

EXPORTS FOR YEAR RUN INTO BILLIONS

Secretary of Commerce Figures Total at \$2,750,000,000.

GREAT BRITAIN IS LARGEST PURCHASER

March Breadstuffs Trade \$59,000,000; March, 1914, \$8,000,000; Total Since Beginning of Great World War, \$418,000,000

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Redfield laid before President Wilson at the cabinet meeting Saturday his estimates that American exports for the current fiscal year will reach \$2,750,000,000. The secretary took to the cabinet meeting tables showing that exports of breadstuffs from the United States last month amounted to \$59,000,000 worth, as compared to \$8,000,000 in March, 1914.

Breadstuffs exported from the United States since the outbreak of the war have totaled \$418,000,000.

Half of all exports from the United States during the eight months ended February 28 went to British territory, as against 45 per cent a year ago in the same period, an analysis by the department of Commerce shows.

French territory ranks second for American products markets, having displaced Germany from that position. Exports to other nations, including their dependencies, were in the following order: Italy, Holland, Denmark, Cuba, Sweden, Germany, Japan, Norway, Spain, Mexico, Russia, Brazil, Argentina, Belgium, Panama, China, Chile, Switzerland and Turkey.

Of the \$811,289,000 worth of merchandise exported to British territory, \$537,000,000 went to Great Britain and Ireland, \$197,000,000 to Canada, \$32,500,000 to Australia and New Zealand, \$9,000,000 to British East Indies and \$5,750,000 to Hong Kong. Exports to British territory increased \$55,283,000 during the period.

Exports to French territory were \$188,094,000, an increase of \$63,113,000; to Italian territory \$115,278,000, an increase of \$62,491,000; to Dutch territory \$81,007,000, an increase of \$2,381,000; to Danish territory \$52,089,000, an increase of \$40,790,000; to Cuba \$48,462,000, an increase of \$321,000; to Sweden \$47,593,000, an increase of \$38,039,000; to German territory \$28,768,000, a decrease of \$233,951,000; to Japanese territory \$28,021,000, a decrease of \$14,378,000; to Norway \$27,491,000, an increase of \$21,319,000.

All other countries showed decreases except Switzerland, whose imports from the United States were \$1,529,000, an increase of \$980,000.

Laborers Warned To Avoid Rush to Alaska, as Supply is Quite Adequate

Washington, D. C.—Further warning against a rush to Alaska, on account of the early construction of the Seward-Fairbanks railroad, is contained in a letter addressed to Senator Jones by Chairman Edes, in which the chairman says:

"I learn from the papers that there is likely to be quite a stampede of laboring men to Alaska, seeking work on the new government railroad. We feel that this should be prevented as much as possible. Our operations there this summer will only require a few hundred men, and we are informed that there is quite a supply there already.

"The lure of a new country and the prospect of somewhat higher wages always attracts a lot of people. It would be a great detriment to Alaska and would also damage our prospects of getting labor in the future if a lot of men should go there this year and, not finding work, should be stranded without means to get away. Not finding work on the railroad a poor man would hardly know which way to turn.

"Can you kindly use your influence, through your commercial bodies and otherwise, to prevent this condition of affairs?"

Hours for Drinking May Be Cut.

London—The British government does not intend to have recourse to prohibition in dealing with the drink question. This is inferred from Premier Asquith's statement in the house of commons, when he said Wednesday or Thursday next the chancellor of the exchequer, David Lloyd George, would bring forward proposals for "dealing with the limiting of drinking." The prime minister's remark was generally interpreted as meaning that the hours during which drink would be obtainable would be considerably curtailed.

Prize Crosses North Sea.

London—"According to Berlin evening newspapers," says Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent, telegraphing Thursday, "a German submarine stopped the British steam trawler Glencorse off Aberdeen and took it into a German port on the North Sea." Aberdeen, Scotland, is some 450 miles across the North Sea from the nearest point on the German coast line. The Germans have captured and taken into Hamburg the Norwegian steamer Brilliant, which left Fredrickstad, Norway, April 16, for London.

WILSON ANSWERS GERMAN PROTEST

Un-neutrality of Embargo Is Re-asserted by Chief Executive.

NO RIGHT SURRENDERED BELLIGERENTS

Reply Assumes Von Bernstorff To Be Laboring Under "Certain False Impressions"—President Pens Note and Bryan Signs It.

Washington, D. C.—The United States government replied Thursday to the recent memorandum in which Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, declared that "if the American people desire to observe true neutrality, they will find means to stop the exclusive importation of arms to one side, or at least to use this export trade as a means to uphold the legitimate trade with Germany, especially the trade in foodstuffs."

The American note, which is signed by Secretary Bryan, was drafted at the State department, but was finally penned by President Wilson himself.

