

FRUIT CROP OUTLOOK GOOD

Peach Yield Expected to Be 100 Per Cent. in Several Counties; Apples 97.

GRAIN PROSPECT NORMAL

Conditions of the Winter Wheat and Rye in the Ground Gives Every Indication Would Raise Almost the Usual Crops.

PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

A small American flag fluttering from a robin's nest in the top of a tall maple tree in Prospect Hill cemetery attracted much attention at York.

Many women are seeking positions on the Pennsylvania at Altoona.

Three thousand Greensburgers had their hair cut in one day, to beat the 10-cent raise next day.

Rev. Ladislau Kloucheck, of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Mahanoy City, presented himself as a volunteer in the service of Uncle Sam.

Culm banks, mined 50 years ago by the late J. C. Haydon, a Hazleton operator, are to be run through the Jeansville breaker and marketed.

Orders have been issued for the organization of three additional engineer companies for the division of the National Guard of Pennsylvania.

The State Industrial Board has fixed November 1 as the time when all cellar and basement bakehouses in Pennsylvania must be lighted and ventilated.

Long-winded commencement orators will be figuratively muzzled at Hazleton graduation exercises this year.

York has completed a fund of \$1,000 for the purchase of a Red Cross ambulance for use on the battlefield of Europe, which shall bear the name "York."

Franklin Elks cleared \$1200 for their charity fund by recent minstrel performances.

To aid in gaining the needed recruits for the Red Cross, a recruiting tent has been erected in Mechanicsburg.

Beer has been increased \$1 a barrel at Sunbury, and dealers say the size of the glass will have to be reduced.

Speculators have visited the farmers in the Mahoning and other valleys and offered to purchase their entire potato and onion crops, to be grown this year—potatoes at \$1.60 in the ground.

Fifty per cent. more marriage licenses were issued in Blair county in April, 1917, than in any previous April.

Sunbury's master bakers have put the prices of bread up from 5 and 10 cents to 6 and 12 cents.

The Mayor of Altoona in a proclamation urges cultivation of every available plot.

More than 200 persons have signed a petition for a curfew in Sunbury.

The 10-day campaign to raise \$150,000 for the new Y. M. C. A. building closed at Norristown and when the 200 workers reported it was found the amount collected was \$206,924.

There was great enthusiasm in City Hall when the success was announced.

Harris L. Haupt, janitor of the First Reformed Church, Sunbury, confessed to Thomas G. Ryan, Danville, a State fire marshal, that he had tried to set fire to a business block in Sunbury.

Haupt was janitor at the First Presbyterian Church when it was badly damaged by fire several years ago. He was committed to jail.

John Francies, of Allegheny, former member of the House of Representatives, at present superintendent of the Western Penitentiary, and in charge of the construction of the new penitentiary near Bellefonte, which, when completed, will be used by both the present Western and Eastern Penitentiaries, is somewhat of a farmer.

Plans for increasing poultry will be made at Harrisburg by a committee representing poultrymen.

An effort to increase the output of honey in Pennsylvania 1,000,000 pounds and to add 100,000 chickens to flocks in Pennsylvania are among the plans at the State Department of Agriculture.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company will erect a five-span bridge over the Juniata River at Lewistown.

C. R. Mason, State College expert, has been brought to Altoona by Council and the Chamber of Commerce to supervise community gardening.

Failure to find ore in paying quantity has caused the Pinkerton Construction Company to dismantle its plant in the South Mountains, near Carlisle.

Pining because he was retired, Tim, a 20-year-old bay horse of Altoona's truck team, refused to eat and died on a farm where he had been placed.

The Belmont Motor Company, incorporated under laws of Delaware, has taken over the old Lewistown tannery buildings and will use them in assembling motor trucks.

Three men of South Bethlehem were killed in an automobile accident on the William Penn Highway, near Bethlehem. They were Hugh Kelly, a Justice of the Peace; Hugh J. McFadden, a bottler, and Robert K. Berkemeyer, a former Councilman.

Stanley G. Flagg & Co., have engaged a Mr. Schenck, of Haverford, to take charge of the troop of Boy Scouts at stove for two months.

A searchlight has been erected at the John Wood Manufacturing Company's plant, Conshohocken, where Government orders are being filled.

