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COTTON CROP REPORT

Georgia Ranks Fourth in Consumption of Staple

FOREIGN COTTON IMPORTED

The Report Shows Increase in Amount of Cotton Consumed by Cotton-Growing States.

Washington, D. C.—The financial disturbances of 1907, which have already become history in the United States, have not entirely disappeared among the cotton manufacturers of Europe, according to a statement of Daniel C. Roper of the bureau of census, in his report on the supply and distribution of cotton for the year ending August 31, 1909, just published. At the close of the season, he says a number of mills were running on short time, with little prospect of an early resumption of full time. He attributes this not alone to the business depression generally, but also to the short crops produced in the European countries and a very marked falling off in internal demand throughout Europe, consequent to the high prices brought on by the short crops.

Notwithstanding this, however, the United States exported to Europe and other foreign countries about two-thirds of her crop, only about one-third being consumed by the mills of this country. The value of the manufactures made from the American cotton crop for the year ending August 31, 1909, was about $2,000,000,000.

Massachusetts still is by far the leading state in the consumption of cotton, as shown by his report, consuming about 25 per cent of the total crop of 1909. North Carolina was next, with South Carolina third. Georgia ranks fourth in the amount of cotton consumed, consuming about 10 per cent of the entire crop.

The report shows a remarkable increase in the amount of cotton consumed by the cotton growing states over 1908. These states consumed 2,553,797 in 1909, as against 2,187,096 in 1908.

Savannah holds her place as the third port in the number of bales exported, being led only by Galveston and New Orleans. During the year covered by Mr. Roper's report, Savannah exported almost a million bales, while her net receipts were over a million and a half. Savannah has more than doubled the amount of her cotton receipts since 1875.

Mr. Roper calls especial attention to the fact that we shipped more than three and a half million bales of cotton to the United Kingdom in the year 1909, though a considerable part of this was re-shipped to other countries.

It is interesting to note from his report that there were about 160,000 bales of foreign cotton consumed by the mills of the United States, most of which was Egyptian.

When we remember that only a very few years ago the seed from cotton were considered of very little value ,except a small portion of them for re-planting, it is little less than astounding to note that during the season of 1908-1909 nearly three hundred and fifty thousand bales of cotton were ginned from the seed by the cotton seed oil mills while preparing the seed for their use.

During the season which the report of Mr. Roper covers, there were 6,000,000 farmers and farm laborers employed in the production of cotton; there were about 1,000,000 otherwise engaged in the handling of the raw material in the United States, and about 2,000,000 foreigners found employment on account of it.

One of the most encouraging features of the report to the south is the marked and continuous growth of the cotton manufactories in the cotton growing states. From the year 1880, when the south had only 180,927 active spindles, the number has increased with leaps and bounds so that now she has nearly ten and a half million in active operation, and consumed 2,553,797 bales during the season of 1908-09.

There were more new spindles put into operation during this last year in the south than she had altogether in 1880. In 1870 the New England states consumed about ten times as much cotton as did the cotton growing states, while the south consumed over 400,000 more bales during the year ending August 31, 1909, than did New England.

Mr. Roper's report is filled with statistics which show the phenomenal speed with which the south, already standing supreme in its production, is coming into its own as the greatest manufacturer of the world's greatest crop.

NO TARIFF WAR.

United States and Germany Have Reached Agreement.

Washington, D. C.—Concessions by both the United States and Germany have averted a threatened tariff war. Negotiations have been concluded between the two countries which settle the question of minimum and maximum rates with the exception of the cattle and dressed meat issue, which was eliminated from the present negotiations and which will be pursued hereafter in separate diplomatic representation.

The result of the negotiations agreed to is to exchange American minimum rates for the entire and unqualified minimum list of Germany.

HE CONFESSES TO 19 WIVES.

Police Say Emil Von Mueller Has at Least Twenty-Five.

New York City.—"Married?" asked the desk sergeant as he booked Emil Von Mueller, alias Emil Von Der Hagen, brought here from Los Angeles, today, charged with bigamy.

"Yes," admitted Emil coyly, "nineteen times." Either Emil has skipped count, or the figures in the possession of the police have been inflated—they read 25. Von Mueller is only 37 years old.

ERADICATION OF CATTLE TICK.

