

Rain and warmer to-day; to-morrow cloudy and colder; southwest winds. Highest temperature yesterday, 33; lowest, 19. Detailed weather, mail and marine reports on page 10.

STARVING FOLK SOUGHT IN VAIN BY INSPECTORS

Health Commissioner Emerson Makes Remarkable Report to Mayor.

CONFIRMS FINDINGS OF CHARITIES HEAD

Pro-Germans Are Pleased by "Uprising of New York's Hungry Poor."

HOPE FOR EMBARGO AGAINST THE ALLIES

Railroads Agree to Give Provisions Right of Way Into N. Y. To-day.

There is no starvation in New York, though food prices have about touched the pinnacle. Destitution is not increasing, despite the clamor of agitators.

These are frank, flat conclusions reached by Health Commissioner Emerson after a comprehensive investigation undertaken by his department.

Following close upon the heels of excited East Siders up Fifth avenue and their uproar around the Waldorf-Astoria last Saturday evening Dr. Emerson prepared a report for the eye of Mayor Mitchell, a report which states:

"There is obviously less dependency and real need than has been common for many years past."

The declaration confirms the conclusions of John A. Kingsbury, Commissioner of Charities, in his preliminary report of a similar survey "that no conditions of real starvation exist in the poorer sections."

The belief is fast spreading that the outward signs of rebellion against existing economic conditions, as manifested by food riots, the destruction of vegetables displayed for public sale in the streets, demonstrations to stir up public officials and invasions of wealthy neighborhoods by misguided mobs, are the fruits of a carefully planned programme to make Germany and Austria in their fight against the Allies.

Scheme for U. S. Food Embargo.

Many are asking why food riots should erupt on a gigantic scale and in different parts of the city at practically the same time if the records show that the poor of this city, as a whole, are better off financially than they have been for a long time.

They want to know what inspired leaders of crowds of women of the tenements suddenly to take it into their heads to start the initial riot, and what inspired the mob to have a strike against the price of potatoes, onions, cabbage and poultry.

At nearly all the meetings that are being held in the city, a made for a Federal embargo on foodstuffs exports, which had been demanded by pro-German propagandists practically since the war started.

Pro-Germans Well Pleas'd.

Persons in this city whose pro-German views are well known are much pleased by the reports of the demonstrations of the past week, and some of them have expressed the hope that the influence of the "uprising of the starving poor" will have its effect upon Congress in bringing about legislation that will supplement the work of the submarines in keeping supplies out of the stores.

Gov. Whitman said yesterday the present situation is confined to New York city and that it doesn't seem to be an acute or serious one.

He said that there is plenty of food outside of the city. It is believed that this week will bring relief.

Commissioner Emerson's report shows the comparative amounts of important foods exported by the United States in 1914 and 1916. It shows increases, expressed in percentages, as follows for the more recent year:

Fresh beef, 480; beans and peas, 144; butter, 820; cheese, 1,347; milk, 1,000; rice, 181; oleomargarine, 175; eggs, 24; cocoa and chocolate, 258; Potatoes, 63.

Onions alone decreased in volume sent overseas, the decrease being 22 per cent.

DUKE DRIVES TRAIN FOR GERARD'S PARTY

Spanish Grande Acts as Engineer as Envoy Leaves for Corunna.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—(Reuter's correspondent at Madrid says that James W. Gerard, former American Ambassador to Germany, Mr. Gerard and the members of the embassy staff left the Spanish capital at 4 o'clock this afternoon on a special train for Corunna, where the party will embark for the United States.

BALTIMORE TO SEND OUT FOOD CARAVAN

Twenty-four Motor Trucks Will Gather Farm Products for Citizens.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 25.—Twenty-four five ton trucks of the city departments will be sent out in the country surrounding Baltimore to-morrow and gather in farm products in an attempt by the city to help smash the corners in foodstuffs.

Four counties will be visited, and if the plan is successful trucks will be sent to the Eastern shore. This was decided on to-day at a meeting of the Board of Estimate at Mayor Preston's house.

