

Exports Still Go Up.

Those of Last Week \$532,000 More Than Previous Week.—\$500,000 Cargo to Russia.—Consignment of Goods for Muscovite Government Will Leave San Francisco for Vladivostok on November 20.—Shipments of Wheat Since July 1, 24,000,000 Bushels in Excess of Last Year.

New York, Nov. 7.—The Russian government will be on the way to receiving her first important shipment of food from this country when a shipment, valued at \$500,000 leaves San Francisco, November 20, for Vladivostok. The supplies, destined for Petrograd, were almost entirely purchased from local manufacturers and merchants. Oils are included in the list.

LARGE INCREASE FOR WEEK.

Imports of dry goods and merchandise for the week ended October 31, were 116,334,747, as compared with \$15,801,894 the week previous and \$16,607,834 the same week last year.

Wheat and flour exports continued in good volume this week, totaling 7,312,384 bushels, which is 300,000 more than last week, but 500,000 below a year ago. Shipments from Seattle are not included in the current figures.

Since the first week in July exports of wheat and flour are 24,000,000 in excess of last year. The total for eighteen weeks is close to 130,000,000 bushels.

The British Government is said to have placed an order with a Reading manufacturer for 600,000 hospital shirts, costing \$250,000, which will require 1,800,000 yards of material. Additional orders for 150,000 are expected to be placed by the same authorities if the first order proves satisfactory.

The Mullin Shoe Company, of Pittsburgh, is reported as the recipient of an order for 200,000 pairs of shoes for the French, costing \$3.25 a pair. A similar order probably will be placed with the same manufacturer in the near future by the English supply commissioners.

Canadian agents are said within the past few days to have distributed requisitions for 1,500,000 yards of shirting flannel among local concerns.

The Studebaker Corporation, according to Chicago dispatches has disposed of 3,000 wagons, fully equipped; 120,000 sets of harness, and 60,000 saddles to the British Government.

Local forwarding agents report that thus far the season's export of green apples to the war zone aggregate 821,000 barrels, which is 138,000 barrels above a year ago.

Norway has inquired by mail from rail mills in this country for 30,000 tons of standard rail sections for delivery before the spring; but our manufacturers are loth to quote prices for foreign delivery, owing to the high insurance rates.

Kansas millers have 1,500 carloads of wheat flour at New Orleans awaiting shipment to Holland.

CONFIDENCE IS FAST RETURNING.

Conditions may be normal within sixty days, says Mr. Keuster.—Many to be easier—First of January should find building underway on much bigger scale than expected.

Seek War Supplies

Belligerent Nations Placing Orders in United States—Strategy User in Dealings.—American Manufacturers Are Put in Touch With Countries Desiring Munitions, Tents, Clothing, Horses, Coal, &c., Through "Blind" Notices in Daily Consular and Trade Reports and by Letter.

New York, Nov. 7.—A Washington dispatch to the Herald says:

American manufacturers of guns, ammunition, army tents and other war supplies are finding a ready market among the belligerent countries of Europe. Tremendous orders for goods of this character are being placed daily through the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce of the Department of Commerce.

Considerable strategy is observed in putting the countries that desire to buy war material in touch with the manufacturers. This is accomplished by the use of blind notices in the Daily Consular Reports, a publication of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, and by correspondence with only recognized firms or individuals who are in a position to supply the demand.

Some impetus is being given these purchases by the recent order of William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, to collectors of customs in every port that the nature of cargoes exported and their destination be kept secret for 30 days after clearance. This, together with the fact that the reserve stores of the warring countries are beginning to run low, is causing a big demand for these goods.

As an indication of the veiled way in which requests for supplies are printed this notice from the Daily Consular and Trade Reports is interesting:

"No. 14350, ammunition—An American Minister in South America reports, by telegram, that he has been requested to advise whether American manufacturers are in a position to supply, direct to purchaser, mauser ammunition, 7 millimeter steel jacketed bullets, 9 grams in weight, stating price f. o. b., New York, per million. Manufacturer should state quantity which can be supplied."

PERIOD OF GREAT BUSINESS ACTIVITY IS NEAR AT HAND.

Men in Position to Speak With Authority Take Optimistic View of the Outlook and Speak Most Hopeful About the Prospects For Busy Times Ahead—Opening of the Reserve Bank System Marks a New Era.

Will put an end to excessive charges by banks throughout the country for collections and exchanges, resulting in an enormous saving to the trades people of the United States. Substitutes one compact collection system for the wasteful play now in vogue. Farmer will receive his share of benefit of new system in enlarged ability of his bank of care for him and in lowering rates.

Last Monday's Baltimore Sun carried a most imposing array of statements from government officials and bankers in which the view was freely expressed that the country is on the eve of greater commercial and industrial activity

than it has heretofore known.

The occasion of the securing of these expressions by the Sun was the fact that the formal opening of the new Federal Reserve Banking system was imminent, having been scheduled for Monday, November 16th.

SAVANNAH CRYING FOR COTTON AT EIGHT CENTS.

Randolph Anderson, in Atlanta, Says Demand Wednesday, Nov. 11th, Was Greater Than Supply.

Cotton was selling in Savannah on Wednesday at 8 cents a pound and the demand at that price was greater than the available supply of cotton, according to J. Randolph Anderson, president of the State Senate and one of the best known attorneys and business men of Savannah.

Mr. Anderson, who is in Atlanta Thursday to appear before the State Railroad Commission in behalf of the petition of the Savannah & Statesboro railroad for permission to temporarily discontinue passenger trains Nos. 25 and 26 between Savannah and Cuyler, is a real optimist.

"Business conditions have been improving for about ten days," said he, "and all indications point to continued improvement. I don't expect conditions to become normal again in a week, but I do think that the improvement will be gradual and certain."

"Cotton is now moving from Savannah to foreign countries in an increasing amount. The war, of course, makes the movement smaller and slower than it was a year ago, but there are cotton-carrying ships at Savannah from Denmark, Sweden, Italy, Spain, Holland and other countries.

"The South has lived through 5-cent cotton and it most assuredly will be able to survive 8-cent cotton. As a matter of fact, the price of 8 cents affords the farmers an excellent opportunity to sell part of their cotton at a reasonable figure. They should do this and pay up their debts. This would enable the merchants, fertilizer men and bankers to relieve the pressure upon themselves. It is not necessary for the farmers to sell all their cotton; in fact, I do not think such a course would be wise, as the dumping of a big amount of cotton on the market at one time would undoubtedly bear down the price. However, they can sell a portion of their holdings from time to time as the market is favorable, and the new money thus brought into the South would serve to immediately lubricate the wheels of commerce and aid very greatly in restoring good business conditions."

BANKERS WOULD FORM POOL TO BUY IN AMERICAN STOCKS.

Philadelphia, Nov. 12.—Optimism for America's financial, industrial and commercial future was expressed in reports and addresses at the opening session today of the convention of the Investment Bankers' Association of America. Despite the European War, speakers declared the future holds forth unusual promise and that the low ebb of depression is past.

A proposal by the president of the organization, Charles B. Caldwell of Chicago, that a \$250,000,000 pool be formed to take over stocks and bonds that might be thrown on the market.

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