The U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry Makes Interesting Report.

Washington, D. C. — The average price of southern cattle sold in the northern markets has been increased $3 a head as a result of tick eradication, making a gain for the year from this source of $3,000,000, according to Dr. A. D. Melvin, chief of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry. The sections of the south which have have been freed from these pests and relieved of all quarantine restrictions have been benefited in many ways, in a recent report on this work, he says:

"More cattle are being raised, and a better grade of breeding stock is being introduced; calves grow faster, and cattle put on flesh more rapidly during the grazing season and go into the winter in better condition because of the absence of the ticks; they can be marketed without quarantine restrictions, and higher prices are being obtained; dairy cows give a larger yield of milk, and values of farm lands are enhanced. Aside from its own observations, the bureau has received from persons in the released territory numerous letters and other expressions confirming the foregoing facts and testifying to the great benefits following the extermination of the ticks.

"The difference between the prices realized for cattle from the tick-infested region and the prices of cattle of similar grades from above quarantine line ranges from $2.25 to $5 a head at the principal northern live stock markets, without taking into account the improvement in quality and weight of cattle because of the eradication of the ticks. As more than 1,000,000 cattle from the quarantined area are annually sold in the markets, it can easily be seen that the extermination of the tick means an annual increase of at least $3,000,000 in prices obtained for southern cattle sold in northern markets. In addition to this, the increase in prices of cattle sold locally in the south would represent a large sum. This local increase has already been found to amount to from $3 to $15 a head in the territory recently freed from ticks. An agricultural official of one of the southern states reports that calves in the tick-free area bring just double the price that can be obtained for similar calves in the tick-infested region.

"Heretofore, it has been impracticable to improve the quality of southern cattle by introducing fine breeding animals from other sections, because such animals were liable to contract Texas fever and die unless protected by inoculation. Furthermore, it is impossible for animals to attain good growth and thrive when they are heavily infested with ticks. With the eradication of the ticks, however, the southern farmers are enabled to produce good breeding animals and to improve the grade of their stock."

U. S. CHANGES PROHIBITION POLICY.

Government to Aid States in Enforcing Prohibition Laws.

Topeka, Kans.—A complete change of policy of the federal government in prosecutions for violations of the internal revenue liquor laws has been ordered by Attorney General Wickersham, on instructions from President Taft, at least so far as Kansas is concerned.

The letter follows:

"My attention has been called to the attitude of the department with respect to prosecutions of offenses against the internal revenue laws, and much complaint has been made by reason of the fact that in states the policy of which forbids the traffic in liquors, the United States government is clearly aiding and abetting in the violations of these laws by compromising proceedings for the enforcement of the internal revenue laws by the mere payment of money penalties.

"This seems a just subject of reproach. Governor Stubbs has brought the matter to the attention of the president, who feels as above indicated with respect to the matter. You are, therefore, instructed in the future, in prosecutions for violations of the internal revenue laws as a general policy to refuse to compromise all liability by the payment of money penalties and to endeavor to secure conviction and imprisonment for some reasonable time in punishment of this class of offenses."

Wages Increased.

Lynchburg, Va.—The wages of the car men of the local traction company were increased to a maximum of 21 cents an hour. This is an increase of a cent an hour. The increase came as a surprise to the men.

Roanoke, Va.—The Roanoke Railway and Electric company announced an increase of one cent an hour in the pay of conductors and motormen. The increase was unsolicited.

English Mills Coming to U. S.

New Orleans, La.—An English cotton buying firm gave out an informal statement that several cotton mills will soon move from England to Mississippi as a result of the election in the British Isles. England's refusal to impose a tariff is said to be the chief factor in influencing the removal of the mills.

Mississippi towns will bid for the location of the mills, and two or three towns are considering the plan of sending agents to England to invite the industries here.

President Wedlein, of the Progressive union cabled several English mills to move to New Orleans.

Unique Way to Pay City's Debt.

Bridgeport, Conn.—That he be insured for an amount between $2,000,000 and $3,000,000, the city to pay the premiums and receive the benefits under the policies at his death, is the novel scheme for paying the city debt which has been presented by David S. Beach to the Bridgeport council for its consideration. He stipulates in return that the city erect to his memory a monument with a suitable inscription acclaiming him originator of municipal insurance.

