DUTCH TOILERS RIOT BECAUSE OF FOOD SHORTAGE

Charles Edward Russell Says Little Holland is Between Two Millstones, Meeting Great Expense Because of War But Only Smugglers, Farmers and the Rich Profit.

THE HAGUE, Holland, July 28.—(Special Correspondence.)—To be between the millstones is no sweet berth for a man or a nation. Holland has now had two years of it and is ready to swear she has had enough.

A great nation involved in a great war has troubles no end, but at least it can see a course to steer. A small nation trying to be neutral and jammed between great warring nations has never a chance to sleep on its maddening worries.

In a way Holland has made money out of the war. They say the nation's nominal wealth in two years has boomed up more than half a billion dollars. But a nation can pay too high for the making of money, and Holland sees that instead of having any kind of a good thing of this she has merely been stung.

Who Makes the Money.

Most of the money has been made by the great joint stock companies—transportation, some kinds of manufacturing, ship building. Dividends have been declared that caused conservative Hollanders to stare and gasp—60, 70, 75 per cent, until it seemed like a dream.

Also many farmers have made money, many rural shopkeepers and some smugglers.

But the bulk of the population, being here as everywhere, the workers, finds it worse off than ever.

The cost of living has soared to dizzy heights, but in most trades workers are getting no more.

There has been great popular demonstrations in The Hague and other cities; peaceful, if meaning a lot. But in Rotterdam and Amsterdam there have been alarming riots, and this is the sign they can't neglect, the statesmen.

Hollanders don't riot without strong reasons.

The reason here is that conditions are becoming more than the average worker can stand.

Cost of Living Soars.

Some kinds of meat, for instance, are up 400 per cent. Almost all kinds have aeroplaned out of the reach of the average worker's family. Cereals are up about 50 per cent, except rice, which is much higher. Even vegetables, produced abundantly and so easily in Holland, are steadily rising. So is cheese.

What the rioters demanded, and thousands of others want, is that the government shall take over the control of the food supply and keep the people from starving.

The government, which is pretty astute, all things considered, hangs back on this because it doesn't want to rough up the big interests and the shopkeepers and because it has at present about all the financial troubles it has cargo room for.

Here is Holland, a small country, 12,760 square miles, 6,000,000 population. From the first tune on the war bugle, August 1, 1914, to this day she has been forced to keep at least one-half of her army under arms and doing business on the frontier; one-half and sometimes more.

One-half is 260,000 men, and the least they have ever cost is $60,000 a day. Sometimes they double that.

Besides, there have been, for a small country, back-breaking charges for artillery, munitions and up-to-date equipment. Also for naval improvements and patrols to keep as many as possible of Holland's merchant ships afloat.

Takes and Loans.

Already there have been two big war loans, and taxes have gone up steadily amid groans.

To keep the army on foot means great numbers of men taken from production, particularly on the farms.

This tended to boost food prices, already going up.

Then Germany was shy of cattle. German agents bought great numbers of Dutch cattle, sometimes even cleaning out dairy herds. The meat supply began to run short and prices went into the air.

The government now put an embargo on cattle exports to Germany. It was too late. The mischief had been done, and besides, the government couldn't watch the whole frontier day and night. Smugglers did a rushing business at wonderful prices.

They and many farmers got rich. There is hardly a farmer in eastern Holland now that does not own an automobile.

Meantime, the millstones get heavier. Great Britain objects to everything that Holland sells to Germany and Germany objects to everything that Holland sells to Great Britain, and back of each objection is not only the sign of the sword, but the threat of shutting off Holland's coal supply.

This little country with many ships, railroads and factories, produces no coal. Without coal she would perish.

Her workers, already on short rations, read of enormous dividends made by lucky corporations. No wonder they riot.

TEN PER CENT LOSS TO PEARS BY WINDSTORM

The loss of pears throughout the section within a radius of 15 miles of Medford will not exceed 10 per cent, according to C. C. Cate, county pathologist, whose men have been investigating the loss at various orchards this morning, occassioned by the electric storm of Friday afternoon, which was followed by a third of an inch rainfall.

