

Every week sees a new line of British steel on the Canadian market—or it might be more correct to say an old line coming back. All this seems to lend color to the story that the British were well prepared and made the change to peace work well in advance of the rest of the nations.

So endeth the first chapter. In the past the Socialists have been accused of confounding the word "democracy" with that of "markets," but 'nuf sed. Here beginneth the reading of the second epistle:

American Senate Protests About British Embargo

Speakers Call Attention to Effect it Will Have on U. S. Industries
(Edmonton Journal, February 6th)

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—An Associated Press dispatch from Washington says:

Democrats and Republicans in the senate today joined in criticizing the new British embargo on imports and calling attention to the effect it would have on American industry. During the discussion that followed, Senator Reed, of Missouri, Democrat, attacked the Carnegie peace foundation's activities abroad, questioned its loyalty and declared it should be dissolved.

Senators Knox, of Pennsylvania, Republican, and Ashurst, of Arizona, Democrat, joined in the attack.

Senator Weeks, of Massachusetts, Republican, and Senators Lewis, of Illinois; Smith, of Georgia, and Reed of Missouri, Democrats, led in protests against the British embargo.

Senator Weeks said he did not charge that the embargo was aimed against the United States, but Senator Lewis remarked that a majority of articles listed are manufactured in the American middle west. The Illinois senator said the action might bring on a trade war.

"I invited the attention of British officials to the delicate situation," he continued. "While the president is in France battling for the principles which our country feels are right, one of our Allies takes a course so inimical to the welfare of the United States that it is calculated to create a sentiment of hostility which will embarrass harmony in the United States."

A "trade war," that indeed would be something new to the capitalist order of society, but let us now see how kindly Senator Reed deals with this question:

Edmonton Journal: "The embargo which the British government has felt it necessary to impose for a while in order to allow certain of the country's industries to adjust themselves to peace conditions has been the subject of violent denunciation by some U. S. senators. Here is an extract from a speech by Senator Reed, of Missouri:

Great Britain, to whose rescue we went, said the Senator; Great Britain, whose marshals stood out and cried, "Our backs are to the wall; Britons, stand or die;" Great Britain, who heard the Yankee cheers and the rebel yells from the rear; Great Britain, whose armies turned and began their march to the front when the Yankee boys were leading in their bloody charge; Great Britain, no sooner had she succeeded in extricating her two hands from the great mouth of the German war monster, but she proceeds selfishly to put up the bars of her trade against the very race and the very nation that went to her rescue."

We are wondering if the Espionage Act is still in force in the United States. However, there is always the likelihood of deportation.

Outlook For Flour Mills Grows Very Serious

(By J. L. Rutledge, Editor "Canadian Grocer" in Financial Post)

With the continuance of the embargo against the export of flour to Britain the situation begins to assume a very serious phase. It is now about five weeks since the mills ceased operation on export business, and since that time there has been a practical cessation of all activities. Already the chance of the mills equalling the output of the past, and the chances of their being able to show a profit of any sort on this year's operations are growing daily less.

The mills are working on a restricted basis of profit of 25 cents a barrel. Under present conditions it is costing them \$5.00 a barrel to produce the flour. It is obvious that given any lengthy continuance of present conditions, it will be impossible for them to overtake these losses.

Meanwhile nothing is being done, it is reported that ships that were chartered to move the 40,000,000 bushels of wheat that still remain of the Wheat Export Company's purchases, have been diverted

to other uses. The Wheat Export Company has ceased buying, and there is no single indication of any likelihood of further purchases being made.

One Buyer Not Buying

Under normal conditions, the milling companies, ruled out of one market would have gone after another, and would have made business as the United States is doing in various neutral countries. But the Canadian business is under restrictions. It is permitted to sell only to one buyer and that buyer is off the market.

There is the domestic business of course, but with the 125,000 daily barrel capacity of the Canadian mills that must be approximately maintained if the mills are to operate at any profit, the domestic demand is a small item. With an annual per capita consumption of something less than a barrel and a quarter a year, the very peak of domestic consumption would be some 12,500,000 barrels, while the production would be 37,500,000 barrels, leaving a surplus of 25,000,000 barrels. Argentine is arranging a credit of \$200,000,000 to finance buyings of her accumulated stock of grain and is selling it at low figures. Ships returning soldiers to Australia and India are coming back laden, because Britain has a surplus now and can afford to wait for those long hauls, but ships bringing troops to Canada are apparently sailing again light. Yet nothing is being done to meet the situation. Business is merely being permitted to stagnate in this line.

Canada is in the most favorable situation for the European market, and produces the finest grade of flour. The lower prices offering in Australia and Argentine are to a measure offset by lesser freights, yet no action has apparently been taken to exert any influences to change the embargo, Canadian representatives in England being apparently willing to let this business go by abroad. The millers feel very strongly, that if they are not supported by the Government, they should at least be freed from all restrictions, so that they could exert their own efforts to find a market for the huge surplus that is in sight. Unless something is done in this regard the industry will certainly find itself in a very serious place this coming year.

The above article, following so close on the heels of the one that we published in our first issue, must impress Mr. Farmer, who will be ready now to agree that \$2.00 grain is a thing of the past. We hope, however, that the embargo will be raised before next fall, otherwise even the Non-Partisan may become revolutionary. One never can tell where they are likely to find Bolsheviks in the near future.

Ukrainians send petition to the Government

(Edmonton Bulletin)

At a meeting of about 1000 Ukrainians held in the city a petition was drawn up and will be forwarded to Sir Thomas White, acting premier, at Ottawa. The petition is as follows:

"Whereas the anti-loading act was enforced until a few weeks ago which compelled every person to be employed in work of national importance, and

"Whereas many of our people were heavily fined or imprisoned who were willing to work but were unable to procure employment, and

"Whereas the world war has ceased and immigrants from foreign countries are being prosecuted because they have been or are employed in work in this country of Canada, and are accused of holding jobs which can be filled by the returned men who have fought in the great war, and

"Whereas we are now being thrown out of employment so that the jobs may be given to the veterans who have returned from France, and

"Whereas we acknowledge full rights to the veterans, but we also desire to live, and to do so we must have jobs or else we will perish from hunger,

"Therefore be it resolved that the Ukrainians unanimously appeal to the Dominion government of Canada to give us means to live or else open up the lines and give us a chance to go to some other country where we will be able to get work that we may live.

"We would also remind the Canadian government that we were invited to come to this country, being promised the same rights as extended to other people.

"S. MOLOSHCHUK, Chairman
J. KBYBANOUSKY, Secretary."

A similar petition has been signed by 180 foreigners of Edmonton and sent by registered letter to Ottawa.