

RETAILER MAY BE ANSWER TO HIGH COST OF LIVING

Wholesale Prices Are Being Reduced, Food Administrator Says.

WHOLESALE PRICE OF BEEF IS LOWERED

Average Retail Price Has Increased, According to Figures Shown.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Food Administrator Hoover gave notice to the public tonight that "the corner has been turned" in high food prices and that most of the essential commodities should continue to show reductions between now and the end of the year. At the same time he pointed out that retail prices are not going down in accord with wholesale reductions, and intimated that the consumer himself might correct this by bringing proper pressure to bear.

Will Publish Prices.

To aid the public in dealing with retailers who continue to extort war profits, the food administration now is collecting wholesale prices of all staples in 700 cities each week and publishing them weekly for comparison with the retail figures.

Without further authority from congress, Mr. Hoover said, the government is powerless to control retailers, except those doing a business of more than \$100,000 a year. He did not care to discuss the question of whether congress would be asked to extend his authority, saying he wanted to give the retailers a chance first.

As an illustration of how the price to the consumer is keeping up, a statement issued by the administrator said beef now is selling in Chicago at fourteen and one-half cents a pound, compared with sixteen cents a pound, while the average retail price of round steak now is thirty-one cents compared with twenty-seven cents in July. The millers' price for first patent flour in the business of more than \$100,000 a year, the average retail price is \$13.77, but the average retail price is \$1.50 to \$2 more than the wholesale figure warrants. Sugar should sell from eight to eight and one-half cents a pound in bulk at the present temporary shortage, as the wholesale figures have not advanced.

Faced Shortage.

Now that it is all over, Mr. Hoover said, it may be admitted that in September the country faced a serious shortage of flour and New York city at one time was down to a thirty-six hour supply. Virtually the same condition prevailed at Philadelphia and other consuming centers.

Notice was given at the food administration that all dealers in foodstuffs required by law to take out federal licenses after November 1 should make application for their application forms without further word from the authorities. All wholesalers, brokers and commission merchants and retailers doing a business of more than \$100,000 a year must be licensed to handle foodstuffs. Only one license is required where a concern has branches.

Plenty of Beans.

In his statement concerning food prices, Mr. Hoover stated that in September the bean harvest this year is estimated by the department of agriculture at approximately 7,000,000 bushels in excess of last year, or nearly double last year, and promises an abundant supply. The growers' associations in prominent bean producing

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BRAVE RUSSIAN FLEET IS OUTCLASSED BY RANGE OF GUNS ON GERMAN SHIPS

Attempts to Turn Back Invading Armada But Is Forced Back into Moon Sound and Bottled Up—One Russian Warship Is Sunk.

Apparently, contingents of the Russian fleet—in all about twenty warships of various classes—are bottled up in Moon Sound, with a cordon of German war craft barring their egress northward back into the Gulf of Finland or to the south into the Gulf of Riga.

Brave, but outclassed by reason of superior gun range and heavier tonnage, the Russians gave battle to the Germans and attempted to force back the enemy armada off Oesel Island. Standing far outside the shell zone of the Russians, however, the guns of the German dreadnoughts sank the battleship Slava—a relic of the days before the Russo-Japanese war—and so badly damaged other units that the Russian flotilla was forced to seek refuge in Moon Sound—lying between Moon Island and the Esthonia coast.

Intensive Operations.

Immediately seeing their advantage, the Germans, according to the latest German official communication, began intensive operations against Moon Island, hammering its eastern shore batteries until they were silenced and also attacking the Russian guns on the mainland, putting them out of action. Moon Island was captured and the Russians took refuge inside Moon Sound.

Thereupon, the Germans threw warships to the eastern part of Kassar Bay, lying to the north of Moon Island, barring exit from the northern entrance to Moon Sound and also rushed contingents to the south of Moon Island, apparently closing the passage to the south in the Gulf of Riga.

Already the Germans have attempted to attack from the north into Moon Sound, but the Russian guns have held them back successfully. Among the German warships attacking the old line vessels of the Russian fleet were at least two dreadnoughts of the Grosse Kurfuert type—vessels displacing 25,000 tons, as against 13,516 tons for the Slava. A majority of the crew of the Slava was saved by Russian torpedo boats when the vessel took its final plunge.

Trouble in Teuton Fleets.

