

COMBINATION TO FIX COTTON PRICES

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE COMPLAINT FROM SOUTH.

BUYERS DIVIDE TERRITORY

North and South Carolina and Georgia Have Complained and Will Be Investigated.

Washington.—Special agents of the Federal Trade Commission have begun an investigation of charges that cotton buyers in North and South Carolina and Georgia have combined to keep down prices to producers. The complaints alleged that large purchasers of cotton in the states named have combined to divide territory in such a way as to allow the practically to fix the price to the grower. Commissioner W. J. Harris, who received the complaints, recommended a thorough investigation which was ordered by the commission.

Members of the commission said that if the allegations of the complaints were substantiated, the combination would constitute a restraint of trade, and the commission would be authorized to proceed under the anti-trust law. That would mean institution of the first suit of the kind brought through the commission since its creation.

Agents of both the economic and legal divisions of the commission will conduct the investigation. The trade commission issued the following statement:

"The Federal Trade Commission has ordered an immediate investigation to determine whether there is a combination upon the part of cotton buyers of South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia to hold down the price of cotton. This investigation has been undertaken at the instance of Commissioner W. J. Harris to whose attention complaints have come that such a combination does exist resulting in his submission of the matter to the commission.

"This information, is to the effect that for years past in the three states in question and more particularly in the two Carolinas there have been varying prices for cotton, often this difference amounting to one-half cent a pound in two points not more than 20 miles distant from each other.

"This difference in price, it is alleged in complaints which have reached the commission, seems to be the sole result of the workings of this combination. For instance, it is cited, many cities and towns have practically no live markets due to the fact that divisions of territory for buying purposes are made, one territory belonging to one buyer, another territory to another.

"These alleged practices are said to be confined to certain places, indicated in the complaint, to a greater extent, possibly, than to other points within the state specified."

LARGEST SUFFRAGE PARADE.

Thirty Thousand Ladies in Line on Fifth Avenue, New York.

New York.—Fifth avenue for four hours was given over to the largest woman's suffrage parade ever witnessed anywhere. It was the women's appeal to place New York at the election on November 2 among the states which have given women the right to vote.

Participated in by women from every state in the union and from more than 20 foreign countries, by women from every phase of business, professional, educational, artistic and official life, the parade extended from Washington Square to Central Park, and although it began shortly after 3 o'clock, it was long after dark when the last marchers had finished.

Suffrage leaders estimated that 30,000 women were in line. In addition, there were 5,000 men representing the leaders said, only about half of the men who had signed pledges that they would participate.

New Export Trade Plan.

Washington.—Plans for handling export trade of the United States through a trust company, co-operating with the Federal government, in order to avoid interference with cargoes, were announced by Secretary Redfield of the department of commerce, after a conference with Assistant Secretary Peters of the treasury department, Assistant Secretary Vrooman of the department of agriculture and a number of exporters trustees of the company.

Foreign Trade Convention.

New York.—James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation, and chairman of the National Foreign Trade Council, issued a call to business men to attend the third national foreign trade convention at New Orleans, January 27-29. He said that "commercial preparedness" will be the slogan of the convention, the main object of which is to discuss and formulate plans by which American business men will be able to meet the keen competition that is sure to follow the war.

FAIRBANKS WARNS AGAINST INVASION

FORMER VICE PRESIDENT SAYS COMMERCIAL INVASION MOST FEARED.

ESTABLISH AMPLE CREDIT

Even More Unprepared For Commercial Invasion Than a Military Invasion He Says.

Louisville, Ky.—Warning that the United States should prepare for "a commercial invasion" as well as for a military invasion was voiced by Charles Warren Fairbanks, former Vice President, in an address delivered at a political meeting here.

"The present prosperity of certain industries based on war orders is inherently temporary," he said. "Within the period of the next administration, our own national life and the markets of the world will be profoundly affected by the great conflict raging abroad. We must meet that with a constructive pro-American program which consists of:

"First, the restoration of the protective tariff; second, adequate preparedness for national defense; third, the restoration of the American flag to the oceans; fourth, organization to market our wares in the world markets.

