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## UNCLE SAM TO NAME PRICES ON ARMY CONTRACTS

Contracts Awarded for Steel Plates, Oil and Coal Accompanied by Threat of Commandeering—Daniels Declares Government Will Pay Cost Plus Reasonable Profit.

WASHINGTON, June 18.—A basic price of \$56.20 a ton was fixed for steel plates in contracts for ten steel ships signed today by Chairman Denman of the shipping board. Future contracts will be let at that price instead of \$95 paid for steel in some earlier contracts.

Contracts Refused. The contracts were let to the Downey Construction company of New York. Mr. Denman refused to sign them, calling for steel at \$95, and sent them back to Major-General Goethals, general manager of the fleet corporation, asking that the price be reduced. Today they were returned to Mr. Denman, providing steel at a lower price.

A final price will be determined by the shipping board and the fleet corporation with the advice of the raw materials committee of the council of national defense. If the steel mills refuse their product at the price decided on, the president will be asked to exercise his power to commandeer their output. If a price higher than today's base is fixed by the government will pay the difference, if lower the steel mills will refund.

Daniels Issues Orders. WASHINGTON, June 18.—Secretary Daniels has ordered coal and oil producers to supply the enormous quantities needed by the navy at prices to be fixed later by the president when the federal trade commission has determined a fair rate. The navy will use 1,750,000 tons of coal and 50,000,000 barrels of oil purchased under this application of the authority granted by congress.

Similarly, steel for the entire navy building program is being bought at a rate fixed when Secretary Daniels rejected the proposals of the steel as too high.

Board to Fix Prices. Secretary Daniels said today that the coal operators proposed to furnish navy coal at a rate of \$2.95 a ton at the mine. The navy has been paying \$2.88 a ton delivered. The secretary directed the companies to ship immediately, the orders being pro-rated among the producers, agreeing to pay a tentative price of \$2.33 at the mines pending a reporting federal trade commission.

Profit for Producers. The arrangement regarding steel order, the secretary said, leaves a "handsome profit" for producers.

The steel contracts went to the Seattle Construction and Drydock company of Seattle. Ten of the wooden hull contracts to the Foundation Co. of Newark, N. J.; twelve to the Groton Iron works of Noank, Conn.

The fleet corporation now has contracted for a total of 128 ships and hulls. Complete steel ships contracted for number 28; complete composite ship 32 and complete wooden ships 30. Contracts have been let for 48 wooden hulls.

## LIBERTY BONDS WORTH \$105 IN TRADE, CHICAGO

CHICAGO, June 18.—Advertisements by Chicago merchants appeared in morning papers today offering as high as 195 for liberty bonds, that value being offered when the sale was made in exchange for merchandise. An even purchase of \$100 worth of merchandise could be paid for with a \$100 bond, the purchaser receiving \$5 in cash in change. The same offer was extended to effect larger and smaller bonds.

## POINCARÉ PAYS VISIT TO CITY OF RHEIMS

PARIS, June 18.—President Poincaré has visited Rheims, where he pinned the crosses of the legion of honor on the breasts of Cardinal Lamon, Deputy Mayors De Bruguier and Charbonneau and Managing Editor Dramas of L'Éclair-De L'Est, which continued to appear throughout the bombardment.

## 9,611,811 REGISTERED FOR MILITARY DUTY UNDER DRAFT LAW

WASHINGTON, June 18.—Almost complete returns on the registrations under the selective draft law received at the provost marshal general's office today totalled 9,611,811.

Wyoming was the only state from which no returns had been received.

## RUTH CRUGER'S BODY FOUND IN BICYCLE CELLAR

NEW YORK, June 18.—As a result of the murder of Ruth Cruger, the 18-year-old high school girl graduate whose body was found buried in a cellar Saturday, the police today began an investigation of charges that 22 missing girls in this city might have suffered similar fate.

Evidence against Alfred Coecki, proprietor of the bicycle repair shop in the basement of which the body of Ruth Cruger, the Wadleigh high school student, was found on Saturday, was laid before the grand jury today. Word was received from Washington that the Italian government had been requested to hold Coecki, who fled to Italy soon after Ruth Cruger disappeared four months ago.

As a war ally of this country Italy is expected to waive its policy of refusing to surrender a man charged with murder, except on the stipulation that the death penalty would not be imposed.

Later an indictment charging murder in the first degree was returned against Coecki.

## ROOT'S MISSION SEES WINTER PALACE

PETROGRAD, June 18.—The members of the Root commission attended a service in the imperial chapel of the winter palace Sunday and afterward made a tour of the gigantic building, much of which is now a military hospital. Mr. Root and his assistants talked with wounded soldiers and nurses, inspected the paintings and sculpture of the imperial galleries and passing hundreds of peasants who were being shown thru the palace, hitherto closed to the public.

