

PACKER DOMINATION OF ALL FOODS IS IMMINENT

An approaching domination of all important foods in the United States and an international control of meat products with foreign companies seems a certainty unless fundamental action is taken to prevent it, the Federal Trade Commission declared last Friday in part I of its report to President Wilson on the "extent and growth of power of the five packers in meat and other industries."

"A fair consideration of the course the five packers have followed and the position they have already reached," said the report, "must lead to the conclusion that they threaten the freedom of the market of the country's food industries and of the by-products industries linked therewith. The meat packer control of other foods will not require long in developing."

Declaring "the history of the packers' growth is interwoven with illegal combinations, rebates and with undisclosed control of corporations," the report urged the importance of full publicity of corporate ownership for all industries.

Alleging that the "big five" packers—Swift & Co., Armour & Co., Wilson & Co., Morris & Co., and the Cudahy company—jointly or separately wield controlling interest in 574 companies, minority interest in 95 others and undetermined interests in 93—a total of 762 companies—and that they produce or deal in some 775 commodities, largely food products, the report gives this picture of growing packer invasion into related and unrelated industries:

"In addition to meat foods, they produce or deal in such diverse commodities as fresh tomatoes and banana strings, leather and cottonseed oil, breakfast foods, vin fig, curled hair, soap and washing powders.

"They have interests large enough to be a dominating influence in most of the services connected with the production and distribution of animal foods and their by-products and are reaching out for control, not only of substitutes for animal food, but of substitutes for other lines into which the integration of their business has led them. They are factors in cattle loan company, making the necessary loans to growers and feeders of livestock; are interested in railways and private car lines transporting livestock and manufactured animal products; in most of the important stockyards companies—the public market for the bulk of food animals; and in livestock trade papers on which growers and feeders rely for market news.

"They are interested in banks from which their competitor packing houses borrow money; in companies supplying machinery, ice, salt, material, boxes, etc., to themselves and their competitors; they are principal dealers on the provision market exchanges where futures in standard cured animal products are determined; they or their subsidiary com-

CONSTANTINOPLE HOPES FOR RULE OF AMERICA

The report that the United States had been urged to assume the mandate for Constantinople meets with general approval there, writes an agent of the Red Cross in the Turkish capital. It is welcomed as the ideal remedy for an impossible situation, he adds.

"Wherever an American wanders in Constantinople, Turks, Greeks and Armenians impress it upon the visitor that America will be welcomed with open arms, that America will be trusted. At the Turkish foreign office, the Sublime Porte, there is open satisfaction at the report that America will come in and clean up," the Red Cross man continues.

"The Turk has been quick to appreciate what America has done for his country since the armistice. Everywhere one goes he sees American flags stuck into the bags of rice, of flour and even stacks of canned goods which the street merchants have for sale. The American uniform is not a familiar sight in the streets or shops, but wherever an American army officer, Red Cross officer or member of the Near East commission is recognized, Turks go out of their way to express their gratitude for America's prompt dispatch of food ships to Constantinople, which just before the armistice was a bad way for food.

panies deal in hides, also fertilizer material and other crude animal by-products, and themselves carry the manufacture thereof to a further stage than most of their competitors.

"They are important factors in the leather market, in oleomargarine and lard substitute, in cotton seed oil, in fertilizer, in soap, in glue, etc.

"Their vast distributing system, with the advantage arising from the control of private cars, cold storage, and a network of branch houses, has enabled them to extend their activities on a large scale into poultry, eggs, cheese, butter, rice, breakfast foods, canned vegetables, soda fountain supplies and other lines.

"Individuals of the Armour family are owners of grain and elevator companies, and J. Ozden Armour is a prominent factor in the American International corporation, with its shipping, its import and export companies in various lines, its interest in a company organized to develop cattle raising, meat packing, quebracho extract and allied business in Paraguay, its control of a large tea importing company and a sugar machinery corporation, and its minority stock in the United Fruit Company.

