



COMMISSION HEARS OF BUSINESS ILLS

Federal Board Asked to Give Suggestions

LUMBER TRADE HURT MOST

Witnesses Blame Speculation and Over-Production.

FRUIT MEN WANT COMBINE

Importance of Timber Industry to Others of Pacific Northwest Related, but Representatives of Each Explain Depression.

Business in the Pacific Northwest is bad—that was freely and frankly and almost unanimously admitted before the Federal Trade Commissioners yesterday.

But what caused it to be bad, and how to improve it, were elements in the situation that brought forth many conflicting theories.

All witnesses were agreed, however, that the commission can be and should be of material assistance in bringing about the improvement.

There was universal agreement, too, on the proposition that the lumber industry is the backbone of business in the Pacific Northwest, and that the lumber industry, more than any other, is experiencing distressing demoralization.

Lumber Situation Has Stage Center. Most attention was given to the lumber situation in the hearing that occupied the attention of the commission for four hours yesterday morning.

War Blamed for Condition. The various elements that have contributed to the present stagnation of the lumber industry were presented for the commission's review.

Shingle Men Deplore Tariff. The commission also received some written testimony in addition to the oral evidence, and some of these documents emphasized the tariff as the probable cause of depression in some branches of the lumber industry.

Fruit Men Also Ask Combine. The fruit men, as well as the lumber men, appealed to the Federal officials for permission to combine, under the commission's direction, for the purpose of exploiting their wares in foreign trade centers.

Young Turks Scorn Chief. Whatever other financial and commercial ills are present in the Pacific Northwest, he said, are due largely to the depression in the lumber market.

Britain Arouses Sweden. Embargo on Coal Purchased for Navy Causes Public Feeling.

STOCKHOLM, via London, Aug. 13.—The British government has refused to permit two shiploads of coal purchased by a Swedish firm for the Swedish navy to leave England.

STOCKHOLM, via London, Aug. 13.—The incident has brought forth much bitter comment from the Swedish press and is absorbing the attention of the public.

GERMAN CONFIRMS ATTACK ON ORDUNA

VESSEL MISSED BY TORPEDO BECAUSE OF MISCALCULATION.

Submarine Commander Says in Report When Warning Was Disregarded Vessel Was Shelled.

BY KARL H. VON WIEGAND. (Special correspondent of the New York World. Copyright, 1915, by the Press Publishing Company. Published by arrangement.)

BERLIN, Aug. 7.—The Ministry of Marine informs me that an official report has been received from the commander of the submarine that recently attacked the Cunard liner Orduna.

The commander of the submarine says that he saw the Orduna through his periscope and took the liner for an English steamship of about 6000 tons. He fired a torpedo but miscalculated the size and speed of the Orduna, and the shot failed to strike.

The Minister of Marine tells me that he has not yet received a report about the sinking of the Iberian, on which two Americans lost their lives.

234,771 PLAY IN PARKS

Popularity of Grounds and Tanks for Children Shown by Figures.

The popularity of Portland's playgrounds and swimming tanks is shown in a report prepared by the park bureau, giving \$24,771 as the total attendance in all playgrounds during June and July of this year.

Swimming also was popular, the figures showing better than a 300 per cent increase in swimmers in the public swimming places in July over June.

WEED BILL LAWS PASSED

Cutting Assessments Made Against Property as Liens.

Ordinances assessing against property owners a total of \$1218 for weed cutting done a year ago were passed by the Council yesterday by a unanimous vote.

Navy Swindle Charged

Clerk Accused of Taking Pay for Transfer of Enlisted Men.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—George D. Will, a clerk in the bureau of navigation of the Navy Department, was arrested today on a warrant charging conspiracy in that he was concerned in a scheme to obtain sums of money from enlisted men of the Navy for transfers.

Young Turks Scorn Chief

Decision on War Minister's Plea for Break With Italy Postponed.

ROME, via Paris, Aug. 13.—Reports have been received from Constantinople that the Young Turks held a meeting at which Enver Pasha, the Turkish Minister of War, argued the necessity for breaking relations with Italy and thus freeing Turkey from the "leading spy," namely, the Italian Ambassador, and simultaneously adopting severe measures against the Italians.

Britain Arouses Sweden

Embargo on Coal Purchased for Navy Causes Public Feeling.

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APPEAL TO MEXICO ON WAY TO LEADERS

Document Sent in English to Capital.

FRIENDLY EFFORTS CONTINUE

Washington Hopes to Win Over Carranza Generals.

