

NATION'S HEADS CONTINUE TALK ON FOOD CRISIS

Congress Debates Relief While New York Gives It

Mayor Mitchel's Committee to Dump Commodities on Markets at Once

BREAD TRUST CHARGED

Illinois Representative Has Personal Knowledge, He Says, of Nation-Wide Plot

House leaders planned to push the \$100,000 appropriation for a Federal investigation and Senator Lewis urged his bill empowering the President to seize foodstuffs illegally stored.

While Washington is talking, New York is acting. The Mayor's committee has bought a solid carload of smelts to be sold at low rates to the needy.

The metropolis also has bought millions of pounds of rice to dump on the market.

Representative Henry T. Rainey, of Illinois, in Washington, declared he had personal knowledge of a bread trust formed to keep up prices.

CONGRESS BADLY SPLIT ON FOOD RELIEF PLANS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Some definite steps to relieve the acute food situation in the country may be expected within a few days, Government officials said today.

Conferees between the President, members of his Cabinet and Acting Chairman of the United States Shipping board, promised to bring concerted Government action along different lines, immediately affecting the food crisis.

Attorney General Gregory, who says his department has been continually at work on the high cost of living question, promises an important announcement today.

The Federal Trade Commission and Department of Agriculture are making preliminary plans while waiting for Congress to act on their \$400,000 appropriation request before starting an inquiry.

A wide divergence of opinion among congressional leaders as to how to meet the food issue, however, threatens to tie up the appropriation. It even threatens to delay relief measures of any kind.

Renewal of the fight on the food situation promised to develop in the House. Representative Borland was expected to reintroduce his amendment for the \$400,000 appropriation.

LEADERS DIVIDED

The obscure stand by the House Appropriation Committee in refusing the appropriation is now followed by Senate chief, who, while agreed that something should be done, are admittedly at wide variance as to methods.

Senator Lewis, Administration whip, promises to push his plan of confiscating cold storage products, held in violation of law, and reselling them to the needy.

Members of Senators are known to favor the purchase of great supplies for distribution.

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THE WEATHER



VICTIMS OF BURNING

FLAMES ROB PARENTS OF THEIR FOURTH CHILD

Girl's Dress Takes Fire as Mother Watches at Dying Baby's Side

Another one of the Okeson children died today and still another is dying.

Six-year-old Florence Okeson died in the Cooper Hospital, Camden, of burns received last night while her mother, Mrs. Mary Okeson, 124 Gaunt street, South Camden, was watching at the bedside of her two-year-old baby George, who is in the last stages of tuberculosis in the West Jersey Homeopathic Hospital.

The tragedy accentuated the sorrow that has pursued the family of Lewis and Mary Okeson ever since they were married twelve years ago. Nine children were born to them, but the wages of the husband, who is a printer and what the neighbors call a "good, fair, steady man," did not increase with the growing cost of living.

Money intended for the rainy day was taken by illness; three of the children sickened and died and the mother was crippled by rheumatism. The baby, four-month-old Mary, who died of tuberculosis, was buried three months ago.

Today's death leaves four children in the little four-room home: John, ten; Violet, nine, who is housekeeper for her crippled mother; Albert, eight, also a cripple, and Bertha, three. The children are undernourished and wizened, for no small wonder. They have had no fresh vegetables since summer, no fresh meat for months. Perhaps their cheeks would fill out if they had the air and play that belong to children—and better food than bread, jelly and condensed milk for breakfast.

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McFADDEN, FIRST CITY TROOP HEAD, TO RESIGN

Ranking Officer, Who Has Had Commission for 21 Years, Will Retire

Captain J. Franklin McFadden, who since May 20, 1910, has been ranking officer in the First City Troop of Philadelphia, is about to relinquish his command.

News of his contemplated retirement became known after the annual Washington's Birthday dinner of the troop last Thursday night. Captain McFadden will go upon the nonactive list of the troop.

Captain McFadden has served in the First City Troop for thirty years. He was elected to membership January 3, 1887, and for nine years was an enlisted man, and for twenty-one years a commissioned officer.

He assumed command of the troop after the resignation of Captain John C. Groome when the latter was advanced to the rank of major to command the first squadron, First Pennsylvania Cavalry.

Captain McFadden, who is a cotton merchant, lives at Nineteenth and Delancey streets, and is prominent socially. He is a member of the Rittenhouse, Radnor Hunt, Philadelphia Country, Racquet, Rabbit and Merion Cricket Clubs, and is an alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania, class of '82. He is also a director of the Philadelphia Trust Company and of the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank.

