

VANCOUVER COULD BE MADE WHEAT HANDLING PORT OF IMPORTANCE

Water Transportation of In-land Empire Grain and Bulk Elevator Are Needed.

THE COMPARATIVE COSTS

Present Methods of Moving Grain Cheap by Rail to Puget Sound Shows to Be an Unnecessary Expense.

By Fred Lockley.
Vancouver, Wash., March 31.—The more one studies Vancouver the more one realizes the possibilities of its growth and progress.
Vancouver has the natural resources and advantages of geographical situation to make her great. She has the people, too, men of ability and vision who can help her achieve greatness if they will combine to see that the energies and capital of the community are directed toward the rebuilding of the community. The two things toward which the energy of the people can be directed with the surest hope of beneficial result to the community are shipping and industrial enterprises.
It is claimed that it costs approximately 75 cents a ton to ship wheat by rail from Portland or Vancouver to the Puget Sound ports. The object of sending it to Seattle or Tacoma is to get it in touch with ocean transportation. In place of shipping this wheat from eastern Washington via the North Bank road through Vancouver or by way of the O-W. R. & N. through Portland, think of the saving that would be effected if the wheat were brought from the interior by barge on the Columbia river and transferred at Vancouver to large ocean going ships.

Great Saving Possible.
In place of costing 75 cents a ton to get the wheat from Vancouver, or Portland to rail water by rail it would cost not over 7 cents a ton if carried by ocean steamer down the Columbia from Vancouver. The rate charged by rail from Lewiston to Portland or Seattle is the same—17 cents a hundred on wheat. This means \$3.40 a ton. A bushel of wheat weighs 60 pounds, so that there are 33 1/3 bushels of wheat in a ton. The cost per bushel from Lewiston to Portland or Vancouver at \$3.40 for 33 1/3 bushels would be a trifle more than 10 cents a bushel. This could undoubtedly be cut in half if the wheat were brought down the river by self-propelled barges.
Let us suppose that the railroad is correct in saying that they can haul the wheat from Portland or Vancouver to Seattle for 75 cents a ton for shipment by ocean going boat. This means that it costs but 34 cents per 100 pounds, or a trifle over 2 cents per bushel. Now figure the saving if the wheat was put aboard an ocean steamer at Vancouver at 7 cents a ton. The rate per bushel for 75 cents a ton would be a trifle more than 2 mills per bushel.
I have seen many a section of wheat around Lewiston and in Umatilla

RED CROSS CAMPAIGN GAINING GROUND

A score or more of Oregon towns are offering aid in the Red Cross membership campaign, said Theodore B. Brown, secretary of the Portland Chapter of the American Red Cross, Saturday. Forty have written to the committee of direction, offering their services, free, in enlisting members in this city. In two days 175 memberships have voluntarily been taken out. Beginning this week the big drive on the 20,000 membership campaign will start.

John Clymer, in charge of the Pacific coast division of the American Red Cross, who is in Portland helping with the preliminary of the membership campaign, addressed the Oregon Civic league at the Multnomah hotel Saturday afternoon.

"I was in Portland a few months ago," he related, "and, as they say in San Francisco, 'met the ice pitcher,' when I made my appeal for the organization of a local chapter of the American Red Cross. But that was before the present national emergency arose with its great appeal to patriotism. I find here now an enthusiasm and support for a Portland chapter of the American Red Cross that is being organized and carried on with intelligence and energy that I have not seen duplicated in any other Pacific coast city."

Mr. Clymer described the work which the American Red Cross has done in disaster and as an aid to the medical divisions of the army and navy, after which he answered questions as to the purposes and service of the organization.

county that would average between 40 and 50 bushels to the acre. Let us suppose that a wheat raiser at Lewiston has 440 acres of wheat, the usual 40 bushels to the acre. Under the present system his crop of 25,600 bushels would have to be sacked. Sacks at 12 cents each and a weight of wheat about 135 pounds and represents two and one-fourth bushels, so it costs him 5 cents a bushel to sack his grain, or \$12.80 for sacks. Now, suppose he ships his grain to Vancouver by water at 10 cents per bushel. He would pay a freight bill of \$25.60. However, at the present rate of 17 cents per hundred pounds his actual freight charge would be \$2611.20.

