

SHIPS TIED UP HERE BY COAL SHORTAGE

Supplies for U. S. Forces Abroad Delayed—European Service at Standstill. CITY GETS 50,000 TONS Holiday Cessation of Business Expected to Help—Price Fixing Deferred.

So serious has the coal situation become that not a ship has sailed from New York since last Friday and no less than 200,000 tons of shipping is tied up in and around Manhattan Island because of a lack of fuel.

Not before in the history of the old set shipping man has such a situation developed. Scores of vessels laden with food, fuel and general supplies for American soldiers on the other side and their allies are lying at anchor with no indication of when they will be able to start upon their journey.

While shipping men have been in direct communication with officials in Washington and an adequate supply of coal is reported to have been on its way to tidewater, representatives of the various railroads could give no information as to where the supply was coming from or when it would arrive.

The cellar dealers which had been promised for ten days past was not announced, and no tentative plan for curbing the profiteering methods of cellar men and carters will be forthcoming before Wednesday, as all persons connected with the fuel administration of New York's five boroughs are going to observe Christmas as a full holiday.

Joseph A. Hall, Deputy Fuel Administrator for the Bronx, was prepared to announce his price fixing arrangements yesterday, but after a brief conversation over the telephone with Reeve Schley, Administrator for Manhattan, he changed his mind and will refrain from making public his decision until a general programme for the greater city is given out from the Manhattan office.

There was a general disposition among cellar men on the East Side yesterday to close their places of business until the fuel administration gave them assurances of an adequate supply and a definite working plan with the carters, whom they charge with wholesale fleecing tactics because the fuel administration has ignored their plea for a fixed price.

Will Announce Prices Wednesday. The claims of these men were placed before Mr. Schley yesterday by the new-attorney, Benjamin A. Harstein, of the United Hebrew Retail Coal Dealers Protective Association, but Wednesday was fixed as the date on which definite prices would be announced.

Announcement was made yesterday of the committee of six which is to cooperate with the State and various city departments in its coal conservation plan as follows: Albert H. Wiggin, president Chase National Bank and New York State Fuel Administrator, chairman; Harry T. Peters of the coal firm of Williams & Peters; John W. Whitley of Whitley & Kammerer; Walter S. Sullivan of the Mutual Life Insurance Company; George D. Pratt of the State Conservation Commission; Reeve Schley, Federal Fuel Administrator for Manhattan.

It was stated by Mr. Schley yesterday that this committee will probably hold its first meeting in its new offices on the fourth floor of the Chase National Bank building Wednesday afternoon, when plans and a programme of action will be mapped out.

A letter was received in New York yesterday from Federal Fuel Administrator H. A. Garfield confirming the telegraphic authority given to local fuel administrators relative to discrimination in favor of the consumer as against the manufacturer and others in fuel supply. The letter follows: "Dear Sir: I have just telegraphed you the express authority requested in your letter of the 19th inst., namely, to discriminate between industries and necessary to postpone industries in whole or in part to the needs of the domestic consumer. I have not yet undertaken to formulate a general authority giving in specific terms to Federal Fuel Administrators the exercise of this power, feeling that it is unwise to formulate such a general authority until such time as an experience will show how it should be limited. Very truly yours, H. A. GARFIELD."

referred to me as chief of the conservation division of the Fuel Administration. "Under the present distressing circumstances it very naturally occurs to you as it does to every right thinking person that all the uses of coal not absolutely necessary should be discontinued until all the people have coal enough to keep them warm. "The problem divides itself, it so seems to me, into two parts. During any sudden emergency such as has been created by the recent cold snap and temporary stop of railroad facilities by an unusual snowstorm, coal for the people should be drafted wherever found. It is my impression that the local Fuel Administration has been extremely active during this period and has obtained results under very trying circumstances. "The general question of shutting off coal from the so-called non-essential and the interests of the war and domestic consumers has very wide bearings and has been given as I am sure you would have seen, a very wide publicity study here in Washington so as to take into such action as would result in permanent advantage to the country."

