

# Wilson Puts All Foreign Trade Under License

### Order to Reduce Imports and Exports to Essentials During War

Trade Board Will Handle All Permits

America Expected to Turn More to Commerce With Latin Nations

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—All foreign trade of the United States—exports and imports—was put under license to-day by President Wilson as a part of a general program of the American and Allied governments for releasing ships to transport troops and supplies to Europe.

The less essential exports and imports will be reduced to a minimum, and materials regarded as necessary will be transported by the shortest hauls possible. The Allies are working in close cooperation with the United States, and the trade routes of the world in many instances will be shifted to bring the most economical operation of tonnage.

The Allies already have cut their foreign trade sharply, and will make further reductions as a part of the general plan. American representatives sitting in London will work with Allied representatives in eliminating and rearranging ocean commerce to free ships for war service.

Handled by Board

Licensing of American exports and imports will be handled through the War Trade Board, which has created a special contraband committee, with final powers in deciding the country's foreign trade policies. The board, which already issues licenses for the large number of commodities over which the government has exercised export and import control, will work with the State Department, the Department of Commerce and the Shipping Board in arranging trade routes.

In order to prevent congestion and delay in shipments of goods which hitherto have not required export licenses, the Treasury Department, at the request of the War Trade Board, tonight instructed collectors of customs to accept shippers' export declarations in lieu of licenses for goods billed for export and actually to be exported before March 15.

The rule requiring individual licenses only for certain classes of exports to Europe and the Orient and to be continued in full effect under the new proclamations.

The Shipping Board has formed a special division, under Dean E. F. Gay, to handle the necessary preparation of statistical data on shipping and commerce. To bring about a proper coordination between the Shipping Board and the War Trade Board it is likely that a controller of ships and cargo will be named to see that ships are used in the most economical manner.

There will be no hasty decisions, it was said tonight, in determining what exports and imports are to be controlled. Trades interested will be given hearings, and the plan is to put the programme into effect as gradually as possible, in order to give the country time of diverting vessels to the war zone.

Control of exports and imports and of bunkers coal, the United States government has given the War Trade Board, and officials predict that virtually all the ocean-going ships owned by the neutrals will be in the Atlantic and Allied services before many months.

# Anniversary of Maine Disaster Solemnized

### Monsignor Chidwick, Chaplain of Battleship, Tells Story of Sinking

A crowd of several hundred stood with bare heads before the Maine memorial monument at Columbus Circle last night as the marine band played "Lead, Kindly Light" and the hymn "Sounded for the men who perished with the sinking of the battleship Maine in Havana Harbor twenty years ago.

### Wheat Price Bill Would Raise Cost Of Bread 2 Cents

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The price of bread will be increased at least two cents a loaf, and the American consuming public will be called upon to shoulder an additional bread bill of \$1,000,000,000, if legislation providing a minimum \$3 wheat price to the farmer, now pending before Congress, becomes law.

Practical proof of the foregoing statements were incorporated in figures laid before members of the Senate to-day.

In consequence, the wheat price legislation, thus far considered a mere political play by Representatives from the wheat states, will become the subject matter of important bi-partisan conferences during the next few days.

Three measures, all proposing advanced wheat prices to the farmer, are now before the Senate. A resolution introduced by Senator Gore, of Oklahoma, chairman of the Senate Agricultural Committee, proposes a minimum price of \$2.10 for wheat, at Chicago. Similar measures, introduced by Senator McComber, of North Dakota, and Representative Norton, of the same state, propose \$2.15 and \$3, respectively.

The chief argument offered by the Northwestern representatives is that an increased price is a war necessity if the farmers of the wheat states are to be induced to plant a full spring wheat crop.

Senators representing the great consuming centers of the country to-day denounced the proposition as an attempt to "price gouging" by the food producers of the country. "It is an attempt to exact extortionate prices for our basic food," declared one leader. "It is a price gouging scheme, our own people not those of our allies can afford to pay fancy prices for their bread."

The farmer is already receiving a handsome price for his wheat, these Senators declared. The \$2.20 minimum price fixed under the authority of the food act is more than a \$1.22 increase over the three-year average, which was 98 cents. It is far above the 1916 price.

In further substantiation of the charge that the farmers are attempting to "hold up" the public it is recalled that early in its career the food administration sent out 4,000 telegrams to representatives of the wheat states asking for opinions on what would constitute a fair minimum price for No. 1 Northern wheat in Chicago, the average of all the replies returned asked for a minimum of \$1.85.

### War Puts Wholesale Prices Up 75 Per Cent

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Average wholesale prices have increased 75 per cent since the world war began, according to a review made public to-day by the Bureau of Labor statistics. Most of the advance has been within the last two years.

