

GARFIELD SAYS COAL BARONS GOUGE PUBLIC

Making Price Secondary to Production Cause of Hold-Up DISTRICT PLAN MAY AID Government Has Scheme to Eliminate Long Hauls in Shipments

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—A few legal and financial problems, not yet finally disposed of, are holding up President Wilson's announcement of this new war step—the most revolutionary yet taken by the Government.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The President is confident that his plan, including the compensation to be fixed for the railroads, will meet with the approval of the railroad heads.

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U.S. TO TAKE OVER RAIL LINES SOON

Both McAdoo and John S. Williams Prominently Mentioned for Dictator

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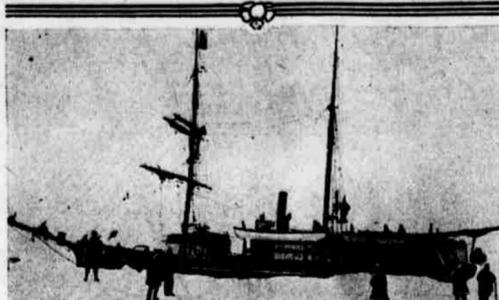
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STEFANSSON REACHES FORT YUKON



The Canadian Government has just announced the safe arrival of the famous Arctic explorer in Alaska. His boat, the Karluk, is seen above.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 26.—Deputy Minister of Naval Affairs Desbarres announced this afternoon that he had received word from Fort Yukon, Alaska, that Explorer Stefansson and his party have arrived there safely.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 26.—The explorer and his party will probably make their way to Nome and take the steamer there.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 26.—It is thought Stefansson spent last winter on Melville Island. His party comprises twenty-four men.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 26.—Vilhjarnur Stefansson won fame by his discovery of white Eskimos and a vast uncharted territory in the Arctic.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 26.—In September, 1914, news came that Stefansson and some of his men were marooned on the ship having gone adrift against the Italian lines.

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MILK TO RISE ANOTHER CENT

Exchange Directors' Meeting Forecasts Increase in Retail Price

"COMBINE" INTIMIDATED C. Henderson Supplee Talks of Unwarranted Boost by Producers

A one-cent-a-quart increase in the price of milk was forecast this afternoon, when the board of directors of the Philadelphia Milk Exchange convened for their monthly meeting at the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.

At the same time, C. Henderson Supplee, of the Supplee Agency, Inc., estimated that there was a milk producers' "combine" bent on boosting the wholesale price, although the market does not warrant it.

"I believe that persons are going among the shippers and farmers telling them that the price should be raised, and assuring them that they have the power to raise it," said Mr. Supplee, who was head of the retail distributors' committee that visited the farmers in an effort to reach an agreement with them.

"It is a bad condition of affairs. There have been too many boosts already. We retailers in Philadelphia have kept the price lower than that in any other large city, and we are trying to keep it down. The cartons consume a great amount of milk, it is true, but the market is perfectly normal, and there is no reason for the proposed increase."

However, according to Mr. Supplee, the retailer must follow in the path of the wholesaler or go out of business.

"They indicated to me," he said, referring to the milk producers, "that because of the high cost of feed and labor the milk price would go up the first of December. They told me that they had refrained from raising the price as long as possible. Of course, we will have to raise the price accordingly. If the wholesale price goes up one cent the retail price will be the same, although in justice it should be a little more."

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QUICK NEWS

1 DEAD, 34 HURT IN TROLLEY CAR SMASH BRADFORD, Pa., Dec. 26.—One passenger is reported killed and thirty-four injured in a head-on collision between two large interurban cars of the West New York and Pennsylvania Traction Company at 2 o'clock near Seneca Junction this afternoon.

ADDITIONAL RACING RESULTS Third New Orleans race, 1-16 miles—Semper Stawart, 111, Johnson, 3 to 1, 8 to 1, 4 to 5, won; Crocus, 104, Martin, 7 to 5, 3 to 5, second; Regresso, 104, Wallis, 1 to 5, third. Time, 1:04.

