

HIGH PRICES NOT DUE TO SHORTAGE SUPPLY

Wilson Lays Before Congress Proposals for Checking Cost of Living.

NO LASTING RESULTS YET

Present Laws to Be Employed to Force Out Hoards and Meet What Seems to Be a Critical Situation.

Washington, Aug. 8.—President Wilson laid several specific proposals before congress today for checking the high cost of living, but at the same time declared permanent results could not be expected until peace time bases were fully restored by ratification of the peace treaty.

High prices, the president told congress, were not justified by shortage of supply, either present or prospective, but were created in many cases "artificially and deliberately" by "vicious practices." Retailers, he said, were responsible in large part for extortionate prices.

Strikes, the president warned the labor world, would only make matters worse and those who sought to employ threats or coercion were only "preparing their own destruction." Leaders of organized labor, the president said, he was sure would presently yield to second sober thought.

"Illegal" and "criminal" were the words the president used in characterizing the methods by which some present day prices have been brought about.

Present laws, he said, would be energetically employed to the limit to force out food hoards, and meet the situation so far as possible, but to supplement the existing statutes he specifically urged the following:

Specific Recommendations.
Licensing of all corporations engaged in interstate commerce, with specific regulations designed to secure competitive selling and prevent "unconscionable profits" in the method of marketing.

Extension of the food control act to peace times and the application of its provisions against hoarding to fuel, clothing and other necessities of life as well as food.

A penalty in the food control act for profiteering.

A law regulating cold storage, limiting the time during which goods may be held, prescribing a method of disposing of them if held beyond the permitted period and requiring that when released goods bear the date of storage.

Laws requiring that goods released from storage for interstate commerce bear the selling prices at which they went into storage and requiring that all goods destined for interstate commerce bear the prices at which they left the hands of the producer.

Enactment of the pending bill for the control of security issues.

Additional appropriations for government agencies which can supply the public with full information as to prices at which retailers buy.

Early ratification of the peace treaty so that the "free processes of supply and demand" can operate.

Immediate Steps Promised.

Immediate steps by executive agencies of the government promised by the president included:

The limiting and controlling of wheat shipments and credits to facilitate the purchase of wheat in such a way as not to raise, but rather to lower the price of flour at home.

Sale of surplus stocks of food and clothing in the hands of the government.

The forced withdrawal from storage and sale of surplus stocks in private hands.

General Recommendations.

General recommendations included:

Increase of production.

Careful buying by housewives.

Fair dealing with the people on the part of producers, middle men and merchants.

That there be no threats and undue insistence upon the interests of a single class.

Correction of "many things" in the relation between capital and labor in respect to wages and conditions of labor.

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STARTS MACHINERY TO REDUCE PRICES

Committee to Be Named in Each County to Arrange Fair Price List.

Washington, Aug. 10.—Attorney General Palmer started out today to ascertain how much of the high cost of living is due to excessive profits by retailers.

In a telegram to all state food administrators who worked with Administrator Hoover during the war, the attorney general requested the appointment of a fair price committee in each county to investigate what is being charged for retail necessities and if in excess of what the committee considers just to publish a list of fair prices for the guidance of the public.

This is the "extra legal" means of reaching profiteering which Mr. Palmer recently indicated was under consideration. He has frankly admitted from the start that there was no means to prosecute directly a man guilty of extortion in prices. Retailers who are gouging the ultimate consumer will have to be disciplined by public sentiment which officials have no doubt is sufficiently alert to the situation now to act vigorously in clear-cut cases. Hoarders, on the other hand, can be reached through the war time food laws or the Sherman act, and Mr. Palmer requested the state food administrators to transmit to him any evidence of hoarding or other violations of the law which they might encounter in their work, with the promise that the government's law enforcement machinery would act promptly.

EIGHT BIG WAREHOUSES FOR THE CAROLINAS

Five For This State—Greenville, Spartanburg, Rock Hill, Columbia, Charleston.

Construction of eight great cotton warehouses in the Carolinas, with a total capacity of 300,000 bales is proposed by the Union Warehouse corporation, recently organized in New York. Three proposed warehouses in North Carolina will have a capacity of 100,000 and the five proposed for South Carolina will have a capacity of 200,000 bales.

This corporation announced it will build warehouses at Charlotte, 40,000 bales; Raleigh, 20,000 bales; Greensboro, 40,000; in South Carolina, at Greenville, 20,000 bales; Spartanburg, 20,000 bales; Rock Hill, 20,000 bales; Columbia, 40,000 bales; and at Charleston, 100,000 bales. For each warehouse, it is planned to build storage facilities of half the stated capacity and later enlarge the buildings to double the capacity.

