

# IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS OF THIS  
AND OTHER NATIONS FOR  
SEVEN DAYS GIVEN

## THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in The South-  
land Will Be Found in  
Brief Paragraphs

### Domestic

Walter Dent, assistant attorney general of Mississippi, knocked Theodore Bilbo down in a fist fight in the office of the secretary of state, Joseph Power, who, with other officers, separated the men. The governor said he was struck without warning. No arrests were made.

Atlanta has appropriated one hundred thousand dollars to purchase food supplies pending settlement of the railroad strike.

State troops have been ordered removed from the scenes of the Chicago riots and the stock yards after a general strike of union workers had badly crippled the packing companies and live stock dealers had notified producers to suspend shipments to Chicago temporarily.

New Orleans sold ten thousand pounds of bacon to consumers at cost. The Brooklyn street car strike will be settled by mediation.

Charles H. McGwire, assistant engineer of the municipal department of public works, who committed suicide at Los Angeles by leaping from the office of District Attorney Thomas L. Woolwine on the eleventh floor of the hall of records, was held responsible by public officials for the dynamiting of the home of Oscar Lawler, a prominent attorney.

Will N. Harben, native Georgian, one of the most famous American writers and well known as an editor, is dead at his home in New York. He was the author of "Pole Baker" and a large number of other stories, most of them dealing with characters of the South.

Four persons known to be dead, probably six seriously wounded, property and crop damage estimated at more than two million dollars and two hundred families driven from their homes, was the toll of the electrical storm which swept northern Ohio. Three of the deaths occurred in Youngstown, where two persons were killed instantly by lightning and another electrocuted by coming into contact with a live wire.

Efforts to anticipate the results of any quick switch in the government policy for disposal of the 1919 domestic crop of wheat knocked the bottom out of values on the board of trade at Chicago.

The Choccolocco valley of Calhoun county, Alabama, lays claim to having the champion rattlesnake killer of the season. Adair Hill killed 21 rattlesnakes. Hill says he came upon one big diamond rattler which immediately gave battle and was killed after a struggle.

It is reported that German agents are trying to force the raising of the embargo on potash, so they may begin shipments to this country immediately, although their stock at present is said to be small.

German agents, in their effort to regain control of the potash industry in this country, are reported to be supported by the fertilizer trust of the United States.

### Washington

High prices, President Wilson says, are not justified by shortage of supply either present or prospective, but are created in many cases artificially and deliberately by vicious practices. Retailers are responsible in large part for extortionate prices.

President Wilson has laid specific proposals before congress for checking the high cost of living, but at the same time declared permanent results cannot be expected until peace time basis is fully restored by ratification of the peace treaty.

The country's corn crop showed a decrease of 27,952,000 bushels, as a result of weather and other conditions during July.

The average age of all United States men killed in the war was 23. This emphasizes the youth of the American army.

President Wilson has decided to address a message to congress recommending additional legislation to aid in reducing the cost of living.

Department commanders have been instructed by the war department to prosecute vigorously their campaign to obtain recruits for the American forces in Siberia.

Agents of the department of justice will ferret out all hoarders of necessities and profiteers throughout the country, who will be prosecuted under the food control act.

American reports say that Roumanians entering Budapest, the Hungarian capital, are demanding hostages and threatened to kill five hostages for each Roumanian soldier injured in Budapest.

Seven hundred and fifty-six of the United States soldiers killed in action were victims of gas.

Increase in the number of national banks in July was the greatest of any month in recent years.

Great Britain has settled her obligation to the American government for munitions negotiated for during the war.

President Wilson recommends that goods released from storage for interstate commerce bear the selling price at which they went into storage and requiring that all goods destined for interstate commerce bear the price at which they left the hands of the producer.

Says President Wilson: "We and we almost alone now hold the world steady. Upon our steadfastness and self-possession depend the affairs of nations everywhere. It is in this supreme crisis — the crisis for all mankind — that America must prove her mettle."

The project to build the St. Mary's river canal from the port of St. Mary's Ga., across the base of the state of Florida to the Gulf of Mexico, took on new interest in Washington when Senator William J. Harris of Georgia introduced a resolution which directs the secretary of commerce and the inland waterways officials of the railroad administration to submit all available data and facts on the scheme to the senate.