William Montague has offered to the people of Norristown the use of Barbadoes Island, containing 15 acres, for trucking purposes.

Norristown Council's police committee has agreed to advance the salaries of the score of patrolmen 12 1/2 per cent.

Pledges to aid the nation in meeting the food crisis were made by 1000 farmers in a meeting at Mechanicsburg, addressed by Carl Vrooman, Assistant U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

At a meeting of Ursinus College faculty it was decided that students should discontinue athletics for the remainder of the school term and devote the time spent in baseball practice to military drill.

Entirely new method of handling the State's finances is provided in five bills introduced at Harrisburg.

FOR FULL CONTROL OF FOOD SUPPLY

Bill in Congress Provides For Regulation By President.

PROMPT ACTION EXPECTED

Power Sought To Regulate Exchanges and Transportation and Prohibit Use Of Grain In Making Liquor.

Washington.—Absolute authority to regulate in its discretion the production, distribution and prices of food and other necessities during the war was asked of Congress by the administration.

In a sweeping bill introduced with administration approval by Chairman Lever, of the House Agriculture Committee, it is proposed to empower the President, under the war clause of the Constitution, to take these measures whenever, in his opinion, the national emergency shall require:

To fix maximum and minimum prices for food, clothing, fuel and other necessities and the articles required for their production;

To prescribe regulations to govern the production of these commodities and, if necessary, to requisition the producing factories, mines or other establishments;

To compel holders of necessities to release them in amounts insuring equitable distribution;

To regulate exchanges in such a way as to eliminate market manipulation;

To compel railroads to give preference to the movement of necessities;

To levy such import duties as he finds necessary to prevent excessive "dumping" of foreign products; and

To impose limitations or prohibitions upon the use of grain in the manufacture of liquor.

May Order War Bread.

In addition, the Secretary of Agriculture would be empowered to establish standard food grades; to license and control the manufacture, storage and distribution of foods; to prescribe the percentage of flour to be milled from wheat, and to regulate the mixing of wheat flour with other flour in the making of bread and other food.

In a statement Mr. Lever declared there was nothing in the measure to disturb legitimate business activities because "it is hoped that the mere conferring of the more extreme new powers will be sufficient without it becoming necessary to exercise them."

It is known officials of the executive branches of the government hold the same view, believing that with such effective weapons in their possession they will encounter no difficulty in lining up on the side of the public interest without legal action all recalcitrant private agencies.

The bill is supplemental to the administration food measure introduced in the House last week, providing for a survey of the country's food resources and conferring certain powers to prevent food speculation.

This measure was ordered favorably reported from the Agricultural Committee after the committee had reduced the appropriation carried from \$25,000,000 to approximately \$20,000,000 and had eliminated a section authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to order the immediate sale of any food in such condition that unless promptly disposed of will become unfit for use.

The section will be incorporated in a coming third measure which is to confer broad powers on the Council of National Defense.

"The purposes of the bill are to stimulate production, to reduce waste, to clear the channels of distribution, to prevent hoarding, to assure fair prices, to eliminate injurious speculation, to prohibit evil practices on exchanges and to protect the public against extortion. The suggested legislation recognizes that the war will disturb the normal courses of trade. Accordingly it provides machinery, first for stimulating production and regulating distribution so as to assure a fair profit to those entitled to it; secondly, for preventing the exploitation of necessities of life by those who aim to take advantage of the war emergency to amass unearned fortunes."

CHILE BREAKS WITH GERMANY.

Minister From Republic Demands His Passports.

London.—The Chilean Minister to Germany has demanded his passports, according to a Central News dispatch from Amsterdam. The dispatch says: "A message received from Berlin says the Chilean Minister to Germany has demanded his passports and announced a rupture of relations between Chile and Germany."

50 MEXICAN BANDITS KILLED.

Many Captured and Hanged—Had Attacked Train.

San Luis Potosi, Mex.—Fifty bandits were killed and a large number captured and hanged to telegraph poles at Guaje, April 26, after they had attacked a passenger train, according to reliable advices received here. The bandits were said to have been led by Mariano Robels and Valente Garcia.

AMERICANS NOT DEEMED FOES.

