

## LIVERPOOL ON WHEAT MARKET

Liverpool Grain Experts Are in Accord With Opinions of Chicago Grain Men Regarding Situation.

## BREAD WILL BE LUXURY

While Patten is Given Credit With Pushing up Prices, Liverpool Men Believe Raise Was Inevitable.

LIVERPOOL, April 17.—The World's wheat margin, or visible supply over the amount that will be actually demanded, has practically disappeared, according to a statement issued today by big interests this city. While the precise figures are unavailable, at this time, it is said that conditions generally show great reduced acreage in Europe by reason of adverse weather. Russia and the Danube country are shipping only half their usual amount, which represents a shortage of eight million bushels, as compared with 1907. Argentina is the only country that shows increases. The world supply is declared to be within a very narrow compass, the margin having been worked down until it has almost disappeared. Liverpool wheat men express the same pessimism as voiced by Chicago grain men and millers of the north-west. They predict the price of wheat will continue to set new records and that unless an unexpected improvement of conditions develops, bread will become almost a luxury throughout England and the continent. Patten is given credit with pushing up the price of wheat, but Liverpool grain men are of the opinion that even without his manipulations, it would have reached as high a figure.

## Wilson Says Plenty

WASHINGTON, April 17.—There is sufficient wheat in the country at normal prices to make bread for the American people up to the time the new crop comes and those who attempt to keep the prices up to the present rates expect to get their money from the common people, the consumers. This reassuring message was made public today by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson as a denial of the possibility of "bread riots" predicted by Thomas W. Lawson and others, as certain to follow the "batten wheat manipulations. Wilson continued: "A large majority of the wheat has left the hands of the farmer, and a fictitious price has been created. The farmers are not benefited by such conditions and will naturally plan more wheat for next year's crop, which is likely to be abnormally large, when gamblers will not be in the market, and mischief will be done by disturbances of the crop system.

Regarding the reliability of reports relating to the amount of wheat on the farms March 1, reports at this department indicated about 122,000,000 bushels. Statisticians of standing reports sent here estimated the wheat on hand at 100,000,000 to 170,000,000 bushels. Last year's reports estimated about four million more bushels than this year. Reports of this department are from farmers who know if anybody knows, the facts. If we seek an honest class of community, and hesitate to take the word of the American farmer, we won't establish the truth by going to the gamblers. There is 21,000,000 bushels more produced in the past year than the previous year so it will be seen the scarcity of wheat is not the cause of the present abnormal increase in prices. The world's wheat crop of 1908 is practically the same as 1907.

He cited figures showing the crops of various years laying the entire blame of the price of wheat to the Chicago corner. Wilson said, "They have been questioning our report. It is now high time to give absolute facts."

## Shorts are Sore.

CHICAGO, April 17.—That the big wall street shorts in wheat who have been squeezed by the Patten operations are responsible for the present agitation to abolish speculating in grain futures, was the intimation made today by James Patten, in interview to the United Press.

Patten also declared in favor of taking the tariff off of wheat, and all necessities, and also said that the Lord was more responsible for the present high prices in wheat than he (Patten) is. Patten, chafing under the criticism directed against him put a sarcastic

## TAFT TALKS TO LABOR LEADERS

Had Long Interview Yesterday With Gompers and Members of Executive Council of American Federation of Labor.

## PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Labor Leaders Were Well Pleased With Conference, President Promising to Give Matters Earnest Consideration.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—President Taft discussed problems of the working man for two hours yesterday with the members of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor. The labor leaders, headed by President Gompers, called at the White House to present to the president a number of matters of vital interest to organized labor. They found the chief magistrate keenly attentive and deeply interested, not only did he give the spokesmen of the party all the time they desired to lay their matters before him, but joined himself in the discussion from time to time to bring out fuller information on the various subjects as they were reached.

When the conference had reached its close the president told his callers he would investigate such matters presented which seemed to him to require such action and that he would be glad to help, so far as his opportunities would permit, in arriving at the proper solution of the difficulties in which the working people found themselves, while at the same time keeping the interests of the whole people in view.

