

HOOVER FACES TASK OF FEEDING STARVING NATIONS OF EUROPE

Backed by \$100,000,000 Voted by Congress He Is Directing America's Part in the Work—Trusted Aids Make Personal Inspections of Food Situation in Poland, Serbia and Austria—Difficult Problems to Solve.

By LLOYD ALLEN,
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Paris.—Backed by \$100,000,000 voted by congress, Herbert Hoover is here directing America's big part in feeding the famine-threatened nations of Europe.

But it is not the policy of Mr. Hoover's commission to give food away to the peoples now so sorely pressed with reconstruction problems. They must pay—at once, whenever possible. When they cannot pay, they are to be given credit, with security that will insure America against total loss.

Any other policy would mean the pauperization of Europe, and Hoover has no intention whatever of conducting a commission that would quickly put the millions of Roumania, Poland, and Serbia, to say nothing of the enemy nations, into a mighty bread line.

With this fundamental policy as the basis of conducting a gigantic relief commission, Mr. Hoover first of all needed money and authority to start the machinery. He had come to Europe with \$5,000,000 apportioned from President Wilson's contingent funds to finance such immediate relief work as was found, upon investigation, to be absolutely necessary for the salvation of Europe's new democracies, the Czech-Slovaks, the Poles and Serbs, and also the Roumanians.

Congress Votes \$100,000,000.
When Hoover had had a chance to look around, he discovered that \$5,000,000 was just about enough to finance food shipments for one of these nations. He did not single out one nation, however, but ordered cargoes aggregating \$15,000,000 rushed from the United States at once.

He trusted the American people to provide the capital needed. And when he got the first news of the final passage of the \$100,000,000 appropriation in congress, an expression of relief came into his face that had not been there for weeks.

With a small staff, Mr. Hoover has headquarters in the Hotel de Crillon, in Paris, which has been turned into a combination office building and hotel for members of the American commission to negotiate peace.

Some of Mr. Hoover's most trusted aides are making personal inspections of the food situation in Poland, Serbia, and Austria.

Dr. Alonzo Taylor's report from Vienna is very interesting. He found the output of coal and agricultural products in Austria-Hungary seriously reduced during 1917 as the result of the war, and still further lowered during 1918.

Austria-Hungary Badly Crippled.
As a result of the war and the allied food blockade, the stocks of commodities

War Dead 17,500,000, Says British Paper

London.—A complete summary of the world war casualties compiled by the Manchester Guardian gives the total number of deaths at 17,500,000.

This number includes a mortality of 4,000,000 from pneumonia and influenza.

Allied losses are placed at 5,500,000, excluding a large number of French civilian dead.

Deaths suffered by the central powers are estimated at something over 2,900,000.

Italy's losses were 300,000 from disease in the war zone, or three-fifths as many as were killed in action. Four million Armenians, Syrians, Greeks and Jews were massacred by the Turks.

Serbian civilians to the number of 1,000,000 died through massacre, hunger or disease. Germans are held responsible for deaths of 7,500 neutrals.

FAMOUS YANK FLYERS



Capt. W. W. Shaffer (standing) and Lieutenant Tillman, son of the late Senator Tillman, in the observer's seat of a plane of the Ninetieth aerodivision, Seventy-ninth division, at Bethelville, France.

Poland, one of the new democracies, was suffering from lack of foods that could only be supplied from America.

Saved From Starvation.
Hoover sent Dr. Vernon Kellogg to investigate the situation. Kellogg reported "Poland must have immediate assistance from the outside world (which meant America) if the poorer inhabitants of the large cities and the unemployed workmen and children in the industrial centers were saved from starvation."

Under normal conditions, Poland is self-supporting, as regards food, but four and a half years of war had brought the nation to desperate straits. German looters stripped all machines of copper and belting. Scores of machines were wantonly destroyed. Tons of stuff were carried away by the Germans.

In all Poland, with its 4,000,000 people, the danger of starvation was a daily menace from December, when the peace conference started, until food from America arrived.

Take Security.
It is with such nations as Poland that Hoover has to deal. There was only one way to obtain some kind of compensation for American foods distributed. This "one way" entailed considerable risk when one thought in terms of millions of dollars. But millions—in the old war game were mere pawns in the gigantic enterprise of war. And in the first reconstruction days they had to be viewed from the same standpoint. The one just method, according to the Hoover policy, was to take some kind of security from the nations benefited by American supplies. Each nation had a different security. Roumania had oil fields which formed a basis of credit, if the world (America) sent food in time. The world needed oil, and Roumania needed food.

In Warsaw there was another kind of security; the woolen mills, which in peace times were among the finest in the world. Factories could not reopen, however, until the employees were fed. The population was weakened from hunger. "Feed the people; they in turn will feed the securities," was the Hoover policy. The first need has been met by a gift ship from America, but it is only a drop in the bucket.