"We must not only have our own ships, we must establish ample banking facilities at strategic points in both Hemisphere to effect credits more and more through our own agencies and to extend credits. We must send young men to the different countries to learn the language of the people, to learn their wants, whims and prejudices. If we are to win new trade, we must do business as others desire rather than to try and force upon them our methods."

After the war, Mr. Fairbanks said, only one rich neutral market in the world will present itself, America.

"To our shores will roll a tide of commercial invasion which will be paralyzing under a free trade or a tariff for revenue only," he said. "We are now even more unprepared to resist commercial than military invasion. The weapon of cheapness, wielded by our impoverished commercial rivals, will be irresistible."

TO SERBIAN FRONT.

American Military Attache at Berlin Will Go to Belgrade.

Berlin.—Lieut. Col. Joseph E. Kuhn, military attache of the American embassy here, has gone to the Serbian front in company with the military attaches of the other neutral countries stationed in Berlin. The officers will make their headquarters in Belgrade, from which city trips to the various fronts will be made.

Lieut. Col. Kuhn has just returned from a two months' stay at the Western grand headquarters where he was presented to Emperor William last Sunday. The emperor chatted with the American officer for 10 minutes and evinced particular interest when he learned that Lieut. Col. Kuhn belonged to the engineer division of the American Army.

Austrian Killed Englishman.

Denver, Col.—Race hatred stirred up by the European war and resulting in murder led to the arrest here of George Flaragrad, an Austrian, on charge of killing George Gray, an Englishman. Both men were employed in a railroad machine shop. The police say that Flaragrad, upon learning that his brother had been killed by the Allies in Europe became so enraged that he pushed Gray into a powerful drill press where the Englishman was crushed to death.

Diaz Joins Zapata.

El Paso, Tex.—A message said to have been received in Juarez is quoted as stating that Felix Diaz has joined the Zapata forces and is now at the head of 40,000 men with whom he is menacing Mexico City. Receipt of the message was reported from two different sources.

Two Mexican Bandits Killed.

Brownsville, Texas.—A detachment of the Sixth Cavalry fired on and killed two supposed Mexican bandits who were crossing the Rio Grande at the San Pedro Ranch, 12 miles up the river from Brownsville. Both were armed. The bodies were not recovered. Lieut. T. R. Van Natta of Troop L, Sixth Cavalry, was in command of the detachment. Two Mexicans are held by the sheriff's department here under suspicion of being implicated in the train wreck.

Approves Defense Plan.

Washington.—Formal announcement of army plans in the national defense program to be laid before congress awaits word from President Wilson that he has concluded his conference with congressional leaders on the subject. While the president has approved the plan which calls for building up an army of more than 1,200,000 in six years he has not yet had an opportunity to discuss it with all those members of the house and senate whose views he wishes to obtain.

ANOTHER MYSTERY



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ENDORSE DEFENSE BILL ROBBERS FORFEIT LIVES

LETTERS COME FROM EMPLOYERS WHO ARE WILLING TO ASSIST PLAN.

Although Men Would Be Required to Actually Serve One or Two Months in Each Year.

Washington.—Endorsements of the administration's plan to create a great continental army for defense are beginning to reach Washington from large employing firms and corporations. It was learned that approving letters had been received from several such concerns, and at least one had expressed willingness to grant its men leave on full pay for service in the proposed organization.

Enlistments in the continental army as contemplated in Secretary Garrison's program would be for six years, but the men actually would be required to serve but two months a year for the first three years during which time they would undergo intensive military training in field camps. Officials realize that the success of the scheme depends to a considerable extent upon co-operation with the government by the employers of the country's young men.

One of the companies heard from wrote that it gladly would grant leave with pay to any of its men desiring to enlist, not only for reasons of patriotism but because it was regarded as a good business proposition to permit the men to take advantage of an opportunity to spend two months in vigorous camp life with military training.

EMBARGO ON MUNITIONS.

No Shipment of Arms to Mexicans Except Carranza, Says Wilson.

