

SACRIFICE OF WAR SUPPLIES IS DENIED

Saving of \$4,675,342,881 by Sales Is Alleged.

DEPARTMENT GIVES REPLY

If Hostilities Had Continued for Another Year, Surplus Would Have Been Needed, Answer.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—The war department today answered charges that the government had sustained great loss through the sale of surplus war supplies with the allegation that it had "saved more than \$4,675,342,881 to the taxpayers."

The department made public a statement in which it took up in detail charges made recently in a number of newspapers, characterizing these charges as "unfounded."

"If no reserve was provided," the statement said, "there would have been a repetition of conditions which existed in the Spanish-American war."

The statement asserted that sales of war materials overseas aggregated \$22,928,225.82. France, it was said, purchased goods for \$332,500,000 and waived customs duties estimated at approximately \$150,000,000 and further assumed the payment of 150,000 claims against the United States arising out of the American occupation.

"As a result of the work of the United States liquidation commission," the statement said, "the war department saved to the taxpayers from the sale of surplus war materials in Europe \$275,232,322.82."

Claim Held Erroneous. Thus the claim that the property which had cost this country \$1,330,953,302 was disposed of to the government for four million dollars payable in ten years is entirely erroneous.

The department said equipment valued at \$672,000,000 was returned to the United States.

As to sales in this country, the department asserted that the sales division had disposed of property which cost the government \$1,122,067,476.82 and that "the return to the United States had been \$229,378,417.42."

The statement asserted that "to reduce the high cost of living" the war department had sold approximately \$21,000,000 worth of food supplies at 60 per cent of their cost value.

2-Cent Sugar Sale Denied. With reference to the charge that sugar was sold to France for 2 cents a pound, the statement declared that 3,000,000 pounds of sugar was sold to that country at 15 cents a pound and 400,000 pounds to the American Relief association at the same price.

As to the settlement of claims involving both formal and informal contracts terminated by reason of the cessation of hostilities, the statement said that the value of the uncompleted portion of the contracts amounted to \$2,300,824.12 and that the basis on which the settlement of these claims had been made by the claims board had "resulted in a saving to the government of \$2,363,035.22."

The department's statement characterized as "absolutely unwarranted" charges that the army shipped only 15,000 shells to France, that only 72 American-made guns reached the American forces at Argenteuil day 5,209,000 American-made shells had been sent to France.

The statement added the United States had in France 3500 pieces of artillery, which nearly 800 were of American manufacture. It was stated that the American forces used on the firing line 2250 pieces of which 130 were made in America.

FLOUR RATE IS CHANGED

U. S. SHIPPING BOARD ESTABLISHES DIFFERENTIAL

Prevailing Adjustment Rates Declared to Favor Wheat and Retail Flour Movement.

SEATTLE, Wash., Oct. 31.—(Special.)—For the purpose of restoring balance between exports of wheat and flour, the United States shipping board has established a differential of five cents a hundred pounds in favor of the latter commodity in the freight rate schedule of all shipping board vessels, according to advices received by the Seattle Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Club from the United States Chamber of Commerce through its special wire service of the latter organization.

The board's action was based on the conclusion that the prevailing adjustment rates are seriously retarding the movement of flour and accelerating the movement of wheat to foreign ports, says the telegram.

REPUBLICAN LANDS IN CALIFORNIA PREDICTED

Place Sought as Senator by Independent Republican; Utah Contest Is Viewed.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 31.—Throughout the far west the major issue of the political campaign now drawing to a close, the election of a president, is closely followed in public interest by the senatorial contest.

In California, which gave the majority of its votes to President Wilson and the lobby re-elected him, the registration totaled 1,374,184, of which 84,975 voters registered as republicans and 259,361 as democrats.

The republican state central committee in a statement tonight claimed the state would give Senator Harding

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The manufacturer has felt the withholding of orders by the retailers, and, according to reports, has not been able to operate on full time in many lines of trade because of a lack of orders.

Some quick and clever "dip" relieved W. F. Menard, a baker of 118 1/2 Alhambra avenue, of his purse some time yesterday by the simple method of retail orders, while new business was mentioned specifically as having been hard hit by the slackening of retail orders.

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Port Consolidation A Deep Channel A Better Harbor

The Port Consolidation Measures 310 and 510 will give us a deep channel to the sea and a better harbor which means

Factories, Payrolls, Prosperity

These measures will give us one commission instead of two, thereby reducing the cost of government and increasing efficiency. Vote for these measures and make Portland a great shipping and industrial center.

Vote 310 X Yes
Vote 510 X Yes

DO NOT FAIL TO VOTE BOTH MEASURES. THEY ARE BOTH ESSENTIAL TO CONSOLIDATION.

1210 Gasco Building, OREGON PORT DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE, L. W. Trimble, Secy. (Paid Adv.)

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The People Cannot Stand Any More 125% Increases

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Why continue in office this lavish spender of other people's money?