

# A MERICAN TRADE, GROWN VASTLY DURING WAR, SHOWS NO BRITISH INTERFERENCE

Foreign Office Shows Figures to U. S. Which Prove That Her Trade Not Hampered by British Sea Operations.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Further arguments and statistics in support of Great Britain's denial of statements that her merchants are profiting by British war restrictions upon commerce at the expense of American trade have been submitted to the state department by the British embassy in a memorandum, which was made public Sunday with a letter of transmittal to Secretary Lansing from Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the ambassador.

The memorandum, which is supplementary to a note on the same subject handed Ambassador Page last summer by the London foreign office, reiterates the assertion that increases in British trade with neutral countries have been infinitesimal compared with the growth of similar American trade. It draws particular attention to figures showing that the increase in exports from the port of New York to the Scandinavian countries during the first 13 months of the war exactly balanced the falling off of New York's exports to Germany.

A report of the secretary of the treasury is quoted to prove that the war has improved rather than injured American commerce.

**THE LETTER**

The Ambassadors letter follows: Dear Mr. Secretary—“Statements have been widely circulated in this country to the effect that the trade of the United States has greatly suffered owing to the restrictive measures taken by the Allies against German commerce, and more especially that British merchants and shippers are profiting greatly by the war measures of the British government to the detriment of American trade.

“As these statements seem to be largely based upon a report emanating from an officer of your department

with American trade in the neutral countries of Europe, as the products of America sent to those countries are of a wholly different nature from those exported from Great Britain.

**FOR EXAMPLE: COTTON**

“In some cases, which are explained in detail in the memorandum, there has been an increase of the exports from England but the amount involved has been infinitesimal as compared with the volume of American trade in the same articles, and the increase of the exportation from England is explained by accidental causes which involved no loss to the American exporter. I need only mention the case of cotton. The exportation from England of American cotton increased first during the first seven months of the year by 114,000 bales, largely owing to cotton which was purchased by the British government in consequence of its apprehension to the ownership and released to the Swedish consignees. In the same months the total exports from America increased by 2,300,000 bales.

“I trust that it will not be found amiss that I ask your consideration of the enclosed memorandum which is not communicated in a controversial spirit, but merely in order to correct an impression which appears to have arisen from an imperfect appreciation of the facts.

“I need only add in conclusion that if there comes to the knowledge of your department any specific instance in which the British Government has made use of their restrictive trade measures for the purpose of unfairly discriminating between British and American trade you will bring the facts to the knowledge of my government in order that they may cause an enquiry and remedy such injustice.

“I am dear Mr. Secretary,

“Yours sincerely,

“Cecil Spring-Rice.”

## THE MEMORANDUM

The memorandum, in part, follows: The attention of His Britannic Majesty's embassy has been drawn to a report by the United States Consul-General in London on the subject of British trade in July, which was published in Commerce Report No. 203 of August 30th, and the substance of which was widely reproduced in the press.

“In the course of this report Mr. Skinner states as follows: “It continues to be the case that many classes of goods, the exportation of which from the U. S. to neutral countries is attended with great difficulties and hazards, are going forward freely from Great Britain to the same countries, and in some cases in largely increased quantities.”

The idea that British trade is tak-

ing advantage of the conditions arising out of the military situation in order to establish itself in neutral markets at the expense of American trade is on the face of it, endeavored to support it, renders a further explanation desirable.

**PHENOMENAL INCREASE.**

“While British export trade has undergone a uniform decrease in practically all articles, the published figures in the United States Department of Commerce show that the export trade of the United States, in spite of lack of shipping, the complete dislocation of normal conditions of commerce and the measures taken by the Allies to restrict the trade of their enemies, and quite apart from the export of actual munitions of war, has increased to a phenomenal extent, and this, not only in supplying the requirements of the Allies, but in general trade with the very countries from whose markets it has been claimed that Great Britain was endeavoring to exclude American products. On the other hand, British trade has probably suffered more than the embargoes on exports imposed owing to the necessities of war by the British Government than has United States trade. The restrictive measures of restriction of neutral trade with the enemies of Great Britain.

