

War, Finance and Commerce

Cable Messages Censored

All cable messages are subject to the censor's pencil.

Ships to Stay in Port

All British trading vessels have been ordered to remain in port.

Still Paying Specie

British government has not yet decided to suspend specie payments.

Britain Votes Another Half Billion

British government has voted an additional \$500,000,000 for war purposes.

War Stores are Held

The British Government has prohibited the export of war stores of any character.

Bank in Egypt Closes

The local branch of the Banco di Roma in Alexandria suspended business on Tuesday.

Trade Commission Cancels Meetings

The Dominion Royal Commission will cancel its engagements in Canada until after the war.

Martial Law on St. Lawrence

Montreal harbor, the St. Lawrence River and the canals leading thereto are under martial law.

Hiding the Securities

A special train carrying all the securities of the National Bank of Belgium left for Antwerp.

United States Gold for Notes

Gold is being sent in United States battleships to Europe to relieve United States citizens there who have only travellers' notes of credit.

Opening of Stock Exchanges

The reopening of the stock exchanges depends entirely on events, but the probability is they will be closed for some time.

Heavy Gold Exports

The exports of gold from the United States during the present movement, which began on July 24th, up to August 1st, totalled \$44,950,000.

No Bank Drafts

No bank drafts will be issued at present to any part of the Continent of Europe, according to information obtained from the Montreal banks.

Twenty-five Millions for Ships

British government will pay about \$25,000,000 for the two Turkish battleships being constructed in English yards, and which it has taken over.

Closed at Montevideo

A decree was issued at Montevideo on Monday closing the Bourse and banks until August 8th, and extending the time for the payment of maturing notes.

German War Loan

A bill was introduced into the German Imperial Parliament on Tuesday providing for the appropriation of \$1,250,000,000 to meet the expenses of the war.

Embargo on Cash

An embargo has been laid on Russian balances at the great banks in Germany. The funds are considered by Germany as property belonging to a hostile force.

Closed Down in Argentina

A Buenos Ayres dispatch says the Government has issued a decree suspending the operations of banks and the obligations of commerce in Argentina until August 10th.

Million Shares Sold in Day

Sales on the New York stock exchange totaled 1,000,000 shares on Tuesday, July 28th, at losses ranging from one to 19 points, with pressure greatest on Canadian Pacific.

Canadian Liner Held

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company's liner "Empress of Asia" at Hong Kong, has been requisitioned by the British Government and other boats are being held.

Britain's Big War Loan

The British house of commons voted on Tuesday \$525,000,000 for emergency purposes and several other bills were passed in five minutes without a dissentient voice.

This Gold is German Prize

The exact value of the gold on the North German Lloyd liner, "Kronprinzessin Cecelie," with the firms shipping it, according to the liner's manifest, is as follows: For Paris: Goldman, Sachs and Company, \$1,076,634.49; Heidler, Bach, Ickelheimer and Company, \$1,584,000; National City Bank, \$2,104,254.34. For London: Guaranty Trust Company, \$4,942,937.64; National City Bank, \$1,061,718.89. Total, \$10,769,545.36.

Canada Buys War Vessels

Canada has bought two submarines which have been built at Seattle for the government of Chili. Parliament will be asked shortly to pass a vote for their purchase.

Limit Savings Withdrawals

The French Government has issued a decree limiting withdrawals from savings banks to 50 francs (\$10) for each depositor. Withdrawals can be effected only on two weeks' notice.

British Government has Railroads

The British Government has taken over all the railroads in the United Kingdom. The government will probably manage the roads through a committee to be formed from the railway managers.

New French Notes

The Bank of France has decided to place in circulation 20-franc and 5-franc notes for the purpose of relieving the difficulties of commerce arising through the disappearance of gold and silver.

Prices of Food Raised

The wholesale prices of foodstuffs have advanced. Prices of every commodity probably will follow suit. The decision to advance prices was taken by the wholesale grocers after informal discussions on the matter.

Treasury Bills for War

The British Government has incurred a large extra expenditure in the mobilization. Its cash balances were first drawn upon, then temporarily borrowing from the Bank of England or by issue of Treasury bills was resorted to.

Laying in Food Supplies

A full year's supply of food, which will cost \$20,000, has been purchased by Mr. E. G. McConkey, Toronto, with the object of providing against a probable shortage in victuals. Many private citizens are getting in a small stock of flour, sugar, tea, oatmeal, etc.

Emergency Circulation in England

Lloyd George announced on Wednesday that the government on Friday would revive the one pound notes and will also issue a new ten shilling note. This move is taken to relieve the financial pressure caused by the retirement of gold from circulation. The emergency currency will be issued in a quantity sufficient to meet all needs.

Demands on German Banks

Despite heavy demands made upon them all German banks continued to make full payments, says a German dispatch. Settlements on the stock exchanges were completed on Tuesday, and it was found that the total failures amounted to but \$500,000. (This dispatch may have censored a few cyphers.)

Canada's Financial Position

"Canada's financial position is now impregnable," said Mr. D. R. Wilkie, president of the Imperial Bank of Canada, discussing the action of the Dominion Government in making notes legal tender, in increasing the limit of circulation, and promising to do everything to meet the exigencies of the present or future situation.

Brazil Loan is Dead

The financial situation in Brazil, which was already a serious one, has been considerably aggravated by events in Europe. The Brazilian loan, which was being negotiated in Europe, has now been made impossible, and it is said that the Government intends to issue treasury bills to the amount of \$50,000 maximum in order to meet urgent requirements.

New York Call Loans

Leading bankers in New York deny that loans are being called. They pointed out that with the Stock Exchange closed banks could not call in the loans by reason of the fact that there was no market in which the securities held as collateral could be disposed of. If the stocks were to be sold at auction, it was said, the banks would have to give the owners six days' notice.

Stock Values Decline

The aggregate shrinkage of thirty-eight stocks on the Canadian Exchanges since December, 1912, amounts to \$301,500,000 according to a compilation of the Montreal Financial Times. The total market value of these thirty-eight securities in 1912 was \$823,000,000, compared with a present market value of \$521,500,000. The decline, therefore, amounts to over 37 per cent. in a period of eighteen months.

Declared a Moratorium

The King of England issued a proclamation on August 2nd declaring a moratorium for a month. By this means cash settlements may be deferred. France has also established such a moratorium, to run till the end of August, and Sweden has followed. These precautions will be of great assistance in speedy restoration of financial equilibrium, even if general war should be averted. If war is declared they will be of paramount usefulness in restricting the area of trouble.

Bank Reassured Depositors

In the hope of reassuring depositors the Bank of England remained open on Saturday, August 1st, for a long time after its regular closing hour, making all payments that were demanded.

The British Treasury announced on August 1st that the situation then did not justify any emergency action looking to suspension of the Bank Act of 1844. The Treasury was prepared to take such action if further developments seemed to make it necessary, but there was a strong feeling against unsecured paper currency and everything was to be done to avoid it.

To Help Finance Minister

If the necessities of business in Canada require the government to issue Dominion notes to the banks on the deposit of approved securities by the banks, the Minister of Finance has appointed the following gentlemen to advise him as to the securities to be accepted: Mr. D. R. Wilkie, president Canadian Bankers' Association, Toronto; Sir Frederick Williams Taylor, general manager of Bank of Montreal, Montreal; Mr. E. L. Pease, general manager of Royal Bank of Canada, Montreal; and Mr. H. B. Walker, manager of Canadian Bank of Commerce, Montreal.