Orchards of the 401 district seem to have been the heaviest loosers, with loss of Bartletts running from 25 per cent on the 401 to 50 per cent on the Vilas and Westerlund properties, where picking had not yet begun. Bear Creek orchards' loss will not run over 10 per cent and the Marshall orchard to the southwest of the town the same. Near the hills on the western side of the valley, there is practically no loss.

Bosc pears are little hurt. Anjous were in places hurt more than Bartletts. Comice fell heavily, quite Generally in the districts where Bartlett losses were heavy. The young stock through the valley seems to have suffered most.

An idea of the money loss is hard to give, according to Cate. In places where pears fell on soft ground, many of them can be packed and the rest canned. Many trees of the later varieties were overloaded and will be actually benefitted as the fruit will size rapidly and where only mediocre quality with the heavy yield might be expected, those that remain in the trees will pack as extra fancy. Apples were but slight sufferers.

The only explanation that can be given for the wind, which for a period of five minutes, reached a velocity of over 60 miles an hour, is that during the day, while we had a steady wind from the northwest, a wind from the southwest came in from over the mountains. These two air currents, coming together about five o'clock resulted in a sudden whip to the south east. There was no indication from the Portland weather office of the coming storm and the condition seems to have been purely local. The barometer, which was steady all day, rose about five o'clock .10 in less than five minutes.

PYTHIANS PRAISE CRATER LAKE

On account of the inclement weather and short notice, only a small crowd attended the program given by visiting Pythians, members of the supreme lodge at the K. of P. hall last night.

The main feature of the program was the illustrated lecture of George W. Penniman, of Boston, lecturer of the supreme lodge, who spoke on the origin of Pythianism. Mr. Penniman showed entire familiarity with his subject using for illustrations slides he had taken of the story of Damon and Pythias in Sicily. Woven into the lecture were a series of views of Crater Lake, given Mr. Penniman by Will G. Steel, superintendent of Crater Lake park. These will be used by Mr. Penniman in his lectures in the east.

Mr. Penniman, as were the other members of the party, was loud in his praises of Oregon hospitality and Oregon scenery. Crater Lake, he said, could not be compared to any other natural wonder of the world, it occupies a place by itself and no basis of comparison can be found.

The party left this morning for the south where they will visit Grand Canyon, Lake Tahoe and other western scenic resorts.

G. M. Ruch of Ashland is spending the day in Medford on business.

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MUCH BENEFIT TO ACCRUE TO COUNTY FROM EDITORS' MEET

Few Medforites appreciate the benefit that will accrue to this city and county from the editorial convention recently held here. There are two reasons in particular why this is so. They do not have access to the various newspapers published over the state, hence are not reading the large number of exceedingly warm tributes being paid to Medford and her people on account of the entertainment furnished them. Moreover they do not know of a few unusual circumstances which particularly impressed our visitors to our advantage.

Successful Convention

One of these circumstances is the fact that the association had been struggling against an apathy among its members which kept the attendance at annual conventions way down to a discouragingly small figure. Conventions had been one like another with a lack of interest which was reflected in the diminishing attendance. The Medford convention, on account of the exceptional entertainment offered, stirred up this interest anew and brought out an attendance nearly 100 per cent larger than the next largest in the association's history. (There were 134 accredited representatives here; the next largest was 72.)

The officers of the association are elated over this revival of interest and credit the public spirited citizens of Medford as being largely responsible for it.

Again, a fact little known locally is well known among the visiting newspaper men, and that is that last year another city undertook to entertain the association with a trip to Crater Lake and a few months before the date set, had to give it up and the convention was hastily arranged in a city in the northern part of the state. So Medford's success was in contrast with another city's lack of success.

Furthermore, newspaper men are constantly mixed up in community entertaining and advertising stunts in every section of the state, and know how hard it is to successfully pull off a hard one. It was freely commented among them while here that hardly another city in the state would attempt such an effort. More than that, the visitors learned of the special hardship worked by the accidental dating of the annual Elk's picnic for the same day as their trip to Crater Lake, and the entire success of both affairs demonstrated the town's ability to entertain.

