

# EXPORTS NO CAUSE FOR COAL PRICES

### Interstate Board Finds Them Factor in Some Parts, but Not in Country as a Whole

## 8.5 P. C. PRODUCED LEFT U. S.

Washington, Nov. 12.—Foreign demand for American coal was an important factor in the high domestic cost along the Atlantic seaboard during the first nine months of this year, but it was only a minor factor in the creation of high coal prices for the rest of the country, the Interstate Commerce Commission says in a report prepared for the Senate.

The report, made public today, is in response to a resolution adopted by the Senate last June calling for an investigation of the effect of coal exports on domestic prices.

"It would be an error to assume that fundamentally the high prices paid for spot coal are to be ascribed mainly to the large exports," says the report. "There also has been an abnormal domestic situation. The foreign demand intensified the abnormal domestic demand and the several factors together afforded an opportunity for the exacting of prices not justified by the cost of production."

80,000,000 Tons Left United States  
During the first nine months of 1920 the commission's tables show that a total of 80,273,379 tons of coal left the country, of which 23,590,013 tons was export coal and 56,683,366 tons was for foreign bunkers.

"With an estimated production of 257,142,857 tons for the first nine months of 1920, the export and foreign bunker coal for the nine months was 8.5 per cent of the estimated total production," the commission declares. "In particular situations the foreign demand plays a much more important part than is indicated by the comparison of total production and export for the United States as a whole."

### Railroads Had To Buy

During the period covered the commission showed that the export and bunker coal passing through New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Hampton Roads and Charleston amounted to more than one-half of the shipments to those ports. Railroads serving those ports, the commission asserts, were forced to buy spot coal at the exorbitant prices quoted at those ports and were directly affected by the upbidding of prices by foreign buyers.

In July, 1920, the average price per net ton of coal at the mine was \$3.25 for contract coal compared with \$2.47 per net ton in July, 1919, the commission said, while spot coal in July was \$3.01 per net ton at the mine against \$2.3 in July a year ago.

The anthracite industry "fears the truth and is afraid of the light," W. J. Lauck, Washington economist and counsel for the anthracite miners, declared yesterday in discussing the failure of the anthracite interests to reply to his recent charges that Philadelphia consumers are paying \$3.25 a ton more than a reasonable price for hard coal.

The disposition of Dr. E. W. Parker, chief of the Anthracite Bureau of Investigation in Philadelphia, to answer the charges with "epithets instead of facts and figures," Mr. Lauck asserted, exhibited the characteristic tendency of the anthracite operators and their representatives. Only a sweeping investigation of the entire industry, he said, could bring about the constructive reforms in the hard-coal trade necessary to guarantee the public fair prices for domestic fuel.

"The attitude of the anthracite industry," Mr. Lauck continues, "is strictly negative and devoid of any sense of public responsibility. As a matter of fact, at the recent hearing of the anthracite commission, they even claimed that the public was not interested in the proceedings. A further illustration of that attitude is furnished by their refusal at the present time to make any reports to the Federal Trade Commission showing their cost of production."

"Public Should Demand Investigation"  
"The public should demand and secure an investigation which would break down and effectively turn to public benefit the present monopolistic and exploitive alliance between the anthracite-carrying railroads, the coal-producing companies and the coal-sales companies. The matter, as one of public concern, is too serious to be dismissed by mere epithets."

Mr. Lauck repeated his charges that hard-coal consumers are being charged "excess or apparent" profit of at least \$3.25 a ton, and called attention to the unanswered figures he had submitted to support his charges. He further insisted that if the problem were attacked at its roots, and the vast hidden profit of the anthracite combination be eliminated, "it is possible that the retail price of anthracite coal could be reduced by \$5 or \$6 a ton and still leave a fair margin of profit to the operators."

Elaborate data and exhibits on anthracite prices and producing costs, Mr. Lauck said, were prepared for submission at the recent session of President Wilson's Anthracite Commission, but were excluded from the record on the plea of the operators that it was not the business of the President's commission, which had been created to settle a wage dispute, to pry into the cost of anthracite production and its relation to wages and the cost of living.

"The operators," said Mr. Lauck, "were afraid of publicity. They strenuously opposed the submission of our evidence, and finally on purely technical grounds prevailed upon the chairman to exclude these fundamental figures."

### COAL PRICES SHOW A SLIGHT BREAK

New York, Nov. 12.—Under continued insistence of federal authorities and public demand for reasonable charges, the wall of high prices which has kept coal from the consumer apparently began to crumble yesterday. A slight break in figures was followed by announcement of two organized efforts—one on the part of the coal operators and the other by the wholesalers to prices high. Both of those movements are attributed to the submission of government authorities are making, and one was regarded by a federal official as "the operators' answer to the threat of Senator Calder to bring about a Senate investigation."

