

Boosted Wheat Prices Raise Much Discussion

**Speculation or Non-Speculation, Men Who Grew the
Wheat Have Not Benefited Greatly by High Prices,
and Flour Is All Self-Rising Kind Now**

Chicago, Jan. 28.—The wheat crop there still is in first flound advance of wheat to near war time levels and the publication of stories dealing with probable reasons for the rise, has stirred a spirited discussion here as to whether a "corner" exists or whether world demand alone is responsible.

It is conceded even by those who do not like to see the activities of the Chicago board of trade brought into question, that speculation has played a part in bringing the market to its present heights. But it is contended that the speculator performed a public service by supporting the market while it was adjusting itself to a world supply and demand basis.

An official statement issued January 6 by the United States Department of Agriculture to the effect that "no information in the possession of the department's supervisors give ground for alarm that the essential bread grain of the United States is being made the subject of vicious and harmful speculation," is being quoted to sustain this contention. The Government statement said high grain prices were warranted by the world shortage.

Emphatic among those who declare no corner in wheat exists is Julius H. Barnes, formerly president of the United States chamber of commerce and now a member of a leading grain export firm which does not deal in speculative grain. Mr. Barnes, who has been mentioned in the newspapers as one of those who made big profits in grain recently, issued the following statement:

"My firm does not own a bushel of wheat in Chicago. There exists no corner in wheat with recent advances, is on an American standard wheat, even with recent advances, is on the export basis to the great markets of the world. While Chicago is \$1.00, Winnipeg is \$1.97, Liverpool \$2.16; Germany, France and Holland \$2.15; Italy \$2.20.

"The fortunately large crop of America is needed in every corner of the world. United States wheat exports have tripled in the past six months. That means that export houses like ourselves, have steadily bought in America as they sold abroad and this buying is the misrepresented basis for such unfair statements. Moreover, my own foreign connections months ago indicates that successive crop shrinkages in Canada, Europe and especially in Argentina, indicated a coming scarcity of bread grain before the new crop. This information I have consistently, by press and word, tried to place before the American farmer, that we might secure the best price the world market could afford.

"Certain farm leaders advised the farmer to rush his crop to market before election, stating that the early fall prices artificially sustained for political effect. There was an extraordinary marketing taken care of at advancing prices, but more orderly marketing would have retained on the farm more wheat today for the 50-cent advance since election. American and America's farmers should understand the extraordinary world situation which in a few months, relieved the farm distress of several years. Last Monday wheat trading in Europe was the largest ever known with countries ordinarily exporting a surplus like Roumania, Bulgaria and Russia, buying wherever wheat could be found in America, Argentina and Australia for import. Here we should remember that Russia, which used to export 250,000,000 bushels of bread grain, is importing flour this year. Russian farmers will not grow grain; Russian factories will not make agricultural implements nor fertilizer. Russian railroads break down under every small strain, all because a government exists which can overnight, by a stroke of a pen, confiscate the savings of years, thus discouraging all enterprises. That government did this same injury to our own people there and yet propose on redress."

Men who grew the wheat are not benefitting extensively from the advance in grain prices to war time levels. There are some exceptions but in most instances farmers sold their wheat last fall when prices were much lower. The majority of producers in the grain belt of the Middle-West sold before the high mark approached. In some sections of Kansas only 12 per cent of the crop has not been marketed and in other mid-Western sections the percentage is as low as five per cent.

In the Northwest however, considerable quantities of wheat have been held at point of origin awaiting this advance to the \$2 mark or above. There has been no dumping of this wheat however since farmers seldom sell on a rising market until a sag in prices comes. In California farmers are selling heavily as almost half of

SMOKELESS POWDER STORED UNDER WATER

San Francisco, Jan. 28.—Experiments conducted by the army have demonstrated that smokeless powder may be stored under water in cold mountain lakes without deterioration. It was announced here recently at headquarters of the Ninth Corps Area.

This, it was said, probably will provide a method of storing large quantities of powder without danger of fire or explosion. The constant low temperature maintained under the water retards the decomposition of the powder which normally would take place if it were stored in magazines and thus is expected actually to increase its life by probably ten years.

"Powder which has been in storage for several years under water," said the statement, "can be given a simple drying treatment and used in the gun for which it was originally designed without appreciable variation in velocity and pressure. These conditions are maintained with little difference whether the powder is stored in sea water or fresh water.