Fourth New Orleans race, 1-16 miles—Lucky E., 108, Ober, 7 to 2, 6 to 5, 1 to 2, won; Buzz Around, 106, Mooney, 5 to 2, even, second; Surpassing, 109, Robinson, to 3, third. Time, 1:55 4-5.

ARGENTINE GRAIN FIRED BY INCENDIARISM BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 26.—Numerous incendiary fires are occurring among the grain warehouses at Argentine harbors. It was reported today that many grain raisers are now opposing the sale of grain abroad on the ground that it is not going to the Allies.

WOMAN SPY'S WORK REVEALED IN COAST CASE SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—A woman spy, employed by Wilhelmstrasse, as one of the highest agents in the German secret service, directed the movements of Franz Schulenberg, "master spy," who is held by the Federal authorities here, according to an announcement today. The announcement followed admission by the authorities that Schulenberg had made a partial statement.

GEN. HALE IN FRANCE TO VIEW BATTLE FRONTS LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 26.—Major General Harry C. Hale, commander of the Eighty-fourth Division at Camp Zachary Taylor, has arrived in France, according to word received here today. He will make a tour of the battlefronts. His departure from Camp Taylor had been kept secret.

CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR THREATENED WITH DEATH SACRAMENTO, Cal., Dec. 26.—Governor Stephens today received a letter in which the threat is made that unless he leaves \$50,000 at a certain place in Oakland Boulevard, Oakland, he and two other State officials and the whole Sacramento detective force will be "blown up."

U. S. MEDIATOR IN CONTROL IN PACKING INDUSTRY CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—The Government, through a mediator, now controls all labor conditions in every packing plant in America. This is the effect of the agreement effected by the Federal mediation board here today. The contract between the packers and employees selects John E. Williams, food administrator of Illinois, as labor arbitrator. His decisions are final.

BULGARIA BALKS AT RUSSIAN PEACE TERMS GENEVA, Dec. 26.—Bulgaria has balked at the peace terms of the Russian Bolsheviks, protesting especially against the clause claiming for no annexation of occupied territory, said a telegram from the German frontier today.

EASTERN FREIGHT RATES TO MICHIGAN REDUCED WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today ordered a reduction of from 2 to 4 per cent on all freight rates from eastern cities to southern Michigan points. The rates applied particularly to cities in the southern peninsula of Michigan, which has been carrying higher rates than other points equally distant from points of origination.

BLOCKLEY INMATE IS ELECTROCUTED Peter Slevin, sixty-one years old, of 2728 Cabot street, an inmate of the Philadelphia General Hospital, was electrocuted last night when he attempted to climb the fence around the hospital grounds at Thirty-sixth and Spruce streets, and became entangled in an electric wire running just over the fence. The body was found this morning by Captain McManus, of the hospital guards.

FINLAND SEEKS RECOGNITION FROM GERMANY PETROGRAD, Dec. 26.—Finland has asked Germany to recognize her independence, according to reports which reached here today from Brest-Litovsk.

1,421,000 ENGLISH WOMEN IN MEN'S JOBS LONDON, Dec. 26.—Since beginning of the war 1,421,000 English women have taken up men's work, increasing the number of employed women to 4,776,000, the Labor Gazette stated today. About 675,000 of them are working in munitions factories.

KILLING OF PET DOG CAUSES \$1500 SUIT Pine Street Woman Says Neighbor Shot Terrier Which Showed Animosity to Him A feud between two residents on Pine street, west of Forty-first, over the killing of a pet fox terrier belonging to one has resulted in a \$1500 lawsuit being entered in the Municipal Court. The aggrieved party, who seeks the damages, is Sallie M. Hanley, proprietress of a boarding house at 4119 Pine street.