Increased rates on cotton and cotton from points in southern territory to various destinations in the United States and Canada, asked by southeastern railroads in connection with carriers not under federal control, have been approved by the interstate commerce commission with out formal hearing.

Glenn E. Plumb, author of organized labor's bill for public ownership of the railroads, who was formerly a corporation lawyer, much in the employ of the railroads of the West, and is now in the employ of the railroad brotherhoods, took the stand before the house interstate commerce committee, and declared that every railroad system in the United States was subjected to a systematized plundering under private ownership.

The permanent military policy recommended by the war department, involving under revised estimates, a standing peace army of 576,000 and universal military training for youths of 19 years of age, would cost the country nine hundred million dollars annually, Gen. Peyton C. March, chief of staff told the senate military subcommittee, considering army legislation.

General March asserts that the present time is the most appropriate for inaugurating a system of military training inasmuch as military camps are in readiness over the country and also the necessary equipment.

President Wilson has issued a formal statement saying that the "frank statement" made by Viscount Uchida as to Japan's policy regarding Shantung "ought to remove many of the misunderstandings which have begun to accumulate about this question."

Viscount Uchida says: "The policy of Japan is to hand back the Shantung peninsula in full sovereignty to China, retaining only the economic privileges granted to Germany and the right to establish a settlement under the usual conditions at Tsing-Tao."

### Foreign

The Spanish parliament has approved the proposal that Spain join the league of nations.

Nicholas Misu, of the Roumanian peace delegation, was called for the second time before the supreme council on account of the Roumanian refusal to comply with the demands of the peace conference.

The attitude of the Roumanians is causing great embarrassment to the supreme council.

The surrender of General Kruska, commander of the German prison camp at Kaiser, has been demanded by the allies as the first of the enemy officials to be tried for violation of international law.

The Belgian chamber of deputies unanimously ratified the peace treaty with Germany.

An agreement for the sale of American army stocks in France for \$400,000 was signed by the French, says Marcel Hutin, in Echo de Paris.

King George conferred upon Premier David Lloyd-George the Order of Merit as a sign of the appreciation of the English people of Mr. George's war services.

Lieutenant Godfrey, a French aviator, performed the feat of passing under the Arc de Triomphe at Paris in an airplane flight.

A dispatch from Vienna by way of Copenhagen says that the United States has sent an ultimatum to Roumania demanding withdrawal of the severe armistice terms presented to Hungary on pain of cessation of the shipment of food to Roumania.

Herbert Hoover, head of the inter-allied relief commission, has stopped all relief supplies on their way to Budapest, taking the position that he would be unwarranted in letting supplies reach Hungary while Roumanians are now depriving the people of food-stuffs.

The supreme council has sent a note to the Roumanian authorities begging them to conform to the conditions of the entente and not to embarrass by previous decisions the work of the inter-allied investigation committee sent to Budapest.

A Paris dispatch says that telegrams from American officials at Budapest state that Roumanian troops upon entering Budapest started plundering in the suburbs. Fifteen or twenty civilians were killed by the Roumanians during the day.

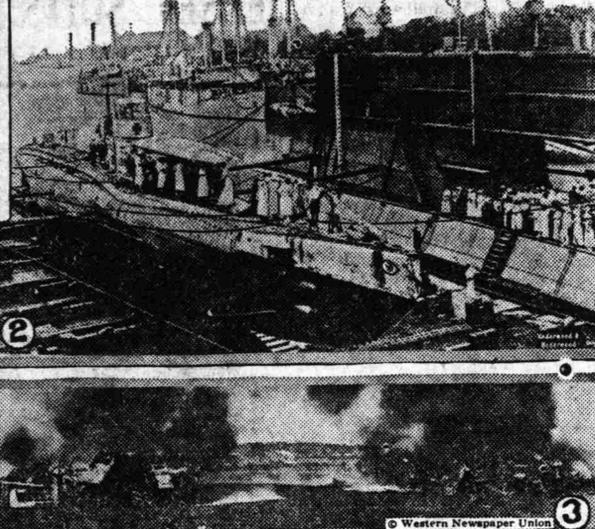
Great Britain purposes establishing a central authority to deal with profiteering.