"Three types of powder have been used in the under-water storage experiment. Powder for 75-mm, 155-mm and 12 inch guns was placed in specially prepared boxes provided with numerous openings to allow free circulation of water, and immersed in the lake to a depth of about three feet. For purposes of each kind of powder was stored in a magazine. At the end of six months samples taken from the lake were found to have undergone no appreciable change, either in stability or ballistic qualities."

MINSTREL TO SWELL ELKS CHARITY FUND

Sole Purpose is to Give Elks Money Enough to Meet Demands of Charity

Whatever you give to the Elks Fun and Frolics will mean a dormant faith in mankind awakened and a shadow of gloom lifted somewhere. The Elks are trying to do their bit year by year, day by day, hour by hour, and they need your assistance.

Each member of Elizabeth City Lodge of Elks has received his quota of tickets to dispose of and it is up to each Elks to get results. We need your assistance more than ever this year. You know what the Elks have done for charity and it was recognized in the First City Club that bright star in Elizabeth City contribution of principles—that every Elks has pledged himself.

"The performance, given last year was a success in every way, and those who attended will recall the enjoyment of the entertainment, which was pronounced by the audience as one of the best amateur performances ever seen in the city. This standard will be more than maintained.

"Entirely new features will be presented, and the scenery and costumes will be entirely new and up-to-date and a decided innovation along the lines of modern minstrelsy.

"Nobody can afford to miss it. Rather than you never seen a Punch and Judy show in your childhood days than to miss the Frolics; rather had you never felt the joys of playing truant from your village school than to miss this show, for it is brimming over with mirth and melody, pretty girls and handsome young men—a show that will appeal to out-of-town music lovers as well as those in the city and it is worth coming miles to see. There will be joy enough to go around. Meet the Best People on Earth at the Alhambra Theater, Monday and Tuesday nights, February 2 and 3.

"The following statement was issued from Elizabeth City Elks lodge headquarters today in an effort to answer the question sometimes raised as to why Elks give minstrel shows and at the same time to give the people of Elizabeth City and its environs a foretaste of the treat in store for those who attend the show at the Alhambra.

Briefly, in other words, the Elks put on a minstrel show to increase their charity fund, and every cent of receipts above actual expenses is a donation to charity; and this year's show is to more than meet any standard heretofore. With these two things in mind, it is believed that patronage of the Elks minstrel this year will likewise eclipse all former records.

Seats may be reserved at Sells' after Thursday morning at eight o'clock.

COUNCIL SENDS MAN TO RALEIGH

Entrusts to City Manager Ferebee Matter of Presenting to Representative Proposed Amendment

City Manager M. W. Ferebee leaves tonight for Raleigh with a copy of the proposed amendment to the city charter by which the City Council seeks to abolish the utility commission rather than fight a law suit instituted by C. W. Stevens for the sake of De A. L. Pendleton.

The City Council's proposed amendment, which is entitled, "An Act to Amend the Charter of City of Elizabeth City," follows:

The General Assembly of North Carolina enact:

1. That Section 121 of the Charter of Elizabeth City as amended in Chapter 55 Private Laws of 1921 be and the same is hereby repealed and that the following be substituted in lieu thereof, viz: Between the ratification of this act, and the first Monday in April, 1925, there shall be known and designated as the Public Utilities Commission, which said commission shall consist of three members to be elected from the Board of Aldermen of Elizabeth City, the term of each member of the commission to be for the term of his office as alderman and the commission shall be elected by ballot and each member of the commission must receive a majority vote of the Board of Aldermen before being declared elected.

Provided in case of a vacancy occurring from any cause the said vacancy shall be filled as soon thereafter as possible by the Board of Aldermen in the same manner as provided above for the election of the commission.

Provided further that wherever the word "commission" appears in said Charter Section 122 and in Charter Section 123 and in word commission shall be substituted in lieu thereof.

2. That Section 126 of said Charter be and the same is hereby repealed and the following substituted in lieu thereof, viz: That said Public Utilities Commission shall meet at such times as their duties may require and shall receive as compensation for their services as members of said Public Utilities Commission such compensation as the members of the Board of Aldermen shall elect over and above their per diem as members of the Board of Aldermen but not to exceed the sum of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) each per annum, provided that no member of said Public Utilities Commission shall be entitled to vote upon any question referring to the amount of such compensation.

