

# GERMANS GAMBLING MAD, SAYS HARDEN

### Eyes of Rich and Poor on Wheel of Fortune.

## LAW'S ARM IS WEAKENED

### Thousands Upon Thousands, Since Upset of 1918, Have Fallen Victims to Forbidden Fruit.

BY MAXIMILIAN HARDEN.  
Germany's Foremost Publicist.  
(Copyright, 1921, by The Oregonian.)  
BERLIN, Sept. 17.—(Special by Wireless).—All Germany today is gambling mad. The cost of the necessities of life is so high and the tax burden so painful that not ten persons in a hundred thousand can live within their incomes.

Therefore, many who never dreamed of gambling, today stretch their hopeful hands toward fortune's wheel. The new gamblers are the "new poor," and what from a distance looks like the intoxication of enjoyment too often is the fling of despair.

In the cinema Germany's plight today would be called "the dazzling bankrupts" or "the great gamble." It all begins with roulette wheels, carried through the streets on wheelbarrows or placed in dark and carefully locked back rooms. It has grown to gilded palaces, gaudy withinsel. It has extended to the boules, where human beings are packed like sardines daily, buying stocks they never heard of before and selling at the first show of profit, or being shoved out when their narrow margins are exhausted.

## Arm of Law Weakened.

The law forbids gambling throughout Germany. But after the great upset of the fall of 1918, when the power of the law seemed to be weakened, thousands upon thousands fell victims to the charm of the forbidden fruit. The gorgeous saloons reopened. The little ball spinning about the spotted wheel was watched by whole families, lips dried with suspense being moistened ever and over again by the sipping of a sweet, fizzy drink still called champagne.

The police often have raided these nests. Children stationed as look-outs have been arrested and forced to miss a number of days of school. Some of the places found it too troublesome to remain open, but their closing affected only the smaller betters. For the wealthier people, so-called "better syndicates" sprang up. Any barber, jobless bookkeeper or clerk could start a syndicate by leasing an office, joining hands with some bar proprietor and promising huge winnings on the race.

For half a year the syndicates flourished, but after they had paid some tremendous winning dividends the inevitable crash came. There was a panic among the investors and a tide of syndicate property quickly ebbed. But above and beside all this the tide of the gambling spirit persisted.

## Record Business Done.

Now it is the pari mutuelle betting machines that are doing a record business. Stenographers, messengers, elevator boys, honest laborers and market women all have taken to gambling. The cook today accepts a piece with the population and may go out for several hours every forenoon. What does she do with this time? She takes a tour of the betting rooms and with the information received there she bets on the horses racing in the north or south of Europe (which horses and which places she never saw in all her life). Then she returns to the cook stove proud of the internationality of her business connections.

## If this were a cinema production...

If this were a cinema production the next reel would show the Bourse. Wheelbarrow roulette, clandestine gambling and shady bookmaking are only cheap substitutes. They are too trifling to have much said about them. Really impressive speculation is possible only on the Bourse. The number admitted is not large but business rages. Little banks are smothered under a pile of orders. One day this week there were more transactions than during a whole quarter of a year formerly.

## Industrial and transportation shares...

Industrial and transportation shares, the real value of which the throng of speculators have not the slightest idea, are eagerly traded in as prices change and exchange rates fluctuate.

## Exchanges Are Swamped.

The "sardines" packed in the exchange jostle and fight each other until only a fair-sized tugline can reach the brokers' enclosures, while the Jack Dempsey among the "sardines" actually place their orders. The army of bank officials and brokers busy until after midnight, cannot keep up with the work. The exchange has been forced to close for days to catch up, while the bank directors publicly have sent out a word of pessimistic warning, saying that the skyscraper edifice built up by the speculators will collapse. The public has failed to heed these warnings, like wild animals who have tasted blood.

## The republicans and the monarchists...

The republicans and the monarchists for once are united in a joint worship of King Dollar. As the throne of the gollar mounts higher the crowd surmises something must be done in the way of increased exports, an industrial peak, etc., and continues to buy, buy, buy.

The dollar may be worth 103 marks.

Nothing else is interesting. The monarchists moves in Bavaria, the hymn of the last gold billion to the entente (one-third of which was borrowed on hard terms) whether we can possibly fulfill the Versailles agreement, delivering yearly 120,000,000,000 marks worth of goods to France, whether dumping will arouse the productive world against us—these pale beside the great passion to get rich.

## GUARD MOUNT REVIVED

### Ceremony Hereafter Will Be Held at Vancouver Barracks.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Sept. 17.—(Special).—Formal guard mount will be held at the Vancouver barracks next Monday morning at 11:15 o'clock for the first time in years. During the war, and since the armistice was signed, this formality has been left out of the military routine at the post, but the arrival of the 59th infantry makes it possible to resume the ceremony. The 45-piece band of the regiment will assist at each guard mount, which is to be held daily except Sunday.

A new schedule for calls was ordered today to take effect tomorrow. The schedule puts reveille a half hour later, and other calls are also set back a half hour.

## BOND PURPOSE CLARIFIED

### Damages May Be Asked Without Joining State as Plaintiff.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 17.—(Special).—The public service commission today was advised by I. H. Van Winkle, attorney-general, that the bond required to be executed by the state of the warehouse is executed in favor of the state for convenience only, and that, under the laws of Oregon, an action may be brought on the bond by one entitled to damages under its provisions without joining the state as plaintiff.