Lackawanna Cuts Service. The Lackawanna Railroad announces a reduction in suburban train service effective December 30, that will result in the saving of about 1,000 tons of coal a month. During the non-rush hours, between 10 A. M. and 4 P. M., and in the very early morning and late at night, a number of trains are operated on the Lackawanna, as well as on other suburban roads, with a degree of frequency deemed not for the volume of the traffic handled, but simply to give a maximum of convenience to the public.

Two of these non-rush hour trains will be made to do the work of three by making the interval between trains correspondingly greater and adding one or two cars to the trains run. Revised time tables are being prepared and will be ready for distribution December 29.

EDGE ROAD TAX LAW UPHELD. N. J. Supreme Court Decision Favors \$15,000,000 Project. Special Dispatch to The Sun.

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 24.—The Supreme Court to-day upheld the constitutionality of the Edge road tax law, under which \$15,000,000 is to be raised by direct tax during the next five years for the purpose of constructing a State highway system containing about 600 miles of road. Gov. Edge expressed the belief that the Supreme Court decision practically assures the constitutionality of the new road law. Should an appeal be taken, the Governor said he will request a special session of the Court of Errors and Appeals in order that it may be disposed of with as little delay as possible.

PLAYS SEEN ON NEW STAGES. Popular Offerings Are Revived for the Holidays.

Lou Tellegen's admirers followed him last night from the Republic Theatre to the Thirty-ninth, where the actor is to appear for some time to come as the hero of his own play, "Blind Youth." "Mother Carey's Chickens" came to the Standard Theatre as the appropriate play of the holiday rush. John Drew and Margaret Illington were at the Bronx Opera House last night in "Ray Lord Quetz." "Mary's Ankle" has been brought back to Loew's Seventh Avenue to amuse the holiday audiences there.

6,000,000 TONS 1918 OUTPUT OF SHIPPING

This Is Hurley Board's Minimum Estimate, With One Labor Shift.

MAY BE MUCH GREATER Keels Laid for 153 Hulls, Data Given Senate Committee Reveals.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Five million deadweight tons in the Shipping Board's estimate of America's 1918 output of shipping based on builders' reports which show the Government's programme of 5,246,505 tons is 18.2 per cent. on its way to completion.

The forecast is a minimum estimate, with one labor shift figured. Every effort will be made to put on two and wherever possible three shifts in yards throughout the country. With the task of designing models out of the way the whole problem now, according to Shipping Board officials, is that of obtaining labor and materials.

The builders' reports have been made a part of a mass of statistics just turned over by the Shipping Board to the Senate commerce committee investigating the progress of the shipbuilding programme. They disclose that the wooden requisitioned steel ships 35 per cent, the composite ships 20 per cent, and the contract steel ships 45 per cent. on the way to completion.

Of 379 wood hulls contracted for keels have been laid for 186, of which 130 were laid down in yards which did not exist when the contracts were let. The wooden hulls were ordered from 72 yards, of which 51 have been built from the ground up since the contracts were let. Of 68 composite ships for which contracts were let keels have been laid for 12. The contracts went to four shipyards, three of which did not exist previously. The three yards virtually have been completed and will begin construction of ships within a few weeks.

Eleven keels for steel ships have been laid in new yards. Contracts were let for steel ships to 32 yards, of which 20 are new. Of the ships contracted for four have been launched—two steel and two wood.

Henry Ford, serving on the Shipping Board as a manufacturing expert, has proposed extension of the fabricating programme. He has advised that the board have built in the South several fabricating yards, in which would be turned out steel vessels on the endless chain system employed by Ford in his automobile factory. Ten ships would be laid down at once in each yard. Mr. Ford will go on a trip throughout the South in search of locations and to investigate facilities for manufacturing and shipping fabricated materials.