"Some of Swift & Co's subsidiaries are growing tropical fruits in Hawaii, a subsidiary of Wilson & Co., Inc. has reached into the salmon fisheries of Alaska, and a Morris concern owns shrimp taken in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico."

PRO-AMERICAN POLICY URGED BY VON BERNSTORFF

Count von Bernstorff, former German ambassador at Washington, writing in the weekly Democratic Germany advocates a pro-American policy and points out that a revision of the treaty of peace can come only through the league of nations.

"When Germany is received into the league," he says, "she can hope for a world order checking imperialism by individual powers and bringing about a system binding peoples together across the frontiers of states. I hardly need to point out that such a policy would lead us to the side of the United States. There the danger of a league of nations is a living one. There alone are funds to be found, and there the principal champion of the league idea will be at the helm for another twenty months."

Count von Bernstorff says that socialism is unpopular in the United States, and therefore, if Germans wish to cultivate friendly relations with that country, they must convince Americans, not only that militarism is dead, but that new Germany has no intention of fostering a socialist world revolution.

TO RE-ESTABLISH TRADE WITH GERMAN INTERIOR

The inter-allied Rhineland commission has issued a notice to civilians in the occupied areas that trade would be re-established immediately between the interior of Germany and the occupied areas under certain restrictions. This action was taken after official notifications from Paris that the blockade had been lifted.

Under the orders of the commission the importation of arms into the Rhineland is forbidden. Shipments of coal and coke would continue under present regulations. The commission has announced that it would prohibit export by special permit removal of 20,000 tons of diamonds and other products from the Rhineland. It also announced that it may be purchased if they desire to. No part of all the diamonds made in the Rhineland before the war.

AN EFFORT TO PREVENT DISASTROUS FLOODS

An effort to prevent a recurrence of the disastrous floods of three years ago Senator Simmons, Frank A. Hampton and Judge T. B. Finley have urged upon the United States forestry service the importance of preserving the forests in Wilkes, Alleghany, Ashe and Watauga counties, the water shed on which lies the headwaters of the Catawba and Yadkin rivers, with the result that a forest reserve may be established there in the near future.

NORTH CAROLINA WOMEN GO TO SERBIA FOR RELIEF WORK

Mrs. B. Frank Mebane of Spray, wife of a well known capitalist, and Mrs. Lindsey Patterson of Winston-Salem sailed last week from New York to France. They are going to Serbia in the interest of reconstruction work and relief measures in that stricken country. Recently they conducted a speechmaking tour through the South and secured a large fund which they will now turn over to the Serbian government.

THE PRESIDENTIAL SHIP IS EQUIPPED WITH NURSERY

The presidential ship George Washington, which sails back to France this week, has been fitted up with a nursery to take care of the "war babies" returning on that vessel. Two hundred "war brides" are scheduled to sail on the transport on her next trip from France to this country, and, at the request of Dr. G. A. Ricker, the ship's surgeon, the American Red Cross has provided the ship with baby food, milk, clothing and other perquisites of infantile comfort.

With the arrival of the transport Cap Finistrre Sunday a total of 378 "war brides" and 16 "war babies" have arrived at the port of New York within a week. This is a record number. Upon their arrival in this country the war brides are examined by immigration authorities and then taken to the Y. W. C. A. hostess houses, where they are entertained until arrangements can be made to send them to the homes of their soldier husbands.

MASS MEETINGS PLANNED IN PROTEST OF THE LEAGUE

A mass meeting in protest against the league of nations has been arranged "in nearly every large city," said an announcement by the league for the preservation of American independence, according to a dispatch from Washington. Speakers who will appear under the auspices of the organization include Senators Reed of Missouri, a Democrat, and Borah of Idaho, Johnson of California, Poindexter of Washington and former Senator Beveridge of Indiana, all Republicans. No dates or itinerary was announced, but it was said efforts would be concentrated in western states.



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