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PORTLAND, OREGON, SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1921

PRICE FIVE CENTS

PRICES OF FOOD DECLINE SHARPLY

February Shows Striking Cost Decrease.

AVERAGE SAVING 9 PER CENT

53 Articles Taken As Basis for National Survey.

REDUCTIONS ARE GENERAL

Hens Alone Withstand Tendency to Lower Retail Quotations in Sensational Slump.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C. March 18.—Sensational decreases are shown in the retail prices of food in practically all of the cities of the country during February in a report issued today by the bureau of statistics of the department of labor. The decline in food costs to the average family in that month was 9 per cent.

Fifty-three articles of food are taken as the basis of the report during February in a report issued today by the bureau of statistics of the department of labor. The decline in food costs to the average family in that month was 9 per cent.

During the month from January, 1921, to February, 1921, all of the 43 articles decreased in price, with the exception of eggs. The decreases shown during the month in the prices of other articles were as follows:

Eggs Lead in Decline.

Strictly fresh eggs, 35 per cent; storage eggs, 35 per cent; potatoes, 12 per cent; rice, 12 per cent; pork chops, 9 per cent; plate beef and sugar, 8 per cent; chuck roast, lamb, butter, lard and prunes, 7 per cent; round steak and fresh milk, 6 per cent; sirloin steak, rib roast, oleomargarine, Crisco and onions, 5 per cent; nut margarine and corn meal, 4 per cent; bacon, flour, rolled oats, navy beans, cabbage, baked beans, coffee and oranges, 3 per cent; bread, canned corn, canned peas, canned tomatoes, evaporated milk, cheese, corn flakes, macaroni, tea and raisins, 1 per cent.

The prices of ham and cream of wheat decreased less than five-tenths of 1 per cent.

For the period from February, last year, to February, this year, the percentage of decrease in all articles was 21 per cent.

Bananas and canned salmon remained at last year's prices.

East and West Represented.

The greatest decrease in the month from January 15 to February 15 was 11 per cent, in Buffalo and Butte, Los Angeles, Portland, Or., Salt Lake City, Memphis and Minneapolis.

In Seattle the decrease was 24 per cent, in Portland and Salt Lake City, 21 per cent, San Francisco 18 per cent, and Los Angeles, 17 per cent.

Food cost levels, however, still remained in February, 1921, far above the prices in 1913, increases for that period ranging upward from 43 per cent in Louisville and Salt Lake City to 60 per cent in New York and 71 per cent in Richmond, Va.

Other increases in the eight-year period were: Portland, Or., 44 per cent; Denver, 42 per cent; Seattle, 46 per cent; Los Angeles, 45 per cent, and San Francisco 53 per cent.

FOOD EMBARGO CONSIDERED

President and Cabinet Take Up Problem of Protection.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C. March 18.—Full and complete consideration by the president and his cabinet today of the agricultural conditions of the country served to emphasize the importance which the food-producing industries of the nation have attained.

The considerations included the possible application of the import embargo to preserve for American farmers the advantage of their domestic markets and as a means of saving the country from future vexatious profits which involved the questions of taxation and tariff legislation.

No decision has been reached on any of these subjects, and the very uncertainty existing indicated the earnest thought which is being given in Washington to the agricultural industry of the west and middle west.

In his statement to the newspaper men following the cabinet conference today, President Harding acknowledged that the administration is considering an embargo, and presented a situation which is more threatening and alarming than had been supposed.

The agricultural interests of the country are not only facing ruinous competition from abroad, but the consumer is likely to be caught between the upper and the nether millstones by the profiteers who are rushing immense quantities of wool, frozen

LUMBER RATE EAST TO PITTSBURG CUT

RAILROADS OPERATING WEST OF CHICAGO REDUCE.