After pointing out that the language used by Count von Bernstorff is susceptible of being construed as impugning the good faith of the United States in the performance of its duties as a neutral, the note "takes it for granted that no such implication was intended" and suggests that evidently the German ambassador "is laboring under certain false impressions."

It is then declared that while the relations of the United States with any one of the belligerents "cannot wisely be made a subject of discussion with a third government," such correspondence between the United States and the allies as has been published shows "the steadfast refusal" of the government "to acknowledge the right of any belligerent to alter the accepted rules of war at sea insofar as they affect the rights and interests of neutrals."

The attitude of the United States on the question of exportations of arms is restated—namely, that to place any embargo on arms during the progress of a war would be "a direct violation of the neutrality of the United States." The note refers to the spirit of friendship which the United States desires always to manifest toward Germany and its people, and concludes with the declaration that the neutrality of the United States is founded upon the firm basis of conscience and good will.

Profits to Railroads in Grain Are Claimed by Farmers' To Be Great

Chicago—Statistics of operating expense and freight revenue on four leading Western railroads were presented before W. M. Daniels, Interstate Commerce commissioner, to support the objections of the National Council Farmers' Co-operative association to a proposed advance of 1 cent a hundred pounds in the grain and grain product freight rates, which are among the increases asked by 41 Western railroad systems on certain commodities.

The tabulated figures were compiled by Jean Paul Muller, an expert rate case statistician, formerly connected with the statistical department of the Interstate commission.

After reviewing in detail the methods he used in assembling the figures showing gross profit and operating expenses of railroads, Mr. Muller said:

"It is my opinion that grain traffic is more profitable to these four carriers, the Rock Island, the Santa Fe, the Burlington and the St. Paul roads, than the average of all other traffic carried by them."

His deductions were made from reports and statistics furnished him by the railroad officials.

In the review of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific operating expenses and revenue, Mr. Muller declared:

"The total road cost divided by the reported number of loaded freight car miles, with an allowance for the cost of empty return haul—figured at 40 per cent of the loaded—gives a road movement cost per loaded car per mile of 69.28 cents.

Apples To Be Released.

London—American shippers are complaining vigorously to the American embassy because they are compelled under the regulations of the British to bear the expense incident to delays in the examination of cargoes of ships detained at Kirkwall and other British ports. Charges for loading and unloading cargoes and expenses incurred in the examination of suspected goods are assessed against the owners of the cargoes. The procurator general gave assurances that efforts would be made to hasten release of American apples.

Pilgrim Shelter Saved.

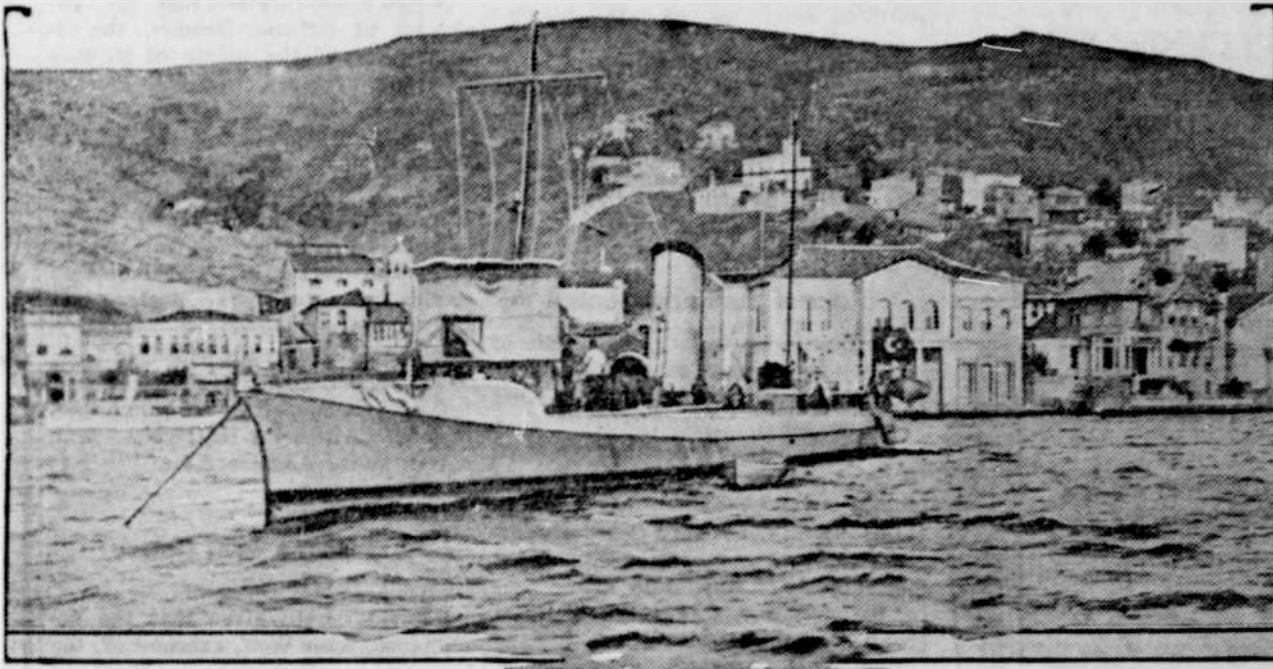
Plymouth, Mass.—The old Howland House, the only building standing in America which has sheltered passengers who arrived on the Mayflower in 1620, will not be sold for debt. This was announced by Mrs. Lillian V. Titus, secretary of the society of the Descendants of Pilgrim John Howland of the Mayflower, who said that judgment on a note against the society had been satisfied.