Good for Three Weeks.
San Francisco.—Private Tim Murray for three weeks had nightly leave. He obtained a cow bell and each night moored contentedly as he tramped slowly away from camp in the darkness.

Probates Wrong Will.
Milwaukee, Wis.—Gustav Kleemann assured the court that he was very much alive after his will was probated. His wife's will should have been filed instead.

The Kidnaper

By MILDRED WHITE

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Peggy came down the terraced steps from her sister's bungalow and looked wistfully up and down the street. Here were the trees all crimson and gold, her long summer visit coming to a close, and this glorious afternoon free, with no amusement in store.

Peggy's wide eyes seemed not to find that for which they sought, she wandered aimlessly up the broad road. Near its top stood a great house behind a stone garden wall. Peggy had always admired this wall, the trees dropped over it so protectively, and there were glimpses of flower-bordered paths within.

Today, on the walk before the house, stood a baby carriage, and smiling enchantingly from beneath the carriage hood was a dimpling love of a baby.

"You darling!" Peggy responded to the smile, while the baby put forth a chubby hand with an evident invitation for its clasping.

"You friendly little thing!" Peggy exclaimed.

"Goo—" answered the baby. No attendant was in sight; probably the child's mother had left it while she stopped at the great house. Peggy decided to visit with the baby until her return.

Gratefully the little one put forth efforts to entertain. The girl's laugh rang out at its droll tricks—hide and seek with the tiny skirt of its dress, peek-a-boos between chubby fingers. But no mother was forthcoming.

Loath to leave the adorable little thing, Peggy made a trip of investigation up the flower-bordered path.

The baby's lusty cry at her desertion caused her to go farther and ring the front-door bell. To all appearances, upon this glorious October day the great house was vacated.

"Some careless nurse girl," Peggy indignantly reflected, "had forsaken the baby for her own pleasure. She must already have been gone some time. No wonder the tiny one had so gleefully welcomed her presence."

Peggy returned, to find baby's smile of greeting banishing the tears. She decided to push the carriage slowly down the stone walk until the one in charge should appear. But no one came.

Baby, indeed, seemed the only object of life in all the silent surroundings. Peggy continued to push the carriage. "Just as well to give the neglectful one a scare," she considered. And as she went on, new vistas of fall scenery invited.

She had never looked before from the hill to the valley. Baby cooed delightedly, while Peggy's thoughts went wool-gathering.

"This was the first day of her long stay in which the nice man had not passed her sister's home."

In her own thoughts—and strange to say, he was often in her thoughts—Peggy referred to him as the "nice man."

There was something so wholesome frank in the good-natured face, even in the man's swinging carriage. Peggy wondered dimly how it was that they had not become better acquainted. Her sister introduced them one day, in passing.

"Oh, that is Tom Price," she carelessly remarked.

If the married sister had guessed at the wild commotion the chance encounter with this same Tom Price had raised in Peggy's usually adamant heart, she might have been more explicit in her description.

In some inexplicable way, in the many places where Peggy had happened to be during the past changing year, this "nice man" had bobbed up, until recognition between the two became an astonishing fact. Peggy fancied him eager for a meeting; yet, after her sister's introduction, Tom Price passed on his contented way—with but a daily, distant bow. And now she must go home!

"Goo—" reminded the baby. Peggy glanced about in surprise; she had gone farther than she knew. Then suddenly, apparently "out of the nowhere into the here," a man's figure loomed up before her.

"How do you do?" said Tom Price. Peggy stared, then she laughed. "I might have known that it would be you," she said. "This is about the only corner where we had met."

The nice man's grin expressed satisfaction. "Couldn't be too often to suit me," he remarked pleasantly. "Where did you get the baby?"

"Oh!" she murmured; "I did not realize it, but I guess—I've kidnapped him."

"Severe penalty for that," said Tom Price, and his eyes twinkled. "It is really serious," Peggy protested. "I have been most thoughtless. Perhaps some distracted mother is now wringing her hands over his absence. He was so captivating, you see, I just kept pushing him on from before the big stone house, where I found him."

"The house is at the top of the hill I must get him back directly," he breathed, she swung the carriage about. The nice man took hold of the handle.

"Let me help you," he suggested; "if the police are on your trail, I may be able to help you out. I'm pretty well known around here."

Silently Peggy accepted his aid. The baby laughing into their faces, they made their way back down the road.

Horticultural News

PROFITS IN PEACH GROWING

Demonstrations Supervised by County Agents in Eastern Maryland Show Possibilities.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

As a result of a number of orchard demonstrations supervised by county agents in the eastern part of Maryland peach growing is receiving considerable attention by farmers in that locality. During the past growing season nine orchard demonstrations were conducted by county agents in Talbot, Caroline and Worcester counties. The total cost of operating these orchards



Peach Tree After Its First Year's Growth in Orchard.

for the year amounted to \$1,845.00. They produced 26,323 baskets of peaches yielding a net profit of \$30,576.36. From one Talbot county orchard \$12,740.75 worth of peaches were sold, the profit over cost of production and marketing amounting to \$9,732.08.