Meanwhile, there were announcements from two sources that information tending to show where price-cutting has flourished were forwarded to Attorney General Palmer, and District Attorney Lewis, of Kings county, made it known that at least one big coal mine in Brooklyn has declared itself ready to make a clean breast of names and evidence of coal gouging in that borough.

The United States attorney general took advantage of the weakening front by ordering a new city-wide investigation into the purchase and sale of anthracite and has augmented his investigators here with agents from other districts.

## PERU'S PRESIDENT IN PERIL

### Widespread Revolutionary Plot Disclosed by Government

Lima, Peru, Nov. 12.—(By A. P.)—Discovery of a revolutionary plot, with ramifications in the provinces of Madre de Dios, Huallaga and Lambayeque and the cities of Cuzco and Krequpa, was announced by high officials at the government palace yesterday.

The conspiracy was to culminate in an attack upon President Leguia during a dinner given in his honor at the Union Club, it is said.

Some thirty persons, some of whom are prominent members of the opposition party, have been arrested at Ancoche. They include Garcias Lastera, Colonel Cesar Pardo and Colonel Llanfranco. Pro-government demonstrations were held at Ancoche yesterday, but the police are in full control of the situation and are maintaining perfect order.

All traffic over the branch of the Central Railway serving the Cerro Pasco region has been suspended because of a strike.

## CHRISTMAS PARCEL RULES

### Gifts for Soldiers Must Be in Hand by December 5

Washington, Nov. 12.—(By A. P.)—Christmas packages for American troops on the Rhine must reach Hoboken by December 5 to insure delivery before Christmas Day, the War Department announced today. They should be sent care of the general superintendent, army transport service, Hoboken.

Parcels for men stationed in Hawaii and the Philippine Islands should reach the depot quartermaster, Fort Mason, San Francisco, not later than December 5, while those for shipment to the Panama Canal zone and Porto Rico should be in the hands of the general superintendent, army transport service, pier 3, army supply base, South Brooklyn, N. Y., by November 20.

Parcels for Germany must not exceed seven pounds in weight and seven and one-half inches combined length and girth. Those to men on duty in the canal zone and insular possessions are limited to twenty pounds in weight and two cubic feet in volume.

## HARDING DEPICTS AMERICA'S AIMS

### Full Protection for Her Citizens and Fraternal Relations With World

Brownsville, Tex., Nov. 12.—Facing a border crowd in which were many citizens of Mexico and several officials of the Mexican Government, President-elect Harding proposed yesterday a foreign policy directed toward peace and friendship, but demanding always full protection of American nationality and American citizens wherever they may go.

The address, which was his first prepared utterance since his election to the presidency, was delivered from a stand on the Fort Brown parade grounds, within a few hundred yards of the international boundary. The cavalry sabres of the Fort Brown garrison rattled about him, but in a place of honor on his right was also a part of the Mexican garrison of Matamoros, paying tribute to the American president.

In the course of his address devoted jointly to the significance of the Armistice Day anniversary and to the country's foreign relations, he did not mention Mexico by name nor did he refer directly to the League of Nations.

America Craves Fraternity  
"We crave fraternity," he said. "We wish amicable relations everywhere, we offer peace and choose to promote it, but we demand our freedom and our own America. I believe an America, emblem of the world, respected in every avenue of trade, will be safer at home and greater in influence throughout the world. I like to think of an America whose citizens are ever seeking the greater development and widened influence of the republic, and I like to think of a government which protects

its citizens wherever they go on a lawful mission, anywhere, under the shining sun."

"The day is especially interesting to our own country because without American participation it might have been a later and different date, if indeed, there had been an Armistice Day at all. We do not claim to have won the war, but we helped mightily, and recorded undying glory to American arms and gave the world a new understanding of the American spirit and a new measure of American resources."

"Whatever the world may have thought of us before, however incalculable we may have been appraised, the world has come to know that selfishness is not a trait of our national character, that commercialism does not engross us, that neutrality was conceived in fairness—not in fear—and that when our national rights are threatened and our nationals are sacrificed, America is ready to defend, and ever will. More, we gave to humanity an example of unselfishness which it only half appreciated before misunderstanding led to confusion."

"We helped to win the war, unaided and unmortgaged. We fought with the allied powers, but we were never committed, if fully aware of them, to the compacts of the alliance."

America Will Record Purpose  
"History will record it correctly, no matter how much beautiful sentiment has been poured out for purposes in the world war. We did not fight to make the world safe for democracy, though we fought for humanity's sake, no matter how such a cause impelled. Democracy was threatened and humanity was dying for the republic's defense. But we fought for the one supreme cause which inspires men to offer all for country and the flag, and we fought as became a free America, and dropped the hatred, and stifled the greed, when the victory for defense was won."

