MARKET BREAKS AS ITALY STOPS WHEAT GAMBLE

Price Drops to $1.07 When Orders for 2,000,000 Bushels Fail.

ARGENTINE CROP PREFERRED TO U. S.

Heavy Exchange Discount and High Figures Against American Exporters.

Chicago, Aug. 13.—Authoritative explanation was obtained to-night for the sensational action of exporters in suddenly cancelling during the last forty-eight hours contracts for large amounts of wheat purchased in the United States, roundly estimated at two million bushels. The announcement of the cancellation caused wheat prices to break wildly here to-day, the downward plunge at one time amounting to as much as 4 to 4½ cents a bushel, smashing the market to $1.07 for the September delivery.

Most of the contracts cancelled were on wheat that had been intended for Italy. The buyers, however, according to one of the largest exporters here, found all prospective profits cut off by a plan of the Italian government to fix maximum prices or otherwise circumvent speculation. A careful statement of the situation resulting was made this evening by an exporter. He did so after consulting with a prominent Italian here who is in a position to know the facts. The statement follows:

"It had been said that the Italian government had authorized repudiation of enormous outstanding purchases of wheat. While there seems no doubt cancellations were effected, the occasion thereof should no doubt be laid to a different cause.

"In the first place, the Italian government could not lawfully authorize such a procedure, and even with such authority it would mean the destruction of her credit in the United States.

"What has happened is very probably this: There has been in the last few weeks a large amount of wheat bought by Italian firms or private individuals, and to such parties the Italian government may have issued an order prohibiting or regulating speculation by the Italian grain dealers with millers and consumers throughout the kingdom. On this account the Italian importer may have figured greater advantage in sacrificing his profit on purchases from the United States than in letting the contracts be shipped, showing good paper profits, but which and more might be lost by efforts of the Italian government to give the consumer as cheap wheat as possible. Much of the wheat bought by Italy last winter was resold to the consumer at cost.

"Just now, the government of Italy is not likely to buy wheat in the United States, not only because they think our prices are too high, but on account of the high exchange. The exchange basis between the United States and Italy is about 22 per cent over normal. The basis between Argentina and Italy is approximately normal and some well informed Italians predict there will be no buying of wheat by their government until next January or February unless there is a sharp decline meanwhile in price. If there is no substantial decline in North America before next winter the Italian demand will then probably fall on Argentina instead of the United States, provided Argentina has a crop."

The cancellations were reflected on the Board of Trade at the opening today in prices 1⅛c to 3⅝c under yesterday's close.

September wheat, the option most affected, closed yesterday at $1.11⅝. It sold in different parts of the pit at the opening to-day at $1.10 to $1.07½. Immediately thereafter there was a sale at $1.08. December contracts showed a maximum opening decline of 3¼c at $1.06.

BALTIC EVADES BLOCKADE

Racing in England Dead, Says Shipper of Thoroughbreds.

The White Star liner Baltic, which has been running regularly through the German submarine blockade with big war cargoes for the Allies, arrived here yesterday, with 232 passengers. Her after rails were well banked with sand bags as a defence against gun fire in the event of pursuit by a submarine.

Among the passengers was Edward Craven, the horse dealer, who recently shipped a consignment of thoroughbreds, valued at $300,000, to this country. He said that racing in England was dead, and, even if the war came to a sudden end, it would be many years before the pastime would be revived.

E. H. Lemar, a prominent English organist, who is to give a series of recitals at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, also arrived.

PENSIONS TO RETURN ORPHANS TO MOTHERS

Child Welfare Board Will Restore Homes Parted by Poverty.

The Board of Child Welfare, recently appointed by Mayor Mitchel, held its first meeting yesterday in the office of John A. Kingsbury, Commissioner of Charities. It decided to study the records of the city's institutions, hoping to return to their mothers all fatherless children who have been committed because their mothers could not support them.

Allowances to widows will begin January 1, 1916. As no funds have been appropriated for pensions, the board yesterday selected a budget committee, composed of Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, chairman; Commissioner Kingsbury, Edwin P. Maynard, Sophie Irene Loeb and the Rev. William A. Courtney, to estimate the amount needed to put the widows' pension law into operation.

The law provides that the widow receiving an allowance must be a proper guardian for her children; that she must have been a resident of New York for two years, and that her husband must have been a United States citizen and a resident of the state at the time of his death.

