AVERAGE FOOD COST RISE IS 21 PER CENT

Increase in Last Four Years Is Shown by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

CAUSE PUZZLES STUDENTS

Embargo Favored by American Federation of Labor Is Opposed by National Grange; Advance in New York Is Warning.

An important index to changing economic conditions is afforded by the recent bulletin of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which shows the price advances in 27 different foodstuffs over a period of four years. Commodities are listed from approximately 725 dealers in 44 of the principal cities of the United States, the retail costs are carefully averaged, and the relatives prices established, so that percentage of increases can be noted. The conclusions, although prosaic, will interest householders and family providers with an intensity seldom aroused by other news articles.

While housewives are sometimes interested by the news of the war, political affairs, or notes on the drama, there is no item that attracts such breathless attention as the one which shows an advance in the price of flour, the price of sugar, or the price of butter.

Economists Long Puzzled.

Economists have puzzled for a long time over the causes of the advances. The increase of the gold supply, the reduction of the food supply through exports, short crops, lack of importations, are all discussed with great thoroughness. But the actual extent of the price changes, which in all discussions has been a matter of conjecture, is here brought to a matter of dollars and cents. The average increase noted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics during the last four years is approximately 21 per cent. That is to say, the average food product that was bought at retail for $1 is now sold to the consumer at $1.21.

There is no evading the situation which prevails. Talk of an embargo is now prevalent, and there is a remote possibility that exports of foodstuffs may be curtailed. Certain it is that such a measure, in operation or in prospect, would bring down the prices of certain foodstuffs with a thump. But the difficulties incurred by considerations of this issue are numerous and prolific. It is significant to note that, while the American Federation of Labor, meeting at Baltimore, was declaring in favor of an embargo, the National Grange, representing the farmers of the country, adopted resolutions against an embargo.

Grange Summarizes Conditions.

The attitude of the Grange is expressed in the following clauses from their statement:

"In many countries, with their cheap labor and high-priced lands, the yield per acre exceeds that of the United States. The American farmer, with cheap lands and high-priced labor, produces many times as much per man as does the farmer of any country in the world.

"A long, cold, wet Spring, followed by very hot, dry weather, extending over a larger area of country than is usually the case, reduced acreage and yield to a more marked degree than has been the case for an previous year.

"It must be borne in mind that the high prices have struck the farmer in whatever he buys as much as it has the city consumer. Farm labor is scarcer and higher than ever before in this country. Everything the farmer buys, whether machinery, fertilizer, fencing, clothing, or the necessities of life, has increased in price by leaps and bounds. This also is true of taxations, the increase in many sections being 50 per cent or more during the last five years.

Living Method Changed.

"Our city cousins have changed their method of living quite as much as we have. Instead of buying in quantities, as formerly, they live in cramped quarters, with a kitchenette 6x8 feet, and buy in very small quantities, or live out of cartons and cans."

Some economists and observers have favored a trade commission that would regulate the distribution and sale of foodstuffs. It is suggested that emergency methods now in operation among the warring peoples of Europe could be applied to this country, even in times of peace; that maximum prices be established, and that shortages, whether through meager crops, or the manipulations of speculators, be carefully guarded against.

Experts on marketing have advocated a new system of marketing foodstuffs that eliminates needless transportation from various depots. A more efficient system, they say, would establish the sale of foodstuffs from centers convenient of access both to producers and buyers. The situation in New York that requires all perishable goods to be hauled through the city streets to the lower end of Manhattan Island, and then retransported by heavy trucks to retail stores and to storage warehouses, could be eliminated through heavy investment in new market centers distributed throughout the whole city. Only a part of the whole shipment to the city would be sent to each of these stations, so that a great expense of shipment and reshipment would be eliminated.

Ratio Merely Increased.

One shaft of light thrown on the situation shows that the heavy gold surplus in this country has merely increased the ratio between the money in our pockets and the commodities in our storehouses. The loose change of commerce has been increased in amount so that we have $1.21 cents buying what $1 formerly bought.

