

CHEMICAL RETTING WILL GIVE SUCCESS TO FLAX INDUSTRY

One American Concern Now Sells to Europe, Says a Government Report.

MARKETING IS DIFFICULT

Buyers Have to Be Made to Believe That the Domestic Product Is as Good as That Foreign Made.

Washington, Sept. 9.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL.)—Flax growers throughout the country will be interested in a report by W. A. Graham Clark, just published by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce of the department of commerce.

Mr. Clark thinks that the success of fiber flax growing in this country depends largely upon the discovery of a chemical process for retting, so that this may be done at the factory, instead of by the farmer. The farmer, he says, should be allowed to devote his attention to the agricultural end of the industry.

Russia Gaining Monopoly.

"Some progress is already being made in chemical retting," it is stated, "and at least two concerns are now buying flax stalks from the growers for further treatment. Chemical processes have been tried before without much success, but one of the new concerns is now selling chemically retted fiber to Europe and the other is making coarse lines for use in clothing and for curtains."

Russia is the only country in which the production of fiber flax has increased consistently in recent years. In the countries of continental Europe the production has been steadily declining. Government aid and cheap labor have enabled the Russians to gain a practical monopoly.

Little Grows for Fiber.

About 3,000,000 acres were devoted to flax growing in the United States in 1915, but only about 200,000 acres went into fiber flax. The rest of the crop was harvested for seed, which is a separate industry. Some is grown both for seed and fiber, but decisions must be made by the grower, says Mr. Graham, as to which is to be the most important product, just as the sheep grower must decide between the production of wool or mutton.

As this is the greatest linen consuming country in the world, the department of commerce intends to extend every encouragement to the development of fiber flax growing, realizing, at the same time, that there remains the problem of finding a market.

Imported Article Favored.

"Time and effort will be required to persuade the consumer to buy the domestic, instead of the imported product," it is stated. "Many invariably choose the imported article when it is displayed alongside of domestic products, almost regardless of quality."

Time Is Opposite.

"The president of a mill now making dyed and bleached dress lines from American flax has found that small as is his product, there is difficulty in getting the jobbers and department stores to handle it. The tendency is to assume that even though it is of apparently excellent quality, it cannot equal the old established lines from abroad."

"There will never be a better time than the present to popularize the domestic product, for the imported article is scarce and high priced. In normal times our imports of linen goods vary from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000, and the demand had been steadily increasing up to the time of the war."

The Graham report is special agent series No. 122, entitled "Development of an American Flax Industry," and may be had for five cents from any district office of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce or from the superintendent of public documents at Washington.

WEBB BILL INTENDED TO GIVE AID TO SMALL U. S. MANUFACTURER

Washington, Sept. 9.—In the passage of the so-called Webb bill, amending the anti-trust laws, congress is making an effort to widen the field for American manufacturers to enter foreign fields by allowing them to combine for exploitation of business abroad.

It was contended by Representative Webb of North Carolina, introducer of this bill, that it is in the interest of the smaller manufacturer, because larger firms, such as the harvestor and steel corporations already have their own agents in foreign countries. The Webb bill permits smaller interests to combine for the same purpose. The only limitation is that the combination must not attempt to restrain trade in the United States.

The selling agencies permitted to be established by this legislation will be permitted to engage only in export trade. They will not be able to buy raw material in other countries, or to manufacture materials abroad for importation into America. The sponsors of the legislation assert that it has been so drawn as not to injuriously affect any interests in this country, the sole purpose being to enable combinations to operate abroad for the sale of American goods in competition with foreign goods in foreign markets.

Selling agencies may be established in this country also for export trade, but such agencies must be engaged solely in that trade and not in producing or manufacturing.

That one result will be a tendency to sell articles abroad at a lower price, in some instances, than sold for in this country, was suggested in the debate. It was not agreed that this would be so, but some of the members of the house thought that in the keenness of competition for foreign trade, prices are likely to be offered below those at which the same goods will be offered by the same firms in the American market, where their selling in combination is forbidden.

Fun Every Minute

Music Samples and Souvenirs Playground for Kiddies

TUESDAY WILL BE GOVERNOR'S DAY

Doors Open at 1 P. M. and 7 P. M.

LABOR DAY CELEBRATION PROVES INTERESTING AFFAIR



Above—Watching aquatic sports and contest at Columbia beach. Below—Bathers at Columbia beach around a driftwood fire.



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Labor Day was celebrated last Monday by several thousand members of organized labor marching through the principal streets of Portland in a "labor preparedness parade." Many unions were represented by banners and floats.

The fire department contributed a display of engines and ladder trucks, manned by union men, that attracted a great deal of favorable comment.

Speaking in the park blocks followed the close of the parade. Addresses were made by Elton Watkins, orator of the day; C. E. Spence, master of the

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BRITISH REPLY TO AMERICAN PROTEST WILL ARRIVE SOON

State Department Awaits Answer Before Taking Any Action on New Problem.

