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RUSSIAN AGITATOR IS GERMAN AGENT

WASHINGTON, June 27.—How a Russian agitator for a separate peace with Germany was exposed as a German agent before the council of soldiers' and workmen's delegates in Petrograd on June 22 is related in a dispatch today from Ambassador Francis.

The agitator, Nikolai Lenin, the radical socialist leader, made an impassioned speech in favor of a general peace without annexation or indemnity and was answered by M. Veirensky, who announced that he would repeat Lenin's speech and proceeded to read a document almost identical with it.

When M. Veirensky had concluded he announced that he had been reading an intercepted radio from Germany, signed by King Leopold of Bavaria.

GERMANS SHORT OF FAT FOODS

COPENHAGEN, June 27.—Germans are informed officially that rations of fat next winter will be less than the scanty allowance of fifty grams weekly last winter, and that therefore marmalade, preserves, etc., must be relied upon almost exclusively to render the daily bread palatable.

Following the precedent set in the French revolution, the central bureau charged with the distribution of fruits and vegetables, has introduced a new division of time. The year hereafter will be divided into nine marmalade months and three compote months, according to the materials for bread-spreading.

Altho the announcement has a semi-official origin, it is a serious bearing for it emphasizes measures taken to check the exports from Germany entirely.

WIDOWS WITH PROPERTY CANNOT GET PENSIONS

SALEM, Ore., June 27.—In an opinion handed down Tuesday, the supreme court holds that a widowed mother with children under 16 years old, who owns property is not entitled to receive a pension for the support of the children until the property is sold and applied to the maintenance of the children.

The opinion was rendered in the case of Grace E. Buser vs. County of Marion. Mrs. Buser was left a widow in 1914, with two small children and enough life insurance money to pay her husband's debts, including a mortgage on 80 acres of uncultivated land in Lincoln county. She applied to the juvenile court of Marion county for a pension for herself and children. A pension of \$10 was allowed, from which she appealed to the circuit court, contending that the juvenile court should also have allowed a pension for her children. The circuit court allowed her a pension of \$17.50 a month.

The supreme court reversed the lower court and ordered the application for a pension dismissed.

DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL PASSES SENATE

WASHINGTON, June 27.—The daylight saving bill amended to take effect next year, passed the senate today without discussion or record vote and was sent to the house. Under the bill all time pieces would be turned forward one hour beginning the last Sunday in April and continuing until the last Sunday in September.

FEDERAL ORCHARD LOANS.

THE federal farm loan board has refused to consider the value of orchards in appraising Yakima land for farm loan purposes and undoubtedly the same ruling will be applied to the orchards of the Rogue river valley. Many fruit growers will be grievously disappointed as they had confidently expected to secure loans upon an orchard valuation, and not upon a farm land basis.

As a result of the government's attitude toward orchard values, the seven farm loan organizations of the Yakima valley are disbanding. The ruling makes the farm loan act of no benefit to the fruit districts of the northwest, offers no relief to the fruitmen, who are forced to pay taxes upon orchard values and obtain financial assistance on farm values.

In outlining the farm loan boards position President D. G. O'Shea of the federal land bank at Spokane said:

"The first essential is to determine the true value and appraisement of the land offered for security for an agricultural purpose, and to consider the land itself, and its location and productivity, in determining its value for appraisal. Only insurable improvements can be considered as a basis for making loans, and such, of course, would not include fences, wells or the like, altho it is proper to mention such for general information.

Evidently the board holds that nothing that is not insurable, like fruit trees, can be considered as insurable improvements and therefore an orchard could not be considered sufficient security upon which to base bond issues. The continued operation of the law depends upon the sale of the bonds that will be issued, and the boards primary care is to keep the sufficiency of the security unquestionable—so that investors will at all times feel safe. Fair and conservative appraisements only are desired.

