

PRESIDENT GIVES HOOVER POWER TO RAISE WHEAT PRICE

Increased Freight Rates and Deadlock in Congress Cause Action.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Blanket authority to increase the price of wheat at primary and other markets, with the approval of Food Administrator Hoover, above the \$2.30 a bushel minimum price guaranteed by Presidential proclamation last February 21, is given the Food Administration Grain Corporation in New York by an executive order of the President. The order, issued under authority of the Food Control Law, was made public to-day by Mr. Hoover.

To carry out the purposes of the order, the corporation is authorized to increase its capital stock from \$50,000,000 to \$150,000,000 in shares of a par value of \$100 each. All the stock

will be owned by the Government and will be purchased by the Food Administration from time to time as the necessity arises to maintain the present price and any increases authorized.

While no explanation of the order was given either at the Food Administration or the White House, two considerations were believed to have influenced the President's decision to permit the Grain Corporation to pay higher prices for wheat. The first was the increased freight rates which will become effective Tuesday. Growers must bear this increase, and without an advance in the price of wheat their profits would be materially reduced.

The second was believed to be the situation resulting from the deadlock in Congress over the Senate's amendment to the Annual Agricultural Appropriation Bill increasing the minimum guaranteed price for wheat to \$2.50 a bushel. The House has refused to accept the amendment and the Senate is to vote on it again this week. In some quarters to-day it was believed that the President's action would be a factor in influencing the Senate to recede from the amendment.

H. A. Stillwell, President of Butler Brothers, Dies.

Homer A. Stillwell, President of Butler Brothers, wholesaler, who has large stores in New York and Jersey City, died yesterday at his summer home at Lake Geneva, Wis. Mr. Stillwell was a director of the Santa Fe Railroad and several banks in Chicago, where he made his home. He was fifty-eight years old and was born in Ninewa, Pa.

Army "Hello Girls," Trained in New York, Will Be a Picturesque Unit in France



There Are Sixty of Them, All Eager to Join Pershing, and Each Vows to Give a Good Account of Herself—All Speak French, Many Are College Girls and Several Have Scores to Settle With the Germans.

By Hazel V. Carter.

At 7 o'clock every morning reveille sounds through the upper corridor of the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association Building, No. 406 Lexington Avenue, and sixty young women rise, don uniforms of blue, with U. S. A. buttons, and march to the roof, where a drill opens the routine of the military day, which closes

with "taps" at 10 o'clock and retirement to the barracks.

They are Gen. Pershing's "hello girls"—the 4th Unit of Signal Corps Operators billeted at the Y. W. C. A., ready for orders at any minute to sail.

In perhaps no other women's corps is there such strict military discipline and such a recognition of the responsibility of being members of the

only woman's organization that is a part of the United States Army.

"You will notice that we wear the official buttons with the raised eagle," points out Miss Geneva Marsh, formerly a lawyer from Omaha and now chief operator of the corps—which office bears the same relation to the operators as the Captain to the privates. And there is something beautiful about the pride with which Miss Marsh points to the buttons.

"We never put aside our uniforms, except for the night—while we sleep," she said. "We are pledged for the duration of the war to wear the blue serge in winter and the alpaca in summer. Not the most fashionable party nor the most formal ball would be an excuse for a girl of the Signal Corps to change from her official uniform. We are enlisted women, just as every man in Pershing's army is an enlisted man."

As Miss Marsh explained the insignia of the uniform, a young operator, also in uniform, passed and saluted. Miss Marsh returned the salute with the dignity and the snap of the army Captain.

THE suits have the high military collar on the coat, with a U. S. insignia on one side and the Signal Corps insignia on the other. The aviator's cap fits snugly to the head and is, more than becoming. On the left arm the Signal Corps girl wears a white brassard representing her rank.

The operator's brassard has a telephone receiver embroidered on it. She receives a salary of \$50 a month. The supervisor wears a telephone receiver and a wreath and her salary is \$72. Miss Marsh, the chief operator, wears a telephone receiver with a wreath and lightning flashes embroidered from it. Her salary is \$125. The living expenses are paid by the Government.

The sixty girls come from every part of the country, from Washington to Maine and from Michigan to Texas. Most of the girls are of French descent and the corps includes a Belgian and a French girl.

A fluent speaking knowledge of French is a requisite of the Signal Corps girl, and many of those in the 4th unit are talented linguists—some of them speaking Spanish, Italian and German. Out of 5,000 applicants from all over the United States, 250 were chosen. From 70 to 80 per cent. of the girls of the 4th unit are college girls, representing almost every college in the United States. Twenty-eight of the members are from California.

ELEANOR HOPFACK, one of the members of the 4th unit, is a graduate of the Sorbonne in Paris. Many of her relatives have been killed in service and she is eager to get across and do her part.

Miss Melanie van Gestel is the Belgian member of the unit. She is from Antwerp and lost her entire family in the devastation of Belgium. Since then she has attended California University and was graduated there this month.

"I shall be willing to brave any dangers," Miss van Gestel said, "and I believe that we will have an opportunity to do some big service as soon as we can get over."