LEGISLATION IS PLANNED

Statement of Lloyd George As To Use Made of Information Gleaned From Neutral Mail To Be Acted On.

Washington, Sept. 9.—(I. N. S.)—The state department, it was authoritative announced today, will receive the British reply to the American protest against unlawful seizures of United States mails on the high seas this month. Some officials expect the reply to be delivered within a week.

The state department is awaiting the receipt of this reply before taking action on the reported statement of David Lloyd George to the English parliament that the war office was furnishing to other departments of the British government the information obtained from inspection of neutral mails. Lloyd George virtually admitted that this information was being used "for any public and national purpose."

This was construed here to mean that all information relating to commerce was furnished to the British board of trade, which passed it along to British commercial interests which in turn used it against their competitors in the United States and in other neutral countries.

England Accused of Hiding.

It was pointed out at the state department today that it was perfectly proper for this government in its dealings with Great Britain to take cognizance of what the British war minister said in parliament.

England, it was said, had been hiding behind the cloak of "acting in concert with her allies" in dealing with the American government, instead of trying to explain her procrastination in meeting American demands as necessary because of her obligation to consult the other parties interested with her. This explanation has not been satisfactory to the government and Great Britain has been made to understand that action by the United States will take the place of words unless there is an early modification of her illegal orders in council.

At the state department today it was said that no definite policy toward Great Britain had been decided upon, but that the general policy was made plain by congress in passing retaliatory legislation at the inspiration of the department.

The intimation was broached that retaliation will be adopted in fighting both the blacklist and interference with the mails.

But before this is resorted to another note probably will be sent to Great Britain warning her of the state of public feeling in this country and making sharp reference to Lloyd George's declaration in parliament.

Department Said to Be Prepared.

The state department professes to believe the retaliatory measures adopted by congress will furnish a sufficient weapon to bring England to terms. The most drastic legislation adopted, however, was that contained in the Finance bill, which authorized the president to prevent the clearance of vessels that attempt to carry out the terms of the blacklist. How this could be employed to prevent the stealing of American trade secrets which the British war minister so strongly hinted at was not made public by the department. Neither was any statement forthcoming as to why the Finance amendment which would have afforded a more drastic weapon to combat British aggression upon American business firms, has been stricken from the bill at the behest of the state department.

eral cargoes of grain to Scandinavian countries properly consigned to merchants in those countries. Great Britain claimed that some of this wheat found its way into Germany. Without giving McNear any opportunity to explain or defend himself against the unwarranted assumption of the British foreign office, a peremptory order was issued placing McNear's vessels on the blacklist and killing his export business. The result is that the two British houses named have taken over all that trade and are conducting it entirely unopposed by the British government.

Another corporation in which McNear is interested for years has been engaged in the sale of petroleum products in the orient and throughout the Pacific with valuable connections in Australia, New Zealand and other British Pacific possessions.

The committee was told by McNear that his petroleum corporation shipped a single cargo to Europe and had never directly or indirectly had any business connection with any territory outside of the Orient and Pacific territory in which it confined its activities. Immediately following the blacklisting of the grain export firm of McNear this petroleum corporation was also blacklisted.

Annual Banquet of Fraternity Is Held

Fifty members of the Oregon Agricultural college and University of Oregon chapters of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and of the Portland Alumni association of the fraternity met last night at their annual banquet at the Benson hotel. College songs and yells and talks on fraternity life and its influences formed the evening's program. F. S. McCord presided as toastmaster.

New Publications Assail Germany.

Berne, Sept. 9.—(I. N. S.)—With French and English money two newspapers in Switzerland printed in the German language have been started. These organs of publicity assail Germany and Austria-Hungary more bitterly than the French press of the western Swiss cantons.

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UNWELCOME GUEST ROUGHLY HANDLED

Former Austro-Hungarian Consul Finds He Is Not Wanted—Fight Follows and Police Are Called.

Geneva, Sept. 9.—(I. N. S.)—A painful incident occurred at a festival and hall given recently by the American colony of Lausanne at the "Casino Montebon" for the benefit of Swiss and French soldiers. The fête was attended not only by all American residents of Lausanne and Geneva, but also by many Frenchmen and French-Swiss sympathizers of the allies.

The only unwelcome guest at the festival was Richard Schmidt, former Austro-Hungarian consul at Lausanne, and present manager of the "Hotel Palace de Lausanne." As he has many American guests, the ex-consul considered it good policy to attend the festival and to spend a few hundred francs for a charitable purpose, but upon his arrival at the casino he was informed that no Teutons were desired there.

When he remonstrated the ex-consul got into a dispute with two Frenchmen and an American, with the result that he was badly beaten and thrown out. The police interfered and arrested the three assailants of the Austrian, but they were immediately released on parole.