The opinion further stated that the commission does not have authority to waive the furnishing of such a bond by a warehouseman since a bond is required by the United States under the provisions of the United States warehouse act.

## MEDFORD HONORS SOLDIER

### Colonel H. H. Sargent to Be Buried at Jacksonville Today.

MEDFORD, Or., Sept. 17.—(Special).—The flag on Medford's city hall was at half-mast today in tribute to the memory of Colonel H. H. Sargent, nationally-known soldier, military author, resident of Jackson county and former member of the Medford city council, who died suddenly at his home at Jacksonville yesterday.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon from the family home at Jacksonville and burial will be in the Jacksonville cemetery, with military honors. The Medford post of the American Legion will have charge of the burial.

## Historic Gavel Presented.

A unique gavel was presented to Owen Summers camp No. 4, Sons of Veterans, at its meeting this week by Mr. and Mrs. D. L. McKay. The head of the gavel was made from a piece of wood which Mr. McKay took out of the Andersonville prison stockpile when he was imprisoned there. The handle is a drumstick used throughout the civil war. The gavel will be used by the chairman of the camp hereafter at meetings.

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# HOOVER'S LONE HAND IN RELIEF DEFENDED

### Other Powers Want Voice, but Have No Money.

## AMERICA GIVES ALL AID

### Criticism of "Too Exclusive Organization" Is Answered; Poverty Kills Co-operation.

BY WILLIAM BIRD.  
(Copyright, 1921, by The Oregonian.)  
PARIS, Sept. 17.—(Special Cable).—A plain, unvarnished word about Mr. Hoover's Russian relief.

There has been much criticism, though cautiously advanced, of Mr. Hoover in certain European quarters where it was felt he was "too exclusive" in his relief organization. It is pointed out that he turned a cold shoulder toward Dr. Nansen and refused to pool with the supreme council committee.

Why does Hoover hold aloof? Why does he refuse to co-operate with others? Why does he want to play a lone hand? complain the critics, who seem to feel it is just a matter of personal pride.

The fact, straight from a plain-speaking American who is in a position to know, is this:

Hoover is the only one of all the relief people who has any money. He has some \$14,000,000 for this purpose. He can get more, much more; Nansen has no money. The league has none. The supreme council has a few million.

When these other agencies come to Hoover with suggestions for co-operation, he listens politely and then asks: "What can you do?"

They assert that they can "co-operate." What it means, says my informant, is that they are willing to help Hoover spend his money. Hoover will co-operate with anybody who has the goods, but sees no point in cutting one loaf of bread in too many small pieces.

Meanwhile, one of the most graceful and practical things American charity has done in Europe is the presentation by the American Red Cross to the Austrian government of all its surplus stock of tobacco and cigarettes.

Surplus Is Long Problem. What to do with this surplus has long been a problem to the Red Cross authorities at the Paris headquarters. The army stocks of tobacco were sold, along with the rest of the war surplus, to the French government, and while the French smokes, however, did not take to American cigarettes, and while American residents eagerly bought their favorite brands by the carton, there were not enough Americans to make the stock move quickly. Therefore when the Red Cross suggested that the French buy their stocks also, the French refused.

It also refused the Red Cross permission to sell them at all in France unless the full tax were paid. This made the price so high that sale was impossible. Other European governments were appealed to, but in vain.

for everywhere the tax on tobacco is high. At last a happy expedient was hit upon. The Red Cross commission decided to give the tobacco, which cost the Red Cross \$50,000, to the Austrian government, on condition that the latter sell it at a determined price, substantially equivalent to the retail price in America, and devote the proceeds to child relief, under Red Cross supervision.

Meanwhile plans for applying the proceeds to the immediate relief of Vienna's under-nourished babies are well under way. The plan jointly adopted by the government and the Red Cross provides for the purchase of cows, which will be brought into the territory immediately surrounding Vienna. The milk from these cows will go directly to the hospitals and to the various child health stations distributing relief to the babies of the poor.

To expedite the work, the Austrian finance ministry has already agreed to advance part of the money expected to be realized from the sale of the American stocks. The total to be realized, according to Red Cross officials, will be not far from \$150,000, as the inventory value of the goods is considerably below the retail value.

Some idea of the dearth of milk in Vienna may be gathered from the fact that whereas the normal milk supply of the city is about 1,000,000 gallons daily, it has dropped until it is now hardly 100,000 gallons.

Part of the cause of this is the fact that the great dairy lands which formerly nourished the Austro-Hungarian capital have been annexed to Czechoslovakia. Another reason, however, is that the government has fixed the price of milk at a low figure, in order to be in reach of the poor, and the other is that the dairy farmers claim they cannot produce at a profit. A short time ago, in fact, the dairy supply fell as low as 50,000 gallons, but doubled when a slight increase in price was allowed.

Before the milk situation can improve much further there will have to be greater increases in price. Indeed, one Red Cross representative declared that control must be removed altogether and free competition restored if the farmers are to yield. At all events, the Viennese smoker may now increase his daily cigarette consumption with a clear conscience, realizing that it, as some doctors assert, is bad for his health. It is all the same good for the health of Vienna's children.

## GAMBLING HOUSES RAIDED

### 250 Los Angeles Arrested in Business District.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 17.—Approximately 250 persons were arrested in a series of raids conducted by the police upon alleged gambling resorts in the downtown business section today.

Eight places were raided, in each of which, Chief Jones declared, bookmaking was going on. The majority of persons arrested were released on bail.



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