DEATH OF BROTHER CHARGED TO YOUTH

Tragedy Occurred at Home of Aunt While Other Members of Family Were Attending Church.

Spartanburg, Aug. 8.—Buster Cooker, eight years of age of Woodruff, Spartanburg county, was lodged in the county jail yesterday on a charge of having shot and instantly killed his little five year old brother Wednesday night. From the evidence brought out at the coroner's inquest it appears that the two boys were alone in their aunt's home, other members of the family having gone to church and the young Fred Cooker dashed a glass of water into his brother's face while asleep, the older boy was awakened and it is believed crawled upstairs into an attic securing a single barbed shotgun with which he almost completely blew his little brother's head off, it is stated.

Responsibility for the crime was fixed upon Buster Cooker by the coroner's inquest. This is believed to be the youngest defendant ever arrested in this county charged with a capital offense.

German Potash Embargo Lifted.

Washington, Aug. 8.—Official information of the lifting of the embargo on the importation of potash from Germany was received today from the War Trade Board by Senator Smith, of South Carolina. The lifting is effective today and leaves all foreign potash free to come into this country.

SECRETARY HESTER REPORTS ON COTTON

Puts the Commercial Cotton Crop for Year at 11,639,653 Bales.

SHORT IN TEXAS AND GULF

Larger Than Last Year in the Atlantic States, But a Decrease Under Crop of 1917-1918 of 267,320 Bales.

New Orleans, Aug. 9.—Secretary Hester's annual report on the commercial cotton crop, issued today, puts the crop of 1918-1919 at 11,639,653 bales, a decrease under the crop of 1917-1918 of 267,320 and a decrease under 1916-1917 of 1,301,281.

He says that the crop of Texas is 541,000 bales less than last year, the group of "other gulf states" (embracing Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Missouri, Arizona, California, Kansas and New Mexico) shows a decrease of 381,000 bales and the group of Atlantic states (including Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, and Virginia) an increase of 655,000. Crop grade average barely middling.

He puts the average price per pound of middling for the year at 30.36 cents, as compared with 28.8 last year, 18.41 year before last, and 11.99 in 1915-1916 and the average commercial value per bale at \$155.14 against \$147.39 last year and \$94.82 the year before and the value of the crop, including the seed, at \$2,045,251,868 against \$2,001,682,939 last year.

Mr. Hester's report of commercial crop by states is as follows in thousands of bales:

Alabama, 756 against 521 last year; Arkansas, 914, against 1,004; Florida, 34, against 50; Georgia, 2,029, against 1,980; Louisiana, 541, against 665; Oklahoma, 590, against 1,016; Mississippi, 1,154, against 979; North Carolina, 908, against 717; South Carolina, 1,491, against 1,295; Tennessee, 543, against 460; Texas, 2,680, against 3,220. Total crop bales, 11,640, against 11,907 last year.

Mr. Hester says that the prices paid for this crop have been the highest witnessed for the past 52 years.

He then gives a table showing the exports for the five-year war period compared with the five previous years of the antwar period, showing a total for the war period of 30,666,000, and calls attention to the fact that during the five years prior to the war Germany and her allies took 13,000,000 of the balance while in the war period they took only 3,449,000.

Mr. Hester puts the actual growth for 1918-1919 at 13,070,000 and he puts the number of bales carried over in the interior of the South, including Southern mill stocks, at 3,574,000, against 2,184,000 carried over at the close of 1917-1918. Mr. Hester then gives a statement of the total carry-over of American cotton in the United States and abroad and July 31. These figures show total in interior of cotton belt 3,574,000 bales, United States, 5,291,000; European mill stocks, 285,000; European port stocks, 1,248,000, total European, 1,533,000 total carry-over, 6,824,000.

He says that of the total carry-over 699,000 bales were linters.

Consumption of the South in round figures was given as 3,354,000 and the north 2,500,000, a total of 6,034,000 bales of American cotton including linters. In addition to this, American mills have consumed 173,000 bales of foreign cotton, making a total consumption of American and foreign growth by American mills of 6,207,000, against 7,600,000 last year.

Consumption of linters, included in the preceding was 449,000 bales, including 293,000 in the South and 156,000 in the North, against a total last year of 1,100,000, including 600,000 in the South and 500,000 in the North.

Mr. Hester puts the spindles in the South at 15,187,000, including old, new and idle and uncompleted, against 14,786,000 last year and says there are in course of construction in the mills and being added to new mills in the South 209,226 spindles.

SECRET SERVICE NOW AFTER FOOD GOUGERS

Assisting Forces Already at Work to Stop Hoarding and Profiteering.