To bring about an adjustment, there have been extensive changes in wage and salary schedules. The wages of machine workers in the munition plants are said to top all previous records, while the new industrial stimulus has materially reduced the amount of unemployment and other ills which had affected the economic condition of American labor.

"Salaries" are usually slower to go up than "wages," for a number of obvious reasons. The man employed in an office, however, may anticipate a raise in salary, if the gold increase continues. Already a raise has been registered among the banking employes of the Central Trust Company, of New York, in imitation of what has been done by the managers of many great industrial corporations. The bank has established a fund which will pay to its employes for the period of one year, if the present period of high prices continues, an additional amount equal to 31 per cent of their regular salaries.

Statisticians Study Costs.

The actual increase in living expenses had been a matter of some concern to the employes of the bank since the outbreak of the European war. It had been decided by the management of the bank to raise salaries in proportion to the increase in living costs. To determine the exact amount of the increase, the bank set trained statisticians to work on the problem. For several weeks these statisticians were kept busy investigating prices paid for rent, fuel, clothing and food products.

The findings of the New York statisticians may not be taken as exact for the increase in living costs here, although many of the items have kept pace with the New York increases. Rent is one of the items, however, which have not registered material advances in Western cities; food products, in some cases, have not gone quite so high in New York. But, on the whole, the 31 per cent increase which was discovered in New York might be taken by Westerners as a very definite warning, and a measure by which they should plan their savings and their economies.

AVERAGE AND RELATIVE COSTS OF FOOD PRODUCTS LAST FIVE YEARS.

	Average money price Sept. 15.					Relative price (based on 100 as normal) Sept. 15.				
	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916
Sirloin steak, lb	$.242	$.260	$.279	$.263	$.281	95	102	108	103	110
Round steak, lb	.205	.230	.243	.234	.255	99	101	107	103	112
Rib roast, lb	.192	.209	.208	.204	.218	96	100	104	102	109
Chuck roast, lb	....	....	.176	.168	.176	..	...	109	101	109
Plate boiling beef, lb	....	....	.130	.122	.130	..	...	107	100	107
Pork chops, lb	.229	.228	.258	.226	.254	109	112	117	111	125
Smoked bacon, lb	.257	.284	.295	.273	.301	94	104	108	100	110
Smoked ham, lb	.248	.279	.287	.258	.302	96	108	111	100	117
Lard, pure, lb	.155	.161	.157	.159	.186	105	109	106	94	126
Hens, lb	.204	.216	.219	.208	.244	98	104	105	100	117
Canned salmon, lb	....	....	....	.200	.204	..	...	...	100	102
Eggs, doz	.342	.372	.362	.342	.405	102	111	108	102	121
Butter, creamery, lb	.360	.378	.378	.339	.396	100	105	105	94	110
Cheese, lb	....	....	....	.228	.256	..	...	...	98	111
Milk, qt	.088	.091	.091	.090	.093	998	101	101	100	103
Bread, 16-oz	....	....	.052	.057	.062	..	...	91	100	109
Flour, ¼ bbl	.833	.803	.903	.923	1.174	83	80	90	93	117
Corn meal, lb	.030	.029	.032	.031	.033	96	94	101	99	104
Rice, lb	....	....	....	.091	.091	..	...	...	100	100
Potatoes, lb	.245	.284	.279	.204	.415	107	124	118	89	181
Onions, lb	....	....	....	.030	.045	...	...	...	86	132
Beans, navy, lb	....	....	....	.076	.119	...	...	...	98	155
Prunes, lb	....	....	....	.133	.131	...	...	...	100	99
Raisins, seeded, lb	....	....	....	.120	.120	...	...	...	100	103
Sugar, lb	.062	.057	.080	.063	.077	94	87	121	98	117
Coffee, lb	....	....	....	.302	.302	..	...	...	100	100
Tea, lb	....	....	....	.551	.551	...	...	...	100	100

GIRLS! ACT NOW! HAIR COMING OUT MEANS DANDRUFF

25-Cent "Danderine" Will Save Your Hair and Double Its Beauty.