“Apart from this unprecedented volume of exports, American trade has been suffering for over a year from general and widespread hostilities realized another. American trade with the belligerent countries has supplied the opportunity for American industry to replace European products in the markets of South and Central America, the Far East and even in neutral countries, so that the practical cessation of direct trade with Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium and Turkey is more than compensated by the opening up of new markets.

**WAR BENEFICIAL TO U. S.**

“The Secretary of the Treasury in his report for the year ending June 30, 1915, which has just been published says: ‘What extraordinary results have been achieved in the United States since the beginning of the war there has been a steady, healthy, forward movement in every line of activity, until now prosperity has been firmly established throughout the country.’

From all points of view, therefore, it appears that the European war has proved rather beneficial than otherwise, to American trade and industry. The British government's use of the military situation for the purpose of hampering American trade is utterly refuted by the actual facts and figures.

“Among the British products all articles show a decrease in the total quantity exported with the few unimportant exceptions of malt rice, lard, coconut, oil and palm. The value of exports of cotton and woolen goods to these (Scandinavian) countries and to the Allies of Great Britain is largely due to the fact that the French and Belgian industries are handicapped by German occupation while the output of the German industry itself is considerably curtailed by the lack of labor for other than war industries; these countries have, therefore, increased their imports from the nearest available source which is the United Kingdom.

Then, tables are given showing that exports from New York to Norway, Sweden and Denmark during the first thirteen months of the war increased \$84,226,966 over the same period a year before, while exports to Germany decreased \$84,915,081.

The United States is quoted as saying that customs returns of the Scandinavian countries all show a smaller volume of imports from America during the war began.

**FIGURES THAT ACCUSE GERMAN.**

“Now if the Customs returns of Norway, Sweden and Denmark show the imports from the United States have decreased since the war, while the official returns of the United States Department of Commerce show on the other hand that they have enormously increased, it seems legitimate, in the absence of any other explanation, to assume that the amount of goods shipped from the United States to the Scandinavian countries and that the Customs figures of the proportion of the goods exported from the United States which paid duty and were entered for consumption in those countries, while the considerable difference represents the amount of goods exported from the United States which, on arrival in the Scandinavian countries, were reshipped largely to Germany. The fact that the increase in shipments from New York to Norway, Sweden and Denmark during the first 13 months of the war exactly balances the decrease in shipments to Germany during the same period is extremely significant.

“The figures quoted above from the official reports of the Department of Commerce conclusively prove that the export trade of the United States has not suffered from the inevitable restriction on neutral commerce derived from the state of war, and that there is no vestige of limitation for the reason that Great Britain has taken advantage of war conditions and of the measures necessitated by military considerations in order to increase British exports to neutral countries at the expense of American trade.”

Evidence to show that Public Service Commissioner Robert Colgate Wood, New York, was to receive \$5,000 for his invention of a device for exact for signal devices to the Union Switch and Signal Company was given before the Thompson legislative committee.

# LABOR HAS THE ANSWER AS TO DURATION OF WAR

Mr. Lloyd-George Makes an Eloquent Appeal for Munition Workers.

SHELLS NOW COSTING LESS

Regarding Shells, What is Spared in Money is Spilled in Blood.

London, Dec. 21.—Mr. Lloyd-George, Minister of Munitions, gave an account of his stewardship in the House of Commons last night. Beginning with the oft-repeated story of the insufficiency of munitions in the early days of the war and the history of the establishment of his department to remedy this situation, the Minister gradually warmed to his subject and reached the climax with the declaration that the success of the war depends on the attitude of organized labor—whether it will allow the government to recruit a sufficient number of unskilled men for the factories which the Munitions Department has brought into being.

“We want eighty thousand skilled men, and from two to three hundred thousand unskilled men for these new factories,” he said. “We must recruit a proportion of our orders which go abroad, and develop our home resources. Upon the supply of labor depends, I think, our success in this war. Upon this depends whether we can reduce the cost of the war to a few millions of pounds. Upon this depends whether we can supply our troops with the right sort of guns and enable them to make next year's campaign a success.”

