

EUROPE FACES DIRE FOOD AND FUEL SHORTAGE

Inadequate Supply of Heat Expected to Cause Much Suffering.

HOW THE ENEMY STANDS

People Have Less to Eat This Winter Than Last, Is Belief—Two Fodder Discoveries—Disaffectation in Austria.

London.—Europe is going to lead the simple life this winter and for a long time thereafter. There is not a country that does not now realize the real danger of extreme food shortage. But food shortage is not the only or in most cases the worst of the menaces. The nations face and realize as never before the exhaustion of all necessary supplies. Although food will be scarce in all countries, whether belligerent or neutral, it is doubtful whether that will impose as much hardship on people as the shortage of fuel, writes Judson C. Williver in the New York Sun.

In Europe's climate food is fuel to the body quite as much as it is nourishment. Sharply restricted supplies of food, and that of a doubtful quality and poor variety, might be endured if there were plenty of fuel. It is when the supply of fuel, both outside and inside, falls below the necessities of physical effort that people begin to suffer.

Europe has neither carbon for its food nor carbon for its fireplaces, and in some respects the northern neutrals are even worse off than the belligerents. Rations of important food necessities have been reduced by some of them even below the amounts allowed in Germany. England is by far the best supplied country in the matter of food, and the authorities are making desperate efforts to make the population realize that rationing will soon be compulsory unless food consumption is considerably reduced. The food authorities have announced a policy of accumulating sufficient reserve to feed the country for three months, even if no imports shall be received during this time.

Question of Shipping.

In the case of England it is entirely a question of shipping. Big stocks of food have been gathered in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and elsewhere, but there are no ships to bring them here. England is probably better situated in the matter of coal supplies than any other country, but must divide with its allies, France and Italy, and so far as possible some of the neutrals hope to be taken care of from the English mines.

The German food situation is puzzling. Apparently the authorities are not nearly so confident about it as they would like the public to believe. The year's harvest turned out more satisfactory than seemed probable during the period of droughts and hailstorms in midsummer, but on the other hand reserves were heavily drawn upon before the harvest of 1917 was gathered. Reserves, indeed, may fairly be said to have disappeared.

The carefully cultivated official understanding in Germany is that there will be a better food supply this winter than last. The specific statements justifying this expectation are highly unsatisfactory. The Munich Medical union has declared that there will be less food, except potatoes, this winter than last. Throughout Germany there is apparently a pretty general belief that this is true, and widespread demand is voiced for an increase in the allowance of potatoes.

In Germany, as in England, the immediate result of the harvest was a great increase in the marketing of potatoes with the consequence that in many places there were not storage facilities to take care of them. The fear is expressed that a not inconsiderable portion of the potato yield will be wasted, partly because of overconsumption in the agricultural areas and partly from inadequacy of storage facilities. So from many German authorities comes the warning that despite a big yield of tubers the coming winter is likely to see conditions quite as bad regarding them, and worse as to many other things than last winter.

Ominous Suggestion.

The ominous suggestion is made by some of the German food authorities that it will not do to be too free with potatoes, because later it will be necessary to mix more potato flour with cereal flour to stretch the supply. Also as there was a short crop of fodder throughout the country potatoes are likely to be required to feed domestic animals.

The fear of such an event has caused widespread demand that more hogs be slaughtered that they may not require to be fed with potatoes that the people will need. The number of hogs in the country has been increasing this year, and the fact gives concern because the pig is an active competitor of a munition worker or anybody else in the matter of food requirements.

German authorities have determined that beyond providing a moderate meat ration the transmutation of vegetable into animal food is a dangerously wasteful process. So there is an effort to induce farmers and village dwellers to restrict the number of hogs and cattle to the point where it will

be just possible to raise the absolutely necessary meat ration.

The relation of the general economic breakdown to agriculture is indicated in both England and Germany by matters affecting the supply of agricultural machinery. In Germany there is a most serious shortage of all kinds of agricultural tools and machines, because the old ones have worn out and there is neither metal nor manufacturing capacity to provide new ones.

In England the complaint particularly concerns the supply of motor plows. The government long ago promised that thousands of these would be furnished in time to put a greatly increased acreage in cereals under cultivation in 1918. Now when the fall plowing season is on it develops that want of shipping or other reasons have prevented the delivery of anything like an adequate number of these machines.

