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RECORD CONVOY FOR MERCHANTMEN DEFEATS U-BOATS

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands, Aug. 16.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—A record convoy has just reached Rotterdam from England, numbering 17 ships. The escorting squadron was likewise probably an easy record for this route, comprising, as it did, 40 torpedo destroyers.

The British convoy between Britain and Holland is now a regular institution, and is doubtless typical of what takes place on a far wider and extending scale in the entire shipping world. The non-admittance of armed merchantmen to Dutch ports has made convoying essential on this route.

Times of sailing are kept secret. The boats collect somewhere in British waters, and sailing orders reach them on short notice. The crossing frequently takes place at night. Some of the escorting destroyers go on ahead; others rush along at great speed on either flank of the merchantmen, turning and twisting and making all kinds of strange evolutions calculated to ward off and engage the lurking German submarine. Three or four Dutch boats are often included in the convoy, for the crossing of the North Sea alone, with no protection save that of a neutral flag, has proved to be merely asking for destruction.

Arrived on the Netherlands side, the escorting squadron stops short on the border of Dutch waters, and the merchantmen go safely on into their ports of destination, constantly passing close by the German cargo boats that have taken recently to trading with coal between Rotterdam and Scandinavian ports through the channel of Dutch territorial waters.

Shortly afterward a returning convoy, which has been lying in the new waterway, emerges and, under the protection of the warships, swiftly takes its way westward, heavily laden with such products as Dutch cheese, butter, eggs and meat. Of late the convoy has crossed and recrossed in this way once a week, incidentally conveying the mail either way. The mail from England is always very considerable, including something like 15,000 or 20,000 parcels of food for British prisoners of war in Germany. Occasionally a straggler falls victim to a torpedo, and mine victims used to be heard of, but the convoy method on the whole appears to be remarkably successful.

KAISER DISSOLVED POLISH COUNCIL

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 31.—The Taegliche Rundschau of Berlin gives a new version of the reason for the retirement of the Polish council of state, saying that instead of resigning it was dissolved because it ventured to present an ultimatum to the German government on military questions. The retirement of the council has brought out the fact that at the confidential session of the refecting main committee on Monday the majority parties demanded the establishment of a really representative assembly and a responsible ministry in Poland—a step which the Rundschau declares would lead to an immediate demand for the withdrawal of Germans from Poland.

The Pan-German newspapers have begun a campaign for the abandonment of the idea of a Polish kingdom. Newspapers of all shades of opinion agree that there is little of friendship for Germany among the Polish population.

BLASTING PROGRESS

A WET spring brought forth inane jibes from opponents of irrigation in the valley. In spite of three years of crop failures, they had learned nothing.

We had the wet spring and the usual dry summer. Even the wet spring did not atone for the dry autumn and the deficiency in usual rainfall. One has but to look at the harvest to comprehend that irrigation is essential to increased output—for not one year in six does the moisture come at the right season of the year. The dry summer is reflected in decreased yields for the ensuing year, as well as poor crops for the present year.

There are exceptions which only prove the rule. A very few by the aid of unusually fine soil and persistent cultivation raised a good crop, but it is the average of all, the total output of the valley, that counts.

Opponents of irrigation are governed by short-sighted, selfish policy. They would retard the progress of all under the impression that they are benefiting themselves—yet in the long run they are injuring themselves. We are all dependent upon the prosperity of the many, not the success of the few. There is no objector to irrigation who would not be benefited by it in increased yield and increased value of property, and by the industries, payrolls and population that naturally follows.

This is a cooperative world of ours, and when the welfare of the many conflict with the selfishness of the few, the latter must give way. The majority must rule and the minority accept the decision with good grace.

The welfare of the valley demands irrigation. It demands the district plan of securing irrigation to water users, for privately owned water systems are unsatisfactory to water users. It has been proved many times. A privately owned system is impossible and impractical, because entailing too great a cost per acre. The land owners should own their own water system and control it—and this is only possible under the district plan.

The people of the Talent district, comprising the south end of the valley, have gone ahead, organized and voted bonds to secure the water, despite opposition of reactionaries. The people of the Gold Hill district, comprising the north end of the valley, have done the same.

