

## EXCESSIVE PROFITS IN SHOE TRADE

SUCH IS THE FINDING IN REPORT OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.

BEGINS WITH PACKERS WHO ADVANCED HIDE PRICES

Department of Justice Agents Carrying Out Order of Attorney General To Hunt Down Profiteers and Hoarders and Prosecute Under the Food Control Act.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The high prices of shoes are due to excessive profits taken by every factor in their production is embodied in the report of the federal trade commission to congress. It is claimed that the packers began the "pyramiding" of shoe prices by an unwarranted increase in the price of hides.

Tanners, manufacturers and retailers followed suit.

Prosecutions May Follow  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The department of justice agents throughout the country are carrying out the attorney general's orders that profiteers and hoarders be traced down and prosecuted under the Lever food control act. The president will also address congress Friday to make recommendations for legislation designed to reduce living costs. A cabinet sub-committee has furnished him recommendations.

Drastic Method Suggested  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—Organized labor may, after a more thorough inquiry, advocate the firing squad for some of those responsible for the wave of profiteering sweeping over the country. Warren Stone, chief of the brotherhood of locomotive engineers, told the house interstate commerce committee today.

President Will Not Wait  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—President Wilson declined to accept the suggestion of Representative Mondell, Republican floor leader, that he postpone addressing congress until Tuesday. The president said that the situation is very acute and he felt it his duty to present his views immediately.

## GREAT BRITAIN IS AFTER PROFITEERS

LONDON, Aug. 6.—Great Britain purposes establishing a center authority to deal with profiteering. Sir Auckland Geddes announced today.

## ROUMANIANS MAKE SEVERE DEMANDS

PARIS, Aug. 6.—Messages to the peace conference say that the Roumanians have served an ultimatum on the Hungarian government making demands far in excess of the armistice terms and giving the Hungarians until 5 o'clock today to comply.

## THE WEATHER

PORTLAND, Aug. 6.—For Oregon: tonight fair and warmer except near the coast. Thursday, fair and warmer in the east portion. Gentle winds.

## ISLANDERS HONOR WOMAN

Hundredth Birthdays of Puget Sound Pioneer Celebrated

TACOMA, Wash., Aug. 6.—Yachon Island, in Puget Sound, is celebrating the hundredth birthday of its oldest citizen, Mrs. J. Jaynes. A group of people of the island will meet to celebrate the event and will have a round out to celebrate.

## 31 NEGROES INDICTED

25 Cases, Involving 30 Persons, to be Laid Before Chicago Grand Jury

CHICAGO, Aug. 6.—Twenty-five cases, involving 30 persons, black and white, alleged to have participated in the race rioting last week, on charge of murder and assault, were prepared Tuesday for presentation to a special grand jury Wednesday. Seven indictments, naming 14 negroes, including two women, were returned Tuesday.

Twelve indictments, naming 17 negroes, were voted Monday. The county commissioners Tuesday voted \$100,000 to the sheriff for pay of special deputies and other expenses incident to suppression of the riot spirit and \$50,000 to the state's attorney for use in his investigation. The 3000 state troops, as well as policemen and deputy sheriffs, continue on guard duty in the negro districts.

## FEWER THAN 100,000 TROOPS OVERSEAS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—General Pershing cabled the war department Tuesday that on July 31 a total of 98,497 troops were still overseas.

## DATE SET FOR PHONE HEARING

COMMISSION TAKES INITIATIVE IN THE INQUIRY.

Investigation of Advance Rates Made by Telephone Company on the Burlington Schedule.

SALEM, Aug. 6.—The public service commission of Oregon has set August 27 at Portland as the time and place for a hearing on telephone rates. The investigation is to be made on the commission's own motion, and is due to the sharp advance made by the company effective July 29th when the so-called Burlington schedule was imposed upon Oregon.

## EMIL MARTINS DEAD

Former Resident of Island City Passed Away at The Dalles.

Emil G. Martins, for many years a resident of Island City where he conducted a tanning establishment, died at his home in The Dalles, Sunday morning. The deceased was born in Germany, April 14, 1859 and was sixty-nine years old. A nephew, Adam Beck, who lives on a farm east of town, is among the surviving relatives.