A Dresden physician who is quoted as an authority, has recently discussed the German food situation as regards the requirements and supplies of various classes of consumers. He finds that children up to eight years of age are receiving a reasonably satisfactory ration, but the amount allowed to those from eight to fourteen is utterly insufficient and that the shortage seriously threatens the physical vitality of the next generation.

Some of the German jurisdictions have recently announced that newly married couples will be granted a

PRINCESS JEANNE



Little Princess Jeanne, youngest member of the Italian royal family, photographed while on a visit to wounded soldiers recently, returned from the Italian battlefield. The princess is one of the most popular members of the king's family, especially with the Italian public. She is idolized by the soldiery.

double food allowance for the first six weeks of their married life! Elsewhere provision has been made to double the food allowances of nursing and expectant mothers.

The effort to find fodder for animals has started the professors on many investigations and inquiries. Doctor Degen, director of the seed testing station in Budapest, claims to have discovered two valuable articles of fodder. He writes:

"The searush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*) was known, as regards the part above ground, as a fodder equal in value to straw. Recent experiments have, however, shown that the tubers growing on the roots underground are far more valuable. They come very near to the horse chestnut in the amount of raw protein, raw fat and starch contents, without the bitterness. If they are used for the manufacture of spirits the wash, either wet or dried, can also be used for fodder.

"The pond bullrush (*Scheuchzeria palustris*) also contains a valuable underground organ. The horizontal roots, containing a great quantity of starch, form a good concentrated fodder. If used in distilleries the wash is not so valuable as that from the searush. But in a time of need it is a raw material that can be used for various purposes."

Milk famine confronts all Europe. The situation has long been bad, and grows steadily worse everywhere. There is constant and increasing conflict between the various state and municipal authorities dealing with the food question throughout Germany. In this regard the German situation is much more complicated and difficult to handle than the English.

The state and municipal governments in Germany are very jealous of their authority in their respective jurisdictions, and the federal authorities

dare not or cannot impose universal regulations upon them. In Saxony arrangements have been made to reimburse farmers who would import from other states cows and heifers in calf. Farmers making such purchases will receive a premium of 20 per cent of the price paid, not to exceed 300 marks. This arrangement has caused violent complaint because the prices of butter and milk are already fearfully high and the consumers complain that the farmers are making immense profits from producing them.

From Frankfurt comes the report that at present milk deliveries in that city amount to about one-sixth those of peace times. Receipts scarcely suffice to take care of the privileged customers, invalids, nursing and expectant mothers, and so forth. A large share of what is actually obtained is produced by the municipal authorities from their municipal dairies and farms. It has been a very expensive method, yet the situation is so bad that the town has decided to extend it still further.

German speaking Austria has long been jealous of the comparatively favorable food situation in Hungary, and recently the disaffectation has become acute. It is charged that Hungary is feeding herself bountifully and leaving the rest of the empire to shift as it can. For whatever Hungary is willing to send into the German speaking regions outrageous prices are charged, and the subject has been discussed with painful frankness in the legislative bodies of both states.

It was said that recently lard from Hungary had been sold in Austria at nearly eight times the price it would have cost in Hungary. The same general situation prevails as to many other Hungarian food supplies.

The Hungarians complain with equal rancor that they are charged excessive prices for all manufactured articles produced in Austria. The two governments have been trying to agree upon a general policy of leveling down the prices of both. But at this point they are confronted by the same difficulty which has been so many times experienced in Germany; no system of price control will stretch inadequate supplies to the point of adequacy.

In Holland the state's control is being extended to almost all food supplies. There are indications that the rationing system is going to be established before winter shall have advanced. The use of fat and margarine by bakers and confectioners and by hotels, restaurants and clubs in preparing food has been prohibited. The government has guaranteed prices for wheat, rye, oats, barley, etc.

As to crops not available for food the areas that may be planted have been strictly limited; in some cases to not more than 40 or 50 per cent of the plantings of normal years. A premium has been offered for increased areas of land under the plow. The government is going to requisition the entire crop of sugar beets, the factories will convert them into sugar, and this will be turned over to the government at a fixed price for distribution. The price demanded of the public will not be increased.

