

COTTON FAMINE AND SPECULATION

The Short Crop and Great Demand Place Speculators In Quandry

THE WHOLE WORLD IS HUNGRY FOR COTTON

Exchange Gamblers Who Have Sold Short, Face Tremendous Loss

Columbia, Nov. 13.—J. Skottowe Wannamaker, president of the American Cotton Association, declared in a statement issued today that based upon supply and demand, the price for which the manufactured product is selling, the cost of production and the price of other commodities, cotton is cheaper at 50 cents per pound, basis middling, today than it was from 1890 to 1895 at five cents per pound, basis middling.

Mr. Wannamaker declared that leading manufacturers had admitted that cotton was worth, based upon the manufactured product today, from 60 to 75 cents per pound, basis middling, and that based upon supply and demand, even higher prices could probably be paid before the 1920 crop became available. A strong appeal is made by Mr. Wannamaker to the farmers to hold their cotton. He declared that the American Cotton Association is going to carry out its purpose of retiring two million bales of cotton and see to it that the staple is marketed more gradually.

"The cotton producer for the last sixty years" said Mr. Wannamaker, "has ignored the marketing end of the proposition. Instead of warehousing his cotton and slowly marketing it over a period of twelve months his cotton has been rushed upon the market. To a large extent he has marketed his cotton as fast as gathered and has sold it regardless of the price. As a result of his cotton passing into the hands of the speculators and brought great riches to the speculator and in fact to every line of the cotton industry in the world where it is used commercially except to himself, to himself he brought poverty.

Supply and Demand.

"We are facing the greatest demand for raw cotton which has ever existed within the last sixty years. Compared with demand we are facing the shortest supply that has ever existed in this period. There will not be sufficient cotton to fill the pressing wants of the manufacturer from either the cotton on hand or from the growing crop, so that we are facing the absolute certainty of an exhaustion of the supply of cotton before the 1920 crop becomes available. Should the 1920 crop meet with unfavorable weather conditions or a crop calamity, the result would prove truly a world calamity.

Price of Manufactured Product.

"Profits of manufacturers have reached such proportions that their ability to pay for good grade cotton has created a bullish factor of extraordinary potency. A profit of \$100 per bale or 20 cents per pound on the manufactured goods is really moderate at this time. Narrow print cloth sold this week on a basis that would give the manufacturer a profit of thirty cents a pound or \$150 per bale. Wide print cloth sold on a basis that would provide a profit in excess of 35 cents per pound or \$175 per bale. We find in our investigation a few cases in which goods of a special construction, which for this reason were quite scarce, are returning a profit of 84 cents per lb. or \$370 per bale. The cotton used in the manufacture of these special goods is strict middling, one inch cotton.

Future Commitments.

"The manufacturers have sold an enormous amount of goods for which they must have good grade cotton. Manufacturers the world over are extremely short of cotton. In addition to this there are only 22,000 bales of certified cotton now in New York, 1,200 bales of this amount being low grades, which leaves a balance of only 20,800 bales of tendarable cotton. In addition to this Europe has hedged on the New York and New Orleans exchange all cotton in transit. The delivery of this cotton has caused them a tremendous loss. Another matter of vital importance and far-reaching consequence is the fact proved by the actual investigation that there are 1,000,000 bales of cotton bought in the New York and New Orleans exchange for early spring months, including January. In addition to this Europe, as fast as her finances would permit, has bought cotton on the New York and New Orleans exchanges, for her future requirements, so that the actual cotton now bought on the exchanges for which spot deliveries will be demanded are in excess of the possible tendarable cotton to be secured from either the cotton on hand or the growing crop. The result will be startling. In all probability as a result there will be days on which not a contract can be bought on the New York or New Orleans exchange. The bears in their desperation to escape the inevitable exchanged close months for distant months and today are caught in a trap from which it is impossible to extricate themselves.

A Fair Price Cotton

"Based upon supply and demand, the price for which the manufactured product is selling, the cost of production and the price of other commodities cotton is the cheapest commodity in the world today. Based upon these conditions it is cheaper at 50 cents per pound, basis middling, than it was from 1890-95 at 5 cents per pound, basis middling.

Manipulators Active

For the first time in sixty years

HIGH COST OF LIVING

Efforts for Relief Inaugurated in Several Countries By Government

Washington, Nov. 12.—That the whole world is struggling with the increased cost of living, is indicated in reports to the State Department. The increases in Europe are particularly high although in Latin-America the governments are anxious over the situation and are trying to find means of combating the difficulties presented by the high prices of commodities deemed essential.

