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PLAN INCREASED GRAIN YIELDS FOR SOUTHERN OREGON

At a meeting of the county agricultural agents of Southern Oregon in Medford Tuesday plans were formulated for bringing up the 1918 production of cereals to conform with the government plan of increasing Oregon supply by 50 percent.

The government asks that the state yield be increased 50 percent, which means that the acreage of Jackson county must be increased by fully 50 percent if not more.

Problem of Seed

The great problem, according to Mr. Kaddery, is the supply of seed. It is known that rye seed will have to be imported into the state, probably from Utah and Montana.

The state seed stock commission will secure the necessary seed, however, and will also endeavor to secure financial assistance for those farmers who need it in order to seed their land and gather their crops.

No Dictation to Farmers.

Mr. Kaddery wished the local farmers to particularly understand that there is no disposition on the part of the government or the state to disturb the equilibrium of farm practice. The increase will not come from diverting cereal crops, changing established customs or arbitrarily directing individuals in their customary farm practices.

C. C. Cate in Charge.

County Pathologist C. C. Cate will have charge of the situation and will explain the campaign in detail to Jackson county agriculturists. It is believed by the state board that Jackson county is particularly well adapted to increase its yield of cereals with profit to itself and at no sacrifice to its other crops.

FIRST QUOTA OF DRAFT JOINS COLORS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—Thirty thousand men, the first increment of the national army, are on their way to cantonments today, to begin training for service overseas.

After transportation expenses and final instructions from local exemption boards yesterday, they generally were allowed to spend their last night at home before joining the colors. Under command of leaders delegated from their own numbers, the various sections are proceeding toward fourteen mobilization camps.

With Medford trade is Medford made

WHY PERMIT TREASON?

IS IT a "denial of elemental democratic rights" to forbid the meeting of the Pacifists to organize a campaign of sedition and treason against the United States in the aid of Germany, the national enemy?

"Let them talk" advises a local paper. Why should anyone be permitted to talk disloyalty and sow dissension in the midst of a war that threatens the life of the nation and of democracy?

It is such an organization as the "People's Council" which encourages resistance to the national army law, seeks in every way to prevent the vigorous prosecution of the war, and demands the impeachment of the president because of his efforts to make the war successful.

The Pro-German propaganda is bolder and more active today than since the war was first declared. The real object of this "People's Council," with its handful of members and its high sounding name, is to pass treasonable resolutions which will influence opinion abroad, especially in Russia, and convey the impression that the people of the United States are opposed to the war and will not prosecute it vigorously.

Is the right of free speech jeopardized because an anarchist is refused the privilege of advocating assassination, or an I. W. W. prohibited from championing arson, or a German sympathizer silenced for preaching treason against the government that shelters him? But we are advised "don't give them a grievance and the excuse for martyrdom by automatically denying them what a free government guarantees."

No free government ever guaranteed the right to preach treason in war time—if it did, anarchy would reign and there would be no government. Russia has been trying the experiment and faces chaos, conquest and vassalage.

Either you are for the United States or you are for Germany. There is no straddle. If you are for America, you will lend your energy and effort to support of the government and the war. If you are for Germany, you will do what the People's Council is doing—everything possible to oppose a vigorous and successful war, boldly and openly or by subterfuge, evasion and trickery.

It is high time the abuse of free speech and free press was stopped.

AMERICAN U-BOAT LOSSES.

WHAT HAS been the loss to American shipping by submarine warfare since the United States declared that a state of war exists?

The answer is furnished by Admiral Benson, chief of the bureau of operation for the navy department, which shows that the German submarines have succeeded in destroying only one-half of one percent of American ships that have entered the war zone. In other words, only one out of every 200 American ships that crossed the Atlantic has been sunk.

Admiral Benson further states that in no case have the Germans succeeded in sinking a fast fast or a big ship. They have picked off a few slow-sailing oil tankers and freighters—and even this ratio of loss will be reduced when the fleet of destroyers, now being rushed to completion, are in service.