From January to December of 1917, the wholesale prices of farm products increased 29 per cent, food 23 per cent and house furnishings 37 per cent. At the same time, the price of a barrel of coal was 19 per cent higher, and the price of a bushel of wheat 5 per cent.

# Eastern Railways Rushing Food to Coast for Allies

### Roads Get Back to Normal Schedules With Better Weather

### Special Trains Arrive

### Cars Idle for Months Are Now Loading With Grain

Having brought at least partial relief to most sections of the East suffering from coal shortage, the Eastern railroads have now massed their energies to move all the foodstuffs which their rolling stock can handle to the Atlantic seaboard.

The Eastern roads, according to reports from presidents of the railway companies under the jurisdiction of Regional Director Smith, are rapidly recovering from the effects of the former A. much greater tonnage of grain, flour and other food is moving eastward. Empty cars are being shuttled across the country to food concentration points on something like a daily basis, and a daily increasing number of freight cars that have been idle for months are being reeamed for active service.

The latest reports show that more than 17,000 cars of flour have been moved eastward from the mills in Minneapolis and St. Paul, while more than 300 cars of wheat have been started from the Missouri wheat regions toward Chicago.

One of the big jobs now awaiting the railroads is to rush all the mangled crop of corn in the Middle West. Great part of this year's crop is "wet," and it must be rushed to drying elevators before it begins to spoil.

The number of stalled freight cars in the Eastern Division fell to 16,000 yesterday. This is low water mark of congestion since the blizzard season set in. More than 8,000 stalled cars were moved out yesterday.

### Abolition of Civilian Parole Board Assailed

### Committee Named to Carry Fight Against Foley Bill to Albany

Judges, social workers and prison reformers met yesterday afternoon at the McAlpin Hotel to protest against the Foley bill, which proposes to substitute for the lay commissioners now on the parole board a commission of judges.

Dr. George W. Kirchwey, former warden of Sing Sing, declared that it would be impossible for judges with other duties to give the necessary amount of time to the parole cases. "It is a job in which anything less than 100 per cent efficiency spells failure. To put it on a 50-50 basis is to doom it in advance to failure," he said.

Lawrence Veiller, of the Charity Organization Society, gave an unexpected twist to the discussion by declaring that it was futile to stand on the defensive concerning the parole law, but that the committee should go to work to uncover the dark political purposes underlying the proposed changes.

### Wilson Again Urges Reorganization Bill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Senators Dillingham (Republican) and Walcott (Democrat), members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, were called to the White House to-night for the second series of conferences President Wilson is holding with members of Congress to explain his desire for the passage of the reorganization bill, which would empower him to coordinate and rearrange executive departments and agencies.

### Kiev Besieged By Bolsheviki

LONDON, Feb. 15.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam says: "A wireless dispatch received in Vienna from the Ukrainian Premier announces that Kiev had been attacked on all sides, but that the battle was beginning to develop to the advantage of the Ukrainians. The dispatch added the defeat of the Bolsheviki was considered inevitable."

### News in Brief

A woman, thirty-five years old, wearing apparel from the Hotel Metropole, Brooklyn, and Ninety-fourth Street, who drove its automobile into the Hudson River in the Tenth Avenue, was rescued by a tugboat.

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# GIRLS AID OFFICERS IN RECRUITING



Corporal Florence Singer and Corporal Marion Olsen, of the Women's Motor Corps of America, and Major Charles M. Tobin, 27th Division, U. S. A., in the recruiting office at 1916 Broadway, enroll a volunteer for military service. The young women aid in the campaign for soldiers. They urge the men to join the colors and carrying them to this office for enlistment.

### Insane Overcrowd Hospitals of State, Commission Finds

ALBANY, Feb. 15.—The state hospitals for the insane are crowded 20 per cent beyond capacity, the congestion being greatest in the vicinity of New York City.

This fact is brought out in the report of the State Hospital Commission which is to be submitted to the Legislature to-morrow. The commission recommends vigorous efforts to prevent the spread of mental diseases, and calls for larger sums for necessary new construction.

As one means of taking the patients' minds off their maladies, many institutions are giving their charges war work to do. It is reported. The service flag of the state hospitals now bear 245 stars, and many of the staff physicians in the medical service of the army.

The greatest problem of the moment is to provide adequate accommodations for the insane. This need is most acute in the hospitals in and near New York City. The institutions in the metropolitan district are overcrowded by approximately three thousand patients, or about half of the total overcrowding in the state, and constant transfers from New York to distant hospitals also crowd those institutions far beyond the limits.

The thirteen civil state hospitals contain 37,000 patients, of whom more than 10,000 are insane. The institutions in the metropolitan district are overcrowded by approximately three thousand patients, or about half of the total overcrowding in the state, and constant transfers from New York to distant hospitals also crowd those institutions far beyond the limits.

