

BUMPER WHEAT CROP EXPECTED BY HOUSTON

Secretary of Agriculture Sees No Danger in Short Wheat Crop for This Spring

MAY LIMIT USES LATER

Restriction From Liquor Making and Mixing With Other Grains Urged

WASHINGTON, May 10.—There is no reason why the people of the United States should be alarmed over the winter wheat shortage...

Despite the 60,000,000-bushel decrease in winter wheat reported in the crop estimates yesterday, Mr. Houston said the supply in Canada and this country is sufficient to feed the people of the two countries and allow for 100,000,000 bushels in export until the spring and winter wheat is on the market...

If conditions should become bad as the result of unfavorable weather during the growing period of the spring wheat, regulation might be necessary, he said. "I only want to say that there is no cause for alarm at this time; but, on the other hand, the acreage of spring wheat should be increased, and nothing be left undone to increase our production."

Considering the favorable weather now, the present supply and the fact that the use of wheat will be made to go further by mixing, if necessary, I cannot see any alarming conditions."

The secretary said that pending legislation permitting mixing, if this should be necessary as a conservator, the restriction of its use in beverages and the teaching of our people to use more corn, would all tend to conserve our wheat supply. It may be necessary, he said, to strictly regulate the use of wheat, but this will be done only as a last resort.

It was pointed out that we should go to the same conditions existing in England today, which permits of a mixing of 25 per cent of wheat with other grains, such as corn, rye or barley.

U. S. Ships Fires Upon U-Boat; Save Freighter

Continued from Page One

Black and Lieutenant I. E. Faithful, of the British Navy; Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Nicholson, Cecil B. Bonsonby, H. H. Dearing, Mrs. M. A. Jacques and her sons, William H. and David R. Jacques, relatives of Rear Admiral Jellicoe, of the United States Navy.

Among the third-class passengers on the ship were six members of the Norwegian back Skool, sunk off the Irish coast by a German submarine on April 1, and three of the crew of the Norwegian back Vestelo, sunk on April 22.

The Skool was bound from New York to Glasgow, and the Vestelo from Mobile to Belfast. The nine seamen were very much excited when the gunners were firing at the German submarine, and would not go below until nearly midnight, because they were afraid the craft would appear again in the dark and attack the ship. The ship carried twenty-nine first, twenty-eight second, and thirty-four third class passengers. The weather was calm for most of the voyage, the officers said.

BUYS SEVEN AUSTRIAN VESSELS

Federal Shipbuilding Board Gets Craft at Half Prevailing Prices

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The Federal Shipping Board announced last night it had purchased from American owners seven Austrian merchantmen held in American ports, totaling 52,551 tons, for \$6,778,006. The price is about half the prevailing price for ships.

The vessels will be repaired within a few months and placed in the war emergency trade by the board.

The ships are Dora, 7637 gross tons; the Ida, 4730 tons, both at New York; Eny, 6515 tons, Boston; Anna, 1275 tons; Clara, 3932 tons; Teresa, 3769 tons, at New Orleans; and the Lucia, 6744 tons, at Pensacola. They were bought from A. T. Herd and George A. Cullen, New York shipowners, who agreed to sacrifice their profits and sell at virtually the same price they gave for the vessels.

Stern Assails Flucks as Enemies of Transit

Continued from Page One

ent surface, highway or elevated lines, without having first to have the Public Service Commission give it the right to do so. The bill would greatly curtail the powers of the Public Service Commission, as would the bill introduced by Representative Black, of Dauphin, which would permit the city of Philadelphia to go ahead with the high-speed lines without having to obtain certificates of public convenience from the commission.

FAVORABLY REPORTED

The Black bill has been favorably reported from the House Judiciary Special Committee, of which Representative Stern is chairman, and is on the House first reading calendar. The author, however, has signaled his intention of having it recommitted, as it would so nullify the powers of the commission as seriously to affect public utility companies or corporations, as well as municipalities or communities, not only as to street railway systems but as to railroads and other public utilities.

"If the point raised by the Fluck suit was justified before the passage of the act to validate the loan," Mr. Stern said, "certainly the Flucks are not justified in trying to prevent the act from being placed in the statute book, or in seeking to raise fresh objections in the way of the speedy completion of the Philadelphia high-speed lines."

It is the duty of every loyal Philadelphian, who has the best interests of his city at heart, to do everything in his power to help push these lines, not to attempt to tie them up by employing some legal technicality.

