

OCCUPATION HURT DUTCH

Ruhr Valley Situation Brought Stagnation to Commerce of Holland.

THE HAGUE, (AP)—It is only in the allied area of the Ruhr valley that the occupation has brought stagnation to commerce of Holland.

The result of the occupation has been a heavy reduction in business all over the country and a rise in the cost of living. The influence also is felt in the transport trade and the two principal ports of the country, which are far too big for their own requirements, have suffered considerably, as their primary function was catering to the industrial districts bordering on the Rhine.

This detrimental influence has extended also to the export trade of Dutch agricultural produce which has been interfered with by the interruption of trade routes through the occupied territory and the fluctuating exchange rate of Germany, Holland's largest buyer.

At the outset of the Ruhr occupation Dutch merchants attempted to allow business to slide along without stopping their production

FRENCH CRISIS NEARING BREAK

PARIS (By the Associated Press)

The ministerial crisis and the presidential crisis are considered open now as a result of the invitation sent Wednesday by President Millerand to Paul Painleve, president of the chamber, and Gaston Doumergue, president of the senate, to call on him Thursday morning for a consultation in regard to the formation of a ministry to succeed that of Raymond Poincare.

It is expected that the president of the chamber and senate will confer themselves to the suggestion that Edouard Herriot, leader of the radical party, is the logical man to form the new cabinet and that the presidential issue will come up only when M. Millerand, acting on their advice, will ask M. Herriot to come to the Elysee palace.

M. Herriot has thus far kept his own counsel regarding the answer he will make to the invitation to form a ministry.

The opposition which posed at the opening session of the chamber, took courage Wednesday afternoon when its candidate for the presidency of the chamber received 200 votes, although the opposition was admittedly not polling its full strength.

The chamber soon became united under its mild-mannered rule, the Socialists and Communists almost coming to blows. The president insisted on the majority idea, that the election meant France had decided to change her policies radically. He said the league of nations must be strengthened and the government must follow a more generous policy with immediate pardons for all political offenders.

MAN-KILLING TIGER SLAIN

CALCUTTA (AP)—Sportsmen all over India are greatly interested in the skin of a white tiger recently shot by the Maharaja of Sirgaja and which is now on display here.

Except for a few darker stripes, the pelt is almost pure white and measures nine feet eight inches from nose to tail tip. The white tiger is extremely rare, but few specimens ever having been secured, and this one is reported to have had a career of destruction that included three human victims and innumerable cattle.

According to reports from the district in which it was killed, the beast actually appeared to use its unusual coloration as an aid to hunting. It was continually mistaken for a deer or cow as it lay quietly among the herds waiting a chance to kill, and the natives assert that it mixed freely with the herds without exciting alarm.

These instances are related of the tiger having been seen lying quietly in the jungle and being mistaken by natives for a deer or cow as it lay quietly among the herds waiting a chance to kill, and the natives assert that it mixed freely with the herds without exciting alarm.

BRILLIANT LAD RESIDES NOW IN SPOKANE, WASH.

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)—Although only five years of age and having had but three months of schooling, James Hunter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Hunter of this city, reads like a third grade student, commits to memory in an hour's study several verses of the Bible, recites words and music of songs by reading them over a few times and besides has shown an aptitude in drawing and painting which are easily recognizable, his teacher declares.

The youngster's versatility was discovered by Miss Hazel S. Wilbur, first grade teacher at the Burns court school, which "Jimmy" has attended "officially" for the past three months. The age limit barring him from enrolling as a regular student.

SWEDEN TOURISTS SPEND \$1,000 ON AVERAGE CLAIM

STOCKHOLM (AP)—About \$5,000,000 was spent in Sweden last year by some 50,000 tourists, according to estimates compiled from data collected by the Swedish Traffic Association. It has been possible to estimate from the business done by hotels, steamship lines, railroads, the larger places of amusement, etc., that the number of foreign visitors in Sweden has risen from about 25,000 in 1920 to about 50,000 in 1923. Last year, according to the officials of the Tourist Traffic Association in Gothenburg, that the fair was attended by about 12,000 Americans, many of them emigrants from Sweden who had taken this opportunity to revisit the mother country.