### Reports Show Jefferson Barracks Overcrowded

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Investigation by the inspector general of complaints regarding conditions at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, Secretary Baker announced to-day, showed that overcrowding with attendant evils exceeded between December 1 and January 15, as a result of the notice that voluntary enlistment of men of draft age would end December 15, but that extra accommodations were obtained for 7,800 men.

The enlisted strength increased from 4,033 on December 1 to 16,143 on December 15, at a camp with capacity for about 7,800 men.

This the Secretary said, made it necessary to shelter men for a time in every possible place. All available space at the depot was used, and facilities of the central Y. M. C. A., the railroad Y. M. C. A., and the armory of the 1st Missouri Regiment at St. Louis.

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### Girls' Plea Sends Youth To Altar Instead of Jail

"I will permit you to serve your sentence outside prison walls," said Judge Gibbs yesterday in allowing Alfred H. Aberle, a salesman of 212 Jerome Avenue, The Bronx, to get married instead of going to jail for attempted arson.

### Prince of Wales Finally To Take Seat Among Lords

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The Prince of Wales, who automatically became a member of the House of Lords on attaining his majority, but who did not take his seat, will do so next Tuesday, according to the "Times."

### To-day Is Porkless Day

The last reports as to Kiev from Bolsheviki sources said that the city had surrendered after four shots had been fired. These advices were never confirmed.

# B. R. T. Will Spend \$3,000,000 for Cars As Result of Order

### P. S. C. Announces Action Following "Vigorous Insistence"

### To Improve Service

### 150 Other Cars To Be Converted to Relieve Congested Lines

In a statement issued by the Public Service Commission yesterday it was declared that, as a result of that body's "vigorous insistence" that action be taken to obtain new cars needed for adequate service on the B. R. T. lines, the Brooklyn company within the next few days will place orders for "the largest purchase of new equipment which has ever been the outcome of a regulatory proceeding before a Public Service Commission in this or any other state."

The commission's original order called for the purchase of 250 cars for the Brooklyn surface lines. The B. R. T. officials assured the commission yesterday the hearing on the order that the company will immediately spend more than \$3,000,000 for new cars, of which 100 will be big steel cars for rapid transit lines and fifty will be surface car "trailers" of the largest practicable seating capacity.

The company will also start at once to convert 150 of its centre-entrance surface cars for multiple unit operation and fifty-four motor cars to serve as "leaders" for the "trailers"; the multiple-unit cars will be used in two-car train operation on congested surface lines.

William L. Ransom, chief counsel for the Public Service Commission, made the announcement of what the company had agreed to do, and George D. Yeomans, counsel for the B. R. T., confirmed the announcement. The company's representatives asked that the rights of both sides be maintained in status quo under the original order and the hearings be adjourned until next October in view of the present action of the company.

### Leaves Bride Home; Meets Wife in Court

Detectives who arrested Robert M. Rock at his home, 28 Bedford Avenue, Richmond Hill, Queens, informed his nineteen-year-old wife that he was wanted only to explain an irregularity to his draft board.

When Rock was arraigned yesterday in the Long Island City police court, however, the charge was bigamy. Rock apparently took the slightest notice of the young woman who appeared as accuser, but admitted the truth of the charge and was held for the grand jury.

### To Raise Polish Army Here

CLEVELAND, Feb. 15.—Captain Gasiotowski, chief of the Polish Military Commission from France, and forty-one recruiting officers are here to discuss with the heads of Polish citizens' committees and ladies' aid societies plans for the recruiting and organization of a Polish army in America of at least 50,000.

### Unsinkable Ship To Be Discussed

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The Naval Consulting Board will meet here to-morrow to discuss, among other subjects, experiments made with the former Austrian steamer Lucia, designed to make her unsinkable. Vice-Chairman Saunders of the board announced last Saturday at New York that the effort had been successful by "honey-combing" the ship's interior with buoyant separate compartments.

The plan was proposed by William T. Donnelly and work has been progressing several months on the ship, a 5,000-ton craft, Naval opinion generally, as far as can be learned, does not agree with Mr. Saunders as to the practicability of the plan.

Reduction of cargo space, time necessary for construction of this character and several other factors are regarded as working against general adoption for the transport service. Rear Admirals Taylor and Griffin, respectively chief constructor and chief engineer of the navy, are members of the consulting board, and will be present to-morrow.

There appears to be no doubt that a virtually unsinkable ship could be built in any of several ways. Neither the Allied powers nor the United States have as yet found, however, any scheme, so far as known, that would justify its general use. Time and cargo space are vital elements in the war that must govern whatever is done.

