

# OLD PRICE SET FOR NEW WHEAT

### President Refuses to Put Limit Above That for 1917

## TO PUT END TO AGITATION

### President in Proclamation Requires Wheat At Prices Fixed Must Be Harvested During 1918 And Sold Before June, 1919.

Washington.—A price of \$2.20 a bushel—the same as for last year's crop—was fixed by President Wilson for the coming season's wheat yield. The price is for No. 1 Northern spring wheat at Chicago, with a scale of differentials for other markets. The differentials differ to a slight extent from those now operative and range from a minimum of \$2 to a maximum of \$2.25.

In fixing a price now for the new crop, which will not be harvested until June, the President was believed to have had two objects in view. The first was to halt legislation pending in Congress to fix prices at from \$2.25 to \$3 and the other was to stimulate spring planting.

The introduction of the price-raising bills had begun to check the flow of wheat to market, and Food Administration officials feared that mills soon would have to close down. Hoping the legislation would pass, farmers, it is declared, have been refusing to sell at the present price of \$2.20.

In enacting the food control law Congress put a guaranteed price of \$2 on next season's crop and this has been construed as a minimum price.

To draw wheat to market the President fixed a price of \$2.20 on last season's yield, and it had this effect until the price-raising bills were introduced. Then the flow began to stop.

Food Administration officials have declared that if the bills passed the government would be forced to raise present prices to the new levels and that to do so would upset the Food Administration's flour and bread program.

### The Prices Fixed.

The prices fixed, the President declared, would assure the producer of a reasonable profit. On the basis of No. 1 Northern spring wheat and its equivalents the President fixed the price as follows:

Chicago, \$2.20; Omaha, \$2.15; Kansas City, \$2.15; St. Louis, \$2.18; Minneapolis, \$2.17; Duluth, \$2.17; New York, \$2.28; Philadelphia, \$2.27; Baltimore, \$2.27; Newport News, \$2.27; Charleston, S. C., \$2.27; Savannah, \$2.27; Portland, Ore., \$2.05; Seattle, \$2.05; San Francisco, \$2.10; Los Angeles, \$2.10; Galveston, \$2.20; New Orleans, \$2.20; Salt Lake City, \$2.00; Great Falls, Mont., \$2.00; Spokane, Wash., \$2.00; Pocatello, Idaho, \$2.00; Fort Worth, Tex., \$2.00; Oklahoma City, Okla., \$2.05; Wichita, Kan., \$2.08.

The equivalents of No. 1 Northern to which the same price applies, are No. 1 hard winter, No. 1 red winter, No. 1 durum and No. 1 hard white. The wheat must be harvested in the United States during 1918 and sold in the market before June 1, 1919. The President's proclamation states that the action is to meet an emergency requiring the stimulation of wheat planting.

In a statement accompanying his proclamation the President said:

"Under the Food Control Act of August 10, 1917, it is my duty to announce a guaranteed price for wheat of the 1918 harvest. I am, therefore, issuing a proclamation setting the price at the principal interior primary markets. It makes no essential alteration in the present guarantee. It is a continuation of the present price of wheat, with some adjustments arising from the designation of additional terminal marketing points.

"This guaranteed price assures the farmer of a reasonable profit, even if the war should end within the year and the large stores of grain in those sections of the world that are now cut off from transportation should again come into competition with his products. To increase the price of wheat above the present figure, or to agitate any increase of price, would have the effect of very seriously hampering the large operations of the nation and of the Allies by causing the wheat of last year's crop to be withheld from the market. It would, moreover, dislocate all the present wage levels that have been established after much anxious discussion and would, therefore, create an industrial unrest which would be harmful to every industry in the country.

"I know the spirit of our farmers and have not the least doubt as to the loyalty with which they will accept the present decision. The fall wheat planting, which furnishes two-thirds of our wheat production, took place with no other assurances than this and the farmers' confidence was demonstrated by the fact that they planted an acreage larger than the record of any preceding year, larger by 2,000,000 acres than the second largest record year and 7,000,000 acres more than the average for the five years before the outbreak of the European War.

"It seems not to be generally un-

derstood why wheat is picked out for price determination, and only wheat, among the cereals. The answer is that, while normal distribution of all our farm products has been subject to great disturbances during the last three years because of war conditions, only two commodities, namely, wheat and sugar, have been so seriously affected as to require governmental intervention.