CAUSE OF HIGH PRICES

Big Railroad Men Say It Is Drift of Population to the Cities.

POTENTIALITIES OF SOUTH

Back to the Soil Is the Slogan of Men Like Hill, Carnegie and Yoakum.

New York City.—Big railroad men, great captains of industry and high government officials have joined hands to get at the solution of the high-price problem in a businesslike way. Men like J. J. Hill, J. P. Morgan, B. F. Yoakum, W. W. Finley and Andrew Carnegie have taken up the subject and while there has been no organization of these men as yet, it is said as a fact that they have been in consultation not only among themselves, but with President Taft and other high officials, both state and national, as to what is best to be done.

It is the opinion of men of affairs that the whole trouble lies in the steady drift of population to the cities and the consequent cutting down of the relative productivity of the farm. In other words, there is a steady growth in the consumption demand without a corresponding increase in the supply of the necessities of life.

These financiers and railroad men are not taking up this question in a spirit of pure philanthropy. They realize that the agitation is bad for business; that it is bringing about an inflamed public opinion highly inimical to big business, which, if not checked, is almost certain to lead to what they deem ill-advised legislation, which will cripple industries. Believing, as they do, that natural causes have brought about the great increase in prices, they are determined to use their great power, not alone of money, but of conservative ability, to apply the proper remedy and start the tide of population back to the country and to increased population. As James J. Hill sums it up:

"Sixty-five per cent of our people are living in the cities. In 1800 4 per cent were in the cities and towns, and in 1860 only 15 per cent of the entire population were living in the urban communities. Now the condition is reversed, and only 35 per cent of our people are tilling the soil.

"You cannot fix the prices of products by statute. If a farmer can get 65 cents a bushel for his corn, he is not going to feed it to hogs and have them die of cholera. Consequently the price of meat is going up, and the wage-earner will have to turn to the breadstuffs for his food. This is true throughout the world."

President Taft is thoroughly with the movement, and will aid it in every way possible.

The governors of the agricultural states, the states which need agricultural populations, will help, and an active campaign of education is to be carried on in New York, Chicago and other great centers of population.

In this city, B. F. Yoakum, the multi-millionaire railroad builder and partner of Edwin Hawley in the Hawley-Yoakum system, called upon the people to get back to the farm.

Speaking of conditions he said:

"The attempt to estimate the large amount which will be added to the national wealth when the agricultural potentialities of the south are developed almost stagger the imagination. It is a mistake to think that increased agricultural products would lessen the proceeds of the farmer. Instead this would multiply the profits of the farm owner.

"Nothing would do more for good citizenship and our industrial stability than scattering the surplus population of our cities into the farming regions of the south and southwest, such states as Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Texas, Florida and Louisiana offer unrivaled opportunities.

"Conditions of food supply and advanced methods of agriculture work are beginning to have their effect upon the neglected opportunities in the south."

"It has taken 10 years with a steady increase in the price of foodstuffs to reach the present level of prices that are prohibitive for the poor. This shows that increased production is the hope, the only hope, for lowering prices and bringing the cost of living within the existing wage scale. Were the south's representatives in congress as alert and aggressive as many of those from the west and northwest have been, we should soon enlist the support of the federal government into the development of the great enterprises for draining millions of acres of swamp lands that now produce nothing, but which would, when brought under cultivation, produce sufficient to have a general effect upon foodstuff prices.

FLORIDA FIGHTS VEGATABLE RATES.

Alleged That Charges By Railroads Are Unreasonable.

Washington, D. C.—Unreasonable, excessive and discriminatory rates on fruits and vegetables from Florida to various destinations in the United States are alleged to be charged by northern and eastern railroads. The allegations were brought by the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association against several interstate carriers. Arguments in the case were submitted to the interstate commission accompanied by briefs. The case involves tariffs on all rail transportation of fruits and vegetables from Florida points to every other part of the country.

East India Cotton Imported.

Montgomery, Ala.—For the first time in the history of the Montgomery cotton market fifty bales of East India cotton arrived here for an Alabama mill.

Rockefeller Gives to Southern Colleges

New York City.—John D. Rockefeller has made conditional gifts of $75,000 towards $300,000 to the Salem college for women, at Winston-Salem, N. C., and of $25,000 towards $100,000 to the Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky.