Washington.—President Wilson issued simultaneously a proclamation establishing an embargo on the shipments of arms and ammunition to Mexico and an order exempting from the prohibition the recognized de facto government of which General Carranza is Chief Executive.

The proclamation makes it clear that the United States intends that no forces opposed to the recognized government in Mexico, particularly those of General Villa, shall obtain war munitions from this country.

In enforcing the embargo, the treasury will have the co-operation of the departments of state, war and justice. Orders will be telegraphed to customs officials along the border and on both coasts of the United States. Consular officers, agents of the department of justice and United States district attorneys on the border have been advised, and instructions to co-operate probably will go to Major General Funston as soon as the state department informs Secretary Garrison just what the army is to do.

With the announcement that the Villa agency here would be closed, it became known that the consulates established by the Villa faction in New York and other cities would probably be discontinued.

Lend Mexico \$10,000,000.

New Orleans.—New Orleans bankers announced that as a result of the recognition of the Carranza government they closed contracts to lend \$10,000,000 in gold to the Mexican administration. It was also announced that arrangements had been made to handle the entire Mexican sisal crop through New Orleans; that the sisal operators of Yucatan and Campeche were to erect a million-dollar manufacturing plant here for the purpose of handling the raw product.

Explosion in French Factory.

Paris.—Fifty-two persons are reported to have been killed in an explosion in a munitions factory in the Rue de Tolbiac, while one hundred or more were injured. Many of the victims were women workers in the factory which was wrecked. President Poincare and Minister of the Interior Vivry who were informed of the disaster visited the scene and gave directions to the rescuing forces. The auto-truck was being loaded when workmen accidentally dropped one grenade causing the explosion.

TEN BANDITS ARE KILLED BY CITIZENS WHO HUNT FOR MORE.

Passenger Train is Derailed by Seventy-Five Mexicans Who Shot, and Robbed Passengers.

Brownsville, Tex.—Ten Mexicans paid their lives for alleged complicity in the wrecking of a St. Louis, Brownsville & Mexico passenger train on the outskirts of Brownsville, the killing of three Americans and the wounding of four others. Peace officers said they had clues to other Mexicans connected with the robbers. No secret was made that more would be killed if civilians possess catch them.

Several hundred civilians, county peace officers and United States troops continued in pursuit of other members of the band.

After wrecking the train the outlaws, said to number about 75 men, fired on the passengers and robbed them of their money and valuables. The passengers killed were: Corporal McBee, Third United States Cavalry; shot.

Engineer H. H. Kendall, pinned beneath engine. The injured were: Harry J. Wallis, Brownsville, shot in arm; R. Woodhall, fireman, scalded and bruised; Claude J. Brishear, Troop A, Sixth Cavalry, shot in the jaw; C. H. Lay, Troop D, Third Cavalry, shot in neck and leg.

Only meager reports of the killing of the Mexicans were available. One of the men was a passenger aboard the train and he is said to have revealed the hiding place of Dr. E. S. McCain. When the physician refused to leave the compartment in which he had taken refuge the bandits opened fire through the door, mortally wounding him. Sheriff Vann denied that the Mexican was killed, but it developed later that he was shot to death after the sheriff left the scene of the wreck. Four other Mexicans were hanged to trees.

WOMEN LOOSE IN NEW JERSEY.

Suffrage Amendment Defeated By More Than 50,000 Majority.

Jersey City, N. J.—Indications based on unofficial returns shortly before midnight were that woman suffrage would be defeated in New Jersey by from 50,000 to 60,000. A majority of 23,671 was recorded on unofficial returns from 804 of the state's 1,891 districts, the vote being 56,876 for and 80,347 against the amendment.

The defeat of woman suffrage in New Jersey was conceded by Mrs. E. F. Feickert, president of the New Jersey State Woman Suffrage Association. Her admission was borne out by unofficial early returns from every section of the state which indicated that the majority against suffrage was decisive.

President Wilson's own precinct, the seventh election district of Princeton borough, voted against suffrage by a majority of more than 2 to 1, the figures being: For 64, against 150.