It will be remembered that the Oregon rural credits law places a limit on the amount of money that the state will loan per acre on any land within the state as a maximum of \$50 an acre. This was done not only because of the difficulties of appraising land in orchard districts and to prevent loans on property sold at inflated figures during the fruit boom, but to keep the value of the security back of the bonds unimpaired.

Concerning orchard lands, President O'Shea says: "An orchard is a beautiful and a valuable asset, so is a beautiful home. If fruit trees were insurable they could be considered, doubtless, as insurable improvements. They cannot possibly be fairly considered in the value of the land for the reason that they are destructible, that if care is not taken of them they may die or become diseased, and hence there is reason and justice in the policy of not considering the trees as having value for mortgage loans that will run up to 40 years. If orchard land should change ownership, what assurance would there be that future owners would have the knowledge or inclination to maintain orchards?"

This is the customary view of most of the farm loan companies, banks and trust concerns, and it was hoped that a more liberal view would be taken by the federal farm loan board, which should stimulate and encourage intensive production. Any land depends for production upon the individuality of the producer and a change of ownership always jeopardizes the loan. Under such a ruling, it is difficult to see how the federal farm loan board is really going to greatly benefit the farmers who have little trouble in securing loans now upon the same basis offered by the government.

The fruitgrowers of Jackson county should protest the ruling of the Spokane bank and at the same time start a movement for lower county taxation assessment values for orchards—as no orchard should be forced to pay upon a valuation exceeding its borrowing value.

WAR TO BE WON BY AEROPLANES

WASHINGTON, June 27.—When America builds as many aeroplanes as she is capable of constructing, she will be equipped to strike a vital blow at the heart of Germany. Wing Commander I. W. Seddons of the British Flying corps, told 700 members of the Society of Automotive Engineers, in session here last night. Then the German armies would be so harassed that retreat would become imperative, he added. Secretary Baker also spoke, emphasizing the need of a great American aero fleet.

DANISH STEAMER GUNHILD TORPEDOED

WASHINGTON, June 27.—Sinking of the Danish steamer Gunhild was reported to the state department today. Survivors said the steamer was torpedoed without warning and sank before lifeboats could be lowered.

MEXICO SEIZES CANNANEA CLAIMS

MEXICO CITY, June 27.—The department of finance is taking steps to declare forfeited 7702 claims of the Cannanea Coper company, on which the government alleges taxes have been refused.

A statement issued by the finance department declares the company secretly sent its most important ministry to the United States, stopped work without notice and even threw out of hospital here those undergoing treatment. "Undoubtedly this powerful corporation," the statement continues, "wants to take advantage of the period when the allies need their product to give foreign governments the impression that Mexico is obstructing their work. Otherwise their attitude is inexplicable as copper is now worth four times as much as formerly."

President Carranza has sent to congress a bill giving a pension of 30 pesos a day to Mrs. Madero, wife the late President Francisco Madero, Jr., and 20 pesos daily to the widow of Aquiles Serdan, one of the first leaders to suffer death in the Madero revolution.

Five of the crew were drowned. One was killed by the propeller. A British destroyer rescued the remainder. There were no Americans on board.

HASKINS & SELLS

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS. CABLE ADDRESS "HASKSELLS" 30 BROAD STREET NEW YORK.

WE ANNOUNCE THE OPENING OF AN OFFICE IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, ON JUNE 1, 1917, IN THE L. C. SMITH BUILDING, AND THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. PEARCE C. DAVIS AS MANAGER. HASKINS & SELLS.

REGULAR ARMY SHY 50,000 OF WAR STRENGTH

WASHINGTON, June 27.—With recruiting week half gone, war department officials estimated today that the regular army still is more than 50,000 men short of war strength, the goal it had hoped to attain by Friday night.

On the face of the returns so far, it is apparent that there has been no general response among men of military age to President Wilson's call for 70,000 volunteers during the week to fill up the ranks of the regular establishment and thus complete the first big military preparation in the war against Germany.

Returns for the first three days, in fact, were below the average of the week preceding.

