

FUEL SHORTAGE IS IMPENDING

Government Officials and Operators Urge Probe

COAL MEN FEAR SITUATION

Anthracite Production Since January 1' 10,600,000 Tons Less Than Last Year And Bituminous 74,700,000 Tons.

Washington.—Urging congressional investigation of the coal situation, government officials and coal operators told the House Rules Committee that a fuel shortage was impending.

"Coal men fear the situation may get away from them, and that prices may rise \$5 or \$6 a ton," declared C. E. Lesher, of the Geological Survey. "Their advertising of the situation is in hope that this may be averted, for they know that the condition would reflect on them."

Anthracite production since January 1 was 10,600,000 tons less than last year and bituminous 74,700,000 tons, Lesher said, due to lack of demand.

"The only remedy is for the consuming public to lay in supplies now," he said.

George H. Cushing, managing director of the American Wholesale Coal Association, said the coal shortage in the east and northeast during the war would be repeated this winter, adding that its extent would depend on the industrial activity in those sections.

300,000 Tons For Norway.

London.—More than 17,000 Welsh coal miners have joined the strike which is rapidly spreading throughout the country, according to the Chronicle. The newspaper pointed out that an order for 300,000 tons of coal from the Norwegian government, which normally would have been placed in Wales, has gone to America.

Mineworkers Idle.

Washington.—Unemployment is prevalent throughout the United States, Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, told the Joint Labor Committee of the House and Senate. Morrison appeared to favor a bill providing for a permanent Federal employment service.

"From 30 to 50 per cent of the mineworkers of the United States are now unemployed," Morrison declared, "due to large stores of coal which have been previously mined." Morrison said that in the State of Massachusetts there is 11 per cent unemployment, about 400,000 persons being out of work.

PLANS TO EXECUTE PEACE TREATY TERMS.

Discussing The Probable Commissions—Preparing For Plebiscite In Silesia.

Paris.—American members of the peace delegation are taking part in all discussions of plans for enforcing the German peace treaty and the creation of commissions to execute its terms. The Americans, however, are refraining from discussion of the probable American membership of these commissions, apparently, it is said, wishing to avoid any possible criticism on the score of undue haste in preparing to enforce the treaty before its ratification by the United States.

The Americans, as well as others of the peace delegations, seem confident that difficulties between the Poles and the Germans can be adjusted so as to hold the plebiscite in Upper Silesia without the necessity of using foreign military forces. Plans for the plebiscite are being perfected rapidly.

All German and Polish soldiers will leave the district peacefully, according to present indications, and enable the Allies to organize a local police force sufficiently strong to insure proper conduct of the balloting.

The United States, as well as other powers, it is said, has expressed in the Supreme Council meetings a willingness to send troops to Upper Silesia, if necessary. The delegates generally are said to be of the opinion that the Germans are disposed to execute in good faith that part of the treaty terms calling for the evacuation of the Baltic provinces, Upper Silesia and other parts of Poland occupied by German troops.

There are said to be many indications that the extreme bitterness existing there six months ago is disappearing generally because of a general desire to avoid further fighting and to begin the work of economic reconstruction.

CONGRESSMAN TO FARM BOARD.

Representative Lever To Quit The House August 1.

Washington.—Representative Lever, Democrat, of South Carolina, was nominated by President Wilson to be a member of the Farm Loan Board. Mr. Lever announced that he would resign from the House August 1 to accept the appointment.



FINAL PLANS FOR NATIONAL GUARDS

Approval of Reorganization Given by Secretary Baker

ON SIXTEEN-DIVISION BASIS

Major General Jesse Mcl. Carter Has Sent Out Notifications To Various Adjutant Generals Of Allotments to Their States.

Washington.—Final plans for the reorganization of the National Guard on the 16th Division basis, with divisional areas following the same limits as did those from which guard divisions were organized for service against Germany, were approved by Secretary Baker.

Major Gen. Jesse Mcl. Carter, chief of the Bureau of Militia Affairs, immediately sent notifications to the various adjutant generals of the units allotted to their States and of the readiness of the Federal Government to extend recognition after the required inspection had been made.

The organization table announced provides for 47 regiments and 18 battalions of infantry; six regiments, 17 squadrons and 19 troops of cavalry; 10 regiments, 20 battalions and seven batteries of field artillery and 74 coast artillery companies, with additional forces of engineers, sanitary and signal corps.