In Portugal the government, in an attempt to lower the cost of living, has placed, through the Minister of Finance, a part of its gold reserves in the banks of Lisbon.

In England, the cost of living above pre-war level is figured at 115 percent for September and 120 percent for October, as to actual necessities of life and based upon average living conditions of wage earners. A more distinct rise has occurred in the cost of commodities so far as the other elements of population in England are concerned, being unofficially estimated by some at approximately 135 percent with a steady upward trend.

In Sweden, figures furnished by the Swedish government indicate that the cost of living has increased 157 percent over the cost in June 1914. In the cities the increase has been very much greater than the average for the country.

The Argentine Government has suggested to other South American countries and discussed with them an international arrangement with a view to doing away with import duties on unmanufactured food products as one means of cutting down high cost of living. Information which has reached the State Department regarding this plan is to the effect that a suggestion has been made that a conference be called by the Argentine Minister for Foreign Affairs to discuss this question of exchange of real necessities of life free of customs charges.

In Brazil the tariff is being revised with a view to reducing the cost of living in that country. In Uruguay the percentage of increase of present cost of living over the cost in June, 1914, is estimated by the Uruguayan government at: food 52 percent, fuel 48 percent, light 75 percent, rent no increase.

DIES FROM INJURIES

J. Ford Prioleau Succumbs, Following Accident

Charleston, Nov. 15.—J. Ford Prioleau, formerly of Beaufort, who was seriously injured Wednesday afternoon, in a traffic accident, died early this morning at a local infirmary. He was 38 years of age. The remains have been sent to Beaufort. One other fatality from accident was reported today in the death of Miss Mary Britt, of Enston Home, who was overcome by gas. She was 59 years of age. A little colored girl, Rineart Murray, was probably fatally burned, when she fell into a fire place.

THE CAPTURE OF OMSK DENIED

Bolsheviki Insist That They Hold City

London, Nov. 17.—The capture of Omsk by Russian soviet forces which was unofficially denied in advices through Scandinavia yesterday, is re-asserted in a Bolshevik communique received by wireless today from Moscow. Severe street fighting preceded the capture and more than on thousand prisoners were taken by the Bolshevik, it is declared.

the manipulators, who have accumulated vast wealth as a result of their prearranged and concerted efforts to beat down the price of cotton, are facing the absolute certainty of being not only denied the privilege of sucking the life-blood from the producer as well as the consumer, but in addition are facing the inevitable certainty of fabulous losses.

Steps Taken by the Producers Under The American Cotton Association

"As a matter of self-preservation and self-protection the producer has adopted the safe sound method of warehousing his cotton, and removing from the market two million bales of good grade cotton, this cotton to be held off of the market until next June, July and August. He will market the balance of his crop slowly. This plan is not only the one followed by all business organizations but in addition to this it will result in the bilizing to a certain extent the cotton market, protecting the producer against unfair prices being paid for off-grade cotton, and will result in bringing a fair price for his product based upon supply and demand and the price of the manufactured product. This same system has practically been enforced by the manufacturers with the finished product for the last sixty years. Had it not been for the manipulation referred to above, and were the law of supply and demand permitted to function this would not have been necessary. Before this decision a painstaking investigation was made, the matter was taken up with the various lines of the cotton industry, and leading manufacturers confirmed the statement as to supply and demand, price of the manufactured product and also the statement as to the conditions on the exchange. Leading manufacturers stated that cotton was worth, based upon the manufactured product today, from 60 to 75 cents per pound, basis middling, and that based upon supply and demand, even much higher prices should probably be paid before the 1920 crop became available.

"Hold your cotton for a fair price. To sell under the above conditions you will enrich the speculator, the other lines of the cotton industry, and continue to bring prosperity to other sections except the South. Much higher prices are an inevitable certainty, as certain as death and taxes."

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

County Fair Bureau of Information

Special efforts are being made to make the big American Cotton Association meeting a success during the county fair this week, when at 11:30 a. m. at the grand stand at the fair grounds every member of the Sumter County Branch of the American Cotton Association, and that means every member of every township branch of the Sumter County Branch of the association is expected and urged to be present. Every member is particularly urged to bring one or more men who have not yet joined this association which has been largely responsible for putting up the price of cotton from 26 cents to 39 3/4 cents because of the partial and systematic temporary organization of the farmers and the holding of so much cotton off the market to cause the universal law of supply and demand to function in the interest of the cotton growers. Permanent organization and cooperation mean permanent living prices for cotton.

