

On Friday of last week Bank Examiner Clary refused to allow the doors of the Dalles National bank of The Dalles to open.

This decision was reached after an investigation extending over two weeks, although the bank officers protested against any such action and claim that the institution is perfectly solvent and will be able to pay all depositors in full.

The bank was established in 1887 with a capital stock of \$50,000 and for the past ten years has been under the management of M.A. Moody, as cashier. The bank withstood the panic of 1893 apparently without strain and its present difficulties are said to be due to the continued low prices of wool and to the accommodations of sheep men. The directors of the bank are ex-Governor Z.F. Moody, Charles Hilton and G.A. Hogue--Yakima Herald, May 13, 1897.

Coffins

1895

Lewiston, Indians of NP began to receive the \$650,000 in cash government paid for reservation. Coffin Bros had tent erected near reserve at Lewiston, found that a merry-go-round was taking business. Lester bought machinery, brass band, wheezing engine and all, carted it over to his tent and gave every Indian who bought goods there a free ride as long as they cared

Taxes

Washingto , Jan. 28-- A reduction of 25 per cent on the taxes of earned income up to \$20 ,000 was voted today by the house ways and means committee and all incomes under \$5,000 were classified as earned for purposes of this reduction.

Wash, Jan, 27--Enactment of the McNary-Haugen farm export corporation bill as a means of stabilizing prices on farm products was urged before the senate agricultural committee today by Secretary Wallace.

Wallac said it provided for a \$200,000,000 corporation to buy and sell farm products so as to maintai prices at levels to be determined by the secretaries of labor and commerce----January 27, 1924.

San Francisco Jan 26--The storm which yesterday broke the greatest drought in the history of the state is only a forerunner of the downpour to come, forecaster Wilson ~~Shoeder~~ said.

Washington, Jan. 26--Provision of the interior department appropriation bill carrying \$9,946,000 for work during the coming year on reclamation projects in the west were approved today by the house with exception of a section allotting \$380,000 for the Minidoka project in Idaho.

Washington, Jan. 25-- Removal of the federal tax on all theater admissions up to 50 cents was agreed upon today by the house ways and means committee.

The Mellon bill, now under consideration by the committee, proposed repeal of the tax at an estimated loss to the government of \$70,000,000.

Economics

The question of taxes has been agitating this community as it has all others throughout the state.

Men of property and financial standing who have heretofore found little difficulty in meeting their obligations in this respect are compelled to let their taxes become delinquent, owing to the closeness of the money market.

It was hoped that the legislature would pass a bill postponing the day of settlement and remitting the penalty but it is found under section 28 of article 2 of the constitution that body is prohibited from passing any such law.

The railroads are getting to be very slow pay on construction work and there is much suffering in consequence. Several thousand men who have been working for the Union Pacific line are now in Portland without means--Yakima Herald, January 1, 1891.

Economics

According to the labor leader in Portland the number of unemployed in that city at present equals 17,700, estimating the city's population at 80,000 and the aggregate of wage earners at 28,000.

Of the 27 per cent now at work it is further estimated that not more than 10 per cent are permanently employed. This showing, if correct, almost justified Governor Penoyer's lugubrious telegram to President Cleveland--Tacoma Ledger, January, 1894.

Gov. Penoyer, replying to the criticisms on the statements in his Christmas letter that two-thirds of the people of Oregon were without employment said recently:

"In some sense of the word, all are employed. The tramp is employed hunting from place to place for a job and the mechanic out of work is employed in contemplating his sorrowful condition of his wife and children--Yakima Herald, January 4, 1894.

Shingle certificates operate as a circulating medium in Blaine. A certificate for \$16 recently circulated until it had paid nearly \$300 in local debts before finally reaching the place where it started.

The basis of the certificate was shingles and although a gold redemption was neither remote nor possible, yet the certificate would purchase flour, meat, coffee, blankets, fuel, clothing for the wife and babies and performed all the functions of a gold basis certificate--Yakima Herald, January 4, 1894.

Historical

The department of agriculture is about to publish an interesting report, comparing the cost of living early in this century with what it is now.

It exhibits vividly the contrast between the poverty of primitive agriculture and the progress in civilization and wealth resulting from high development of all the possibilities of land and labor in the rural and industrial arts and industries.

The small wages paid in those days are as surprising as the low prices of commodities of all sorts.

Game was abundant earlier in the century and therefore cheap. Venison cost only three and one-half cents a pound. Bear meat was very slightly higher. Pigeons were in extraordinary abundance, selling at little more than a cent apiece. Elderly readers will remember the flight of flocks of pigeons which darkened the skies, even as late as fifty years ago.

Shad were very cheap, costing only four cents each.

Owing to the plentiful supply of game, tanned skins were very low in price. A deer skin brought about \$1.17 while a bear skin was worth from \$1 to \$2. Milk sold for two cents a quart, and butter for thirteen cents a pound.

Apples were from twelve and a half to twenty-five cents a bushel but by 1823 they had reached fifty cent.

Farm wages were only about one third of what they are now, ranging from 33 to 50 cents a day. From \$4 to \$5 a month was the usual compensation of well grown lads.

One hundred years ago the remuneration for a boy doing chores--such as cutting wood and foddering horses for one year was ordinarily \$5. The use of oxen for a day cost twenty-five cents while the use of a cow for one year cost \$3.

It cost sixty cents to make a pair of shoes. The price of a pair of

moccasins were twenty-seven cents. Board was only \$1 a week.

Yakima Herald, November 17, 1892.

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Apples were from twelve and a half to twenty-five cents a bushel
but by 1892 they had reached fifty cent.
Farm wages were only about one third of what they
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