Drop, However, Does Not Apply to Seaboard Territory Beyond Pittsburg; Business Aid Seen.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C. March 18.—The railroads operating west of Chicago have voluntarily reduced the rates on lumber from the Pacific coast as far east as Pittsburg. The reduction amounts to about \$2 a thousand feet and it is thought will aid materially to broaden the buying markets of the consumers affected. This reduction does not apply to the seaboard territory east of Pittsburg because the eastern lines have refused to concur in any reductions on the long-haul rates.

At present the price of No. 1 common fir lumber at the mill on the Pacific coast is approximately \$15 a thousand. The freight charges to New York city at a rate of \$1.06 1/2 a hundred feet approximately \$28.75 a thousand feet, or about 180 per cent of the mill price. For every dollar that the consumer in New York pays for lumber approximately 46 cents represents freight charges. The western lines have recognized the inequality in this relationship between the mill price and the transportation charge for the product.

Probably no greater housing shortage exists than in the city of New York and other urban centers along the Atlantic coast.

HEROIC GIRL SAVES LIFE

Flaming Clothes of Young Child Are Torn From Body.

ALBANY, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—Nora Humphreys, Albany high school girl, saved the life of her 3-year-old sister Agnes last night when, with her bare hands, she tore off the flaming clothes which enveloped the child. The little girl's clothes caught fire from the kitchen stove when she was alone. Her clothes were in flames when the older girl, summoned by her screams, reached the kitchen, but they were torn off so quickly that the child was not burned seriously. The girls are daughters of John A. Humphreys, of the Albany postoffice and are nieces of Lester W. Humphreys, United States district attorney for Oregon.

NEW SCHOOLS FAVORED

State Superintendent Churchill Will Advocate Kindergartens.

SALEM, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction, returned here today from Atlantic City, where he attended a meeting of the department of superintendents of the National Education association.

On his way home Mr. Churchill passed a few days in Milwaukee, Chicago and Detroit, where he visited part-time schools and kindergartens. Mr. Churchill said that he was very favorably impressed with the kindergartens operated in the eastern cities and probably would urge their establishment in the public schools of Oregon at a future time.

PETITION IS WRITTEN

Sample of Recall Document Given Secretary of State.

SALEM, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—The recalled public service commission recall committee, through W. E. Richardson, secretary, has submitted to the secretary of state a sample petition, which it will be necessary to circulate throughout the state before actual proposal for recall of the commissioners can be placed on the ballot.

Under the existing laws it will require 20,000 signatures of qualified voters before the question of recalling the public service body can be referred.

GAS CAUSED STAMPEDE

Discovery of Flow in Saskatchewan Starts Rush Toward Field.

THE PAS, Man., March 18.—The reported discovery of a flow of gas in the foothills near the Pasqua river, Saskatchewan, 100 miles west of the Pas, has resulted in a miniature stampede to that district.

A dozen small syndicates have been formed and large blocks of land taken up.

The district is not easy of access, and is little known. Indians visit it with superstitious discretion, although for many years they have gathered there for use in cementing their birch bark canoes.

RUSO-POLE PACT SIGNED

Riga Dispatch Says Treaty Will Be Ratified in 30 Days.

LONDON, March 18.—The Russo-Polish treaty was signed at 5:30 o'clock tonight, said a dispatch to the London Times from Riga.

The dispatch added that the treaty would be ratified at Minsk within 30 days.

COAL CUT TO \$13 A TON

Reduction by Two Dealers at Van- couver, B. C., Announced.

VANCOUVER, B. C., March 18.—Two coal dealers here today announced a cut of \$2 a ton on coal, effective immediately.

PERSHING SCORES ALIEN AGITATORS

Great Patriotic Demon- stration Is Held.

POLICY DICTATION RESENTED

Foreign Standards Declared Not Wanted Here.

PROPAGANDA IS RAPPED

General Says America Is No Place for Equal Citizenship Claimants With Allegiance Elsewhere.