3. That Section 122 of said Charter shall be amended as follows, viz: That in line three thereof after the word "that" and before the word "years" the word "two" shall be stricken out and the word "five" be substituted in lieu thereof, and at the end of the said section the following shall be added, viz: That the said Public Utilities Commission shall have no power to bind the Board of Aldermen or the City of Elizabeth in any obligation or contract, which is mentioned in this section or in any other section of the said Charter of Elizabeth City without first being approved by the Board of Aldermen.

4. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed and the Public Utility Commission heretofore created for the corporation of Elizabeth City is hereby abolished.

5. That this act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

The legal action instituted by C. W. Stevens to oust Dr. A. L. Pendleton from and to get himself on the utility commission is in line with what Mr. Stevens indicated to be his purpose nearly two years ago. The present city administration, by retaining the use of office, refused to recognize Mr. Stevens as a member of the commission.

As heretofore set forth in this newspaper, the original members of the utility commission were: S. H. Johnson, M. P. Gallop and P. C. Cohoon, who were appointed on March 26, 1923. In the city election held on the fifteenth of the following May, Mr. Cohoon was elected City Councilman from the third ward, and on the ground that with his election to that office, Mr. Cohoon's seat became vacant, four members of the Council, three of whom had been defeated for re-election and one of whom was Mr. Stevens himself, met three days after the election and elected Mr. Stevens to succeed Mr. Cohoon.

Disregarding the action taken by the so-called ramp or lame duck Council, the new City Council accepted the resignation of P. C. Cohoon from the utility commission on June 18 and named Dr. A. L. Pendleton to fill the vacancy.

Names of the four members of the retiring board who elected Mr. Stevens to place the utility commission are: E. M. Davis, W. H. Jennette, C. W. Stevens, and L. W. Anderson. Davis, Jennette

STONE EXPLAINS NEW WHEELER INDICTMENT

Stays Has No Connection With Montana Proceedings and Wheeler Indicted Testify

Washington, Jan. 28.—The Senate Judiciary Committee called a special session today to consider the nomination of Attorney General Stone to the Supreme Court bench. The nomination was recommended Monday. The Senators expected the Attorney General to be invited to appear to present a statement regarding the move to obtain the removal of Attorney General Wheeler and Stone's service as counsel for Morgan against James A. Owenby.

When the committee met, administration supporters succeeded in postponing the session and the Attorney General was invited to attend.

Mr. Stone took with him copies of his correspondence with Senator W. B. Frankfort, Senator Wheeler's counsel outlining the new legal procedure against Wheeler which heretofore had been kept secret. Stone conferred with the committee before the session actually became public.

Attorney General Stone told the committee that the action against Senator Wheeler was independent from the Montana proceedings.

Wheeler was invited to testify and to have witnesses before the grand jury, the Attorney General said.

Rivers And Harbors Bill Gets To Senate In A Week

Now Before Committee and Secretary Job of Chamber of Commerce Expected to Remain in Washington Until the Measure Is Passed on to the President

The Rivers and Harbors bill including a provision for the purchase of the system of locks and canals, is now before the Senate Judiciary Committee and will probably be reported to the Senate in a week or two.

So thinks Mr. Leitch Sheep, president of the Chamber of Commerce, who has just returned from Washington where he was in conference with Senator Simmons and other members of the Senate.

"Of course it is impossible to tell what the Senate committee will do with the Rivers and Harbors bill," Mr. Sheep said, "but the consensus of opinion is that the provision for the purchase of the Dixie Canal will go through."

However, if Senators from Texas, New York and Louisiana succeed in getting measures in the bill for projects in these States which were dropped by the House committee, the appropriations in the bill will exceed the \$40,000,000 limit recommended by President Coolidge, and would probably be vetoed.

Senator Simmons promised us that he would do everything in his power to put the measure through."

R. C. Job, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, went to Washington with Mr. Sheep and upon the suggestion of Senator Simmons, will probably remain at the capital until the bill goes from the committee to the Senate.