"We prove anew that here is free and ample America, which does not ask but freely gives. We were American in name before the world was made up of Americans, and we are not a collection of peoples but one people, with but one purpose, one confidence, one pride, one aspiration and one flag."

"I like to think of an America whose citizens are ever seeking the greater development and widened influence of the republic, and I like to think of a government which protects

protects its citizens wherever they go on a lawful mission, anywhere under the shining sun."

## HARDING KEPT INDOORS BY STORM

Point Isabel, Tex., Nov. 12.—(By A. P.)—President-elect Harding's tarpon fishing was interrupted today by a thirty-five mile norther that churned the Point Isabel fishing grounds into a tumbling field of foam and drove the temperature down to the shivering point.

Deciding to stay ashore, the senator read and rested during the morning in his cottage, overlooking the lagoon, but hoped before the day was over to motor to Brownsville for a game of golf. He expressed keen disappointment that unfavorable weather had overtaken his fishing ventures, and said he expected to get a chance to try his luck once more before he leaves here, early next week.

Mr. Harding's speech in Brownsville yesterday was the only one on his engagement list during his stay here, and he expects to do no work before his departure on the other matters awaiting his attention. Mail is beginning to come here for him in great quantities, but his secretaries are filing most of it away and are giving immediate attention only to most urgent letters.

## LABOR EXPENDED \$51,988

### Printing Chief Item of Cost in Political Campaign

Washington, Nov. 12.—(By A. P.)—Contributions of \$53,175 and expenditures of \$51,988 were reported by the American Federation of Labor's non-partisan political campaign committee in a statement filed today with the clerk of the House of Representatives. The period covered by the report was from February 24 to November 2.

Approximately two-thirds of the expenditures were shown to be for printing. Contributions were received from labor organizations and individuals.

## NO PREFERENCE IN CHINA

### U. S. Bankers Behind Loan Demand Cheapest and Best Materials

Washington, Nov. 12.—(By A. P.)—Speaking for the American group of bankers in the consortium for China, Thomas W. Lamont, of New York, declares in a letter made public here today by the far east commercial intelligence service that no preference will be extended to any particular business interests in the undertakings that are contemplated.

"Our aim is to aid China in developing her great basic enterprises, such as means of communication, etc., and at the same time to protect both China and the foreign investors who purchase her bonds in the underlying and intrinsic value of the projects for which she borrows and they loan," said Mr. Lamont.

"It goes without saying that in order to accomplish our purpose for China we must do our best to see that the secure benefits, other things being equal, of the lowest possible prices for the material and equipment that finally go into the upbuilding of her public utilities."

opportunity to share in this two-pants suit value. Come to a real Tailor Shop and have your suit custom tailored.

Don't fail to share in this two-pants suit value. Come to a real Tailor Shop and have your suit custom tailored.

4 PIECE SUIT Sale 39.95

225 pieces of Overcoatings and Suits to close out all our Mill Ends—\$27.50.

THE STANDARD TAILORING CO., INC. TAILORS FOR MEN AND WOMEN 1215 MARKET STREET 2nd Floor F. WACHTEL, Mgr. OPEN MONDAY & SAT. EVGS.