Every member of the association is invited to visit the booth of the Sumter County branch of the association in the main building of the county fair. The State headquarters of the American Cotton Association, working in conjunction with the Sumter County Chamber of Commerce, has succeeded in getting Mrs. H. R. Clinckscale, general State secretary, to come here for three days from Columbia to take charge of the association interests at this booth. She will have an abundance of printed literature and statistics, and other interesting information to furnish the farmers, merchants, bankers, lawyers, doctors, land owners, employees, and all others who will visit this attractively decorated booth. Look for the big signs: "The Sumter County Branch of the American Cotton Association," side by side with the signs marked: "The Sumter County Chamber of Commerce Bureau of Information and Boll Weevil Duckers."

A campaign to "bust the boll weevil lines" and to murder low prices for cotton will be started in Sumter Co. at our fair this week.

Every member of the Association has been sent a card by County Secretary E. L. Reardon, inviting him to attend the meeting next Thursday.

Secretary Reardon says that he doesn't expect more than about ten per cent of the members to read these cards, as the average member of any kind of association never bothers to read anything about his association, and if he does he forgets all about it in five minutes. That is one reason why farmers don't get any more for their cotton than they are getting. They are not organized as they should be and each farmer is a separate unit working to and for himself, while the forces he goes up against are organized with plenty of human brains, intelligence, system, capital and cooperation, working to get what the farmer has to sell for as little as possible and then resell it to the farmer for four times what they paid the farmers for it. Come to the big meeting next Thursday and bring your friends with you. This means not only farmers, but merchants, bankers, lawyers, doctors, real estate and insurance agents, manufacturers, clerks, and all other employees, land owners, and every body interested in securing right prices for cotton in which we are all interested in the South.

Mr. J. A. Evans, assistant to De. Knapp, and in charge of States Relations Service in the South, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will be here for several days during our fair and will lecture each day at the grand stand on diversification of crops necessary to combat boll weevil conditions. Other experts of the government from Washington and Clemson College will be here also to lecture.

The daily concerts by the famous Royal Scotch Highlanders Band of 25 artists, and the song solos by four or five splendid artists of this great band, featuring Bobby Broliere, the world renowned Scotch tenor, this band played two concerts of two and one-half hours each for three days of the fair, November 19th to 21st, inclusive, will prove a veritable musical festival in fact.

The famous Delemcade Troupe of acrobatic, aerial and comedy artists, featuring the five beautiful and accomplished Earle sisters in their daring, death-defying, spectacular performances on the high revolving wheels and double revolving ladders, will prove very interesting and entertaining. The band concerts and the Delemcade Troupe will be absolutely, positively and certainly, outside, open air and free attractions to every one within the fair grounds for four days, for the Delemcade Troupe and three days for the band.

There will be plenty of good things to eat, substantial, all round square meals, and also light refreshments, and plenty of things to drink, from simple pure water right on down or up the list to constitutional limitations marks.

WAS IT A FRAMEUP?

State Department Information From Mexico City Today Points That Way.

Washington, Nov. 17.—Consular Agent Jenkins at Pueblo was detained at the penitentiary for two hours after his arrest on charge of collusion with bandits who recently kidnapped him, according to State department advices today from Mexico City. He then was released without bail and is now restricted to his own home.

A corporation has been formed in Sumter for the purpose of handling aeroplanes. The secretary of State, W. E. Dove on Friday commissioned this corporation with a capital stock of \$5,000. The promoters of the concern are L. D. Jennings and J. Craig Hurst. The concern contemplates doing a general aircraft business. This is one of the first concerns in the state to organize.

LUMBER

Flooring, Ceiling, Siding, Casing, Mouldings, Framing Lumber, Red Cedar Shingles, Pine and Cypress Shingles, Metal and Composition Shingles, Doors, Sash and Blinds, Porch Columns and Ballusters, Beaver Board, Valley Tin and Ridge Roll.

Lumber

Brick, Lime, Cement, Plaster, Fire Brick, Sewer Pipe, Stone Flue, Terra Cotta Thimbles, Mortar Colors and Stains, Water Proofing Mineral, Corrugated Metal Roofing, Asbestos and Composition Roofing.