CITY PAYS \$4,825,633.37 IN INTEREST AND LOANS Of This, \$2,845,814 Goes Into the Sinking Fund—All Depositories Drawn Upon City Treasurer McCoach today sent to the Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank, fiscal agents of the city, \$4,825,633.37 to pay the semiannual interest of city loans and for maturing city loans. The total amount to be paid out in interest is \$2,845,814. Of this amount its sinking fund commissioners will receive \$2,845,814. The amount paid by the commissioners for loans that are ordinarily paid by direct appropriation to the city Council is \$1,873,927. The interest paid on the \$47,100,000 loan created for transit and port purposes will come directly from the loans. It amounts to about \$100,000. The loans maturing at the close of this year amount to \$1,792,800. In order to complete the heavy payments the Treasurer found it necessary to draw on every city depository.

CRACKSMEN'S BLUNDER CLOSES SAFE TIGHT "Overdose" of Nitroglycerin Wedges Doors Together, Spoiling Efforts to Rob Too much nitroglycerin nullified the deep-laid plans of a group of ambitious safe robbers last night when they attempted to break into the safe of Bennett Holard, of 2036 South street. The thieves tunneled under the foundation of the building and then worked their way into the store. After boring several holes into the steel and concrete door they put too much nitroglycerin into them and the outer door was blown into the inner door in such a way as to make it impossible for them to get into the inside of the safe. Then the intruders departed and left behind in their disgust a set of the most modern safe-hacking tools, the like of which even "Dick" Doyle, the City Hall safe expert, had never seen before.

NEW ORLEANS RESULTS FIRST RACE, 1 mile: N. Robertson, 7 to 5, 2 to 5, 1 to 5, won; J. J. Williams, 10 to 1, 5 to 1, 2 to 1, second; M. J. Williams, 10 to 1, 5 to 1, 2 to 1, third. Time, 1:04. SECOND RACE, 6 furlongs: M. J. Williams, 11, won; J. J. Williams, 10 to 1, 5 to 1, 2 to 1, second; N. Robertson, 10 to 1, 5 to 1, 2 to 1, third. Time, 1:18.

URGENT NEED AT U. S. FRONT IS LABORED

Many Civilian Workers Required to Replace Sammees

PERSHING'S MEN ARE HANDICAPPED

Military Training of Troops Interrupted by Construction Tasks

JOB FOR PATRIOTS Pick-and-Shovel Welders as Well as Skilled Mechanics Essential to Victory

By HENRI BAZIN Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger with the American Army in France FIELD HEADQUARTERS OF THE AMERICAN ARMY, Dec. 26.—The United States army is confronted by the most serious problem that faces every other army on the western front—the problem of the laborer. It needs workers and must have them by the thousands.

Though the Allies have been slightly relieved through imported and prisoner labor, there has never been enough of it. The work behind the lines has been and continues to be stupendous, always necessitating the transfer of soldiers to imperative work, thereby depriving the fighting force of a certain percentage of man-power.

LABOR DIVISION A NECESSITY The Americans, without imported and prisoner workmen, need a labor division of many thousands for the lines of communication and elsewhere beyond the roar of the big guns. This serious lack resulted recently in hundreds of soldiers being withdrawn from the training fields to cover construction work. They left the necessary grenade practice and trench-making lessons for the pick and shovel.

On one of the joint lines of communication I found Sammees of seven different organizations laboring instead of training. Elsewhere I found Sammees being returned to the training fields, the fighters having been replaced by newly applied labor from the front. Even until the building of this post, Sammees from nonmilitary work furnished by negro stevedores from the ports of entry. At that their number was insignificant compared with the needs for men of brawn.

The American expeditionary force urgently requires thousands of men, including mechanics and artisans. The few mechanics and toolworkers included and unskilled from the National Army training camps in the States are not enough. Such men constitute a mere handful against the gigantic industrial reserve to draw from here for great quantities of American men patriotically inclined—men beyond the military age or with minor defects in training. They are in a military way, yet leaving them husky and able-bodied.