With this advantage of the German naval forces over the Russians, however, comes news of fresh disaffection in the German fleet and also of a mutiny in the Austrian fleet in the Adriatic and of bitter feeling between German and Austrian seamen in the Adriatic. German sailors at Ostend are reported to have refused to go aboard submarines for duty and to have thrown overboard one of

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FULL INVESTIGATION OF CHILDREN'S STRIKE IN NEW YORK WILL BE MADE

"Strong, Sinister Influence" Back of Strike, Willcox Says.

POLICE CALLED OUT.

NEW YORK, Oct. 18.—Full investigation of what he termed the "strong, sinister influence" back of the strike of school children of this city against the so-called Gary system will be made by the board of education, President Willcox announced tonight after he had received reports of rioting during the day in which crowds of pupils stoned school buildings in Harlem and the Bronx. The Gary system has been made a political issue in the municipal campaign. It has been endorsed by Mayor Mitchell and is opposed by John F. Hylan, the democratic candidate.

"There seems unquestionably to have been a strong, sinister influence that gave the children at first an organization they could not possibly have attained of their own accord," Mr. Willcox said.

Police reserves were called out tonight to disperse 5,000 persons who were holding what they called an anti-Gary meeting in the Bronx. Police-men who attempted to break up the meeting on the ground that it was being held without a permit were hooted by the crowd, which refused to move. When the police arrived they were met by a shower of stones and sticks.

The police made a few arrests and the crowd followed the prisoners to the police station. It was necessary to summon every available patrolman and home defense league member in the district before the crowd was dispersed.

Two of ten boys arrested during the rioting today were fined and the others were paroled in the custody of their parents for examination Monday.

A man arrested after he had harangued a crowd of the youngsters was held for further investigation.

The rioting pupils repeatedly assembled after being dispersed by police reserves and school officials declared they were urged on by persons who addressed them along the streets.

ASHEVILLE WINS NEXT MEETING OF APPALACHIAN GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION

Dr. M. H. Fletcher Is Named on the Executive Committee.

THOSE PRESENT.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 18.—Asheville was today selected for the 1918 meeting place of the Southern Appalachian Good Roads association, after a spirited contest. Several other cities were in the race for the convention of the association next year, but the metropolis of the Land of the Sky proved too attractive to the delegates present, and the mountain city won out.

D. M. Clark, of Greenville, N. C., was elected vice-president for North Carolina, and the following North Carolinians were elected as members of the executive committee: Dr. M. H. Fletcher, of Asheville; W. E. Falls, of Raleigh; and H. B. Varner, of Lexington. The association went on record as favoring state and federal direction of trunk roads.

The importance of maintenance of roads, and of expert supervision of construction were features emphasized in the various discussions, in which the Asheville representatives took a leading part.

Asheville was represented at the meeting by F. Sikeleather, T. M. Howerton, county engineer; County Commissioner J. C. Cowan; City Commissioner J. G. Sikeleather, and N. Buckner, secretary of the board of trade. Mr. Buckner presided at one of the meetings.

LOOKS SUSPICIOUS.

NEW YORK, Oct. 18.—De-struction by fire of more than \$3,000,000 worth of foodstuffs and property along the water front here within the last few days, although not proved to be the work of German agents, may cause the revocation, as a measure of precaution, of permits issued to alien enemies allowing them access to barred zones. This was intimated today by federal authorities.

Agents of the department of justice were today watching alien enemies in water front districts with more than ordinary care.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Forecast for North Carolina: Local rains Friday; Saturday fair somewhat colder.

Patiently Waiting



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SETS IN MOTION MACHINERY TO APPREHEND AND PUNISH WORKERS AGAINST THE LIBERTY LOAN

Secretary McAdoo Calls on All Banks on Which German Pressure Has Been Brought to Bear to Report Cases to Department of Justice at Once—Promises to Prosecute "Disloyal and Traitorous" Persons to Limit of the Law.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—The government today set in motion the machinery to apprehend and punish German workers who have started an organized campaign in more than a dozen states to defeat the Liberty loan.

By telegraph from Salt Lake City, Secretary McAdoo authorized the issuance of a statement here calling upon all banks upon which German pressure has been brought to bear to make an effort to induce them not to aid the loan to report the circumstances to him and promising to prosecute to the limit of the law the "disloyal and traitorous persons" making such attempts at intimidation.

Began Investigation.

Department of justice officials also began an investigation into the workings of the alleged conspirators with a view to prosecution where justified, under the espionage and other laws dealing with sedition and attempts to thwart the government's war purposes.

The nation's answer to the abortive efforts of the pro-German campaign was the greatest single day's subscription since the campaign started. Officials estimate that nearly \$1,750,000,000 of the loan has been subscribed, and heavy sales are reported in prospect for the closing days of the drive.

