

# PRICE FIXING PROVED FAILURE BY AUSTRALIA

### Hoover to Benefit by Experience of Antipodes—Economy and Prevention of Monopoly and Speculation Only Remedies—Law of Supply and Demand Governs.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 13.—Direct price fixing will play little part in the Hoover food control.

The reason can be summed up in one word—Australia.

Australia, during the war, has tried out every possible system of artificial price regulation and fixing, thus giving the world its first authentic information.

The results show price fixing by legislative enactment or administrative boards does not reduce living cost except in special circumstances.

**Produced Positive Harm.**

Where both supply and demand are ample and "elastic" price fixing has produced positive harm.

Where there have been temporary shortages or monopoly control, price fixing has succeeded.

The Australian experience is especially valuable to America. The social and political habits are similar.

Like America, Australia is far from the firing line. Australia has a dual state and federal government, and the problem of interstate commerce.

The Australian states began to regulate prices at the outbreak of the war, each in its own way. New South Wales adopted thorough-going price fixing and stuck to it. Victoria made a more moderate attempt and became disgusted. Tasmania let nature take her course.

**Regulation Follows.**

At the end of three years the results in all are the same. The cost of living has risen in all at about the same rate.

And now the states have passed the buck and the federal government has assumed control of food prices and distribution.

Food regulation in Australia will likely parallel the United States course, except that it will be more far reaching, as the Australian governments have government ownership of all public utilities and many industries.

A summary of the Australian experience has recently been published in Melbourne by H. L. Wilkinson, distinguished economist, member of the Victoria price fixing board.

His conclusions will not be welcomed either by reactionaries or by enthusiastic believers in state regulation. They show:

**Price Fixing a Failure.**

1. Artificial price fixing is powerless against the "law of supply and demand," where that law is really operating.

2. But price fixing by government authority proved a sure preventive of gouging by speculators.

3. Price fixing lowered the cost of commodities controlled by trusts.

4. Germany and Australia have both proved it useless to fix selling prices where there is an actual shortage, unless the government provides by a car system for equal distribution.

5. Where selling prices are fixed below foreign prices the government must purchase and import, as private capital leaves the field.

6. Unless the government stimulates production by minimum prices or state purchase, the result of maximum selling prices is an intensified shortage after the next producing season.

**At Fixed Prices.**

7. Where stocks are held by a trust or a few large holders, simple selling price fixation may be effective. But where held by a great many, such as farmers—the government must buy the crop and sell at fixed prices. Otherwise the crop will not come on the market at all, and animals will eat the grain.

8. Price fixing, where both supply and demand are ample and "elastic," is worse than useless, as it discourages production and stimulates monopoly. In such cases the "fixed maximum price" soon becomes the fixed "minimum price."

Control of middlemen thru the license power and the reduction of distribution charges is the principal agency by which Hoover proposes to eliminate monopoly costs. The Australian experience shows this is all price fixing or state purchase can do.

**Notice.**

Will leave for San Francisco in a few days. Can accommodate three more passengers. Fare \$19.00.

COURT HALL.

# ONLY AN EARLY PEACE CAN SAVE GERMAN CREDIT

### Bankruptcy Made an Actuality by United States Embargo Upon Neutral Shipments Which Were Life Blood of Remaining German Commerce—Business Interests Desert.

By BASIL M. MANLY. WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Uncle Sam is driving into German solidarity an economic wedge that sooner or later will split it wide open.

Already the fibers are beginning to crack and soon a fissure will divide German business from the Junker-military class.

This smashup of German economic solidarity by American embargoes will be much more important and quick than reducing Germany's food or war material imports.

**Embargo Proves Fatal.**

Up to now German business has stuck to the Prussian Junker-militarists, because of self-interest, altho all except munitions makers are sick of the war. They protested against ruthless submarine warfare thru Herr Ballin's famous statement calling Hindenburg the "wooden packass of Berlin," because it meant the United States would seize more than 500,000 tons of their merchant ships and completed the consolidation of the world boycott against German commerce after the war.

But they stuck to the Hindenburg party because trade thru neutrals enabled them to continue profit-making.

They also stuck because, with the allies planning an "economic war after the war," the only hope of German commercial ascendancy lay in a Hindenburg peace won by German arms.

Now comes Uncle Sam with an iron hand cutting off the neutral trade. German exchange has been smashed down six points since the embargo policy began, and is worth in neutral countries only 60 cents on the dollar. This means it takes \$10 worth of German marks to buy \$6 worth of neutral goods.