German Authorities Have Berlin Order Canceled.

London.—The German authorities have ordered the immediate cancellation of the Berlin order placing American residents there in a status of enemy subjects, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from The Hague. The order, said the message, is regarded as a blunder, the German Foreign Office arguing that Germany does not consider herself at war with the United States.

RECRUITS



CARRANZA NOW HEAD OF MEXICO

Inaugurated First Constitutional President Since 1913.

BIG CROWDS AT EXERCISES

Simple But Impressive Ceremony Marks Return Of Southern Republic To Constitutional Government.

Mexico City.—Venustiano Carranza on May 1st took the oath of office as the first constitutional president of Mexico since the assassination of Francisco Madero, on February 23, 1913. Backed by a majority of nearly 800,000 votes, given him by the Mexican people at the March elections, President Carranza drove from the national palace to the chamber of deputies and swore to uphold the new constitution.

President Carranza left the presidential gate at the palace in an open carriage drawn by a magnificent team of bays. Seated beside him was General Obregon, minister of war in the provisional cabinet and the man who more than any other, is credited with enabling the president to weather the storms of the last four years. The carriage was escorted by the survivors of the signers of the plan of Guadalupe, which formed the basis of the revolutionary scheme.

At the chamber of deputies President Carranza was received by a committee of congressmen who led him to the rostrum where the president of the chamber administered the oath. The ceremony was extremely simple, consisting of the reading of the oath and General Carranza's reply, "I swear it."

The members of the diplomatic corps attended the ceremony and subsequently returned with the president to the palace, where United States Ambassador Fletcher, as ranking officer, offered the president the congratulations of foreign nations on Mexico's return to constitutional government.

Later in the evening a parade of more than 20,000 persons, composed of soldiers, students, government employes, labor unions and commercial organizations, formed at the Juarez monument, and marched to the palace, where it was reviewed by the president.

15,000 MEN ENROLLED.

Only Minor Step in Nation-Wide Mobilization Of Labor.

Washington.—In announcing that Department of Labor employment agencies throughout the country had registered 15,000 skilled shipbuilders for work on the great wooden merchant fleet Secretary Wilson said this achievement was "only a minor step in the nation-wide mobilization of labor" proposed by the Administration as a war measure. He made a plea for popular support and co-operation and for a larger Congressional appropriation for mobilization work.

"Organization of the man power of our vital industries at home," said the Secretary, "is just as necessary in this war as the proper distribution and use of our man power at the front."

BELGIUM TO GET A LOAN.

\$150,000,000 To Be Allowed To Meet Pressing Requirements.

Washington.—Belgium will shortly receive a loan from the United States the amount of which will be determined upon at another conference between Secretary McAdoo and Baron de Cartier, Belgian minister. The loan, which is understood to be needed to maintain Belgian refugees in France and to meet military requirements, is unofficially estimated at about \$150,000,000. Tentative estimates of Belgium's needs were laid before Secretary McAdoo by Baron de Cartier. The proposed loan is in addition to loans of from \$200,000,000 to \$300,000,000, which will be made to France and Italy.

SWEDEN STOPS FOOD EXPORTS.

Nearly All Articles Previously Allowed To Go Out Affected.

Stockholm.—A prohibition against exports which went into effect Thursday covers nearly all the articles of foodstuffs the export of which previously had been permitted. The most important prohibition is that covering pork. Among other articles affected by the new order are fruits, berries, nuts, hops, edible fungi, caviar and other fish roe, and kitchen herbs.

DEFIANT REPLY TO WILSON'S SPEECH

President of Reichstag Says Kaiserdom is Sacred.

GERMANY WILL FIGHT FOR IT

"President Wilson Will Bite Granite," Is Reply To Effort To Turn Germans Against Hohenzollerns. Peace Proposals Deferred.

Copenhagen.—The speech which was to have been made in the Reichstag by Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Imperial Chancellor, on peace and international relations has been postponed to a more fitting occasion, according to word received here.

It is now expected that debate upon the political situation, together with the Chancellor's speech, will probably be postponed until the third reading of the finance measures.