36,000,000 STORAGE EGGS.

Also 50 Tons of Old Poultry in One Cold Storage Plant.

New York City.—There are 36,000,000 eggs—enough to provide eight eggs apiece for every man, woman and child in New York City and all its boroughs—in one cold storage warehouse in Jersey City, according to information placed before the Hudson county, New Jersey, grand jury, in its investigation of the big packing and other concerns which maintain extensive warehouses on the other side of the Hudson river. The eggs have been there since last March, it was learned, together with 100,000 pounds of poultry, stored since April last.

Prosecutor Pierre B. Garven of Hudson county, has subpoenaed the managers of the cold storage company, in whose warehouse the eggs and the poultry are said to be stored, and officers of other large refrigerating companies to appear before the grand jury when the prosecutor hopes to trace other large consignments of ancient meat and produce.

The whole investigation is directed against the cold storage concerns as a basis for determining the cause of the high cost of meats and other household necessities.

GROUND HOG BULLETIN.

Official Proclamation Issued on the Ground Hog Weather.

Punxsutawney, Pa.—Ground Hog Day was the great day of the year in Punxsutawney, the home of the ground hog. The people, attired in their Sunday best, assembled in the public square at noon to hear Burgess Freese issue the official bulletin from the ground hog weather works, while the Stars and Stripes were haunted to the breeze and six more weeks of winter was announced. Here is the official bulletin:

"The official shadow was cast across the official ground hog hole at 8 o'clock this morning. The shadow was tangent to Canoe Ridge, 23 degrees, and stood square on the east gable of Miller Stoops' barn. This indicates blustery weather until St. Patrick's Day. There will be good fox hunting February 22. Prune your apple trees February 15 and set your Buff Cochin hens March 29. Dig your sassafras now. The robins will sing in B flat on St. Valentine's Day and the swallows will appear April 27."

This is considered a fine proclamation.

BURROUGH'S MARRIAGES LEGAL.

Over Three Thousand Marriages in Bristol, Tenn., Declared Valid.

Bristol, Tenn.—In the test divorce case of Steele vs. Steele in the circuit court at Blountville, Tenn., Special Judge H. H. Smith declared in effect that the three thousand two hundred marriages performed by the Rev. Alfred H. Burroughs at the Bristol Gretna Green within the last twenty years, are valid. H. F. Steele sought to be divorced from his wife, Lula Steele, upon the sole ground that the license was procured through a deputy in Bristol instead of from the clerk of the court at Blountville. The complainant alleged that under the law the deputy had no right to issue such a license. Judge Smith holds that while the practice deserves to be discouraged, he is unable to find facts to warrant a decision against the validity of the marriage. He therefore refused to grant the complainant the relief sought.

Augusta Doctor Shot to Death.

Augusta, Ga.—Dr. Charles Hickman, one of the most prominent physicians in the south, brother of Tracy I. Hickman, president of the Graniteville Manufacturing Company, was found dead from gunshot wounds on the streets in Summerville, the fashionable suburb of Augusta. The Hickmans live in Summerville, and Dr. Hickman has been at his brother's home. The pockets had been rifled, and Dr. Hickman's watch had been torn from his vest.

Packers Fail for $37,000,000.

New York City.—The Mexican National Packing Company, a New Jersey corporation, controlled by English investors and operating a string of slaughter houses in the Republic of Mexico, under concessions from the Mexican government, failed with liabilities, including stock, of approximately $37,000,000. The assets were not announced, but it is estimated that they are in excess of the liabilities. The company will continue to operate its plants as usual.

Newsy Paragraphs.

The wholesale meat dealers of New Yoork city announced an advance of a cent a pound in the price of beef as a result of the decreased demand.

It was announced at the state department that Ambassador Calhoun will leave for his post at Pekin March 8, sailing from San Francisco on the steamer Mongolia.

The German Kaiser from his private purse makes a grant amounting to about $15 on the birth of an eighth son in any family, of the same father and mother. The Kaiser also promises to stand as godfather to the lucky eighth son.