## PACIFIC FLEET WILL REQUIRE BIG YARDS

Coming of New Naval Unit Means Increased Facilities on This Coast

SAN DIEGO, Aug. 6.—Facilities at all Pacific navy yards will have to be extended, and there is a strong probability that one or more additional navy yards will have to be provided to meet the needs of the new Pacific fleet, according to Rear Admiral John S. McCain, chief of the bureau of construction and repair, who is here from Washington with Rear Admiral C. W. Parks, chief of the bureau of yards and docks, and Commander James Hilton of the bureau of supplies and accounts.

These three officers make up a special board that will visit the various ports of the Pacific and later make recommendations to the navy department. Members of the board say that they will make a thorough investigation of every port on the Pacific and will then make their recommendations to Secretary Daniels on additions to the present navy yards and any new establishments that may be needed.

The three officers will remain here until the departure of the Pacific fleet next Saturday morning, when they will go to Los Angeles.

## BELIEVES STRIKE AVERTED

Federal Conciliator Hopes of Settling Bank at Wallace.

SPOKANE, Aug. 6.—Robert M. Wade, government representative, stated today at Wallace Monday that he does not think there will be a strike of the Coeur d'Alene miners. He lays stress on the demand of the miners for an eight-hour day from Monday to Friday. His position suggests that the owners may grant this.

## BIG SLUMP ON BOARD OF TRADE

CORN VALUES MAKE SUDDEN DROP OF THIRTY-TWO CENTS IN PAST FEW DAYS.

THREAT OF LOWER WHEAT ASSIGNED AS THE CAUSE

Grain and Provision Trade Appeared to Have Given Credence to the Reports That the Government Would Make Radical Cut in Price of Wheat to the Consumers.

CHICAGO, Aug. 6.—Efforts to anticipate the results of any quick switch in the United States government policy as to the disposal of the 1919 domestic crop of wheat knocked the bottom out of values yesterday on the board of trade. Downward plunges in the price of the chief trading commodity, corn, did not stop until the market was 32 cents a bushel lower than when the campaign against the high cost of living began a week ago.

It was not until there remained open only a single hour for business activity before the time set for a conference between President Wilson and Federal Wheat Director Julius Barnes that the grain and provision trade appeared to give serious credence to reports that have been circulating for days that the government would make a radical cut in the price of wheat to consumers. The most definite of these reports was that millers would get wheat from the government 50 cents a bushel cheaper than the government had guaranteed growers. This, it was said, would make flour less expensive than at present by \$2 a barrel.

## FALLING TIMBER INJURES TWO

OREGON CITY, Aug. 6.—Two men were injured yesterday morning near the Hawley Pulp & Paper company's plant by a falling timber used in the construction of the new fish ladder. C. Stutz, aged 54, and A. Lindsey, aged 17, were both struck on the head when the timber fell to the ground. Stutz suffered a bad scalp wound, and was considerably stunned for a length of time. Both men are under the care of Dr. C. M. Stickland, of this city.

## PACIFIC ACADEMY WAITS

Navy Department Not Yet Ready to Establish Coast School.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—Although establishment of a naval academy on the Pacific coast, especially for the training of officers for the new Pacific fleet, has been suggested to the navy department, Acting Secretary Roosevelt said today that no definite action would be taken until the recently enlarged facilities of the Annapolis academy had been thoroughly tried.

## MEXICO AND CUBA ON GOOD TERMS

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 6.—Attorney Manuel Garcia Jarro, who has long been in the Mexican diplomatic service, has been named minister to Guatemala. Diplomatic relations between Mexico and Cuba, interrupted nearly half a year, were formally resumed recently when Dr. Ezequiel Garcia Escobar, the new Cuban minister, was received by President Carranza and presented his credentials.

## PRES. WILSON NOMINATES PORTLAND MAN

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—President Wilson Tuesday nominated Alexander Swack of Portland, Ore., to be register of the land office at that city.

## ATTEMPTED RIOT IS SUPPRESSED

TRIESTE, Aug. 6.—A group of Bolsheviks appeared on the streets today and attempted to start rioting. The disturbers were dispersed by the police with the assistance of the population. Seven hundred of the Bolsheviks were put under arrest.

## WILL BE GUIDED BY HEAD MEN

## RAILROAD SHOPMEN IN THIS CITY WILL OBEY ORDERS.

Strike Sentiment Very Light, But the Men Will Stand By Their Organization.