Try This! Your Hair Gets Soft, Wavy, Abundant and Glossy at Once.

Save your hair! Beautify it! It is only a matter of using a little Danderine occasionally to have a head of heavy, beautiful hair; soft, lustrous, wavy and free from dandruff. It is easy and inexpensive to have pretty, charming hair and lots of it. Just get a 25-cent bottle of Knowlton's Danderine now—all drug stores recommend it—apply a little as directed and within ten minutes there will be an appearance of abundance; freshness, fluffiness and an incomparable gloss and luster, and try as you will you cannot find a trace of dandruff or falling hair; but your real surprise will be after about two weeks' use, when you will see new hair—fine and downy at first—yes—but really new hair—sprouting out all over your scalp—Danderine is, we believe, the only sure hair grower; destroyer of dandruff and cure for itchy scalp and it never fails to stop falling hair at once.

If you want to prove how pretty and soft you hair really is, moisten a cloth with a little Danderine and carefully draw it through your hair—taking one small strand at a time. Your hair will be soft, glossy and beautiful in just a few moments—a delightful surprise awaits everyone who tries this—Adv.

TWO HOMES ARE BURNED

Hillsboro Family Suffers Loss Twice in 60 Days.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Fields, of Hillsboro, have reason to think that a fire hoodoo is pursuing them, for, during the last two months they have lost by fire two houses in Portland.

Mr. Fields, who is an engineer on the Southern Pacific, returned to his home at 1107 Milwaukie avenue September 30 to find that it had burned down during the night and that his wife and little boy had barely escaped in their night clothes.

Then they moved to Hillsboro. On November 27, the next blaze wiped out a residence at 1685 Taylor's Ferry road, which had been left to his wife by her parents and Mrs. Fields did not learn of the loss until she came to town to collect the rent. An overturned lamp is believed to have been the cause of the last fire.

MAN DEAD; MILL BLAMED

Coroner's Jury Charges Lack of Machinery Safeguards.

Lack of proper safeguards to the machinery at the St. Johns Lumber Company's mill caused the death of J. G. Stephens, a millwright, of 830 Michigan avenue, Friday morning, according to the verdict of a Coroner's jury, rendered on Friday night.

The verdict was to the effect that Mr. Stephens came to his death through the negligence of the company, which the verdict said, had not properly safeguarded its machinery. Four of Mr. Stephens' fellow workers testified that the shaft on which his clothing caught when he was whirled to instant death was not properly guarded. Another swore that the end of the shafting which killed Mr. Stephens had been sawed off after the accident.

Buy the Best Books for Your Children

Books are the children's companions—their teachers and their inspiration! Choose books for your children as you would their associates and the child will acquire purer morals, better habits and higher ideals. The greatest writers, the cleverest scholars and the most brilliant teachers have contributed to "Good Book Week" at Gill's—December 4th to 9th.

South View of Gill's Children's Book Room.

The Children's Book Room

Balcony Floor

The Children's Book Room at Gill's, the only room of the kind, is devoted to the cause of good books for children. Books of approved worth only are here, collected for convenient inspection and choosing. "Constructive Mental Material" only is in this room and the child may choose unattended, the parent knowing it can only procure books of merit and character.

North View of Gill's Children's Book Room.

Random Selections for Children of Various Ages

For Children Under Eight

Picture Books of Familiar Animals, 10c to $2.50; "Mother Goose," various inexpensive copies from 25c to $1.00—also illustrated by Jesse Wilcox Smith, $2.50; Volland Edition, $2 and $2.50; "Peter Rabbit" and others in the series, 25c to 50c; "Adventures of Johnny Chuck," and others in the series, by Burgess, 50c per vol.; "Cave Twins"—Eskimo, Mexican, Japanese and Dutch Twins by Lucy Perkins, $1.00 per vol.; "The Cock, the Mouse and the Little Red Hen," Felicite Lefevre, 90c; "Master Quack" and others in the series, Cecil Alden, 40c; Louis Wain's Cat Books, 60c to $2.50.

