lovable boy,' said Mrs. Marion Cafferty, with whom Reed had lived. She showed bitterness when the girl's name was mentioned.

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Sherman, May & Co.

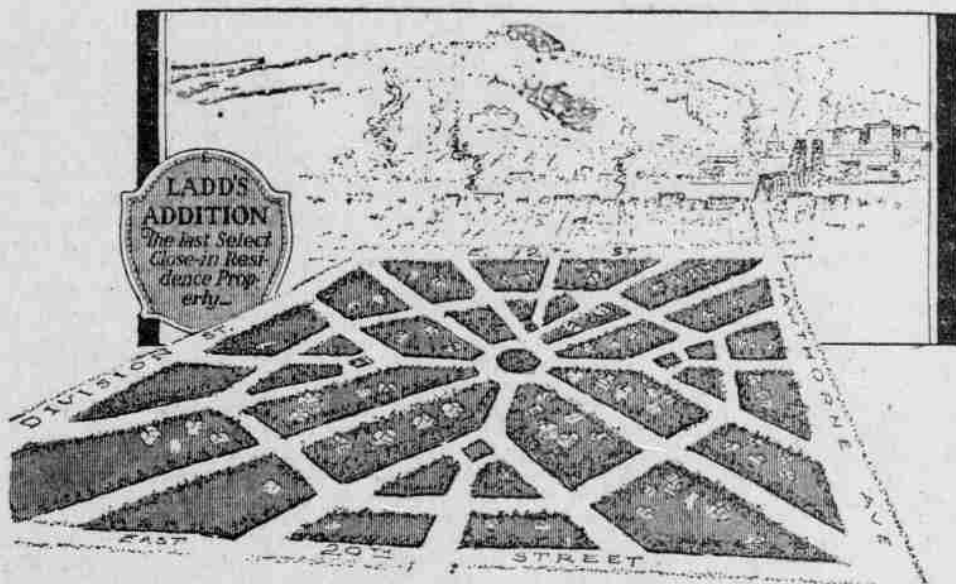
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entrance was gained through rear windows. Highway Work Begun. WHITE SALMON, Wash., Oct. 15.—(Special.)—The North Bank road crew is making camp at Bingen, Wash., and work on the new highway is well under way.



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