

ITALY ASKS U. S. TO LOWER TARIFF

Delegates Plead for Reduction of Textile Tax as Reconstruction Aid

FRANCE NEEDS FUEL OILS

Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 22.—One way for the United States to help Italy to her feet is to lower import tariffs on textile manufactures. The Italian textile delegates to the international trade conference, headed by Giorgio Melius, president of the Italian Master Cotton Spinners and Weavers' Association, conveyed this information today to the textile committee of the conference.

Italy has revised her textile import tariffs downward, and hopes other countries, notably America, will do the same.

John R. Munn is chairman of the American textile committee. He and his associates were informed by the Italian delegation, in a joint committee meeting this morning, that there were 4,600,000 spindles turning in Italy before the war, of which 300,000 were temporarily put out of work or totally destroyed by the invasion. Conditions have been restored to almost normal in spinning.

The normal cotton importation into Italy annually was 500,000,000 pounds before the war. It will not be more than 425,000,000 pounds this year, according to the delegation. Before the war between 30 and 40 per cent of Italy's manufactured textile goods were exported.

France Needs Fuel Oil

The French delegates conferred with the American fuel committee this morning on the supply of petroleum and fuel oils for next year. France, like Italy, has reduced import tariffs to meet post-bellum conditions. The import tax on petroleum has been cut from 120 francs a ton to four francs.

During the next year France wants petroleum and fuel oils to a total value of \$50,000,000, according to a statement made to the American committee by the French delegates. It was for the purpose of encouraging import of petroleum, the delegates explained, that the tariff has been cut to a minimum.

During 1920 France will need 100,000 tons of fuel oil a month.

The American committee assured the French delegates that this country had the oil that the French need, but there was some uncertainty about ship tonnage. The French Government is building tankers for this trade, and it is said that it is possible that ships now on the ways in American shipyards may be allocated to the French.

Delegates have been arriving rapidly during the day from all over the country to attend the open sessions of the conference. There are approximately 2000 registered at headquarters at present, and more are expected.

Italy's war losses amount to between two and one-half and three billion lire, according to Commander Dr. Ferdinando Quattori, chairman of the Italian mission.

Italy has come to the convention eager to take her full part in the great work of post-war economic reconstruction. The Italian delegates, meeting the American business men in various sectional groups, have been frank to tell the needs of their country.

The heavy loans necessary during the war have proved a heavy drain on the country; reconstruction likewise is involving the investment of billions more; some of Italy's most fertile lands are now from recovered from the devastation of conquest and reconquest. On the whole, however, Italy is in reasonably good economic condition, facing the future bravely and ready to undertake a campaign of manufacture and foreign trade that will bring about a new era.

Fear Spread of Bolshevism

Though the meetings of committees and subcommittees were held behind closed doors, enough has found its way out to make it very evident that the business men, both European and American, who are taking part in the conference, fear the spread of bolshevism and kindred doctrines.

The need to provide by wise enactment and economic measures against the spread of Bolshevist propaganda is expected to be the keynote of the public meetings.

Britain, France and Italy have all experienced the stirring of more or less radical social discontent. Belgium alone of the nations interested in the conference has been relatively free from serious industrial unrest. The explanation given by the Belgian delegates of the methods used in King Albert's country to keep the people happy and contented has given rise to much discussion in the conference. There is a strong feeling that similar remedies for the industrial and economic diseases of the age should be applied here and in other countries.

Belgium has kept her working people satisfied by elaborate government co-operation with the working men. There has been no effort at state socialism or anything approaching it. The state bank has been the rock of Belgium's contentment. The government is continuing the practice, begun long before the war, of loaning money to workmen and farmers, to pay for the purchase of farms and the erection of dwelling houses.

See Grave Danger in United States

American leaders of business feel strongly that there is grave danger in

this country to be met. They feel, and will express their thoughts concretely during the public sessions, that the nations face an internal foe at present which offers a graver menace than the German.

These members of the conference, especially the American members, have come to the conclusion after these three days of deliberation that the only safeguard is to so insure the economic prosperity of this and other countries that there will be no poverty and unemployment for the radical propaganda to feed on.

The feeling, influential members of the convention pointed out today, makes it all the more plain that it is the duty of both American and foreign delegates to rest only establish a firm world-wide trade league for the future, but immediately to work out plans for interchange of goods and revival of world-wide industry.

The doctrine of salvation through work has gained the entire membership of the convention as its adherents. It is mediated that the nations face an internal foe at present which offers a graver menace than the German.