For Children 8 to 12

"Hans Brinker" 50c, handsomely illustrated edition, M. M. Dodge, $1.50; "Robinson Crusoe" 25c to 50c, handsomely illustrated, $1.35 to $2.00; "Treasure Island," "Kidnapped," "Black Arrow," R. L. Stevenson, 25c, 50c to $2.25; "The Jungle Book," etc., Kipling, $1.50; "Tom Sawyer" and "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain, each, $1.40; "Robin Hood," illustrated, by Crane, $1.50; "Heidi," "Pinnochio," "At the Back of the North Wind" and others, 25c to $1.50 each; "Children's Stories From the Masters," by Maude Menefee, price, 50c.

For Children 12 to 16

"The Wonder Book and Tanglewood," by Hawthorne, handsomely illustrated, 35c to $2.25; "Lorna Doone," Blackmore, 25c, 50c, $1.25 and $2.00; "Two Years Before the Mast," by Dana, handsomely illustrated edition, $1.50, $2.50; "The Oregon Trail," by Parkman, 60c and $1.00; "Boy With the U. S. Foresters" and other titles, same series, $1.20; "Historic Boyhoods and Girlhoods," by Holland, $1.50 each; "Old, Old Tales From the Old, Old Book," Nora Smith, $1.50; "Water Babies," Kingsley, 25c to $3.50; "Penrod," Booth Tarkington, 60c; "Boy Scouts Library," authorized edition, 60c each.

Book Lists Ready for Distribution

Including a 36-page list of "Books for Children for Christmas," "Best Books for Children," issued by the Pure Literature Committee of the Parent-Teacher Association and a "List of One Hundred Books" carefully selected from the best and arranged by ages. Books that can be purchased for 25c, 35c and 50c. Write or call for one of these lists.

GOOD BOOK WEEK

December 4th to 9th

The entire Nation will celebrate Good Book Week; libraries will co-operate—schools will participate—sermons will be preached on good books and Good Book Week. Gill's will enter into the spirit of Good Book Week—not in the light of an annual event, but with the spirit and regard for good books that has characterized Gill's for over fifty years.

Examine the Books at Your Leisure

You are never importuned at Gill's! Drop in at any time and examine the books at your leisure. The Main and Balcony Floors are full of books on every subject, and if there is any information you desire on any book it is available at Gill's. For Christmas giving you will find an especially attractive collection of worth-while books for your consideration.

Three Specials for Good Book Week

Below we list three specials for "Good Book Week." These are books you will delight in reading to the children, or they will enjoy reading themselves. Other items impossible to list here will be found in the big display of children's books. Come!

Peter and Polly 25c

Elizabeth H. Wilkinson is the author. Suitable for children from 5 to 10 years of age. Is a story of two lovable cats, and is illustrated with 22 colored photographs. Size of book about 6x4½ inches—97 pages. Regular price 50c. "Good Book Week," special..... **25c**

"The Runaway Equator and the Strange Adventures of a Little Boy in Pursuit of It" 50c

This book is by Lillian Bell; is illustrated with 16 comical illustrations by Peter Newell. A story in which "Billie Boy" learns many geographical facts that delight him hugely. Stout cloth binding, 112 pages. Regular price $1.25. Special for Good Book Week..... **50c**

Jaunts of Junior 50c

A well-bound book, size 8½x11¼ inches, with 24 full-page illustrations. Phelan and Hunt are the authors. "Children, dear, from far and near, who love adventures new, come listen well to the tale we tell of a boy just like you; for Junior dreamed, and so real it seemed, he thought it must be true." Regular price $1.25—Good Book Week..... **50c**

Personal Greeting Cards—Second Floor

Gill's

Toys, Games, Etc.—Fourth Floor

THE J. K. GILL CO. Booksellers, Stationers and Complete Office Outfitters THIRD AND ALDER

60 GIRLS ARE FEASTED

BIG THANKSGIVING DINNER SERVED BY Y. W. C. A.

