

# POTATO CROP IN GERMANY IS FAR UNDER STANDARD

## Further Reduction in Rations by Next Spring Seems Apparent

# CROP FAILURE IS DENIED

## Authorities Say Farmers Are Lying About Latest Estimates

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 3.—The month of November marked probably the blackest period in the history of the German food supply, not indeed in the actual supply, but in the outlook for the winter and spring. The public had already become aware that the bread-stuffs harvest was poor and the fodder harvest bad, but

further revelations came rapidly during the month, which must have an all but catastrophic effect on shrinking people in Germany. The supply of vegetables, it became known, is very inadequate everywhere, there is hardly any prospect of help from the fish trade, and an alarming drop in the scanty supplies of milk, butter and fat.

**Potato Harvest Disappoints.**  
Finally, on top of all this, it became clear during November that the potato harvest is disappointing in the extreme. The quantity shown in the official returns is indeed so disappointing that the authorities refuse to accept the revised estimates, declare the farmers liars, and propose to call in the military to requisition stocks. Moreover, the quality in different parts of the empire is reported as extremely poor, so that an unusual percentage of loss can be counted on with certainty.

**'Bumper' Does Not Materialize.**  
As late as October, there were good hopes of a satisfactory potato crop, and many people described the coming harvest as "almost bumper." Early in November the estimates grew more sober, and during the latter part of the month the truth came out. The harvest is almost a total failure. Of course, the authorities declare that the revised estimates "cannot be correct," the harvest must and shall be at least a medium one; the farmers are lying, the military will be called upon to uncover the hoarded stocks, the

# PAPER CONTRACT HEARING OPENED BY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Changes which newspaper publishers want made in contracts and trade customs for the purchase of print paper were outlined today in the federal trade commission at the first open hearing to obtain information on which to fix paper prices.

The commission is preparing to fix prices under an agreement with the manufacturers but, before action is taken there may be a new law on the federal statute books giving it full power over the paper supply. While the hearing was in progress today the senate made its unfinished business legislation recommended by the joint congressional printing paper committee.

**Resolution Is Prepared.**  
The legislation is in the form of a resolution, which provides that during the war the trade commission shall:

"Supervise, control and regulate production and distribution of paper and mechanical chemical pulp in the United States and that all mills and agencies distributing such materials shall be operated on government account."

Authority also will be given the president to negotiate with Canada for limiting American exports to Canada to government account.

The resolution probably will be considered tomorrow.

Ecchry of the long fight of the publishers for lower prices, culminating in the indictment of a number of manufacturers and their agreement to have the commission set a price for their product, were evident in some of the exchanges at the hearing between witnesses and Henry A. Wise of New York, attorney for the manufacturer, Emil Scholz of the New York Evening Post testified he signed a contract for paper without reading it, because he feared if he made objection he could get no paper.

"But you made no objection whatever to the terms of the contract?" insisted Mr. Wise.

"I wouldn't make any objection either if a burglar held a pistol to my head and asked for what I had," retorted the witness.

**Chairman Interrupts.**  
Chairman Harris interrupted to say that such remarks did not aid in reaching just conclusions. Mr. Scholz said he would retract the reference.

At another time Mr. Wise questioned the witness regarding the organization and purposes of the American Newspaper Publishers' association.

"Is it not an association of buyers for the purpose of holding down the price of the product they purchase?" he asked.

"It is not," Scholz replied warmly. "A few publishers consult one another."

Objections by Mary Hyman of the department of justice elicited from the manufacturers' counsel the statement that he wished to show motive.

"I submit that if the attorney general indicts the manufacturers for adopting a standard form of contract," he said, "then he should indict the publishers for seeking to dictate a form of contract."

A. G. McInerney, paper expert for the publishers' association, outlined

# PACIFISTS IN ACCORD

(Continued from page 1)

wants to retain whatever it attaches value to in the interest of its world position. On the other hand, the quadruple alliance must not only rationally renounce all their victorious arms have brought them, but voluntarily surrender portions of their territory or suffer interference in their internal political affairs.