PATRIOTIC JOBS OPEN Patriotic jobs that are crying for men are the pick-and-shovel jobs and positions for mechanics, toolworkers and unskilled labor. These are essential and invaluable from that of the cobble to that of the coffin-maker. There are also positions aside from the fighting front, through the unavailability of labor, furnished by negro stevedores from the ports of entry. At that their number was insignificant compared with the needs for men of brawn.

The British army here is backed up by a nonmilitary working organization. The French have mobilized citizens unfit to fight yet fit to labor. The United States, with a tremendously superior manpower reserve to draw from, is unable to furnish a great army—a purely working force unable to do military duty, yet whose work is vital to the military operation of the army.

The message that the American army needs the strong arm of the workman to support it should be spread across the nation from Philadelphia to San Francisco as a threatening possibility. That threat is that a great percentage of the war training of the United States military is being done by the soldiers' hands. The Sammees, pick-and-shovel work should be pressed confined to the good cause of peace, making another job strictly in line with his fighting trade.

WILL PICK BRICKLAYERS FROM DRAFTED MEN With an urgent request from General Pershing that 1000 bricklayers be sent to France at once, Provost Marshal General Crowder has ordered the muster list to be picked from the draft rolls. This will be the first draft of skilled tradesmen for the new army, and given an inkling of the master list, the various Governors giving tight quotas of bricklayers, he said, "There is an immediate need for a considerable number of bricklayers in deferred service of quotas or current quotas will be taken at once. Only white men will be taken. They will be sent to the aviation signal corps, Kelly Field, San Antonio, Tex."

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HUNS RACE WITH ITALIAN WINTER AT FORT YUKON

Canadian Government Announces Return of Stefansson

ROME, Dec. 26.—Recapture of ground from the Teutons at Col del Rosso and Montevalbella, but failure to hold the gains in the face of counter-attacks, was reported in today's official statement.

BERLIN, Dec. 26 (via London). Violent enemy counter-attacks in the neighborhood of Col del Rosso, and at neighboring heights, broke down with heavy losses to the attacking forces, today's German official statement said.

By HENRY WOOD WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN ITALY, Dec. 26.—The Teutons are making their last supreme effort to reach the Venetian plains today before winter irrevocably checks all operations.

Since Saturday General Conrad's Austrians have been battering unceasingly against the Italian lines. It is confidently expected his assault west of the Brenita will be followed quickly by new assaults by Generals Kruss and Belov east of the same river—particularly around Monte Grappa, where Austro-Germans are now freshly concentrating.

The battle as now developing will decide whether the Italians will be able to continue on Page Eleven, Column Four.

Continued on Page Eleven, Column Four.

STABILIZE COPPER PRICES

Agreement Assured to Maintain Rates at Present Basis

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"They indicated to me," he said, referring to the milk producers, "that because of the high cost of feed and labor the milk price would go up the first of December. They told me that they had refrained from raising the price as long as possible. Of course, we will have to raise the price accordingly. If the wholesale price goes up one cent the retail price will be the same, although in justice it should be a little more."

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NATION-WIDE PLOT TO INFECT BANDAGES

Warnings Issued Regarding Red Cross Supplies Destined for Use in Europe

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 26.—An enemy plot believed to be nationwide in scope, the purpose of which was to infect bandages destined for shipment to American forces abroad with diseases of a highly virulent and contagious nature, has been uncovered here, it is believed, by a great number of supplies sent here from all sections of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky may have been tampered with and perhaps poisoned. Warnings concerning supplies which already have been shipped were cabled broadcast today.

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FIRE OF ARTILLERY GROWS HOT IN WEST

Intense Duels of Big Guns in France and Flanders Reported by Berlin

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—Devastating artillery duels were reported from the western front by the War Office today. The firing around Ypres, Mouvaux and Maroing at times reached the greatest intensity.

South of Juvincourt a French raiding party was driven back after hand-to-hand fighting, it was stated. The report added that the heavy artillery firing on the east bank of the Meuse (Verdun) was discontinued on Christmas Day.

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