Spot cash is to be paid to the farmers of the city's contingent fund right over the side of the trucks. Potatoes, eggs, cabbage, spinach and onions are to be the chief things sought. The trucks will be run with their supplies to the city markets. Mayor Preston is expected to cost 25 per cent. of the costs to the consumers.

As decided on to-day it is planned to limit the quantities sold to a buyer and the average amount sold weekly to one household, to prevent "ringing in."

The Mayor said he expected each day to get the trucks going out to the country to get the trucks ready for the next morning for new lots.

The city officials kept the telephone and telegraph wires going at all times with leading farmers in Harford, Baltimore, Anne Arundel and Howard counties. There is over \$50,000 available for starting the campaign.

DRIVEN FROM BRIDGE ON HUDSON BY SHOTS

Two Suspected of Attempt to Blow Up Structure at Poughkeepsie.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Feb. 25.—Tenth Regiment sentries at the Poughkeepsie bridge over the Hudson River saw two men cross to-night over the ice from the west shore to the ladder which is attached to the stone abutment of Pier 1.

The guardsmen waited until the men began to climb the ladder. Then they fired, shooting to kill, as their orders require. In the darkness their bullets went wide. The two men scrambled over the side of the bridge and disappeared in the brush on the west shore.

For several hours details of infantrymen and a Sheriff's posse searched the woods on the grounds of the Hudson River State Hospital, but were unable to find a trace of the men suspected of having blown up the abutment.

The guardsmen reported to headquarters that the men seemed to be foreigners.

The Poughkeepsie bridge was one of the first places placed under a strict guard when the recent partial militia mobilization was ordered. Over it travel many trainloads of war munitions.

The Militia says that Owen Plugg was born in Prague, Bohemia, in 1892. His father lives in New York and is said to be a naturalized American. Plugg has lived much in Germany, and managed the Hanover branch of the Stewart Motor Corporation, for which he visited Russia in 1915. On his return he became secretary of the American consulate in Erfurt until November, 1916. He left because the salary of \$500 was not enough. He got employment in the American Embassy at Berlin, thanks to his friendship for an attaché, Hugh R. Wilson, who is remaining in Berlin.

The Militia gives the names of the other suspects as Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dewissen, though the name has been spelled Davidson. Mr. Dewissen was born in 1857 in Germany of German parents and came to the United States in 1875 and was naturalized in 1891. He has been for the last sixteen years in Berlin. His wife had never left Germany.

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FUGITIVE TAKEN POSING AS "BOY"

\$10,000 a Year Export Manager of Midvale Steel a Restaurant Helper.

SEIZED AS EMBEZZLER 400,000 GET MANIFESTO

Robert Carter, Accused of Taking \$42,000, Says Amount Is Grossly Exaggerated.

ALBANY, Feb. 25.—Robert Carter of New York was export traffic manager of the Midvale Steel Company little more than a month ago, drawing a salary of \$10,000 a year. To-night when he returned to his furnished room at 77 Columbia street from an Albany restaurant, where he has been employed as bus boy at \$3 a week, he was arrested by Detective Fox of the New York Police Department and an agent of a surety company and locked up at police headquarters on a charge of grand larceny, accused of embezzling \$42,000.

The police say Carter will be taken back to New York to-morrow morning for arraignment. In his cell at police headquarters to-night he made no attempt to deny the charge against him except to declare that the amount "was exaggerated beyond all reason" and talked willingly about his sudden drop from prosperity to poverty.

Refuses to Give Reason. Carter told the police that he became connected with the Midvale company about two years ago. Prior to that time he had been traffic manager for a wholesale fruit company, and at one time had been in the fruit business for himself. He refused to tell the police why he took the money.

"It wasn't because I had bad habits," he said. "I never smoked, drank or chewed in my life."

The note said to-night that Carter's defaulters covered a period of several months, and that early last January the steel company and the surety company which had furnished his bond became aware of something wrong with his accounts.

"I left New York as soon as I learned that they had found I was taking the money," Carter is quoted as saying to-night. "I only had \$12, and I don't know whether it was best to stay and take my medicine or try to get away. I finally decided to leave, and I caught a night train for Albany on January 12, without telling my wife and children good-bye or leaving any word for them. I wanted to look around and see how things were going to support them, but my \$12 gave out almost immediately."