The extreme democracy and orderliness of the Russians was shown by the utter lack of precautions to guard the art treasures of the palace. The former emperor's private apartments were opened for public inspection. Crowds passed quietly thru the room where Alexander II expired from the effects of a bomb explosion, leaving untouched the personal belongings of the former emperor, which have not been disturbed since his death.

Rear-Admiral Glennon and his aides will leave Petrograd today for Sebastopol, accompanied by Russian officers to visit the Black sea fleet.

## SPANIARDS LONGING FOR REVOLUTION

MADRID, June 18.—A movement for a radical rebuilding of the whole political edifice in Spain is gaining adherence everywhere.

Senor Romeno, editor of Correspondencia De Espana, recently wrote: "The whole of Spain, with the exception of a thousand families who monopolize the sweets of office, is sick to death of the favoritism which condemns the country to eternal stagnation and is only waiting for the signal to rise like on man and do away with it forever. Favoritism is the cancer which is killing Spain and will put an end to her unless we put an end to it."

## ALLIED FORCES PLANNING DRIVE IN MACEDONIA

British Retiring From Struma Front to Advance Along the Vardar—Russians More Aggressive—British Lose Advanced Positions in Arras District to Germans.

Important developments are foreshadowed on the Macedonian front following the abdication of King Constantine by reports today of a withdrawal by the British without pressure, of their advanced positions east of the Struma river on the extreme easterly end of the front and pronounced reconnoitering activity by the entente forces along the Vardar. It has been frequently pointed out by military observers that virtually the only practicable route for a successful advance to cut the lines of the central powers in the Balkans and reclaim Serbia, is up the Vardar valley, along the railway there. The present activities seem to point to the probability that an offensive by General Sarrail in the only likely sector—that embracing the Vardar area—is imminent.

Drive Up the Vardar. Had this been decided upon, it would be a natural move for the British to relinquish the advanced ground they held along the Struma and withdraw as they have done, to the bridge head near the river, thereby strengthening the entente right flank for defensive purposes while the offensive stroke was delivered by the center. An aggressive move, it would seem, has now been made possible by the removal of the menace to the allies from the rear which existed as long as Constantine was on the Greek throne and his pro-German political advisers in control of the Greek military situation.

Both the Russian army and the Russian navy are giving more evidence of aggressive intent. Recent German and Austrian statements have instilled increasing activities by the Russian military forces in various sectors, notably Volhynia and Galicia, where the great Brussiloff offensive was in full swing at this time a year ago.

Russian Navy Astir. The Russian naval arm also has been largely in evidence in Baltic waters that Berlin announces it has been found necessary to carry out extensive air raiding operations on Russian bases in this area.

In the Arras battle area the British were subjected to a heavy counter attack on the new position they won last Thursday east of Monchy Le point, the important infantry hill, but had to fall back from some positions they had established farther in advance.

## CRIPPLED SHIP SANK SUBMARINE

NEW YORK, June 18.—In a battle between a crippled, stranded British steamer and a German submarine off the Italian coast on May 16, the crew being landed at Albenga. On the same day an unidentified British freighter carrying coal also was torpedoed, but the captain managed to run his ship into shallow water before she partly sank. Two days later the Americans asserted, the submarine returned to the attack and launched a torpedo which hit the steamer amidships and almost blew her apart. As the submarine came to the surface to observe the effects of the shot two deck guns on the stern of the freighter were turned on her.

A six-inch explosive shell hit the U-boat and she was seen to turn over twice and split squarely in two before going down.

## JUDSON C. CLEMENTS, MEMBER I. C. C., DEAD

WASHINGTON, June 18.—Commissioner Judson C. Clements of the interstate commerce commission, died here today.

## BRITISH TRANSPORT TORPEDOED, SUNK IN MEDITERRANEAN

LONDON, June 18.—The British Transport Cameronian, with a small number of troops on board was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine in the eastern Mediterranean on June 2, it was officially announced tonight. Sixty three persons including the captain of the transport are presumed to have been drowned.

## SUBMARINE TOLL SINCE FEBRUARY 17 1,745,000 TONS

WASHINGTON, June 18.—The German submarine toll of British merchant vessels since February 17, as shown in official British figures compiled here today is 322 vessels of more than 1000 tons and 135 of less than 1000. British steam fishing vessels are incomplete, but a three weeks' total was 78.

Submarines in the period given attacked 299 ships unsuccessfully and the weekly percentage of unsuccessful attacks has ranged from 51 to 75. During the last week given—the seven days ending June 9—it was 58.

Arrivals and sinkings in British ports since the intensive submarine campaign began have averaged about 2500 but these include channel sailings. The British figures do not give the tonnage of vessels sunk but officials here say that 5000 tons probably would be a fair average for vessels of more than 1000 tons destroyed. Computing the total at that average and putting the average of the smaller ships at 1000 tons, the total loss during slightly less than four months submarine warfare would reach 1,745,000 tons or about 250,000 tons less than the entire world's shipping output during 1916.