Now suppose Vancouver had an elevator for the bulk handling of grain and operated a line of barges up the Columbia and Snake rivers. The cost of water transportation would not be over half the cost by rail, probably less than half, so the wheat raiser would save say \$1289 in freight, or 22 per acre. He would also save the cost of the sacks, which at 5 cents per bushel would, in this case, with a 40-bushel-to-the-acre crop, be a saving of \$2 per acre more. Wheat in sacks must be loaded aboard the ship by hand while wheat in bulk is poured in the hold of the vessel, so here is an additional saving in the handling of the crop.

If a farmer with 440 acres of wheat can save \$4 an acre, or \$2560, on one year's crop, doesn't it seem that it would pay the wheat farmers and the citizens of Vancouver to get together and put up an elevator and construct and operate a line of barges. The government estimate for the production of wheat in bushels for Oregon, Washington and Idaho for the past four years is as follows:

Oregon Washington Idaho
1913 1,357,000 4,390,000 4,934,000
1914 1,388,000 5,227,000 14,352,000
1915 2,025,000 5,120,000 18,730,000
1916 1,950,000 37,630,000 15,871,000

Inland Empire's Wheat Output.
In other words, the wheat production of these three states runs from about 75,000,000 to 90,000,000 bushels a year. During the 1915-16 season about 12,500,000 bushels of wheat was marketed at Columbia river ports; about 18,000,000 bushels at Puget Sound, and, on account of the difficulty of securing ships, about 15,000,000 bushels went east by rail. The rest of the output was saved, or converted into flour by local mills of the northwest.
Let us suppose that only 25,000,000

TASK BEFORE 65TH CONGRESS SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE 55TH

Last War Congress 20 Years Ago; Year Later War Was Declared Against Spain.

MEMBERS WHO SURVIVE

There Is Goodly Number of Senators and Congressmen Who Were in 55th Congress—Distinguished Men.

Washington, March 31.—WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL.—Assuming that a state of war with Germany is to be declared by congress—nearly everybody assumes that much—there is much casting about among members of congress as to other steps to be taken.

There is a general disposition to let the Columbia river be moved by water at a cost of say 4 cents per bushel to tide water. Just stop and figure the increased price to the farmer or if he received the same price, then figure the decreased cost of flour to the consumer.

Industries Follow Each Other.
If Vancouver built an elevator and thus secured loads for ocean going ships it would not be long before Theodore Wilcox or some other flour man would have a large capacity mill here where more cheaply transported wheat was to be had. One industry brings another and the fact that ocean going ships came to load at Vancouver would mean the establishment of other industrial enterprises and, before the citizens realized it, this would be a payroll city and the community would take on new life. Why couldn't this plan be worked out?

Spain to Send Aid to Stranded Americans

Washington, March 31.—(U. P.)—Spain will send supplies and a Spanish ship to stranded Americans at Jaffa and Beirut, the state department announced this afternoon.

This method was taken by the king of Spain at the suggestion of the United States, following the apparent inability of the American government to send the American collier Caesar and gunboat Des Moines to bring home the Americans at these ports.

Brother-in-Law of James J. Hill Dead

Minneapolis, Minn., March 31.—(U. P.)—J. T. Phelps, 72, veteran railroad man and brother-in-law of James J. Hill, died here today after a brief illness. He was superintendent of the Great Northern passenger station.

