

ASKING TOO MUCH

AMERICANS OVERSTEP LIMIT IN THEIR DEMANDS FOR RELIEF.

STATEMENT BY COMMITTEE

Chairman Hoover Forestalls Any Criticism Which May Be Made on Their Arrival Home—Two Women Put Up at Expensive Hotel.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.
London.—Two young American women who arrived from Berlin Saturday night were given the address of an inexpensive hotel by the American relief committee. Instead of going there, they put up at a luxurious hotel, according to the committee, appeared at the relief headquarters and presented a hotel bill for \$50, requesting that it be paid on their behalf. They also asked to be provided with first class passage on a steamer to New York, as they swore that they were penniless.

The committee felt compelled to pay the hotel bill, but allowed them only \$7.50 each daily for living expenses until they proceeded to New York as second class passengers. This privilege was granted because the young women declared that they were in frail health.

This and similar cases have caused Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the committee, to issue the following statement:

"The American press may be interested to know that they may expect a large number of interviews denouncing this committee upon the arrival of steamers at New York. The committee has made it an inflexible rule that people appealing to them for relief and claiming to be entirely without resources should be sent to the United States in the third class, unless circumstances such as age or illness or the having of children with them justified the extra expenditure for additional accommodations. A large number of Americans are now arriving from the continent convinced that though they may be without means themselves, they have only to apply to the committee to receive first class passages to New York. When informed of the committee's inflexible rule, which is applied to all Americans impartially, no matter what may be their presumed social standing, they usually tell the committee that they will see to it immediately they arrive in New York that the committee gets blown up in the New York papers.

"Any American who wishes better accommodations than the third class provided may cable through the committee to his American friends for money, and if they advance it, can travel on any scale he pleases, but when they refuse to cable or declare they are without means of their own, under the committee's inflexible rule, subject only to such exceptions as I have stated, they will be given only third class fare."

PEACE MOVE IN MINE WAR.

To Hold Conference to Consider Wilson's Proposal.

Denver, Colo.—Announcement was made that a conference of Colorado coal operators would be held in Denver to consider President Wilson's proposal for a three-year truce in the miners' strike. J. F. Welborn, president of the Colorado Fuel and Coke company, as well as all operators, including those having contracts with the United Mine Workers of America, are invited to participate.

Facing Serious Situation.

New York.—Methodist congregations in Germany are facing the necessity of closing the doors of their churches and, in a great many instances, selling their property for whatever it will bring, owing to their inability to meet financial obligations, according to a letter received at the home office of the board of foreign missions of the Methodist Episcopal church from Bishop John L. Nuelson, who is in charge of the work in Europe. The members of the German congregations, Bishop Nuelson wrote, are crushed by the heavy burdens imposed upon them by the war, and great suffering is anticipated among the families of some of those who have fallen in battle.

Railways Seek Another Hearing.

Washington, D. C.—Contending that they face unprecedented conditions, aggravated by the European war, the eastern railroads have informally informed the interstate commerce commission of their intention to ask for the reopening of the advance rate case, in which a petition for a general increase of 5 per cent in freight rates was denied.

Socialists Want Peace.

Chicago.—An appeal to the socialists of Europe to urge the various warring governments to accept mediation by the United States was sent out by the national committee of the socialist party here.

Bishop Harries in Orient.

New York.—That there is no cause for anxiety regarding conditions in the orient is the opinion of Bishop M. C. Harris, supervisor of the work of the Methodist Episcopal church in Japan and Korea.

Market Board Favored.