STATE TO BUY OWN BONDS

Will Invest \$1,000,000 in \$12,000,000 Road Loan

Harrisburg, Oct. 22.—(By A. P.)—The state is granting to invest a million dollars in its own bonds.

Deferring its arrangements have been made and will be approved shortly by the sinking fund commission, whereby the commonwealth will purchase for the fund a million dollars' worth of the \$12,000,000 road bond issue, the first installment of the \$50,000,000 issue to be sold.

The sinking fund for redemption of the road bonds was established by the last Legislature, as a result of the general appropriation bill providing for the payment of certain sums out of the general revenue for the purpose. The payment is about to be made and the commission will follow from year to year.

PARIS SHORT OF COAL

Hotels Forbidden to Use That Fuel Until Nov. 1—Tourists Shiver

Paris, Oct. 22.—(By A. P.)—American tourists who have recently reached Paris wish that they might have brought their own coal supply with them. October has been unusually cold and damp, but there is an official prohibition against the use of coal for central heating in hotels until November 1, so that only those hotels able to obtain a supply of wood are heated.

Travelers just arrived from Berlin and Vienna say that prices there are much higher and that prices here are not so good. Paris seems just as badly crowded as at this time last year, and tourists are walking the streets, seeking accommodations. Apartments and boarding houses are as greatly crowded as the roads.

RAID LANCASTER SALOONS

U. S. Agents Collect Samples of Beverages Dispensed

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 22.—Working under direction of United States District Attorney Francis Fisher Kane, Philadelphia, federal agents today swept down on Lancaster in force and visited many places suspected of selling beverages containing more alcohol than the wartime prohibition law specifies.

Samples were taken and sealed in bottles. It is understood the contents will be sent to Philadelphia for chemical analysis.

FEDERAL AGENTS INDICTED

Three Accused of Plot to Blackmail Liquor Dealers

New York, Oct. 22.—(By A. P.)—Three agents of the Department of Justice were indicted today by the federal grand jury on charges of having engaged in a conspiracy to blackmail liquor dealers in this city and thereby frustrate the operation of the wartime prohibition law.

Two other men, one a former agent of the department, were indicted on similar charges.

TRADE BOARD HITS BACK AT WATSON

He and Sherman Called "Part and Parcel of Packers' Warfare"

ACCUSER OFFERS PROOF

By the Associated Press

Washington, Oct. 22.—The Federal Trade Commission, in a formal statement today, asserted that the charges made against the commission by Senator Watson, Republican of Indiana, and Senator Sherman, Republican of Illinois, were "part and parcel of the warfare of the Chicago meat packers against the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission with the purpose of subverting justice."

The commission said the good faith of Senator Watson's charges was open to question when it was remembered that the senator was a "bolshivist" in 1909, and it charged that the senator's relations with the Chicago packers were shown by certain correspondence which the commission had taken from the files of Watson & Co.

Commission Turns Accuser

Declaring that the commission and its employees had long been subject to an attack "that the public has known about," the commission's statement said that while it was investigating the meat packers the government's representatives were trailed by detectives and the commission's offices were entered "surreptitiously."

The commission added that some of the commission's agents had been summoned as witnesses in the case against the packers which the Department of Justice soon is to present to a Federal Grand Jury at Chicago, and asked whether it was a coincidence that these men were the men accused in Senator Watson's charges that the commission was a hotbed of bolshevism, sedition and anarchy.

Watson Offers to Prove Charges

Senator Watson, told the Senate today that charges of socialist activities against the commission were "part and parcel of the warfare of the Chicago meat packers against the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission with the purpose of subverting justice."

Senator Watson said that before making his charges he spent considerable time investigating them and had "every reason to believe the charges are true."

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Cool for eating



PICTURES FARMER AS H. C. L. VICTIM

Forced to Sell at Loss While Others Profit, Says Senator Capper

DISTRIBUTION IS FAULTY

By the Associated Press

Washington, Oct. 22.—The farmer's side of the high-cost-of-living question was presented to the Senate today by Senator Capper, Republican of Kansas, who declared that, while farmers are selling their products at a loss in declining markets, the consumers are making rising prices.

Faulty distribution was blamed largely for this "unavoidable spectacle," and the senator urged a number of remedies to increase production. He deplored the numerous industrial strikes and the small representation given agriculture in the industrial conference.

Big Profits of Others

Illustrating the anomalous situation of farmers and consumers, Senator Capper said farmers are selling their wheat at a loss, adding: "It takes four and a half bushels of wheat to make a barrel of flour. The wheat raiser gets about \$8.37 for the wheat, the miller \$12.70, the baker \$58.70 and the hotelkeeper here in Washington as it is doled out in thin slices, \$587."