SCOTT STAYS ON BORDER

Chief of Staff of Army Expected to Do Important Missionary Work.

Misgivings of Argentine Ambassador Are Allayed.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The Pan-American appeal to all elements in Mexico to cease fighting and join in a movement to restore constitutional government began to go forward from the State Department tonight.

First, the document was directed in English to Mexico City, dispatched to the various Latin-American legations, whose attaches will translate it into Spanish and deliver it to the military leaders in that vicinity.

Carranza's Defiance Expected.

With the appeal dispatched, the United States Government will institute a friendly and persistent effort to induce Mexican leaders who thus far have shown a disposition to oppose the movement to sacrifice their personal views in the common Mexican interest.

Scott's Influence Powerful.

In this connection, it has been reported that General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the Army, who is remaining at the border at the request of the State Department, is expected to perform important missionary work.

Absolutely no resistance to the plan is expected from any source other than from General Carranza, and in some quarters here the feeling is growing that even Carranza himself would respond favorably to the appeal.

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INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 78 degrees; minimum, 65 degrees. TODAY'S—Saturday fair; northwesterly winds.

War. Bulgarian Minister denies his country is trying to drive bargain. Page 2. Return to ancient methods of warfare feature of European struggle. Page 2. German submarine commander confirms attack on Orduna. Page 1.

Mexico. San Domingo scandal causes Latin-American distrust United States in Mexico negotiations. Page 3. Appeal to Mexican leaders dispatched from Washington. Page 1.

Domestic. Thousands invited to Benson day at Exposition. Page 3. Wheat slump due to move by Italy. Page 1. Pacific Mail sells five big liners. Page 1.

Sports. Willamette River Marathon to take place this afternoon with nearly 100 entries. Page 4. Peace football League results: Portland 4, Vernon 5; San Francisco 6, Salt Lake 3; Yankees beat Athletics 3 to 2 in exciting 12-inning game. Page 4. Portland tennis players out of running in Seattle tourney. Page 4.

Commercial and Marine. British tramp, Lady Carrington, chartered for September grain loading. Page 12. More wheat offered with decline in bids. Page 12. Interstate Commerce decision causes selling pressure in wheat market. Page 12.

Pacific Northwest. Copperfield is left in ruins by fire. Page 7. S. H. Friendly, University of Oregon Regent for 24 years, dies at Eugene. Page 7. Governor Withcomb announces speakers for water power conference. Page 4.

Portland and Vicinity. Federal Trade Commission hears business ills related. Page 1. Peace effort refused as Dodge timber suit goes to judge. Page 13. City kindergarten will be put to vote September 1. Page 13. Expert to handle problem of idle is urged. Page 13. Testimony in cashier trial completed. Page 13. Judge Gatens frees Emma Goldman and manager. Page 6.

Weather report, date and forecast. Page 15. Fight over recall election of Wheeler county District Attorney is aired. Page 11.

GIRL LOST LIFE IN CREEK

Sapling Thrown by Companion Saves One in Swimming.

ESTACADA, Or., Aug. 13.—(Special.)—Presumably in an attempt to rescue one of her two companions from drowning, Miss Ruth Githens, 16, a popular student of the Estacada High School, lost her life in Eagle Creek near here late today.

A sapling thrown by Miss Gladys Carpenter was clutched in a death grip by Miss Nina Taylor, who first ventured beyond her depth into about eight feet of water. With aid summoned by Miss Carpenter, Miss Taylor soon was recovered, but Miss Githens' body was not recovered for some time. Miss Githens was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Githens, of this city.

EASTLAND NEARLY RAISED

Federal Engineers to Examine Vessel's Interior at Dawn Today.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—When the work of raising the steamer Eastland, which capsized in the Chicago River July 24 and drowned nearly 1900 persons, was stopped by darkness tonight, United States District Attorney Cline announced that the vessel had been raised 73 per cent of the distance necessary to right her.

At dawn tomorrow a corps of engineers selected by the Federal authorities will begin the examination of the Eastland's interior. They will be summoned subsequently before the Federal grand jury to report their findings.

PACIFIC MAIL SELLS FIVE BIG VESSELS

Steamers to Go to Atlantic Coast

FLAG NOT YET DETERMINED

Manchuria, Mongolia, Siberia, Korea, China Transferred.