NEW YORK, March 18.—General John J. Pershing, speaking before a crowd which packed Madison Square Garden tonight at one of the greatest patriotic demonstrations here since the signing of the armistice, bitterly denounced persons of foreign birth who seek the freedom of this country to spread "political and warlike propaganda" to weaken the ties of friendship established between the United States and its allies in the war.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the American Legion and other patriotic societies as a protest against the recent mass meeting arranged to voice objection to the presence of French colonial troops in occupied Germany described as the "horror of the Rhine."

Colonel Frank Galbraith Jr., national commander of the American Legion, presided.

Dictators Are Assailed.

General Pershing, paying tribute to foreign-born citizens who served under him in the Philippines, Mexico and France, declared it was entirely proper that foreigners should cling to the folklore, literature and music of the native land, but he assailed those who seek to dictate American questions and political policies by the standards of their own countries.

"We have no quarrel with the American of foreign birth," he said. "We want them to know that America is an inspiration. But we do object to the foreign-born citizen who attempts to decide an American question for a foreign reason, whether he be of German lineage and proposes to determine an American policy because of German prejudice, or whether he be Irish, Italian, Hungarian or Russian, who seeks for similar reasons to decide American questions."

Citizenship Abuse Resented.

"I bitterly resent the abuse of American citizenship or residence for the purpose of political or warlike propaganda in foreign countries."

"In America there can be no place for a citizen of another country."

TAPS FOR WAR DEAD IS CALL TO PATRIOTS

DEATH KNEEL OF PRO-GER- MANISM IS SOUNDED.

Throng in Madison Square Sobs at Tribute to Heroes and Cheers Loyalty Pleas.

NEW YORK, March 18.—(Special.)—A bugler standing on the flag-swathed speaker's stand of Madison Square Garden sounded "taps" tonight while 14,000 men and women stood reverently at attention.

In the center of the main floor 500 Gold Star mothers stood with them, their heads high in the beginning, but bowed in their hands and bathed in tears as the poignant notes came to a close. The silence ended in a sob that filled the auditorium.

A moment later came the call: "On this solemn night, filled with the inspiration born of the memories of gallant men, we have come to pledge ourselves that this nation shall yet become a land of one tongue, one ideal, one flag."

The answer was a passionate outburst of cheering and a frantic waving of flags and the all-American meeting of the American Legion and a coalition of patriotic societies was under way. Not again during the evening were for open-air meetings that were held at three stands along Madison and Fifth avenues. No period of the war saw such emotion as marked the meetings inside and out.

Long before the meeting had begun the temper of the crowds had manifested itself. Bands played in every corner of the garden. Post after post of the legion had marched in; veterans of the civil war from north and south alike, veterans of the Spanish war and veterans of still other military adventures of the United States had been cheered as they arrived; the gold star mothers and their escort of D. S. C. men had been given an especial greeting; nurses and yeomen had been hailed.

Then, just beneath the speaker's stand came an ironical call for three cheers for Mayor Hylan, who had been asked to forbid the "horror on the Rhine" meeting, but had found that he could not. His name was hissed roundly and attention was drawn to the fact that no representative of the city administration was present.

The anti-German mood had been over. The agreement specified that it was to remain in force until one year after the end of the war. The unions claim that the war has not officially ended.

After withdrawing from the agreement, the packers announced wage reductions of from 12 1/2 to 15 per cent and changed the work day from eight hours to ten hours before overtime was paid. They also announced plans by which the workers would participate in the control of plant affairs.

The importance of welcoming the naturalized and woman will be the text of another resolution to be presented.

Flag Day Is Proposed.

The need for setting aside one day in the public schools for giving programmes describing the use and forbidden uses of the flag was explained by Mrs. Keating. She will present a resolution tomorrow embodying this idea. The importance of welcoming the naturalized and woman will be the text of another resolution to be presented.

Historical research relating to Oregon was discussed by Mrs. R. E. Walters, state historian, who presented the records of sons of members of the D. A. R., who had been in the great war. Service flags of the various chapters were turned over to the state archives.

Mrs. Duniway's Picture Shown.

