



23 ARE KILLED IN ESSEX AIR RAID

Score of German Flyers Visit England.

INVADERS ARE DRIVEN BACK

Nine Women, Six Children and Eight Men Dead as Result of East Coast Raid.

FRENCH BOMB FRANKFORT

Air Fighting of Unusual Intensity Takes Place—Dozen English Planes Missing.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—Twenty-three persons, including nine women and six children, were killed, and 50 persons were injured at South End, in Essex, 40 miles east of London, by bombs dropped from German raiders today, says an official statement issued tonight.

Considerable damage to property was caused at South End by the nearly 40 bombs dropped upon the town.

Six Children Victims. Two men were injured at Rochford, but four bombs dropped on Margate, in Kent, did little damage. The latest statement follows:

"Enemy raiders caused considerable damage at South End, where they dropped about 40 bombs. The casualties thus far reported are:

"Killed—Eight men, 9 women, 6 children. About 50 people were injured.

Empty House Demolished. "At Rochford, two men were injured, but no damage is reported. At Margate, four bombs were dropped. One uninhabited house was demolished, but there were no casualties."

The text of the first official statement says: "About 5:15 o'clock this afternoon a squadron of about 20 enemy airplanes were reported off Felixstowe, in Suffolk. They skirted the coast to Clacton, in Essex, where they apparently divided, a part going south to Margate, in Kent. The remainder crossed the coast and went southwest toward Wickford, near which place they turned southeast and dropped bombs in the neighborhood of South End, in Essex. Some bombs also were dropped on Margate.

"Our own aircraft were very quickly in the air, and they pursued the enemy out to sea."

British Airmen Ready. Reports from various local correspondents indicate the probability that the German airplane raid Sunday would have been much more serious but for the preparedness of the British defense. British airships, at the first intimation of the enemy's approach, arose from all points, climbing upward at a terrific pace at daring angles, with the result that before the Germans arrived, fleets of British machines were in waiting.

The activity of the airships and the excellent fire from anti-aircraft guns appear to have nullified the attempted operations of the invaders virtually everywhere, except at South End. There are many stories of scattered flights by the Germans to avoid risk of engagements with the defenders. The weather was bright and fine, with a strong westerly wind, which, perhaps, was less forcible at the great height the raiders traveled.

Holiday Crowds Suffer. It appears that the largest section of the invading squadron operated over the Thames estuary, but the circumstances which resulted in South End being the chief victim are not apparent. The town was full of holiday makers. Many of these were on the way to the railway station to take a train for London, when the bombing began, and there were many casualties among them. One bomb alone killed seven persons and wounded many others.

Elsewhere, the people who remained in the street, instead of taking cover, were the chief sufferers. Hundreds were thrown to the ground by the concussions, but all escaped serious injury. Reports from Deal, Ramsgate and other coast towns say that the main result of the air raid

YOUTH AND WOMAN VICTIMS OF RIVERS

VICTOR MONGEAU, 10, DROWNS IN COLUMBIA SLOUGH.

Miss Sadie Pharis, Colorado Visitor, Meets Fate in Tualatin River Near Tigardville.

Ten-year-old Victor Mongeau, of 495 Davis street, was drowned in one of the sloughs tributary to the Columbia river near Columbia Beach shortly after noon yesterday.

The lad, together with several other boys, was swimming and it is thought, ventured too far into the stream. The boy screamed for help and W. A. Snedeker, of 633 East Sixty-seventh street, North, who was fishing from a boat near by, sounded the alarm, being unable to swim himself.

A long pole was used and the body was recovered in a short time, but not until it was too late for resuscitation with a pulmotor.

The boy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Mongeau, reside at 495 Davis street. Coronor Smith took charge of the body.

It was asserted by Mr. Smith last night that there is no life-saving equipment in use at the beach, and it was necessary to carry the pulmotor from Portland to the scene.

Miss Sadie Pharis, a recent arrival from Colorado, was drowned yesterday in the Tualatin River, about three miles beyond Tigardville, according to information received by Chief of Police Johnson last night. City Grappler Brady will go to the scene of the drowning this morning and search for the body.