## CANTONMENTS NOT READY FOR TROOPS, SEPTEMBER

WASHINGTON, June 18.—Unless there are unforeseen developments hurried construction of the sixteen cantonments for training, the new national army, the first increment of 650,000 troops will not be in training by September 1, as generally has been supposed and in fact may not get into training for six weeks thereafter.

The first body of officers for the new army now being trained in camps throughout the country, is to be turned out in August to make room for the next body. This was arranged on the plan of having the draft complete, exemptions disposed of and troops ordered into training camps by September 1.

The cantonments for the new army will be built under a special form of contract under which no overcharges will be allowed. The maximum profit on any contract has been fixed at \$250,000.

## THOUSANDS FIGHTING FIRES AT VENTURA

VENTURA, Cal., June 18.—Several thousand men from here, Oxnard, Capitaneria, Ojai, and other places are fighting to save the country for miles around from three strong brush fires now burning within a few miles of here and from a fire which burned a third of the town, caused three deaths and made sixty families homeless. A fresh force of men has just been sent out by Sheriff E. G. Martin.

## FOOD BILL FIGHT AIDS SPECULATOR SAYS PRESIDENT

Wilson in Letter Warns Opponents of Measures That They Must be Prepared to Bear Responsibility—Object of Measure is to Eliminate Gambling From Food Products.

WASHINGTON, June 18.—President Wilson today in a letter to Representative Borland concerning the administration food bills warned opponents of the measure that they must be prepared to bear the responsibility for their defeat if they succeeded in accomplishing it. "A certain disservice has been done the measure by speaking of it as the food control bill," wrote the president. "The object of the measure is not to control the food of the country but to release it from the control of speculators and other persons who will seek to make inordinate profits out of it and to protect the people against the extortions which would result."

Must Take Blame. "It seems to me, that those who oppose the measure ought very seriously to consider whether they are not playing into the hands of such persons and whether they are not making themselves responsible should they succeed, for the ordinary and oppressive price of food in the United States. Foodstuffs will, of course, inevitably be high but it is possible by perfectly legitimate means to keep them from being unreasonably and oppressively high."

Anticipating attacks on giving the president extraordinary powers, Representative Lever in his speech contended the situation warranted them. "We must either confer the so-called autocratic powers upon the constitutional head of our government or be prepared to have them assumed by the German kaiser," he said. "Every man, woman and child must be prepared to make sacrifices—great sacrifices, and no man is going to be permitted to stand behind fine spun theories and technicalities in his opposition to this measure. This is no pink tea affair. It is war against the most powerful autocracy the world ever saw."

Drive Out Manipulation. Without an agency of control which would stimulate production, eliminate waste and conserve the food supply, he declared, this country cannot furnish the bulk of food to the allies. "We intend in this bill," said Mr. Lever, "to drive from the established agencies of distribution and market manipulation, the gambler, the man who buys as cheaply as he may and sells as he can—the shyster of course. It is war measure pure and simple."

"The bill establishes a governmental control of necessities which shall be exercised and administered by the president thru voluntary arrangement or agreement and in co-operation with any agency or person. This is the most far-reaching and important provision of the bill and upon it we confidently rely for that same adequate control necessary to the stabilization of prices and for the satisfactory and orderly distribution of necessities."

People Not Deceived. "The people, Mr. Lever added, are not deceived in the present food situation. They trust the president, he declared, and congress must and will grant the powers to him proposed by the bill. The food bill was made the unfinished business in the senate when that body accepted Senator Chamberlain's motion to proceed with the measure. Arrangements were made late today for Herbert C. Hoover to meet members of the senate tomorrow informally in a committee room and explain the administration's food plans.

## ALASKA MINE STRIKE INSTIGATED BY GERMANS

NEW YORK, June 18.—Assertion that evidence has been found that strikes in the Alaska copper properties of the Kennecott Copper corporation were instigated by pro-German elements supposedly as a strike against the military resources of this country, was made here today at the offices of the company.

## BRITAIN DECIDES UPON REPRISALS FOR LONDON AIR RAIDS

LONDON, June 18.—Replying to a series of questions in the house of commons this afternoon as to whether the British government had decided upon reprisals for the German air raids on England, Andrew Bonar Law, member of the British war council, said the government intended to take steps not only for damaging the enemy but for preventing raids on England.

## WILSON URGES GENEROUS GIVING FOR RED CROSS

WASHINGTON, June 18.—The big drive for the \$100,000,000 Red Cross war fund began at sunrise today everywhere in the United States with elaborate organization plans for making it really within the next seven days.

In great cities and small towns organized machinery began gathering in the fund which is to care, not only for American troops off the firing lines in Europe, but for the destitute of the war zones of France, Belgium and Poland.