"Lloyd George's terms, therefore, are such as only a victor dare offer the vanquished. We must see that Great Britain does that we are the victors, not the vanquished."

# COURT HEARS SPANIEL SUIT

Action Is Brought Against P. C. Freres on Accommodation Paper

Nearly all the time of Judge Kelly in the circuit court yesterday was occupied in hearing the testimony in the suit of George Spaniel against P. C. Freres, an action brought for the repayment of accommodation notes.

The sheriff returned into court the execution issued in the suit of Percy A. Copper against Elmer Deny et al. on a judgment for \$1015.41 and his report showed that the property sold to the plaintiff for the sum of \$1015.41, satisfying the judgment in the case.

A complaint was filed by Ed Young against G. D. Trotter et al. demanding the production of certain evidence deduced in the suit in the district court of the United States for the district of Oregon, being a law suit brought by the defendant Trotter July 27, 1917. Certain evidence was necessary in the case just filed against Trotter.

Summons was issued in the suit of Leona B. Kaufman against Floyd E. Kaufman in an action for divorce. Decree of absolute divorce was entered of record in the suit of John L. Apple against Daisy Apple.

How would you like to be like Henry Ford and order by the court to pay a dividend of \$19,000,000? What a compliment that would be.

# HER TROUBLE IS GONE.

Mrs. Thomas H. Davis, Montgomery, Ind., says she had trouble with her bladder and had fasted for several months without relief, when Foley Kidney Pills were recommended and she commenced using them and got relief. They relieve backache, rheumatic pains, stiff, swollen joints and kidney trouble. I. C. Perry.

# Alfred Grover, Woodburn Man, Commits Suicide

Alfred Grover, whose parents and a sister lives at Woodburn, recently committed suicide at Yale, Washington, by shooting himself in the head with a shotgun. In letter addressed to his wife, his parents and a neighbor, he gave as his reason that he was hopelessly in debt. It is believed the recent loss of a little son who was killed accidentally may have caused a mental collapse. Grover had been employed by the North Fork Logging company at \$7 a day and it is said that a few hundred dollars would have cleared his debts. His wife was visiting at Woodburn, near her husband, when he killed himself. The body was brought to Woodburn for burial.

# Willamette "Bearcats" Will Meet College Team Friday

"Bearcat" basket ball team men will get their first chance of the season to show their mettle Friday, when they meet Oregon Agricultural college in Willamette gymnasium at 7:30 p. m.

The men who are mentioned as probable first team men this year are Nichols, Wapato, Sparks, Dimick and Modler. McKittrick, a new first-year man, from Wenatche, Wash., is also favorably spoken of. Substitutes will probably be Rarey, Bester and Scolesky.

The local boys have had four weeks of practice and feel confident that they can beat O. A. C.

# Chief Cooper Shows Signs of Improved Condition

Chief of Police Cooper who is ill at his home with lobar pneumonia was reported by his physician shortly before 2 o'clock this morning as having shown signs of improvement at the physician's latest visitation to the chief's bedside. Chief Cooper

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# Conservation Dinner To Be Served On January 16

At the Pomona Grange meeting in Salem January 16, a conservation dinner will be served. Mrs. Zella Fletcher, secretary of the Salem grange, the women's work committee, and Miss Lorene Parker, the home demonstration agent for Marion county, are working together and making every effort to make this a success.

Meat substitutes, war breads and war desserts will find favor that day. Every grange member is co-operating with the committee in charge and gratifying results are expected.

This is a very important step the grange members are taking and it is to be hoped that other organizations will follow their example.

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# SUITS for MEN

As you will know the prices on all woolen goods are steadily going up. You are also probably well aware that the quality of woolens will soon be getting poorer. Uncle Sam is trying to conserve the supply of wool and it will soon be impossible to get an absolutely all-wool garment for civilian wear.

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