"The disturbances which affect these products and others in less degree, arise from the fact that all of the overseas shipping in the world is now under governmental control and that the government is obliged to assign tonnage to each commodity that enters into commercial overseas traffic. It has, consequently, been necessary to establish single agencies for the purchase of the food supplies which must go abroad. The purchase of wheat in the United States for foreign use is of so great volume in comparison with the available domestic supply that the price of wheat has been materially disturbed and it became necessary, in order to protect both the producer and the consumer, to prevent speculation. It was necessary, therefore, for the government to exercise a measure of direct supervision as far as possible to control purchases of wheat and the processes of its exportation. This supervision necessarily amounted to price-fixing and I, therefore, thought it fair and wise that there should be a price stated that should be at once liberal and equitable.

"Those peculiar circumstances governing the handling and consumption of wheat put the farmer at the very center of war service. Next to the soldier himself, he is serving the country and the world and serving it in a way which is absolutely fundamental to his own future safety and prosperity. He sees this and can be relied upon as the soldier can.

"The farmer is also contributing men to the army, and I am keenly alive to the sacrifices involved. Out of 13,800,000 men engaged in farm industries, 205,000 have been drafted, or about 1.48 per cent. of the whole number. In addition to these, there have been volunteers, and the farmers have lost a considerable number of laborers because the wages paid in industrial pursuits drew them away. In order to relieve the farming industry as far as possible from further drains of labor, the new draft regulations have been drawn with a view to taking from the farms an even smaller proportion of men, and it is my hope that the local exemption boards will make the new classifications with a view of lightening the load upon the farmers to the utmost extent. The Secretary of War has asked for authority to furlough soldiers of the National Army if conditions permit it, so that they may return to their farms when assistance is necessary in the planting and harvest of the crops. National and local agencies are actively at work, besides, in organizing community help for the more efficient distribution of available labor and the drawing upon new sources of labor. While there will be difficulties, and very serious ones, they will be difficulties which are among the stern necessities of war.

"The Federal Railway Administration is co-operating in the most active, intelligent and efficient way with the Food Administration to remove the difficulties of transportation and of the active movement of the crops. Their marketing is to be facilitated and the farmers given the opportunity to realize promptly upon their stocks.

"The Department of Agriculture and the Food Administration will continue to co-operate as heretofore to assist the farmers in every way possible. All questions of production, of the marketing of farm products, of conservation in the course of production, and of agricultural labor and farm problems generally, will be handled by the Department of Agriculture; while all questions of distribution of food supplies to the Allies and of conservation in consumption will be handled by the Food Administration; but the chief reliance is upon the farmer himself, and I am sure that that reliance will be justified by the results. The chief thing to be kept clearly in mind is that regulations of this sort are only a part of the great general plan of mobilization into which every element in the nation enters in this war as in no other. The business, a business of energy and sacrifice, a business of service in the largest and best and most stirring sense of that great word."

### THREE KILLED IN AIR CRASH.

#### Instructor And Cadets Fall 500 Feet To Earth Near Memphis.

Memphis, Tenn.—Civilian Flying Instructor Guy H. Reagle, of Chicago, and Cadet Flyers James H. Webb, Rome, Ga., and Robert Gray, Jr., of Richmond Hill, Long Island, N. Y., were killed at Park Aviation Field, Millington, Tenn., near here, when the airplane in which Instructor Reagle and Cadet Webb were flying was struck broadside 500 feet above ground by a machine piloted by Cadet Gray, who was making a solo flight. All three aviators had been in the air some time and were just rounding the "blind side" of the course, planning to cut off their motors and effect a landing.

Nearly 20,000 British South African natives have been recruited for service behind the lines in France and Flanders.

# 29 MEN LOST WITH NAVAL TUG

### Cherokee Goes Down in Gale Off Maryland Coast.

## SKIPPER IS AMONG MISSING

### Little Seagoing Craft Thrown At Mercy Of Mountainous Seas When Steering Gear Breaks During Fifty-Mile Blow.

Philadelphia.—Twenty-nine men are believed to have lost their lives when the sea-going naval tug Cherokee foundered in a severe gale 15 miles off the Maryland coast. Ten survivors and the bodies of eight other members of the crew of 39 were brought here on two British rescue ships and landed at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. No trace of the remaining members of the crew was found. Among those missing is Junior Lieutenant Edward D. Newell, the commander of the tug. Ordinarily the Cherokee carried a crew of 40, but one man was not aboard.

According to the captain of one of the rescue ships, the primary cause of the disaster was the breaking of the steering gear. A 50-mile north-west gale was blowing at the time and the little vessel was at the mercy of mountainous seas. The tug was thrown broadside to the waves and walloped in the turbulent sea until her hatches were battered in. In the meantime two rafts were launched and the crew abandoned the ships as she was about to founder.