COLD WAVE HITS EAST IN NIGHT

North Carolina Towns, New York and Philadelphia, Among Those Reporting Winter Storm

Charlotte, Jan. 28.—Forecast the mercury down precipitately the cold wave hit North Carolina during the night.

Relief, however, was forecast for tomorrow.

Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh, Winston-Salem and other points reported 44 to 52 degrees overnight, the mercury dropping 23 degrees in an hour at several places.

There was sleet at Wilmington and ice and snow at Raleigh.

New York, Jan. 28.—The metropolitan district awoke today under a four inches of snow with a 10 mile northeast gale.

Traffic was badly hampered, six thousand men are today battling with the snowdrifts.

Philadelphia also reported a blizzard.

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TICKETS ON SALE FOR CONCERT ON SATURDAY

Tickets for the concert to be given in the High School auditorium Monday night will go on sale at the Bright Jewelry Company store Saturday morning at 9:30. Seats may also be reserved there.

This is the second in the series of concerts sponsored by the Music Department of the Woman's Club. The third and last is scheduled to be given on March 24.

BILL TO CREATE A PARDON BOARD

Raleigh, Jan. 28.—A number of reports on important bills awaited the Legislature when it met today, among them that of the House Judiciary Committee, No. 1, which voted favorably on a bill creating a pardon commission.

This is the first bill growing out of the Governor's address last week.

Gloria Swanson Weds

Paris, Jan. 28.—Gloria Swanson, American movie actress, today married Margary De Lafontaine De Lacouray.

REPORT FINANCES OF NORTH CAROLINA

Washington, D. C., Jan. 28.—The Department of Commerce announced that the total payments for expenses, interest, and outlays for the state government of North Carolina for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923, amounted to \$43,356,817, or \$16.16 per capita. Of this total \$13,687,759 represents the expenses of operation of the state government; \$30,449,000 the expenses of operating the public service enterprises; \$1,853,547, interest on debt; and \$27,785,072, outlays for permanent improvements, the largest item of which was \$24,358,470, expended by the State Highway Commission. In 1922 the total payments for the state were \$25,364,112, and in 1917, \$5,407,381, a per capita of \$9.58 and \$2.19, respectively. The totals include all payments for the year, whether made from current revenues or from the proceeds of bond issues.

ANTI-KLAN SIDE KILLING HEARD

Herrin, Jan. 28.—Anti-Klan forces today were given their turn in the witness stand to testify before the coroner's jury investigating the deaths of S. Glenn Young, Klan liquor raider, Ora Thomas, deputy sheriff, and two of Young's followers Saturday night.

Several witnesses yesterday testified that Thomas fired the first shot when he confronted Young in a cigar store.

Young was buried yesterday and Young will be buried Thursday with Klan ceremonies.

FALLS IN SLEET AND DISLOCATES HIS HIP

J. T. Wynn, 307 Second street, employe of A. F. Toxey & Company, while on his way to work Wednesday morning at 7:15 fell in front of C. D. Bundy's lumber shed on North Water street and dislocated his hip. He is reported as resting as well as could be expected.

A number of people fell in the sleet Wednesday morning but no other reports of serious injury from a fall have reached this newspaper. A horse used by the Express Company for one of its wagons fell on the canal bridge on South Water street shortly before noon and had to be cut loose from the harness before he could be got up.

CHILD LABOR BY AMENDMENT DEAD

Chicago, Jan. 28.—Barring possible reconsideration, the child labor amendment to the constitution has been rejected in either or both houses of the Legislature by referendum in 13 states.

Young Funeral Thursday

Herrin, Jan. 28.—The funeral of S. Glenn Young, Klux Klan raider, will be held Thursday, it was announced today.

Coolidge Having A Bully Time In The White House

Not What Roosevelt Would Call a Bully Time at All but Nevertheless Austere New Englander Enjoying Himself Hugely in Official Duties

By ROBERT T. SMALL

Washington, Jan. 28.—Now that Secretary Bascom Sliem has proclaimed the fact that the President is not a "killing job" it can be told that President Coolidge is having a "bully" time in the White House. It is not the "bully" time of a Roosevelt, but in his own quiet New England way Mr. Coolidge is enjoying every moment of his high service to the nation.

The President finds much time for his own contemplations. His work appears to be so ordered as to leave him free from any semblance of bustle or excitement. He comes and goes from the White House as if he were a man of leisure.