Building Material

Locks, Hinges, Nails, Grates, Saws, Hatchets, Hammers, Door Hangers, Carpenter's Tools, Paint Brushes, Paints and Oils, Inside Decorations, Calsomines and Cold Water Paints.

Hardware, Paints Oils

WIRE FENCING, IRON AND WOOD POSTS

EVERYTHING FOR THE HOUSE

Booth & McLeod, Inc.

SUMTER,

SOUTH CAROLINA

BOSNIA RECOVERS SLOWLY FROM WAR EFFECTS

Sarajevo, Bosnia, Oct. 6.—Bosnia may be a long time recovering from the effects of the war. Factory production is almost at a standstill, railroad transport is irregular and uncertain, stores are bare of stocks, imports are much reduced, clothing and food are high in price and there is much idleness among the people. The crops this year, however, are abundant and there is sufficient food to meet all needs.

The German and Hungarian signs which formerly appeared above the store windows have given place to placards in Serbian, and Sarajevo has taken on quite the appearance of a Serbian town. The Serbian inhabitants are of course quite content with the Belgrade government, but the Germans, Austrians and Turks are not quite so happy. There is a disposition, however, to accept conditions as they are and to hope for a resumption of the commercial activity and advantages which the people enjoyed at the hands of the Austrians. The friends of the Serbs and Jugo-Slavs hope that with time the Serbian government will be able to match this prosperity and progress which the Austrians and Germans brought to the country.

Among the population America enjoys great prestige and respect. This is largely due to the timely help brought to the country by the American Red Cross and the United States Food Administration. Until the arrival of these relief agencies, Americans had never before appeared in Bosnia in any considerable number. The presence of officers of the Red Cross and the Food Administration has had a splendid moral and educational effect among the Bosnians. Much of the rancor and harsh feeling engendered by the war has been removed and through the work of these Americans the larger part of the people now look upon the United States as a friend, not as a foe.

Bolsheviki Weakening is Opinion of British Military Experts.

London, Oct. 15.—British military experts believe Russian Bolsheviki cannot withstand the onslaughts of their enemies longer than two months and that something definite is likely to happen in the Russian campaign by December 1.

It is pointed out that the Bolsheviki have employed German tactics in moving men from one front to another with more or less success but that recently each success has been a little less marked than the previous one and that it is reasonable to suppose that such tactics in the end must break down unless one enemy is completely subdued. When the Bolsheviki centered against Folchak some months ago and drove him back 700 miles, their southern front was left weak whereupon General Denikin started his advance which has resulted in clearing up south Russia.

The Bolsheviki have withdrawn many men from the Kolchak front, giving the admiral a chance to advance. In the meantime the western front has become a menace to Bolshevism. The British experts believe peace was broached to the Baltic states because the Bolsheviki realized they no longer could hold back their enemies on three sides and maintain the force in northern Russia also.

A New Largest Battleship.

Glasgow, Oct. 16.—A new "largest battleship in the world" will soon slip down the ways to establish new records in the annals of naval construction.

The ship, a battle cruiser, is the Hood. She will be launched in November, it is announced. Her builders say she is not only the largest in the British Navy, but the largest warship ever constructed. Not even the four super-dreadnaughts built for the United States Navy, ships of 42,000 tons approach the enormous bulk of the Hood, her normal displacement being 44,000 tons, and at full load, about 48,000.

Fitted with oil-fired boilers and geared turbines, which develop 144,000 shaft horse-power, the Hood is expected to show a speed of thirty-one knots in her trials. Her armament and anti-torpedo protection is so elaborate that she is said to be the nearest approach to the "non-sinkable" ideal which constructors have been endeavoring for years to attain.

Details of the Hood's gun power, it is claimed, will cause a sensation when made public.

RAILROAD CONFERENCE POSTPONED

No Hope of Immediate Settlement With Brotherhood Heads

Washington, Nov. 15.—Hope for an immediate settlement of the four great railroad brotherhoods demands vanished today. When further sessions of the conference between director General Hines and the Brotherhood heads were postponed indefinitely.

RACE TROUBLE IN DELAWARE

Negroes Kill One Policeman and Wound Another

Wilmington, Del., Nov. 14.—The sale of firearms here has been stopped and negroes have been warned to keep off the streets as the result of race trouble here last night, following the murder of a policeman and the probable fatally wounding of another by negroes. Fearing that enraged citizens might attempt to lynch the three negroes charged with the crime, the police rushed them from the city. The prisoners are brothers, and are now in Philadelphia.