### Tells Of Rescue.

"I saw wreckage about six miles from the scene of the disaster," said the captain. "Later I found an upturned boat and then we sighted the raft on which there were 12 men. We took them all aboard and two died from exposure.

I saw six bodies and summoned another vessel to pick them up, as I wanted to give assistance to the living men.

Virtually all the 12 men on the raft were unconscious when picked up. There were four men on the second raft. Two were washed overboard and the other two died.

The wireless man aboard the Cherokee stuck to his post to the end.

## HOSPITAL SHIP SUNK.

### Only 34 Out Of 200 Saved When German Castle Is Torpedoed.

Swansea.—The British hospital ship Glenart Castle, which went down in the Bristol Channel, was torpedoed, according to survivors, 34 of whom were landed. Nothing so far has been earned of the fate of the others, including Red Cross doctors, nurses and orderlies. There were approximately 200 persons aboard the hospital ship, 150 of whom were members of the crew.

Quartermaster Shitler, who was the last man to leave the ship, said:

"I was on deck at the time. A few minutes before the torpedoing the helmsman called attention to a dim light flickering on the surface of the water some distance off. It disappeared an instant later, but the officer of the deck was instantly suspicious and ordered the course changed. He then ordered the alarm sounded for lifeboat drill as a precautionary measure.

"Almost everybody aboard was asleep at the time and most of the men tumbled to the deck in the scantiest attire. Few saved more than rousers and shirt, and probably nine men out of every 10 were barefooted. The men assigned to the starboard lifeboats found them useless, either the boats or the davits being smashed by the shock of the explosion."

## NO KHAKI FOR HOME GUARD.

### They Must Wear Blue Uniforms Despite Protest.

Washington.—Members of the new United States guard will not be permitted to wear regulation khaki and olive drab despite their complaints that the old army blue uniforms provided have subjected them to the appellation of "stay-at-home-heroes."

War Department officials explained that blue uniforms such as formerly worn by regulars were adopted for the guard to obviate the necessity of using cloth needed for the fighting forces. The United States guard recently was authorized strictly for guard duty within the United States.

## World War in Brief

Hostile raids were repulsed northwest of St. Quentin, in the neighborhood of Bullecourt and east of Vermelles, according to the British War Office report.

After a heavy bombardment, German troops in the Champagne attempted to recapture the positions recently taken by the French at Butte du Meuil. Paris says the Germans were halted by the French fire.

# NO PEACE IN HERTLING SPEECH

### Not Taken Seriously By Washington Officials.

## NO FORMAL COMMENT NEEDED

### Count von Hertling's Treatment Of The Subject Considered Ironical—"Vague and Confusing."

Washington.—Count von Hertling's speech in the Reichstag, continuing the discussion of the war aims of the belligerent powers, has not changed the situation, in the opinion of high officials here. Instead of marking an advance toward peace it is regarded rather as deliberately calculated to strengthen the hands of the German militaristic party by endeavoring to convince the German proletariat of the impracticable nature of President Wilson's aims as disclosed in his last address to Congress on February 11.

While stating his readiness to accept the President's four fundamental principles for a basis of peace, the German Chancellor dismissed them as idealistic and unworkable, by insisting that they must depend for their application upon the realization of conditions which cannot be met. In the official view his treatment of the subject was ironical and designed for very different ends than the advancement of peace.

There will be no immediate formal comment upon this latest contribution to the debate on war aims and peace aspirations. Experience has taught officials that important qualifications are to be found usually in the full text of the speeches of the spokesman of the Central Powers.

Attention was directed by officials to President Wilson's former characterization of the German Chancellor's utterances as "very vague and confusing," and it was said that the President's comment had a peculiarly apt application to the latest speech, in which von Hertling signified his fundamental agreement with President Wilson's four principles.

President Wilson in his last address to Congress said of the Chancellor's delivered a few days before:

"His discussion and acceptance of our general principles lead him to no practicable conclusions. He refuses to apply them to the substantial items which must constitute the body of any final settlement."

The speech was carefully studied by President Wilson and State Department officials, who noted particularly von Hertling's references to Ireland, India and Egypt and regarded them as calculated to create discord between the Entente Allies and continue a deception of the German people, who apparently believe the military party is willing to make peace without annexations and indemnities.

Von Hertling's suggestion of a conference of the belligerents apparently meets with no greater favor than heretofore, and officials see not the slightest hope of a "round-table discussion" in advance of a complete acceptance by the Central Powers of the broad principles upon which the Entente is willing to consider peace terms.