## The Questions Discussed.

The labor leaders seemed pleased with their reception. They took up with the president an interesting array of problems, including injunction, eight-hour law, convict labor, recent indictment of the labor leaders in the south for the alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, danger of dissolution of all labor organizations under the strict interpretation of recent decisions by the supreme court, maintenance of international peace, labor problems on the Panama canal, adherence to the right of an asylum in this country for political offenders from other lands, and child labor.

Taft told the leaders he regarded the matter of the anti-injunction law as one of the most important phases of his administration. The president said he would be glad to consult further with the representatives of organized labor as to amendments, etc., when the bill for the next congress had been framed.

## Pleased With Action.

In the beginning of the interview with the president, Gompers said the council desired first of all to express appreciation of the action of the government in standing by the principle of right of an asylum in the United States for persons charged with political offenses in other countries, as exemplified in the recent cases of Pouren and Rudowitz, the Russian refugees. The council further expressed its appreciation of the attitude of the government in its effort to extend opportunities for the maintenance of international peace.

With reference to convict labor, Gompers told the president that organized labor desires only that this class of labor shall be regulated, not prohibited. The idea is to prevent convict-made goods and work from coming into competition with the labor of free men.

## Eight-Hour Law.

The federation's council urged the president to use his efforts for the extension of the eight-hour law so that it will apply to contractors and sub-contractors furnishing materials and fittings for the government buildings and other government works. The law now applies only to "government works" and the labor leaders pointed out that while the work of actually constructing government works might now be limited to eight hours, the preparation of materials—sometimes occurring just across the street from the structure itself—found men employed by sub-contractors working nine, ten and twelve hours a day. Gompers told the president that both McKinley and Roosevelt had favored such extension of the principle of the eight hour day as is

## CAPTAIN HAINS, WIFE WHO MAY OPPOSE HIM AT MURDER TRIAL AND THEIR CHILDREN.



CAPT. HAINS AS HE APPEARED WHEN ARRAIGNED

MRS. HAINS

HAINS CHILDREN

[New York, April 17.—Insanity will be the plea of Captain Peter C. Hains, U.S. A., when he appears for trial at Flushing on April 19 for the murder of William E. Annis at the Bayside Yacht club last summer. An incident which is alleged to have occurred during a battle in Cuba in 1898 will be related as contributory proof that Hains has been subject to emotional insanity for years. At the fight at La Guira, in which Captain Hains, his brother, Major Hains, and their father, General Hains participated, it is said that Captain Hains had ordered his father to the rear and struck at the elder officer with his sword when he refused to obey the order. Mrs. Claudia Libby Hains, the captain's young wife, against whom divorce proceedings are now pending, may be a witness for the state. It is argued that she cannot afford to allow the recital of her alleged misconduct with Annis to go unanswered in view of the fact that she will seek to regain possession of her three children, who are now in the custody of Captain Hains' parents.]

## CRISIS NEAR AT CONSTANTINOPLE

Dissolution of Parliament, Sultan's First Step in Plan to Regain Despotism Power is Believed Imminent Today.

## SPENDS MONEY FREELY

Has Distributed Vast Sums Among Priests and Unpaid Soldiers, Which Produced Wave of Popularity.

[By Staff Correspondent of the United Press.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, via Philippopolis, April 17.—The dissolution of parliament, the first step in the sultan's bold plan to regain his despotic powers, is believed to be imminent today. It leaked out that the sultan would already have taken the step had it not been he was urged by the new ministers and priests to wait until conditions became more settled. The only thing that now can prevent this move by the sultan it is believed, is the success of the Young Turks. If they are successful they may save the constitution but it will be at the price of a civil war, and probably breaking up of the empire. It was learned today the sultan had distributed \$25,000 among the priests, and several millions among the unpaid soldiers in the Constantinople garrison, which produced a wave of popularity for the sultan. The sultan's brother, Mehmed Rehad, will be proclaimed sultan if the Young Turks succeed in overthrowing the present regime. Rehad is liberally inclined and in sympathy with the Young Turks' aims. Hundreds of prominent citizens have fled from Constantinople. Business is at a standstill. In many cases the homes

## WILL GOBBLE UP BOOTH CONCERN

Federal Judge Kohlsaat Today Ordered Public Sale of All Mixed Real and Personal Property of A. Booth Co.