Henry Ford to Pay a Brief Visit Here

Automobile Magnate and Peace Apostle Will Pass Through Portland Next Tuesday in Private Car.

Henry Ford, apostle of peace and protagonist of labor-saving appliances for the farm, will whisk through Portland Tuesday with the minimum of ostentation and the maximum of secrecy. He is traveling in the private car Philadelphia, under general New York Central auspices, though all the railroads are helping watch the noted manufacturer's comfort.

HUGHES' TOUR OF WEST NOT SATISFACTORY

(Continued From Page One.)

precedented magnitude, such as would paralyze industry throughout the country.

The wonder of it all is that with such matters demanding the attention of the president, with congress almost constantly in session, and with such weight of personal responsibility constantly upon him, the president has been able to direct, as the leader of his party, so much progressive and constructive legislation.

There is no question but that President Wilson in his own person deserves more than the usual amount of credit for the legislation passed during his administration. That is admitted on all sides. One of the most frequent criticisms heard on the Republican side is the "encroachment" of the executive power, which means that the president has exerted his personal influence on numerous occasions to secure the passage of legislation.

Legislative Leadership Approved.

The same fault was found with Roosevelt, but there is every indication that the people approve the course of the president in both cases. During the president's leadership in government affairs, party leaders may not always applaud, but the people look to the president for actual leadership, and President Wilson's courage in difficult situations cannot be questioned.

To have accomplished in one administration the enactment of such measures as a general tariff revision, the federal reserve act, the trade commission act, the seamen's law, the rural credits law, the child labor law and the great preparedness measures constitutes a record that has no parallel, at least since the early days of the republic. That this has been done while foreign problems were at high tension is something that must appeal to the future historian.

SPROULE ENTERS PROTEST

Washington, Sept. 9.—William Sproule, president of the Southern Pacific company, was one of those who entered protest by telegraph to senators of Pacific coast states against the passage of the revenue bill in a form that would impose a tax of 50 cents on each \$1000 of capital, surplus and undivided profits.

Sproule said he could not believe it was the intention of congress to place this revenue tax on corporate debt, and suggested that it be limited to capital stock, surplus and undivided profits. He estimated that if applied to all corporation holdings listed as "capital," it would add \$5,000,000 to government receipts from railroad indebtedness.

MORROW COUNTY LAND DESTROYED

Washington, Sept. 9.—Upon applications made from Oregon, Senator Lane has recommended to the interior department the restoration to entry under the homestead act of certain tracts desired by Whittier W. Ewing of Cecil and James Casserley of Lexington. The land they desire to enter is in Morrow county, and was withdrawn several years ago for prospective reclamation use, which has not materialized.

EVERETT CITIZENS GO AFTER THE I. W. W.'S

Street Meeting Is Broken Up; Trouble Brewing For Some Time Expected to Result in Further Hostilities.

Everett, Wash., Sept. 9.—(P. N. S.)—A return engagement is being planned between 500 and 1500 I. W. W.'s here, who are at war with the sheriff's forces and commercial club in a "free speech" fight. Last night a crowd of deputies and citizens charged a mass meeting on a forbidden street corner and dispersed the agitators with bullets.

Trouble between the I. W. W. and the local opposing forces has been brewing for some time.

BAKER LEADS IN GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER; JOSEPHINE IN LEAD

Washington, Sept. 9.—Figures of mineral production in Oregon, compiled by the geological survey for the year 1915, show a gain of \$327,356 over the previous year. The gain is from \$1,676,153 to \$2,003,509.

Baker county leads by far in the production of gold, silver and copper, while Josephine leads in lead. Out of

a total of \$1,861,756 of gold production for the state, Baker's output was worth \$1,855,382, Josephine second with \$54,082. Deep quartz mines in Baker alone produced \$1,321,474 in gold. The total quartz production was worth \$1,379,626 and the total for lodes \$482,178.

Copper to the amount of 451,172 pounds was produced in the state, growing from almost nothing in 1914, when less than 40,000 pounds was reported. Baker's copper is listed at 357,103 pounds, while Josephine produced 53,562 pounds and Lane county 40,505 pounds.

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My Scientific Work

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Washington, Sept. 9.—(I. N. S.)—The story of an American businessman whose export business had been taken from him and turned over to two British rivals through the operation of the British blacklist led to the incorporation of the foreign relations committee, the committee adopted the measure prohibiting the use of the mails and cables to citizens of countries that blacklist American firms and individuals.

The blacklisting of the McNear interests and the manner in which it was brought about opened the eyes of the senate committee to the enormity of the damage that Great Britain is causing in American commerce and afforded strong evidence that the whole policy was inaugurated to benefit British business houses.

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Not only to users of pipe and cigars, but the victim of the habit is overcome by using the "NITAZAL" treatment. Price complete, postage paid, \$1.00. L. B. DeLoe Drug Co., 3d and Yamhill, Portland, Or.

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