**Upholding Values.**

Worse, the value of the mark has been kept from dropping far more only by enormous German gold shipments to neutrals. The Reichsbank today holds only \$20 worth of gold for every \$100 worth of notes, as against \$50 gold when war began.

In spite of the commandeering of jewelry and plate to support the dwindling reserves.

The German merchant and banker sees money he loaned when notes were supported by 90 per cent gold will be paid with notes supported by only 20 per cent gold and that his imperial war bonds have only 20 per cent real value behind them. He knows with the necessity of exporting more gold this fraction of real value must go down, just as confederate money depreciated to zero after the federal blockade became airtight.

Thus German business and finance are being forced into certain bankruptcy and the only way out is early peace, that will re-establish commerce.

**Soon Cry for Peace.**

That is how Uncle Sam's embargo puts the kibosh on the great Hindenburg peace illusion. German merchants may be optimistic enough to believe that Hindenburg can give them peace in 18 months, but the American embargo policy demands peace now, if German business is to be saved.

Peace now can only be obtained thru the concessions and negotiations advocated by the anti-Hindenburg parties, and into this group the national liberals—the party of German big business—must merge sooner or later.

It may therefore be predicted that it will not be long until agonized cries for peace on almost any terms begin to emanate from Herr Ballin and the other spokesmen of German commerce and finance.

This will be the first victory achieved by American forces, and it will be a great and bloodless one.

# EARTH CURRENTS HAMPER WIRE SERVICE

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 13.—"Earth currents" hampered operation of all telegraph wires between Waukesha, Nev., and Omaha, Neb., for several hours today, according to reports received here. This phenomenon was caused, it was said, by an unequal distribution of electricity on the earth's surface.

Some disturbance was felt in the vicinity of Spokane, Wash.

# YOUNG BRITAIN BEING TRAINED AS SUPER MEN

### Great Change in System of Training Schools for Army—Use Eye and Brain Is Watchword—Three B's Taught—Bullet, Bayonet and Bomb and How to Use Them.

A PLACE IN ENGLAND, July 16. (By mail.)—British military authorities are convinced that the day of the superman has arrived, and that the part he is to play in ending the war and regenerating the world can not be over-estimated.

A representative of the Associated Press who was permitted to visit a great training school as the guest of the foreign office, obtained an insight into the great change brought to the British view point during the past three years.

The British not only are putting forth all their energy in further perfecting their fighting forces, but are actually and earnestly devoting themselves to the development of their youth in a manner calculated to fit them for any and all eventualities which may arise in the years to come.

**Educating Youth.**

If the Germans cherished the idea of eliminating Britain as a world power, Britain, it is said, far from beaten, now sees with a clearer vision than ever before, and is preparing to turn the scales against her adversary in such a way as they may never again swing back.

"Use your eye and your brain," is the new British watchword which is being instilled into the British youth with all the force at the command of his superiors.

"We are training our men to believe in themselves," said the general commanding the school. "Each must not only feel that he is better equipped physically and mentally than his antagonist, but he must be able to demonstrate it. That is the lesson we have learned from the world war."

As the average Britisher is naturally a sportsman, his games are being made to play an important part in his training. In shooting, bombing and all the various arts of warfare, these are proving invaluable to him.

**Three B's Learned.**

Unlike the armies of other belligerents, the British are discarding what are termed weapons of frightfulness, and instructing their young manhood in the use of what they are pleased to call the "Three B's"—the bullet, the bayonet and the bomb.

"Experience has shown us that the rifle and bayonet are the best defensive weapons with which to arm a man," asserted one official. "If he has the proper physical and mental training, and knows how to handle his rifle and his bayonet, he is certainly the match, if not the superior, of his adversary."

The message the British would impart to their American allies was summarized as follows:

"Train your young men to be physically and mentally strong, train them to think for themselves—make them supermen, in the modern sense—and the world will be made safe for democracy."

# CLIMBED STAIRS ON HER HANDS

### Too Ill to Walk Upright. Operation Advised. Saved by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

This woman now raises chickens and does manual labor. Read her story: Richmond, Ind.—"For two years I was so sick and weak with troubles from my age that when going up stairs I had to go very slowly with my hands on the steps, then sit down at the top to rest. The doctor said he thought I should have an operation, and my friends thought I would not live to move into our new house. My daughter asked me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound as she had taken it with good results. I did so, my weakness disappeared, I gained in strength, moved into our new home, did all kinds of garden work, shoveled dirt, did building and cement work, and raised hundreds of chickens and ducks. I cannot say enough in praise of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and if these facts are useful you may publish them for the benefit of other women."—Mrs. M. O. JOHNSTON, Route D, Box 190, Richmond, Ind.