STARTING TODAY

COLUMBIA

"PRESTIGE GAINED BY QUALITY SUSTAINED"

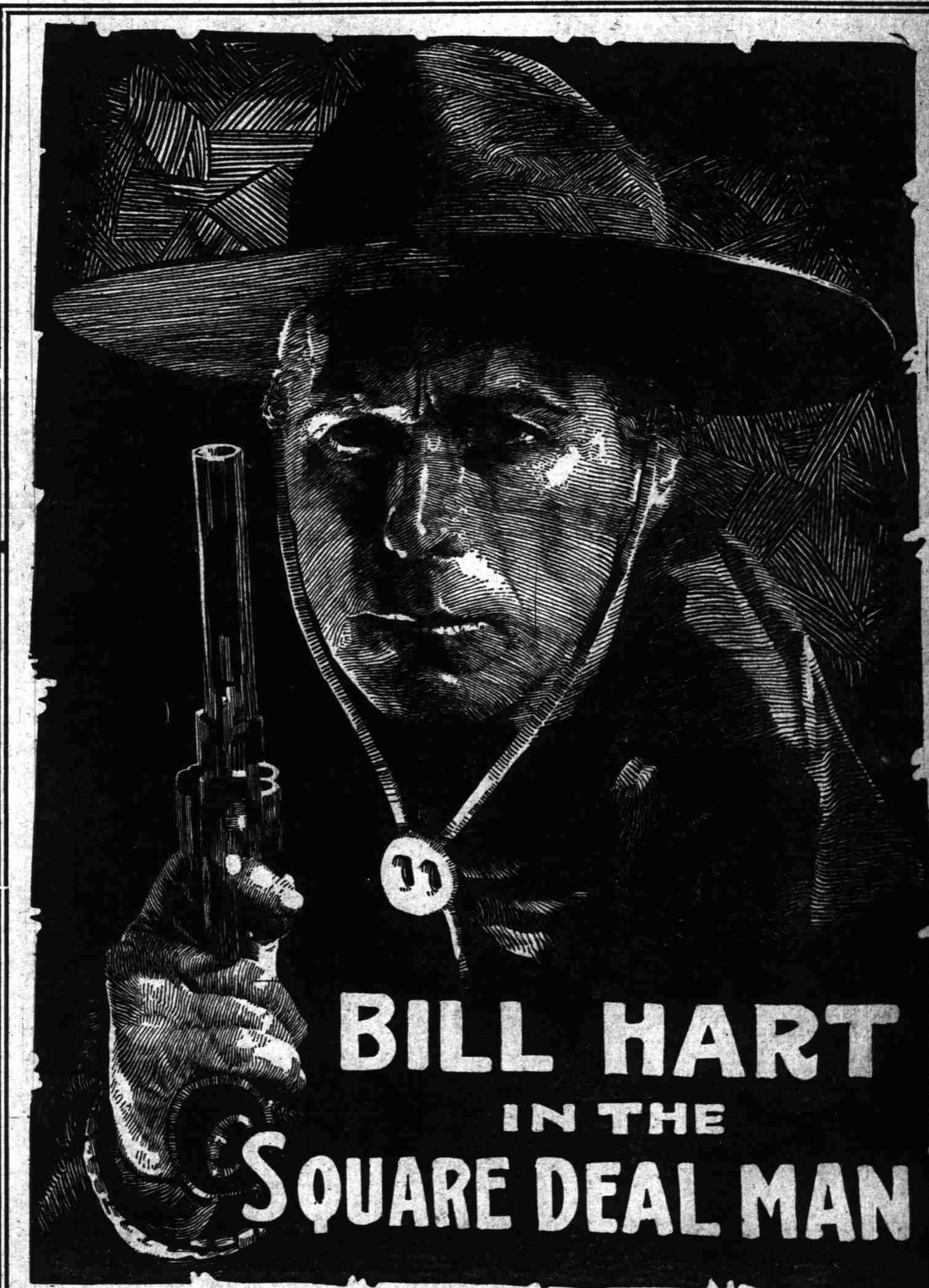
Admission 15c
Children 5c

Scoop—

Film Showing Features of the
VESTERLIDE Launching

A big show—

has come to be a regular happening here—so much so that the Columbia is now popularly known as the theatre of big events. Real features that other houses would show at advanced prices are considered by the Columbia management as part of the regular program. Our patrons get the best in pictures—players; and producers—plus unrivalled Columbia service.