Yesterday 26 states reported that they had secured during the day less than ten recruits. Three states reported no recruits at all.

Nevada has set a mark for all the states to shoot at, with her total of war volunteers to date exceeding her quota by a ratio of almost four to one. Called upon for 162 men, the state has enlisted 630. Oregon and Utah are running a neck and neck race for second place, with their over-enlistment approaching the 200 per cent mark. Down at the other end of the line is Vermont, with only 79 men in the quota of 710.

The percentage of the western states upon the returns up to Monday night follows:

- Nevada 388; Oregon 172; Utah 172; Wyoming 153; Montana 137; Idaho 109; Illinois 108; Nebraska 97; California 88; Missouri 86; Kansas 79; Colorado 75; Washington 64; Minnesota 62; South Dakota 61; Texas 59; Oklahoma 49; Arizona 45; North Dakota 39 and New Mexico 31.

PROBE COSTS TO ESTABLISH BUYING SYSTEM FOR NATION

WASHINGTON, June 27.—President Wilson has directed the federal trade commission to make an investigation into production costs of steel and lumber, two principal materials that will be required for the great merchant fleet to be built for the government. It is assumed that prices fixed by the commission as fair will govern contracts for ships as well as for other government work requiring the use of the materials.

President Wilson's action gives support to a demand, gathering weight since the war began, that the government obtain lower prices on war materials. Already the trade commission had been asked by Secretary Daniels to ascertain the costs of all basic materials, used by the navy, including copper, steel, iron, coal and other fuel.

The movement for lower prices is reflected in a proposed re-arrangement of committees of the council of national defense to provide for buying commissioner who would co-ordinate government purchases and in an investigation by the senate interstate committee to determine if government control of rates, including price-fixing if necessary.

Many of the government officials are loath to see commandeering resorted to generally in order to secure reasonable prices on government purchases and many believe a purchase-

ing system under the defense council would solve any of the problems now faced.

Protection for the private purchaser is said to be one of the aims of President Wilson, who believes there will grow out of the trade commission's investigation some means of reducing costs to the public as well as to the government.

Advertisement for POSTUM coffee. Text: "Instead of coffee POSTUM 'There's a Reason'". Image: A cup of coffee on a saucer with steam rising from it.

Advertisement for JOHN A. PERL UNDERTAKER. Text: "Lady Assistant, 28 SOUTH BARTLETT, Phone M. 47 and 47-J-2. Automobile Hearse Service. Ambulance Service. Coronar." Includes "MADE IN MEDFORD SUITS" and "KLEIN FOR CLOTHES" logos.

Large advertisement for Hart Schaffner & Marx clothing. Text: "DRESS UP FOR JULY 4 SHOP EARLY--BETTER SELECTIONS--BETTER SERVICE YOU have a choice of several very snappy models, when you come here and ask to see Hart Schaffner & Marx Varsity Fifty Five Some of you may have the idea that Varsity Fifty Five means just one style; wrong; it's a title for several good ones; there's a general similarity in the lines, but a considerable variation in details. That's so we can suit every young man who comes to us and there's a big variety in fabrics; enough to satisfy every taste. At \$25 we are showing the most unusual values. We have some for less and some for more. Plenty of All-Wool Blue Serge and other Suits at \$15 and up. STRAW HATS Remember this: here is the finest selection in town—sailors, panamas, Palm Beach straws; and other good ones. Your hat is here for the Fourth. The Big Idea Here Is Service; to give you as much value as possible is our aim; to give you what you want—not what we want. Finest quality in the goods, fair prices, money back if you're not satisfied. SUMMERY THINGS Cool Underwear, Sport Shirts, Silk Shirts, Washable Neckwear, Silk Hosiery, and everything that Men and Young Men and Boys appreciate for the hot weather that makes them comfortable." Image: A man in a suit and hat standing in a field. Logo: "The Toggery OF COURSE THE HOME OF HART SCHAFFNER & MARX CLOTHES".