

POSEN FEARS LOSS OF ALL FOOD STOCKS

Province, Well Stocked, Attempting to Avoid Division With Rest of Poland.

GERMAN INFLUENCE IS Waning Fast

Separatist Movement Reduced to Campaign for Local Economic Control.

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Posen, Sept. 10.—The separatist movement in the former German province of Poland which by its Warsaw critics is compared to the secession movement of the South in the United States, is found by the commission of the Polish Diet, sent to investigate conditions on the spot, to exist undoubtedly in a form "highly dangerous to the unity and integrity of the state."

Demand for the independence of its leaders for high treason are advanced by Warsaw and by Posen opponents of the National Democratic party, which has taken the chief role in the movement.

Whatever may have been the original hopes of the leaders of the movement, and whether they first planned, as the Warsaw critics assert, to detach this rich, important section of the new republic from the united fatherland which they have lost hopes of controlling, your correspondent finds that now their pretensions run no further than the establishment of the Posen province on a footing similar to that formerly held by Bavaria in the German empire, with an autonomous administration in internal affairs and separate control of its home army.

Home Army at Front.

Even those hopes are steadily diminishing as the Polish victory over the Bolsheviks grows and the prestige of the central government at Warsaw increases. The home army raised not only for the defense of the common country, but also to support Posen's aspirations, is now practically all outside of Posen territory engaged with the rest of the Polish army in a common campaign against the Bolsheviks. The outside politicians who came to Posen to help organize the movement stopped aside, and even the local leaders lost greatly in prestige and authority, unprejudiced observers here believe.

The movement slumbers down to the tacit assertion of Posen's right to run its own affairs so far as food control and local administration are concerned. Without insistence upon any changes in the constitutional status, that is virtually the present condition of affairs. Posen authorities have maintained for months a separate frontier against the rest of Poland, with a set of export regulations designed to prevent foodstuffs, etc., being drained from the province. They established their own price control measures, which kept the price level in Posen about half that of the former Russian or Austrian sections of the country, and maintained an administrative business atmosphere within their bounds, which is as different from that of Warsaw as Warsaw is from Danzig or Lublin.

There is nothing pro-German or un-Polish in that. The Poles in Posen, in fact, from the long struggle against the Prussian assimilation campaign, are probably more deeply anti-German than their compatriots across from the boundaries of Austria and Russia. The movement seems based partly on sectional pride in efficiency acquired in the hard school of Prussian domination, and a feeling that the superior well-being of the Posen district will suffer if compelled to take part with other parts of Poland in administrative and business respects and partly on political jealousy, which have developed since the establishment of United Poland, between the national democrats who are strong in Posen and the politicians from Cracow and Warsaw who now dominate the central government in Warsaw.

German Influence Vanishes.

German influence in Posen has admittedly disappeared entirely since the establishment of Poland. One of the most prominent Germans remaining in Posen said that he and his friends had not ventured even to express an opinion in Polish politics, so strong was the feeling against everything Prussian. The German population of the city has fallen to 8,000 at an outside estimate. The city is rapidly becoming entirely Polish. The Germans are stronger numerically among the agricultural population, particularly in the regions toward the western frontier, but even there have had nothing to say politically.

The Polishization of towns like Bentschen, a frontier station on the main route to Berlin, is especially noteworthy. Germany has now almost ceased to be spoken in that town, which, in the statement of the Paris conference, was included in Poland only after considerable debate.

One of the best testimonials of the disappearance of German influence in Posen is given by the fate of the Posen German newspapers, which before the war were the leading organs in the province. They have now sunk to an insignificant circulation and even smaller influence.

The province and city appear decidedly prosperous compared with other parts of Poland visited. A fairly abundant harvest is expected, and it has suffered nothing from the Bolshevik invasion and loss from army requisitions than the Russian or Austrian provinces. This comparative plenty will give an additional impetus during the coming year to the movement to maintain an economic frontier against the rest of Poland, whose food needs, if given free rein, would inflict upon the Posen district the same food difficulties under which the bulk of Poland is expected to suffer for another year.

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TREMENDOUS CROPS IN UNITED STATES

Government Forecasts Show Bumper Yields in Grains and Root Produce.

Washington, Sept. 8.—The greatest corn crop in the history of the United States is in prospect for this year's harvest. Forecasts of production, based on September first conditions, was placed at 3,331,000,000 bushels today by the Department of Agriculture.