## NEGRO TROOPS IN RIOT.

### Twenty-Six Face Court-Martial For Outbreak At Camp Pike.

Little Rock, Ark.—Twenty-six negro soldiers of the Five Hundred and Twelfth Engineer Service Battalion are in the guard house at Camp Pike awaiting court-martial as a result of a riot in a mess hall at the camp. A white non-commissioned officer suffered a painful, but not serious scalp wound.

## STUDENTS NOT EXEMPTED.

### Members Of Military Training Units Still Subject To Draft.

Washington.—College students who are members of the military training units at their institutions and who are within the draft ages are not exempt from the operation of the selective service act, the War Department held in a memorandum sent to officers on duty as military instructors at the schools.

## NEW OUTBREAK IN IRELAND.

### Troops Sent Into County Clare To Assist Police.

London.—The outbreak of lawlessness in County Clare, Ireland, is announced officially, rendered necessary Sunday the sending of additional troops to the county to assist the police. County Clare has been declared a special area under the defense of the Realm act.

## TURKS TAKE TREBIZOND.

### Clear Russian Bands From Black Sea Port.

Amsterdam.—A dispatch received here from Constantinople says that Turkish troops have entered Trebizond, on the Black Sea coast of Asia Minor, and cleared it of "bands."

# ALL NATIONS MUST SUBSCRIBE

### Hertling Sees Chance for Peace in Wilson's Speech.

## GOAL NOT YET REACHED

### Vailed Overture Made To Belgium—Would Not Adopt Antagonistic Attitude If Approached.

Amsterdam.—Speaking before the Reichstag the Imperial German Chancellor, Count von Hertling, made this declaration:

"I can fundamentally agree with the four principles which, in President Wilson's view, must be applied in a mutual exchange of views, and thus declare with President Wilson that a general peace can be discussed on such a basis.

"Only one reserve need be made in this connection: These principles must not only be proposed by the President of the United States, but must also actually be recognized by all states and peoples. But this goal has not yet been reached. There is still no court of arbitration established by all the nations for the preservation of peace in the name of justice. When President Wilson incidentally says that the German Chancellor is speaking to the tribunal of the entire world I must decline this tribunal as prejudiced, joyfully as I would greet it if an impartial court of arbitration existed, and gladly as I would co-operate to realize such ideals.

"Unfortunately, however, there is no trace of similar statements on the part of the leading powers of the Entente. England's war aims are still roughly imperialistic and she wants to impose on the world a peace according to England's good pleasure. Von England talks about the people's rights of self-determination she does not think of applying the principle to Ireland, Egypt and India.

"It has been repeatedly said that we do not contemplate retaining Belgium, but that we must be safeguarded from the danger of a country with which we desire after the war to live in peace and friendship becoming the object of jumping-off ground of enemy machinations. If, therefore, a proposal came from the opposing side—for example, from the government in Havre—we should not adopt an antagonistic attitude, even though the discussion at first might only be unbinding.

"Meanwhile, I really admit that President Wilson's message of February 11 constitutes perhaps a small step toward a mutual rapprochement."

With reference to a statement recently made by Walter Runciman, the former president of the Board of Agriculture, in the British Cabinet, the Chancellor said:

"I can only agree with Mr. Runciman if he meant that we should be much nearer peace if proper responsible representatives of the belligerent powers would meet in conclave for discussion. That would be a way to remove all intentional and unintentional misunderstandings and bring about an agreement on many individual questions. I am thinking especially in this connection of Belgium."

## 12 KILLED ON SOUTHERN.

### Passenger Train Runs Into Rear Of Another Near Columbia.

Columbia, S. C.—Ten persons were killed outright, two died of injuries, and between 25 and 35 others were more or less seriously injured when one Southern Railway passenger train ran into the rear of another on the Columbia-Greenville branch near Frost's Station, five and a half miles from Columbia. All of the dead and injured were on the train standing still, and those killed were men occupying a smoking compartment of a steel car, at the rear, which was telescoped half way through a wooden one ahead.

## AMERICANS TAKE HUNS.

### Patrol Penetrates Enemy Lines In Conjunction With French.

American Army in France.—An American patrol in the Chemin des Dames sector, in conjunction with a French patrol, penetrated a few hundred yards into the German lines and captured two German officers, 20 men and one machine gun. There was some sharp fighting and a number of the enemy were killed and wounded. There were no American casualties. The Franco-American patrol was under command of a French officer.

## ATTEMPT TO KILL KRYLENKO.

### Displaced As Commander-in-Chief Of The Bolsheviki Forces.

London.—Ensign Krylenko, the Russian commander-in-chief, was shot and slightly wounded on Saturday in Petrograd by a Socialist, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Amsterdam. Krylenko's wound was in the neck. His assailant was arrested. The report of the shooting was received in a telegram from German sources.