U-boat attacks are expected off the Atlantic seaboard in the near future by the navy, as the zone of their operations is being constantly extended, and preparations are made for their reception. The arming of all American ships, and the constant patrol of shipping lanes, renders the maintenance of a submarine base extremely difficult. Such a base would have to be provided, as with armed ships a submarine is forced to abandon gun fire and depend upon torpedoes, and the largest U-boats can only carry eight. The system of convoying ships has proved highly successful.

So far, American naval forces under Admiral Sims have not succeeded in capturing any submarines, but have sunk several, and navy officials are confident that an effective system for checking the U-boat menace is being gradually built up. Many devices and methods are employed. Depth bombs are proving most effective; increased patrol, the employment of airplanes, and of other devices are constantly limiting the divers operations.

U-boats cannot run down a vessel of average speed, if kept under water, which they are forced to do if the attacked vessel is armed. Their maximum under the water range is 150 miles. All the time they are under water, they are consuming the stored power of their storage batteries, decreasing their range which compels them to come up to the surface at night and lie idle while their oil engines are used to recharge the batteries.

Americans have devised a depth bomb that is deadly at a considerable range. It is dropped over a spot where the presence of a U-boat is indicated, timed to explode at a certain depth. If the explosion occurs below the U-boat and within a reasonable distance, the hull is crushed.

BELGIUM FIELD FOR AMERICAN TRADE IN FUTURE

BY BASIL M. MANLY. (Staff Special.)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—"Belgium is stricken to the earth. Her cities and towns are sacked, her factories gutted, her mines in hostile hands, her people on the verge of starvation, many of her sons in virtual slavery. But believe me, Monsieur, better times are coming when my Belgium will arise from her ashes—greater, stronger, busier than ever."

The speaker was Gaston de Laval, advocate in the court of appeals in Brussels, in happier days and for many years legal adviser to the American and British legations in Belgium. He has come here to make a report to the state department on the Cavell case.

"The allies will win, must win. America's coming in makes that sure. It was Americans who took over the big job of feeding Belgium. It will be Americans who will help make Belgium free from the Prussian yoke."

"And don't imagine my countrymen will sit wailing amid the desolation Germany has wrought. They are a sturdy folk. They are never happy except when they are busy. Give them half a chance and soon you will see the peasants once more tilling the soil, the miners once more mining coal, the operatives once more busy in the mills and factories. And that is America's opportunity."

"Germany made much money out of its peaceful business relations with my country. Much of that business should in future be done with America."

"We used to take German insurance policies. We used to do business with German banks established in our cities. We used to buy German machinery of all kinds. Belgians will prefer not to deal with Germans in the future."

"The chance for America is great, but they must be alive to their opportunities now. And the study should not be made by individual firms, but collectively and thru your government with such aid as your embassy and your consuls can give."

DROUGHT THREATENS LOSS OF LIVESTOCK TO OREGON GROWERS

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 5.—Unless rain comes soon to break the drought throughout Oregon, considerable loss in cattle and sheep is anticipated on account of poor pasturage, according to the summary of state crop conditions for the week ending September 1, issued here today by the government weather bureau. The summary reads:

"More moderate temperatures, but drought still unbroken."

"Later reports show somewhat better yields of barley, oats, rye, spritus wheat and winter wheat than first indicated, but of light weight. Grain practically all harvested, except in south central counties."

"Owing to poor pasturage and the high prices for feed, surplus stock in being freely marketed and considerable loss in cattle and sheep is anticipated unless rain comes soon."

"Hop picking is becoming general and bean harvest has begun, with both crops light. Corn, potatoes and sugar beets are averaging only fair, but frita prospects are good."

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AIRSHIP BOMBS FELL ON SLEEPING BLUE JACKETS

LONDON, Sept. 5.—The Chatham district for the first time experienced an air attack on Monday night, when one or more bombs fell on a section of the royal naval barracks, killing 107 bluejackets outright and wounding 86 others. Four bombs fell about the barracks, but two were harmless and in fact apart from those which took such a heavy toll of lives the damage in the whole area was insignificant. A majority of the men were asleep at the time of the attack.

The first indication of the presence of the air raiders was the sound of engines overhead. This did not cause much alarm because notices had been published earlier in the evening that anti-air craft practice would be carried out that night. In all about 17 bombs were dropped and the raiders are thought to have been over the district nearly an hour. Searchlights failed to locate them, the visibility being low owing to a slight haze, notwithstanding the moonlight.

A naval man who was in the barracks at the time gave the following account of the raid:

"Most of us were asleep in our hammocks in the dormitory, which was in the large drill hall. We had no warning of any kind. Before we knew what was happening, the roof of the air, and fell in a thousand pieces among the men. It was flying glass, which was thick and heavy, that did the damage."

Some of the injured men died during the night and the survivors complain bitterly about their companions being killed without an opportunity to strike back.

"If we have to die we want to die fighting," one bluejacket said. "Most of us have seen fighting and we want another go at the Hun."

PLAIN SPEAKING BY IRISH OCCASIONS NO OFFENSE

BELFAST, Sept. 5.—Sir Horace Plunkett, chairman of the Irish convention, speaking here today at a luncheon given by the lord mayor, says that never in his life had he heard such plain speaking and unreserved expression of opinion without any offense being given any member, as he had heard at the convention.

GOOD OUTLOOK FOR FAVORABLE APPLE PRICES

Reviewing the apple market at this date, September 1, the outstanding feature is the very early buying, on a very large scale, at profitable prices to growers, says the Northwestern Fruit Exchange weekly bulletin. The full significance of the movement is found in the fact that since the apple industry of the northwest this year is so much greater in dimension than, say, four or five years ago, there has been such growth in northwest production that the 1917 crop and market situation must stand on its own bottom, as it were. The present situation, however, may be stated as a complete reversal of the 1916 situation at this time, when buyers were holding off and holding off, scared at the figures asked by the exchange, but which finally proved to be justified. As an example of the moment's buying it can be definitely stated that practically the whole of the unattached Wenatchee valley apple crop is sold. All growers and shipping organizations are doing a lot of business and the trade is anxious to fill up on its requirements.

The week elapsed since the exchange's last bulletin has, in fact, justified the statements in that bulletin, namely, that the crop as a whole in Canada and in the United States will be lighter than last year, citrus fruits short, and conditions in other important competing fruits favor the apple market. Evidence is continuing to accumulate, also, that the food campaign to encourage the greater use of apples is going to have a big effect—people are to get more apples at their meals. The Exchange says further:

"The viewpoint of the Exchange with regard to apple values is necessarily much broader than that of the average buyer. It takes into consideration every condition, and it has facilities for gathering correct information, while the average buyer's viewpoint is controlled largely by local conditions and based on precedent instead of actual conditions as they exist. It is more important than ever this season that dealers, for their own good, recognize the importance of broadening their own vision on these food problems, as apples will be considered largely from the standpoint of their food value."

LABOR DENOUNCES PEOPLE'S COUNCIL AS TREASONABLE

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 5.—The American Alliance for Labor and Democracy, organized for the purpose of squelching the activities of pacifists and pro-German propagandists, and bringing the nation's labor forces up solidly behind the government in its prosecution of the war, opened a three-day loyalty conference here. Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the United States commission on industrial relations, acted as temporary chairman.

After the appointment of a committee on permanent organization the delegates planned to recess until mid-afternoon and then receive the committee's report, which was to be followed with an address by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor.

Speakers at today's session denounced as disloyal and seditious the activities of the People's Council of America for Democracy and Terms of Peace, which was barred from holding its proposed national peace conference in Minnesota. John Spargo, one of the former leaders of the socialist party, who severed connection because of the party's stand on war, declared that several weeks ago reports had reached troops in Russia that American labor bodies would demand peace through the people's council meeting.

"What can help the enemy more than such startling reports, arising as they do from the activities of these pro-German organizations?" said Mr. Spargo.

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