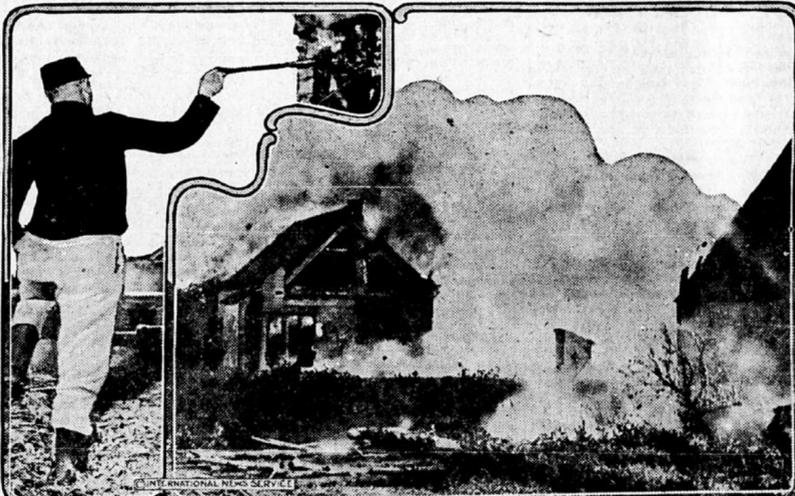
Washington, D. C.—A national market commission, as a semi-official body to organize states, counties and localities for economic distribution of farm products to meet the high cost of living was advocated before the house agricultural committee by David Labin, director of the international institute of agriculture at Rome. Mr. Labin wanted the United States to adopt the system of handling farm products used in Germany, Austria and other countries.

BELGIANS FLEEING AND ADVANCING



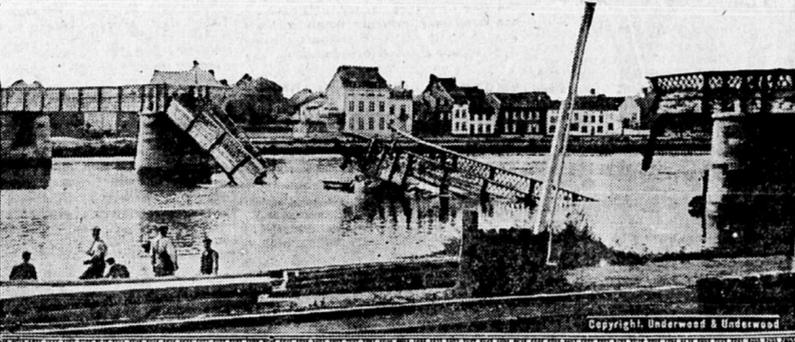
Below, the entire population of Tirlemont fleeing for life from the rapidly advancing Germans, carrying their most precious little possessions. Above, Belgian infantry in column formation screened by artillery under the trees in the distance, marching to repulse the Germans at Haelen.

CLEARING THE WAY FOR ANTWERP'S GUNS



When the Belgians retired to Antwerp many houses in the suburbs were burned in order to clear the land in front of the fortifications. At the left a soldier is seen setting fire to a cottage with a lighted broom.

BRIDGE ACROSS THE MEUSE DESTROYED BY BELGIANS



In order to impede the advance of the Germans the Belgians destroyed this steel and concrete bridge across the Meuse river. This photograph was made at great risk, as an order had been issued to shoot photographers caught making pictures.

READY FOR THEIR ERRAND OF MERCY



Some of the American Red Cross nurses ready to sail on the steamer Red Cross for service on the battlefields of Europe. In front are Mary Francis Keller, May A. Brownell and Anna L. Rentinger. At the rear, Mary E. Gladwin, Helen Scott Hay (in charge), Lucy Minnegerode and Mary F. Farley.

REFUGEES IN CATTLE CAR



American and English refugees fleeing from France in a cattle car. They were glad to obtain even that crude transportation.

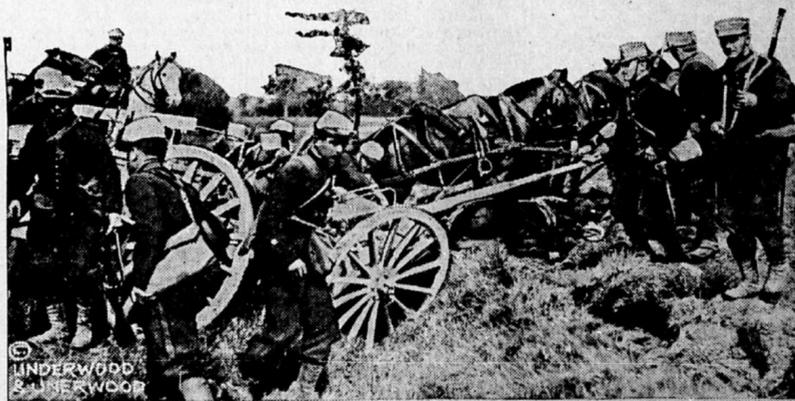
London.—A Willesden shopkeeper is disposing of a stock of small silk German flags by offering them as "pipe cleaners; four a penny."

