

SHIPS BUNKERED AFTER LONG WAIT

Fuel Agents Giving First Attention to Army Supply Vessels Tied up in Ports.

PAYMENT OF WAGES URGED

Dr. Garfield Emphasizes Patriotism of Action—Preferred Class Getting Released Coal.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Although much of the confusion attending the enforcement of the fuel administration's five-day closing order continued today it was evident that its application would be far less drastic than first believed.

A list of interpretations in specific cases which probably will be given general application was being prepared by fuel officials from which minor exemptions may result to supplement special rulings made yesterday.

Backed by vigorous defense of President Wilson, who gave his full support to the closing order as imperative to release coal to move supplies to the American army and the allies, Dr. Garfield today gave his attention to the situation at Atlantic ports.

On instructions from Director-General McAdoo to co-operate with the fuel administration, railroad officials set about directing coal shipments to the preferred class of shipping interests, householders, hospitals, public utilities and others whom the order does not affect.

Suggestions that railroad embargo be placed on shipment of goods from factories shut down was overruled by the director-general. Few violations have been noted by officials and these, it was believed, were due to misunderstandings.

For Those Paying Wages. The government's desire that plants affected by the order pay their employees wages during the closing period was emphasized today in the following telegram to state administrators signed by Dr. Garfield:

Enough in Four Days. Enough bunker coal will reach the docks in the next three days, it was said, to supply all ships now awaiting fuel.

Fuel administration officials predict that it will be at least a week before coal mines begin to receive empty cars necessary to keep production at a maximum.

It was made clear today that industries producing materials on which munitions plants are dependent are exempt from the emergency fuel corporation and for the aircraft production board are exempt.

Fuel administration officials said the tone of telegrams coming was entirely different from yesterday and that most of them either approved the government's action or expressed willingness to co-operate.

Homes and public utilities were receiving supplies of fuel diverted from the industries closed down.

The diversion was delaying delivery and unloading and slowing up the movement of empty cars back to the mines. Coal production for the next days probably will be far below normal, but fuel administration officials expect it to increase as soon as the flow of empties is under way.

Western Tie-Up Serious. The railroad situation, in the middle west, was so severe that it was suggested to Secretary McAdoo, director-general of railroads, that about half of the present trains there be suspended for two days to release locomotives for freight.

Work on Fleet Goes On. After requests from the shipping board, the fuel administration today ruled that lumber mills working on emergency fuel contracts are exempt from the order, but at the same time it refused to exempt a long list of industries which government officials wanted excepted because they are declared to be working on war orders.

DESPITE RULING WOOD USED BY MANY PLANTS

Jackson, Miss., Jan. 19.—Despite the fuel administration ruling against the use of wood, many of the lumber manufacturing plants in south Mississippi are still in operation, claiming that as they use the refuse from their own mills, including sawdust and slabs, they are not violating the purpose of the general closing order.

One of the complications resulting from Dr. Garfield's order developed today in a serious congestion of carloads of lumber at milling-in-transit points where planing mills closed down, and sidings are filled to overflowing with cars.

DISTORTED RUSSIAN TERMS TO MISLEAD PUBLIC

Petrograd (Via London), Jan. 18.—(British Admiralty, Per Wireless Press.)—M. Trozky, the bolshevik foreign minister, has sent an energetic protest against the distortion of the minutes of the Brest-Litovsk peace conference, especially the misrepresentation of the Russian declarations made to the German official statements, which, he says, are intended not to be informative, but to mislead the German public.

AUSTRO-GERMAN ATTACK ON WIDE FRONT IN ITALY

Rome, Jan. 19.—The enemy attacked along a wide front on the lower Piave on Thursday night. Today's official statement says he was arrested.

NOTHING TO REPORT

London, Jan. 19.—"There is nothing of interest to report on the British front," says today's official communication.

HOLDEN APPOINTED TRAFFIC SUPERVISOR

Kansas City, Jan. 19.—James F. Holden, vice-president in charge of traffic for the Kansas City Southern railway, today was appointed by W. G. McAdoo supervisor of transportation and traffic for the federal shipping board, according to a telegram from Washington received at the offices of the road here.