Miss Pharis is said to have been about 21 years old and was a visitor at the J. H. Duncan farm home. Only meager information was received last night, and one of the reports said that the victim's name was "Mrs. Corbett."

ASTORIA, Or., Aug. 12.—(Special.) The body of a man which was identified by papers found in the pockets as the remains of T. W. Harris, a stranger, was found floating in the river today close to the port dock. The man was about 45 years old, wore Moose charms, and apparently had resided recently in Molalla and St. Johns.

MERRY CHRISTMAS IS PLAN

Red Cross Wants Comfort Bags for Americans in France.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—A "merry Christmas" for American soldiers in France is already being planned by the Red Cross, according to an announcement made tonight by that organization in this city, which has issued an appeal for funds to purchase "a million comfort bags, and then a million more."

The appeal is from a prominent Red Cross worker in France, who says the bags must be shipped soon if they are to arrive there in time for the Christmas distribution. French soldiers also will receive these kits, each of which contains an American flag.

ELDERLY CYCLIST INJURED

Chinese Motorist Runs Down John Murtinger.

John Murtinger, an elderly man, suffered a fracture of the leg yesterday when he was knocked from his bicycle by an automobile driven by Daniel Feld, adopted son of the late Seld Back, at East Twelfth street and Hawthorne avenue.

Mr. Murtinger, who resides at 855 Clinton street, was riding on Twelfth street when the large car driven by Mr. Feld crossed the intersection, striking the bicycle.

First aid was given the injured man and later taken to Good Samaritan Hospital.

MANY FARM LOANS ASKED

Federal Board Has Applications for Million Dollars a Day.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Applications for farm loans are pouring into the Federal Land Banks at the rate of more than \$1,000,000 a day, the Federal Farm Loan Board announced yesterday, the total for July having reached \$24,310,000. During that month the board approved loans amounting to \$15,000,000.

About \$4,000,000 has been loaned farmers thus far.

19 FISHERMEN DROWNED

Dories Are Swamped by Gale That Arises Suddenly.

BOSTON, Aug. 12.—Nineteen Portuguese fishermen, of Provincetown, were drowned when the dories in which they were fishing off Cape Cod were swamped by a gale that came up suddenly late Friday afternoon.

The men were from the fishing schooners Mary C. Santos and the Natalie J. Nelson, which arrived here tonight.

Taft's Health Improves

Patient Makes Progress, but Time He May Move Is Uncertain.

CLAY CENTER, Kan., Aug. 12.—Continued improvement in the condition of ex-President William H. Taft, 61, at a local hotel, was reported today by his physician, Dr. B. F. Morgan.

Although his patient was making excellent progress, Dr. Morgan refused to state a time when he believed Mr. Taft would be able to resume his speaking tour.

EFFORTS TO AVERT WAR AGAIN MADE

Gerard Tells of Visiting Kaiser at Front.

VON JAGOW STRONG FOR PEACE

Fall of Von Tirpitz Does Not Change Sentiment.

EMPEROR STILL UNDECIDED

Those in Favor of Peace Arrange Still Another Interview for Ambassador to Present American Side of Controversy.

BY JAMES W. GERARD. American Ambassador to the German Imperial Court, July 28, 1916, February 4, 1917. Copyright, 1917, by the Public Ledger Company.

I myself felt that nothing could alter public opinion in Germany, in spite of Von Tirpitz' fall, which had taken place some time before; that the advocates of ruthless submarine warfare would win, and that to satisfy them Germany would risk a break with America.

I was sitting in my office, in a rather dazed and despairing state, when Professor Ludwig Stein, proprietor of a magazine called North and South, and a writer of special articles on Germany's foreign relations, for the Vossische Zeitung, under the name of "Diplomaticus," called to see me.

He informed me he thought the situation was not yet hopeless, that there was still a large party of reasonable men in Germany, and that much good could be done if I should go to the great general headquarters and have a talk with the Kaiser, who, he informed me, was reported to be against a break with America.