Mrs. Pauline McDonnell and Miss Louise Ruffen are two sisters who heard the news of the death of their father in France just as they were being outfitted for Signal Corps service.

"It will be a pleasure to think that we were billeted for our last few days in this country with the Y. W. C. A. and that we shall be again billeted with the Y. W. C. A. when we reach Paris," Miss Marsh said. "We will go across on an American transport. Many of us will go first to Hotel Potemkin, the Y. W. C. A. Hostess House here, and await distribution to our various posts. Some of us will go to important communication centers where Hostess Houses have been fitted up for us by the Y. W. C. A."

REFINERS' SELLING PRICE OF SUGAR NOW 7.50 CENTS

Increase Made as Result of Higher War Insurance—Rationing in Effect July 1.

Beginning to-day the refiners' selling price of sugar will be 7.50 cents a pound. The price upon which refiners' selling margin must be based will be 6.05 cents a pound. The changes in prices were announced by the International Sugar Committee of No. 111 Wall

Street. They are based on the increased cost of war risk insurance on imported sugars.

The Food Administration's edict limiting the consumption of sugar to three pounds a month for each person in the United States will go into effect on July 1. Rapid diminution in the amount of sugar received in the United States is responsible for the rationing plan. Individuals will not be watched, their patriotism being relied on to see that they do not exceed the allotments, but close tabs will be kept on manufacturers to make sure that they use 99 per cent. less sugar than they have been using. While makers of candy and soft drinks will have to curtail their use by

this amount, ice cream makers may use 75 per cent. There will be no restrictions of the use of sugar in the manufacture of antiseptics, apple butter, glycerine, meats, stoups, conculas, drugs for medicinal purposes, mince meats and preserved fruits.

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MADISON AVENUE - FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Thirty-fourth Street Thirty-fifth Street

A Special Offering of Travel Necessaries

for week-end or vacation use

will take place to-morrow in the Leather Goods Department, on the First Floor.

Excellent Values will be obtainable.

TRAVELING BAGS

(sizes 16, 17 and 18 inches) of black crepe-grain leather, lined with khaki . . . \$5.00

The following articles are all made of black enameled duck:

OVER-NIGHT BAGS (12x10 inches):

Lined with colored poplin . . . \$4.25

Lined with colored poplin and fitted with scissors and nine toilet articles of celluloid, at . . . \$8.50

WEEK-END CASES:

Sizes 24x13x8 inches, 26x13½x8½ inches, and 28x14x9 inches; cretonne-lined, with tray, at . . . \$5.50

Sizes 24x15x10 inches, 26x15x10 inches, and 28x15x10 inches; cretonne-lined, with tray and hat partition . . . \$6.50

WOMEN'S HAT BOXES

(sizes 18x18x12 inches and 20x20x12 inches); cretonne-lined, with two hat forms and a pocket . . . \$5.75

Important Reductions

will be made, becoming effective to-morrow, in the prices of a number of

Women's Coats

in several desirable and seasonable styles, which, in consequence of incomplete size ranges, have been taken out of stock and will be re-priced at

\$16.50, \$19.50 & \$24.50

(Department on the Third Floor)

A Large Collection of Dainty Cotton Frocks

(made of the wanted sheer materials)

will be offered to-morrow (Tuesday) at \$6.90, 9.75, 11.25, 12.50, 15.00, 18.00 these prices representing exceptional values.

Also a number of attractive Frocks, imported as well as American-made, at greatly reduced prices.

SEPARATE WHITE COTTON SKIRTS

in several attractive styles and fabrics, are on sale

at \$3.25, \$3.90, \$4.75 & \$4.90

(The Department for Women's Cotton Frocks is located in the Madison Avenue section of the Third Floor.)

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Women's and Misses'

Distinctive Pumps and Oxfords

Of Patent Leather, Hand-turned Soles, Louis XV. Heels




Sale Price
Offering Exceptional Value
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34th Street—New York

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Smart and exclusive models just received of Foulard, Crepe de Chine and superior Taffeta, tailored, trimmed and combination.

Offering Extraordinary Values at

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Also a Quantity of

Attractive Silk Dresses

In a broad selection of prevailing silks and combinations in desirable colors. Reduced to } **13.75**

Sale of Women's and Misses'

Distinctive Summer Dresses

Exclusive Oppenheim, Collins & Co.'s Models—Specialty Priced

Dresses of Novelty Voile
Attractive models in striped, figured and fancy voile, trimmed with organdie and lace collars and cuffs. **Special 7.90**

Dresses of Flowered and Checked Voile
Striped, checked and flowered voile in light and subdued colors, embroidered and lace trimmed collars and cuffs. **Special 9.75**

Embossed, Figured Cotton Dresses
Smart new models of embossed, figured or plain cotton voile, with embroidered batiste collar and cuffs. **Special 12.75**

Dresses of Voile and Linen
Linen with Cascade tunic, combination linen and voile and embroidered linen in full pleated models, waist embroidered with collar and vestee trimmed with filet lace. **Special 19.75**

Foulard Satin, Georgette and Taffeta Dresses
Surplice waist, with tunic skirts in satin, foulard and Georgette, Taffeta and Georgette in navy, black and taupe. **Special 29.75**