The government, through the grain corporation, Senator Capper said, profited \$23,000,000 at the expense of farmers last year, the farmers selling from twenty to seventy cents less than the guaranteed price.

"The situation of the livestock farmer is even more deplorable," he said. "Farmers are selling their grain-fed beefs and hogs for less than it costs to produce them, but the consumer finds little or no change in the price of meat."

Farmers Are Driven Out

"While everything a farmer must buy demands the high dollar, the price of his commodities, the cheapest in the market, are held down by a foreign embargo and a government guarantee."

Farmers are being driven out of business and drifting to the cities because of conditions in the agricultural industry, Senator Capper declared. Citing losses sustained by agricultural producers, Senator Capper said the recent decline in livestock prices had cost producers \$80,000,000.

Farm Values Have Doubled

Farm values have doubled, land values have risen enormously and everything the farmer buys, he said, has risen from 50 to 300 per cent.

Among the remedies suggested by Senator Capper were cessation of "federal government propaganda which tends to bear down the prices of farm products."

Sulphur-Laden Ship Stranded

Chatham, Mass., Oct. 22.—(By A. P.)—The sulphur-laden steamer Mayport was stranded in Shoeluff Shoal in Nantucket Sound today, having run on the bars during the fog and rain of last night. Captain Taylor and his crew decided to stay aboard their vessel, which is lying easily. The Mayport, a shipping board freighter of 1510 tons, was bound from Sabine, Tex., for Portland, Me.

COAL AGREEMENT NOT YET IN SIGHT

Secretary Wilson Holds Separate Meetings With Each Contending Group

STORM HITS CONFERENCE

Washington, Oct. 22.—Miners and operators, called here by Secretary Wilson in an effort to settle the coal strike ordered for November 1, still were wide apart today.

After a two-hour conference Secretary Wilson shifted his program by adjourning the miners' group until this afternoon and holding a separate meeting with the operators. He proposed to meet the miners at 2:30 p. m. and to call in the operators again at 3:30 p. m.

John I. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, declared there was no change in the situation. Operators refuse to say any proposal was made to them or if they would recede from their position not to negotiate a new wage agreement unless the strike order and demands for a five-day work were withdrawn.

ROME JARRED BY QUAKE

Rome, Oct. 22.—Rome was shaken by an earthquake at 7:05 o'clock this morning, the tremor waking up the population still in bed and lasting a few seconds.

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LOWELL THOMAS

Associate Editor of ASIA, lecturer, traveller and explorer, who met and lived with Lawrence in the deserts of Arabia and knows him as no other American does, in the October

ASIA

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What the peoples of Asia think and do—how they will act in the great international crises of the future—affect our daily life and the future of our children. ASIA clarifies political situations. China's affairs are now our affairs—Japan's interests are our interests—Near Eastern matters are our concern. No longer may we stand aloof. We must know the Great Continent.

ASIA brings the Orient to you. Not a dry-as-dust discussion, but thorough articles contributed by authorities, vivid with human experience, illustrated with remarkable photographs and reproductions of paintings.

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"The Broad Highway to a Land of Fascination"

Persian Ruins

Solving the Persian Problem, by F. L. Bird

Dropping the White Man's Burden, by H. M. Hyndman

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War in the Land of the Arabian Nights, by Lowell Thomas

II. Lawrence Thrills the Arabs and Wins Their Leadership

Insert of Thomas Pictures

The Tiger and the Foreign Devil, by William L. Hall

In the Japanese Green Room, by Zoe Kincaid

Eastern Craftsmen and Western Markets, by M. D. C. Crawford

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"May I write to say to you how greatly I enjoy the perusal of the numbers of ASIA, the magazine of your Association, as this comes to me from month to month. This, in my opinion, is not only one of the most attractive, but one of the most substantial and valuable publications dealing with Far Eastern affairs, and whoever is interested in these politically, financially or commercially—should be advised to follow the articles and reports the magazine contains."

"(Signed) Jacob H. Schiff."

A PLACE TO FILL

"I read ASIA with great interest as it comes to me from time to time, and think it has a place to fill, and is filling it with remarkable ability. Sincerely yours,

"Theodore N. Vail,"

Chairman of the Board, American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The September Shantung issue of ASIA was completely sold out on the newsstands within a few days after publication. We had to print a large second edition, and this was sold out. Our October issue is late—so there will be no time to make a second printing. If you want to be sure of your copy, get it at once. It is on sale to-day, 35 cents, at the newsstands and booksellers who have the better magazines. Get your copy to-day.

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