Gerard Goes to Battlefield. I told Doctor Stein that, of course, I was perfectly willing to go if there was the slightest chance of preventing war, and I also told Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, if he was going to decide this question in favor of peace, that possibly it would be easier for him if the decision were arrived at under the protection, as it were, of the Emperor; or, if the decision lay with the Emperor, that possibly I might be able to help in convincing him, if I had an opportunity to lay the American side of the case before him. I said that I was ready at any time on short notice to proceed to the Emperor's headquarters. Doctor Heckscher, a member of the Reichstag, who must be classed among the reasonable men of Germany, also advocated my speaking directly to the Kaiser.

Von Jagow Gives Invitation. A few days after this Von Jagow called to see me at the embassy and invited me to visit the Emperor at the

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AMERICAN TANKER SUNK BY U-BOAT

CAPTAIN AND FOUR OF NAVAL GUARD BELIEVED CAPTIVES.

Forty-seven Members of Crew Reach Land After Attack 143 Miles West of Ile De Re.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Sinking of the American steamer Campana, a Standard Oil tanker, with the probable capture of her captain and four members of the naval guard by the attacking German submarine, was announced today by the Navy Department.

The department issued this statement: "The Standard Oil tanker Campana, an American steamer, was sunk by a submarine on the morning of August 6, 143 miles west of Ile De Re. Forty-seven survivors reached land in safety. It is believed that the captain of the steamer and four of the armed guards are prisoners on board the German submarine."

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—The steamer Campana was formerly the steamship Dunholme. She was built in 1901 at West Hartlepool, England, and was registered at 3313 tons gross, 2133 tons net. She was 335 feet long, with a beam of 47 feet.

The Campana was the 38th American merchant ship destroyed through the operations of German and Austrian submarines and raiders since the war began. Thirteen of these ships were sunk before the United States entered the war and 25 since that time. The total tonnage of the ships lost is about 115,000 tons.

The first American ship sunk was the William P. Frye, January 28, 1915.

ROUMANIA SEEKS SEAT

Rostov-on-the-Don Is Being Considered as Government Location.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 11.—The authorities of the provisional government at Rostov-on-the-Don have been instructed to report to the central government as to the possibility of establishing the seat of the Rumanian government in that city and also the advisability of the Rumanian royal family transferring its residence to a town in Southern Russia.

A telegram from Odessa, Russia's great Black Sea port, says that the commander-in-chief of the military district there has authorized a denial of rumors that the evacuation of Odessa is imminent.