**RESTS WITH ORGANIZED LABOR.**

“Here only organized labor can help us. We have done our best to get skilled labor by the system of munitions volunteers. It is no use my going to the question of why we got only five or six thousand men, although that story may have to be told later.

“The whole question depends on organized labor. Unless it allows us to get unskilled workers on the work which hitherto has been the monopoly of skilled labor, we cannot perform this task. There can be only one appeal, namely, to patriotism. ‘Victory depends on the conduct of thousands of precious lives depend on labor’s answer.’

“It is a question whether we are going to bring the war to an end in a year or longer and in the blood-stained cost labor has the answer.”

Earlier in his speech, Mr. Lloyd-George admitted that there was a bad shortage in the British munitions supply in the first year of the war, but declared that the present situation was quite a different matter. Last May the British were turning out only 2,500 high explosive shells daily against the Germans’ quarter of a million.

“This is the situation now,” he said. “The quantity of shells fired in the recent September operations was enormous. The battle lasted days, even weeks, yet there was no shortage of shells. This was the result of four months of careful husbanding. Yet we replaced the whole amount in a month and hope soon to be in a position to replace a like quantity in a week.”

Without giving definite figures, the Minister forecasted the output of many guns of the largest size, and later declared that the output of machine guns had increased fivefold since June, and the output of hand guns, generally stated that with trench mortars were produced every fortnight in the entire first year of the war. Continuing, he said:

“There have been other developments in our work which I dare not mention. There has been valuable experimental work of a kind better not discussed. As to explosives, we shall be able to continue to supply ourselves and our allies.

**SHELLS ARE COSTING LESS.**

“As to economy, I may cite as an example the contracts for gun ammunition, which is the principle item of expenditure—the cost of 18-pound shells has been reduced 40 per cent, and of 4.5 inch howitzer shells, 30 per cent.

“It is too early to talk of the danger of over-production. In the last great battle, although there was a tremendous accumulation of ammunition, the necessities of the war were thrice the quantity of ammunition they could have achieved twenty times the results. Two hundred million pounds or the cost of only 40 days of war, were used to produce an enormous quantity of munitions. If you had that quantity at the right moment whereas, without it, the war might be prolonged perhaps 400 days.

“With regard to munitions, what is spared in money is spilled in blood. If there are risks to be taken, let them be risks to the pockets of the taxpayers and not to the lives of men.

“The successes of the Germans have been due almost entirely to the mechanical preponderance they achieved at the beginning of the war. Their weapons were due to this mechanical superiority, and our failure to drive them back in the west or check their advance in the east was due to the tardiness with which the Allies developed their mechanical resources.

“But the superiority of the Central powers in these respects will be brought to an end at the earliest possible moment.

Referring to the lesson learned from the prodigious use of machine guns by the Germans, Mr. Lloyd-George said—

“Here was a place where, if we stunted material we squandered life.”

In one direction, he added, the Allies had the superiority on the mechanical side.

“Our command of the sea,” he said, “is due not to the excellence of our sailors, but to our overwhelming superiority of machinery.”

“In May when the Germans were turning out a quarter of a million of high explosives daily, we were producing only 2,500 and 13,000 shrapnel.”

The House listened with closest attention as Mr. Lloyd-George took up the shortage of munitions for the Allies in the early stages of the war.

**SHRAPNEL VS. HIGH EXPLOSIVE.**

“Our troops knew it, the enemy knew it, but neither knew how short we were in some very essential particulars,” he said. “Take guns and ammunition; English military opinion was wedded to shrapnel, when we suddenly found the high explosive was the thing. We still have a higher opinion of shrapnel than the French or the Germans.”

“Last May, when the Germans were making a hundred times the number of high explosives we were, three-fourths of our factories were working on naval munitions. The munitions organization at the War Office had not kept up a great business organization to cope with the problem.