Vistors Well Pleased

The convention brought a very representative gathering of newspaper men from every section of the state. They went home more than pleased, as evidenced in the number of flattering notices appearing in the state press already. And it must be remembered that when they praise, they speak to from 2000 to 5000 people each.

Credit to Whom Credit Is Due

The people of Medford and the county are indebted to the public spirited citizens who made this success possible. No one person or organization did it—but a generous response on the part of all requested to co-operate made it a complete success.

The commercial club, through a committee consisting of President Hill, Messrs. Latta, Rosenbaum, Hoon and Connor had charge of the trip over the Siskiyous to the California line and conducted in admirable shape. It was a valuable piece of work, for the county needs the help of the rest of the state in finishing that road.

The Greater Medford Club, with with Mrs. Scheiffelin and Mrs. Mundy in the lead, gave the visiting ladies a splendid luncheon Saturday noon; followed by an auto ride under the auspices of the College Women's club with Mrs. McCurdy, Mrs. Dr. Thayer and Mrs. Carkin in charge. Both were completely successful. We regret that we have not a list of the generous citizens contributing to those two affairs, but they did their share toward making the convention successful.

The University Club entertained the editors most acceptably Saturday noon at luncheon. Their delightful club house offers unusual opportunity for functions of this kind and their hospitality was much appreciated.

The hotels of the city most generously offered free accommodation to the entire list of visitors. John Westerlund of the Hotel Holland was responsible for this suggestion, with Messrs. Mohr of Hotel Medford and Bell of Hotel Nash heartily seconding the idea.

The program at the banquet Saturday evening was one of the finest ever heard in the city, thanks to the contributions of Mr. George Andrews, Miss Florence Hazelrigg, Mrs. Isaacs, Wm. Vawter and Fletcher Fish, whose singing was good as usual—a real compliment; and the instrumental music during the serving by Messrs. Howell, Root, Waite and Allen and Miss Clarke. The poem by Dick Posey was one of the hits of the convention as evidenced by the numerous requests for it in printed form. The stunt by Messrs. Jerome and Buehler was fine. The Colony Club, through Mrs. Patterson, Mrs. Fiero and Mrs. Frank Owen decorated the banquet hall most tastefully, and Blaine Kram donated place cards, Eads Bros. the drayage, and an incidental expense fund was contributed by three of the Medford banks.

The feature which made the convention conspicuously successful was the trip to Crater Lake. It is no easy matter to take 128 guests, a total party of 170, on such a jaunt. But it was done without a hitch or unfortunate accident, thanks to the generosity of those contributing cars, as follows: First National Bank, Jackson County Bank, Medford National Bank, R. R. Valley Canal Co., Producers Fruit Co., R. R. Fruit and Produce Co., R. R. Valley Canning Co., Medford Grocery Co., Gaddis & Dixon, Medford Sash and Door Co., E. M. McKeany, C. E. Gates, W. A. Folger, John Westerlund, R. W. Ruhl, W. C. Leever, Geo. Treleaker, A. W. Walker Auto Co., Al Clark, Roberts and Fisher, Payne & Bostwick, Mrs. Stewart Patterson, Mrs. Frank Owen, Prof. C. E. Cate, Prof. F. C. Reimer, Guy Tex and S. S. Bullis. The K. P. lodge sent three cars, those of John Perl, E. J. Klein, and Rankin Estes.—the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen also sent their allotment of cars. The co-operation of these lodges is especially praiseworthy and showed the comprehensive way in which the community got behind the project. Ashland asked for a chance to help out and sent three cars, those of Bert Greer, Fred Wagner and another.

Benj. C. Sheldon was responsible for the convention's coming to Medford and took upon himself the responsibility of making it a success. He devoted more than three weeks time to the affair and the results showed that hard work, with the backing of a public spirited town, can make a success of most any size affair. S. S. Bullis came down from Portland on the visitors' special train and devoted all his time during their stay to their entertainment. The Medford newspapers donated printed matter incident to the convention banquet and auto trips.

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