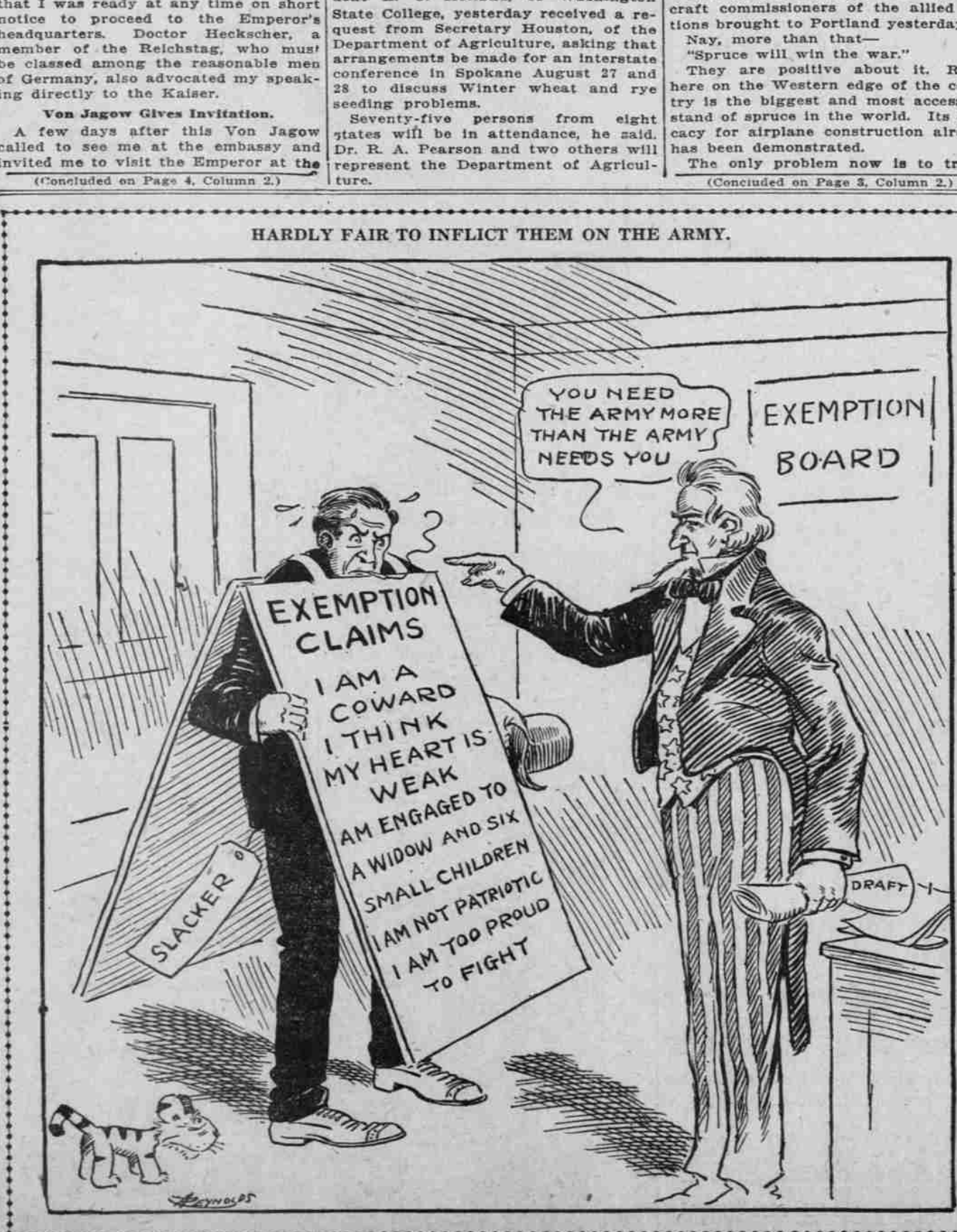
MORE FOOD IS PURPOSE

Interstate Agricultural Conference Called at Spokane.

PULLMAN, Wash., Aug. 12.—President E. O. Holland, of Washington State College, yesterday received a request from Secretary Houston, of the Department of Agriculture, asking that arrangements be made for an interstate conference in Spokane August 27 and 28 to discuss winter wheat and rye seeding problems.

Seventy-five persons from eight states will be in attendance, he said. Dr. R. A. Pearson and two others will represent the Department of Agriculture.

HARDLY FAIR TO INFLICT THEM ON THE ARMY.



SPRUCE WILL WIN WAR, SAY AVIATORS

Portland Host to Allies' Representatives.

LABOR PROBLEM STUDIED

Necessity of Unfailing Supply of Wood Emphasized.

AERIAL SUPERIORITY VITAL

Veteran Fliers of British, French and Italian Armies to Show at Auditorium Motion Pictures of Aircraft at Front.

MAYOR URGES PEOPLE TO ATTEND AIRCRAFT MEETING AT AUDITORIUM TONIGHT.

Portland today is host to the distinguished representatives of three of our allies in the cause of democracy. They have come to Portland—the centre of the world's greatest spruce-producing district—to impress upon us the vital necessity of dealing a generous supply of our precious timber to our Government and our allies for airplane construction.

Tonight at the municipal auditorium, the visiting aviators of the British, French and Italian armies, all of whom have seen actual service at the front, will tell us something of their experiences. They have brought with them many reels of motion pictures, showing the actual use of aircraft on the fighting lines.

The exhibition will be free. Let us fill every seat in our new auditorium and give our guests a reception that they will long remember, and that will demonstrate conclusively that Portland is alive to the urgent needs of the

GEORGE L. BAKER, Mayor.

"We must have spruce to win the war."