The board will receive applications during the next four months and will act on them in the order they are received. The offices are to be in the Municipal Building.

AFTER A FIGHT BETWEEN MEXICAN BANDITS AND TEXAS RANGERS AND U. S. SOLDIERS AT THE LAS NORIAS RANCH, NEAR BROWNSVILLE.

One of the Mexicans before he died confessed that the band had sworn to capture Texan territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande. Handbills had been distributed to Mexicans in this territory calling them to take up arms against the Texans. The rangers are dragging the bodies to burial.

READY TO ENROLL BRITISH MILLIONS

National Registrar Sets To-morrow for Personal Filling of Forms.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Aug. 13.—All the forms for Britain's national registration have now been distributed, and must be filled out during Sunday. Bernard Mallett, Registrar General of Great Britain, who carried out the entire arrangements, gave to The Tribune to-day some new facts concerning the workings of the scheme.

It is essential to remember that, although Continental countries all have national registration, nothing of the kind has ever been attempted here. The census applies only to householders, who must give the names of all people staying in the house on a particular date. But these forms must be filled out by every person between the ages of fifteen and sixty-five.

"We have no government machinery for such a task. No government department could handle it alone. We thought of using the police, but they are far too overburdened with work, besides being mainly under parochial control. Consequently we have been obliged to set up new machinery, and, as the act of Parliament was not passed until the end of July, we have scarcely had time to do the whole thing.

"We estimate that 25,000,000 must fill in the forms, but we distributed 30,000,000 against contingencies. More than 200,000 enumerators will be employed in the distribution, explanation and collection of the forms, which have been printed in numerous languages, including Chinese. We hope to have the tabulated results by the end of next week, while expecting the 2,000 local registers from which the central register will be compiled to be ready a fortnight later.

"Although the printing is enormous, we hope to complete the register for a comparatively small sum. I expect the total expense not to exceed $250,000, but the outside limit, which I don't believe it possible to reach, will be $500,000. We are able to do the work thus cheaply because of the enormous amount of voluntary help placed at our disposal. It seems as though every one with spare time available has volunteered to aid us.

"Although our time has been so short, we have been able to establish a central instruction school for enumerators in London, later sending them out through the provinces to give advice. By this means we expect to have the register completed in record time."

U-BOAT SANK INDIA IN NEUTRAL WATERS

London, Aug. 13.—A Reuter dispatch from Christiania, Norway, says:

"The British auxiliary cruiser India was sunk by a German submarine in Norwegian territorial waters, according to the contention of the Norwegian government.

"It is officially announced that, just as Norway previously insisted that the West Fjord in its entirety was Norwegian territorial water, the government has, on the occasion of the torpedoing of the India, informed Germany that the West Fjord from time immemorial has been regarded as belonging to the Norwegian sea territory. This was specifically the case with that part of the Fjord where the India was attacked."

The India was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine on August 8.

WANTS AVIATORS TO AVOID CANADA

British Ambassador Objects to Americans Flying Across the Border.

Albany, Aug. 13.—Governor Whitman received a letter to-day from the British Ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, calling attention to the fact that American aviators were flying over the international boundary, and saying that he feared this practice might give rise to regrettable incidents, as Canada was in a state of war.

The letter stated that a similar communication had been sent to the Governors of all the border states.

Governor Whitman said that there was nothing the state authorities could do beyond making the letter public.

TO TAX DANISH SHIPPERS

Government Wants Part of $26,000,000 Profits.

London, Aug. 13.—A Reuter dispatch from Copenhagen says that the Danish government has announced its intention to place an extra war tax of 20 per cent on the surplus earnings of shipping companies which have been amazingly large since the outbreak of the war.

The Copenhagen "Politiken" computes that more than 100,000,000 kroner (about $26,000,000) more than in ordinary times has been earned by the companies. As this extra tax, it is estimated, will produce approximately 25,000,000 kroner (about $6,500,000), the country will be saved the necessity of raising a national loan.

U. S. STANDS PAT ON SHIPPING ARMS

Tells Austria America's Attitude Is Justified by Law and Precedents.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Aug. 13.—The State Department's reply to the Austrian note of June 29, protesting against shipments of munitions to the Allies, was sent to Vienna to-day. The Austrian note was delayed in transmission and did not reach the State Department in complete form until two weeks ago. The answer will be made public next Monday.