Formal announcements were made that Abigail Scott Duniway, who was known as the "mother of equal suffrage in the northwest," had been chosen as Oregon's most famous historical woman by the Oregon Daughters of the American Revolution. Her picture was placed on the register of the convention.

Mrs. Duniway's name will be placed in the hall of fame of the national association at its convention next month.

Mrs. Isaac Lee Patterson of this city, vice-president general of the national association, in speaking of "Patriotism in Peace," referred to the anti-Asiatic land law bill which was defeated in the Oregon senate at the last legislative session. She declared that the bill was thoroughly American in its intention and it should have passed.

As a result of one of her suggestions, made informally, the seal of Oregon on the floor of the state house, may hereafter be protected so that no one will stop upon it. The convention will decide tomorrow whether to place a rail about the seal.

Governor Speaks of Relics.

Governor Olcott gave an address on "Historic Relics of Oregon," illustrating his talk with original documents of the early history of the Oregon country. He reviewed the days of Joe Meek, the scene at Champego and presented for inspection the original constitution of Oregon when admitted to the union.

Among the honor guests at the convention is Mrs. William D. Field of Boston, Mass., state chairman of the committee on the correct use of the flag. She brought greetings from Massachusetts and spoke at the luncheon given today in honor of the visitors by patriotic women's associations of Salem.

The chapters acting as hostesses of the convention are Chemeketa of Salem and Sarah Childress Polk of Dallas.

Messages were tendered this morning by Mrs. Henry McCleary, vice-president-general; Mrs. Elizabeth Perry Leary, ex-vice-president-general, and Mrs. George H. Gobie, state regent, all from Washington.

Reports of Work Made.

Reports of work accomplished during the past year were made by the following officers and chairmen of committees: Mrs. Edwin T. Hitchcock, state corresponding secretary; Miss Edith E. Benedict, state recording secretary; Miss Annie M. Lang, state treasurer; Miss Mary Perkins, state consulting registrar; Mrs. C. C. Clark, programmer; Mrs. Homer Goolley, badges; Mrs. E. B. Cartledge, endorsement; Mrs. Robert S. Farrell, legislative; Mrs. U. G. Smith, special service, and Mrs. William Evans, magazine.

No election of officers will be held this year, since state officers serve for two years.

VOTE OVERWHELMING FOR PACKER STRIKE

COUNT IN CHICAGO YARDS RE- SULTS 21,482 TO 207.

Returns From Seven Other Cities Also Are Received; Ballot Is Warded to Permit Settlement.

CHICAGO, March 18.—By a vote of 21,482 to 207 union workers in Chicago packing plants went on record today in favor of a strike if they are "unable to induce the packers to maintain the eight-hour work day."

Telegraphic reports at union headquarters were said to indicate similar strike majorities in other packing house centers throughout the country. Some of the returns were:

St. Paul—For 2183, against 115.
Oklahoma City, Okla.—For 596, against 5.

Austin, Minn.—For 624, against 10.
Albert Lea, Minn.—For 337, against 3.
Cedar Rapids, Ia.—For 300, against 1.
St. Louis, Mo.—For 1479, against 17.
Milwaukee—For 559, against 29.

Official returns had not been received from Omaha, Neb.; East St. Louis, Ill.; Kansas City or St. Joseph, Mo., but incomplete returns showed a majority for a strike, Secretary Lane said.

The exact wording of the ballots on which the men voted follows:

"Do you favor and authorize a strike in the event that the government or our organization is unable to induce the packers to maintain the eight-hour work day and compliance with the agreement entered into with the United States department of labor?"

The agreement referred to was a war-time ruling which submitted all wage and hour disputes between the packers and their employees to a federal arbitrator, Judge Samuel A. Schuler having occupied the position during the war period. The packers withdrew from the agreement on February 26 on the ground that the war was over. The agreement specified that it was to remain in force until one year after the end of the war. The unions claim that the war has not officially ended.