Even the supposedly austere Mr. Wilson was a receptive man for salutations when he strolled abroad. But unlike Mr. Coolidge and Mr. Harding, Mr. Wilson preferred a rule to ride in his auto when out for the air. Mr. Taft was quite a pedestrian during his White House days, but he, too, had the auto habit. President Roosevelt's walks were over "thru" out into the parks and the country and he generally was accompanied by his more intimate "buddies." President Coolidge, save for the attendance of a secret service man, walks alone.

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GERMANY SEEKS SECURITY PACT

Paris, Jan. 28.—The French government today received from Berlin reliable information tending to indicate that Germany within a day or two will make a move to feel out France and Belgium regarding a security pact among the three powers.

Gang Rules Above Law In Herrin And Chicago

Enforced by Terrorism and Through Murder or Boasting of Minor But Important Public Officials Law of the Pack Prevails in Both

By O. L. SCOTT

Chicago, Jan. 28.—Gang rule above the law, enforced through terrorism, murder and boasting of minor but important officials seems to have laid a firm foundation for its future flourishing development here, and in Herrin where the gangsters run has gradually been replacing the law with regular course.

Revenge is the motive, killing the punishment in this super-law of an outgrowth of the bootlegging industry, and backed here in Chicago by the chief of police has said to be a \$1,000,000 business fund. A record of sensational cases in Chicago and in Williamson county shows what goes on when law becomes impotent.

Fifty men, allies of bootleggers, are estimated by authorities to have been killed on the beer route into Chicago flourishing since the present beer war. None of the murderers were convicted.

O'Banion, companion of Dion O'Banion in a safe cracking job, who was thought to have a weak alibi which might implicate other, was mysteriously shot. When he was reported to be recovering his assailants ended him while he lay in a hospital bed.

O'Banion himself was shot down, after being responsible, Chief of Police Collins said, for 20 murders or more. Four important gangsters shortly followed him to the grave. Their passing has gone unpublicized. Witnesses have been afraid to implicate those responsible and, despite his own record, O'Banion heralded daily as a leader being served only 12 months in jail during his entire criminal career.

Before O'Banion's death, Johnny Daugherty, alias Duffy, an ally, had killed Maybelle Kaley, because she dared him to. He was killed next day, but nothing ever came of the case.

O'Banion had shot David Miller, a rival in England, in front of the La Salle theater here. He openly boasted that it cost him \$45,000 to "fix" this case.

The Rev. Elmer T. Williams and Stevens had all offered for re-election and had been defeated.

ONLY THE RICH CAN TELEPHONE IN TOKIO

Tokio, Jan. 28.—Under regulations of the communications department new telephone subscribers must bear the entire cost of installation of telephones, which in Tokio will amount to from 1,500 to 1,700 yen.

FEDERAL SERVICE THURSDAY FOR STATESVILLE ATTORNEY

Statesville, Jan. 28.—Funeral services for R. T. Weatherman, an attorney killed here yesterday by a Southern railway engine, will be held from the home tomorrow, it was announced today.

COASTAL HIGHWAY ROADS DECLARED AGAIN PASSABLE

Secretary of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce has received the following communication from the Edenton-Mackays Ferry Company under date of January 27 and signed by W. A. Everett: "This is to advise you that your mail and co-operate in advising tourists and traveling salesmen in general that the road conditions in Eastern North Carolina are now very much improved since the recent heavy rains and the routes leading to and from the Edenton-Mackays Ferry and Coastal Highway Ferry are now passable and in a very fair condition for dirt roads. Travelers will encounter no difficulty in making all the points which these routes connect."

SEEK REDUCE RATES SECOND CLASS MAIL

Washington, Jan. 28.—Action on the proposal to reduce the present second class mail rates instead of adopting a provision for increased rates in the Postal Pay Rates Increase Bill is before the Senate today. The amendment by Senator Florence would make the rates on advertising the same as those prior to July 1, 1920.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AGAIN BEFORE HOUSE

Raleigh, Jan. 28.—Capital punishment would be abolished in North Carolina under a bill introduced in the House by Wade of New Hanover today.

The Senate got a joint resolution requiring the auditor to obtain within 10 days statements from all departments of the salaries paid and the number and price of automobiles bought in each department.

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