SEAMEN'S LAW IS CAUSE

Chief Objection Is to Clause Requiring Crew to Speak Language of Officers—But Others Contribute to Result.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—The Pacific Mail Steamship Company, in pursuance of its plan announced some time ago of disposing of its fleet and other property, has sold five of its steamers to the Atlantic Transport Company of West Virginia.

The steamers so disposed of are the Manchuria, Mongolia, Korea, Siberia and China. No terms were mentioned in the announcement today, and the officials declined to discuss the subject at the official ports under the Pacific Mail flag, will be on August 15 by the Mongolian.

Official Announcement Made. The official announcement of the sale was:

"The Pacific Mail Steamship Company announces the sale of five ships of its Trans-Pacific Fleet—namely, Manchuria, Mongolia, Korea, Siberia and China—to the Atlantic Transport Company of West Virginia. The last sailing from San Francisco by any of these vessels to Oriental ports on account of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company will be the steamship Mongolia, on August 15, 1915."

Some months ago the Pacific Mail Steamship Company indicated that it would withdraw its steamers from the Trans-Pacific service and possibly dispose of them because of the new seamen's law, passed by the last session of Congress, the terms of which, it is asserted, made it impossible for the Pacific Mail to compete with the Japanese lines.

Onerous Clause Force Decision. Many of the members of the crews chiefly in the first rooms, consisted of Chinese and Japanese coolie labor, and under the new law the Pacific Mail would have to replace them with men speaking the same language as the officers of the ship.

The vessels sold are the largest and best in the Pacific Mail service. Philip A. S. Franklin, receiver of the International Mercantile Marine Company, of which the Atlantic Transport Company of West Virginia is a subsidiary, is in charge of the sale.

Friday's War Moves

FIELD Marshal von Hindenburg personally has taken command of the German army attacking Kovno, and, according to the German official report, has made further progress in the fighting against the Russians in that region.

The selection of Germany's national hero for the duty of capturing the city of Kovno, which stands between Petrograd and Vienna and is an indication of the importance which the German staff attaches to this operation.

News that the civilians had begun to evacuate Kovno as well as Vilna led to the belief in many quarters that the Russians may have decided to give up the position, but in the latest report from Petrograd it is asserted the Russians have repulsed the German attacks except at one point, where a desperate artillery engagement is in progress.

Further north, between Ponevesch and Dvinsk, where General von Beselov a week ago was advancing rapidly toward the railway, the Germans apparently have suffered a setback, for the Russians now speak of pressing them and declare they have recaptured the town of Tovny, which is considerably west of the point to which the Germans had penetrated.

South of Riga also the Germans are said to be doing little more than holding their own, so that the talk of advance toward Petrograd seems to be developing slowly, if at all.

On the other hand, the Germans continue to drive in the Russians to the northeast and east of Warsaw, and with the capture of Siedlce are within a short distance of the Bug River, one of the main supports of the Brest-Litovsk line.

Military critics disagree as to the probable line on which Grand Duke Nicholas will elect to make his stand, but a majority of them consider it hardly likely that he will try to hold the Brest-Litovsk front.

The German Crown Prince continues his attempts to pierce the French line in the forest of the Argonne. He has had a few local successes, but the losses he has sustained in the series of attacks are declared to have been exceedingly heavy. The Germans also have attacked in Artois, but without success, according to the French account.

Two Zeppelins last night visited the east coast of England, dropping bombs. Six persons were killed and 23 injured, and 14 houses were damaged. This is the 16th air raid on England since the beginning of the war, and in all 76 persons have been killed and 175 injured.

The negotiations between the Balkan states are proceeding, but thus far there is no sign of any settlement of the question at issue.

FOUR WED 1000 FEET UP

Divorced Pair Marries Others in Same Ceremony on Mountain.

ENTERPRISE, Or., Aug. 13.—(Special.)—Setting up their wedding altar on the summit of a bluff high above the Grand Ronde River at Rondova, two couples who live in the timbered highlands of Western Willough County, were married Tuesday afternoon. The spot they chose for their wedding is 1000 feet above the river and is reached by a trail. It commands a great view of the timbered heights on both sides of the Grand Ronde.

The couples married were George Moore and Sarah Miller, and Oshiah Miller and Nellie Moore. Nellie Moore is a sister of George. Sarah Miller formerly was the wife of Oshiah Miller. The ceremony was performed by Rev. A. J. Adams, of the Federated Church in Enterprise. With his wife he went by train to Rondova, where the two bridegrooms met them with saddle horses. The climb was steep and Mrs. Adams concluded not to attempt it, but from the valley, she watched the marriage party assembled on the hilltop above.