After withdrawing from the agreement, the packers announced wage reductions of from 12 1/2 to 15 per cent and changed the work day from eight hours to ten hours before overtime was paid. They also announced plans by which the workers would participate in the control of plant affairs.

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DAUGHTERS OF '76 IN STATE SESSION

Americanization Work Is Planned at Convention.

SCHOOL FLAG DAY WANTED

Welcome for Naturalized Is Declared State Duty.

MRS. DUNIWAY HONORED

Gathering Stands in Silent Tribute to Mother of Suffrage When Her Picture Appears.

BY DOROTHY DUNIWAY.
SALEM, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—Two hundred women from all parts of the state, representing 18 chapters, gathered this morning in the house of representatives for the eighth annual state conference of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Oregon. Of this number, 66 are official delegates. Huge American flags, many potted plants and flowers and sprays of greenery made the hall festive.

"Americanization and Oregonization should be the slogans for the coming year," declared Mrs. John A. Keating of Portland, state regent, who presided.

"Historical investigations of the organization of chapters and of the early records of our state are of value both to our local and national associations. Data on historical spots in Oregon are invaluable."

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LAST CALL IS OUT FOR DRAFT EVADERS

FALSELY ACCUSED PERSONS MAY YET ESCAPE.

Adjutant-General Asks That Full Facts Be Sent Him by Those Wrongly Classified.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—A last opportunity for selective service law evaders to escape broadcast publication of their names as deserters during the world war was given today by Adjutant-General Harris of the army.

Persons who have reason to believe that they will be charged with evading the draft, but who did not actually do so, the adjutant-general announced, may escape the odium of being publicly branded as a deserter unjustly by communicating all the facts of the case to him without delay.

The final check of the lists is being completed by former members of the local draft boards. By the end of the month the war department expects to begin making the lists public through the newspapers and by furnishing copies to city, state and federal police, detective agencies, the American Legion and other patriotic societies.

In addition, Secretary Weeks will ask congress to provide funds to enable payment of a reward of \$50 to any person who delivers to the military authorities a deserter from the draft.

The department's list of draft evaders, which as originally reported to the provost marshal-general numbered nearly 490,000 names, has been reduced to approximately 150,000 names. The final lists by draft districts are now being tabulated by the adjutant-general's office.

COURT QUITS LEGAL FIGHT

Tax Collection Is Ordered in Ac- cordance With Injunction.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—The Klamath county court admitted defeat today in the courtroom dispute when it issued an order for the collection of taxes in accordance with an injunction order of Judge Calkins prohibiting the collection of \$50,000 for the Hot Springs courthouse construction and \$14,000 for miscellaneous expenses. The miscellaneous fund was understood to have been intended to pay attorney fees in the courthouse litigation.

While abandoning intention of further litigation, the county court does not intend to quit the fight for the Hot Springs courthouse. The \$50,000 construction fund will be submitted at the June election in the form of a proposition to be voted on at the same time the recall of Circuit Judge Kuykendall and County Clerk Delap is contemplated.

Poland, Roumania and Czechoslovakia in Agreement.

PARIS, March 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—An entente for common defense has been reached between Poland, Roumania and Czechoslovakia, it was learned in diplomatic circles here today.

Through the good offices of Roumania a better understanding has been brought about between Czechoslovakia and Poland, facilitating the tripartite agreement which has principally in view defense of the three countries against eventual attacks by the bolsheviks.

Wide-Eyed Boys Watch.

The story of the fantastic doings on Jennie road, between south Mount Taylor and Gresham, stands a haggard old barn of the Perod pentant. But it has resounded to revels, say the neighborhood families, that Booth Tarkington never dreamed of in his most felicitous moments. Two Saturdays ago, and again the following week, contingents of "frat men" seriously intent upon their duties conveyed thither certain candidates for initiation, and gave the wishful ones such welcome as would have tweaked the envy of the inquisition.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature 63 degrees, minimum 44 degrees. Today's—Clearing; southerly winds.

Foreign.