The Austrian protest was based on the abnormal quantities of ammunition exported, and stated that there would be no objection to selling to Austria's enemies war supplies up to the ordinary output of American factories. Since the war began, it was argued, numerous plants in America, ordinarily engaged in other lines of work, have been turned into ammunition factories, with the result that the United States was a vast arsenal supplying the Allied armies in contravention to the spirit of international law and the Hague Convention.

Although the State Department decided to make a complete answer, reasserting the American attitude, as already outlined in the memorandum replying to Ambassador von Bernstorff's protest and ex-Secretary Bryan's letter to Senator Stone, it is hoped that this note will dispose of the question once and for all.

The American answer takes up each of the arguments and by reference to international law and to precedents established in other wars, in certain of which Germany and Austria supplied munitions on a large scale to belligerents, demonstrates the legality and regularity of the American attitude.

The note is particularly interesting in view of reports received here that the German Foreign Minister, Dr. von Jagow, was asked to resign because, among other things, he permitted Austria to send the munitions protest without first submitting it to him.

FIVE SHIPS SUNK; WOMAN A VICTIM

German Submarines Continue Operations and Torpedo Norwegian Vessel.

London, Aug. 13.—Five vessels were reported sunk to-day in the latest announcement of German submarine operations against British and neutral shipping. A woman was among the victims. She was the wife of the mate of the Summerfield, a British steamer. Her husband died with her. The chief engineer was also lost.

The Osprey, British, and the Aura, Norwegian, have also been torpedoed, as have two trawlers, the Thrush and the Humfrey. The men of the Thrush were at sea in a small boat for three days before they were picked up.

The British steamer Jacona, of the Cairns line, is reported lost, with only her captain and nine members of the crew rescued. The boat sailed for Quebec on Wednesday.

FRYE NOTE GIVEN TO THE GERMANS

Washington Answer to Berlin on Sinking of American Ship Presented.

Berlin, Aug. 13.—The American note to Germany concerning the sinking of the American ship William P. Frye by a German commerce destroyer has been received by the American Ambassador.

The note was presented to the German Foreign Office this evening.

BROWNSVILLE IN FEAR OF SACK

Continued from page 1

Bliss, warned Mexicans to-day against the A. B. C. peace meditation plan. He issued a statement in which he calls the mediation efforts of the United States and Central and South American republics "an invention of Washington." He says the first A. B. C. conference at Niagara Falls was called because the United States had got into Vera Cruz and did not know how to get out.

General Huerta declares the A. B. C. meditation plan is not only a menace to Mexico, but to all Latin-American countries, since "the United States can always find friends to act with it against any of the smaller republics, since there is much jealousy among them all."

Huerta charges that the United States has called the A. B. C. mediators together merely to back up its intervention plans in Mexico.

Disguise for Washington.

"The A. B. C. is not a concert of American nations," General Huerta said. "No entente is existing as yet—quite far from it. Argentina and Brazil and Chili look upon each other with no disguised jealousy. The A. B. C. has no international life; it is merely a heterogeneous composition invented by Washington to disguise its designs of intervention.

"The A. B. C. has made a mistake politically and diplomatically. To-day it feels proud to form a part of the 'League of America' to decide the fate of the Republic of Mexico. Caution should warn it that the same tribunal, with different components, could judge and decide the fate of any of its members, as the United States will never be without comrades to decide according to its own wishes.

"If armed intervention should come it would be difficult for us to clash against them all. However, we would show them how deep is our love for independence and liberty, and there is no doubt that our brothers from the Southern republics would retreat, ashamed of having taken part in such a shameful enterprise, and their respect for us would be materially enhanced."

General Huerta denied emphatically the report that he hoped, with the aid of Germany, to be restored to power in Mexico.

Villa to Form Republic.

An independent republic, composed of the states of Chihuahua, Coahuila and Sonora, will be formed by General Villa and General Angeles if the A B C conference puts other than a Villa man at the head of the new government in Mexico, according to Villa men here, who claim to have had the plan direct from Villa and Angeles.

Villa, it is said, has abandoned all hope of gaining control in Mexico by force of arms without the recognition of the United States, and if he is not recognized by the mediators he will try to retain what territory he now controls in the north and, with Angeles, will establish a republic of his own.

General Villa arrived in Chihuahua City to-day from Juarez, ordered the state seals removed from all the foreign-owned stores he has seized, and had the stores returned to their owners.

