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Building costs will not fall as far as commodity prices because they did not rise as far, and because there is a shortage of buildings as contrasted with a surplus of commodities.

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PROTEST MEXICAN OIL TAX

Petroleum Producers File Brief With Secretary of Treasury

Mexico City, Feb. 2.—(By A. P.)—Formal objections to the government's proposed law providing for the payment of oil taxes was presented to Adolfo de la Huerta, secretary of the treasury, yesterday afternoon by a committee representing the Association of Producers of Petroleum in Mexico. Assertion was made by members of the committee that it was the most energetic protest as yet made to the government by the association.

The memorandum charges of "seizure" in the designation of the act and a declaration that "companies which export petroleum are subject to managers which can be arbitrarily on the part of officials or the employees of the secretary of finance." It is alleged that the proposed legislation would levy upon petroleum taxes which were exorbitant and wholly out of proportion to the value of the product. Declaration by the government that the proposed law would provide for a production tax was denied by the protest, which asserted the only portion of oil production affected by the tax would be that which includes crude petroleum and its products exported from Mexico.

Williamsport Y.M.C.A. Aids Hoover

Williamsport, Pa., Feb. 2.—"Invincible guest day" at the Young Women's Christian Association yesterday resulted in \$400 for the Hoover European relief fund.

UN'ASPIRA LOTTA POLITICA A FIUME

Otto Partiti Son Scesi in Campo per l'Elezion dell'Assemblea Costituzionale

Trieste, 2 febbraio.—Un'aspirata lotta politica si è sviluppata in Friuli in seguito alla formazione di otto partiti che sono scesi in campo per le elezioni dell'Assemblea Costituente. I detti partiti includono quelli del vecchio partito aderente all'annessione di Friuli all'Italia, i nazionalisti, gli autonomisti, i comunisti, i socialisti ed i comunisti. L'elezione avrà luogo verso la metà del mese di marzo.

I vari gruppi degli annessisti si attendono che formino un gruppo di coalizione, ma la lotta degli autonomisti è ritenuta dovrà in più formidabile.

Il congresso nel porto di Fiume è paralizzato e la città travasi carica di debiti. L'attuale Governo provvisorio sta facendo sforzi per indurre l'Italia a ristabilire i crediti.

Secondo notizie, sempre giunte da Fiume, sembra che il Governo Provvisorio di quello Stato indipendente abbia richiesto al Presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri, On. Giolitti, che una rappresentanza di esso sia ammessa a partecipare ai lavori della Commissione Italo-Jugoslava per la sistemazione dei confini. Il Governo di Fiume mostra tuttavia la gravità del pericolo che sovrasta a quello Stato indipendente, non essendo ancora stata definita la questione di Porto Baros e del Delta, e perciò intende di battere risolutamente sul terreno diplomatico, per impedire che Fiume venga privata dei suoi organi essenziali, il che la ridurrebbe ben presto all'infamia.

Milano, 2 febbraio.—Come conseguenza dell'uscita dei comunisti dal recente congresso tenutosi in Livorno, l'amministrazione comunale della città di Milano si trova ora di fronte ad una crisi. Detta amministrazione formata in maggioranza da socialisti fu nominata due mesi or sono, ed ora parecchi dei suoi membri socialisti, per la scissura avvenuta nel congresso sopra accennato, si sono visti costretti a rassegnare le loro dimissioni.

Il vice sindaco della città, un comunista, ha abbandonato il suo ufficio ed altrettanto ha fatto l'assessore di finanza. Si proficua il Patro consiglio comunale andrà quanto prima.

Discorsi giunti qui in Milano segnalano che i nazionalisti fiorentini cercano di stabilire un recente attentato inco-

\$9 FOR U. S. COAL IN FRANCE

Government Sets Price—Dealers Call It an Embargo

Paris, Feb. 2.—(By A. P.)—The French Government has fixed a new maximum price of \$9 per ton for all American coal, free on board, at French Atlantic ports. This is the lowest level American coal has reached since it began declining last October, when the figure was \$12 per ton.

Representatives of the coal dealers of France, who are meeting in Paris in a national convention, declared today that the government's action was in effect an embargo on American coal, because no American company could afford to sell at the new price, which after the payment of freight would not be more than \$4 a ton. The French dealers, it was stated, approved the fixing of the new price as a temporary measure.

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Exclusively stylish matched period designs. 10-PCS. in Walnut and Mahogany—\$395, \$425, \$440, \$465, \$490, \$515, \$540, \$565, \$590, \$615, \$640, \$665, \$690, \$715, \$740, \$765, \$790, \$815, \$840, \$865, \$890, \$915, \$940, \$965, \$990, \$1015, \$1040, \$1065, \$1090, \$1115, \$1140, \$1165, \$1190, \$1215, \$1240, \$1265, \$1290, \$1315, \$1340, \$1365, \$1390, \$1415, \$1440, \$1465, \$1490, \$1515, \$1540, \$1565, \$1590, \$1615, \$1640, \$1665, \$1690, \$1715, \$1740, \$1765, \$1790, \$1815, \$1840, \$1865, \$1890, \$1915, \$1940, \$1965, \$1990, \$2015, \$2040, \$2065, \$2090, \$2115, \$2140, \$2165, \$2190, \$2215, \$2240, \$2265, \$2290, \$2315, \$2340, \$2365, \$2390, \$2415, \$2440, \$2465, \$2490, \$2515, \$2540, \$2565, \$2590, \$2615, \$2640, \$2665, \$2690, \$2715, \$2740, \$2765, \$2790, \$2815, \$2840, \$2865, \$2890, \$2915, \$2940, \$2965, \$2990, \$3015, \$3040, \$3065, \$3090, \$3115, \$3140, \$3165, \$3190, \$3215, \$3240, \$3265, \$3290, \$3315, 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