To know how good a soda cracker can be, just try these fresh, crispy, flavorful

# KEEBLER

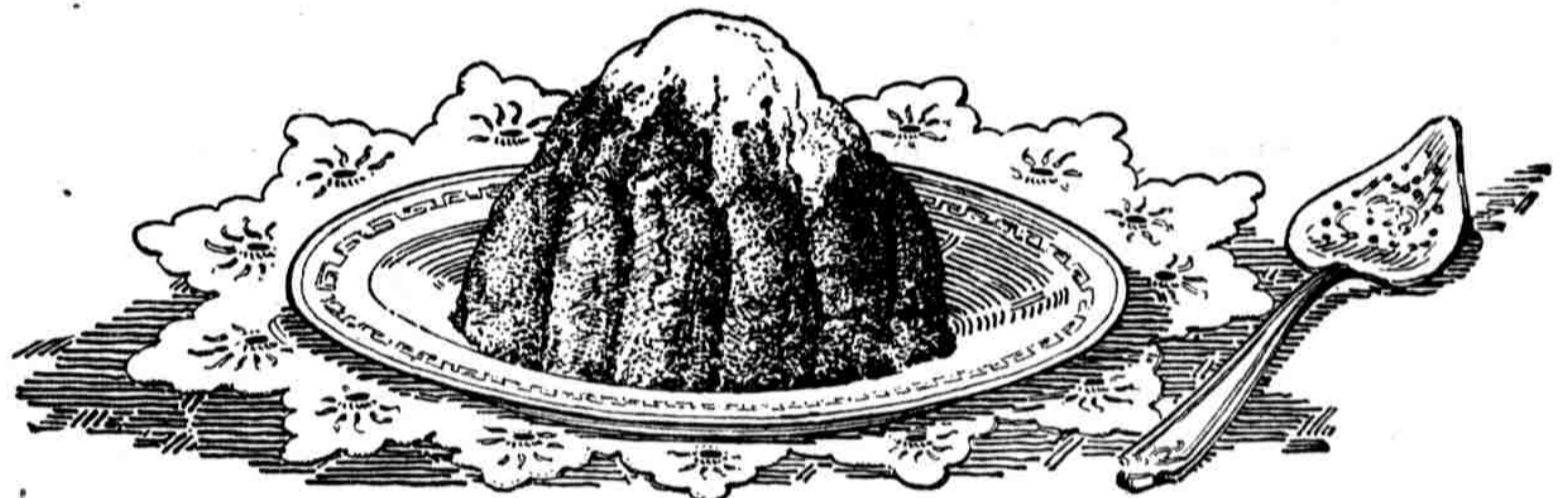
Oven-fresh Soda Crackers

Buy by the Pound and Save Keebler-Weyl Baking Co., Philadelphia

# Kingnut

## MARGARIN

for people of taste



The fine, smooth texture and delicate flavor of Kingnut make it especially good for hard sauce.

### The Flavor You Would Pay More For

So smooth and luscious is Kingnut that you would gladly pay an extra price for it, if you had to.

But the fact is you can give your family this treat and at the same time save real money.

Use it at the table on bread, potatoes, griddle cakes, and in the kitchen for all kinds of cooking. It is a pure food in the most modern sense. It is high in calories, fine of texture, and always uniform.

A pound carton will convince you—order it today.

Kingnut is made and guaranteed by Kellogg Products, Inc., Buffalo, N. Y.

For Sale by Leading Dealers

Wholesale Distributors

## A. F. BICKLEY & SON

520-22 North Second St. Philadelphia, Pa.

Market 3318

Main 4225



## Look Into Things a Bit!

The loudest "hunk" doesn't always herald the largest car, the largest type doesn't always foretell the greatest value. Some machines, would be expensive at any price. There are standard setters in both lines, and it's up to you to look 'em over and decide what's what.

For \$24.75 Fri. \$40 and Sat. \$45 \$50 Values

## A Rousing Sale of Men's & Young Men's SUITS & OVERCOATS

THESE SUITS were never made to sell for a glance, and they'll prove it during the long, long time you wear them. Fine Double- and Single-Breasted Worsteds, Cashmeres and Serges like these aren't duplicated elsewhere under \$40, \$45 or \$50. Models?—Well, what do you like?

The Sale Price—\$24.75

# No Better Clothes GIRSA

MEN'S WEAR 632 MARKET STREET

THE OVERCOATS that we offer for \$24.75 are a mistake—our mistake for offering them for less than \$40 to \$50, and yours if you pass them up. Meltons, Kerseys and good-looking Mixtures comprise the lot—and they are tailored in fastidious styles, too. Belted, or half-belted, the majority of them this year's rather conservative lines.

The Sale Price—\$24.75

## The New Jazz Boy Models

that we are showing are knockouts. They are designed for the young fellow who likes individuality and pep. Developed in one-, two- or three-button. We are specializing them Also for

\$24.75

Store Open Every Evening

## Nobody Knew Who Wrote Them—

so these "letters from Helen" set all Knoxville to guessing—and buying. Not only was Christmas shopping done earlier than ever before, but hundreds of women made a point of getting their men's gifts at a man's store.

## Why Were They Fired?

Why does the average clerk lose his position? What faults should he particularly watch in order to hold his job? One of the largest department stores in New York recently tabulated their "firing records"—with a most interesting result.

## Putting Life in Dead Debts—

The "Yellow Book" plan, as used in Minneapolis, has reduced the "bad debt" loss to only 1-25 of 1 per cent, a record for the country as a whole. How? It's very simple.

## The Things to Watch in Xmas Ads—

The advertising manager of a large department store gives some excellent advice on the writing and layout of holiday advertising, with four of last season's "best sellers."

## These and nearly a hundred other articles of direct interest and dollars-and-cents profit to retail merchants—including Prof. Billig's second talk on window displays, the Chaffee chart that shows all leaks, a discussion of collection letters and last-minute data on the trend of retail prices—appear in the current issue of the

# RETAIL PUBLIC LEDGER

Published Semi-monthly—\$1.00 a Year Room 218, Public Ledger Bldg. Philadelphia, Pa.