This is the message that the aircraft commissioners of the allied nations brought to Portland yesterday. "Spruce will win the war."

They are positive about it. Right here on the Western edge of the country is the biggest and most accessible stand of spruce in the world. Its efficacy for airplane construction already has been demonstrated.

The only problem now is to transport.

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SWELTERING HEAT PROSTRATES ONE

YOUTH OF 21 IS PORTLAND'S FIRST VICTIM.

Thermometer Attains 92 Degrees for Second Time, With Excessive Humidity of 68 Per Cent.

One case of heat prostration, the first to be recorded this Summer, testified to the sweltering intensity of yesterday, when the official instrument of the weather bureau attained a temperature of 92 degrees.

On the four other days in the country were as hot, Phoenix being 98, Walla Walla, Medford and North Yakima being 94.

Clarence Chapin, 21, of 444 East Ash street, was overcome at Grand avenue and East Morrison street in mid-afternoon. He was taken to the Emergency Hospital, where his condition was said to be serious. His recovery is expected, although he will be confined to his bed for several days.

For an hour or so in the afternoon, light clouds screened the sun and afforded temporary relief, but the mercury mounted steadily until it attained the maximum at 5 o'clock. But one other day this season has equaled yesterday in heat record. On Wednesday, August 8, 92 degrees above was registered.

Hourly temperatures yesterday, from the Weather Bureau readings, were as follows: At 5 A. M., 65; 6 A. M., 64; 7 A. M., 65; 8 A. M., 66; 9 A. M., 69; 10 A. M., 74; 11 A. M., 77; noon, 83; 1 P. M., 85; 2 P. M., 91; 3 P. M., 92; 4 P. M., 92; 5 P. M., 92; 6 P. M., 89; 7 P. M., 84.

With the excessive humidity, which was officially recorded as 68 per cent at noon, the day was one of more than ordinary hot-weather discomfort, and caused an exodus to the river and woods in the vicinity of the city. The parks, with their grateful shade, did not lack for patrons.

The forecast for today is identical with that which prevailed yesterday—fair, with moderate westerly winds.

U. S. A. TAKES HOSPITALS

Field Laboratory Is Being Constructed Near Camp.

PARIS, Aug. 12.—The medical corps of the United States Army announced Friday that the French authorities had turned over to it two large military hospitals and also a large medical depot. American base hospital units are manning these institutions.

A great field laboratory is under construction near the American training camp.

SCANDINAVIAN WAR VICTIM

Mines and U-Boats Kill 500 Men and Sink 933 Ships.

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 12.—Nine hundred and thirty-three Scandinavian ships have been destroyed by torpedoes or mines since the beginning of the war, according to the Aftenbladet. Of this number Norway lost 600, Denmark 187 and Sweden 146.

A great number of Scandinavian seamen lost in these disasters was about 500.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 92 degrees; minimum, 68 degrees. TODAY'S—Fair; moderate westerly winds.

War. Russian report weakening of German offensive. Page 2. Military expert says Germany cannot put over drive on Western front. Page 2. German air raid into Essex results in 23 deaths. Page 2. American tanker Campana sunk by submarine. Page 1.

Foreign. Jews leave Holy Land for United States. Page 3. Bonds favored for raising any war fund in excess of \$2,000,000,000. Page 3. Demand persists for some sort of Congressional supervision of war expenses. Page 3. Gerard tells of further efforts, aided by Von Jagow, to avert war. Page 1. Food administration to maintain stable price of wheat, by buying whole crop if necessary. Page 1.

Domestic. Pacific port decorated for coming Japanese. Page 2. First day of San Francisco strike is quiet. Page 4. Wireless operators say Roanoke was captured by German raider. Page 11. San Francisco strikers formulate demands. Page 4. "Cy" Noble, Washington ex-football star, late for wedding. Page 3.

Const League Results—Salt Lake 7-7, Portland 2-0, Oakland 8-0, Los Angeles 0-5; San Francisco 2-4, Vernon 3-2. Page 10. White Sox have hard time keeping in first place. Page 10. State Forester to ask Governor to close deer season until rains forestall fire danger. Page 10. Toney, Red pitcher, gets \$1000 for winning twentieth game. Page 10. Oregon state golf tournament opens at Gearhart today. Page 11.