Are the progressive people of the central and most fertile section to refuse to follow these examples north and south at the dictates of a few large land owners whose policy is to block progress?

CONSERVING LOCAL WHEAT

RESOLUTIONS declaring that Oregon grain should be milled within the state and only the flour exported, and that every county should have its own agricultural agent to cooperate with the farmers in speeding up production, were adopted by the food production and conservation committee of the state council of defense at its first meeting held in Portland this week.

The resolutions express the opinion of the committee that the stock and dairying industries will suffer severely if wheat is exported whole. The outer parts, it was declared, are needed for feed. A committee was appointed by W. J. Kerr, chairman, to cooperate with farmers to the end that sowing of winter wheat and rye be largely increased.

The Mail Tribune has many times commented upon the folly of shipping wheat out of the Rogue River valley, to be imported later at a much increased cost as flour and feed, when we had idle flour and grist mills in the valley. We do not begin to raise enough wheat locally to supply local demands, but most of what we do raise is bought by speculators or outside mills to be shipped back later with speculators' profits and railroad charges added. In addition, the millers' charges and profits are lost to the valley.

This item is but one of many instances whereby the valley is unnecessarily impoverished and the balance of trade kept on the wrong side through lack of cooperation. It is up to our bankers, business men and farmers to get together and remedy this defect, for Rogue River valley wheat should be milled within the county.

Begin food conservation at home.

GERMAN SPIES IN NORWAY CONVICTED

CHRISTIANIA, Aug. 31.—Three German spies have been convicted at Bergen for supplying information to submarines regarding the sailing time of vessels which later were torpedoed. Captain Laven and Officer Schwartz, German citizens, and M. Thorsen, a Norwegian, all were given terms in the penitentiary. Laven was sentenced to five years, Schwartz to four, and Thorsen to ten years imprisonment.

Captain Laven admitted that he worked under instructions from the German authorities. He said that German subjects were forced to obey such orders.

Norwegian newspapers in commenting on the trial emphasized that the country must take note of the fact that German subjects must obey orders from their own country.

HEARST REFUSES TO BE CANDIDATE

NEW YORK, Aug. 31.—William R. Hearst will not be a candidate for mayor of New York at the coming election. His declination to allow his name to appear on the ballot at the coming primaries was filed with the board of elections today, the last day under the law for taking this action. Mr. Hearst had been designated by petition for the nomination on the Democratic ticket.

NEW GREEK MINISTER ARRIVES IN AMERICA

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Aug. 31.—George Roussois, who has recently been designated by Foreign Minister Politis at Athens as Greek minister to the United States, arrived today on a British steamship.

You Can Shake Loose from The Tortures of Rheumatism

By using S. S. S. The germs of rheumatism are in the blood, which is laden with millions of the minute demons of pain, causing untold suffering and bringing its victim from vigor and strength to almost helplessness. To get real and genuine relief from this disease, these disease germs must be completely routed out of the system through the blood. S. S. S. has been used for fifty years with satisfactory results in the treatment of Rheumatism. It acts directly upon the blood, which it promptly purifies of all disease germs. It is a powerful antidote, and eliminates from the blood all trace of rheumatic germs, building up and strengthening the run-down system. Write to-day to our medical director, who will give you valuable advice regarding the proper treatment of your own case. Address Swift Specific Co., Dept. I Atlanta, Ga.

ENGLAND SELLS PEOPLE SHOES AT MODERATE PRICES

PARIS, Aug. 31.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Before adjournment for summer vacation last week, parliament passed a law on requisitioning which allows the government to requisition, or take over at a fixed price, any commodities necessary to civil life, just as it has always had power to requisition anything for the army.

The new law will allow several measures intended to alleviate the dearth of living to be put into immediate effect, as all necessary preliminaries have been arranged for weeks, in readiness for the moment that this law would give the authorities power to act.

The first measure will be to inaugurate "national footwear." This does not mean that everybody is to buy boots will be available to the people and wear state boots, but that goods at a fair price. The price of boots and shoes has soared since the war to such a height that only well-to-do people can buy them. The cost of footwear other than leather, even of wooden soles, has of course greatly advanced, owing to the greater demand from those who are now unable to buy leather boots.