SPRAYING IS NOW NECESSARY

Whether Fruit Is Raised for Home Use or for Market Spraying Will Insure Best Results.

There may have been a time when fruit could be successfully grown without spraying. There was little commercial demand for fruit years ago. Farmers' orchards were planted exclusively for home use and if much of the fruit was wormy and fell from the trees for the hogs there was little complaint.

But these days the farmer himself expects good fruit and he is not satisfied with fruit of an inferior quality. Furthermore, he wants to sell the surplus, for there is a demand for it.

That spraying is now a necessity for successful fruit growing no well informed orchardist will question. Whether fruits are raised for home use only or for market spraying will be insurance for best results in orcharding.

Preparations should be made early for winter spraying. The spores of disease may be destroyed when the trees are dormant by using strong, concentrated sprays. In this way the danger of diseases may be considerably reduced.

Among the fruit tree diseases with which peach growers had to contend this year was peach tree leaf curl. This disease was more common than general this year and a special effort should be made to control it next year. It is not very hard to control provided spraying be done in time.

The solution best suited for dormant spraying is lime-sulphur. A strong solution can be used in winter and there are many more chances of destroying the spores of the diseases.

SPRAY GUN FOR AN ORCHARD

Short, Pipeline Contrivance to Be Used in Connection With Power Pump Is Latest.

One of the latest developments in spraying apparatus is what is known as the spray gun, a short, pipeline contrivance to be used in connection with a power-driven pump. It will throw a fine spray into the tops of the trees and the operator can stand on the ground. It is claimed to be more effective than the long-pole method. It operates under a pressure of 175 pounds but uses no more spray material than the usual outfit. While it may not be applicable to all conditions, orchardists who have adopted it find it has many advantages.

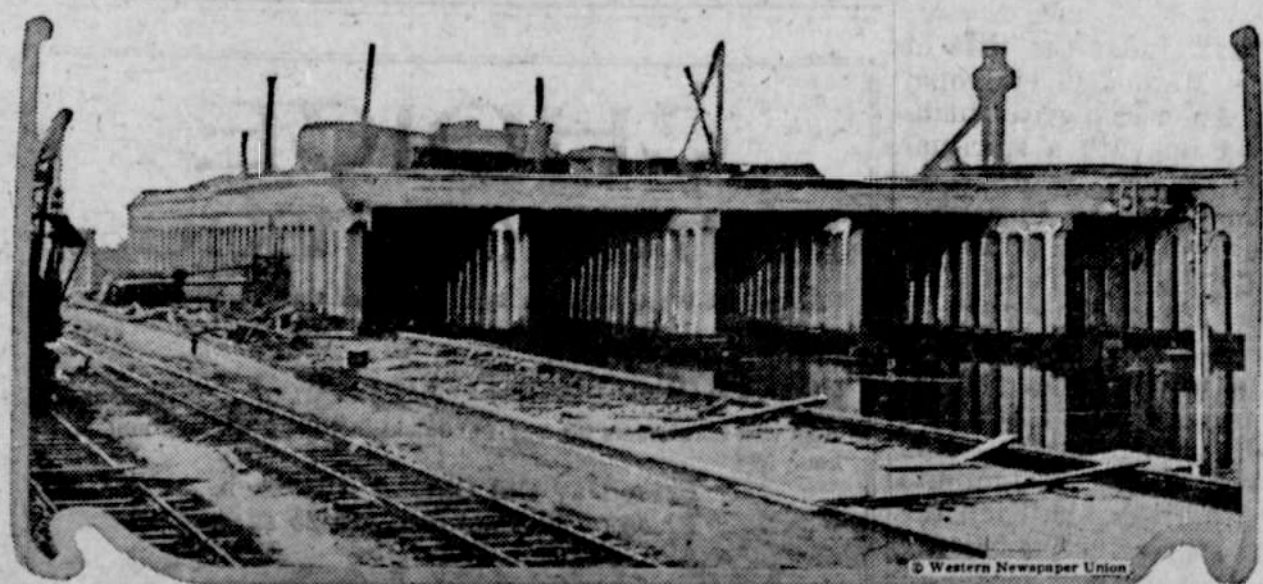
VOLUNTARY FRUIT REPORTS

Fourteen Thousand Included in Special Lists of Correspondents of Government.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Approximately 10,000 voluntary apple reporters and 4,000 peach reporters are included in the special lists of correspondents reporting in the fruit crop service of the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture. The total crops included in this work had a value in 1917 of \$274,143,006.

U-BOAT SHELTERS AT THE DOCKS OF BRUGES



German U-boat shelters built of concrete and steel, with roofs of enormous thickness for protection against allied airmen, at the docks of Bruges.