With railroad shopmen in Everett, Washington, and Spokane out on a strike, the question is being asked on La Grande streets what will be the effect on the shops in this city. Thus far there is little strike sentiment among railroad men in La Grande. All appreciate the conditions, and like all other people, they are burdened with high prices and the hard task of living under present conditions, but the men in O.-W. shops seem inclined to wait until further developments.

An order from headquarters would cause a walkout in this city, it is believed, for the men are standing firmly by their organization. This does not mean however, that anyone is fomenting trouble in the La Grande shops, for such is not the case. The men are working regularly and await word from their headquarters before they take any action.

## ERZBERGER TO BE TARGET

BERLIN, Aug. 6.—A new attack on Mathias Erzberger, vice-premier and minister of finance, alleging that he violated the taxation laws and engaged in illicit trade is about to be launched, according to the Wolff bureau. The news agency declares that slanders against President Ebert, Philipp Scheidemann, former chancellor, and Herr Erzberger are being circulated "which are so base that no healthy mind can believe them."

## RAILROAD EMPLOYEES ARE A UNIT

ALL THE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE JOINED IN DEMAND FOR AN INCREASE OF WAGES.

TWO MILLION EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED IN DEMAND

First Instance on Record in Which All the Railroad Unions Act With One Accord—Communication to Director General Hines, a Formal Call For Increase Already Made.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—Representative of fourteen different railroad unions have now joined in a communication to Director General Hines asking an immediate increase of wages. This is the first instance on record in which all the unions, representing two million employes acted as a unit. Director Hines said that the communication seemed to be a formal presentation of wage demands already made public.

## MIKE HOWARD WILL NOT WRESTLE FREBERG NOW

Mike Howard, heavyweight wrestler who has been spending the spring and summer in La Grande, gave out the following regarding the challenge of John Freberg for a finish match to be held in this city within the next few days. "I will not accept the challenge of John Freberg to wrestle a finish match in La Grande, the match to be held within the next few days, for the reason that the time is too short for me to get in proper condition to meet a man of Freberg's ability. Freberg is one of the hardest heavyweights in America, and in order to do myself justice and give local followers a run the very best of condition, had Freberg allowed the time to properly condition myself, I would have talked business with him, but a hurry-up match with a high class wrestler, just for the sake of wrestling does not appeal to me. I have in view a contest for Labor Day with a mighty good wrestler, and that is receiving my attention at present." Howard is the wrestler who as Harold Christiansen, was challenged by Freberg yesterday.

## HOQUIAM LUMBER OUTPUT.

HOQUIAM, Wash., Aug. 6.—Figures compiled by the Grays Harbor county assessor show approximately a billion feet of lumber was the output of county mills last year.

## HAILEY GIRL INJURED BY A MOUNTAIN LION

HAILEY, Ida., Aug. 6.—Lella Barrell, 15, while herding cattle on outskirts of town, was Tuesday morning mauled by a mountain lion and after a struggle, in which the girl tried to choke the animal, she was found unconscious, her arms, back and chest badly lacerated. The lion jumped upon her back while she was in a sitting posture, tearing her clothing into shreds and a shoe which was torn from her foot could not be found. Citizens at once organized to hunt the lion, which has been seen in the vicinity of the town for a month. The girl will recover.

## MAKES LONG FLIGHT IN SOUTH AMERICA

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 6.—Lion Lozelli, an Italian aviator, who last week flew from Buenos Aires to Valparaiso, Tuesday made a non-stop flight from Santiago, Chile to this city. The time of the flight was seven hours and 10 minutes. Tuesday's air voyage completed the aviator's round trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific and over the Andes mountains.

## RAINFALL FOR PAST 5 YEARS

Lightest Precipitation Was in 1911 But About a Third Was in June and July—Record Reviewed

Eastern Oregon Experiment Station, Union, Aug. 5.—(Special to the Observer)—The rain fall last Sunday was the first this vicinity has had for 36 days and the heaviest it has had since May 25, according to the weather observations taken at the Experiment Station. Since April 1 there has been less than 1.5 inches of rain and the total precipitation which includes both rain and snow since January 1 amounts to but 4.5 inches.

