'HOARDING' BLAMED, WITH SPECULATION, FOR FOOD SHORTAGE

Immediate Governmental Action Is Needed to Prevent Famine, Says Whitmarsh.

LABOR AND GRAIN NEEDED

Lever Food Control Bill Regarded as Best Remedy in Sight, But It Must Have Early Passage.

Chicago, June 22.—(U. P.)—"Food hoarders," and "professional speculators" are mainly responsible for the present high cost of living.

Theodore Whitmarsh, president of the National Wholesale Grocers' association, in convention here, made this statement to the United Press Thursday.

"Of course," said Whitmarsh, "the fundamental reason for abnormal prices is the war, which has caused an unprecedented economic revolution that is, the world is destroying more than it can produce.

Destruction Generally Felt

"Forty million men, according to statistics, are engaged in the 'industry' of destruction, instead of their natural field of endeavor—production—and the world supply of food products and commodities of every description is becoming more limited each day.

"The most expedient remedy, and perhaps the quickest, is the regulation of production, distribution and consumption by government control.

"The Lever food bill, which is now before congress, embodies all the necessary means for the government to control the supply of foodstuffs, and possibly, harmonize the demand of our allied nations.

Labor and Grain Short

"Natural causes of the present food situation are easily recognizable. The weather of the past two growing seasons has been very unfavorable to crops and resulted in a world grain shortage. Labor being diverted also helped to create this crop condition. But other reasons, not natural, helped to aggravate the situation, which now is bordering on an actual food crisis and, if action is not immediately taken by the government, will result in famine next winter and spring as well as precluding all possibilities of an early victory over Prussianism.

"These unnatural causes are professional speculators and food hoarders. The majority of people, especially the middle classes, have become alarmed and are hoarding food. The professional speculator has taken advantage of the peculiar situation and contributed his artifical demand to the frenzied demand of the small buyer.

"The Lever bill will stop professional speculation and food hoarding, and in order to adjust the harmony of distribution it is absolutely essential that the administration take action at once."

Nevada Official Is Urged for I. C. C.

Washington, June 22.—(I. N. S.)—Senator Newlands of Nevada late Thursday called at the White House to urge the president to appoint J. F. Shaughnessy of the Nevada railroad commission to the vacancy in the interstate commerce commission caused by the death of Judson C. Clements.

Columbia Still at Flood Stage

The Dalles, Or., June 22.—The Columbia river remains at flood stage, 40 feet. Rivermen believe it will recede and not reach flood stage again this season.

Quarter Cent Extra Per Pound, War Tax

Publications Using Second Class Mail Rates Must Help Pay Nation's Bill, Says Committee.

Washington, June 22.—(I. N. S.)—One quarter of a cent per pound additional tax on second class mail matter, which includes newspaper and other publications, was finally agreed upon Thursday evening by the senate finance committee, which is framing the war revenue bill. The committee also agreed to a 5 per cent tax on all profits of publications above 4000 circulation. The vote was 8 to 6.

The committee struck out of the bill the increase on postcards from 1 to 2 cents. This cuts $10,000,000 from the revenue the bill would bring in. A 6 per cent exemption on the excess profits of all business started since the war began was also agreed to.

TAX ON PROFITS WILL AFFECT INDIVIDUALS AS WELL AS FIRMS

About $100,000,000 Is Expected From Proposed Source of Revenue.

Washington, June 22.—(U. P.)—Individuals as well as corporations will be included in the tax on excess profits under the revenue bill, now being drawn by the senate finance committee. About $100,000,000 is expected from this new source.

With this question disposed of, the committee today settled another knotty problem when it fixed the rate of exemption, under the excess profits levy, for corporations that could prove a sub-noraml "pre-war income." The rate fixed was 6 per cent on the capital stock, in addition to the $5000 exemption allowed all corporations under the section.

Booze, bloated incomes and big war profits should pay America's way in the war, Senator La Follette believes.

He has started a fight in the senate finance committee to boost taxes on all these three sources of revenue and will carry his contention to the senate floor.

La Follette's plan is to have war profits carry the bulk of the tax load. He would levy 32 per cent against them, and figures $1,120,000,000 could be raised by this stroke. His income tax would net $500,000,000, and internal revenue, $209,000,000. He would eliminate all taxes on soft drinks, thereby cutting $12,000,000 from the total.

Third Degree to Be Tried in Keet Case

Dick Carter, Suspected of Being Brains of Gang, and Two Others, to Be Grilled as to Part in Crime.

St. Louis, June 22.—(I. N. S.)—If the third degree can break down the stolid reserve of three suspects and wrest from them a confession, police believe the mystery surrounding the kidnaping and murder of Baby Lloyd Keet, heir to millions, will have been cleared away by night.

Dick Carter, suspected of being the "brains" of the "murder gang," who was brought here last night from Kansas City, and two other suspects, C. J. Piersol and Cletus Adams, will be put through the "third degree" here today.

Paul M. O'Day of Springfield, Mo., prosecuting attorney of Greene county, and Chief of Detectives Allender will conduct the grilling. Following the discovery of "Buddie" Keet's body Carter fled from Springfield, and was arrested Tuesday at Hutchinson, Kan.

GREECE WILL HAVE NO KING IN FUTURE WHO CLAIMS 'DIVINE RIGHT'

Venizelos, Constantine's Premier, Reveals Belief in Ancient Theory of Ex-King.

Saloniki, June 19.—(via London), June 22.—(U. P.)—"I am not obliged to bow to the will of the people. I am responsible only to God."

King Constantine of Greece made this statement to Eleutheros Venizelos, his premier, when the latter insisted that the will of the Greek people be recognized and Greece's treaty with Serbia be fulfilled.

Constantine, now deposed, is an exile in Switzerland. Venizelos, president of the Greek provisional government, and a power in Greek affairs, revealed the complete adherenc of Constantine to the theory of the divine right of kings in a statement to the United Press Thursday. It was in explanation of the reforms the Greek people will demand in accepting Alexander, Constantines' second son, as king.

Venizelos declared the Greek people were willing to "make another expriment in constitutional monarchy, but will hold that the constitution must be revised."

In telling for the first time the details of the interview between himself and Constantine, at the time of the Greek crisis, Venizelos said:

"The Greek people desire that the king may never again be able to say to the responsible head of the government, as Constantine said to me, that he is 'responsible only to God.'

"The abdication of King Constantine, constituting, as it did, a triumph in Greece of democratic ideas, was, from our viewpoint, a necessary condition to a sincere renewal with Serbia of the bonds of the alliance contained in the treaty torn up by our fallen monarch. The action of the protecting powers has not, it is true, more than partially satisfied the desires of a vast majority of the Greek people, for the injury done by the king to the monarchial regime was so deep that a large section of public opinion considered the only real solution to be a radical reform of the regime on the basis of those principles which for more than a century have assured the prosperity of the great American republic."

Red Cross Fund Gets Rockefeller Millions

New York, June 22.—(I. N. S.)—The contribution of the Rockefeller Foundation to the $100,000,000 fund for the American Red Cross society is $5,000,000, it was announced Thursday.

Rev. Pidgeon Heads Rotary Club

Atlanta, Ga., June 22.—(I. N. S.)—Rev. E. Leslie Pidgeon of Winnipeg was Thursday elected president of the International Association of Rotary clubs, defeating Guy Gundaker of Philadelphia.