"I have no desire to question the right of any citizen or taxpayer to institute court proceedings at any time in order to test the legality of a loan or of a bond issue, but what the Legislature places the stamp of its approval upon an act intended to do this, once and for all, the legality of the \$67,000,000 loan, or of the election at which it was approved by the citizens of Philadelphia, I think it is unwarranted and unjustified for any man, whatever his motives may be, to play the dog-in-the-manger."

NEVER HEARD OF FLUCK

"If it becomes any individual to attempt to impede the credit of his native city as this man Fluck, of whom I never heard of before, is evidently trying to do."

"If the bonds already issued to the amount of \$7,500,000 by the city of Philadelphia as part of the \$67,000,000 loan and transit proposition should be declared illegal by the courts as the result of the Fluck suit, the bondholders would receive no interest until the Legislature of 1919 could validate those bonds."

"Of course, the city of Philadelphia would not repudiate the obligation involved, but the bondholders would not only be harassed but would have to wait for at least two years before they could realize any money on their bonds. This is especially true if any of the bondholders might desire to negotiate their securities."

"If the courts should declare illegal the election at which the loan was approved and the validating act should not be signed by the Governor, it would seriously reflect upon Philadelphia's financial credit."

"There is no connection between the validating act and the other transit bills now pending in the Legislature. The latter bills were introduced for an entirely different purpose and will be made the subject of a public hearing to be held in either the Senate or the House chamber on the afternoon of May 22."

The hearing referred to by Stern will be held in either the Senate or House chamber and will be conducted by the Senate Judiciary General Committee, of which Senator Kline is chairman, and the House Judiciary Special Committee, of which Stern is chairman.

What bearing, if any, the Black-Miller bills may have on the situation is uncertain, but the opinion is that any attempt to curtail the powers of the Public Service Commission on the part of the Legislature would be vetoed by the Governor.

Both the Black and Miller measures are "repeaters." The Miller bill would repeal

Waste Crust, Waste Bullet, English Economy Slogan

LONDON, May 10. Economy department of the Food Ministry include the following:

"Rich people who make their dining of lobster salad are good patriots. The rich man who eats neck of mutton and bread is not."

"The woman who wastes a crust wastes a bullet."

"Eat slowly and you need eat less. Five people out of ten are digging their graves with their teeth."

"The dustbin swallows the food of millions."

GOOD LUCK FOR RUNAWAY

Negro Boy Finds New Suit and Allowance by Sleeping in Dog Kennel

Sleeping in a dog kennel brought good fortune to a fourteen-year-old negro boy, Remington Cross. He had been living in a hovel on the grounds of the Brown mansion at Forty-first and Locust streets for more than three weeks when he was found by the police. He broke down and said he ran away from home and was working rather than go to school and not support himself.

William T. Harris, who lives next to the mansion, heard of the case. He not only introduced the boy out in new clothes, but will allow him an allowance if his weekly reports at school are good.

Stotesbury Defended in Statement by Bell

Continued from Page One

Service man, turning to Stotesbury. He then ordered his assistants to check up the party and while the financier stepped down from the platform one of the committee remarked sarcastically that Nye was a Secret Service man, and at the same time Bell stepped forward and told Nye just who the financier was.

Nye answered: "I am a Secret Service man and I will run things to suit Nye and not Stotesbury. The financier replied that he would not tolerate such remarks."

"I AM IN CHARGE"

"I am in charge of this train," rejoined Nye determinedly, and I don't intend to have any interference."

At this point Captain Mills thrust himself into the argument and requested that the ladies receive permission to board the car.

"Mind your own business," said Nye to Mills, who turned the color of a beet. "This is not a police matter. You have nothing to do with this train and I don't intend you shall."

Assistant Secretary of State Breckinridge Long tried his luck with Nye. His attempts were as futile as the rest. "If you want to run things," remarked the Secret Service agent to Long, "go ahead and do so, and I'll go back to Washington. I am responsible for the party and I will not allow a reception aboard."

"Now," Mr. Stotesbury said, "I'll take a hand in this. The train will move when I say so."

"You miss the train," said Nye. "I guess not. I shall give the word at 2:20 and the train will pull out."

OFF ON TIME

The financier, who controls the Reading

WASHINGTON LIFE CO. IS ORDERED SEIZED

Court Acts to Safeguard Assets of Pittsburgh Life and Trust

NEW YORK, May 10.—Supreme Court Justice Blinn has signed an order on the application of Insurance Commissioner Phillips, directing him to take possession of the Washington Life Insurance Company, which was controlled by the Pittsburgh Life and Trust Company, because of acts of officers of the company and by persons pretending to act as agents or officers which were inimical to the interests of the policy holders.

