

IMPORTANT EVENTS

1914-15 AT

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GERMANS JUSTIFY WAR ZONE ON SEA

Appeal to "Vital Interests"
Declared Compelled by
Enemy's Position.

Berlin, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.

Germany officially gave out the full text of the "memorandum of the Imperial German government concerning retaliation against the measures taken by England, in violation of international law, to stop neutral sea commerce with Germany." It says in part:

"Since the beginning of the present war Great Britain has carried on a mercantile warfare against Germany in a way that defies all the principles of international law.

"Finally she has declared the entire North Sea to be an area of war, and if she has not made impossible the passage of the neutral shipping through the sea between Scotland and Norway, has rendered it so difficult and so dangerous that she had to a certain extent effected a blockade.

"For her violations of international law, Great Britain pleads the vital interests which the British empire has at stake.

"Germany must now appeal to these same vital interests to its regret. It, therefore, sees itself forced to military measures aimed at England in retaliation against the English procedure. Just as England has designated the area between Scotland and Norway as an area of war, so Germany now declares all the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland, including the entire English channel, as an area of war, and thus will proceed against the shipping of the enemy."

BLOCKADE IS NOT INTENDED

Neutrals Merely Warned of Exposure to Chance German Shots.

Berlin, The Hague to London.—The naval measures of Germany against British commerce are in no sense a blockade. No hostile action against neutral shipping is contemplated. German warships and submarines will endeavor by every means in their power to avoid sinking American or other neutral ships and will take every precaution to avoid a mistake.

The above may be taken as the correct interpretation placed upon the German proclamation in competent circles in Berlin.

The proclamation declaring the waters around Great Britain to be a war zone like similar British measures which were taken as a precedent, is designed, it is asserted, to warn neutrals that a ship venturing into the naval field of operations exposes itself to the risk of being struck by a chance shot.

TEUTONS TRY NEW ROUTE TO WARSAW

Petrograd, via London.—The stubborn character of the battles developing in the extreme north of east Prussia is attracting the attention of the Russian general staff, which thereby indicates that the Germans have withdrawn troops from the Bzura region and massed them in the vicinity of Insterburg between Gunbinnen and Tilsit.

In spite of the activity of the Germans further north, staff officials still attach the greatest importance to the movement in the Carpathians, where the Russian armies are opposing the Austro-Germans who are in tremendous force on a line which forms the arc of a circle in the vicinity of Mezo Laborec, 50 miles southwest of Przemyel. Further eastward there appears to be an entire separate army about 90 miles south of Lemberg on the Wisok-Nadworna line, Austria-Hungary. The purpose of the latter force appears to be an effort to pierce the line east of Lemberg and menace the force about Warsaw in the rear.

Warsaw still appears to be the great objective and for its possession the Germans submit to enormous sacrifices and untold hardships. To this end seven divisions, composed of approximately 195,256 men, aided by 600 cannons, which are divided into 100 batteries, occupy a front six miles in extent.

Accepting the inevitable, leaders of the opposition at once renewed their declaration of unrelenting war on the bill, to be continued if necessary until adjournment on March 4, and general debate was resumed.

4,000 Less Marriages Under Eugenics.

Madison, Wis.—During 1914, the first year of the operation of the eugenic marriage law, 4,000 fewer marriages were reported to the Wisconsin board of health than in 1913.

PAYROLL OF CIVILIZATION MET BY FARMER

WANTS NO "DEADHEADS" ON
LIST OF EMPLOYEES.

A CALL UPON THE LAW MAKERS
TO PREVENT USELESS TAX
UPON AGRICULTURE.

By Peter Radford

Lecturer National Farmers' Union

The farmer is the paymaster of industry and as such he must meet the nation's payroll. When industry pays its bill it must make a slight draft upon agriculture for the amount, which the farmer is compelled to honor without protest. This check drawn upon agriculture may travel to and fro over the highways of commerce; may build cities; girdle the globe with bands of steel; may search hidden treasures in the earth or traverse the skies, but in the end it will rest upon the soil. No dollar will remain suspended in midair; it is as certain to seek the earth's surface as an apple that falls from a tree.