Seven Plead Guilty "Moonshining."

Fort Smith, Ark.—Seven men on trial charged with conspiracy to defraud the government in the manufacture of "moonshine" whiskey pleaded guilty in the United States District Court here. The case against Fred Bowles of Fort Smith, the eighth defendant, was dismissed. The cases against the defendants went to trial and their action was a surprise.

Wilson Votes For Suffrage.

Washington.—President Wilson returned to Washington from Princeton after casting the first ballot ever given in a chief executive of the United States in favor of woman suffrage. The president's brief visit to his legal residence was marked by a more enthusiastic welcome from the Princeton students than ever before had been given him in any of his numerous trips there since he entered the White House. The young men gave noisy evidences of their approval of his stand on the suffrage question.

PLEAD FOR LIFE OF MISS EDITH CAVELL

WHITLOCK TELLS OF TRIAL AND FINAL INTERCESSION FOR WOMEN.

AIDED SOLDIERS TO ESCAPE

Was Not Accused of Serious Charge.—Germans Ignore Request From Whitlock For Council.

London.—The full report of the circumstances of the condemnation and execution of Miss Edith Cavell, an English woman and head of a training school in Brussels for helping English, French and Belgian soldiers to escape from Belgium, made by Brand Whitlock, the American Minister at Brussels, to Walter H. Page, the American Ambassador at London, was issued by the British government.

How the secretary of the American Legation, Hugh S. Gibson, sought the German governor, von Der Lancken, late at night before the execution and, with the Spanish Minister, pleaded with the governor and the German officers for the English woman's life is graphically related in a memorandum from Mr. Gibson. This document refers to the German authorities' apparent lack of good faith in failing to keep their promises to inform the American Minister fully of the trial and sentence.

Minister Whitlock telegraphed to Ambassador Page on the twelfth:

"Miss Cavell sentenced yesterday and executed at 2 o'clock this morning, despite our best efforts continued until the last moment."

Mr. Whitlock's final appeal was in the form of a note sent by a messenger late on the night of the eleventh to Governor von Der Lancken, the translation of which reads as follows:

"My dear Baron: I am too sick to present my request myself, but I appeal to your generosity of heart to support it and save from death this unhappy woman. Have pity on her."

"Yours truly,
"BRAND WHITLOCK."

Mr. Whitlock also stated that Miss Cavell had nursed German soldiers.

Mr. Deleval, Counselor of the American Legation, reported to Minister Whitlock: "This morning Mr. Gahan, an English clergyman, told me that he had seen Miss Cavell in her cell yesterday night at 10 o'clock and that he had given her Holy Communion and had found her admirably strong and calm."

"I asked Mr. Gahan whether she had made any remarks about anything concerning the legal side of her case, and whether the confession which she made before trial and in court was in his opinion perfectly free and sincere. Mr. Gahan told me she was perfectly well and knew what she had done; that, according to the law, of course she was guilty and admitted her guilt, but that she was happy to die for her country."

THREE AMERICANS KILLED.

Five Mexicans and One Japanese Also Killed on Border.

Brownsville, Texas.—Three American soldiers, five Mexicans and one Japanese were killed in a fight between United States soldiers and Mexican bandits at Ojo de Agua. The Japanese had apparently been shot in the fight, but there is nothing to indicate that he belonged to the raiders. Eight American soldiers were wounded.

The Rio Grande was used by separate bands of Mexican bandits to stop pursuit of American soldiers, most of the bandits crossing into Mexico in both instances. The first crossing was in the retreat from the Ojo de Agua fight, six miles up the river, and the second about 30 miles up the river. Capt. Frank R. McCoy, of the Third Cavalry, commanding the Mission Patrol District, reported his belief that there were not more than 30 Mexicans in the party which attacked Ojo de Agua.

Moonshiners Are Sentenced.