BARONESS ZOLLNER TO FACE INDICTMENT U. S. Army Officer, Woman's Companion, Under Arrest.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 24.—Baroness Iona Zollner of New York, wife of a German army officer serving on the Florida front, was held without bail for the Federal grand jury here to-day on the charge of violating the espionage act.

United John W. Spaulding, the young United States army officer rested with the woman at a local hotel last week, was sent to Fort Oglethorpe under guard after he had testified for the defence.

Baroness Zollner was married in New York to Lieut. Wilhelm Martin Zollner of the German army in April, 1916. Her name then was the Baroness Iona Loefelholz von Colberg. It was her third marriage, her first being to Charles Warren Swope of New York, who had died some years before. In December, 1904, she married Baron Curt Loefelholz von Colberg. At the time of her third marriage here City Clerk Scully asked to see her decree of divorce from the Baron, but she said she had left it behind in London. She had to swear to an affidavit about the divorce before the license was issued.

The Rev. Charles J. Smith married the pair in Holy Trinity Church, Sixty-fifth street and Central Park West. A Capt. Lanlett was best man. It was reported when they left on their wedding trip that they were going to Japan, and later to Berlin.

The charge against the Baroness is based chiefly upon a code found in her possession and letters written by her to her sixteen-year-old son, Bedford Swope. The code, Spaulding swore to-day, was arranged so the Baroness could be kept informed as to his movements until such time as he might be sent to France. One of the letters to the boy described minutely a trip to Fort Oglethorpe, the condition of the roads and the topography of the surrounding country.

Spaulding testified that he loved the prisoner and wanted to marry her, that she had paid his hotel bills and other expenses on various occasions, and that he helped him to get a commission in the army after he had been compelled to resign from the Naval Academy on account of "bills."

Baroness Zollner denies the charges vigorously. She said she had been investigated at Washington and Annapolis and was permitted to move about under the known status of an alien enemy.

Commissioner McAlester, who conducted the hearing, indicated that much of the evidence against the defendant had been explained away. He refused to accept bail, but advised counsel for the Baroness to apply to the Federal District Judge for a writ of habeas corpus.

PROMOTION FOR 186 U. S. NAVY OFFICERS

President Wilson Approves Recommendations of Selection Board.

12 NEW REAR ADMIRALS Fifty-one Commanders Become Captains; David Worth Bagley Elevated.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—One hundred and eighty-six officers of the navy are promoted to the next highest grade by President Wilson's approval to-day of the report of the selection board headed by Admiral Mayo, charged with the task of choosing meritorious officers for advancement to keep pace with the expanding navy.

Twelve Captains become Rear Admirals. Fifty-one Commanders become Captains and 123 Lieutenant-Commanders become Commanders. The new Admirals are: THOMAS W. KINKAID, commanding engineering experimental station, Annapolis, Md. WILLIAM STROTHER SMITH, on duty at Navy Department with Naval Consulting Board. SPENCER S. WOOD, commanding a battleship. JOSEPH LEE JAYNE, commanding a battleship. CHARLES W. DYSON, in charge of the designing room of the Bureau of Steam Engineering. CLARENCE STEWART WILLIAMS, Chief of Staff to the Commander of the first force, battle fleet. JOHN DANIEL McDONALD, commanding a battleship. HILARY D. JONES, commanding a division of the cruiser force. WILLIAM R. SHOEMAKER, member of the General Board, Navy Department. JOSEPH STRAUSS, former chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, commanding a battleship. EDWARD W. EBERLE, Superintendent of the Naval Academy. ROBERT E. COONZ, commandant of the Puget Sound Navy Yard, Bremerton, Wash. Among the commanders made Cap-