The epidemic of cholera in Russia for this season is officially regarded as closed, the last cholera patient having been discharged as cured from the St. Petersburg hospitals For several weeks there have been no new cases. Totals compiled by the sanitary bureau show that since the outbreak of the epidemic in August, 1908 there have been 16,594 cases, and 6,666 deaths, of which 1,631 cases and 2,680 deaths occurred during the year just closed.

A new ministry has been formed in Norway to take the place of that which resigned several days ago and of which Gunner Knudsen was premier. The premier of the new cabinet is M. Knoow. The minister of foreign affairs will be J. Iregeins, the present minister to Great Britain.

As the result of a sudden fright from a swiftly closing typewriter desk, Miss Christine Canfield, of Minneapolis, Minn., 21 years old, is totally blind, and medical experts are baffled over the case. Miss Canfield is a stenographer.

THREE MINE HORRORS

79 Men Killed in Colorado; 35 in Kentucky; 68 in Mexico.

MINE AT CHERRY OPENED

Pitiful Scenes When Illinois Charnal House Is Opened---No Bodies Have Been Recovered.

MINE SLAUGHTER RECORD
FOR ONLY THREE DAYS

Monday	75
Tuesday	35
Wednesday	68
Total	178

Laredo, Texas.—One of the greatest disasters in the history of Mexican coal mining, which has heretofore experienced several chushing blows, resulting in a tremendous loss of human life, took place in the Palau mine at Las Esperanzas, Texas.

The toll of human life which paid the penalty of negligence on the part of some miner is officially placed at sixty-eight, while the list of injured numbers nearly as many.

The explosion occurred in the No. 3 shaft of the coal mine of the Esperanzas Mining Company, and is attributed to the ignition of gas from the flame of a miner's cigarette who was smoking contrary to the rules.

The miners consisted principally of Mexican and Japanese.

Drakesboro, Ky.—Nineteen corpses removed from the Browder mine, ten bodies in sight in the workings and six others known to be dead, was the count in the death roll resulting from the explosion of gases in the mine.

Nearly a score of men were mangled by the explosion and many of thes will probably die.

The bodies recovered were horribly mutilated, and some of them past identification. Because of the accumulation of gases in the entry where the explosion occurred, 170 feet beneath the ground and 700 feet back from the mine shaft, it was impossible to begin active rescue work until six hours after the disaster occurred.

The concussion tossed the bodies distances of many feet. The remaining missing men were in entries, but a few feet distant from the workings where there was the greatest known loss of life, and the searching parties have been unable to locate these entries.

Primero, Colo.—Fighting madly to escape through the narrow, partly choked air shaft, trampling over their fallen comrades in their struggle for life, more than half of the 149 miners employed in the Primero mine of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, wrecked by an explosion, were overcome by gas and fire. Their bodies were found in heaps along the bottom of the air shaft, where they had fallen in the desperate struggle.

One hundred and forty-nine men are known to have been in the mine when the explosion occurred. It is stated that 79 are dead

Their bodies are torn and charred almost beyond recognition, and it has been impossible to identify the dead.

The cause of the disaster is still a mystery. Several theories are advanced, but definite information as to the cause is not expected until the mine is cleared and an official investigation made.

Cherry, Ill.—Work was resumed in the St. Paul mine by scores of men, following the removal late of the hermetic seal that had kept the subterranean passages closed for two months. Strong efforts will be made to clear the mine of noxious vapors, wall in any smouldering fire and recover the 160-odd bodies of miners who have lain entombed in the lignite labyrinths since the fire broke out on November 14.

It was a tedious task to remove the tons of cement and steel rails from the mouth of the shafts, but many women stood riveted, staring blankly at the workmen as they uncovered the shambles.

There is much to be done before many bodies can possibly be recovered. No one in charge of the work will venture a definite estimate of when the corpses can be found.

This Liquor Makes a Man a Burglar.

Pontiac, Mich.—The police say that they have traced nearly fifty burglaries here in the past three years to the peculiar effects of whiskey in one man. This man is James Monroe, a hotel proprietor, who, the police say, has confessed that he committed the burglaries. A few drinks of whiskey, he said, produced in him an irresistible impulse to steal.

$4,000,000 ICE MERGER.

Atlantic Ice and Coal Co. Puts Finishing Touches on Gigantic Deal.