Merry Time Had by Young Women Away From Home, and Some "Big Brothers" Are Asked In.

There was an open door and there were seats at the table for 60 girls on Thanksgiving day at the Young Women's Christian Association.

This organization, knowing the needs of girl life and realizing what Thanksgiving away from home means to hundreds of girls without homes in this city, arranges each year at Thanksgiving time for just such a gathering as this. A profusion of holly branches with their bright red berries for coloring made a most artistic table decoration, Mrs. Charles Kamm donating the holly for the occasion. Five big, brown, crisp turkeys, one at each corner and and one in the center of the big E-shaped table gave the real home Thanksgiving touch to the scene.

Three young men invited over from the Y. M. C. A. gave the "big brother" feature to the dinner.

Six Y. W. C. A. secretaries, girls themselves away from home, volunteered to do the serving on this occasion, and helped in no small way to spread the feeling of hospitality and friendliness which was characteristic of the occasion.

Miss Constance Wheeldon was in charge of the dining-room and the programme. Miss Carrie A. Holbrook, president of the association, acted as toastmistress. Between courses there were songs, stories, conundrums and stunts of various kinds. An unexpected guest on this occasion was Miss Grace Maxwell, one of the Northwestern field workers, who dropped into the association just as dinner was called. She reported that a new Y. W. C. A. had just been organized in Walla Walla. Miss James said she was thankful for the sweet spirit of love and friendliness which bound together the Y. W. C. A. girls of 22 different nations, and told the incident of the little flaxen-haired, blue-eyed girl, who shortly after arriving in this country told a Y. W. C. A. secretary she was so glad there was a Y. W. C. A. in America like there was in Sweden.

The time, the place and the girls each served to make this occasion one of Portland's most happy and successful Thanksgiving gatherings.

KLAMATH BEETS ARE RICH

American Beet Sugar Company Tests Show Oregon Product Good.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Dec. 2.—(Special.)—The Klamath Commercial Club is in receipt of a letter from the American Beet Sugar Company, of San Francisco, in answer to its request for a test of the sugar beets grown in Klamath County this year. The answer contains an analysis of the beets sent by the Commercial Club as made by the company's chemists, and covers the sugar properties of beets grown in five different kinds of soil in Klamath County. The sugar content of the beets mentioned runs from 13.2 per cent to 20.2 per cent. It is said that beets must contain at least 12 per cent sugar to be grown profitably. The complete analysis as received follows:

Grown by J. W. Jory on black loam wash soil eight miles south of Klamath Falls, 20.2 per cent.

Grown by F. I. White on sandy loam soil three miles from Klamath Falls 16.8 per cent.

Grown by Al Melhase on sandy loam soil two miles east of Klamath Falls 18.0 per cent.

Grown by Lee Thomas on sandy loam soil 25 miles southeast of Klamath Falls 13.7 per cent.

Grown by F. T. Nelson on marsh land soil 12 miles southwest of Klamath Falls 13.2 per cent.

ALCOHOL "DRUNKS" FEWER

Apparent Heed of Druggists Is Pleasing to Court Officials.

The uncompromising attitude of Municipal Judge Langguth toward the sales of alcohol, and the rigid investigation that follows the appearance of "white mule" victims in court, appears to be telling on the evil. But one inebriate before the Municipal Court yesterday morning laid his sorrow at the door of the druggist. Officers of the court were jubilant at the evidence that pharmacists are taking heed.

Thomas Cornell, who admitted that he had drunk alcohol, was sentenced to a few hours in jail. John Morrisey, who took the whisky route to police headquarters, was similarly treated, while Patrick McNeil, Frank Golse and J. E. Ballen were each fined $10. In the latter case the fine was suspended.

MINING MACHINERY BOUGHT

Preparation Made to Increase Output of Plant at Bullards, Or.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Dec. 2.—(Special.)—The Platina Y Oro Mining Company has recently secured several thousand dollars' worth of mining machinery, which is now being installed on the company's leased property at Bullards, a few miles north of Bandon. The company sank 500 test holes in the past season and the manager, C. K. Cadman, says the ground is all rich in gold and platinum.