SOLDIERS' REST ROOM HAS A LIST OF ROOMS

The soldiers' rest rooms have a list of rooming places, both week-end and regular, for officers and their wives. Those having available rooms are asked to place their names and addresses with the secretary. Notification should be sent when places have been taken.

RADICALS WANT LAWS APPROVED; PEACE POURPARLERS HALTED A NEW

(Associated Press Review.) The bolshevik government met with a defeat in the first test of strength when the long-awaited opening of the constituent assembly took place in Petrograd yesterday. Its candidate for chairman was defeated, 151 to 244, by revolutionists, M. Tchernoff, minister of agriculture in the Kerensky cabinet.

This defeat was administered without the help of the constitutional democrats, whose members did not attend the opening session.

Much uncertainty exists as to what effect the convening of the new body will have upon the foreign and domestic policies of Russia. There have been intimations from the bolshevik side that the new body would be ignored by the bolshevik and an independent legislative body set up if the assembly should definitely challenge the bolshevik power.

It is recalled that the chairman of the assembly, M. Tchernoff, was under fire as a member of the Kerensky government, being accused of the murder of the political leaders who attended a conference at Russian headquarters when an effort was under way to form a new government in opposition to the bolsheviks.

The Austrians have made another attempt to force the Italian fight back on the Piave river line and push a way to Venice close to the Adriatic coast. Rome reports an attack on a wide front in this sector on Thursday night.

Another halt in the Russo-German peace pourparlers is reported in a news dispatch received in London from Petrograd, which says that the Russian delegates are returning to their capital. The German emissaries at Brest-Litovsk are said to be endeavoring to force the Russians to break off the negotiations finally on minor points, so as to cast the blame on the Russians.

Relations between the bolshevik and Rumania are at the breaking point. The Ninth Russian army has demanded that the Rumanian army on two hours permit the Russian free passage through Jassy. King Ferdinand, whose arrest has been ordered by Premier Lenin, is reported to be under the protection of the entente allies.

In Italy, as in France, the fighting fronts have settled down to the usual winter routine of raids and artillery duels at various points. There has been no break in the monotony on the western front, the British portion of which is now a sea of mud, the snow having disappeared.

British laboring men have been told by Premier Lloyd George that the new man power bill is urgent and that Great Britain must either go on or go under.

He praised the war aims of President Wilson and declared he wanted to be informed if any man could find an honorable and equitable way out of the war without fighting it through to victory over German militarism. The premier said he was willing to appeal to the country on the army issue.

BANK RESERVE SHOWS DECREASE DURING WEEK

New York, Jan. 19.—The actual condition of clearinghouse banks and trust companies for the week shows that they hold \$67,676,230 reserve in excess of legal requirements. This is a decrease of \$10,895,780.

OLD KING COAL DECLARES A HOLIDAY



ENLARGEMENTS AT OGLETHORPE

Number of Additional Buildings Promised for Post Hospital. Confirmed at Capital.

General enlargements at the post were promised for Fort Oglethorpe by Senator Kenneth D. McKellar, who stated Saturday to a representative of The News at Washington that provision had been quietly made for important and immediate improvement of post hospital facilities.

Construction of a "certain number of additional buildings" for the accommodation of nurses at the post hospital, Fort Oglethorpe, has been authorized by the war department. The buildings are to be both brick and frame, but the information on the subject furnished The News from its Washington correspondent does not give the number nor size of the buildings to be erected.

Acting on a report from Brig.-Gen. James B. Erwin, commanding officer of the post, the quartermaster's department is busy on plans for the erection of the new quarters for the nurses.

The report that the post hospital soon is to be changed to the status of a general hospital could not be affirmed at the office of Gen. MacCain at Washington Saturday, where the statement was made that the report urging the increases in hospital facilities, including new quarters for nurses and other improvements, was made two weeks ago.

Belief that this may mean the further construction of buildings for general hospital purposes, enlarging the quarters of the post hospital was prevalent following this announcement from the office of Gen. MacCain, though it was denied that the war department has under consideration the changing of the quarters to a general hospital.