The money brought into a country by tourist trade is usually spoken of vaguely as part of the "invisible trade balance," but experts in Sweden are now becoming interested in estimating these expenditures per capita. About T. Sogstrand, director of the Swedish Traffic Association, has compiled the average expenditure within Sweden by tourists as about \$100 for each person.

Hungary Has Fewest Births

BUDAPEST (AP)—While Germany, Poland and other countries vie with one another to ascertain which has the largest percentage in the birth rate, Hungary recently has taken her place at the foot of the list and registers the fewest.

AMERICAN LEGION

COMPENSATION NOTES

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (Special)

Ex-service officers who were discharged with a rank above that of a captain may have some adjusted service credit coming to them, under the new adjusted compensation law according to advisers received at national headquarters of the American Legion from Washington. During the time the officer served as captain or held a commission below that rank, he is entitled to adjusted service credit, his credit ceasing when he received the permanent or provisional promotion which placed him above the maximum rank. For instance, an officer holding a commission as captain when he joined the army, and who served in that grade for a period of five months before being promoted to major, will be entitled to five months adjusted service credit. The same holds true of the navy where an officer served for a length of time either as a lieutenant or some grade below lieutenant.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (Special)

The Harmon Foundation of New York City will give fifty playgrounds to growing American cities of three thousand or more population which show at least 20 per cent increase in population since 1908. A minimum of two acres, and a maximum of two thousand dollars will be given with each field. In furtherance of the distribution of the gift, the Harmon Foundation sent a telegram to the American Legion national committee meeting at Indianapolis inviting the legion, in cooperation with their Community Welfare and Betterment program, to cooperate with the foundation in determining the cities most in need of playgrounds. Legion national committees took the offer up with all posts in their departments with the recommendation that the posts, bring it to the attention of cities in their districts.

FEDERAL LAND BANKS AID TO FARMERS FUNDS

COLEMBIA, S. C. (AP)—A general upbuilding of the rural communities has resulted, and the farmer is being taught "to much needed lesson" in retaining his business through operation of the federal land bank in the Columbia district, according to J. L. Gulon, acting president of the bank.

Heretofore the farmer has tended to let obligations drift from year to year, but he now realizes that he is a member of a great cooperative association and that in his obligations to the association, Mr. Gulon said, "interest and amortization payments must be met promptly, as only in this way may he and his fellow farmers enjoy its advantages."

Amounts of loans in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida total \$72,482,747. Of this amount, Mr. Gulon said, loans have been cancelled with total principal and interest of \$16,321,120.

It is almost impossible to tell how many farmers have been able to buy farms since the federal land bank was established," the speaker continued. It has been more of a question of keeping the farmer on his feet rather than helping the farmer buy a farm.

The standard of living probably would drop in the average case, for one or more years while the farmer is paying for his farm and purchasing machinery, but would rise eventually to above the level of the tenant farmer," the acting president stated, discussing the standard of living of the landowning farmer.

Mr. Gulon expressed belief that while establishment of the bank has not decreased the number of farmers who mortgage their crops in advance to buy supplies, he thinks the bank has, through extension of credit to a community, been instrumental in effecting improvements which have increased the tax valuations of land, with resultant additional revenue for schools. Thus in a way, he said, better educational opportunities have been afforded farmers' children.

GIBBON IS IN NEED OF RAIN

GIBBON, (Special)—The crops of Gibbon need rain very badly. Weston potato men are planting potatoes this week.

Most of the plowing is over on the mountain. Mrs. John Pierce and children have been spending a week on their mountain ranch.

David Ross, who had his finger badly crushed by a bear on a Madison place, is getting along nicely. Picnic parties are enjoying Hingham Springs these days.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Parham spent the weekend with their cousin, Mrs. Bernice Radwin.

Bert and Tom Ross spent Sunday at Pendleton.

Work has begun on the road near Weston.

Nothing is really unless except a war record in a contest for a job.



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