Information was received on the border to-day that Villa troops in the State of Durango had mutinied and repudiated Villa. The mutiny started, the advices say, in the garrison in the city of Durango and spread to other garrisons.

An attack on Torreon by the entire army of General Alvaro Obregon began to-day, according to advices received by Carranza officials here. Villa, who was in Chihuahua this morning, hurried to Torreon to direct the defence, dispatches say.

New Defeat Reported for Zapata Forces

Galveston, Aug. 13.—Zapata forces, which several weeks ago occupied Mexico City, have suffered another defeat from General Coss and have been driven back into the State of Morelos, which Zapata has controlled for several years, according to Constitutionalist consulate messages today. Operations against the Zapata forces are being pushed vigorously, it is said.

In Mexico City, it is reported, food prices are being reduced and there is a large daily distribution of food to the poor.

WAR FIRST, REASONS LATER, SAYS BERESFORD

Lusitania Disaster's Critic Refuses to Amplify Charges.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Aug. 13.—In reply to a request for further information regarding his recent letter read at the cotton contraband meeting, in which he said that if his advice had been followed the Lusitania would not have been lost, Lord Charles Beresford writes to The Tribune correspondent:

"At present every effort possible must be used for ending the war on the terms laid down by the Prime Minister's statement. Giving reasons why the disasters were avoidable must wait."

2 GIRL BATHERS LOST; 1 SAVED

None of Trio Could Swim—Boy Rescues Lad Who Was Drowning with Friends Near.

Three girls, who could not row or swim, went out on the Shrewsbury River in Red Bank, N. J., yesterday afternoon, and decided to bathe on a beach in front of William H. English's estate. Two of them were drowned and the third narrowly escaped.

Alice Green, fifteen years old, and only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Green, of 109 East 165th Street, this city, was the first to find herself sinking in deep water. Mabel and Helen Richards, aged seventeen and twenty, daughters of Mrs. J. H. Richards, of 12 Emmett Street, Newark, tried to save their companion. All three were struggling to assist one another when their cries were heard. Alice Green and Mabel Richards sank just before rescuers arrived.

Herbert Schneider, of Fair Haven, jumped from his motor boat and succeeded in dragging Helen Richards ashore.

Mrs. Richards and the three girls had been visiting William Green, uncle of Alice, at his farm in Fair Haven.

A daring rescue at Greenwood Lake, N. J., of Alvin Douglass, eleven-year-old son of a Newark jeweller, attracted the attention of the summer colony there yesterday. Water wings attached to Douglass became unfastened, and he went down. Other boys on the wharf, thinking that he was fooling, gave no heed to his cries for help. He had gone down twice and was about to disappear for the last time, when he called out, "Bunny, Bunny!"

William W. Taylor, thirteen, of 158 Walnut Street, Montclair, responded to his nickname. Douglass was lying unconscious on the bottom of the lake, under twelve feet of water. Young Taylor touched the boy, but could not bring him to the surface. On a second diving attempt he was more successful and emerged with Douglass in tow. By turning over on his back and using a trick he had learned a few weeks ago, Taylor was able to swim toward the shore, keeping his chum's head above water.

TARRED FEATHERS GIVE ELOPER WINGS

Star Boarder Flees with Invalid's Wife in Stolen Auto from Villagers.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Hartford, Conn., Aug. 13.—As a quick sequel to their elopement from Enfield on Tuesday morning came the arrest at Ossipee, N. H., this afternoon of Mrs. Emma Howe, the pretty young wife of Robert Howe, and Cecil Ordway, of Greenpoint, Brooklyn, known as the star summer boarder at the Howe homestead.

State Police Detective Robert Hurley and the chief of the Tomsonville police, Jeremiah Callahan, left to-night for New Hampshire to bring the elopers back, provided they will waive extradition details. At any rate, the stolen automobile will be brought back and an extradition warrant obtained later, if necessary.

All summer the doings at the Howe house have been choice scandal morsels for the Enfield summer colony, especially since Mr. Howe is an invalid and was unable to compel his wife to eject Ordway. Last Monday night at a dance and lawn party given at the summer home of William H. Whitney, of Brooklyn, a director of the Brooklyn National Bank, the younger men of the colony laid their plans and arranged a mess of tar and feathers in a nearby barn. Going to the Howe home about 1 o'clock in the morning they rapped loudly until Mrs. Howe opened the door. After several demands Ordway was produced and given the thrashing of his young life, with the invalid husband applauding and shouting from an upper window that Ormond Grindell, a friend of Ordway's, was in the house and just as objectionable as the star boarder.