These consisted of the removal from safe deposit box of securities deposited there in 1909 by the Pittsburgh Life and Trust Company under their agreement of reinsurance with the Washington Life, by which they were to secure the Washington Life policy holders through the deposit of securities in excess of the legal reserve of the policy. Commissioner Phillips stated that a large quantity of the securities had been excluded for bonds of Dare Lumber Company, which are of speculative value and are not proper collateral to be deposited under the reinsurance agreement. The officers named as participating in the illegal acts were the following officials of Washington Life: Alfred Leury, president; William D. MacQuestion, vice president; and George A. Nicol, director.

Justice Blinn's order restrains any alleged creditor of the Washington Life from taking any action against it and also enjoins the disposition of any of the assets of the company.

AMERICANS HELD IN TURKEY

Washington Learns Number of Military Age Are Being Detained

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Americans of military age are having difficulty in leaving Turkey and the embassy at Constantinople is making urgent inquiries.

An official dispatch received by way of Stockholm says twenty-four Americans got away, but that twenty men, between eighteen and forty-five were not permitted to depart at the last moment. Those who did get away included Consul General Harold, Vice Consul Young, Commander Morton, the Hager family and the Messrs. Gulliver and Tompkins.

Report of Revolt in Bolivia Denied

LA PAZ, Bolivia, May 10.—The Secretary of State denied the report of a revolution in Bolivia. He said the situation in the republic was tranquil.

Our Final Notice

The End of India Paper

Your order for the new Encyclopaedia Britannica printed on genuine India paper must be sent us on or before Saturday, **May 26**—if you expect to obtain a set. (It may be that the last set will be gone a day or two earlier.)

NOW—or never!

When the last set is sold, no more can be offered printed on genuine India paper—because there is no more India paper. Before you order be sure the Britannica will be useful to you—as helpful to you as it is to the 180,000 men and women who already own a set.

In Philadelphia, see and order at **GIMBELS** 9TH & MARKET STREETS

But do this today. Decide TODAY whether or not you really want one of these last sets on the famous India paper. If you do, then leave your order for a set. Or, if more convenient, send in this reserve order to us—at once.

Only \$1 down (or with Reserve Order) secures a set. You may pay the balance in a limited number of small monthly payments. But finally, it is **NOW—or never** if you want the Britannica printed on genuine India paper.

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO., Chicago, Ill.

Please reserve me a set of the "Handy Volume" Encyclopaedia Britannica, printed on genuine India paper. I enclose \$1.00 as first payment. Send me an order form which I agree to sign and return immediately.

Name _____
Street and Number _____
P. O. Address _____
State _____

Those who cannot go to the store may use this reserve order form, which will be legally binding upon us to reserve one set for you, just the same as if you ordered it in person.

A WONDERFUL NEW VOLUME

THE publishers of the Encyclopaedia Britannica announce that they have made arrangements for the issue, as soon after the end of the war as possible, of a new volume, containing a full and authoritative history of the war.

The new volume will be written by scholars and experts of the same high character as those who wrote for the Britannica, itself, and by many of its own contributors. It will be absolutely impartial, excluding all partisan feeling and prejudice. It will contain:

1. A judicial account of the real causes of the war, the progress of the struggle and the results all over the world, with maps as necessary to show changes in boundaries.
2. The lives of the new leaders, whether civil, military or naval, in the belligerent countries.
3. The results of the war outside the sphere of fighting, the progress of surgery, the prevention of contagious disease, the new scientific discoveries, etc.

The new volume will bridge the gap between the days of peace before and after the war. It will be printed and bound to match the Britannica and the publishers guarantee that no matter how difficult and costly the supplementary volume may be from the editorial point of view, the price of it to all who purchase the Britannica during the present sale will not be more than that of a corresponding volume of the Britannica.

H. E. HOOPER, President

Vette

The destination of the brook is the ocean. It gets there, too; not once in a while, but always.

In a Motor Car it is immeasurably satisfying to have this certainty of accomplishment, and you can, too, if your car is a Vette Six.

Four Beautiful Open Models, 2, 4, 5 and 7 Passenger

Superlative Performance & Wear

\$1185 TO \$1650

24-HOUR DELIVERY

LA ROCHE BROS., Inc.

506 N. Broad St.