The settlement of the Adriatic question, affecting Italy and Jugo-Slavia, is imminent.

The allies have not altered their decision to hold the trial of the former German emperor in London.



1—Mayor Gillen of Newark supervising the sale by the municipality to the public of provisions bought from the government. 2—The U. B. 88, first German submarine to enter the Mississippi, in dry dock at New Orleans—for minor repairs. 3—First photograph of the "million dollar fire" at Colombry-les-Belles, France, when junked airplanes and other material were burned.



2—The U. B. 88, first German submarine to enter the Mississippi, in dry dock at New Orleans—for minor repairs. 3—First photograph of the "million dollar fire" at Colombry-les-Belles, France, when junked airplanes and other material were burned.

## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

### President Addresses Congress on Cost of Living and the Possible Remedies.

### PACKERS TO BE PROSECUTED

General Campaign is Started Against Profiteers—Railway Unions Demand More Pay, Urge the Plumb Plan and Threaten to Strike.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The open season for profiteers has come. If there is a bright spot in the world's sky, that is it. For the rest the clouds are black enough to suit the most confirmed pessimist.

Government officials, investigating bodies, individual economists—all have been earnestly seeking for the prime causes of the high cost of living. The cold-blooded, greedy profiteer who batters on the misfortunes of the people is the most easily discerned of those causes and is going to be the first to be dealt with. All the sympathy he gets must come from himself.

President Wilson appeared before congress Friday and delivered a scholarly essay on the subject, which included various recommendations for legislative action, and told what the government already is doing in the way of curbing the operations of the profiteers. He urged the permanent extension of the food control act, a law regulating cold storage, a law requiring that all goods entering interstate shipment be marked with the producers' price, prompt enactment of the pending capital issues bill, and, what seems to the writer most important of all, the passage of a law requiring federal licensing of all corporations engaged in interstate commerce.

The president did not overlook the opportunity to push the immediate ratification of the peace treaty and league covenant. He devoted much of his message to assertions, in varied form, that until peace is established only provisional and makeshift results can be accomplished in the way of reducing living costs. There can be no settled conditions anywhere in the world, he declared, until the treaty is out of the way. Such views did not meet with the approval of most of the Republican congressmen, and their indignation was aroused by the fact that the president used the domestic issue as a weapon in the contest over the League of Nations.

Most prominent of the alleged profiteers are the Chicago packers, the "big five" who are reputed to control much of the world's food supplies. Some time ago they were investigated by the federal trade commission and that body made a report that was bitterly attacked by the defenders of the packers. Now with that report as a basis President Wilson has directed the department of justice to institute at once civil and criminal proceedings against the big five. The attorney general stated that he was satisfied the evidence developed indicated a clear violation of the anti-trust laws, and that Isador J. Kresel of New York was in charge of the prosecution. The packers are to be accused of unfairly and illegally using their power to manipulate live stock markets, to restrict interstate and international supplies of foods, to control the prices of dressed meats and other foods, to defraud both the producers and the consumers of foods, to crush competition, to secure special privileges from railroads, stock yards companies and municipalities, and to profiteer. The department of justice will proceed against them not only for violation of the anti-trust laws but also under the provisions of the food law of 1918 against the hoarding of food.

As for the heads of the big packing companies, some of them profess to welcome the legal action as giving them a chance to demonstrate to the public their innocence, harmlessness and helplessness, and all of them repeat their oft heard protestations that they are

the victims of economic conditions beyond anybody's control. Their assertions that they make an almost infinitesimal profit and often operate at a loss do not seem to make much impression on either the public or the agencies of justice. That their statements are not always ingenuous is instanced by the following assertion of the "commercial research department" of one of the big five:

"The general high price level is not due to manipulation. This is shown by a recent report of the war industries board, which proves that prices in other countries of the world have risen as much as or more than they have in the United States, and that this has been true even in countries relatively unaffected by war conditions, such as Japan and Australia."

The truth is that Australia is glutted with food products and its people are struggling to keep prices up to a profitable level. Also, while there was a big advance in the prices of Japan's chief food, rice, it was admittedly due to the manipulations of hoarders and profiteers and was the cause of riots and of government action.