Amsterdam.—The German Reichstag resumed its session. The President of the Chamber, Dr. Johannes Kaempf, in his opening address, speaking of the entry of the United States into the war, said a new and mighty opponent had joined the ranks of Germany's enemies. President Wilson, in a message to Congress on April 2, he declared, said he was waging war against the Germans in the interest of mankind and on the ground of justice.

President Wilson, Dr. Kaempf continued, had lost his sight in making this assertion, since he had not stirred a finger to hinder England when England announced her war of starvation against Germany, a war in violation of all human and international rights; President Wilson had lost his sight when he rejected the German proposal to secure the lives of Americans on American vessels in certain routes, which carried no contraband, and by this rejection exposed his own compatriots to danger and death.

"President Wilson," said Dr. Kaempf, "represents the German people as without will of their own and as having been driven into the war by a group of ambitious people, but he tells nothing of the long years of encirclement and machinations against them; nothing of the enemies' recently strongly expressed will to destroy Germany."

"The German people rose in August, 1914, as one man, and still fight today to defend their freedom, independence and life. President Wilson says he has no quarrel with the German people, for whom he only entertains sympathy and friendship."

"President Wilson desired by his message to sow discord in Germany. As President of the German Reichstag, which is elected on the freest franchise in the world, I declare that this effort will come to naught; that it will have no influence on the common sense of our people, and that President Wilson will bite granite."

This remark evoked thunderous applause.

"With our truest heart's blood we established the German Kaiserdom, and with our truest heart's blood we shall fight for the Kaiser and the Empire (renewed applause). What our forefathers fought for and longed for, what we have achieved on the battlefield, will not perish even at President Wilson's word of command."

"We decline all interference by a foreign government in our internal affairs."

"If all signs are not misleading the decisive points of the world's war is approaching. We see our death-defying troops, withstanding the enemy's assaults. Our U-boats will show England how Germans can avenge her nefarious starvation war. We proved recently our financial strength by a sixth war loan. We adhere to our firm belief in Germany's star and in a peace which will secure for all time the Fatherland's happy development."

51 MORE SHIPS SUNK.

British Losses Last Week Included 38 Vessels.

London.—The British official announcement of the number of vessels sunk in the week ending on Sunday last shows that 38 merchant vessels of over 1,600 tons each were sunk, those of less than 1,600 tons numbered 13, and eight fishing vessels were sent to the bottom by submarines or mines. The announcement says: "Arrivals of all nationalities over 100 tons 2,716; sailings, 2,690. "British merchantmen sunk by submarines or mines, over 1,600 tons, including three not previously recorded, 38; under 1,600 tons, including one not previously recorded, 13. "British vessels unsuccessfully attacked, including two not previously recorded, 24. "British fishing vessels sunk, including two not previously recorded, 8."

SAYS 1,300,000 GERMANS DIED.

Former Member Of Reichstag Tells Of Nation's Losses.

Amsterdam.—One million three hundred thousand Germans have perished in the war, according to a statement made by Joseph Friedrich Naumann, formerly a Conservative member of the Reichstag, Herr Naumann, lecturing on the "Influence of the War on Population," said in part: "Until now the war has caused a loss of 1,300,000 dead. This, together with the decrease in birth, gives a reduction of 3,800,000. The surplus of females has increased from 800,000 to far more than 2,000,000. The nation has died as never since the Thirty Years' War."

CHEER FRENCH ENVOYS.

Enthusiastically Demand Speech From Marshal Joffre.

Washington.—Rene Viviani and Marshal Joffre, heads of the French Mission, were received on the floor of the Senate. M. Viviani, as former premier of France, is by custom entitled to entry to the floor, but the rule makes no provision for such a dignitary as Marshal Joffre.

By unanimous consent, however, the Senate rules were suspended to permit the Marshal's appearance with M. Viviani, and the Senate took a recess in the midst of consideration of the Army Bill to receive the visitors.

TO BREAK WHEAT PRICES.

Plans Under Way For Joint Action By Canada and the U. S.

Ottawa.—Announcement was made in Parliament by Sir Thomas White, the Minister of Finance, that plans are under way for joint action by Canada and the United States to reduce the price of wheat. Sir Thomas said the price of flour wheat or any other necessity could not be regulated by the Canadian Government alone. To be successful the regulation of food prices must be the simultaneous action of the United States and Canada.