KAISER IN ONE OF HIS RUINED CITIES

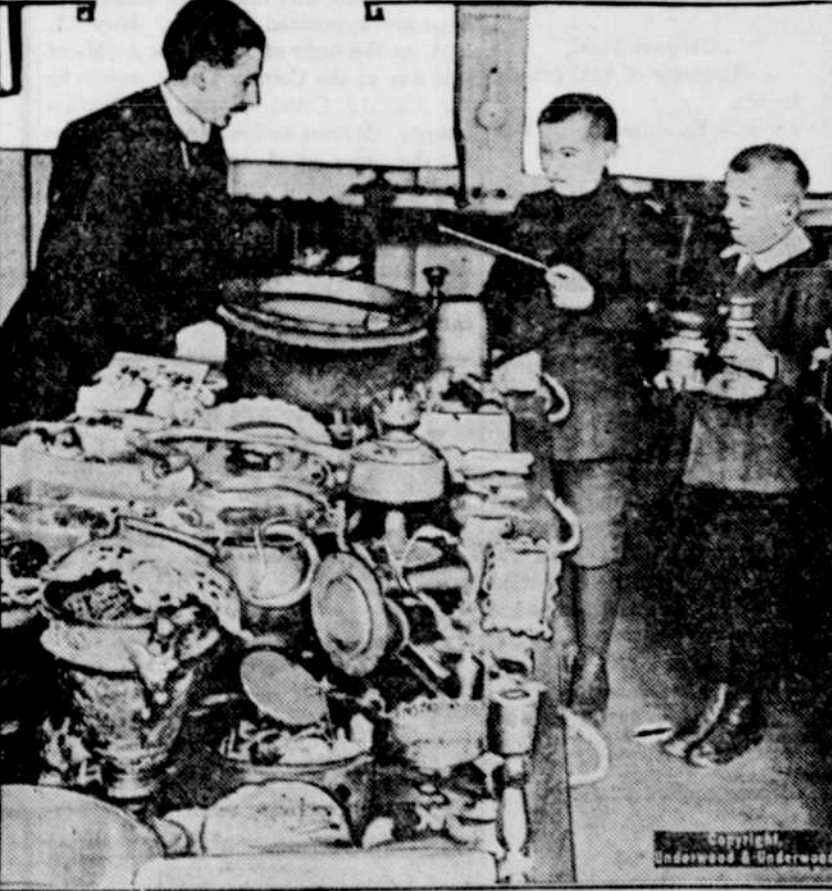


Emperor William passing through the ruined streets of Lyck, East Prussia, just after his troops had driven the Russians from the city. He is seen in front of his automobile. At the left is a photograph of the kaiser as he appeared when last visiting the eastern war zone.