PRINCE OF WALES AT WHITE SULPHUR

Needs Rest to Recover From Washington Reception

White Sulphur Springs, West Va., Nov. 15.—The Prince of Wales and suite have arrived here for a three day stay. He will remain incognito during his visit and will attempt to recuperate from the effect of his strenuous Washington reception.

THE BOLSHEVIKS LOSE HEAVILY

General Yudenitch Captures Twelve Thousand

Helsingfors, Nov. 15.—In the course of the recent offensive General Yudenitch's forces captured 12,000 Bolsheviki according to a northwestern army report. Six thousand casualties were suffered by the Bolsheviki.

MINERS STILL REMAIN IDLE

Waiting on Developments of Washington Meeting

Chicago, Nov. 14.—Only a light increase in the amount of soft coal produced throughout the country is in prospect today. The miners generally, have showed a disposition to await developments of the meeting in Washington of miners and operators to attempt to negotiate a new wage agreement.

BOLSHEVIKS ADMIT DEFEAT

Driven Out of Brest-Litovsk After Eight Days Fighting

London, Nov. 11.—The Bolsheviki have been overthrown in Brest-Litovsk, a Soviet wireless today from Moscow admits. After fighting the insurgents there for eight days, the dispatch says, the Bolsheviki withdrew.

FIUME BLOCKADE RAISED

Italian Government Formally Lifts Embargo

Copenhagen, Nov. 11.—Italy has officially raised the blockade of Fiume, according to advices from that city received through Austria.

San Francisco, Nov. 15.—Raids on the I. W. W. and other radical organizations, as a result of the Centralia shooting, were continued during last night up and down the Pacific Coast, resulting in the arrest of scores of prisoners.

HIGHER ADVERTISING RATES

Southern Publishers' Association Calls for Action. Newspapers Urged to Increase Rates at Once

New York, Nov. 14.—A resolution favoring an increase of 25 per cent in the rates on both foreign and local advertising in Southern newspapers was adopted here late today by the advertising committees of the Southern Newspaper Publishers' Association which met here to plan a \$10,000 campaign for exploiting the South. The increase in advertising rates was favored because of the shortage of white paper.

Arthur G. Newmeyer of New Orleans is chairman of the committee which also will meet tomorrow with the advertising committee of the Southern Council of the American Advertising Agents' Association to discuss the ways and means of spending \$1,000 monthly in the interest of the South, contributed by 102 newspapers of the association. Mr. Newmeyer succeeded Walter G. Bryan, formerly of Atlanta, but now of New York.

THE FUNERAL OF SENATOR MARTIN

Senate Takes Recess to Permit Members to Attend

Charlottesville, Nov. 14.—Committees representing the Senate and House are here today to attend the funeral this afternoon of Senator Martin. The Senate committee is headed by Lodge and Hitchcock, the House delegation by Cannon. The Senate recessed today to permit members to attend.

AIRPLANE EXPRESS

Giant Hadley-Page Making Trip to Chicago

Mineola, Nov. 14.—A giant Handley-Page plane, commanded by Vice Admiral Mark Kerr, left this morning on an attempted non-stop flight to Chicago. It carries 8 passengers and 15 hundred pounds of express for the American Railway Express Co.

TWO HUNDRED PUT IN JAIL

Government Is Making Clean Sweep of I. W. W.'s

Seattle, Wash., Nov. 14.—Nearly two hundred men suspected of being members of the Industrial Workers of the World are in jails in various cities and towns in the Pacific northwest today, as a result of raids growing out of the Armistice Day shooting at Centralia, Washington.

AID FOR YUDENITCH

Finns Decide to Assist in Capture of Petrograd

Helsingfors, Nov. 14.—The Baltic states conference at Dorpat is advised that Finland has decided to aid General Yudenitch with thirty thousand volunteers, in his new attempt to take Petrograd within the next few weeks. This development may seriously interfere with, and perhaps bring to an end efforts of the Baltic states delegates to reach an agreement with the Russian Bolsheviki.

PRINCE OF WALES COMING SOUTH

Will Spend Three Days at Winter Resort

Washington, Nov. 14.—The Prince of Wales leaves tonight, incognito, for a three day's stay at a Southern winter resort. His destination is unknown. He will make no further public appearance until he arrives in New York next Tuesday.

Morganton, West Va., Nov. 15.—Department of Justice agents have arrested twelve members of the Scotts Run Local of the I. W. W. They brought them here and placed them in jail.