

Climax In Unprecedented Situation Facing Country Is Expected To Break Soon

By Fred S. Ferguson
(United Press staff correspondent)
Washington, Aug. 30.—Announcement that the president will start on his tour of the country within comparatively few days, coupled with the meeting of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor starting tomorrow, convinces Washington today that a climax may soon be expected in the unprecedented situation gripping the country.

In addition to his fight for the treaty and league of nations, the trip will afford the president an opportunity to put squarely before the country his position on the matter of wage increases while attempts at lowering the cost of living are just getting under way.

The shopmen, whose strike would approach a tieup of the railroads of the country, are not satisfied with the president's disposition of their case. But one of the big questions that will be answered before the president starts his trip, is whether the American Federation of Labor will get behind him or back of the shopmen.

The president's friends are confident of A. F. of L. support in view of the stabilizing position the labor organization has taken throughout the war emergency. Should the executive council give the shopmen its support in refusing to accept the terms submitted, however, it is pointed out that the entire labor situation would be thrown wide open, with innumerable strike possibilities.

Uncertainty during the last few weeks as to whether the president would actually make his trip is attributed to the fact that the treaty situation had not so crystallized as to indicate exactly what the president would have to fight. His friends point out that the president really hasn't fought at all to date. He has merely waited to see how far the opposition would go.

The action of the foreign relations committee has determined that the re-

publican majority's starting point, at least, is to go the limit in amendments to the treaty. Some friends of the president predict that he will not deal extensively with the amendments the committee is starting out to make. They declare that the issue is on the league of nations. They are convinced that the country, as a whole, is favorable to the league idea. On theory, therefore, that no big issue can be deflected on its details, they expect the president to make his fight of the league covenant as an instrument that will prevent wars, relying on what they believe to be the popular demand for the league to guarantee defeat of the senate's detailed objections.

Initial Units Of First Division Back Saturday

New York, Aug. 30.—The first troops of the First division will arrive Saturday on the transport Pastores, it was announced today at the port of embarkation, Hoboken. Nineteen officers and thirty enlisted men will comprise the units.

The Pastores, which left Brest August 21, bringing 1473 officers and men including a number of casual companies.

Spokane Refuses Increased Pay To Employes Of City

Spokane, Wash. Aug. 30.—At the election Tuesday, voters refused wage increases of 15 percent to all city employes, and turned down proposed increases of 25 percent to firemen and police. Firemen and the police had initiated the increase petitions which resulted in the election. The vote was light.

DISTILLERS REALIZE DAMAGE OF SALOONS

Booze Barons Want Return Of Whiskey But Not Of Former System.

New York, Aug. 30.—(United Press)—Distillers are wondering what they are going to do with the huge stocks of liquor left on their hands when the nation went into its prohibition period.

They believe, according to O. H. Wathen, who is head of Kentucky's largest whiskey manufacturing plant, that whiskey will come back some of these days, but even they are firm against allowing it to come back in the old way.

"We don't want saloons," Wathen said today. "We would have liquor take its place as a commodity, to be disposed of at the grocery or the department store. We have no patience with the saloon. It got us into all our trouble. A man used to drop into a saloon, begin consuming whiskey, and walk out a staggering drunk. He went home and annoyed his wife, the neighbors saw him and pitied him. The drys pointed to him as a horrible example, and whiskey took all the blame. We believe whiskey can be handled right in this country, and we are going to make a fight to that end. Abolish the saloon and let the householder buy his whiskey and take it home. That's what we want to happen, and we want to do away with the bad whiskey that made physical wrecks of people. Good whiskey won't hurt any one unless he makes a pig of himself."

Wathen estimated that there is \$77,000,000 in whiskey tied up in government warehouses. The government agents hold the key to this stock, not the distillers. A great deal of it represents the capital of distillers. They want a chance to get rid of it, and are hoping that congress will in some way declare war prohibition at an end and give them a chance to sell off the accumulation.

"If congress will allow us to start in September to get rid of our stocks," said Wathen, "we will come near disposing of it by the time the national prohibition law goes into effect. I think we are entitled to some consideration."

"We can't get insurance on stock unless politics had been issued before prohibition went into effect. Insurance companies fear destruction of the liquor, by some fanatic, so we are facing more than merely a loss through confiscation. If a fire were to start in some of these plants it would wipe out the men who are holding the stocks."

Wathen said that when the government banned the use of corn, barley and rye in the manufacture of whiskey, it was with the understanding that wartime prohibition would be lifted in time to allow the dealers to dispose of their stocks. This promise, he declared, has not been kept.

Asked if export business was relieving the situation any, the distiller said the effect was hardly noticeable.

"They don't care for American whiskey in England, Ireland and Scotland," he said. "They prefer Irish and Scotch whiskeys. We are shipping some abroad, but not a great deal and within a short time that avenue will be cut off. In France they prefer wines."

GRAPHIC
STORY
OF THE
DAYS
OF THE
GOLD
RUSH
AND
EMIGRANT
TRAINS



WHERE
DO
THEY
LEAD
TO?
WHAT'S
AT
THE
END
OF
THE
TRAIL?

"WAGON TRACKS"

CARL LORRAINE
in
"OLE OLESON"

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LOWER FOOD PRICES IN 90 DAYS LIKELY

Ames Says Material Drop Due Soon As Result Of Federal Action.

By Ralph E. Couch
(United Press staff correspondent)
Washington, Aug. 29.—Very material decreases in food prices will occur within 90 days, Judge Ames, assistant attorney general in charge of the government's price campaign, predicted today.