A maximum expansion to about 440,000 men, or 500 per senator and congressman, is provided for, but the units for the time being are to be organized on the basis of 65 men per company of infantry, as appropriations for the National Guard for the fiscal year 1920 permit only the organization of the guard on the basis of 200 men for each Senator and Representative, giving an aggregate strength of about 106,000.

State allotments as given in letters sent to the various adjutant generals show that New York, because of its preponderance in population, will have the biggest part in the reorganized guard, six full regiments of field troops and 12 companies of coast artillery having been assigned to that state.

Pennsylvania is authorized to maintain four full regiments in addition to auxiliary troops, while Illinois is given three complete regiments and Massachusetts two. The assignment to Texas of six full regiments of cavalry besides four other regiments and auxiliaries was considered significant.

The state assignments follow: New York—Twelve companies coast artillery, four regiments infantry, one squadron cavalry, one regiment field artillery, one regiment engineers, one field signal battalion, one engineer train and one sanitary train complete.

Pennsylvania—Four regiments infantry, one squadron cavalry, one regiment field artillery, one battalion engineers, one field signal battalion, one engineer train, one sanitary train complete.

Connecticut—Six companies coast artillery, one battalion infantry, two troops cavalry, one battery field artillery, one ambulance company.

Delaware—Two companies coast artillery and one battalion infantry. District of Columbia—One battalion and two companies infantry, one battery field artillery, one signal company (outpost), one headquarters company infantry.

Maine—One regiment infantry. Maryland—One regiment infantry, two batteries field artillery, one field hospital company.

Massachusetts—Eight companies coast artillery, one regiment infantry, two troops cavalry, one regiment field artillery, one battalion engineers, one signal company (wire), one engineer train, one field hospital company, one ambulance company.

New Hampshire—Two companies coast artillery, one battalion infantry, one battalion field artillery, one field hospital company.

CRUEL TREATMENT SOLDIERS CHARGE

Says Arrogant Officers Ruled in Prisons Abroad

BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE

A. H. Mendleburg, Who Served With Base Hospital 42, Says An Officer Rolled A Soldier In Mud Because He Smiled.

Washington.—American soldiers testifying before a special House committee investigating alleged cruelties to military prisoners in France, declared that merciless assaults were committed without provocation on the prisoners by arrogant officers in charge of the prisons and camps. Only one of the witnesses, all of whom were charged with being absent without leave, was convicted, the others having been acquitted or the charge dismissed.

"The Bastille," "The Stockade," "Prison Farm Number Two" and "St. Ann's Hotel," also known as "The Brig," were the places named by the witnesses as the scene of the alleged cruelties, which are said to have extended over several months in 1913. Some of the officers in charge of the prison camps, it was said, had been convicted by courts martial and others were awaiting trial.

Lieutenant "Hardboiled" Smith, one of the prison camp officers, was mentioned frequently, while others named were Lieutenants Mason and Sullivan and Sergeants Ball, Wolfmeyer and Bush.

"Did they try the general in charge of the camp," asked Chairman Royal Johnson, who left his seat in Congress to serve with the Army abroad. "Not that anyone heard," responded a witness.

When Lieutenant "Hardboiled" Smith was tried at Tours, early this year, a hundred witnesses appeared against him, and he was convicted, testified Sidney Kemp 479 West One Hundred and Forty-Sixth street, New York City, who was a corporal with Company F, 102d Engineers, 27th Division.

"Fifty witnesses whom I can name will verify everything said here and tell more, too," asserted Kemp. Several of the soldiers testified that, in addition to being beaten, food in small amounts and of poor quality was supplied and that the bedding was poor, sometimes the mattress being in mud under a small tent.

"A prisoner was smiling and an officer says, 'Take that smile off or I will,'" A. H. Mendleburg, 1410 East Fayette street, Baltimore, who served with Base Hospital 42, testified. "The officer did, by rolling the man in the mud," Mendleburg added.

"Did you get that officer's name?" asked Representative Flood, Dem., Virginia.

"I'm too sorry I did not take his name," answered Mendleburg. When telling of poor food, Mendleburg said that "if you asked for an extra piece of bread, you were flat on your back." Meals, he and others said, consisted of a stew, made from canned beef, one slice of bread, and part of a cup of coffee. Sometimes only the stew was served, witnesses said.

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WASHINGTON

Assistant Secretary Long, of the State Department, formally denied reports recently published in South American newspapers that the United States had determined upon a policy of armed intervention in Mexico.

Plans to continue the fight for repeal of the daylight saving law, despite the veto of the President and the refusal of the House to override it, will be discussed Friday by the House Agricultural Committee.