MILITARY DIVISIONS CHANGED.

West Virginia Moved From Eastern To Central Department.

Washington.—Geographical limits of the military departments, as now revised, move West Virginia from the Eastern to the Central Department, Arkansas and Louisiana from the Southern to the new Southeastern, and Wyoming from the Central to the Western Department. Needs of the transportation and communication systems made the transfer necessary.

U. S. READY TO SEND A UNIT TO FRANCE

Washington Agrees to Dispatch Troops When Allies Give Word.

MANY SHIPS REQUIRED

Lack Of Shipping May Cause Delay General Staff's Opposition To Plan Swept Aside.

Washington.—The United States stands ready to send an army to Europe whenever the Allies deem it wise to divert the necessary shipping from transporting food to transporting men.

The Government has offered the Allies troops, but has suggested that the alarming shortage of world shipping may make it impracticable to send them at once.

In spite of objections of the General Staff to putting any American force on the firing line before the great war army has been raised and trained, the Administration has determined that the small contingent earnestly desired by France for moral effect shall be sent as soon as possible. The general belief here is that the war soon will be found.

Whether the force first to carry the Stars and Stripes into battle in France shall be made up of regulars or National Guardsmen, or both, has not been worked out.

State Department officials have continuously urged the sending of an army, solely for its psychological effect, not only in encouraging the Allied troops but in discouraging the Germans. Convinced that the diplomatic advantages far outweighed the technical and training difficulties advanced by the General Staff, they have felt that such a step would concern the United States as a full member of the alliance entitled to a most honorable seat at the peace conference.

Some of those who have vigorously opposed an early expeditionary force as interfering with the training of a larger army have modified their view as a result of the arguments advanced by the military experts with the French commission here that training can be much better carried out in France within sound of the guns. Nevertheless, the opposition of the staff has not wavered.

Little doubt exists that the French will gladly put up with any sacrifices necessary to have American troops in France, as the great plea of their mission has been for troops with the American flag. They have pointed out that this is needed to convince the Germans beyond doubt that all America's resources have been thrown into the battle.

The British also are known to be anxious to have American troops in France as a final earnest of American participation, but there is reason to believe that they have taken a somewhat more detached view than the French. Overcome by the wholesomeness of American co-operation in the war, they believe that the one essential is to marshal the common resources to the greatest advantage.

NAVY NEARLY FULL.

Enlisted Strength Is Now Within 10 Of War Quota.

Washington.—The enlisted strength of the Navy now has reached \$6,250,000, within less than 700 of the full war quota now authorized. The marine corps has already completed recruiting its full authorized strength of 15,400, but both services will continue recruiting campaigns without modification, as bills pending in Congress are expected to give the Navy as authorized total strength of 150,000, and raise the marine corps to 30,000.

PLENTY OF FISH FOR WAR.

Alaska Can Supply Many Millions Of Pounds.

Washington.—In the fisheries of Alaska the United States may find millions of pounds of food for the war emergency. Fish Commissioner Smith told a Senate committee that the supply of cod, salmon, herring and other edible fish was practically unlimited, and that the Government might well go into the fishing business.

MEXICAN OIL WORKERS STRIKE.

Those At Tampico Want Higher Wages.

Galveston, Texas.—Mexican workers employed in oil loading plants at Tampico have gone on strike for higher wages, according to information from the commander of a coast steamer which has arrived at an American port. It is understood workmen throughout the oil fields are threatening to strike.

WILL ASK BRITONS TO EAT LESS.

King George To Urge Reduction Of 25 Per Cent.

London.—King George will shortly issue a proclamation urging the people to economize to the extent of 25 per cent. in the consumption of food, owing to the gravity of the situation. The proclamation will be read publicly from the steps of the Royal Exchange in London and all town halls throughout the country.

AIMED AT BOMB PLOTTERS.

Bill To Limit Possession Of Explosives Favorably Reported.

Washington.—Unauthorized manufacture, distribution or possession of explosives in time of war would be prohibited under a bill favorably reported by the House Mines Committee. It is designed primarily to strengthen the hand of the Government in dealing with bomb plotters.

An egg holder of Italian design is on the edge of the breakfast table.