Pacific Northwest. Apple crop of Spokane Valley unhurt by hot weather. Page 9. Rev. Billy Sunday says he may go to trenches to preach. Page 14. President Kerr not disheartened over Oregon small fund for food campaign. Page 11. First draft in Clackamas County, Oregon, falls short. Page 4.

Portland and Vicinity. Ten-year-old Victor Mongeau drowned near Columbia Beach. Page 1. Troop D goes to Clackamas. Page 14. Portland will be host this week to British army officers. Page 9. Aviators of allied nations guests in Portland. Page 1. Portland raiders praise hospitality of Grays Harbor cities. Page 8. Captain and purser of Wapama view Columbia River Highway. Page 12. "Mickie" McDonald blamed for I. W. W. agitations. Page 14. Governor Stewart's experience in Butte riots is recalled. Page 9. Heat prostrates Portland youth, first of season. Page 1. Lumber operators favor eight-hour day. Page 5. Corvallis paperhanger inherits fortune of \$200,000. Page 5. Weather report, data and forecast. Page 12.

STABLE WHEAT PRICE ASSURED

Hoover to Take Whole Crop if Need Be.

"FUTURES" WILL BE BARRED

Exports to Allies to Be in the Form of Flour, to Retain Milling at Home.

BAKING IS INVESTIGATED

Lower Price of Bread Necessary if Wage Schedules Remain Undisturbed.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The food administration announced tonight its plan for controlling wheat, flour and bread, revealing that the Government is prepared to take over the whole 1917 wheat harvest if necessary to conserve the supply, obtain just prices for America's fighting forces and their allies and reduce costs to the general public in the United States.

Establishing of buying agencies at all the principal terminals, licensing of elevators and mills, fixing of prices to be considered fair, regulation of the middleman and of grain exchanges, with the elimination of trading in futures, are the chief features of the plan. The licensing will begin September 1.

Minimum Effective in 1918. The minimum price of \$2 for wheat fixed by Congress does not become effective until next year, but the Administration proposes to exercise a very thorough control over this year's crop through powers conferred under the food and export control bills.

Following is the Administration's announcement: "The disturbance to the world's commerce and short supplies has caused a greater disruption of the normal markets for wheat than any other cereal.

Normal Trade Interrupted. "As a result of the isolation of certain of the world's wheat-producing countries by either belligerent lines or short shipping, the normal determination of the prices of wheat by the ebb and flow of commerce is totally destroyed.

"In order to control speculation and to obtain more equitable distribution of the available wheat and flour between their countries, the allied governments have placed the whole purchase of their supplies in the hands of one buyer. Also, the European neutrals are now buying their wheat through single government agents, instead of in the normal course of commerce. Therefore, the export prices of wheat and flour—and thus the real prices, if not controlled—will be subject to almost a single will of the foreign purchaser.

Large Stocks in Reserve. "3. In normal times, American wheat moves largely to Europe in the Fall months. This year, the shortage of shipping necessitates its distribution over the entire year. Therefore there is danger of a glut in our warehouse system over a considerable period.

"4. There are large stocks of wheat which cannot be drawn upon by the allies during the war, but in the event of peace, or defeat of the submarines, these would be available, and might seriously demoralize the demand for American wheat.

This Year's Problem Broad. "5. It must be clearly understood that the guaranteed minimum price of \$2 per bushel for wheat, set out in the food bill, does not apply to the 1917 harvest, but only to the 1918 harvest, and then under conditions which must be elaborated. There is, therefore, no determined price for the 1917 harvest.

"The result of this situation is that the normal price-making machinery is entirely broken down, unless some efficient government action is brought into play, either: (a) The American producer may face a slump in wheat, possibly below his production cost, and (b) the export of wheat which ultimately determines the real price, is at the will of a single agency; (c) someone must buy the surplus wheat at any given moment, and if the surplus

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