When a farmer buys a plow he pays the man who mined the metal, the woodman who felled the tree, the manufacturer who assembled the raw material and shaped it into an article of usefulness, the railroad that transported it and the dealer who sold him the goods. He pays the wages of labor and capital employed in the transaction as well as pays for the tools, machinery, buildings, etc., used in the construction of the commodity and the same applies to all articles of use and diet of himself and those engaged in the subsidiary lines of industry.

There is no payroll in civilization that does not rest upon the back of the farmer. He must pay the bills—all of them.

The total value of the nation's annual agricultural products is around \$12,000,000,000, and it is safe to estimate that 95 cents on every dollar goes to meeting the expenses of subsidiary industries. The farmer does not work more than thirty minutes per day for himself; the remaining thirteen hours of the day's toil he devotes to meeting the payroll of the hired hands of agriculture, such as the manufacturer, railroad, commercial and other servants.

The Farmer's Payroll and How He Meets It.

The annual payroll of agriculture approximates \$12,000,000,000. A portion of the amount is shifted to foreign countries in exports, but the total payroll of industries working for the farmer divides substantially as follows: Railroads, \$1,252,000,000; manufacturers, \$4,365,000,000; mining, \$655,000,000; banks, \$200,000,000; mercantile \$3,500,000,000, and a heavy miscellaneous payroll constitutes the remainder.

It takes the corn crop, the most valuable in agriculture, which sold last year for \$1,692,000,000, to pay off the employees of the railroads; the money derived from our annual sales of livestock of approximately \$2,000,000,000, the yearly cotton crop, valued at \$920,000,000; the wheat crop, which is worth \$610,000,000, and the oat crop, that is worth \$440,000,000, are required to meet the annual payroll of the manufacturers. The money derived from the remaining staple crops is used in meeting the payroll of the bankers, merchants etc. After these obligations are paid, the farmer has only a few bunches of vegetables, some fruit and poultry which he can sell and call the proceeds his own.

When the farmer pays off his help he has very little left and to meet these tremendous payrolls he has been forced to mortgage homes, work women in the field and increase the hours of his labor. We are, therefore, compelled to call upon all industries dependent upon the farmers for subsistence to retrench in their expenditures and to cut off all unnecessary expenses. This course is absolutely necessary in order to avoid a reduction in wages, and we want, if possible, to retain the present wage scale paid railroad and all other industrial employees.

We will devote this article to a discussion of unnecessary expenses and whether required by law or permitted by the managements of the concerns, is wholly immaterial. We want all waste labor and extravagance, of whatever character, cut out. We will mention the full crew bill as

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illustrating the character of unnecessary expenses to which we refer.

Union Opposes "Full Crew" Bill.

The Texas Farmers' Union registered its opposition to this character of legislation at the last annual meeting held in Fort Worth, Tex., August 4, 1914, by resolution, which we quote, as follows:

"The matter of prime importance to the farmers of this state is an adequate and efficient marketing system; and we recognize that such a system is impossible without adequate railroad facilities, embracing the greatest amount of service at the least possible cost. We further recognize that the farmers and producers in the end pay approximately 95 per cent of the expenses of operating the railroads, and it is therefore to the interest of the producers that the expenses of the common carriers be as small as is possible, consistent with good service and safety. We, therefore, call upon our law-makers, courts and juries to bear the foregoing facts in mind when dealing with the common carriers of this state, and we do especially reaffirm the declarations of the last annual convention of our State Union, opposing the passage of the so-called 'full-crew' bill before the thirty-third legislature of Texas."

The farmers of Missouri in the last election, by an overwhelming majority, swept this law off the statute book of that state, and it should come off of all statute books where it appears and no legislature of this nation should pass such a law or similar legislation which requires unnecessary expenditures.