Governor Davis, of Idaho, telegraphed the Department of the Interior, asking aid in fighting a great forest fire raging along a 15-mile front in the Thunder Mountain district of that state.

An agreement reached at a conference between Chairman Koons, of the Wire Control Board and representatives of unions is expected to bring about an end of the Pacific Coast telephone strike.

President Wilson invited a number of Republican senators to call at the White House to discuss the peace treaty and the League of Nations, Secretary Tumulty announced.

Individual invitations were sent from the White House late today to a number of Republican senators to confer with President Wilson with regard to the peace treaty.

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PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

The McClintic Marshall Construction company, which is operating its big plants at Pottstown at half capacity, received orders for 10,000 tons of structural steel, one-half of it for export to Cuba and Japan.

CRUEL TREATMENT SOLDIERS CHARGE

Attorney Horace De Y. Lentz, of Mauch Chunk, has compiled a list of every man from the Mauch Chunks who served his country in the world war.

With the lesson of the flu epidemic in mind, officials of the Milton branch of the Red Cross will train a class of nurses. Young women and their mothers will enroll and Miss Ethel Bradford, a Philadelphia nurse, will have charge of the work.

The public service commission ruled that it did not have jurisdiction to pass upon a crossing of a tram road operated by a Harrisburg coal company for its own use and a public highway. The line is held to be not a public service line and the matter is one for township supervisors.

All but a few of the Hazleton saloons and those of the surrounding mining villages are still in business and selling 2.75 per cent beer in defiance of the war-time prohibition law.

Strong demand has arisen at Conyngham, a farming village near Hazleton for the organization of a volunteer fire department, following a blaze that destroyed four buildings and caused a loss of \$43,000.

East Columbia victory gardeners have fifty lots under cultivation on land donated for that purpose by H. M. North, Jr., and the produce goes to fifty families. The gardeners have an organization, with a board of managers.

At a session of the orphans' court at Uniontown, the sale of the Nellie mine by Brown & Cochran to Gastno Corrado for \$20,000 was approved. The mine, which is located in Dunbar and Franklin townships, has been worked out, and there remains enough coal and equipment for salvage purposes. The working is one of the oldest in the lower Connellsville region.

Forty-five more marriage licenses were issued in June this year than during the same period last year, according to an announcement made at the register and recorder's office in Uniontown. Last year there were ninety-eight licenses issued, and this June the total was 143.

A majority of New Castle's saloons are open, selling near-beer and other products supposed to be allowed by law. The brewery is also operating in New Castle, manufacturing a new non-alcoholic drink.

August 30 and 31 and September 1, 2 and 3 have been fixed as the meeting dates of the convention of the State Federation of Catholic Societies of Pennsylvania in Allentown, during which Archbishop Dougherty, of the archdiocese of Philadelphia, will be the guest of honor and consecrate the new \$300,000 Sacred Heart hospital.

Captain W. L. Steen, New Castle's health officer, who has been in the army service for nearly a year and has been located at Camp Pike, Ark., has returned to the city and resumed his duties as health officer and bacteriologist.

Harry E. Snyder pleaded guilty before Squire Freyshire, of Shamokin Dam, to stealing nine tons of coal from Coryell & Frymire, at Clement. According to Snyder's confession, he found no trouble in driving his team up to the yards and taking away a load. He sold the coal at cut rate.

Found barely conscious, with a bullet wound in his chest, Fred Cortil, of Trotter, lived just long enough after being removed to the hospital to make a statement in which he accused two masked men of the shooting.

District Attorney C. W. A. Rochow, the York county chairman for the home service fund of the Salvation Army, has received a check for \$1515 from the York Manufacturing company, which represents the contributions of the mechanics and office employees of the company.

Miss Mary Ferry, a trained nurse of Upper Lehigh, who enlisted early in the war and served in France, has re-enlisted in response to a call from the government for nurses in the army and naval institutions at home.

With \$10,000 set as the goal for the home-coming fund for the reception to Montour county's returning soldiers, only little more than half this amount has been thus far subscribed. Three-fourths of the county has been canvassed.

The state livestock sanitary board has released Adams, Berks, Carbon, Lebanon, Monroe and Philadelphia counties from the hog cholera quarantine order. Eleven counties are still subject to the quarantine order.

Crossing the tracks in the Midvale yard at Connellsville to make some repairs, George Hemesberger, fifty-four years old, was run down by a draft of cars and instantly killed.

Mauch Chunk borough officers will be provided with stop watches and all reckless drivers of automobiles will be arrested and fined.