A general reduction of 25 per cent will finally result from the government's efforts, Ames said.

Aims statement followed a letter by the shopmen's leaders advising their men to withhold striking for 90 days to give the government time to make good in its fight to bring down prices. Ames went into conference with governors of seven states and Attorney General Palmer. The governors are here to offer state aid in cutting prices.

"Reductions," Ames said, "already have been forced in many localities including New York, Tennessee and Idaho. A big drop in hog prices, which occurred yesterday at Chicago, is one effect of the government's campaign."

HOP PICKING TIME COMES PICKERS ARE PLENTIFUL

The dry weather has undoubtedly reduced the hop crop from 5000 to 10,000 bales. The latest estimates by dealers, with state wide sources of information, place the crop at one third the normal crop in the days when the industry was flourishing.

Growers report the supply of pickers sufficient. The large yards have booked all they need, and the smaller yards are certain to have all they need. Some of the fuggle yards are beginning to pick this week. Some of the early cluster yards will begin the first, and others about the eighth of September. Most of the growers are paying \$1.20 per 100 pounds. Few of the yards pick "by the box" any longer, but "by weight"—the fairest method for both picker and grower.

It is estimated that nearly 10,000 pickers will share in the \$400,000 to \$500,000 that will be paid out for picking the Oregon crop this year. This will go mostly to women and children

as comparatively few men will go into the hop yards this season as pickers. With few or no actual transactions, hops are still quoted at 50 to 55 cents for the season's product. A large part—probably 75 to 80 per cent—of the crop is contracted.

Henry L. Bents, who visited the Silverton-Mt. Angel hop section, states that the crop has been greatly reduced there by the ravages of the red spider. One small fuggle yard of five acres in which picking is already finished, had only 106 boxes.—Aurora Observer.

Prince Of Wales Asks No Exclusive Society Stunts

Winnipeg, Man., Aug. 30.—There will be no exclusive society functions held here for the Prince of Wales. He himself put a stop today to plans for receptions where only invited guests were to be admitted.

Telegraphing from Toronto, the Prince's aides asked that the public be invited to all functions held for him in this city. Invitations had already been issued by Lady Aikins, governess of Sir James Aikins, governor of Manitoba for a garden party. The event was cancelled following receipt of the prince's telegram.

CAPTAIN TELLS HOW DEUTSCHLAND ESCAPED

Konig Explains Evasion Of Enemy Patrols By Giant Submarine In 1916.

By Carl D. Groat.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
Berlin, Aug. 30.—Though allied warships lingered outside Norfolk, Va., and fishing boats with nets sought to entangle him, Captain Paul Konig, master of the U-boat Deutschland made his escape safely on his first journey to America.

He has just written an account of the outward voyage in the Bremen Nachrichten.

"About two to three days after our arrival in Baltimore (August, 1916) came news that three cruisers were playing at the entrance to Chesapeake Bay," he wrote. "A few days later we had information that two English and two French cruisers were operating at the entrance in the day, but withdrew further out at night. These cruisers apparently knew the path we took in and were anxious to catch us on the outward journey. We learned, too, that some fishing boats, that ordinarily did not remain in the channel, had stopped there and put out a very long net, hoping to entangle our gears therein. I ascertained, too, that a firm in Boston had supplied a dozen microphones to English account. What a triumph it would have been for the English if they could have captured us."

Konig declared that he was a bit skeptical about American neutrality and fearful lest the Americans should not prevent the British from coming within the three mile limit.

On the first of August, the Deutschland took its departure. Konig said that he had hoped to be able to avoid press boats but had not been able to do so. However, he rejoiced as night came on, and he lost his press pursuers. However when he reached Newport News he was hailed by a press boat.

That night he made for the three mile limit, submerging and emerging several times. He spied fishing boats in the distance, and altered his course. Also an American destroyer passed overhead. Having taken a new course when he spied the fishing boats, he turned on his electrical engine, and when he ascertained that there were no sounds of enemy craft, he headed out to sea at some distance from where the fishing boats were stationed.

"In the little messroom of the Deutschland, I drank a bottle of wine with the officers and engineers, which had been given us by German American friends," he concluded. "We drank to a safe journey. Twenty-two days later we came into the port of Bremen safely."

Konig's plan for outwitting the press boats at Baltimore is believed to have been an attempt to get the Baltimore city officials to hold up the boats on the plea that they had not had proper inspection. The Washington administra-

APPLE CROP IS LARGE

Portland, Or. Aug. 30.—For the first time in Oregon history the Willamette valley this year will enter the apple shipping class, sending out, in addition to the fruit used in the valley, between 300 and 400 carloads, according to data collected by F. L. Kent, state field agent for the federal bureau of crop estimates.

The sensational increase, which appears almost beyond belief in the light of the few scattered cars sent out last year, is ascribed by Kent to the heavy acreage in all parts of the valley which

is just coming into bearing. Last year only some four or five acres were sent out of the Monroe district, and a few cars out of the Sheridan district, in addition to the fruit raised for local consumption.

New orchards, responsible for the present year's increase, were planted between eight and nine years ago, and have been well cared for.

The new commercial orchards, which will put the valley in the shipping class, are in the following districts: Loretto, which it is reported will have an extraordinarily big yield; Vivadore and the Fern Ridge country, the Monroe district, Corvallis, the Broadmead district, Sheridan and Albany.

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