While trying to locate Grindell the tar and feathers party lost Ordway, who was rescued and hidden in an attic by Mrs. Howe. Adjournment was taken to the village centre to formulate fresh plans, and while the next move was being discussed an automobile stopped in front of the Howe home, and Mrs. Howe, Ordway and Grindell sped away in the car, which it developed later had been stolen from the garage of Norman F. Allen, proprietor of a Hartford department store. The next day Howe was so pleased at the departure of his wife and the boarders that he tried to auction off his house and furniture, but was dissuaded by friends for the sake of his two little children and because he is an invalid.

PEACE APPEAL IS ON ITS WAY TO ALL MEXICO

Pan-American Plea Is Sent First to Mexican Capital.

CHIEF GENERALS TO GET IT TO-DAY

Hope in Washington That Carranza Respond Favorably After Studying Friendly Note.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Aug. 13.—President Wilson busied himself to-day with conditions along the Texas border. Postmaster General Burleson, a Texan, called at the White House to-day and discussed the situation with the President.

The President has adopted the view of the War Department, that most of the disturbances in Texas are purely local affairs, and should be handled by the state authorities. If, however, the state militia is incapable of coping with the situation, the President is empowered to send Federal troops to its assistance.

The Pan-American appeal to all elements in Mexico to cease fighting and join in a sincere movement to restore constitutional government began to go forward from the State Department tonight.

First the document was dispatched in English to Mexico City, directed to the various Latin-American legations, whose attaches will translate it into Spanish and deliver it to the military leaders in that vicinity. To-morrow the appeal in original Spanish will be forwarded directly to Generals Villa and Carranza, governors of the states and many other chiefs in different parts of the country. The text will be made public here within a few days.

To Work with Leaders.

With the appeal dispatched, the United States Government will institute a friendly and persistent effort to induce Mexican leaders who thus far have shown a disposition to oppose the movement, to sacrifice their personal views in the common Mexican interest. That General Carranza will maintain the defiance he had indicated in recent communications to his agency here on the subject is expected by the administration, but it is regarded as probable that many of his generals and other adherents can be induced to join in a peace convention.

It is believed here that if a few of the Carranza generals participate in a convention of the factions it will not be long before organized opposition to a new government would be effectively checked. In this connection it has been reported that General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army, who is remaining at the border at the request of the State Department, is expected to perform important missionary work. General Scott knows many of the Mexican military leaders personally, and it is believed he may exert a powerful influence.

Hopeful About Carranza.

No resistance to the plan is expected from any source except General Carranza, and the feeling is growing here that even Carranza may respond favorably after he has studied the appeal's friendly tone carefully and sees that he has been misinformed regarding its purposes. General Villa and his adherents made it clear to-day in a statement issued by Diaz Lombardo, Foreign Minister, at Chihuahua, that they are ready to eliminate themselves for the common welfare provided there is no recognition of the old Cientifico group and that a constitutional government is restored.

The Villa Minister of Foreign Affairs, Diaz Lombardo, telegraphed the Villa agency to-day from Chihuahua declaring that Villa and all his chiefs were ready to eliminate themselves "with the single condition that the men who are placed in charge of the new situation shall solemnly agree to restore constitutional order, and that they shall not be drawn from the decadent and odious Cientifico or reactionary party."

"I do not believe," Mr. Lombardo says, "that the sending of American vessels of war to Mexican waters can be considered as a purpose to intervene on the part of the United States, inasmuch as the invitation to be sent by the Pan-American conferrees to the military chiefs in Mexico contains no menace whatsoever, according to the dispatches I have read.

Use of Force Not Feared.

"The cablegram sent by President Plaza, of Argentina, to Carranza justifies my opinion, since in categorical terms President Plaza states that Argentina is taking part in the conferences on the condition that the sovereignty of Mexico be respected, and rejecting any idea of intervention in our internal affairs, above all by means of force.

"I firmly believe also in the good will of President Wilson toward Mexico, and that the American government will not attempt any armed intervention, inasmuch as it has asked the cooperation of the Latin-American nations, one of them being Argentina, which declares its opposition to such intervention in the internal affairs of Mexico."