Macon, Ga.—The Atlantic Ice and Coal Company, a corporation chartered under the laws of the state of Virginia, with head offices in Atlanta Ga., purchased the plants of the Central City Ice Works and the Empire Coal Company of Macon from A. & N. M. Block, for a cash consideration of $425,000. Negotiations for plants in seven other cities of Georgia and Tennessee were also consummated, embracing an outlay of approximately $4,000,000. Plants were purchased in Augusta, Dublin, Athens, Rome, Columbus, Atlanta and Chattanooga, Tenn.

Walter Cohen Released.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Ferdinand Cohen, the hotel waiter, who is charged with kidnaping Roberta de Janon, the young heiress of this city, was released from prison in $1,500 bail.

To Auction Off Carload of Babies.

New Orleans, La.—Bids on a carload of babies were begun here. Offerings are not in money. Guarantees of care and support are reckoned among the terms of acceptance. The babies will come here from a New York asylum.

BATTLE WON; LOSS HEAVY.

Nicaraguan Government Force Defeated by Revolutionists.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, By Cable.—Dispatches received here Saturday describe the engagement which took place between the provisional forces under Gen. Mena and the Government troops. In an official dispatch, Gen. Mena says that he defeated six hundred of the enemy, commanded by Gen. Garrida, a Guatemalan, at Las Garitas, which is midway between La Libertad and Julgalpa.

Mena completely routed the enemy, capturing many prisoners and rifles. The losses to the Madriz forces were heavy, while the provisionals suffered but slightly.

Gen. Mena is pushing forward to join Gen. Chamorro at Comisam, which is well along the way to Managua. Chamirro in the last few days, in his advance upon the Capital, executed a flank movement, thus evading the Madriz troops, who expected to engage him at Acoyapa. Comoapa is one and a half days from Teustepe, in Managua province, with a clear road from there to Granada.

The Madriz forces, the dispatches say, have retreated to Santa Domingo, directly to the north of Teustepe. Gen. Chamorro holds all the lines to the interior, and the enemy behind him is completely cut off. Gen. Aurelio Estrada, brother of the President of the Provisional Government, has 1,200 men in the hills six miles from Managua, having successfully organized a rising some time ago directly under the nose of the administration, and he will join Chamorro and march on Managua.

TO REGULATE TRUSTS.

Monday a Bill to That End Was Introduced in Congress.

Washington, Special.—No corporation in the United States will be permitted to purchase, acquire or hold stock in any other corporation, according to a bill introduced in Congress Monday provides for the formation of corporations to engage in interstate and international trade and commerce. This applies to corporations organized under the act or under the laws of any State or foreign country. Nor shall any of these corporations have banking powers.

Celebrate For Ten Days.

Tampa, Fla., Special.—With British Ambassador James Bryce and Mrs. Bryce, Vice President Zayes of Cuba, Admiral Dewey and other notables in attendance, an aviation meet with the most notable aviators in the country, entered, with no less than six conventions in session and a large complement of United States calvary, artillery and infantry commands and a portion of the South Atlantic fleet in the bay, the Panama Canal celebration will open here next Saturday for a period of ten days.

To Vaccinate in Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Every man, woman and child in Atlanta, whether they believe in it or not, will have to bare their arms to the city physicians within the next ten days. At an extra ordinary session of the board of health Saturday it was decided to start the compulsory vaccination on Monday.

Needs More Men.

Washington, Special.—A second special examination will be held March 5 throughout the country to fill appointments on the additional office force of the Census Bureau. The eligible register resulting from the examination held October 23 last is inadequate. The scarcity exists chiefly in some of the Southern and Western States.

Commits Sextuple Murder.

Fergus Falls, Minn., Special.—Wm. Ruckheim, a farmer, aged 35 years, murdered his wife and four children, and shot himself at Parker's Prairie. Ruckheim is believed to have been temporarily insane.

Meet in St. Louis Next.

Indianapolis, Ind., Special.—The convention of the United Mine Workers of America adjourned Thursday morning. A coalition between the western metal miners and the united coal miners will be attempted. The convention will be held at St. Louis.

Paris Reassuming Normal Appearance.

Paris, By Cable.—The river Seine was Saturday more than 13 feet below its flood maximum and the city has begun to assume its normal appearance. The streets are clear of water and the wreckage left by the flood is rapidly disappearing.

Another Mine Horror.