Money Soon Gave Out. "I was willing to do anything, but I couldn't get a regular job anywhere for a long time. By doing odd jobs and chores about houses I managed to make enough to live on, and finally I got a job as bus in a restaurant at \$2 a week. I tried to keep my identity secret, and I hoped to at least become a waiter and earn enough money so that I could support my wife and children once in a while."

The fact that Carter obtained employment in the restaurant was the thing that led indirectly to his arrest. Most of the boys who act as bus boys in the restaurants here are foreigners, and few of them speak English. Carter's superior intelligence and his command of English attracted the attention of the restaurant proprietor, who on several occasions questioned Carter about himself.

Bars Domestic Affairs. "I always gave him evasive answers," said Carter to-night. "I appeared to him as a man who had been overcome by misfortune and who was compelled to do almost anything in order to get enough to live on."

Carter refused to divulge his New York address, and when he was told that he had a restaurant at 42 a street in the city, he said he would not talk about his family affairs.

"I don't want to do any harm to my own case," he said. "It is tough at best, and no matter what the outcome, it is going to be hard—hard for me and hard for my wife and children. They'll be about this and how I've worked and lived, and that will be enough."

LONDON "MAIL" DOUBLES PRICE. Paper at Two Cents Will Continue Eight Pages.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun from the London Times.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—The Daily Mail, owned by Lord Northcliffe, announces that it has doubled its price from one cent to two cents a copy on Monday, March 5. The Daily Mail will continue an eight page paper, its usual size at present, and will preserve all its usual features, including its illustrated last page. The Times, also owned by Lord Northcliffe, recently increased its price.

The Observer next Sunday will sell for four cents. Its price has been two cents.

JAPAN SENDS "NOTE" TO U. S. VIA PULPIT

No War, Says Message, Unless America Impugns Honor of Nipponese.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 25.—The Rev. C. S. Reifelder, president of St. Paul's College, Tokio, Japan, in an address here to-day delivered a message which he said the Japanese Vice-Minister of State had hidden him give the American people.

"Japan," read the message, "will never go to war with the United States unless the United States impugns Japan's honor."

By "honor," Dr. Reifelder said, the Minister had meant such things as the alien laws in California and restrictions on immigration.

"I do not consider the message as a threat," said Dr. Reifelder. "It is a statement of the fact that the Japanese desire to placate the United States."

CAPTIVES AS RAID PROTECTORS. Entente Prisoners Said to Be Quartered Near Karlsruhe Palace.

PARIS, Feb. 25.—Reputé Gallé has urged the government to take measures to prevent following the receipt of a German wireless announcement that a camp for French and British officers has been established near a royal residence at Karlsruhe to protect the palace against French airplane raids.

There was considerable artillery activity again on both sides south and north of the Somme.

French artillery was active in the region of Le Mort Homme. Our shelling was attended with good results. Intermittent artillery actions occurred at various points along the front.

Continued on Third Page.

RAIL TROUBLE THREATENED

Unless 8 Hour Ruling Is Made by March 5.

400,000 GET MANIFESTO

Legislative Jam Leaves Little Hope of Passing Laws to Avert Crisis.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The railroad brotherhoods are growing extremely restless over the delay in settling the eight-hour day question. Their latest move is to put the issue before the Supreme Court's decision on the constitutionality of the Adamson law. Unless the court hands down its decision by March 5, the railroad decision, the brotherhoods announce, they will consider themselves justified in taking "aggressive action."

This announcement, taken in connection with the fact that these workers owing to the legislative jam, virtually no chance of passing any of the railroad measures designed to prevent a situation such as existed last summer, would seem to portend a serious state of affairs unless the court declares the law constitutional within the time limit set by the unions.

An effort to get action on the railroad measures to stave off a situation such as it is now feared may arise. Chairman Trumbull of the committee of railroad experts and Edwin Lee, head of the conference committee of managers, visited Washington yesterday and conferred with Senator Newlands and Justice Adams regarding railroad legislation.