EXPECT TANGIBLE RESULTS

Congress to Proceed Promptly in Response to Wilson's Request for More Legislation on Problem.

Washington, Aug. 9.—Tangible results from the investigation of hoarding and profiteering initiated by Attorney General Palmer are expected to develop in the immediate future as the result of an order today directing the entire secret service of the bureau of investigation to assist the forces now at work trying to uncover instances in which the public has been gouged by the illegal control of prices.

Officials of the department of justice said reports from many sections of the country showed the search for evidence of extortion in the necessities of life was proceeding vigorously and it was indicated that many prosecutions might come very soon.

Announcement also was made today that congress would proceed promptly with legislative measures recommended by President Wilson in his address yesterday as necessary to stop the "vicious practices" which have been largely responsible for the rising cost of living.

Republican Leader Mondell stated in the house that appropriations would be made at once to enable the government departments to attack the problem, and Chairman Haugen announced the agricultural committee would begin hearings Monday on legislation to control the time foods could be held in cold storage.

The senate interstate commerce committee discussed suggestions of the president that interstate shipments of necessities be controlled by a licensing system, and Chairman Cummins announced that he would appoint a sub-committee Monday to recommend such legislation as it should decide was necessary.

There were indications at the White House that President Wilson might let the high cost of living share with the league of nations in the speaking tour which he soon is to make. The president has been devoting virtually all of his time recently to the economic situation and has come to believe that the importance of the question demands discussion equally with the big international problem, to explain which was the prime purpose of the tour.

PRICE LIST SURPLUS FOOD TO BE SOLD

Baked Beans Five Cents for 1 1-4 Pound Can; Other Prices in Proportion.

Washington, Aug. 8.—The war department made public today a complete price list on all subsistence stores available for sale to the public through the parcels post or through municipal selling agencies. Costs of the commodities to the government, the department said, had been disregarded entirely in fixing the prices of sale which are materially lower than prevailing market rates.

The prices quoted are f. o. b. and from storage points in each of the 13 districts into which the country is divided for war department subsistence purposes. The department now is re-distributing the food supplies in the 13 areas in order that each may have its proportion per population of the 72 articles offered for public sale. Quotations on some of the leading commodities are:

Bacon, \$4.15 per can of 17 pounds; corned beef, 55 cents for can of 1.36 pounds; baked beans, 5 cents per can of 1 1-4 pounds; sweet corn, 10 cents per 2 1-4 pound can; dry beans, \$6.49 per 100 pounds; crackers, 5 and 6 cents a pound; army flour, \$6 per 100 pounds; macaroni, 7 cents per 1 1-2 pounds; rolled oats, 12 cents per two pounds; seeded raisins, 10 cents per pound; rice, \$6.74 per hundred pounds; tomatoes, 9 cents per two-pound can, and white corn meal, \$3.50 per hundred pounds.

HEATH WILL IN HANDS OF CLERK

Each of 14 Children Gets Over \$100,000 and Widow That Amount and Home.

Charlotte, N. C., Aug. 8.—The will of the late B. D. Heath, which was turned over to the clerk of court's office here yesterday for probate, will dispose of an estate valued at about \$2,000,000. Under the will, each of the 14 children of Mr. Heath will receive over \$100,000 each, and Mrs. Heath will receive that amount and the Heath home, in Piedmont, surrounded by a six-acre tract of land.

The Western North Carolina Methodist conference was bequeathed \$40,000. Hawthorne Lane Methodist church here \$8,000, and the Presbyterian hospital, here, \$6,000 under conditions. Old family servants of the Heath family were bequeathed \$200 each.

Numerous other smaller bequests to elementary institutions were made in the will, which is the largest to be filed in the local clerk of court's office in years.

Probation will not be made until one or two more witnesses have made acknowledgement. Meanwhile, the document is being held by the clerk of court to whose office it was handed yesterday by H. Bascom Heath, son of the late B. D. Heath, and one of the six executors named. The five other executors are Charles D. Jones, of Lancaster, S. C.; Dr. J. C. Montgomery, of Charlotte; W. H. Twitty, of Charlotte; Mrs. Nettie H. Heath, of Charlotte, wife of the deceased, and W. C. Johnston, of Chattanooga, Tenn.

The \$40,000 bequeathed to the Western North Carolina conference is to be kept intact and used as the conference may deem best.

PRINCIPAL FOOD CROPS SHOW SHARP DECREASE

Wheat Production Off 221,000,000 Bushels; Corn 27,000,000 and Potatoes 34,000,000.

Washington, Aug. 8.—With living costs soaring, the nation's principal food crops showed sharp decreases during July, resulting from droughts and pests over much of the growing area.