Attorney Horace De Y. Lentz, of Mauch Chunk, has been elected president of the Carbon county Sabbath School association.

Five miles of the "gravel pike" between Collegeville and Schwenkville will be rebuilt with state aid.

William Finley Aiken, twenty-six, of Slippery Rock township, near New Castle, was the sixth victim of drowning in the county within the last month. He was drowned while swimming at Niles.

The defunct ostrich farm at Espy will now be put to another use. "Ostrich brand sauer kraut" will be the output of the farm, taking the place of the \$1,000,000 corporation which was to yield big revenue to the luckless stockholders. William Cressy, who purchased the farm at Sheriff sale, has set out fifteen acres of cabbage plants.

Dragged along the road near Lakemont Park, Altoona, for several hundred yards by a cow, Millard Haines, thirteen, is in the hospital unconscious, with a fractured skull. He tied the rope to his wrist, and when the cow he was leading became frightened and bolted he could not loosen himself.

The epidemic of marriages which prevailed before the young men of Centre county were called into service was nothing to that which has prevailed since. It is estimated that at least 60 per cent of the weddings that have taken place within the county in the last six weeks were those in which returned soldiers figured.

Co-operating with borough council, the Non-Partisan league, made up of taxpayers and property holders of Mahanoy City, has engaged a Harrisburg engineer to gather data in the fight against increased rates of the Mahanoy City Water company, soon to become effective. Protest has already been filed with the public service commission.

Veterans of the world war who served overseas met and organized General Menoher Post No. 155, Veterans of Foreign Wars, in Johnstown. Major General Charles T. Menoher has completed with the request of the veterans that he become a charter member of the post and has permitted the post to be named in his honor. More than 100 applications for membership in the new organization have been received.

Contract was awarded by New Castle city council for the erection of a new lock-up in the police patrol barn. The jail in the basement of the city hall will be abandoned.

Leo, seven-year-old son of Michael J. Hoban, of Scranton, was killed by a train.

A big rush for miners' certificates developed at Hazleton, where thirty-five applicants took the examination. General salary increases have been voted by the Scranton school district officials to numerous schools.

The infirmary at the Hill School, Pottstown, is being moved bodily to provide a site for the \$100,000 memorial hall to be presented by the Hill Alumni association in memory of the former students who lost their lives in the world war.

Work will be started as soon as the plans are approved on the new \$200,000 Lutheran Orphans' home on the outskirts of Allentown, erection of which was delayed by the war.

The Montgomery's ferry post office will be discontinued July 15 because of the small amount of business handled. Ten thousand visitors are expected at Lewistown to aid in the dedication of "Victory Park," a memorial to the fighting men of all wars from Millfin county.

Thieves who raided the pantry of Judge Henry, Lebanon, will fare ill if detected and brought before his court.

Wared to hold a firecracker between his teeth, seven-year-old Donald Nehls may lose both eyes as a result of the explosion.

Kisses from the twenty prettiest girls in Dawson are offered accredited B. & O. officials if they will build a new station for the town.

Among the beneficiaries of the new school teachers' annuity law will be Miss Margaret C. Madden, of Danville, aged seventy-five years, and more than sixty years a teacher.

The Travelers' Protective association has begun criminal action against several township highway supervisors of southwestern Lebanon county, alleging neglect of duty.

Miffin completed a three-day carnival, held to raise funds to provide for a community hall, firehouse, etc.

Thousands of trees throughout Perry county are suffering from extensive inroads of the army worm.

Judge Hassler ruled that Lancaster county is not liable for the funeral expenses of widows of civil war veterans.

Mrs. Margareta P. Norton, of Gap, aged seventy-seven, died from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in which she was thrown through a fence.

The historic Merchants' hotels, at Mechanicsburg, will be turned into a garage and apartment house after being in operation almost sixty years.

Mrs. Harriet S. Gotschalk, aged forty-seven, committed suicide by gas at Reading.

The quarantine on hog cholera in Berks county has been lifted.

The New Jersey Central railroad shops have taken on so many new hands the past few days that there is no spare labor left in the Mauch Chunks.

Hezekiah Senft, seventy, a farmer of North Codorus township, near York, dropped over dead while standing under a shade tree near his home.

Sunbury Lodge, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, honored its twenty-nine members who served in the war with an all-day picnic and banquet.

A bronze tablet, commemorating the thirty-two members of St. Peter's Episcopal church, Hazleton, who served in the war, was dedicated.

It is expected the next census will show that Hazleton has reached a population of 30,000. This is an increase of more than 7000.