

FIXING PRICE OF WHEAT IS A HARD MATTER

Situation as it Stands Today Has Many Complications.

PROSPECT OF PEACE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

As Shipping Will be Released and Big Stocks Made Available.

SLUMP ELSEWHERE MEANS HEAVY LOSS

So Canada Will Not Act Until Advised as to What the Allied Conference Will do.

Ottawa, Dec. 5.—Statements made to the effect that the government has been negligent in not fixing the price of wheat for 1919 give an entirely erroneous impression, according to an official statement here. The question of the fixing of the price of the wheat crop has been before the government for some time. It was a question, however, which presented unusual difficulties involving as it did serious consideration. The fixing of the price in the United States certainly complicated the situation in Canada. The imminence of peace, followed soon as it was by the conclusion of an armistice, gave a new aspect to the whole question. The release of shipping opens up almost immediately the ports of Australia and Argentina, where there are large stocks of wheat stored, and there are as well the crops of the world in prospect for 1919. Prices under regulation for war purposes and prices in competition in time of peace present entirely different considerations. In the circumstances, the government came to the conclusion that the regulations for the 'now and price of wheat for immediate purposes of export if attempted at all should be undertaken by the Allies at the peace conference. In order that the interests of the middle west, being the more particularly concerned, should not be overlooked, two representatives named by the farmers and grain dealers service are to be appointed to proceed overseas with a view to taking the matter up with the prime minister and the British war office and all concerned.

CLERGY MAY HOLD SERVICES

Hamilton Hears the Health Restrictions Will Not be Obeyed—May Have a Little Trouble.

Hamilton, Ont., Dec. 5.—It has been intimated that some of the Roman Catholic clergymen who conducted services last Sunday, in defiance of the ban imposed by Dr. Roberts, the medical officer of health, intend to conduct church services next Sunday. The medical official says if they attempt to do so he will invoke the law to prevent this. Opinion is divided among the local clergy of various denominations as to whether the ban on church services should be continued. Fewer Spanish influenza cases were reported to the board of health in the past 24 hours than during a similar period for some time past.

HERE ARE THE BRUTES WHO WILL NOW BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE

British Official Report of Abuse of Allied Soldiers in German Prison Camps is a Definite and Detailed Indictment of Notorious Offenders—Prisoners Subjected to Every Indignity and Cruelty.

London, Dec. 5.—The commandants of the notorious German prison camps at the Harver command, who subjected British officers to gross indignities and brutal treatment, have been exposed in the latest report of Sir Robert Younger, judge of the high court of justice, and his committee, which has been dealing with the treatment by the enemy of British prisoners of war. The committee's report says it is not in the great events, involving at least one case of homicide, and which will receive special attention on some other occasion, that the true significance of the German horrors is to be found, but in the petty tyranny constantly exercised, the punishment of men for so-called offences, needless restrictions and the overbearing conduct of the German administration. The report says that in 1917 General Von Hasenich, in charge of the prison camps, carried out a system of coercion in conjunction with Captains Niemeyer, twin brothers, commandants respectively at Holmimund and Kalusthal.

Churchill's Reference to Nationalization of Railroads Creates Interest

London, Dec. 5.—Winston Spencer Churchill's announcement regarding the nationalization of the railroads has stirred up the greatest interest here. No details of the government's policy have yet been made public.

"I am still in the dark; I know no more than the newspapers have published," a prominent railway official told the Associated Press.

What form the nationalization will take is the subject of considerable conjecture. Premier Lloyd George, in opening his election campaign on November 16, said: "The problem of transportation must be taken in hand under the direct inspiration and control of the state."

Sir Albert Stanley, president of the Board of Trade, in a speech yesterday, said: "The time is coming when the restrictions and controls on the railways can be removed and all privileges restored to the people."

The public is eagerly awaiting the specific programme to be announced.

GOVERNMENT OFFERS HALF PRICE FOR ST. JOHN HARBOR

Will Give \$1,370,000 for the Whole Business, Whereas Civic Estimate of Value is \$2,506,966 — Offer Was Mailed to Mayor Hayes from Ottawa Yesterday.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Dec. 5.—The Dominion government's proposal for the taking over of St. John harbor property was sent forward to Mayor Hayes this afternoon. The proposal went forward through the Department of Marine, Deputy Minister Johnston tonight refused to indicate its nature, saying such an announcement would have to come from the mayor. The Standard learns, however, that the government will take over the harbor at the bonded indebtedness, about \$1,300,000 plus \$70,000 for bonds written off last year. If taken over further expenditure to an amount approximating one million dollars will be commenced at once. The offer made by the government is about half of the valuation placed on the harbor property by the mayor and commissioners.

C. N. R. PLANS TO HAVE BIG FLEET

Mr. Hanna Hopes to See Fifty Ships Put on Various Routes Before Long.

Halifax, Dec. 5.—D. B. Hanna and the directors of the Canadian Northern left for St. John at eleven o'clock tonight after spending the day in looking over the terminals and after meeting the board of trade. Speaking this evening at the double tracking road, which is being urged between Halifax and Moncton, Mr. Hanna said that this was essentially an economic operating question and it followed, therefore, if a company were to enjoy to the full the benefits of its gross income, not only in this province, but as at other points on the system.