Wheat production fell off 221,000,000 bushels during the month, according to the forecast today of the department of agriculture; corn showed a reduction of 27,000,000 bushels; oats 137,000,000 bushels; barley, 27,000,000 bushels and white potatoes 34,000,000 bushels. Rice alone of all the crops showed an increase.

Total production of wheat was forecast at 949,000,000 bushels, but this was an increase of 23,000,000 bushels over the forecast last December 1 and 149,000,000 bushels over the five-year average from 1913 to 1918. Winter wheat showed the greatest loss with 124,000,000 bushels, with spring wheat production showing a decline of 97,000,000 bushels.

Highway Recommended.

York, Aug. 8.—The county board of commissioners has recommended to the state highway department the extension of federal aid to the amount of \$22,000 for work on the Clover-Gastonia road, \$12,000 to be used in the construction of a concrete road through the town of Clover. Abutting property owners in Clover have agreed to bear one-fourth the cost of the building of the road through their town.

Family Goes to School.

Greenville, Aug. 8.—Twelve members of single family enrolled and attending night school regularly is the record of Greenville county in the present drive against illiteracy made by the state and county school authorities. In the West Dunklin school the parents and their ten children, all of them over 14 years of age, are studying regular courses, the most advanced of which is fourth grade reading and arithmetic.

Governor Knocked Down.

Jackson, Miss., Aug. 8.—Walter Dent, assistant attorney general of Mississippi today knocked Gov. Theodore Bilbo down in a fist fight in the office of the secretary of state, Joseph Power, who, with other officers, separated the men.

ANDREW CARNEGIE STEEL KING PASSES

Died at His Summer Home, "Shadow Brook," in the Berkshire Hills.

INTERMENT AT PITTSBURG

When Bodily Infirmity Overtook Him, He Foresaw End in Spring and Sought Seclusion, With War Saddened Mind.

Lenox, Mass., Aug. 11.—Andrew Carnegie, ironmaster and philanthropist, died today in his great mansion overlooking a lake in the beautiful Berkshire hills, where he sought seclusion when bodily infirmity overtook him and his mind was saddened by the entrance of his country into the world war.

Although he had been in feeble health for more than two years, his final illness was brief—a matter of days. A severe cold developed quickly into bronchial pneumonia, the aged patient lapsed into unconsciousness and the end came as though it were but the beginning of a deeper sleep.

No ostentation will mark the funeral of the man who, when he began 18 years ago to give away his millions, was reputed to have the second largest private fortune in America. A simple service, attended only by members of his family and household, will be held at the home, Shadowbrook, tomorrow or Wednesday. The time had not been determined tonight. It is expected that the body will be taken to Pittsburgh, the city where he laid the foundations for his wealth, for burial.

Mrs. Carnegie Present.

Mrs. Carnegie was at her husband's bedside in the last hours of his life, but he did not revive sufficiently to permit of any sign of recognition. Their daughter, Margaret, who last April married Ensign Roswell Miller, of New York, was notified that it was apparent that the illness would be fatal, and she hurried from her home at Millbrook, N. Y., arriving a few minutes after her father had died.

The widow of the laird of Skibo, although overcome with grief at the comparatively sudden death of her husband, bore the shock bravely. Her physician said tonight that she had recovered sufficiently to make it possible for her to go through the ordeal of the private funeral service.

When Mr. Carnegie returned to his summer home last spring, it was evident to his intimates that the once great industrial leader was a broken man and that any slight indisposition might have a fatal end. However, the air of the Berkshires and the seclusion afforded in his beautiful estate appeared to benefit him and he exhibited occasional flashes of the old exuberance that had made him a cheerful companion for so many years.

Mr. Carnegie proved an easy prey to a cold contracted last Thursday and after a futile attempt to shake it off he took to his bed the following day.

Far Removed From Affairs.

In his last days whatever his thoughts may have been, Mr. Carnegie appeared as one far removed from the affairs of the world in which he played to great a part for more than the average lifetime. To his physician he spoke only of his health and the mode of living best suited to it. He always appeared cheerful.

No guards were needed to induce the people of the countryside and the occupants of the summer villas to respect the privacy which they instinctively understood would be desired by Mrs. Carnegie and her daughter.

It was chiefly due to Mrs. Carnegie's description of Shadowbrook, after a visit to the estate in the early summer of 1917, as bearing a strong resemblance to the country around Skibo castle in his native Scotland, that the ironmaster decided to purchase the property. The war had prevented his annual visit to Skibo and indeed had made such changes there that it was understood that he had decided to make his country home in America for the remainder of his life.

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