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THE SAHARA, WHERE NATURE TRENCHES THE SAND, SEEN THRU THE MAGIC EYE IN THE SKY



The mysterious eye in the sky is keeping the Arabs of the Sahara under the thumb of the French. Dame Nature is the only warrior who can trench the desert land. So the French army officers refused to throw away their men putting down Arab guerrilla warfare started by German spies and money.

With a few airplanes they patrol a territory three times as large as France. One squint at the man bird usually frightens the natives into submission. If that doesn't, one bomb does. Not a French life has been lost, but the desert is as orderly as a desert can be.

No traveler's word picture can make the great Sahara as interesting as this sky view, taken from an airplane at high altitude. The old Moorish fortress city of Tisebt, which outruns history, is shown in the foreground, and behind, date palms growing between sand dunes, and fed by underground flow of water.

# GOVERNOR REFUSES TO STOP HUNTING

SALEM, Aug. 13.—Governor Withycombe today refused the request of State Forester A. F. Elliott to postpone opening of the Oregon deer season until rain lessens the forest fire danger that Mr. Elliott declared will exist when hunters took the field. The governor said such action would come too late, because many hunters already are in the woods waiting for the season to open August 15.

With Medford trace is Medford made.

# BELL TELEPHONE CHIEFS IN VALLEY

This evening the private car of Theodore N. Vail and Newcomb Carleton will be attached to train 16, ending the short visit to the city and valley of these two prominent men in the business world. Mr. Vail is president of the American Bell Telephone company and Mr. Carleton is president of the Western Union Telegraph company. They are making their annual tour of the country inspecting the Western Union property.

Mr. Carleton is interested with his brother, E. W. Carleton, in the ownership of a ranch in the Table Rock district. His sisters, the Misses Carleton, who leased the Frank Madden home, are spending the summer in the valley. Messrs. Vail and Carleton were visiting at the Carleton ranch today.

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# What Do You Know About Your Blood Supply?

Your ignorance may startle you. Few people know of the many functions of the blood supply, and just how important it is that it be kept absolutely free from all impurities. The health of the entire body depends upon the condition of the blood. You are invited to write and obtain a booklet that gives you some invaluable information on this important subject. It tells how to keep the blood strong and free from the many impurities to which it is constantly subjected. It gives the history of S. S. S., the world's most successful blood remedy, which has been sold for more than fifty years by druggists everywhere. This book will be sent free to all who write to Swift Specific Co., Dept. A Atlanta, Ga.



**Better Business**

NEW markets are opening for products of Farm and Factory. Money with which to establish new and extend old enterprise is not lacking. Both of these conditions may largely be credited to the Federal Reserve System, of which the First National Bank is a member.

It is time to "take stock" as to whether a connection with a bank which enjoys such a connection will not benefit YOU.

Wm. G. Tait, President

**First National Bank**  
MEDFORD OREGON

# Just Received—the New Hudson Speedster

## With Super-Six Motor—Seating Four

Here is the smartest Speedster you have ever seen. Also the best performer.

**LOOKS THE SUPER-CAR**

This Hudson Speedster is finished in Cobalt blue, with vermilion wheels. The body edges are beveled, and finished in black.

The body is low and comfortable, and suggestive of a speedster. The steering wheel is at a rakish angle. There are seats for four.

It is for those who want something distinctive—a car that stands out—in this type. The raciest cars on the road.

**THE RECORD-BREAKER**

It has twice broken the ocean-to-ocean record, in one continuous 7000-mile round trip. And a special Super-Six, in the world's greatest hill climb, made the best time against twenty special cars up Pike's Peak.

**FOR ALL LOVERS OF A MATCHLESS CAR**

But the Hudson Super-Six, in its various styles, appeals to more than speed lovers. It appeals to all who admire supremacy. And to all who want endurance.

In all the accepted tests for stock cars, it has proved itself the greatest car that's built.

And all this performance is due to super-endurance. All due to the fact that this invention has reduced motor friction to almost nil. It has nearly doubled endurance, and added 80 per cent to our motor's efficiency.

It has given to Hudson the top place among five cars. Last year, no car above \$1100 equaled it in sales.

All body styles are designed and finished and equipped to make the Hudson look the leader that it is.

Come in and see the first car of this kind in Jackson County.

Prices: Speedster \$1900, Touring Car \$1800—f. o. b. Medford.

# A. W. Walker Auto Co.