tains are Walter R. Gherardi and Stephen V. Graham, naval attaches at Berlin and Vienna, respectively, before the United States broke relations with the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Joseph B. Lyle, who commanded the destroyer Jack Jones when she was torpedoed and sunk in the war zone recently, is one of the Lieutenant-Commanders advanced. Following are the new Captains in addition to Gherardi and Graham: Clark D. Stearns, Robert K. Crank, Henry B. Brumby, James H. Smith, M. Reeve, Roscoe C. Moody, Frank Lyon, John McC. Luby, Hutch I. Cone, Robert W. McNeely, George E. Gorm, Frank H. Brumby, James H. Smith, George L. E. Stone, Harris, Franklin D. Kams, David W. Todd, John V. Klemann, Henry V. Butler, James J. Raly, William H. Standley, Kenneth M. Bennett, Edward H. Watson, Rufus Z. Johnston, Thomas T. Craven, Daniel W. Wurtzbaugh, Ralph Earle, Gatewood B. Lincoln, Ivan C. Wettenget, Charles M. Foster, Wat T. Curvetius, Duncan M. Wood, Leigh C. Palmer, Albert W. Marshall, Thomas A. Kearney, Dudley W. Knox, Edward McCauley, Jr., William Littlejohn, David J. Vossler, Arthur Crenshaw, Abram Bronson, Jr., Harry B. Yarnell, Arthur MacArthur, David E. Thelen, Arthur J. Hopburn, Thomas C. Mearns, David J. Vossler, G. M. Murfin and Luther H. Overstreet.

The following were chosen to be commanders: Hilary Williams, C. Cooke, Fletcher L. Sheffield, Louis Shano, C. Dinger, W. G. Roper, Allen Buchanan, R. D. White, H. T. Winston, F. R. Nale, P. Svare, W. V. Tombs, P. T. Hulmer, R. T. Menner, B. G. Bartholow, M. G. Cook, Wallace Berthoff, Cox, Lewis, Frank McCompton, T. A. Kittinger, Guy Whitlock, J. B. Gay, L. J. Wallace, J. O. Richards, J. C. A. Murdock, D. J. Weaver, N. E. Nichols, O. C. Dowling, C. W. Early, Wilson Brown, Jr., Robert Anderson, E. C. Parker, J. O. Fisher, W. T. Conn, Jr., J. B. Blackburn, M. B. Freyer, Carlos Beat, R. C. Davis, W. D. Puleston, C. W. Densmore, David Lyons, J. F. Daniels, G. D. P. Johnsons, Frank Rorschach, S. C. Howan, K. Anderson, H. D. Cooke, K. M. Robinson, W. W. Smyth, R. S. Holmes, F. J. Cleary, E. H. Poteet, W. J. Giles, R. A. Rock, L. W. T. Ghent, John Gray, W. D. Groetham, D. McD. Le Reston, A. C. Dickens, N. H. Wright, P. P. Bassett, H. E. Kimmel, R. A. Dawes, P. E. Dammann, M. C. McDowell, P. Blackburn, C. C. Soule, Jr., C. H. Bullock, L. H. Teaswell, Halsey Powell, F. A. Todd, C. W. Mauldin, C. L. Hand, A. K. Shoup, Abram Claude, N. W. Post, W. P. Hallsev, Jr., R. F. Dillon, A. B. Quinn, R. P. Rodgers, D. W. Bagley, W. A. Smead, A. C. Kail, C. E. Wood, M. M. Frucht.

CHILDREN TOLD WAR DUTY BY ROOSEVELT

Warns Oyster Bay Sunday School Pupils of Privations to Come.

Special Dispatch to The Sun. OSTER BAY, N. Y., Dec. 24.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt at the Christmas festival of the Sunday school of Christ Episcopal Church this evening talked of the war and urged every one to take an active part. He complimented the children on giving up presents in order to send money to Belgium, where the church has adopted three children.

"I believe in every one having a good time," he said, "unless by giving up that good time you will help some one else. The worst time which you children have experienced so far in life is the happiest time the children over there have had in the last three years.

"The United States is now at war," the Colonel continued. "We were shamefully unprepared, but we are now making up for it. Let us all be on Uncle Sam's team and back up the men at the front. Taxes this year are high, next year they will be higher. If the taxes had been higher this nation would have had more money and have been prepared. It would have been a warning to other nations.