Indiana, Pa., Special.—Ten Hungarians and one American is the death toll of a gas explosion Saturday in the No. 2 slope of the Ernest mine of the Jefferson & Clearfield Co., five miles north of this place.

Noted Feudist Surrender.

Roanoke, Va., Special.—A Bluefield, W. Va., special says Jim Daniels and his five sons, noted Kentucky feudists, surrendered to the sheriff at Pikeville, Ky., Saturday, and were placed in jail. Old man Daniels said he was tired of cheating justice and having got religion he was ready with his sons to take their medicine.

TO INVESTIGATE HIGH PRICES

Congress to Begin Investigation at Once.

THE WEEK'S PROGRAM OUTLINED

To Complete Postal Savings Bank, Statehoid and Other Important Matters.

Washington, Special.—Whether the Senate and House will conduct rival investigations into the causes of the high cost of the necessaries of life is a question that concerns the political leaders more deeply than any other problem now before Congress. If both bodies conduct an examination they fear that different conclusions may be reached and that such differing reports, on the eve of the Congressional elections, would be likely to prove embarrassing to the Republican majority. Nevertheless the Republicans of the Senate apparently are determined to order such an inquiry and conduct it with the utmost dispatch regardless of the views of the House leaders on the subject.

The Lodge resolution, which was reported from the Senate committee on finance, has been amended so as to provide for a committee of seven Senatirs, and it probably will be reported from the Senate committee on tontingent expenses. The enlaged committee will give Senator Elkins opportunity to serve as one of the investigators, if he cares to do so, and will unite the Republicans in favor of the inquiry. There is a possibility that the investigation proposed by the House committee on ways and means may not be ordered, but no decision has thus far been reached.

It is reported that President Taft desires the effect of the tariff upon necessaries of life to be determined by the inquiry, however, it is conducted, and that he will not tolerate any effort to gloss over any ill effects that may be disclosed. He has not expressed himself publicly on this subject.

Appropriation bills will continue to occupy the attention of the House during the week but in the Senate an effort will be made to complete the postal savings bank bill in order to have a vote nit later than Thursday or Friday. Of the President's policies it is likely that the Statehood bill next will be considered by the Senate.

Practically no interest is being taken by either branch of Congress in the committee hearings on the administration bill for the creation of a court of commerce and amending the railroad rate laws. Open sessions have been held but few members of Congress have taken the trouble to investigate the progress, and even the members of the committee have not shown the interest usual to such legislation. There is a disposition to pass the bill in about the form in which if was presented by Attorney General Wickersham. The hearings are little more than perfunctory.

CHEAPEST IN SOUTH.

Meals and Lodgings Average $1 to $2.50 a Day.

Washington, Special.—The difference in the cost of living for the traveling employes of the Department of Agriculture in the different sections of the country, has been shown in testimony just submitted to the House committee on expenditures in the Department of Agriculture by Chief Disbursing Officer Appone of that department.

In the South the expenses for lodging and meals as shown by their own expense statements averages between $1 and $2.50 a day, in the far West $2 and $3.50, in the central West $3.50 to $4.50, and in the East $4 to $6.

Indict City Officials.

Chicago, Special.—Four true bills charging city hall officials with conspiracy in connection with the $45,000 "shale rock" scandle were returned by the county grand jury Saturday. The men indicted were: John Ericson, city engineer; Michael H. McGovern, contractor; Paul Redieske, former deputy commissioner of public works and Ralph A. Bonnell, former assistant city engineer.

Suit For $375,000.

Cincinnati, O., Special.—A suit for $375,000 damages has been filed in the United States district court here by the Dueber Watch Case Company against the Keystone Watch Case Company of Philadelphia and other concerns alleged to be members of an illegal combination within the meaning of the Sherman law.

Dedicate Peace Palace.

Washington, Special. — The new building of the International Bureau of the American Republics, costing $1,000,000, will be dedicated Wednesday, April 6.

Virginia May Vote on State-Wide Law.

Richmond, Va., Special.—In pursuance of the plan of the Virginia Anti Saloon League, Senator Strode Saturday introduced a bill providing for an election by all the qualified voters of the State on the subject of State-wide prohibition to be held whenever petitioned for by a number of voters equal to 25 per cent of the number voting at the preceding general election.