The Argentine Ambassador told Secretary Lansing to-day that he had been informed that the United States government was annoyed at the reply sent to Carranza's warning by the President of Argentina, saying that Argentina entered the conference with the understanding that Mexico's internal affairs were not to be touched upon. Secretary Lansing assured him that he was heartily in accord with the Argentine President's message, and that it coincided perfectly with the idea he embodies in the invitation to Ambassador Naon to join the conference.

Secretary Daniels said to-day that the battleships Louisiana and New Hampshire had passed Cape Hatteras on their way to "Southern waters." He would not deny that they would eventually go to Vera Cruz.

AUTO MAGICIANS IN JAIL

Accused of Stealing Parts to Build Machines.

Stealing automobile parts and then assembling machines at leisure was shown to be the latest achievement of auto bandits, when four men charged with grand larceny were brought to Police Headquarters last night.

Arthur Phillips, manager of the Overland Automobile Company office at 1760 Broadway, said the men had stolen automobile parts worth $25,000 from this company since January 1. Three completed machines represented their efforts, he said.

B. Altman & Co.

An Extraordinary Sale of Oriental Rugs

for which unprecedented preparations have been made, will be commenced

MONDAY, AUGUST 16th.

The wearing qualities of these Rugs are unreservedly guaranteed by B. Altman & Co.

Very remarkable price advantages will be offered.

Fifth Avenue - Madison Avenue
34th and 35th Streets New York

PACIFIC MAIL SELLS FIVE LINERS

Continued from page 1

can be used to advantage in the highest class of passenger service."

Shipping men were unanimous last night in attributing the transaction to the evil results of the seamen's act. It was predicted that the next six months would see the enforced retirement from business of other steamship companies unless the law were repealed.

The bill which has caused the Pacific Mail Steamship Company to leave the seas was signed by President Wilson on March 4, 1915, after a bitter struggle of several years, first in the House and then in the Senate. A similar measure which passed both legislative bodies was vetoed during Mr. Taft's administration.

The chief crippling factor in the law was the provision which stated that hereafter all vessels should employ crews 75 per cent of which spoke English.

In regard to this section of the law, W. M. Brittain, secretary of the American Steamship Association, uttered judgment which time has proved to have been a prophecy.

"This means,' he said in 1913, while the bill was still in the Senate, "the killing of the Pacific trade under the American flag. Trade on the Pacific is competed for by American and Japanese ships. Six of our ships are the largest carrying our flag. One of them, the Manchuria, is, I think, the fourth largest ship in the world.

"These ships carry Chinese firemen. They have to, in order to meet the competition of the coolie manned Japanese vessels. The plan is to have enough of the Chinese firemen English speaking to transmit the orders of the officers. This will mean no more Chinese crews in the fireroom, and that would mean that American ships on the Pacific could no longer compete with their rivals."

San Francisco, Aug. 13.—The sale of the five Pacific Mail liners, announced to-day in New York, takes from the transpacific passenger trade to Asiatic ports all vessels flying the American flag, except the Great Northern Steamship Company's liner Minnesota, sailing from Seattle, Wash.

There remain in the passenger service American steamers running to the Hawaiian Islands, the Philippines, Australia and other ports.

Six steamers of the Pacific Mail Line will continue to operate in the Panama Canal trade "until another purchaser appears," it was announced to-day.

The five liners will be turned over to the new owners at San Francisco upon their return from present voyages which will end on the following dates: Korea, September 7; Siberia, September 13; China, September 27; Manchuria, October 4, and Mongolia, October 23.

Language Test Clause Officially Interpreted

Washington, Aug. 13.—Regulations covering the much discussed language test provision of the new seamen's law were approved to-day by Acting Secretary Sweet, of the Department of Commerce. They were sent to customs collectors and shipping commissioners with a circular calling for information as to what additional machinery would be needed for their enforcement.

The law provides that vessels, except on rivers and small inland lakes, shall not be cleared from any port unless they have on board "a crew not less than 75 per cent of which in each department thereof are able to understand any order given by the officers of such vessel."

The department regulations, which were drawn by Commissioner Chamberlain, of the Bureau of Navigation, set forth that the department "construes the words 'able to understand any order given by the officers of such vessels' to mean the necessary orders that may be given to members of the crew in each department in the course of the performance of their duty." Under this construction, it is pointed out, it would not be necessary for a deckhand to understand the orders usually given to firemen, or vice versa.