Whether these new buildings will be constructed by the contracting firm of Snavely & Triest, which built the cantonments at Chickamauga park, or by some local firm of contractors, could not be ascertained at the post Saturday, though there have been unofficial reports for several days that Snavely & Triest, whose contract with the government soon will expire, will remain here to complete new work, that has been in contemplation at the park.

SEEK TO THROW BLAME ON RUSSIANS FOR FAILURE

London, Jan. 19.—The negotiations at Brest-Litovsk have been interrupted temporarily, according to a Petrograd dispatch to the Daily Mail dated Thursday, and the Russian delegation is returning to Petrograd. The Germans, it is added, appeared to be maneuvering to force the Russians to break the parley over a minor point so as to throw the blame on the Russian representatives in the eyes of the Russian people.

HAMPTON ROADS GETTING COAL AT FAST RATE

Washington, Jan. 19.—Ships in Hampton Roads are receiving bunker coal today faster than at any time in many weeks, according to reports to the fuel administration. Coal was said to be moving in very freely, both for bunker and domestic use.

Warmer, Says Billy 'Possum.

I wish I were a boy again. To understand the joy again, that flutters in the heart when the school must close. True, fuel and this economy would scarcely mean a thing to me. But just think of the ecstasy. And picture shows.

The weather? Snow and warmer tonight and Sunday.

NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

New Orleans, Jan. 19.—The nominating committee of the Associated Press at its meeting here today, nominated candidates for members of the board of directors to succeed members whose terms expire in 1918. The nominations were as follows:

Eastern division—Oswald Garrison Villard, New York Evening Post (incumbent); Benjamin R. Anthony, New Bedford (Mass.) Standard. Central division—Victor Lawson, Chicago (Ill.) News (incumbent); J. L. Sturtevant, Wausau, Wis.) Record-Herald. Southern division—D. E. Town, Louisville, (Ky.) Herald (incumbent); Victor H. Hanson, Birmingham (Ala.) News; R. M. Johnson, Houston (Texas) Post, incumbent; John Steward Bryn, Richmond, (Va.) News-Leader. Western division—W. H. Cowles, Spokane (Wash.) Spokane Review (incumbent); I. N. Stevens, Pueblo (Col.) Chieftain.

TENNESSEE-KENTUCKY MINES OPERATE SUNDAY

Knoxville, Jan. 19.—In response to an appeal from coal operators in East Tennessee and Southeastern Kentucky, it is expected that the majority of the 15,000 to 18,000 miners in this section will work eight hours on Sunday. This, it is estimated, will produce about 50,000 to 75,000 tons of coal, with which to relieve the fuel shortage situation. The local fuel administrator today announced that 100 carloads of coal, aggregating about 4,500 tons, had been ordered diverted to this city to relieve the domestic shortage primarily. This will be distributed among the local dealers by official order of the administrator. None of this coal will be furnished local dealers operating their own mines. Much suffering and destitution are reported due to lack of fuel. No additional industries were reported closed today. Due to the hydro-electric power being predominant here the local industrial shut-down has not been as universal as in cities without water power electricity.

SCHOOLS ORDERED CLOSED 3 WEEKS TO SAVE COAL

Order From Nashville Comes as Surprise—Local Educators Criticise Economy—Will Completely Demoralize Courses.

(Special to The News.) Nashville, Jan. 19.—Orders were issued today that all public schools in the state close for three weeks in order to save fuel. The order was issued by State Superintendent S. W. Sherrill and has the approval of Fuel Administrator Myer. It is effective Monday, Jan. 21. The order does not apply to the state university nor to normal schools, but only to city and county schools.

Mr. Sherrill's action is more in the nature of a request than an order, but it will without doubt be observed by the heads of all city and county schools. The letters making the request state that it may be found advisable to extend the period more than three weeks if the weather continues very severe at the end of that time. County schools using wood for fuel are not asked to close.

The order that city and county schools close for a three-weeks period as a fuel economy had not been communicated to the local superintendents or commissioners at 3 p.m. today. All concerned expressed great surprise that such a step should be taken, and both County Supt. J. W. Abel and Commissioner of Education H. D. Huffaker were open in their criticisms of the step, declaring that it would not only demoralize the courses, but that, in their belief, would in reality save little coal.