The sugar situation is confusing and statements are as conflicting as those relating to the packing industry. However the government believes the sugar men also are profiteering and three officials of the Pittsburgh branch of a Chicago concern were arrested. It is asserted that scalpers have vast quantities of sugar stored away and that dealers are forced to buy where they can and pay what is asked. In this, as in the case of other food products, the accused say the government is partly to blame for shipping vast supplies to Europe and thus creating a domestic shortage. The concerted attacks by federal and local authorities caused immediate and sharp declines in the wholesale prices of many foods, but there was little evidence that the consumer was profiting by the declines, which seemed to put some of the onus on the retailers.

The federal trade commission lately has been making an inquiry into the shoe business, and has informed congress that the high prices of shoes are due to the unprecedented and unjustified profits taken by the slaughterers, tanners, manufacturers and dealers. Here, again, the packers are hit, for they are charged with causing an unwarranted increase in the price of hides, the supply of which they are said to control.

Following up the memorandum of the locomotive engineers presented to the president, fourteen railroad unions acting as a unit handed to Director General Hines a demand for wage increases with a general program designed to meet the present crisis, involving the threat of a general railroad strike. They ask that congress appropriate the money to provide increased pay and that the proper rate-making body then determine what increases if any should be made in rates.

"Any permanent solution of the railroad problem must necessarily remove the element of returns to capital as the sole purpose of operation," say the unions, and so the director general is asked to recommend to President Wilson that he try to obtain the passage by congress of the so-called Plumb plan. This plan, in eliminating private capital from the railroads, not only proposes but demands that the present private owners be reimbursed with government bonds for "every honest dollar that they have invested"; that the public, the operating management, and labor share equally in corporations to take over the railroads, and that in all revenues in excess of the guarantee to private capital the operators and employees share one-half, "either by increasing the means for service without increasing fixed charges or by reducing the cost of the service which the machinery then in surrender."

The union leaders say that if the Plumb plan is rejected they will start a campaign both in and out of congress that will compel its adoption, and they declare frankly that it is their hope that it will lead to the nationalization of all other basic industries. Senator Thomas of Colorado denounced the demands of the rail workers as near-treason, and other members of congress shared his opinion, though they were less outspoken.

Already the railroads of the country are greatly hampered by the strike of the shop workers. This was not authorized by the national unions, and it began to collapse when the president told the men their demands would not be considered until they resumed work.

Both England and France are handling their tremendous labor difficulties fairly well. In the former the strike of city policemen seems to be a failure, though in Liverpool it was accompanied by serious rioting. In France the workers have sensibly agreed to postpone all strikes for six months and meantime they will join with the employers and the government in earnest efforts to solve the problems of wages and prices to stimulate greater production, which alone, it is believed, can save their country from economic disaster. It would be an unmeasurable blessing if some of the common sense that has moved the French laborers to keep up production could be instilled in the American workers so they might realize that in cutting off production they are cutting their own throats.

Chicago's race war, which at bottom was largely industrial and partly political, practically came to an end, and on Thursday more than 3,000 colored employees of the packing houses returned to work. As they walked in, a large number of white employees laid down their tools and quit, some of them because most of the colored workers are nonunion and others because they objected to laboring under police and military protection.

After Bela Kun and his communist government of Hungary quit and made way for the Socialists things moved rapidly in Budapest. The Roumanian army, which had routed the Hungarian Red troops, advanced to the city and occupied it, and Roumania issued an ultimatum to Hungary which was not countenanced by the allied peace council. Therefore French and American troops were sent to Budapest and assumed control and the Roumanians were told they must get out. Next the socialist government was overthrown and its members arrested and Archduke Joseph assumed power with the title of governor of the state. He was supported by the entente mission in the city and announced he would form a coalition cabinet with Stephen Friedrich as premier.

The Austrian peace delegates made their counter-proposals to the treaty terms submitted by the allies. These were unexpectedly mild and the complaints of the Austrians are almost pathetic. They assert that too much territory is taken from their country, citing especially the Tyrol and southern Bohemia, and say the war debt loaded on them is so heavy they are not sure the Austrian people can exist under such conditions.