# TO SPEED NEW FLEET

### Call Is Issued for 250,000 Volunteers to Aid in Work.

### Reserve Organization of American Mechanics Is Formed to Complete Great Shipbuilding Program Planned to Win the War.

All states have been requested to contribute their quota of volunteer shipyard workmen to speed America's new merchant fleet to rapid completion. The United States Shipyard Volunteers of the Public Service Reserve has been formed, embracing skilled workers in many trades. Two hundred and fifty thousand workmen will be enrolled, all of whom will stand ready to respond when they are called to go to shipyards for service.

An appeal for volunteers has been made by the department of labor, the council of national defense, the shipping board, the 20,000 four-minute men, governors of the various states, organized labor and business men. The aim is to fill all the present and future needs of the government's shipyards.

Pay of volunteers will be in accordance with the prevailing wage in the shipyards at the time they are called. Construction of houses for the workers is being pushed with energy, and the necessary homes will be ready when the men are called.

### Preliminaries Are Arranged.

All preliminary work, such as the building of shipyards and shipways, construction of housing facilities, preparation and transportation of material, and the training of workmen, is being rushed to completion. Thus the organization of the shipyard volunteers is being hastened with energy and enthusiasm.

Volunteers are requested to go to the nearest enrollment agent of the public service reserve or state council of defense and sign up. Should there be no enrolling agent in the vicinity, they are asked to write to Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the United States shipping board, Washington.

Cards are issued to all applicants, bearing statements of the purpose of the shipyard volunteers, classifying them according to trades and asking signers to respond when called. Buttons will be given to volunteers bearing the inscription, "U. S. Shipyard Volunteers." In addition, the worker will receive a certificate signed by Chairman Hurley, which reads:

"This is to certify (name of volunteer) of (city, state), has enrolled in the United States Shipyard Volunteers of Public Service Reserve to aid the nation in its imperative needs for merchant ships with which to overcome the submarine menace and maintain our forces at the front."

### Shipyards to Win or Lose.

"The world war will be won or lost in the American shipyards. Every rivet driven is a blow at the Kaiser. Every ship turned out brings America nearer to victory."

"Those who give their strength and influence to the speedy construction of ships render service that is patriotic and highly essential to the successful termination of the war."

### Quota of Each State.

Each state has been assigned a quota, based upon the population and industries. The quota is as follows:

Maine	2,572	New Jersey	11,544
New Hampshire	1,698	Pennsylvania	22,771
Vermont	1,890	Ohio	18,909
Massachusetts	14,221	Indiana	10,547
Rhode Island	2,255	Illinois	23,662
Connecticut	4,786	Michigan	11,754
New York	29,526	Wisconsin	9,611
Minnesota	8,762	Alabama	8,994
Iowa	8,821	Mississippi	7,481
Missouri	11,812	Arkansas	6,925
North Dakota	2,584	Louisiana	7,059
South Dakota	2,292	Oklahoma	8,429
Nebraska	4,400	Texas	17,022
Kansas	6,220	Montana	1,253
Delaware	811	Idaho	1,621
Maryland	6,260	Wyoming	618
Dist. of Col.	1,290	Colorado	3,229
Virginia	8,653	New Mexico	1,425
West Virginia	5,227	Arizona	688
N. Carolina	8,264	Utah	1,986
S. Carolina	6,203	Nevada	856
Georgia	11,001	Washington	8,294
Florida	3,425	Oregon	2,204
Kentucky	8,289	California	11,216
Tennessee	7,852		

### Trades Needed in Shipbuilding.

The department of labor has provided the following list showing the kind of trades most needed in shipbuilding, and a special appeal is addressed to men in those occupations to enroll in the United States Shipyard volunteers:

Acetylene and electrical welders, asbestos workers, blacksmiths, angle-smiths, drop-forge men, flange turners, furnace men, boiler-makers, riveters, reamers, carpenters, ship carpenters, dock builders, chippers and calkers, electrical workers, electricians, wiremen, crane operators, foundry workers, laborers (all kinds), leftmen, template makers, machinists and machine hands (all sorts), helpers, painters, plumbers and pipe fitters, sheet metal workers, copper-smiths, shipfitters, structural iron workers, erectors, bolters up, cementers and crane men.

### Everybody Does It.

One form which our national lying not infrequently takes is to say, when a prominent friend finally does come around and pay back what he owes you, or part of it: "Why, I'd forgotten all about it."—Ohio State Journal.

### Worth While Quotation.

"Some people seem to take up all the sorrows of the past; to them they add the burdens of the present; then they look ahead and anticipate a great many more trials than they will ever experience in the future."