Decision Not Certain. It is understood that both the Senator and Judge told the railroad men they were doing the best they could to allay the railroad men's fears. They were unable to hold out much hope that they could be extricated from the jam and passed, even if an agreement could be reached between the railroad men and the unions.

At the latest union meeting of the general chairmen on January 11 and 12 it was decided to suspend further action and wait on the Supreme Court for a reasonable time for a decision on the Adamson eight hour law, which we had every reason to believe would be forthcoming within a very few weeks.

The Supreme Court adjourned until March 5 without making any decision. For the past few days the possibility of being involved in international action has been a constant subject of conversation.

Meanwhile arbitrary legislation has been presented to Congress and the Senate, and by nightfall yesterday the British had established themselves in the German zone, and the German high command decided to retire without any further fighting to stronger positions prepared well to the rear.

Friday night's news were observed in the German front line trenches. They were only dimly visible through the thick mist of the particularly black night, but it was apparent that German troops were seen from burning German dugouts.

German Evacuate Positions. Patrols sent forward reported the evacuation of the German outpost. Similar reports came from north of the front, and by nightfall yesterday the British had established themselves in the German zone, and the German high command decided to retire without any further fighting to stronger positions prepared well to the rear.

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TEUTONS IN FOG RETIRE 3 MILES

Biggest Withdrawal by Germans on Western Front in Two Years.

BRITISH TAKE 4 TOWNS

Bapaume, Objective of Battle of Somme, Likely to Fall to Allies.

From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press. BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, Feb. 25 (via London, Feb. 26).—Under cover of fog and mist, which have been particularly heavy in the past forty-eight hours on the Aisne, the Germans to-day carried out the greatest retirement they have made on the western front in the last two years, and the British have swept into possession of Bapaume, Serre, Miraumont and Petit Miraumont, including the famous Battle of Warrenton, which has been the scene of some of the fiercest fighting of the war, and in places is deep with the bones of dead men.

The exact extent of the German retirement is not known to-night, but it is estimated that it approaches a depth of three miles at some points. British patrols are out in all directions harassing the Germans and keeping in touch with their movements. Until they report it will not be possible to say just how far the Germans have determined to fix their next line of resistance.

Bapaume Is Facing Capture. It can be stated, however, that the British now or soon will be in a position possibly to force the evacuation of Bapaume, which has been the key to the German position since the beginning of the Somme offensive.

The points which already have fallen into the hands of the British have stood out in the history of the fighting on this front and had been most stubbornly defended. Only a week ago when the British attacked on a two mile front east and south of Miraumont and Petit Miraumont, the German high command after desperate hand to hand encounters and the taking of more than 800 German prisoners, had decided to retire without any further fighting to stronger positions prepared well to the rear.

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EDWIN GOULD, JR., KILLED; FIRES GUN USED AS CLUB; TRAGEDY AT JEKYL ISLAND

His Weapon Discharged While He Tries to Stun Trapped Raccoon.

BODY DUE HERE TO-DAY

Mother in New York Prostrated—Father in Florida When News Reaches Him.

Edwin Gould, Jr., grandson of Jay Gould, nephew of George J. Gould and the older of the two sons of Edwin Gould, president of the St. Louis and Southwestern Railroad, was killed early last Saturday night by the accidental discharge of his own shotgun while he was attempting to stun a trapped raccoon on Latham Hammock, the Gould island game preserve two miles from the Jekyll Island winter resort, a short distance off Brunswick, Ga.

The news reached the members of the Gould family in this city early yesterday morning. David H. Taylor of 165 Broadway, legal representative and personal friend of Edwin Gould, Sr., obtained the details of the accident by telephone from members of the Jekyll Island Club, and learned also that the body of the young man, which was embalmed yesterday morning at Brunswick, Ga., will arrive here this afternoon in care of the father.

Young Gould, who was in his twenty-fourth year, left Jekyll Island at 4 P. M. with a companion on Saturday in a canoe, landed at Latham Hammock, a small island where his father and his father's friends had often shot ducks, and spent several hours hunting and examining traps and snares that had been set for small animals. P. M. he discovered a large raccoon in one of the traps. Instead of shooting it he tried to kill it with blows from a heavy hammer, but the hammer apparently that the gun was loaded.