QUESTION OF AUTHORITY. When W. B. Swaney was called in regard to the order issued by State Superintendent of Schools S. W. Sherrill and approved by Fuel Administrator Myer, he stated that while the question was a very broad one, he was of the opinion that the superintendent of schools had no such authority.

"In my opinion," said Mr. Swaney, "it would take an act of congress to authorize such a move, unless, of course, the state legislature was in session and passed such an act. Then, too," Mr. Swaney said, "this being wartime, such an order might be a proper legal procedure if authorized by some government official."

In discussing the situation, Supt. Abel said: "I am patriotic until I feel it in my bones and I am eager to do anything reasonably proper to an economy of patriotic action. Aside from the fact that it will completely demoralize the course, and that we have the problem of paying teachers without securing their services or the injustice of withholding their pay, I do not believe that it is a fuel economy. By turning the children all back into their homes it will mean more fires and more coal there. In the schools we keep five hundred or more children warm with one fire."

"We cannot carry the schools three weeks later into the spring," continued the superintendent, "at least the rural schools, as the children have to assist with the crops. It will certainly be a great hardship which I believe is out of proportion to the fuel saved."

It is estimated that the saving of coal for the three weeks in the county schools will be about five cars.

CITY SCHOOLS. Commissioner Huffaker was equally emphatic in his position against closing the schools. He stated that he could not say what amount of coal would be saved, probably not over four cars, but that the entire system of study would be demoralized. "It would be almost as bad as to abandon the term," he said.

RUMANIA IN DENIAL OF BOLSHEVIK CHARGES. London, Jan. 19.—The bolshevik authorities in Petrograd received a reply yesterday from the Rumanian government denying the allegations contained in the bolshevik note to Rumania, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Petrograd under Friday's date.

Premier Lenin, adds the dispatch, considered the reply unsatisfactory. He sent copies of it to Foreign Minister Trotsky and Ensign Kriyenko, the army commander.

SPLIT REPORTED AMONG RUSSIANS

Bolshevik and Left Wing Socialist Revolutionist Members of Assembly Withdraw.

London, Jan. 19.—The bolshevik members of the constituent assembly and those belonging to the left wing of the socialist revolutionists withdrew from the constituent assembly in Petrograd at its first meeting, according to a Russian wireless report of the session received today.

This action appears to indicate a split between the bolshevik and the majority socialist revolutionists, the break occurring after the election of the majority socialist revolutionist candidate for chairman of the assembly.

MASONIC GRAND PRIOR CHARLES F. BUCK DIES

New Orleans, Jan. 19.—Charles Francis Buck, grand prior, supreme council of the Masonic lodge, grand inspector-general for Louisiana, and the canal zone and former member of congress from Louisiana, died at his home here today after several weeks' illness ascribed to a general breakdown and age. Mr. Buck was prominent in New Orleans legal and political circles as well as a recognized leader in Masonry in the south. He was a past grand master of the grand lodge, a thirty-third degree Mason and member of the Knights Templar, Scottish Rite and Mystic Shrine orders, in which he held various high offices. Mr. Buck was born Dec. 5, 1841, in Durrheim, Germany. The body will lie in state at the grand consistory tomorrow and funeral services will be held Monday. Interment will take place Monday afternoon with full Masonic rites.

ALABAMA MOTHER FIRST TO RECEIVE COMPENSATION

Washington, Jan. 19.—Mrs. Bettie Ingram, of Pratt City, Ala., has received the first payment by the soldiers' and sailors' insurance bureau to the dependents of a soldier or sailor killed in action. Secretary McAdoo announced today, she is the widowed mother of Gunner's Mate Osmond Kelly Ingram, killed last Oct. 15 when the destroyer Cassin was attacked by a submarine. Mrs. Ingram received one check for \$40, representing compensation payments for two months up to Dec. 15, and another for \$50, representing automatic insurance for the same period.

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Advertisement for 'The Year 1918' newspaper. It features a large graphic of a newspaper page with the price '\$2.98' and the title 'The Year 1918'. The text describes it as 'A History-Making Year' and 'The News will keep you informed on the happenings as they occur, and at a cost to you of less than 1 cent a day.' It also offers a 'REMARKABLE NEWSPAPER OFFER!' for one year for \$2.98 by mail.