Such a yield would exceed by six million bushels the previous largest crop on record, which was in 1912.

A crop of even larger proportions will be harvested if frosts hold off until late and permit maturity of much late corn now rated as of doubtful promise.

Tobacco a Record.

Tobacco also is a record crop this year and will probably exceed the best previous production by 14,000,000 pounds. Forecast of production places this year's crop at 1,565,000,000 pounds.

August growing conditions proved highly beneficial to most of the important crops and, as a result, production forecasts generally were higher in today's Government report than the forecasts of a month ago. Corn improved to the extent of 128,000,000 bushels; oats 40,000,000 bushels, while potatoes, 11,000,000 bushels, sweet potatoes 1,000,000 bushels; tobacco,

MILLIONS STARVING IN CHINA

Movement Under Way to Provide Necessary Transportation of Food to Famine Districts.

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Peking, Sept. 10.—Reports of an eye-witness received by the United States legation indicate that 20,000,000 are starving in Shai-Li, Hu-Nan and Shantung in spite of an abundant Manchurian harvest, adequate to supply the starving areas if provided with a transportation and a distribution organization. Present relief measures are confined to local authorities in Peking, who have taken steps to cope with the famine situation.

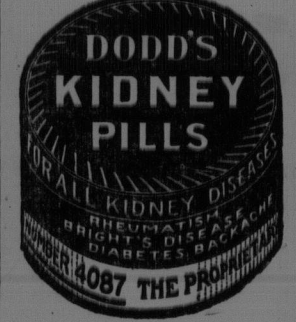
Forming Relief Society.

The foreign community in Peking is discussing the formation of an international relief society, through which to make a world appeal for funds to finance the organization of rail and river, highway transportation under international distributing committees. The famine situation is regarded as redeemable, provided prompt counter-steps are taken.

H. C. L. Reduction

It was easy to talk about the high cost of living and of the steps which should be taken to reduce it, said the premier, but could any one say that reduction of the duties on necessities of life would do it. What were necessities of life, could one tax one thing and not another? Those who weighed and advocated the reduction of duties on some things and not on others would find that if the duties were taken off some things they would have to be taken off all. No one thing could stand alone. If the necessities of life were untaxed, what was left to provide the necessary revenue. From the standpoint of the commercial integrity of the country, it cannot be done, said Mr. Meighan.

10,000,000 pounds, and apples 10,000,000 bushels. Spring wheat, however, suffered a loss of 25,000,000 bushels because of drought and frost lost 2,500,000 bushels from the same cause.



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HON. R. W. WIGMORE
Minister of Customs and Inland Revenue.

ELECTION
DAY
SEPTEMBER
20th

To the Electors of St. John-Albert:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Because of the very limited time at my disposal it will be utterly impossible for me to call upon you personally for the purpose of soliciting your support in the coming election. I will endeavor in the few days yet remaining to hurriedly visit some of the nearer points, but you will appreciate with matters of organization, with departmental duties, and with other demands on my time much must be left undone. This condition is, as you may well believe, a matter of great regret to me, but has been brought about by the somewhat unexpected action of a small group, opposed to the present national Liberal-Conservative Government, and is not, I am convinced, the policy favored by the great majority of the old-time Liberal Party. My opponents have determined to force an election for effect only and not through any real hope of success. Yet, even under such circumstances, it becomes not merely desirable, but extremely necessary, that all who feel kindly disposed toward myself shall turn out and cast their ballots on September twentieth. It will be in the interests of this constituency, and of the province as a whole, that as Cabinet Representative from New Brunswick I shall be returned with a sufficiently large majority to justify me in speaking as a true representative of our people. I, therefore, respectfully request your whole-hearted support in the approaching contest, assuring you that in return my very best efforts will be always exerted in your interests.

As you may well believe I experienced certain diffidence about accepting the honor which our present Premier, Hon. Arthur Meighen, tendered me, feeling that my political experience might not prove sufficient for the satisfactory performance of the duties of this office. However, it now becomes my earnest desire to justify the confidence which the Prime Minister has reposed in me. And I can assure you that in Hon. Mr. Meighen Canada has found a leader, progressive, daring and competent, with well-defined ideas of what he believes to be in the best interests of this nation and determined to apply those ideas to every phase of our administration.

Respectfully Yours

RUPERT W. WIGMORE.