## VALENTINE WILL BUY TRIP TO COST \$25,000

Valentine and Associates Will Buy in Property at Low Price and Reorganize It—Small Stockholders "Froze Out."

CHICAGO, April 17.—Federal Judge Kohlsaat today ordered a public sale of all mixed, real and personal property of A. Booth and Company, the defunct fish trust, at 11 a. m., May 29. Receiver W. J. Chalmers will conduct the sale, and the court order provides that all bidders must put up a hundred thousand dollars cash, or a certified check to that amount.

The property consists of steamboats, sailboats, lease holds, cold storage houses, stores, fish stock on hand, and all real and personal property used in conducting the business. The firm has property in nearly every state of the union, in the larger cities. Among the most valuable are holdings in Nebraska, Minnesota, New York, Michigan, Ohio and Illinois. The property is stated to be worth \$6,000,000, and represents investments of \$10,000,000. At the time the receivership proceedings started the company had \$1,200,000 in cash; \$5,000,000 in property, and the gross sales of the concern were estimated at \$11,000,000 annually.

## No Flight Made Today.

ROME, April 17.—The trial of the Wright aeroplane scheduled for today has been postponed on account of a small accident to one of the motors. It is expected to be repaired within a short time.

## 2500 PEOPLE REPORTED SLAIN

That Number Said to Have Been Slain in Adana and Mersina and Massacre Spreading to Other Towns.

## ARE MANY WILD STORIES

Several Americans, English and German Residents Reported Killed But no Definite Information is Obtainable.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 17.—The British council at Adana, and Major Boughty Wylie, British vice council at Mersina, have been wounded in the rioting that raged in this section of Asia Minor for the last 48 hours, according to a report just received here. General Izett Fuad assistant minister of war under the new bureau chief was murdered last night, the news of the crime not being made public until today. No details have been learned. It is supposed Fuad was slain by the soldiers, who are violently opposed to Elhem Pasha as head of the war ministry. The soldiers asked the appointment of Nazim Pasha at the time Edhem was named. The latest reports say 2,500 people have been slain in Adana and Mersina, and that the massacre of Christians is spreading to other towns and is likely to sweep all Asia Minor. A large part of Adana has been burned by Mohammedans, who are applying a torch to other towns. Several English, German and American residents of Adana are among the killed and wounded. It is reported, but no definite information is obtainable. It is yet impossible to learn the names of the two American missionaries reported to have been slain in Adana. The report still lacks official confirmation. So many wild stories are coming from Adana and Mersina that it will probably be several days before an accurate statement of the conditions there can be obtained.

## Sultan is Alarmed.

The Sultan is greatly disturbed over reports from Adana and Mersina as he fears the slaughter of Christians may cause the powers to interfere. He has ordered all available troops rushed to the scene to put down the riots at any cost. Europeans in Asia Minor are clamoring for foreign powers to hasten warships to the scene as the only means of preventing a massacre that may be the worst ever had in this country. The slaughter of the last two days really began at Tarsus, and has been confined almost exclusively to Christian Armenians. Conflicting reports reached here regarding Enver Bey, the young Turks leader. One says he was arrested while enroute from Berlin to Salonica, and executed. Another says he arrived safely at Salonica.

## TAX AMENDMENT MAY BE ADOPTED

If Adopted by Senate, it Will Pass House and go to the President.

That the income tax amendment to the tariff bill may be adopted by the senate is now more than a possibility. If adopted by the senate it will probably pass the house and be presented to the President for approval.

Taft is already on record favoring such a tax, if it can be applied without constitutional objections. The best lawyers on both the republican and democratic side of the senate are working on the proposition and prospects are they will be able to evolve a law on the subject that will stand the test of the court. Republicans have been studying the situation say that if all the democrats can be counted on to vote favorably on the income tax, a proposition of some character can be readily written into the bill. They figure that at least twenty republicans will vote favorably and give the names, among whom are: Brown of Nebraska, Cummins and Dooliver of Iowa.