The troop is one of the most exclusive social organizations in the city and numbers among its members sons of the first city's foremost families. It is separate from the military organization, the only connection being that one must belong to the military organization in order to belong to the social one. The troop has taken part in every war the country has ever had except the Mexican War, when no volunteer cavalry was accepted, and ranks high among all militia cavalry units of the country.

It is the oldest military organization in the United States, with a continuous military record. It was organized November 17, 1774, and fought at the battles of Trenton and Princeton. It escorted General Washington on his public appearances in Washington and from that time has always accompanied and held the right to act as escort to visiting Presidents.

At last Thursday's banquet 130 men were present, to all of whom their commander's announcement came as a complete surprise and occasioned universal regret.

11 MORE SHIPS SUNK; RAIDER IN INDIAN OCEAN

Seven Dutch Vessels Believed Victims of Mines or U-Boats

CAPTAIN AND SIX MEN DIE

Four British Craft Destroyed by Rover and Submarines

LONDON, Feb. 24.—Seven Dutch ships, with a total of more than 27,000 tons, were victims of the "barred zone" Thursday. It was stated today. They were the Zaandijk, Noorderdyk, Eemland, Gaasteri, Jacatra, Menado and Bandoeng.

The seven ships were sunk at western approaches of the English Channel. Four were homeward bound with full cargoes. It was authoritatively stated that all arrangements for their passage through the danger zone were in the hands of the Dutch authorities. Neither the Dutch Government nor the shipowners requested or received information from the British Admiralty as to their courses.

The Holland-America line was owner of two of the lost ships. The money loss entailed by the destruction of the Dutch ships is estimated at from \$11,000,000 to \$12,000,000. Only one other day have German submarines taken a bigger toll.

The British steamship Grenadier has been sunk with the loss of seven lives, the captain and six members of the crew, Lloyd's reported today.

The British steamship Trojan Prince also has been destroyed by a German submarine in the barred zone waters.

The British steamship Belgier, reported sunk by Lloyd's yesterday, carried a cargo valued at \$1,000,000, it was stated in marine circles today. The destruction of this vessel was one of the severest blows sustained by marine insurance underwriters since Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare began.

A dispatch from Tokio says a German sea raider has invaded the Indian Ocean, where it has already sunk at least two ships. Both of the destroyed vessels were of British nationality, the dispatch said.

Cable dispatches describing the sinking of the seven Dutch ships do not mention whether the vessels were victims of a German submarine or of mines. It has been the British Government's custom merely to announce the "sinking" of a ship, although in several cases recently the method of this sinking has been added.

It is barely possible that the Dutch vessels were sunk by mines laid by the British, although this is unlikely in view of the spot where the ships were reported destroyed. It seems more probable that German U-boats waiting off Land's End and the Scilly Islands to prey on commerce for England were responsible.

Lloyd's lists two British steamships named Grenadier, the larger of 1004 tons, registered at Newcastle, and owned by the Tyne-Tees Steam Shipping Company; the other of 357 tons, registered at Glasgow and owned by David MacBrayne, Limited. From the fact that there were more than

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GENERAL FUNSTON LAID TO REST IN PRESIDIO

Impressive Military Honors at Funeral of National Hero in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 24.—With an impressive military ceremony the body of "Fighting Fred" Funston was laid to rest in the national cemetery in the Presidio today beside that of his little son, Arthur McArthur Funston.

The solemn booming of the minute gun, the clear, bugled notes of "taps" and finally the three crashing volleys of rifle fire over the grave of the nation's beloved soldier, stirred an assemblage of nearly 5000 persons.

At 10 o'clock this morning the body of General Funston, which lay in state in the rotunda of the City Hall last night, was placed on a caisson draped with American flags. Two regiments of infantry stood at "present arms" while six soldiers carried the casket out of the building.

In front of the City Hall the procession of 3000 men was formed. Major General J. Franklin Bell, personally commanding the two regiments of infantry, rode immediately behind the casket.

The honorary pallbearers were: Rear Admiral William F. Fullam, U. S. N.; Brigadier General William L. Seiber, Brigadier General R. K. Evans, Brigadier General Oscar F. Long, Brigadier General John P. Wisner and Colonel Benjamin Alvord.

In the funeral column were eighteen companies of artillery, several companies of marines, Spanish War veterans, veterans of foreign wars, national guardsmen, cadet corps and several squads of city police.



MME. SCHUMANN-HEINK

SCHUMANN-HEINK HURT IN TAXI WRECK

Famous Contralto's Ribs and Arm Broken and She Suffers Internal Injuries

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 24.—Mme. Schumann-Heink, famous contralto, was seriously injured today as a result of the wrecking by a street car of the taxicab in which she and Miss Edith Evans, her accompanist, were riding.

Mme. Schumann-Heink suffered fractures of two ribs, a deep laceration of the right arm and probable internal injuries. Miss Evans was unhurt.

The attending physician says the singer's condition is serious and an engagement here tonight has been canceled.

FIRE SWEEPS ASYLUM, CAUSING MADMEN'S PANIC

\$100,000 Loss Suffered in Part Destruction of Illinois State Hospital Near Peoria

PEORIA, Ill., Feb. 24.—Fire destroyed one building, partly wrecked another and damaged three others at the State Hospital for the Insane at South Bartonville, seven miles from Peoria today. The loss is estimated at more than \$100,000.

A table broke out among the 2000 patients at the institution, but the 300 nurses managed to transfer those from the imperiled building to others, outside the track of the flames. Two hundred patients were released that they might aid in fighting the fire and removing property to safety.

TORNADO CUTS FATAL PATH IN GULF STATES

Nineteen Persons at Least Killed in Storm—Hundreds Are Injured

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 24.—The Gulf States emerged today from the severest tornado of the year and early reports that reached Atlanta indicated nineteen persons were killed and many injured in the collapse of buildings.

Dispatches from Sylacauga, Hollins, Midway and Stewardsville, Ala., reported that seven persons lost their lives, most of them school children, who were trapped in wrecked classrooms. Four negroes were reported dead at Whitsett, Ala.

At Lithonia, Ga., telephone messages coming in over hastily reconstructed wires gave two negroes dead in early reports, while six children lost their lives in Georgetown, Miss. It was stated.

Owing to hampered communication with the stricken district it was impossible early today to get more than bare details of the tornado that swept the States late yesterday.

Hundreds are reported injured, some of them seriously, but confirmation of these figures could not be had here. Dispatches indicated that the loss of life was confined mostly to the poorer district, where houses of flimsy construction collapsed. The tornado evidently cut a path directly across Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama, ignoring districts on its edge.

QUICK NEWS

ROCHESTER PASSES WAR ZONE; WILL DOCK TONIGHT

BORDEAUX, France, Feb. 24.—The American steamship Rochester was expected to dock here this evening, having safely passed through the barred zone.

993 OF 1000 TROOPS LOST ON TRANSPORT

BERLIN, Feb. 21.—Only two men survived out of the 1000 troops aboard the Italian transport Minas, recently sunk by a German submarine in the Mediterranean, the press bureau announced today.

PERSHING SALUTED AS HE TAKES FUNSTON'S POST

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Feb. 24.—General Pershing, who succeeded General Funston as commander of the Department of the Southwest, arrived at headquarters today and was greeted with a salute of thirteen guns. All the department officers called in a body to pay their respects.

FRANK B. SANBORN, JOURNALIST, DIES OF INJURIES

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 24.—Frank B. Sanborn, of Concord, Mass., journalist and author of political treatises and essays, died today at Westfield, N. J., from the effects of an injury received at the home of his son, Francis Sanborn, according to word received here.

HOGS BRING \$13, SETTING NEW CHICAGO RECORD

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—Hogs established a new high record today, when heavies and mixed sold on the market here for \$13 a hundred pounds.

PENROSE DENIES DROPPING FIGHT ON BRUMBAUGH

Senator Penrose in Washington today declared that he has no intention of abandoning his fight for an investigation of Governor Brumbaugh and the State administration. "As soon as my duties are ended here I shall return to Pennsylvania and do everything I can to bring about the investigation of Governor Brumbaugh and his administration," he said. "I have not abandoned my plan to clean house in Pennsylvania, and no deals are on to stop the inquiry."

PICKS UP WIRE ON STREET; KILLED BY CHARGE

SCRANTON, Pa., Feb. 24.—John Zimbros, forty-five years old, was electrocuted on his way to work at a local mine today. He found a wire along the sidewalk and picked it up to throw it into the street. It was heavily charged. Zimbros' right hand was burned off. He died almost instantly.

MISSIONARY KILLED ON WAY TO JOIN FAMILY

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 24.—Robert Allen Haden, Presbyterian missionary at Soo Chow, was en route to Lucerne, Switzerland, to take his wife and six children back to China with him, when he was killed on the French steamship Athos, torpedoed in the Mediterranean by a German submarine. He had been a missionary since 1891, when he was graduated from the Southwestern Presbyterian University, at Clarksville, Tenn. He was born at Keatchie, Louisiana, in 1865. Since 1908 he had been an evangelistic missionary at North Soo Chow. In 1907 Mr. Haden married Miss Eugenie Clara Hibbold, of Switzerland.

ROLLER BEARING PLANT SALE IS APPROVED

TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 24.—Judge Relistab signed an order in the United States District Court confirming the sale of the Standard Roller Bearing Company of Philadelphia to Frank Smith, of that city. Mr. Smith, the nominal purchaser, represents about ninety-eight per cent of the creditors and stockholders of the corporation. The purchase price was \$1,000,000. It was stated that creditors of the company, which has an indebtedness of \$1,600,000, will receive sixty per cent of their claims.

GERMAN CURATOR IN METROPOLITAN MUSEUM QUILTS

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—Dr. William R. Valentiner, curator of decorative art at the Metropolitan Museum, who has been fighting with the Kaiser's army since the war began, has decided to remain in Germany after peace is declared and, with that intention, has resigned his position at the museum. His resignation, communicated in a letter, was accepted with regret by the trustees yesterday.

PLOT TO DESTROY BRITISH OFFICES IN DUTCH TOWN

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 24.—The Nieuwe Van Den Dug says that a plot against the British consulate at Groningen, ninety-two miles northeast of Amsterdam, has been discovered. A box of explosives to which fuses were attached, the paper adds, were found in the hotel where the consulate is housed. Five arrests have been made.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—An Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Rotterdam says that the persons who were arrested at Groningen admitted that they tried several times to blow up the consulate, for which they received 2000 florins (\$500).

BRITAIN TO USE HUGE LINERS IN BLOCKADE DASH

Heavy Freight Fleet to Leave New York, Says Report

SPEED EXPECTED TO DEFEAT U-BOATS

Six Powerful Vessels Slated for Service to Relieve Food Stress in England

U. S. WATCHES SITUATION

Administration Fears German Crisis Will Become Football of Politics

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—An attempt to smash the German submarine blockade by the use of six of the biggest and fastest liners now afloat as freighters between New York and Liverpool is planned by England, according to reports in shipping circles here today.

The report is said to have been brought over by officers recently arriving from Europe. The fast, powerful vessels are counted on to be able to elude the submarines, but will also be well armed for combat should submarines be encountered.

The ships named are the Cunard liner Aquitania, White Star liner Olympic, French liner France, Holland-America liner Stademant, Cunard liner Mauretania and the Belgian liner Belgenland.

Every one of these ships is new, the oldest being the Mauretania. Some of them never have been used in transatlantic service, although all were built for that purpose.

The Stademant passed into British hands while she was in the course of construction when the war started. The Belgenland and Aquitania also were being built when the war started. All were immediately commandeered for use as hospital ships, transports and supply ships. They have been in constant use since the beginning of the war.

The Aquitania has a tonnage of 45,617; the Olympic, 46,253; France, 22,668; Stademant, 22,500; Mauretania, 20,704; and the Belgenland, 24,500. Each ship, it is declared, is capable of maintaining a speed of twenty-two knots an hour. Operations against them by submarines would be almost impossible, it is felt.

The declaration here follows closely the speech of David Lloyd George in the House of Commons, in which he said that every step possible must be taken to avert a desperate situation.

MAY MAKE U-BOAT ISSUE FOOTBALL OF POLITICS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—That the international crisis may become a football of politics was an opinion freely expressed in Administration circles today. The fact that leading Senators admit they desire to force an extra session, while followers of the President insist he is prepared to make any sacrifice to get Congress "off his hands," shows the wide divergence in official opinion.

Meanwhile the members of both houses are dividing into camps, with the result that while three weeks ago the President had almost a solid Congress behind him, today the contrary is the case. And if any drastic measures now are advocated by the Administration it is admitted that they will be subject to considerable debate before they are acted upon.

The situation is in part due to the President's failure to inform Congress of the progress of international affairs. Immediately following the diplomatic break with Germany Congress was disposed to go to any length to support the Administration. Then the nation-wide agitation against war began to be felt. Many officials, following this, took the President at his word when he declared that only the actual commission of an overt act would convince him that Germany was willing to permit a break in the friendship between the two countries. All eyes were focused on the White House. But for reasons that are declared in official quarters to be of the very best no word came.

FACTIONAL GROUPING

Then the general discussion of the international situation broke loose in the Senate and the House and the breaking up of the membership into factional camps got well under way.

Today Congress continues in the dark regarding the intentions of the President. Inspired reports from officials close to President Wilson insist that he will take Congress into confidence.

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Prize Winners in the Woman's Page Contest

ANNOUNCEMENT of the prize winners in the \$100 contest for the best criticisms of its women's pages is on page 8 of today's

Evening Ledger

The names of the winners of the first prize of \$50, of the second prize of \$30 and of the third prize of \$20 are here published. The names of the hundreds of other women whose letters were found so interesting as to merit honorable mention also are published.