

### SAY TARIFF WOULD AID "WOOL TRUST"

Analysts See Joker in Bill to Boost Price Thirty Cents a Pound

### BIG GAMBLING ON IMPORTS

Washington, April 15.—Critics of the Young emergency tariff bill are charging it is full of "jokers" and calculated to benefit manufacturers rather than agricultural interests.

With huge stocks of wool on hand in the United States, the charge is made that a tariff now would permit wool manufacturers and shippers to make millions in extra profits by the simple process of boosting prices of wool in storage to the extent of the new levy.

There is an alleged "joker" in the wool schedule. The Young bill provides that "wool in the gross" shall bear a duty of 15 cents a pound, but it is also provided that "wool in the net" which is sorted, prepared and ready for the rejection of part of the original fleece, the duty shall be twice the duty to which it would otherwise be subject.

It is contended that the effect of this phraseology would be to increase the value of the wool by 50 cents a pound. That would mean the wool owners would be given, outright, \$150,000,000 and the producers another \$150,000,000, it is declared.

Viewing this portion of the bill from another angle, the following result is discovered:

The total consumption of wool in the United States is about 255,000,000 pounds a year. The country, therefore, would be forced to pay an additional cost of 75 cents a pound on the 207,500,000 consumed in the next six months, it is contended, or some \$20,000,000 additional.

No figure is available here as to the exact stock of wool on hand. When the talk of a "wool embargo" and an "emergency tariff bill" began some months ago, the gamblers immediately got busy and the importation of wool jumped at a terrific rate. It is charged, and it would be purchased at a low price, second into this country and held to get the benefit of the emergency tariff bill. The gamblers were willing to take the chance.

In the two weeks ending March 29 the importation of wool at Boston equaled 44,000,000 pounds. It was pointed out today that the normal importation for all ports for the entire year is only about 100,000,000 pounds.

On December 1, the wool stocks were 640,000,000 pounds in the gross and its equivalent. Experts here are ready

to wager that the total stocks in the country today are not less than 1,000,000,000 pounds. This estimate includes wool just sheared in this country and to be sheared in the next few weeks.

### 729 MINERS DESTITUTE

Seven U. M. W. Locals in Alabama Ask Governor for Work

Birmingham, Ala., April 15.—(By A. P.)—Declaring their members destitute, seven locals of the United Mine Workers of America today appealed to Governor Kibb for re-employment in the mines or for relief in some other form.

The petition was said to represent 729 miners and 2800 women and children. It was declared the miners have applied for re-employment in the mines, but that work had been refused them.

International relief funds were withdrawn from Alabama April 9.

### Cigarette Stub Started Boston Fire

Boston, April 15.—It was a cigarette stub thrown by a visitor which started the fire that damaged the historic Old State House, State fire inspectors found yesterday. The blaze, which started on the first floor, had been smoldering for four or five hours before it was discovered.

### FOUND STARVED TO DEATH

Man of 70 Years Gagged and Bound to His Bed

South Haven, Mich., April 15.—(By A. P.)—Police are investigating the death of Henry C. Gerling, seventy years old, found in his cabin twenty miles north of here, gagged and bound to his bed, expressed the belief today he had starved to death.

The little cabin had been ransacked. In the mailbox at the home of a neighbor, half a mile away, officers found a note reading:

"Go onto Henry Gerling." The body was discovered last night by a neighbor who had missed Gerling for more than a week.

Officers expressed the belief Gerling was attacked April 7, that being the last day mail was removed from a mailbox at his cabin.

### Hughes Summons Mexican Charge

Mexico City, April 15.—George T. Summerlin, the American Charge

d'Affaires, left here last night for Washington on a call by the State Department for a conference on Mexican affairs. Previous to his departure, Mr. Summerlin had an extended conference with President Obregon. He said he was not carrying a special message from the Mexican President to President Harding, nor would he be prepared to recommend immediate recognition of Mexico by the United States if his opinion was asked.

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