Japan, through Foreign Minister Uchida, promises to restore Shantung to China on conclusion of arrangements with the Peking government to carry out the pledge given in the agreement of 1915. President Wilson, however, now reveals the fact that the Japanese peace delegates gave substantially the same promise in the inter-allied conference of April 30 without any reference to the agreement of 1915. The president believes the Japanese statement clears up the doubt about the Shantung affair. Secretary of State Lansing told the senate foreign relations committee that China had never protested to the president against the Shantung settlement by the allied peace council; that the clause was accepted by the decision of the president and that he, Mr. Lansing, did not believe it was needed to obtain Japan's adherence to the League of Nations.

Secretary of War Baker has presented to the house and senate committees on military affairs the administration bill for a permanent military policy. It calls for a regular army with a peace strength of 510,000 and a war strength of 1,250,000, the reserves to be provided through a modified form of the selective service act. Included is a system of military training of three months for all eligible youths in their nineteenth year. This feature may gain for the bill the support of the advocates of universal military training.

## WILSON SPEAKS ON HIGH COST OF LIVING

EPITOME OF REASONS FOR THE  
PRESENT EXORBITANT PRICE  
OF NECESSITIES OF LIFE

## ONE REMEDY IS RATIFICATION

Energetic Enforcement of the Law  
Recommended to Force Out Hoarders  
Vast Stores of All Kinds

Washington.—President Wilson has several specific proposals before congress for checking the high cost of living, but at the same time declared permanent results could not be expected until peace time basis is fully restored by ratification of the peace treaty.

High prices, the President told congress, were not justified by shortage of supply, either present or prospective, but were created in many cases artificially and deliberately by vicious practices. Retailers, he said, were responsible in large part for the tortionate prices.

Strikes, the President warned, would do little to help the labor world, would only make matters worse and those who sought to employ threats or coercion were "preparing their own destruction." Leaders of organized labor, the president said, he was sure would readily yield to second sober thought. "Illegal" and "criminal" words the President used in characterizing the methods by which present day prices have been brought about.

Present laws, he said, would be energetically employed to the limit to force out food hoards, and meet the situation so far as possible, but to implement the existing statutes he specifically urged the following:

**Specific Recommendations.**  
Licensing of all corporations engaged in interstate commerce, specific regulations designed to cure competitive selling and prevent "unconscionable profits" in the food of marketing.

Extension of the food control act to peace times and the application of provisions against hoarding to clothing and other necessities of life as well as food.

A penalty in the food control act for profiteering.

A law regulating cold storage, limiting the time during which goods may be held, prescribing a method of disposing of them if held beyond the permitted period and requiring that when released goods bear the cost of storage.

Laws requiring that goods released from storage for interstate commerce bear the selling prices at which they went into storage and requiring that all goods destined for interstate commerce bear the prices at which they left the hands of the producer.

Enactment of the pending bill for the control of security issues.

Additional appropriations for government agencies which can supply the public with full information as to prices at which retailers buy.

Early ratification of the peace treaty so that the "free processes of supply and demand" can operate.

**Immediate Steps Promised.**  
Immediate steps by executive agencies of the government promised by the President included:

The limiting and controlling of wheat shipments and credits to Austria the purchase of wheat in other ways as not to raise, but rather lower the price of flour at home.

Sale of surplus stocks of food, clothing in the hands of the government.

The forced withdrawal from stores and sale of surplus stocks in government hands.

**General Recommendations.**  
General recommendations included:

Increase of production.  
Careful buying by housewives.

Deal dealing with the people as part of producers, middlemen and merchants.

That there be no threats and insistence upon the interests of the people class.

Correction of "many things" in the relation between capital and labor respect to wages and conditions of labor.

In concluding the President made a plea for deliberate, intelligent action reminding congress that an advanced world was looking to the United States.

"We and we almost alone," he said, "now hold the world steady. Upon our steadfastness and self-possession depend the affairs of nations everywhere. It is in this supreme crisis for all mankind—that that America must prove her mettle."

**May Discontinue Surcharge.**  
Raleigh, N. C.—The 10 per cent surcharge put on fire insurance premiums by insurance companies as applied in North Carolina, along with most of the other states, is to be discontinued August 15, following adoption of resolutions insisting that this be done by the special commission of the national convention of state insurance commissioners.

Insurance Commissioner James Young returned from New York bringing this bit of interesting news for Carolina insurers.