Reports to the treasury from many sections indicate that the alleged plot has not only failed, but has resulted in stimulating subscriptions where the conspirators were most active.

The Statement.

Secretary McAdoo's statement was as follows:

The secretary's statement was prompted from various parts of the country that depositors have threatened banks with withdrawals if they subscribe to the loan. It follows:

"From several sections of the country bankers have reported to me that some of their customers have threatened to withdraw deposits if their banks subscribed to the Liberty loan. Such attempts at intimidation are made by disloyal and traitorous persons and are serious offenses against the law, for which stern punishment should be inflicted.

"I earnestly request any bank, state or national, against which such threats have been made to report immediately by telegram or letter to the

secretary of the treasury, Washington, the names and addresses of the person or persons guilty of such disloyal and traitorous actions and I shall see to it that they are dealt with to the limit of the law.

"I also request such banks to inform me immediately if any deposits are withdrawn because they subscribed to the Liberty loan, giving me the name of the person or persons who have made such withdrawals.

"Every bank in the United States subscribing to the bonds of the United States government will be protected with all the power and resources of the government. No bank shall be punished for doing its patriotic duty by assisting the government to prosecute the war to a swift and victorious conclusion."

The secretary telegraphed the statement to the treasury department from Salt Lake City where he spoke today.

Progress of the loan throughout the nation was announced in the following statement issued by the treasury tonight:

"Official reports on subscriptions totaled \$27,174,650 up to the close of business yesterday or about \$127,000,000 more than was reported at the close of the previous day.

"Estimates based on the customary daily increase of the official figures and unofficial reports from various parts of the country led to the belief tonight that between \$1,500,000,000 and \$1,750,000,000 had been subscribed."

The official figures include:

Boston \$35,500,000; New York \$38,800,000; Richmond \$34,470,000; Atlanta \$8,669,050; Chicago \$91,275,000.

ARMY BUYS BONDS.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—American soldiers and army civilians who have purchased more than \$2,000,000 of Liberty bonds.

Of this amount men in the sixteen national army camps have subscribed to \$450,000 and those of the fifteen national guard camps \$2,300,000. The latter subscription, by J. F. Morgan and company, was the largest single contribution thus far recorded. It was intimated that the Morgan house would make other subscriptions.

The second largest subscription of the day was that of the Central Trust company for \$200,000.

RICHMOND DISTRICT.

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 18.—Unofficial estimates at the close of business tonight were that approximately \$43,300,000 had been subscribed to the Liberty loan in this, the fifth federal reserve district. The minimum allotment for the district is \$6,000,000, with \$200,000,000 the amount asked for. The campaign has taken on fresh activity throughout the district and it is expected that the minimum at least will be reached. Only one element of the population appears apathetic, according to the campaign managers, who say that the farmers are showing very little interest in the drive. An aggressive campaign is to be waged among them in the remaining days of the drive.

Richmond is nearing its \$14,000,000 goal, the total reaching \$11,500,000 with today's sales of \$1,500,000. The largest subscription in the district re-

NATIONAL GUARD OFFICERS WILL GO TO FRANCE AT ONCE

Troops Will Be Consolidated With Other Regiments from the Same State.

ASHEVILLE WILL BE REPRESENTED

Object Is Believed to Be to Have Trained Officers When Brigade Arrives.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Oct. 18.—The six training battalions of the Fifty-fifth depot brigade, formerly the first, second and third battalions of the First Tennessee infantry, the second and third battalions of the First North Carolina infantry, and the third battalion of the Second South Carolina infantry, are to be incorporated with the regular regiments for their respective states, and all their commissioned officers of the rank of captain and above are to leave for France as soon as transportation can be provided, according to unofficial information today.

First Inking.

The first inking of the war department's intention to move the training battalions, came in an order issued this morning to cease improvements on their camp sites. The soldiers had just finished providing their tents with floors and sides. According to information available, Brigadier General L. D. Tyson, commanding the brigade, together with one of his two colonels, both lieutenant colonels and practically every major and captain, will leave at once for France, while their men will be transferred bodily into the 117th, 118th, 119th and 120th infantry regiments, formerly the Third Tennessee, First South Carolina, and Second and Third North Carolina, respectively. Troops being assigned whenever possible to organizations from their own state. All non-commissioned officers will retain their grades. The training battalions will not take up their camp with the organizations to which they will be transferred until the departure of their officers.

The Commanders.