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# Where Volunteer War Workers Are Needed

Do you who are staying at home want to help win the war? The Tribune will publish from time to time requests for volunteer work, as well as appeals for workers from patriotic organizations. Drop a line to The Tribune, 154 Nassau Street, or telephone Beekman 3000.

Following are requests for help: Volunteer clerical help is needed immediately in connection with the work entailed in the physical examinations of the men to be called in the coming draft. Volunteers must give at least two hours in the morning or afternoon daily to this work, which will probably last several weeks. They will be required to copy in duplicate the forms filled out by the examining physician. The prime requisite, therefore, for this service is a legible handwriting.

Limited space at the offices of the board, which are situated at 100 West Fifty-ninth Street, makes it impossible for more than four assistants to work at the same time, so volunteers are requested to communicate with the Clearing House for War Work Volunteers, Miss Judith Bernays, 4 East Thirty-ninth Street, in person or by letter, in order that a specific day and hour of service may be assigned.

A newly created agency, whose aim is the rehabilitation of crippled and otherwise incapacitated soldiers and sailors, has solicited the aid of energetic women to undertake a survey of the industrial opportunities open to such men. The volunteer would work at the same time, so volunteers are requested to communicate with the Clearing House for War Work Volunteers, Miss Judith Bernays, 4 East Thirty-ninth Street.

### Britain May Be Forced To Ration Her Bread

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The cereal situation is beginning to cause some anxiety, and it may ultimately become necessary to institute bread rations. Although Chancellor Bonar Law said in the House of Commons on Wednesday that at the end of last year the total stocks of wheat in this country were greater by 2,000,000 quarters than they were at the end of 1916, it must be remembered that Great Britain is taking a generous share in helping to stave off starvation in France and Italy.

### Mrs. Keyser Dead, Her Brother Fears

No trace had been found yesterday of Mrs. Annie O. Keyser, of Los Angeles, who disappeared from the Prince George Hotel on January 15. Dr. Ralph Opdyke, of 27 South Fullerton Street, Montclair, N. J., a brother of the missing woman, declared he believed she had committed suicide.

### Search Proves Useless, and Dr. Opdyke Expresses Belief in Suicide Theory

"My sister had been exceedingly nervous for some time," said Dr. Opdyke. "She had had a nurse in constant attendance on her. I saw her frequently when she first arrived from California, but had not called at the hotel for several days before her disappearance."

### Committee Created to Pass on Export Licenses

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Creation of a contraband committee to pass upon applications for export licenses was announced to-night by the War Trade Board.

Charles Arthur Richards, formerly director of the Bureau of Export, leads the committee. The other members are P. Chauncey Anderson, W. Kingsland Macy, George J. McCarthy and Edward A. Strong, with Gordon Knoll bell as secretary.



Rain or shine "Scotch Mists" are fine! Fairweather overcoats of handsome Scotch chevots—rainproofed. Spring weights now ready. "Solo" socks are called "Solo" because so low in price for such good quality. "Solo" No. 697 for example—black silk where it shows; cotton where it wears.

"Extra values" now in both men's suits and overcoats.

### ROGERS PLEET COMPANY

Broadway at 13th St. "The Four Corners" Fifth Ave. at Warren

### 17 American Ambulance Sections Are Cited

PARIS, Feb. 15.—The American Ambulance Service publishes in its "Field-Service Bulletin" a tabulation of Americans in the ambulance and transport sections who have been decorated by the French government for bravery and other meritorious services. Up to the time the service was taken over by the American army, one ambulance man received the Legion of Honor, 222 received the War Cross, four received the Military Medal and seventeen sections were divided among the sections as follows: Section 3, 52; Section 2, 44; Section 1, 42; Section 4, 16; Section 8, 11; Section 15, 10; Section 29, 9; Section 13, 8; Section 28, 7; Section 10, 6; Section 12, 6; Section 139, 6; Section 18, 6.

### To Bridge the Bosphorus

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 15.—The Turkish parliament has approved a bill providing for the construction of a bridge and tunnel across the Bosphorus, connecting Europe and Asia. Contract for the work has been awarded to a Budapest firm, and it will begin operations in April.

The Bosphorus is at the entrance to the Black Sea, connecting that sea with the Sea of Marmora. At its narrowest point the Bosphorus is 1,800 feet across.

# B. Altman & Co.

## AN IMPORTANT SALE

of Women's Tailor-made Suits in the new Spring models will offer extraordinary value at \$38.00 commencing to-day (Saturday) in the Department for Women's Ready-to-wear, on the Third Floor.

Fifth Avenue - Madison Avenue, New York  
Thirty-fourth Street Thirty-fifth Street