Regulations also were issued to-day for the enforcement of the section of the law limiting the hours of labor and regulating the kind of labor to be performed on shipboard. This section provides for two watches for deck labor and three for the engine room.

The Bureau of Navigation is framing regulations to cover all of the sections of the law which are not involved in questions pending before the Attorney General for legal opinion. Virtually all provisions relating to the inspection of ships, so far as they apply to foreign vessels, still are in question, and no regulations covering them can be framed until their legal status is fixed.

FIRE IN ARMS PLANT

Explosion Follows Letters Warning Conduit Company.

An investigation was begun yesterday of a mysterious fire in the plant of the National Conduit Company, Hastings, which is making ammunition for the Allies. Awakened by the explosion, the villagers saw flames shoot skyward. Damage of $2,500 was done.

The company has large orders for small arms and eight-inch shells. Employes say letters had been received warning the company against supplying ammunition to kill German soldiers.

TROUSSEAU GONE, ARRESTS FIANCE

Pretty Stenographer, Suspicious of Suicide Note, Traps "Detective."

A few weeks ago Frances Slee, a pretty stenographer employed in the Irving National Bank, in the Woolworth Building, was introduced to Irving Meyer, who represented himself as a private detective, living at the Hotel Manhattan. Last evening the young woman had Meyer arrested for grand larceny. The intervening chapters of the story, according to the police, include a whirlwind courtship, a proposed elopement to Springfield, Mass., and a sudden change of plans when the girl, her suspicions aroused, found her baggage taken and her fiancé gone. Meyer was arrested when he appeared for a farewell interview with the girl at Fifth Avenue and Forty-fifth Street.

It was a note from Meyer which first caused the girl to become suspicious of him. This is what he wrote:

"Dear Frances: I'm going to end it all. There is no use in battling against fate. Yours, IRVING."

Her plans for an elopement to-day thus rudely jolted, the girl went to the Grand Central Terminal to make sure that her trunks, in which she had packed nearly everything she owned in preparation for the trip, were still safe. She had given the checks to Meyer on Tuesday. She found the trunks had been claimed and removed, so she decided to go to the Fourth Branch Detective Bureau with her story.

She told the officers how Meyer had paid her constant attention since they first met; how he had taken her on frequent automobile rides and had finally won her promise to elope with him to Springfield. He had insisted, she said, that she pack her entire wardrobe, including all her winter clothes, to be ready for the long honeymoon which he proposed.

Besides giving Meyer the checks for the trunks, which were worth more than $200, Miss Slee said she had given him several pieces of jewelry to be reset. These, too, are missing.

When Meyer asked for a final interview over the telephone yesterday morning Miss Slee consented, and arranged to meet him at Fifth Avenue and Forty-fifth Street. Then she notified the detectives. Meyer kept his appointment, and while they were still shaking hands he was arrested.

Meyer broke down, the police say, and confessed having pawned part of the girl's belongings. In his letter was found the note that was to have been sent after the elopement. He also carried papers showing that he had been accepted as a recruit for the army and was to enlist to-day.

The police say that Meyer owes a bill of $50 at the Hotel Marie Antoinette and another of $35 at the Ansonia. They say that he is known as Roth, Robertson, Glass and Meyer, but that the last name is his right one. He will be arraigned in Yorkville Court to-day.

Negro, "Refused Food," Sues.

John Kuschke, manager of the Mercantile Lunch, 187 Broadway, appeared in the Tombs Court yesterday on the complaint of Sumner H. Lark, a negro, editor of "The Eye," 1708 Fulton Street, Brooklyn. Lark said a waiter in the restaurant refused to serve him on August 10. Kuschke maintained that the negro had merely been asked to move to a different table. Section 514 of the Penal Code forbids racial discrimination in restaurants.

BUSTANOBY'S
METAMORA CLUB
39th Street
Known the world over for cuisine and Parisian atmosphere.
AMATEUR SOIREES
EVERY NIGHT
Beautiful Dancing Prizes at Lunch, Tea and Supper
Continuous Entertainment
1 P. M. to 2 A. M.

ONE DAY VACATION TRIPS
Send for new illustrated folder outlining 12 different short trips.
Rye Beach, Tarrytown, Nyack, Hudson Park, etc., etc.,
at fares ranging from 15c to 90c.
Address Traffic Department,
N. Y., WESTCHESTER & B. RY.,
481 Morris Park Ave., Bronx.
The Road of Ease.