President Wilson in a telegram to one hundred mayors of cities urged generosity in contributions for the Red Cross fund. He said: "The American people, by their overwhelming subscriptions to the Liberty loan, have given a new endorsement to the high principles for which American entered the war. During the present week which I have designated as Red Cross week, they will have a unique privilege of manifesting America's selflessness as well as the real spirit of sacrifice which animates our people."

"May I urge that your city, in doing its part in the raising of this \$100,000,000 war relief fund, measure the generosity of its gift by the urgency of the need."

## DUBLIN CROWDS GREET PRISONERS

LONDON, June 18.—Large crowds gathered in Dublin this morning to welcome the released Irish prisoners, all of whom with the exception of Countess Markievicz, arrived at 8 o'clock. Men with banners escorted the former prisoners to their homes. There was much singing of Irish songs and a great deal of cheering but there were no signs of disorder.

Countess Markievicz led a band of revolutionists which attempted to capture Dublin castle, killing a guard. She was sentenced to death but the sentence was commuted to penal servitude for life.

## IRISH GIRL WINS \$225,000 FROM SUITOR

NEW YORK, June 18.—A verdict of \$225,000 in favor of Miss Honora May O'Brien, 28 years old, in her breach of promise suit against John B. Manning, a retired banker and millionaire, 65 years old, was awarded by a state supreme court jury in Long Island City today. The plaintiff, secretary to a New York newspaper man, alleged that the defendant, father of grown children, broke his promise to marry her.

## PERSHING AT WORK UPON ARMY ARRANGEMENTS

PARIS, June 18.—Major General Pershing was hard at work at his office today. He has completed the round of social functions and has a busy week ahead in dealing with important questions regarding the arrival of the American troops.

## GORKY ASSERTS MORE SCIENCE RUSSIA'S NEED

Author Taking Lead in Widespread Movement for Political and Economic Reconstruction, Abandoning Politics—Is Not a Peace at Any Price Advocacy—Favors War.

PETROGRAD, June 18.—Maxim Gorky, the author, is taking the lead in a widespread movement for political and economic reconstruction of Russian affairs, having announced that he has abandoned politics and in future would devote himself to cultural and artistic questions.

"The evils from which Russia is suffering have as their first cause our painful backwardness in scientific and technical knowledge," he said. To that may be traced the present political instability of which you hear much.

"In regard to politics I will merely deny the stories circulated abroad that I am an adherent of the faction which desires peace even at the price of Russia's destruction. I am accused of being one of the 'porashnets,' a new term of derision applied to that faction. My position is merely that I condemn all wars and expect that the present war will be ended by the combined action of the world's democracies.

Anarchy Temporary. "As regards our internal condition, I advise you not to believe the talk about anarchy too readily. Undoubtedly anarchy exists temporarily, but it need exist long before the revolution. The fact is that under the conditions of the old regime of despotism, arbitrariness, cruelty and falsehood, Russians could not develop a sense of order and justice.

"Today many are disillusioned. I am beginning to receive letters proclaiming that the revolution is ruining Russia. This querulousness is a natural product of our national passivity and is equivalent to crying fire without summoning the fire brigade. We must have a positive and constructive scheme for curing our underlying ills. The medicine, I am convinced, is science. Nearly all the evils of our daily life spring from the absence of science.

Lack of Science. "Thru the lack of science half our peasant children die before reaching the age of five. From the same cause nearly all the peasant women suffer from women's complaints. The Musjkas cultivate the land so badly that the average yield is less than one-fourth the yield obtained in England or Belgium. Conditions in our cities are equally bad. We have no drainage anywhere. Our town soil is poisoned. We are choked with smoke and dust. Town children are rickety, nervous wrecks. Against such evils we need not sterile dreams but science, technique, machines, efficiently developed industry.

To assist in bringing this about there should at once be created scientific institutions; for instance, institutes of applied mechanics, chemistry and biology and the whole series of bacteriological hygienic and general medical institutions. If thereby we cleanse Russia physically and intellectually our anarchy will cease.

To Cleanse Russia. "These are the ideas underlying my new movement—ideas which led to the foundation of 'the free association for development and dissemination of the positive sciences.' The association will widen existing achievements of scholars in all that concerns men

(Continued on page three)

## RESIGNS PASTORATE TO WED DIVORCEE

BERKELEY, Cal., June 18.—Forbidden by church law, which forbids marriage with a divorced person, to resign his ministry or renounce his engagement to Mrs. Rose Arnsbary, San Francisco artist, Rev. William F. Higby, for three years curate of St. Marks Episcopal church here, chose to give up the church, it became known today. His resignation had been given Bishop William P. Nichols. Mr. Higby, who will become an engineer, has, it is said, obtained a position in Denver.