TURKISH TORPEDO BOAT IN THE BLACK SEA

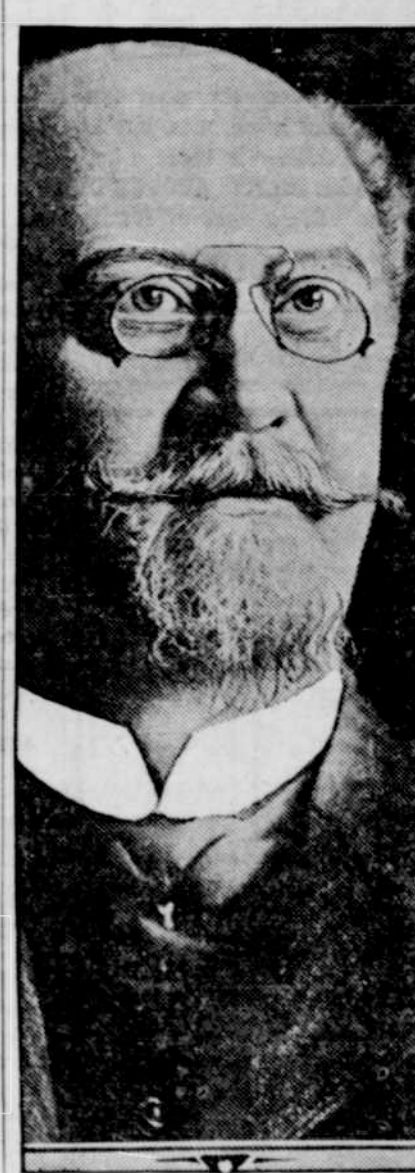


GERMANS GIVE UP HOUSEHOLD COPPER



Owing to the shortage of copper in Germany the school teachers have been instructed to tell their pupils to bring all the copper articles they have at home to school. The picture shows the result of one day's collection in one school.

GERMAN WHO DEMANDS PEACE



Philipp Scheidemann, a prominent Socialist member of the German reichstag, has joined with a number of his fellows in demanding that the government take steps to end the war at once. He protested vehemently against the suppression of Socialist writings and speeches.

Regulating the Watch.

If one has an opportunity to compare his watch daily at a certain time with some source of standard time, as with the time as sent by telegraph or by wireless signals, or by regular comparison with some accurate clock, as one daily passes a jeweler's store, for instance, it would be well to establish the habit of winding the watch at that time, as it is better to have such daily comparisons at the time the watch is wound, and more regular winding will usually ensue.

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AT SOFIA



The world has been watching with great interest for Bulgaria's decision whether or not to enter the European war. This is the parliament building at the capital of that nation.

BRAZIL SNAKE FARM

There Reptiles Are Domiciled in Concrete Houses.

Immediate Object Is the Production of Serum Antidote for Bites—Cement Bath a Feature of the Institution.

It was recently learned that at the national cement show held in Chicago sanitary cement bathtubs were shown—these bathtubs being constructed exclusively for the use of pigs. New information along similar lines has reached America. The government of Brazil maintains at Sao Paulo a snake farm where reptiles are provided with concrete houses.

The snake farm serves the double purpose of providing a supply of material for the production of serum antidote for snake bites and for educating the public to the fact that all snakes are not venomous. A concrete



wall high enough to keep the snakes from crawling out surrounds the farm but it is low enough to allow visitors a chance to see over.

It is by this means that this educational work is carried on. Familiarity breeds contempt there as elsewhere. If you see a snake that you have believed to be a dangerous enemy playing with its master each day you gradually alter your opinion of it. At any rate that is what has happened and is happening there.

Inside the wall is a water-filled trench, also lined with concrete, while cement walks connect the snake houses. At night the snakes are herded into these double-shaped structures and the doors are closed. In the morning an attendant wakes up the reptiles by prodding them with a stick through a hole in the door, after which the doors are removed and the snakes come out for their morning bath in the trench.

Suffrage Gardens.

Women are offering gold for votes—golden flowers for votes for women. Suffragists plan to make the country bloom with yellow, the suffrage color, just as a reminder that this is the greatest suffrage campaign year in the history of the movement.

The "suffrage garden" idea originated with a Pennsylvania woman who had no money to give to the cause, and gave instead a golden idea.

The Woman Suffrage association of Pennsylvania has arranged to give packages of seeds containing six different kinds of flower seeds to be distributed among suffragists the country over. Flowers that will bloom successively from spring until fall have been selected by the Pennsylvania women for the floral suffrage maps they hope to see blooming next summer in the garden or the window box of every loyal suffragist.

Spook in Pennsylvania Town.

Several months ago a man was killed at the railroad station at Radnor, Pa. Since his death a number of people living in that section declare they have seen his ghost, which flits out of dark corners, stares at them with sorrowful eyes and then passes on, moaning as it goes. A woman reported that the ghost disappeared at her door, and as she stood paralyzed with fear it suddenly vanished. So many tales of the wraith's pranks were told that the police undertook an investigation to ascertain the real nature of the spooky demonstrations, but at last accounts they had learned nothing.

New Nature Story.

Hiram Johnson, a farmer living near Waterville, N. Y., tells a beautiful tale of how he utilizes the digging propensities of three woodchucks which he captured. He says he has trained them to dig straight postholes any depth and size required. He explains that he ties a cord to one of the animal's hind legs, indicates where the hole is to be dug, and when it is sufficiently deep he pulls the cord. The woodchuck then scrambles up for his reward of dried alfalfa.

Pushing the Business.

Mr. Speedup—This is the fifth time you've been fined for speeding through Sistersville. Why don't you keep away from there?

His Wife—The dear old Justice of the peace out there gives trading stamps.—Puck.