BILL HART IN THE SQUARE DEAL MAN

And the big comedy—
"Her Circus Knight"
2-REEL KEYSTONE

The story concerns Jack O'Diamonds, gambler, gentleman, adventurer, fighter, quick to draw and just as quick to extend the substantial sympathy of a heart as big as the cactus and sage-brush-studded plains of the great Southwest, where the story is laid. Spiced with the thrill of life—as the red-blooded men of action lived it—this absorbing tale of adventure takes Hart from the "bad-man-who-reforms" role and creates a new character—more human, and we believe, more likeable than in any of his past successes—and that's going some!

"The STORE THAT UNDERSELLS BECAUSE IT SELLS FOR CASH"



Faultless Finish and Superior Styles in Women's and Misses' Spring Apparel

Charming, Satisfying Models
In Handsomely Tailored Suits

Unsurpassed Values in \$14.65 to \$40
Favorite Materials at \$14.65 to \$40

Noteworthy Among the Offerings Are These

NOVELTY SILK SUITS in drapery sport styles, elaborately embroidered dressy suits, and suits of the plain tailored type.

SUITS OF WOOL MATERIALS, gabardines, Oxford cloths, poplins, serges, Poirer twills, gunnabori and wool Jersey, Norfolk, pinback, sport and novelty models.

SPORT, AFTERNOON AND STREET DRESSES in popular materials and unlimited variety. Allover pleated, coat, shirred, overskirted, etc. A wonderfully attractive assortment—the pick of the new is here.

With Only Our Moderate Prices to Pay

New Spring Silk Waists \$3.75 to \$10.00
Beautiful crepe de chine and Georgette waists in white, flesh, maize, peach, etc. All sizes in models that will please every taste—values that cannot be equaled elsewhere.

Nobby New Spring Coats \$5.95 to \$30
Loose fitting, belted, flaring, high waisted and other styles of velours, chinchilla, checks, plaids, diagonals, gunnabori and other materials.

Handkerchiefs, Neckwear and Veilings

A Special Easter Showing
Unlimited assortments in pleasing variety, styles, qualities and prices to suit every purse and taste.

New Novelty Neckwear 25c to \$2
Collars, Sets, Vestees in white and colored effects. All new Spring styles in fine organdies, Georgette crepes, silk voiles, etc. A showing well worthy of your best attention.

New Veils and Veilings

All fashionable styles and meshes in black, white and colors. Veiling by the yard at 25c, 35c and 50c. Novelty Drape Veils at 75c to \$2.50 each.

Delany Cotton Handkerchiefs at 5c, 10c and 15c ea.
Novelty Linen Handkerchiefs at 10c, 25c and 50c ea.
Cotton Initial Handkerchiefs, 5c, 10c and 12 1/2c ea.
Linen Initial Handkerchiefs at 15c, 25c to 35c ea.
Others in Silk or Crepe de Chine at 10c to 35c ea.

Special Offerings in Lace Curtains

Housekeepers will quickly profit by this opportunity to purchase crisp new window coverings at less than regular selling prices.

At 98c Pair
Nottingham lace curtains in white and ecru. They come 42 and 45 inches wide and 2 1/2 yards long and are shown in a variety of designs.

At \$1.48 Pair
Nottingham lace curtains and others in scrim. Shown in white, cream and ecru. Popular and desirable styles.

At \$1.79 Pair
Scrim, madras, lace and bungalow net curtains in white, cream and ecru. 1 to 4 pairs of a style or pattern. Every pair a bargain.

At \$2.48 Pair
Scrim, marquisette and madras lace curtains in white, cream and ecru. A variety of pretty new styles to select from.

At 25c Yard
Scrim, marquisettes and bungalow nets in white, cream and ecru. Plain, fancy and bordered styles.

New Cretonnes
At 29c Yard
Beautiful styles in light, medium and dark colorings. 33 and 36-inch widths.

Store Opens
at 8:30 A. M.

Saturdays
at 9 A. M.

Roberts Bros.
THIRD & MORRISON

The Most in Value—The Best in Quality

Store Closes
at 5:30 P. M.

Saturdays
at 6 P. M.