Although Denmark is, in proportion to area and population, one of the greatest agricultural producing and exporting countries in the world, it is now confronted with shortage of almost everything. The country's butter production has decreased alarmingly, and there is a demand for rationing. The government is undertaking to subsidize the production of butter so as to reduce prices; that is, to apply to butter practically the same rule that was applied to bread in England. The English government is subsidizing bread to the extent of about \$40,000,000 a year, thus making it possible to sell the English loaf of war bread for four and one-half cents.

In Norway the government and the local food authorities are working to perfect a rationing system in time to save the country from disaster this winter. At Christiania a big scheme for storing reserves of food has been worked out and some 25 warehouses in various parts of the city are being stocked. Under a law passed last May the government has established a monopoly of the import of wheat, barley, oats, rye, beans, peas and lentils and other grains and meal used for human food except rice and potatoes.

Chance to Marry Free.

Lorain, O.—Mayor L. M. Moore of Lorain has been marrying two years, and has not yet performed a marriage ceremony. Now he wants to marry some couple before he becomes an "ex" and before his powers as a matrimonial splicer expire.

"I have read up on the requirements and believe I can do a good job," said the mayor.

"All that I need is a couple. To the first applying I will marry them free, and give the bride a present."

JAPANESE BUILD 250 SHIPS A YEAR

Tokio.—Japan is able to build 250 ships a year, their tonnage totaling 1,000,000, according to a government statement. The shipbuilding business of Japan has had an unprecedented growth since the beginning of the war, and on September 1 there were 113 shipbuilding slips owned by 42 firms, besides 24 slips which are building and will be ready before the end of the year. These facilities are more than three times as great as at the beginning of the war. Each slip is capable of turning out a ship of more than 1,000 tonnage in less than a year.

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR YOU

Events of [Noted] People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

A successful daylight air raid has been made on Karlsruhe, according to a British official communication issued Monday night.

Austria-Hungary has officially recognized the independence of Finland, according to a dispatch received in Amsterdam from Vienna.

The British food ministry announces that it intends to make compulsory the employment of a certain percentage of potatoes in breadmaking. This is for the purpose of saving cereal foods.

Major Augustus P. Gardner, of Hamilton, Mass., died late Monday at the Camp Wheeler base hospital at Macon, Ga., after a short illness from pneumonia. He was the first congressman to join the army after war was declared.

President Wilson's address defining war aims of the United States has been published in full by the Berlin newspapers and by papers in other northern cities of Germany, according to reports made to the State department from Copenhagen.

Frederick L. Small, a former Boston broker, was hanged at the state prison at 12:18 o'clock Tuesday morning for the murder of his wife, Florence Arleen Small, at their home in Ossipee, in September, 1916. The governor's council refused a reprieve for Small.

Formation of an athletic class composed exclusively of mothers, sisters and sweethearts of men in the military service of the United States is announced by Stanley Dougan, athletic instructor at the Eureka, Cal., high school. This is said to be the first class of its kind in the United States.

Ten army officers, including General Leocadio Parra, out of 45 arrested in connection with a plot to kill General Alfredo Novo, commander of the military district in the state of Mexico, and Augustin Millan, governor of that state, were executed Monday at Toluca, the state capital, about 40 miles from Mexico City.

Agents of the American steamship Texan, a vessel of 14,000 tons, received advices Monday from naval authorities that she was sinking at sea. The location of the ship was not given. The naval authorities did not state the cause of the Texan's distress, but reports from other sources were that the vessel had been rammed amidsthips in collision with another ship.

The dreadnaught Texas established the highest record for gunnery practice last year, the Navy department announces, and will receive the Knox trophy, awarded annually to battleships scoring the highest number of points. Captain Victor Blue, who commanded the Texas, has been ordered to Boston to receive the trophy from the Sons of the American Revolution.

Warning of the possibility of a final breach in the Russo-German negotiations is the outstanding feature of the current news from Petrograd Monday. In the meantime according to the correspondent of the London Daily Mail in the Russian capital, the armistice has been extended until February 18. The Russian delegation returned to Petrograd, but the peace negotiations will be resumed after an interval at Warsaw.