TWO BIG FIRES IN WOODS

Blaze Does \$20,000 Damage at Mine and Burns 300 Acres.

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho, Aug. 13.—Timber on 300 acres of land has been destroyed in a forest fire that is raging along Twin Creek, which empties into Pend d'Oreille Lake in the northern part of the state. C. L. Billings, forest supervisor, reported today from Sand Point that he has 35 men working to extinguish the flames. The fire was started by a homesteader who was burning slashings. The fire got beyond the control of the homesteader.

A forest fire on Nine Mile Creek, near Wallace, caused \$20,000 loss yesterday when the Rex mine was burned.

FRANCE MAKES PAYMENT

Intimation Given That Dacia May Be Released Conditionally.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The second payment on the American-owned cotton on the steamship Dacia was made today to the State Department by the French Ambassador. The amount was not made public. Intimations have reached the State Department that the French government may release the ship under certain conditions that will limit her activities to neutral trade and will not involve a general recognition of the right to change registry in time of war.

WHEAT SLUMP DUE TO MOVE BY ITALY

Speculators Find Profits Cut Off.

GOVERNMENT SELLS AT COST

Future Purchases in United States Less Probable.

EXCHANGE RATE TOO HIGH

Argentine Money Conditions Said to Be More Favorable—American Prices Also Said to Be Regarded as Excessive.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—Authoritative explanation was obtained tonight for the sensational action of exporters in suddenly canceling during the last 48 hours contracts for large amounts of wheat purchased in the United States, roundly estimated at 2,000,000 bushels.

Most of the contracts canceled were on wheat that had been intended for Italy. The buyers, however, according to one of the largest exporters here, found all prospective profits cut off by a plan of the Italian government to fix maximum prices or otherwise circumvent speculation.

A careful statement of the situation resulting was made tonight by the exporter referred to. He did so after consulting with a prominent Italian here who is in a position to know the facts.

"It has been said the Italian government had authorized repudiation of onerous outstanding purchases of wheat," the statement said. "While there seems no doubt cancellations were effected, the occasion thereof should no doubt be laid to a different cause."

"In the first place, the Italian government could not lawfully authorize such a procedure and, even if such authority were vested in the officials at Rome to exercise it would be the beginning of the destruction of her credit in the United States. What has happened is probably this: There has been a large amount of wheat bought in the last few weeks by Italian firms or private individuals and to such persons the Italian government may have issued an order prohibiting or regulating speculation by the Italian grain dealers with mere and consumers throughout the kingdom.

"On this account, the Italian importer may have figured greater advantage in sacrificing his profit on purchases from the United States than in letting the contracts be shipped, showing good paper profits, but on which more might be lost by efforts of the Italian government to give the consumer as cheap wheat as possible.

"Price Regarded as Too High. "Much of the wheat bought by Italy last winter was resold to the consumer at cost. "Just now, the government of Italy is not likely to buy wheat in the United States, not only because they think our prices are too high, but also on account of high exchange. The exchange basis between the United States and Italy is about 22 per cent over normal. The basis between Argentina and Italy is approximately normal. Some well-known Italians predict there will be no buying of wheat by their government until next January. There is no substantial decline in North America before next winter, the Italian demand probably then will fall on Argentina."

BUYING SYSTEM IS CHANGED

Allies to Discontinue Practice of Bidding Against Each Other.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—(Special.)—Denial that J. P. Morgan & Co., as purchasing agents for the allies, had canceled any of the contracts placed with Chicago houses for grain for export was adhered to today. Wall-street members of the Board of Trade members having another theory for the extreme weakness in grain at today's opening, which was increased by reports from Baltimore that several contracts for execution there had likewise been canceled.

C. C. Taylor, grain expert for Renaker, Lyon & Co., said that his advice from Chicago confirmed the fact that several grain orders had been canceled. Mr. Taylor suggested that the canceled contracts were of a semi-speculative nature which had been undertaken by individuals for the supply of grain to various European countries.

"There has been a great change in the belligerents' purchasing methods this year," said Mr. Taylor. "When the war broke out all of the nations concerned scrambled for grain, with the result that their competitive bids pushed prices up rapidly. Now the buying for government account for the allies is all done through J. P. Morgan & Co.'s export department. That means that one buyer will deal with a large number of sellers. There will be no stray orders."

"Furthermore, France has prohibited the importation of wheat to prevent her importers from adding the advance by competitive bids. All of the wheat (Concluded on Page 2, Column 2.)