Describing the steps taken to speed up the output, Mr. Lloyd-George emphasized particularly the purchase of machinery in America, and the acquisition by the government of raw material for many months to come for its allies as well as for itself. He mentioned that had attended munition work which had attended munition work in Ireland, thanks, he said, to the assistance of John Redmond.

Turning to the new national factories, which, he said, now numbered 33, he declared they had been conspicuously successful in minimizing labor difficulties and enabling the Government to check prices. They were also hundreds of private factories which the co-operative scheme that previously had not been engaged in munition work. These factories alone, he said, were now making three times as many shells as the Whole United Kingdom was making last May.

Referring to American orders, Mr. Lloyd-George said: “David A. Thomas comes back speaking in the highest possible terms of the services rendered this country by J. P. Morgan and Company, not merely in the selection of firms for contracts, as in fact they saved us many millions of pounds by their efforts to reduce the inflated prices prevailing before they took the matter in hand.”

James Henry Thomas, labor member for Derby, and assistant general secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, speaking for the Labor party after Mr. Lloyd-George had concluded, said that organized labor would be found ready to follow wherever the Minister of Munitions led, if their rights were properly guaranteed.

“Every appeal that has been made to the workmen,” he said, “has been met. The workmen are not unmindful of their responsibilities. What the Ministers ought to do is to pass a bill guaranteeing to trade unions the re-establishment of the status quo at the termination of the war.”

# GOVERNMENT RECORD READS "LATE", "SLOW"

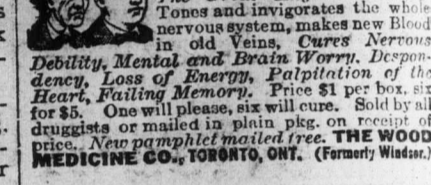
The Thunderer Thus Comments on Lloyd-George's Munitions Speech.

by Special Wire to the Courier.

London, Dec. 21.—The speech by David Lloyd-George, minister of munitions, in the House of Commons Monday night, furnished a fresh opportunity for The Times and Daily Mail to attack the government.

In an editorial this morning, The Daily Mail says: “The speech contains the gravest indictment yet drawn against the government of fire upon the government record. Too late in aiding Belgium, too late to save Serbia, too late in the Dardanelles, too late with munitions—these words have dogged the allies every step.”

The Times says editorially: “It is a melancholy and humiliating story in which the words ‘slow’ and ‘late’ recur with painful frequency. David Lloyd-George is not afraid of the truth or of confessing mistakes and his courage inspires the confidence that the way to be in time for the future is to recognize that the past ways have been too late in the past.”



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# MAYOR SPENCE ENCOMIUMS

Retiring Chief Magistrate Many Flattering Him by Long List

Following last night's city meeting, the aldermen and of the various municipal bodies, as well as representatives of the city, were the guests of the Mayor at a luncheon at the Inn. The event was made more of a farewell, and all those on the toast list referred most glowing terms to the work done by the retiring magistrate of Brantford. There, splendid turnout, the banqueting well filled, music and a recitation by Rev. Mr. Lave to pass by the evening, as well as a party broke up, it was with a feeling of "concluding a most pleasant trip."

**LONG TOAST LIST**

The toast list was a long as was only natural in these, all the speakers referring to the times of through which the Empire is passing, and also to the fact that some of them were marveled in spite of their brevity. A table speech was delivered by Col. W. F. Cockshutt, M.P.

Mr. A. W. Burt, in which he spoke of the splendid future of the Canadian people. The toast list was a long as was only natural in these, all the speakers referring to the times of through which the Empire is passing, and also to the fact that some of them were marveled in spite of their brevity. A table speech was delivered by Col. W. F. Cockshutt, M.P.

Help to Her D Come SHE is one of Million Belg they refused lived on the br industrial peopl have been reduc not of luxuries enough to eat! True to the masked it, the C the starving. been undertak Neutral Nations Belg provided by voluntary with wonderful econo Commission. Absolutely none and most of them for by Belgians who feed those who can month is needed! Surely no people and aid more than \$2.50 KE

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