TWO MILLION POUNDS OF SUGAR DESTROYED

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 5.—Two million pounds of sugar destined for Europe, was destroyed today when a big warehouse of the Franklin Sugar Refining Company, on the Delaware River front was burned. Ten workmen, compelled to jump for their lives, were injured. The loss is estimated at several hundred thousand dollars.

EXPECT A BOOM IN ROSSLAND

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 4.—Rossland will soon be enjoying the greatest prosperity in the city's history, not excepting the boom days. Operations on a larger scale in the mines of the Cons. Mining and Smelting Co., are contemplated almost immediately; the development work which has been going on means more than the ordinary man can comprehend; while new methods whereby low grade ore can be treated successfully have been practically perfected.

JUSTICE AND NOTHING ELSE FOR GERMANY

Sir Auckland Geddes Outlines Britain's Peace Policy.

CRIMINALS WILL BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL

And the Law Which Deals With All Other Offenders Will Deal With Them.

SUB COMMANDERS MUST CLEAR THEMSELVES

And Our Enemies Must Pay the Uttermost Farthing What it is Possible to Get from Them.

London, Dec. 5.—Sir Auckland Geddes, president of the local government board and minister of national service, in a public address, said that the line of policy advocated by the coalition government was a peace which, so far as the enemy powers were concerned, should be based on stern justice, and so far as those men who planned and started the war were concerned should be founded on justice of the nature meted out in the highest courts of the land. Such men as the former German emperor, Enver Pasha and the former rulers of Bulgaria and Austria would be placed on trial and if found guilty their lives would be forfeited. "Men guilty of unspeakable atrocities upon our prisoners and upon the civilian inhabitants of the invaded lands," he continued, "must stand trial, and if they are condemned must suffer death."

Hundreds of Homes Reported in Ruins

Buenos Aires, Dec. 5.—Latest reports from Northern Chile, where a severe earthquake occurred Wednesday, are that ten persons were dead and 100 injured seriously. The earth shock was felt most severely in the district between Talca and Copiapu. Telegraphic communication with Chile is greatly delayed. Heavy material damage was caused by the seismic movement on railway lines. Hundreds of homes at many points here were destroyed or reported to be in ruins. The damage is said to be serious throughout the Province of Atacama and the southern part of Antofagasta province.

WINNIPEG LOSES C. N. R. BUSINESS

Makes Complaint That Toronto is Getting it All Since Head Office Was Changed.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 5.—Winnipeg merchants complain that they are being unfairly treated by the purchasing department of the Canadian Northern Railway. The Board of Trade has sent a letter to D. B. Hanna, president of the Canadian Northern, pointing out that the railway has recently been transferring its purchasing business to Toronto and that Winnipeg is losing trade with the road which they have enjoyed for many years. They ask the president to see that they get their share of the road's business.

OUR MERCHANT LOSSES HEAVY

Britain Had 5,622 Ships Sunk, With Casualties of Fifteen Thousand.

London, Dec. 5.—During the war 2,475 British ships were sunk with their crews beneath them and 3,147 vessels were sunk and their crews left adrift, according to a statement by Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the admiralty, in an address in support of a fund by the women of the empire to erect a memorial to British merchant seamen. Fishing vessels to the number of 670 had been lost during the period of hostilities and the merchant marine service had suffered casualties exceeding 15,000 men, Sir Eric added.

Posing Before a Mirror in Full Uniform Amuses German Crown Prince

Amsterdam, Dec. 5.—The former German crown prince trudging over muddy country lanes in Dutch sabots is a familiar sight on the Island of Wieringen, says a correspondent of the Telegraf. He declares that what he misses most is a riding horse.

Frederick William plays billiards with the villagers and treats them to drinks and smokes and buys candy for the children.

The younger Hohenzollern has his breakfast at 8.30 o'clock and his dinner at 7 p. m. He eats oysters and drinks champagne regularly, unlike his father, who dines plainly.

Nevertheless, he is reported to suffer from fits of depression. Sometimes, according to eye witnesses, he dons a full uniform resplendent with medals, and parades in front of the mirror. He then resumes a woolen sweater and knickerbockers and plays the violin. He is said to have a deep dread of Spanish influenza and takes preventive medicine regularly. He becomes extremely nervous, it is added, when strangers near him make abrupt movements.

LOOK ON WILLIAM AND FREDDIE MERELY AS PAIR OF CHEAP LIARS

Abject Attempt of Ex-Emperor and Crown Prince to Clear Themselves of Blame is Regarded Only With Contempt in England — Their Continued Existence a Standing Plague to Europe.