"Germany desired us for our unready strength. If we had been prepared Germany would never have gone to war with us, never invited war by her persistence in murder. If you have any wisdom left in you you will see that we are prepared next time.

"A year hence we will feel little inclination to have a Christmas gathering, for many homes here will be darkened. Next year will be one of trial and each man, woman and child has a part to perform, and that is to help our country and comfort others."

Sweden Laid German Mines; Shot. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—A Swedish ship said to have been serving Germany in planting mines off the South African coast has been captured and seven members of the crew in the German bay were put to death, according to W. A. Alrey, head of a trading corporation of Cape Town, arriving here to-day.

B. Altman & Co.

A Special Clearance Sale of Misses' and Junior Misses' Garments

to commence to-morrow (Wednesday) will offer exceptional values in the following:

85 MISSES' TAILORED SUITS at \$15.00

75 JUNIOR MISSES' TAILORED SUITS at \$15.00

130 MISSES' COATS at \$14.50

LARGE PRICE REDUCTIONS have been made in the Higher-cost Suits, Dresses and Coats.

This Sale will take place on the Second Floor.

Women's Handsome Wraps FOR AFTERNOON AND EVENING

(comprising the entire remaining assortments) have been reduced, in order to facilitate an immediate disposal, to

\$75.00, \$95.00 & \$125.00 (Third Floor)

Winter Resort Fashions are a feature of special interest in the various Departments devoted to the outfitting of Women and Misses.

The End-of-the-Year Sale of Women's Boots

will begin to-morrow (Wednesday) and will continue until a complete clearance of all discontinued styles has been effected.

Prices will range from \$2.75 to \$8.75 per pair representing sweeping reductions

Not every size in every style, but all sizes may be found in the entire collection. (Women's Shoes, Second Floor)

Several Thousand Yards of Cotton Dress Fabrics

comprising a large and varied assortment of attractive weaves and patterns, will be arranged in Dress Lengths

and placed on sale to-morrow (to make way for incoming stock)

at phenomenally low prices

This Sale will present a splendid opportunity for buying materials for Spring frocks at a great saving in expense.

Exceptionally Good Values will be offered to-morrow in a Sale of

Wool Suitings & Coatings

arranged in Lengths for Dresses, Suits, Skirts and Coats and marked, for clearance,

at greatly reduced prices

This Sale will comprise several thousand yards of fine-quality materials, including velours, chevots, homespuns, tweeds, broadcloths, serges and English mixtures; silk seal; and broadtail, moleskin, caracul and beaver cloths.

Fifth Avenue-Madison Avenue, New York

Lord & Taylor Clearance Sale Women's Coats and Suits. Every Garment in Stock at Reductions Radical and Remarkable. Seldom Have Equally Excellent Values Been Offered. None C. O. D. - No Approvals. 250 Winter Coats Usually up to \$25.00 \$15.00. Fashionable colors and black; models strictly tailored, trimmed with fur or Kerami fur cloth. 100 Fur Collared Coats Reduced to \$25.00. Fabrics of fine quality in every wanted color; handsomely fur trimmed models, the majority lined and interlined. 250 Fur Collared Coats Usually up to \$35.00 \$19.50. In any smart new shade and black, models trimmed with Nutria, Electric Seal (dyed coney) or Kolinsky muskrat. 75 Fur Collared Coats Usually up to \$65.00 \$49.50. In all the fine materials and a wide range of rich colors. Luxuriously fur trimmed models, finely lined. Every Evening Coat in Stock At Half Former Prices. A representative collection of models in Chiffon Velvets, Plushes, Metallic Brocades and the richest of Silk Brocades. All superbly fur trimmed. Every Suit in Stock—Sharply Reduced Splendid Values At \$25.00, \$39.50, \$45.00 and \$50.00 Third Floor.