## Posses Search For Pastor.

ST. LOUIS, April 17.—Posses today are searching for Rev. Robert W. Lessing, who disappeared near Moselle yesterday, after having cashed a check for a small amount at the bank. When last seen three men were following him, believed to be tramps and it is feared the minister was attacked and robbed. Lessing was pastor of the church at Moselle. He cashed the check and later took a walk along the railroad. Three men who had been seen in town all day, followed him toward the tracks. None have seen him since.

## FATE OF LOST TUG IS KNOWN

No Further Doubt That Captain Berry and His Crew of Six Were Lost When Tug "Floss" Foundered.

## BERRY'S LAST MESSAGE

Board Bearing Message Was Found on the Beach, Telling Where to Find the Bodies of the Crew.

CLEVELAND, April 17.—There is no further doubt that Captain Berry and his crew of six, were lost when the fish tug Floss foundered in the storm April 7. A board bearing the Captain's last message was found on the beach by a small boy and turned over to the wife of the captain as a last sad relic. The message read: "Cap't. Berry and crew aboard the Floss, April 9. If you will go straight out from Ashtabula you will find the bodies of the crew. We made a raft from fish boxes, but we are sinking fast. We baled—The boat was wrenched to pieces by the wind and water. Tell my wife good-bay." It was learned today that the Floss was seen Wednesday evening signalling for help near the five-mile take-in here. A few minutes later the men on the crib heard an explosion and the tug vanished. It is believed her engines stopped and she was capsized by the big waves.

## An Eye Witness.

George McLaughlin, keeper of the crib four miles out, was an eye-witness to the disaster and it was he who told the story of the fate of the tug. According to McLaughlin's story the Floss went down after a fierce battle with the wind and waves. He says he watched the Floss struggling against the storm and he signalled the vessel to come to the crib, but received no answer. "The waves," he says, "tore away the cabin and other parts of the craft. Finally a heavy wave swept over the Floss, there was a terrific explosion, which sounded like the bursting of a boiler and when the spray had cleared the Floss had gone down.

## THE WEATHER.

Indications for Iowa, Illinois and Missouri, Wired From Chicago.

For Keokuk and vicinity: Probably showers tonight or Sunday. Warmer tonight.

For Illinois: Partly cloudy with probably showers north portion late tonight or Sunday. Warmer north portion tonight.

For Iowa: Showers tonight or Sunday. Warmer tonight. Cooler northwest portion Sunday.

For Missouri: Partly cloudy with probably showers tonight or Sunday. Warmer northwest portion tonight.

## Weather Conditions.

The barometer is low in the mountain region, with lowest pressure in western Texas and over Colorado and Wyoming, and areas of high pressure are in Oregon and on the Atlantic coast.

There have been showers from Iowa, and Missouri eastward to the lake region, and generally fair, warmer weather prevails in all other portions of the country, freezing temperatures being reported only in Montana.

Conditions indicate warmer weather for this section, with probably showers tonight or Sunday.

## Daily River Bulletin.

Stage Height, Change, Weather. St. Paul .. 14 9.5 -0.3 Pt Cldy La Crosse .. 12 8.8 -0.2 Cldy Davenport .. 15 8.8 x0.3 Cldy Galland ... 8 5.1 x0.4 ... Keokuk ... 15 9.6 x0.4 Cldy St. Louis .. 20 17.9 x0.5 Pt Cldy C. B. & Q. Bridge, Burlington, Iowa, April 16.—The present stage of the river is 7 feet 7 inches above low water mark, a rise of 3 inches since last report. Boat up and down—Wenona. The river will continue to rise from Keokuk southward.

## Local Observations.

April. Bar, Ther. Wind, Weather. 10 7 p. m. .. 30.05 53 E Hyv Rain 17 7 a. m. .. 30.17 50 NE Cldy Rainfall for past 24 hours 1 inch, 24 hundredths. River above low water of 1864 9 feet 6 tenths. Change in 24 hours rise 4 tenths. Mean temperature, 51. Maximum temperature, 60. Minimum temperature, 42. FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer