

MORTARIUM FOR ALLIED NATIONS SOUGHT BY EXPERT

PARIS, Feb. 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—In advocating the temporary suspension of liquidation by the governments to one another, which would mean an international mortarium between the governments in order to give the nations breathing time, Alvin W. Kreech, president of the Equitable Trust company of New York, who has been studying the financial situation in Europe, declared:

"The inter-dependence of the nations of the world after this unparalleled entanglement must be obvious.

"The official representatives of the United States stand squarely upon the platform of no embargoes and no restrictions respecting neutral and inter-allied countries and the rationing of raw materials in the central powers after the indemnity terms have been determined. They are convinced that the sooner the lid is lifted the sooner will the nations affected be able to resume their normal industrial activity. Indeed, they are urging that all embargoes affecting the Near East and the eastern Mediterranean shall be lifted forthwith.

"The French and British governments have accumulated considerable reserves of raw materials and manufactured goods for war purposes, which will suffice long enough to allow for a readjustment by conditions and new values. America must therefore look to and prepare for a readjustment of prices before her allies will discuss freedom of control and regulation in trade.

"That is, we may as well recognize the situation in which we are placed and take the bump. We can make a cushion to lessen the shock of the bump by America creating long term commercial credits and in the creation through the aid of American banks and investors of dollar credits running over a term of years based on security of undoubted value."

PLAN DEMOLITION OF PARIS DEFENSES

PARIS, Feb. 6.—(Correspondence of Associated Press.) The question of the demolition of the ring of antiquated fortifications which surrounds Paris will be brought up before the municipal council during the course of the next few months. This is not as a result of the armistice or because of League of Nations which is expected to put an end to the war forever or because of the fact that with modern artillery the fortifications would be useless. The matter has already been brought up before the council. It dates back from 1884. The plan however would have to be referred to parliament by the municipal council after its adoption.

Louis Dausset, an alderman of the city of Paris is sponsor for the project. He argues that the benefits to be derived are a closer, easier contact with the Paris suburbs elimination of the necessity of entering or leaving Paris thru the various gates and the freeing of valuable land for building purposes.

PRICE LEVELS TO TUMBLE SLOWLY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Business conditions are characterized by slackening of production, reluctance of commercial buyers to acquire stocks of goods in anticipation of reduction of prices and by only a slight falling off of retail business, says the federal reserve board's monthly review, made public today. The board does not attempt to forecast the future course of prices, but federal reserve agents in several parts of the country predicted that the general level of prices would not fall much within the next few months. Confidence in a healthy development of the situation was expressed by the board.

"In the manufacturing field," says the review, "changes are affected primarily by alterations in the prices of raw materials and changes in the direction of demand. Changes are, however described as being productive of less disturbance than might reasonably have been expected, while the tone of the business community and its expectation of prosperous conditions to develop in the near future is strong."

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TRAINMEN SUBMIT CO-OPERATIVE PLAN FOR RAIL PROBLEM

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Railroad labor interests today proposed government ownership and private operation by one large corporation, co-operatively organized, and sharing profits with employees, as their solution of the railway problem.

Testifying before the senate interstate commerce committee, on behalf of the four leading trainmen's brotherhoods and other employees' organizations, Glenn E. Plumb of Chicago, recommended that the government acquire all railroad property at a price fairly representing the physical valuation and entrust the operation to a corporation to be directed jointly by employees, officers and the government, and rates would automatically be reduced when profits amounted to more than a fixed rate.

The corporation would be subject to regulation by the interstate commerce commission which would retain its present regulating powers.

The brotherhoods objected to the railway executives' proposal for establishing a secretary of transportation, saying this would constitute "regulating the people in the interests of capital."

We shall beat our swords into plowshares and our corkscrews into butterhooks.—Brooklyn Eagle.

GERMANS PLAN FOR DISMISSAL OF WOMEN WORKERS

MUNICH, Feb. 7.—Concrete plans for the systematic dismissal of the women workers who have taken men's places during the war have been agreed upon by the general commission of the trades unions of Germany and the Central Association of Consumers' leagues. Women will be released in the following order:

First—Women, whose husbands have work.

Second—Girls and women, who have no one dependent on them.

Third—Girls and women who have from one to two dependents.

Fourth—All other girls and women.

In case male workers have to be discharged, it will take place in the following order:

First—Unmarried men, with no dependents.

Second—Married men without children and unmarried women with relatives to support.

Third—All other men employed during the war.

Exceptions are permissible in order to avoid injustice in individual cases but the workers must apply to their local trade union. Every effort must be made to find work for an unmarried man who has relatives or other dependents.

Not all today's moaning is limited to the harbor bars.—Newark News.

AUSTRIAN STATE PAID LARGE SUMS TO DUCAL FAMILIES

VIENNA, Feb. 7.—The latest of the "disclosures," so popular nowadays, show that Austrian archduchesses, including the former Empress Zita before she was married, drew from the government large retainers for monthly support and quarterly rent money. The Austrian state bureau for army affairs makes the revelations in an official statement.

It shows that Empress Zita while still an archduchess drew as monthly support and for rent the equivalent of \$3,100 at the peace time rate of exchange. Her address was put down as either the Hofburg, or Schoenbrunn, both imperial palaces, which were placed free, at the disposal of the archduchess. She had however, in case of emmi, the choice of living in the palaces at Reichenau, Luxemburg, Gotzendorf or the Helvedere in Vienna.

Archduchess Auguste, wife of Archduke Joseph, received the equivalent of \$14,788; Archduchess Isabella, wife of Archduke Friedrich, \$6,167; Archduchess Blanka, wife of Archduke Leopold Calvator, \$747; Archduchess Maria Christine, wife of Archduke Peter Ferdinand, \$4,538, and Archduchess Marie Anna, wife of Prince Elias of Parma, \$38,416, and additional support for six grandchildren in 1918.

Other disclosures reveal that

clothes, linen, food and other things were drawn from military depots in huge amounts by the archducal families. The case of the Archduchess Isabella is particularly interesting, since she had three estates, the Albrecht Palace in Vienna, another estate in Baden and a great seat in Teschen, and her husband is considered one of the most wealthy men in Europe.

UNITS ASSIGNED FOR EARLY TRANSPORT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—Assignments for units for early convoy home from France were announced by the war department today as follows:

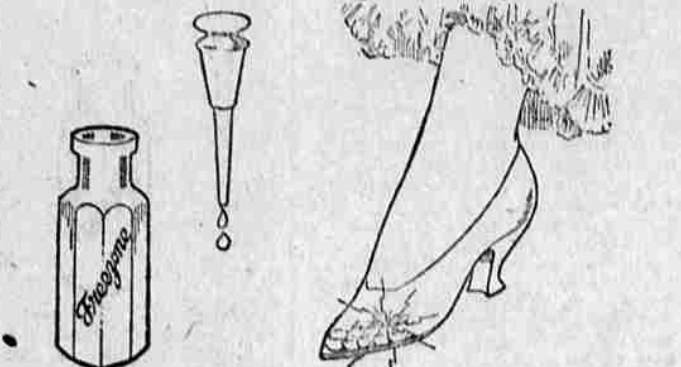
Headquarters 166th field artillery brigade; 347th and 348th field artillery regiments (91st division); headquarters first army artillery; 96th aero squadron; chemical warfare casual company No. 5, and ordnance casual companies numbers 12 to 21 inclusive.



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