London, Dec. 5.—The abject attempt of the former German emperor and the former German crown prince, of Rupprecht of Bavaria, of von Bethmann-Hollweg and other prominent war-makers of Germany to prove their innocence and to attribute the present ruin to the action of everyone or anyone but themselves, is noted with contempt by the English papers. The Daily Mail says: "Unfortunately for the ex-crown prince his reputation for veracity does not stand very high; it is even lower than that of his father, who broke his solemn pledge to respect the neutrality of Belgium. Whenever his statements are put to the test they prove woefully at fault. 'I never desired war,' he declared in the interview with astonishing effrontery, forgetting his famous pronouncement in favor of 'a jolly old war.'"

TEN KILLED, 23 INJURED IN EXPLOSION

Dupont Plant in New Jersey Scene of Another Accident.

THE DETONATOR BUILDING WENT UP

Fire Which Followed Was Confined to one Structure—Some of Injured May Die.

Pompton Lakes, N. J., Dec. 5.—Ten men were killed and 23 injured here today by four explosions which destroyed the detonator assembling building of the Dupont Cap Works and shook the countryside for miles around. Fire which followed the explosions was confined to the one unit and the property loss was said to be slight.

SAYS A MILLION WERE MASSACRED

Armenian Leader, Officer of Turkish Navy, Tells an Astonishing Story at Saloniki.

DUTCH DEPUTIES TALK ABOUT WILLIAM

The Hague, Wednesday, Dec. 4.—During a debate in the Netherlands upper chamber today Deputy Marchand expressed the opinion that should the presence of the former German emperor in Holland give rise to difficulties abroad the government must request him to return to Germany.

J. D. ROCKEFELLER OUTLINES HIS NEW INDUSTRIAL CREED

On the Assumption That Capital and Labor Are Partners, He Offers a Suggestion Which He Believes Will Bring Peace and Harmony to All the World.

Atlantic City, N. J., Dec. 5.—An industrial creed for "the four parties to industry"—capital, management, labor and the community—was outlined by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in an address today before the war emergency and reconstruction conference, in session here. Asserting that capital and labor are partners with common interests, and not enemies, Mr. Rockefeller stated ten tenets of his industrial creed. These included advancement, in industry, on social as well as material well-being of employees; opportunity for employees to earn a living under conditions of fair wages, reasonable hours and proper industrial environment; reward for initiative and efficiency; machinery for uncovering and promptly adjusting grievances; adequate representation of all the industrial parties with annual joint conferences, to assure industrial harmony and prosperity, in each plant, with this system extended "to include all plants in the same industry, all industries in a community, in a nation, and in the various nations."

QUEEN MARY TO THE WOMEN OF THE EMPIRE

In This Hour of Thankfulness She Sends a Second Message.

THEIR WAR WORK HAS WON ADMIRATION

But Peace Brings New Duties and Great Responsibilities.

AND THE EMPIRE STILL NEEDS HELP

In These Coming Days of Reconstruction Unity of Purpose and Constant Effort Will be Demanded.

Ottawa, Dec. 5.—The following message from Her Majesty, the Queen, to the women of the empire has been received by His Excellency the Governor-General: "A few months ago at the height of our anxiety and strain I sent a message in the name of the women of our lands to our men fighting for us across the seas. Now in an hour of thankfulness and hope I should like to give a message to the women of the empire."

During the war they have been giving on the high privilege of service; they have risen to the great opportunity and have proved their courage, steadfastness and ability. I have been allowed to watch and appreciate their work in many parts of the country, and my heart is full of admiration and gratitude for what I have seen."

I earnestly trust that though the thrill and glamour of war is over, the spirit of self-sacrifice and helpfulness which it has kindled will not wane in the coming days. A new era has dawned upon the world, bringing with it many difficulties, fresh responsibilities and serious problems to be faced. Parliament has secured for the whole country greater opportunities of more thorough and varied education, but it will depend on the parents whether these opportunities are used to the full."

We all rejoice that plans are afoot for the coming year to send the assistance of such kind and crowded housing as makes home life almost impossible. Today, more than ever, the empire needs her daughters, for in the larger world of public and industrial women are daily taking a more important place. As we have been united in all our work whether in head or hands, in a reality of suffering and service during the war, let us go on working together with the same unity of purpose—the resettlement and reconstruction of our country. (Signed) MARY R.

THREE SOLDIERS ARE HONORED

A Colonel, a Captain and a Private Win Congressional Medals for Bravery.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Three American soldiers—a colonel, a captain and a private—have been designated by President Wilson to receive the highest military decoration given by the United States for valor in action, the congressional medal of honor.

They have won the first of the medals awarded during the war with Germany. Their names are: Colonel Charles W. Whittlesey, 308th Infantry; Captain George G. McMurtry, Private Thomas C. Nelbaur.

Colonel Whittlesey, then major, and Captain McMurtry were at the head of the famous "Lost Battalion" of the 308th, which lost half of its men holding out against the enemy when surrounded in the Argonne Forest until relieved five days later.

Private Nelbaur distinguished himself on Cote de Chatillon in October by stopping an enemy charge against a ridge single-handed, with his automatic after all others of his patrol detachment had been killed or wounded. In spite of wounds through both knees, he completed the exploit by bringing in eleven Germans at the point of his pistol.