Fort Smith, Ark.—John L. Casper of Kansas City, alleged head of the moonshine conspiracy, who pleaded guilty in the United States District Court, was sentenced to nine years and three days in the Leavenworth penitentiary and ordered to pay a fine of \$33,000. Others were sentenced as follows: S. L. Williams, Winston-Salem, N. C., former government revenue agent; Charles Brewbaker, Kansas City, and George Hartman, Kansas City, one year and one day in the penitentiary, fined \$1,000 each.

New Export Records.

Washington.—New high records in the American export trade, made during September, are shown in figures made public by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Exports for September, totaled \$297,766,705, an increase of \$141,714,417 over September, 1914. They made a favorable trade balance of \$146,343,919 for the month as against a trade balance of \$16,341,722 for September, 1914. The favorable trade balance for the month was only \$41,693,371 less than the entire fiscal year.

NATION AT PEACE AMID WORLD WAR

PRESIDENT WILSON IS GRATEFUL FOR AMERICA'S MANY BLESSINGS.

NAMES DAY TO GIVE THANKS

President Calls on America to Express Appreciation of Its manifold Blessings During Year.

Washington.—President Wilson, in a proclamation designating Thursday, November 25, as Thanksgiving Day, called attention to the fact that the United States has been at peace while most of Europe has been at war.

"We have been able to assert our rights and the rights of mankind without breach of friendship with the great nations with whom we have had to deal," said the president.

The text follows: "It has long been the honored custom of our people to turn in the fruitful autumn of the year in praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for his many blessings and mercies to us as a nation. The year that is now drawing to a close since we last observed our day of national thanksgiving has been, while a year of discipline because of the mighty forces of war and of changes which have disturbed the world, also a year of special blessing for us.

"Another year of peace has been vouchsafed us; another year in which not only to take thought of our duty to ourselves and to mankind but also to adjust ourselves to the many responsibilities thrust upon us by a war which has involved almost the whole of Europe. We have been able to assert our rights and the rights of mankind without breach of friendship with the great nations with whom we have had to deal; and while we have asserted these rights we have been able also to perform duties and exercise privileges of succor and helpfulness which should serve to demonstrate our desire to make the offices of friendship the means of truly disinterested and unselfish service.

"Our ability to serve all who could avail themselves of our services in the midst of crisis has been increased, by a gracious Providence, by more and more abundant crops; our ample financial resources have enabled us to study the markets of the world and facilitate necessary movements of commerce which the war might otherwise have rendered impossible; and our people have come more and more to a sober realization of the part they have been called upon to play in a time when all the world is shaken by unparalleled distress and disasters.

"The extraordinary circumstances of such a time have done much to quicken our national consciousness, and deepen and confirm our confidence in the principle of peace and freedom by which we have always sought to be guided. Out of darkness and perplexities have come firmer counsels of policy and clearer perceptions of the essential welfare of the nation. We have prospered while other peoples were at war, but our prosperity has been vouchsafed us, we believe, only that we might the better perform the functions which war rendered it impossible for them to perform.

"Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, the twenty-fifth of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and prayer, and invite the people throughout the land to cease from their wonted occupations and in their several homes and places of worship render thanks to Almighty God.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the City of Washington, this twentieth day of October in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifteen and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fortieth.

"By the President: Robert Lansing, Secretary of State.

"WOODROW WILSON."

Hundreds Fell Each Second.

Berlin (Wireless to Tuckerton).—The Tanges Zeitung says that during one period of the great battle at Loos the British fell at the rate of 100 men a second. "The British attacked in dense rows of eight sections," says the Overseas News Agency in a resume of the Tanges Zeitung's dispatch. "Their attack presented a spectacle like that of a Napoleonic battle before the days of machine guns or cannon with long range. The British artillery came up as far as possible without being the rifle range.

Turks Protest Charges.

Washington.—The Turkish embassy issued an official report from the general Ottoman headquarters charging that many atrocities have been committed against the Moslems on the Caucasus frontier by Russian troops assisted by the Greek and Armenian population. Bands of Russians, Greeks and Armenians are accused of attacking many women and having pierced the cheeks of babes so that they starved to death. The news of the middle ages was said to have been revived by Armenians.