Colonel Charles E. Rogers, former adjutant general of Tennessee, commands the First provisional regiment composed of troops from that state, and Colonel Junius T. Gardner, Second and Third North Carolina, respectively. There is no information as to what use will be made of the camp site to be vacated by the brigade, but it is suggested that those of South Carolina soldiers sent there, who have already been formed into regiments, may be encamped there.

The lieutenant of the companies will probably be transferred with their men, as the full complement of

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WANTON SHOOTING AT NEGROES BY SOLDIERS DESCRIBED BY HEARING

Manufacturer Says He Saw Soldier Shoot Negro to Prove Skill.

OTHER WITNESSES.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., Oct. 18.—Wanton shooting at negroes by soldiers on patrol duty during the riots here last May, was testified to today before the congressional committee investigating the riots. Charles Roger, president of a chemical company here, told the committee that he saw a uniformed soldier shoot a negro who was standing with a group of his fellows a block away, merely to show some white men, who were twitting him, that he could shoot.

Roger said he heard one of a crowd of whites remark to one of the soldiers: "What are you doing with that gun, you can't shoot."

"The hell I can't" Roger quoted the soldier as saying.

Where upon the soldier fired upon the crowd of negroes and one of the negroes fell, wounded, testified the witness.

Roger said he told Governor Lowden of that and similar incidents, but that no special effort was made to learn the identity of the soldier.

Frank A. Hunter, general manager of the Swift and company packing plant, testified that the riots had driven forty per cent of their negro employees from work. He said he believed the riot was caused by ill-feeling of union men against negro laborers imported from the south and feared his company had anything to do with these importations.

DENIES NEGOTIATIONS WITH VATICAN FOR PEACE

Lord Robert Cecil Says No Peace Negotiations Are in Progress.

LONDON, Oct. 18.—Replying to a question in the house of commons today, Lord Robert Cecil, minister of blockade, denied that negotiations for terms of peace had taken place with the vatican or any of its agents or with any other religious organization.

Just previous to this Lord Robert had been asked whether the British government intended to send any reply to Pope Benedict's peace note. His response was a request that notice be given of the question.

It had not been officially announced, he added, that Great Britain had adopted as its own reply the reply sent by the United States.

"The clear and powerful reply of President Wilson," explained Lord Robert, "was not the result of any consultation of the allies and I do not propose to comment on it in reply to the question."

ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

BATON ROUGE, La., Oct. 18.—Helaine Carriere, sentenced to be hanged here tomorrow for the murder of Sheriff Marion L. Swartz, late tonight cut his throat from ear to ear.

BICKETT CONGRATULATES THE N. C. FARMERS' UNION

Is Pleased at Determination to Adopt "Resolutions of Loyalty."

RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 18.—Governor Bickett, Chairman W. B. Gibson, of the state executive committee of the North Carolina Farmers' union a telegram today congratulating the executive committee on its determination to have the farmers' union at its approaching annual session in Winston-Salem to adopt "ringing resolutions" of loyalty to the government in the crisis that now confronts the country. The telegram reads: "I am not a member of the Farmers' union, and have no disposition to even suggest its policies, but it is known of all men that the passion of this administration is to multiply in all ways the profits and pleasures of farm life. I am deeply interested in every agency that is working to this end, I therefore greatly rejoice that your executive committee has unanimously gone on record in favor of ringing resolutions of loyalty to the government on the great crisis that now confronts the country."

"It seems that this was the acme of wisdom as well as patriotism and the action of your committee will wonderfully strengthen the union in the esteem and affection of all men."

MASQUERADING AS MAN GIRL IS KILLED BY TRUCK

Was Riding on Army Truck at Newport News—Was Employed in Asheville.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Oct. 18.—Florence Kelly, a white woman, about twenty years old, was run over and killed by an army motor truck on which she was riding, during the Liberty loan parade here this afternoon.

She came here about three weeks ago from Greenville, Tenn., and took a job as water boy at Camp Stuart. She has been living and working among the men there, but no one suspected that she was not a man. When taken to the hospital she was taken to the men's ward and an examination of her wounds revealed the fact that she was a woman.

A police investigation failed to disclose why the girl masqueraded as a man. Before lapsing into unconsciousness at the hospital, she asked that her father be notified of her whereabouts. According to the police Miss Kelly left her Tennessee home last March and was employed in an Asheville, N. C., laundry until coming here.

THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN	
Circulation Yesterday	
City	4,366
Suburban	4,630
Country	1,823
Net paid	10,819
Service	203
Unpaid	215
Total	11,237
Buy a Liberty Bond.	