There was less rain this year than last even through the rainfall of last year was below normal. From January 1 to August 1 last year the total precipitation was 6.5 inches while during the same period this year it was 4.4 inches. During July this year there was no rain while last year there was 1.6 inches. During June and July this year, the months when rain is needed, there was only 1.1 of an inch. Last year during the same months there was 1.63 inches and the average rainfall for the months of June and July during the years 1914, '15, and '16 was 2.81 inches.

The average annual precipitation in this section for the last five years is 13.85 inches. In 1918 it was 12.44 inches while up to this time this year there has been but 4.5 inches of rain and melted snow. If this year's precipitation is to equal the average of the last five years there must be more than nine inches in the remaining five months.

The banner year for precipitation during the last five years was in 1915 which had 18.6 inches. The lowest year was the year previous 1914, which had but 3.8 inches, however, during that year there was more than 3 inches of rain in June and July and consequently crops did not lack moisture as they have the present year which had but 1.1 of an inch of rain during those two crop growing months, June and July.

## FOOD PRICES RISE IN GREAT BRITAIN

Newspapers Are Devoting Much Space in a Demand That Profiteering Be Stopped.

LONDON, July 29.—(Associated Press Correspondence)—The food riots in Italy and agitations elsewhere on the continent are focusing attention on the continued increase in the prices of food and clothing in this country. Public feeling, judged by protesting letters to the press and the talk one hears in restaurants and private houses is mounting to the point of extreme indignation.

Newspapers are devoting much space to this subject and warning the government that unless it takes action to curb profiteering, trouble may be expected this winter. The government's recent announcement that its present modified food control would be continued at least through the winter does not appear to have appeased the public, and the demand is widely made for a return to the strict wartime regulations.

## FARMERS HOLD WHEAT

Idaho and Grain Growers Refuse to Market Product.

OGDEN, Aug. 6.—Farmers of the intermountain states are refusing to sell their wheat at the government guaranteed price and several mills in this district are now idle because of inability to get grain, according to authorized statements of Ogden grain exchange officials today. The following statement was issued: "Farmers in Utah and Idaho will not sell wheat excepting at a premium of 20 to 25 cents a bushel over the government basis. Several of the mills are idle for want of wheat, which the farmers will not turn loose excepting at the premium."

## PICKERT GOES UNDER KNIFE

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 6.—Dissecting surgeon C. H. Fickert, under the name of what his physicians say was a new operation for a growth on his spine, here today.

The illness has kept Fickert away from his office for three months.

## ACTION TO BEGIN ON "BIG FIVE"

ANTI-TRUST SUITS ARE TO COMMENCE AGAINST MEAT PACKERS.

PALMER SAYS EVIDENCE SHOWS CLEAR VIOLATION

Orders Have Gone Out to the Federal Prosecuting Attorneys Over the Country to Prosecute Immediately All Persons Who May be Guilty of Hoarding Food Supplies.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The department of justice is to institute anti-trust suits immediately against the five big meat packers. Attorney General Palmer said today that the evidence on hand "indicated a clear violation of the anti-trust laws."

The packing concerns which will be made the defendants in the suits include the Swift, Armour, Morris, Cudahy and Wilson companies. All federal district attorneys are ordered to prosecute immediately persons guilty of hoarding food stuffs.

## Campaign Is Planned to Advertise Opportunities of This State

A. W. Nelson, who is secretary of the association of Oregon Chamber of Commerce secretaries, is in receipt of a communication announcing a proposed extensive advertising campaign which will make known all the continent the business opportunities, the scenic beauties and the climatic advantages of the state of Oregon. The sum of from \$225,000 to \$240,000 is the figure at which the cost is tentatively placed. On September 1st there is to be a meeting of the secretaries and of the directors of the State Chamber, one of whom is Vincent Palmer, of this city. This meeting is to be held in Portland, and the plans for the campaign will then be thoroughly talked over and the details arranged.

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The same writer, discussing the "extortion on clothing," quotes the announcement made in the house of commons the other day that the high price of woolen garments is not due to short supplies of government clothes, and that the stocks of wool in this country are the greatest ever known. "If that is so," the writer comments, "why are all woolen goods so high priced, and why does a man's suit of clothes cost anything at all? An eight to sixteen guinea (\$40 to \$80) suit is the profiteering clothes."

The ministry of munitions official who made the announcement regarding wool said that the bulk of the responsibility for the high prices of woolen goods lay between the man who makes the cloth and the dealer. He said the government was considering action to prevent profiteering.

## The End of a Perfect Day