VISE DEVASTATED BY THE INVADING GERMANS



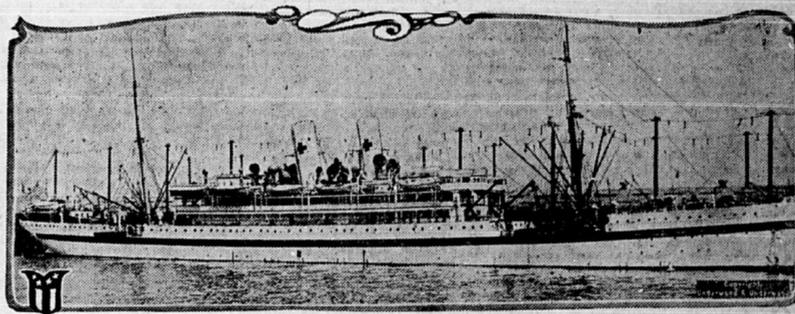
Because Vise, Belgium, offered a stout resistance to the German troops they left it in the condition here shown—a mass of ruins.

FRENCH ARTILLERY IN DIFFICULTIES



French artillery division that got into trouble while maneuvering for an advantageous position.

SAILING OF THE RED CROSS DELAYED



This is the steamer Red Cross, formerly the Hamburg, whose sailing from New York with American Red Cross nurses and surgeons was delayed by protests of the English and French consuls because some of the crew were Germans.

FOR LOYAL GERMAN WOMEN



This ring of the German Order of the Iron Cross is being bestowed upon many of the loyal women of Germany who contribute to the Kaiser's war fund, William following the example set by his grandfather in 1870.

Paris.—In the fighting at Dieuze it is declared the Germans signaled for a masked battery to open fire on the French by having a military band play Chopin's Funeral March.

AUSTRIAN SHARPSHOOTERS HOLD BACK SERBS



Austrian sharpshooters along the Danube river checking the advance of the Servian troops.

WHY THE WAR WORRIES FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES

Fire insurance companies all over this country are now in great fear of a big fire, because of the situation in which the war places them. In every city and town the companies are sending out stern warnings to policy holders, advising them to exercise extraordinary precautions to guard against fires.

A costly conflagration might bankrupt the fire insurance companies and

would be utterly impossible, under present conditions, for the companies to turn over their stocks and bonds to raise ready money to pay fire claims. Their security holdings at the moment are worth in many cases not much more than the paper on which they are engraved.

It is generally known that the insurance companies are enabled to do business by investing the money paid in for policies. By banking the money, or by loaning it at small interest, the companies could not pay their losses.

HOW THE POLES IN RUSSIA LOST THEIR FREEDOM

There are today approximately 200,000 Poles in the German and Austrian armies, and 400,000 Poles under arms for Russia who are opposing them. Military experts point out the possibility that the czar was aiming to alienate the Polish soldiers of Russia's enemies when he issued his recent proclamation, promising autonomy for the ancient kingdom of Poland.

Poland disappeared as an independent and integral state in 1772 when the first partition of the kingdom was effected between Russia, Austria and Prussia. There was a second partition in 1793 and the third and last partition occurred in 1795. The division of the Polish kingdom among the three powers was re-arranged by the congress of Vienna in 1815. In the rearrangement the shares of Prussia and Austria were reduced and the grand duchy of Warsaw was added to the Russian empire.

This grand duchy of Warsaw was absolutely autonomous and independent of Russia, the only bond of union being personal, the same monarch being the sovereign of each state. In 1831 the Poles, alleging abuses by Russia, arose in rebellion and were crushed utterly by the czar. Their constitution was taken away, their parliament abolished, their army added to that of Russia and the Polish language was substituted for Polish and made compulsory. All posts were filled by Russians.