The same rule applies to all regulatory measures which increase the expenses of industry without giving corresponding benefits to the public. There is oftentimes a body of men assembled at legislatures—and they have a right to be there—who, in their zeal for rendering their fellow-associates a service, sometimes favor an increase in the expenses of industry without due regard for the men who bow their backs to the summer's sun to meet the payroll, but these committees, while making a record for themselves, rub the skin off the shoulders of the farmer by urging the legislature to lay another burden upon his heavy load and under the lash of "be it enacted" goad him on to pull and surge at the traces of civilization, no matter how he may sweat, foam and gall at the task. When legislatures "cut a melon" for labor they hand the farmer a lemon.

The farmers of the United States are not financially able to carry "dead heads" on their payrolls. Our own hired hands are not paid unless we have something for them to do and we are not willing to carry the hired help of dependent industries unless there is work for them. We must therefore insist upon the most rigid economy.

Legislative House-Cleaning Needed.

While the war is on and there is a lull in business, we want all legislative bodies to take an inventory of the statute books and wipe off all extravagant and useless laws. A good house-cleaning is needed and economies can be instituted here and there that will patch the clothes of indigent children, rest tired mothers and lift mortgages from despondent homes. Unnecessary workmen taken off and useless expenses chopped down all along the line will add to the prosperity of the farmer and encourage him in his mighty effort to feed and clothe the world.

If any of these industries have surplus employees we can use them on the farm. We have no regular schedule of wages, but we pay good farm hands on an average of \$1.50 per day of thirteen hours when they board themselves; work usually runs about nine months of the year and the three months dead time, they can do the chores for their board. If they prefer to farm on their own account, there are more than 14,000,000,000 acres of idle land on the earth's surface awaiting the magic touch of the plow. The compensation is easily obtainable from Federal Agricultural Department statistics. The total average annual sales of a farm in the continental United States amounts to \$516.00; the cost of operation is \$340.00; leaving the farmer \$176 per annum to live on and educate his family.

There is no occasion for the legislatures making a position for surplus employees of industry. Let them come "back to the soil" and share with us the prosperity of the farm.

When honesty is merely a good policy it is a poor virtue.

Lazy farmers are just as useless as dead ones and take up more room.

When the soul communes with the spirit of nature the back to the farm movement prevails.

There are two kinds of farmers. One tries to take all the advice he hears and the other won't take any at all.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BEFORE THE UNITED STATES
LAND OFFICE.
ROSEBURG, OREGON.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT.

Mineral Application No. 09932
February 9, 1915.

In Matter of Application of C. T. Davidson for Patent SW1-4 of NW1-4 of Sec. 30, Twp. 37 S., Range 4 West.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN, that

C. T. Davidson whose residence is Jackson County, Oregon, and whose post office address is Murphy, R. F. D. No. 1, Oregon, has filed his application in this office for a patent to the placer Mining Claim designated as "The Mocking Bird Placer Claim", situate on Miners Gulch in the Missouri Flat Mining District, in Jackson County, Oregon, and embraced within and covering every part of the SW1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 30, Township 37 South, of Range 4 West of the Willamette Meridian, and the same embracing the two certain placer mining claims, described as follows, viz:

The certain placer mining claim cov-

ering every part of East 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 of Northwest 1/4 of Section 30, Township 37, South, of Range 4 West as located by I. G. Davidson, July 19th, 1895, the notice of which location is of record at page 286 in Vol. 8, mining and water right record of Jackson County, Oregon; also

That certain placer mining claim known as "The Mocking Bird" covering every part of the West 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 of Northwest 1/4 of Section 30, Township 37, South, of Range 4, West, as located by J. S. Davidson, November 27th, 1895, the notice of which location is of record at page 423 in Vol. 8, of Mining and water right records of Jackson County, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the mining ground, or premises or any portion thereof so described and applied for, are hereby notified that unless their adverse claims are duly filed according to law and the regulations thereunder, within the time prescribed by law, with the register of the United States Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, they will be barred by the provision of the law in such cases made and provided.

Notice posted on the ground January 15, 1915.

J. M. UPTON,
Register.