"National footwear" will of course be standardized. The ministry of commerce, in collaboration with the army commissariat, will requisition the necessary leather and the boots will be made for the civilians in exactly the same way as they are already made for the army. The prices will be stamped on them so that no one need pay more than the official rate. Men's boots will be sold at \$5.60 at pre-war exchange, women's at \$4.60, boys' and girls' at \$3.60 and children's at a price not yet fixed between \$2 and \$3.20. These prices allow a fair profit to the intermediary between maker and buyer.

AUSTRIAN BUDGET SHOWS BIG DEFICIT

ZURICH, Aug. 31.—The Austrian budget for 1916-17, shows a deficit of 344,000,000 crowns compared to a deficit of 49,000,000 crowns in the preceding year. Two of the largest items of expenditure are 1,761,000,000 crowns for interest on war loans and 1,650,000,000 crowns for the support of soldiers' families. Special and direct war expenditures are not included in the budget.

LESLIE SALT

runs freely from its convenient --sidespout-- --package-- it does not clog the shaker

Advertisement for The Portland Hotel featuring a Sunday Dinner for \$1 with music. Includes a small illustration of the hotel building.

Advertisement for suits, featuring a small illustration of a suit and the text 'MADE IN MEDFORD' and 'KLEIN FOR CLOTHES'.

Advertisement for John A. Perl Undertaker, located at 28 South Bartlett, offering funeral services and automobile hearse service.

BRITISH PREPARE FOR RECONSTRUCTION ERA AFTER WAR

LONDON, Aug. 18.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—A vast sphere of work lies before the new British minister of reconstruction, whose office has just been added to those included in the British cabinet. Premier Lloyd George is firmly convinced that the foundation for the complex work of reconstruction after the war ought to be begun at once, even if it is at first confined to matters of inquiry and investigation.

The largest question before the new ministry will be the question of carrying out the government's pledges to the labor unions that their pre-war positions will be restored to them. Employers frequently have argued that this will be impossible. Union leaders insist that the government has given its pledge and must fulfill it.

Discussing this phase of post-war conditions, Professor L. T. Hobhouse, head of the department of sociology in London university and one of the government's advisers on labor, said today: "The business of the minister of reconstruction is to think out the best methods by which the half-formulated, half-understood impulses of the masses of people can get themselves expressed in a reasonable manner. The first problem with which we shall be faced is that of reconstructing trades-union conditions. I say reconstructing advisedly, because if we were to speak of restoration there would be those who would say at once that it is impossible in view of the total change in conditions which the war has brought about."

"But this is a problem in which the good faith of the government is involved. Nothing could be more de-

BELL-ANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

Advertisement for Cleveland Tractor, featuring an illustration of the tractor and text describing its features and availability.

Advertisement for Gim Chung China Herb Store, located at 214 South Front Street, offering various herbs and medicines.

Advertisement for Labor Day Patriotic Concert at the Page Theatre, featuring a musical program and moving pictures.

ing it than the pledge to trade unions—that the alterations involved in dilution of labor and the suspension of 'customs of the trade' should hold only for the period of the war. If this pledge is not fulfilled it will be a fatal blow to the confidence of the public in the good faith of governments. If it is shown that it cannot be fulfilled because circumstances have altered, the answer must be that we can only vary a pledge with the consent of the persons to whom the pledge was made."



Don't ask for Crackers Jack, say SNOW FLAKES. "All right, Mother! Snow Flakes for mine, every time!" Growing children love the crisp saltiness of Snow Flakes. They are good for them, and you, too.

Advertisement for Snow Flakes biscuits, distributed by Pacific Coast Biscuit Co. in Portland, Oregon.

Advertisement for Marsh & Bennett, featuring watermelons and canteloupes. Includes contact information for personal attention and prompt service.

Advertisement for GUS, The Tailor, offering fall opening of new woolens and suits.

Advertisement for Labor Day Patriotic Concert at the Page Theatre, featuring a musical program and moving pictures.