The machinery was brought to Bandon on the steamer Elizabeth. The company, when the new machinery, including pumps and conveyors, is installed, will have a 200-ton capacity daily, an increase of 160 tons.

Linn Sends Trees to California.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 2.—(Special.)—Several Linn County men are now engaged in cutting and shipping Christmas trees for the California market. Small fir trees, which are abundant in many parts of the county, are being utilized for the purpose. These trees bring a price sufficient to make the industry a profitable one.

COUNT FIFTY! NO NEURALGIA PAIN

Don't Suffer! Instant Relief Follows a Rubbing With "St. Jacobs Oil."

Conquers pain—never fails.

Rub soothing, penetrating "St. Jacobs Oil" right on the ache or pain, and out comes the neuralgia misery.

Here's a joyful experiment! Try it! Get a small trial bottle from your druggist; pour a little in your hand and rub it gently on the sore, aching nerves, and before you realize it—in just a moment—all pain and neuralgia disappear. It's almost magical, but the joy is, that the misery doesn't come back. No! The nerves are soothed and congestion is relieved and your neuralgia is overcome.

Stop suffering! It's needless—neuralgia and pain of all kinds, either in the face, head, limbs or any part of the body, is instantly banished. "St. Jacobs Oil" is perfectly harmless and doesn't burn or discolor the skin. In use for half a century.—Adv.

Neuralgia Neuritis Sciatica, Etc CURED

Free Trial of a New Method That Cures by Removing the Cause. Send No Money.

We've a new method that cures Neuralgia, Neuritis, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Neurasthenia, Tic Douloureux, etc., and we want you to try it at our expense. No matter how great your pain, or how terrible the torture you endure from diseased nerves, our method will bring prompt and blessed relief. No matter whether your case is occasional or chronic, nor what your age or occupation, this method should cure you right in your home.

The Mulhall Method does not contain a drop of morphine, opium, chloral, cocaine, acetanilid or any narcotic whatsoever. It provides a nerve food that cures by removing the cause.

We especially want you to send it to those so-called "incurable" cases that have tried all the various doctors, dopes, sanitariums, "opathys," etc., without relief. We want to show everyone at our own expense that this method will end at once and for all time all those tortures and twinges of almost unbearable pain that are present in Neuralgia, Neuritis, Sciatica, Migraine, Tic Douloureux, Neurasthenia and other nerve diseases.

This free offer is too important to neglect a single day. Write now and begin the cure at once. Address Mulhall Co., Room 574 Brisbane Bldg., Buffalo, N. Y.—Adv.

CREAM FOR CATARRH OPENS UP NOSTRILS

Tells How To Get Quick Relief from Head-Colds. It's Splendid!

In one minute your clogged nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more hawking, snuffling, blowing, headache, dryness. No struggling for breath at night; your cold or catarrh will be gone.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist now. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic, healing cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothes the inflamed or swollen mucous membrane and relief comes instantly.

It's just fine. Don't stay stuffed-up with a cold or nasty catarrh—Relief comes so quickly.—Adv.

TO STOP BAD COUGH

SOOTH DRY, IRRITATED THROAT WITH PARMINT SYRUP—SAYS THIS OLD FASHIONED COUGH REMEDY IS BEST.

We are told that the old-time remedies are best and invariably contain less harmful yet better medicine than those which are in use today. This being so, undoubtedly the following old-fashioned recipe which is quick acting will be welcomed by many as there seems to be a regular epidemic of coughs at the present time. Secure from your druggist 1 ounce Parmint (double strength), take this home and add to it a quarter pint of hot water and 4 ounces of granulated sugar, stir until dissolved. Take 1 tablespoonful four times a day. No more racking your whole body with a cough. Clogged nostrils should open, air passages of your head should clear and your breathing become easy. Parmint syrup is pleasant to take, easy to prepare and costs little. Every person who has a stubborn cough, hard cold or catarrh in any form should give this prescription a trial. There is nothing better.—Adv.