Ratification of the Federal prohibition amendment was recommended to the Virginia legislature Friday by Governor Stuart in his message delivered at the biennial session.

The British admiralty reports the sinking in the past week of 18 merchantmen of 1600 tons or over by mine or submarine, as well as three merchantmen under that tonnage.

A record-breaking drought for Tucson and Southern Ariz., was broken Thursday when rain began falling. This is the first rainfall since September 10 and cattle ranges have been badly burned.

Lignite mines in the northwestern section of North Dakota were offered to the government during the period of the war at a meeting of operators representing mines having a total output of 5000 tons per day.

Government supervision of prices of wool and cotton was sanctioned by the National Retail Clothiers' association at a conference with representatives of the efficiency committee of the National Council of Defense in Chicago.

Western railroads have issued orders for a general resumption of solicitation of passenger and freight business. Executives of the road are now in a position to handle more business, that there is no pooling and, therefore, no reason why each road should not go ahead and obtain as much business as possible.

TEUTON SPY CAUGHT

Accomplice of Bernstorff and Boy-ed Taken at Aviation Camp—Documentary Evidence Secured.

Norfolk, Va.—Naval intelligence officers left here Monday night for Baltimore with Walter Spoermmann, suspected of being an active figure in plots launched by Captain Boy-ed, the former German military attache, and believed to have been a captain in the German army.

According to the story unofficially told here, the man was arrested Saturday while in the act of attempting to blow up a magazine in the unfinished army aviation field under construction near Newport News.

The prisoner will be turned over to officers of the department of Justice at Baltimore for a hearing. So far the only charge formally lodged against him is understood to be that he is a dangerous enemy alien.

Documents found in his possession, however, are declared to reveal his connection with Boy-ed and former German Ambassador Bernstorff, and to incriminate in a spy plot persons in Washington, Baltimore and other cities. Details of the contents of the documents are withheld, but it is understood that they will lead to a number of arrests within a few days.

Spoermmann's activities are said to have attracted the attention of naval intelligence officers many weeks ago, but his arrest was deferred until additional evidence could be gathered.

Officers followed him night and day, however, the quest leading through several cities, and even to at least two army camps.

Frequently, according to the story, the prisoner posed as an officer of the United States army.

Finally he visited the great army and navy base on Hampton Roads. Before that a young naval agent, posing as a friend of Germany, had made himself acquainted with Spoermmann.

The officer followed his man closely in Newport News and finally to the aviation field, four miles north of this city, where the arrest was made.

ENGLAND NEEDS MORE MEN

Sir Auckland Geddes Asks for 420,000 Britons to Carry On War.

London.—Nearly half a million men from Great Britain alone are to be recruited into the British army at the earliest date possible, and it is probable that many more will be added to that number in the coming month.

These will comprise the younger men, who up to the present have been exempt because of their employment in industries essential to the war services.

This announcement was made in the house of commons Monday by Sir Auckland Geddes, minister of national service, whose statement of the government's man-power proposals are replete with interesting details of Great Britain's strength in the struggle, into which she means to throw her full resources.

The minister set forth the status and needs of the British fighting and munitioning forces and measures the government is taking after agreement with most of the labor leaders for recruiting from the classes of skilled workers, who were promised exemption when conscription was adopted.

The empire has enrolled 7,500,000 fighting and labor battalion forces during the war, according to the statement of the minister, and now has more than 4,000,000 enrolled, but needs more men to hold its own against the enemy until the American strength is available.

He praised the spirit in which the labor leaders have met the government, but regretted that the Amalgamated Society of Engineers had remained outside the conference, adding, however, that the institution was still open to the members of this society.

He paid warm tribute to the work of the women and declared that some of the young men among the million exempted workers apparently considered themselves a privileged class and threatened to hold up by strikes the building of airplanes and ships.

Prison for Emma Goldman.

Washington, D. C.—Conviction of Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman on charges of conspiring to prevent operation of the selective service act by urging men of draft age not to register, was Tuesday sustained by the Supreme court. Conviction of Louis Kramer and Morris Becker on charges of conspiring to prevent persons of draft age from registering, were also affirmed. Kramer was sentenced to two years' imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine and Becker, to 20 months' imprisonment.

Fewer Deaths Reported.

Tacoma, Wash.—Health conditions at Camp Lewis improved considerably in the last week, according to the report issued by Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Field, division surgeon. There were five deaths, including one from scarlet fever, one from pneumonia and one from meningitis.

The cases of communicable diseases total 146 among 31,800 men. German measles and scarlet fever showed a marked decrease.

British Losses 24,979.

London.—British casualties reported during the week ending Monday totaled 24,979 officers and men, divided as follows:

Killed or died of wounds—Officers, 117; men, 5149.
Wounded or missing—Officers, 304; men, 19,409.

WASTE OF FOOD TO BE STOPPED BY LAW

New Laws to Enforce Meatless and Wheatless Days.

CAFES WILL BE HIT

Rich and Poor to Be Treated Alike—Price-Fixing to Have No Place in Proposed Regulations.

Washington, D. C.—Bills to amend the food law so as to empower the food administration to compel observance of wheatless and meatless days, or any other measures it prescribes, were introduced Wednesday by Representative Lever and Senator Pomerene, acting for the administration. Mr. Lever explained the bills in the following statement:

"The food situation the world over is acute and demands upon us are growing each day. With a disrupted labor situation, production approaching its maximum, the vital question, therefore, is one of conservation of foodstuffs.

"We must strike at the waste evil. The administration has undertaken to do this through voluntary agreements and has succeeded wonderfully well, but there is a percentage of recalcitrants we have not been able to reach by appeals to their patriotism.

"We purpose to reach these through the bill which Senator Pomerene and I are introducing.

"The bill is especially aimed at hotels, restaurants, dining cars and public eating places.

"In such establishments, I should think, probably 50 per cent of the food of the country is consumed, and it is in such places that we find the greatest waste. There should be power in the hands of the food administration to fix the portions of vital necessities that may be served to any one individual.

"We hope also in this bill to see to it that all classes of people, rich and poor, are treated alike. It is not fair to the man on the street who cannot afford a steak at 50 cents, for the gourmandizing rich to waste enough on one meal to feed a whole family of poor.

"This bill provides that the President is authorized to issue rules and regulations modifying, limiting or prohibiting the sale, use, manufacture or distribution by any person conducting a public eating place or by any manufacturer, producer, carrier, distributor or other person of any foodstuff, feed or material necessary for the production, manufacture or preservation of foodstuffs or feeds.

"This bill is confined to foodstuffs, feeds and materials necessary for their production, manufacture and preservation. There is no idea of price fixing in it."

DRAFT WILL CLAIM ALL AT 21

Registration to Follow Closely in Wake of Youth Reaching Majority.

Washington, D. C.—The government has decided on draft registration of all young men as fast as they become 21 years old as the means of keeping filled the ranks of the war army. It has decided against raising the draft age limit above 31 years.

An administration bill was introduced Tuesday at the request of the War department, by Chairman Chamberlain, of the senate military committee, to register for draft all men who have reached 21 since June 5, 1917, when the draft law became effective.

The administration's support seems to assure its prompt passage. The bill agrees with the recommendations of Provost Marshal-General Crowder.

Other administration bills introduced by Chairman Chamberlain, at the request of the War department, will supplant the draft law to make it workable under conditions that have developed.

One would permit furloughing of National army units for harvest work or other civilian duty.

Another would eliminate enemy alien population from basis of calculations for draft quotas, by making the basis for each state, the number of men available in class one.

War Foreseen by Navy.

Washington, D. C.—Further testimony about how the Navy prepared for war in advance of its declaration was given the house investigation committee Tuesday by Rear-Admiral Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, and Rear-Admiral Griffin, chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering. They said they began contracting for adequate supplies a month before congress adopted the war resolution and that there is now on hand all material that may be needed in repairing warships.

Texan's Fate is Mystery.

New York.—The fate of the American-Hawaiian steamship Texas, reported as sinking somewhere off the coast, remained a sea mystery Wednesday. Officials of the company have received no further information about the vessel, which is presumed to have been the victim of a collision. They were confident, however, the crew of 43 had been rescued by other vessels, which had proceeded on their voyage.