

ST. QUENTIN AND LENS DOOMED

PRESIDENT MAY FIX MINIMUM CROP PRICES

Washington Correspondent Urges That Government Underwrite This Year's Crops

AMOUNTS TO INSURANCE; FURNISHES SECURITY

Action Now Doubtless Would Stimulate Farmers of Northwest to Increase Acreage

ISSUES APPEAL

Washington, April 16.—Fresh impetus was given to the nationwide campaign for more food crops today by President Wilson's plea for aid of action in furthering America's success in the world war.

The President's appeal, addressed to his "fellow countrymen," urged all people to join in making the nation a unit for the preservation of its ideals and for the triumph of democracy, but particularly emphasized the need of growers concentrating their energy on planting of crops that the United States might fulfill its task of feeding the armies and peoples who are fighting Germany.

"Without abundant food alike for the armies and peoples at war," said the appeal, "the whole great enterprise upon which we have embarked will fail. It is the farmers of the country, therefore, in large measure rests the fate of the war, and the fate of the nation."

By GILSON GARDNER.

Washington, April 16.—A minimum price for staple food crops, such as wheat, corn, potatoes, oats, etc., can and probably will, be fixed by President Wilson by a simple executive order. It is not necessary to wait for Congress. Food purchases are within the authority of the President as a war expense and such an order would be backed by the seven billions which Congress is now making available.

Must Be Made Now.

To be of any help the government's offer to underwrite this year's crops must be made before the seeding time is gone. This means that it must be made within the next 35 days. Handled as an executive matter, an incident to the war making power, this can be done. To wait for Congress would probably be fatal.

High government officials to whom I have talked say there is no question as to President Wilson's power to make this order. To buy the surplus crop—or to offer to buy it—is just as necessary now as to buy powder or shot.

"The government would not, as a matter of fact, have to take over any of the crops," one official explained. "It amounts in fact only to insurance and, like most insurance, the loss does not have to be met. Yet it would furnish a security and an incentive to the farmer that would make him bring into use every road, side, every railroad right of way and every vacant lot."

The best authority on agriculture in Washington is Captain W. S. A. Smith, for years expert advisor to the department of agriculture and now a member of the farm loan board.

Capt. Smith said to me:

Master of Economics.

"This crop matter should not be made subject of patriotic appeal. It is a matter of economics and should be so treated. There is no use asking farmers for the sake of their country to raise crops at a possible loss, when they can be induced to raise them at a reasonable profit. Let the government offer to buy the crop at some fixed price which the farmer can know and rely on now, and he will be able to go to the bank, borrow money for seed and perhaps even lease extra land. But without such assurance the farmer goes back to his usual reasoning that 40 bushels of corn at 40 cents is just as good as 70 bushels at 40 cents. And for him it is a little better, because it involves less work. But it is bad for the country and the world—bad for the hungry consumer to have it work out that way.

"Can we increase our yield enough to meet the need?"

"Given the stimulus of a guaranteed price we can do things that never have been suspected.

"Take millet alone. The staple food in Manchuria, Korea and many parts of China is millet. It can be substituted for wheat or mixed with wheat or used as a stock feed. We can grow two or three crops of millet in a season and raise as high as 60 bushels to the acre. But the farmer will not raise millet unless he is assured of his market.

Nothing More Nutritious.

"Or take the ordinary pea. Nothing is more nutritious—nothing is better for everyday wholesome diet than peas. In Iowa we used to raise three crops a season. They can be grown by the acre, dried, run through a threshing machine and they are ready for the winter. Pea soup is the best of foods.

"There is no use whooping it up as a patriotic duty to do these things. If the government wants the products, it can have them by naming the minimum price."

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PROCLAMATION

War is declared. America is at war! Every citizen is interested in that fact, as every citizen is interested in the outcome. Bismarck is interested. We have not sought the dread arbitrament of war; but it has come and every loyal American desires to stand loyally by the fairest flag that floats. Our sons have joined the ranks of the militia and the navy; others will follow their lead, but the larger number of us will remain at home. Let our loyalty be none the less apparent. Let us deck our streets, our business houses and homes inside and out with the national colors. Let us advise our children of the significance of it all, and let us keep the colors flying until the complete issue of the contest.

I hereby set apart Thursday, April 19, 1917, the anniversary of the battle of Lexington as a popular day of encouragement to the enlisted men, and to those who shall enlist, and as a token of our support of the Government in the crisis that is upon us. Dated this sixteenth day of April, 1917.

A. W. LUCAS, Mayor of Bismarck.

START ENLISTING 'SOLDIERS OF SEA' IN CAPITAL CITY

Enlistments Expected to Boom With Opening of Recruiting Headquarters

LEUTENANT KITTERER HERE TO TAKE CHARGE

The big drive to secure needed men for the United States navy was launched here this morning by Lieutenant Kitterer, who declared that enlistments will boom in Bismarck as soon as his headquarters are established in the McKenzies or So.

Urged to Enlist Now.

"Enlist Now—Your Navy Needs You!" is the slogan that will ring throughout this section of the St. Lawrence. So persistent will be its call that few young Americans will fail to note it. Reports from all over the country show that about 500 hardy Americans are being enlisted daily. It is pointed out by the officer here that only about 15 per cent of those who heretofore applied for enlistment have been accepted for the service.

Telegraphic advices received this morning state that the central states lead in the enlistments in the marine corps, although the eastern states have by far the most applicants for enlistments and the southern states furnish the least number of "soldiers of the sea," according to statistics just made public.

Health Poor in East.

The general poor physical condition of easterners, the healthy, outdoor life which young men of the interior enjoy, and the proportionate scarcity of marine corps recruiting stations in the south account for these differences, say recruiting officials. "Only one man in five can meet our requirements," said Lieutenant Kitterer this afternoon, "and these requirements are not severe. Men accepted must conform to certain prescribed age and size limits, be of strong constitution, well formed, sound as to senses and limbs, spirited, young men, who are physically able to perform the two-one land and sea service of our first line of defense."

TO ARRIVE AT WISE CENSORSHIP

Washington, April 16.—Secretaries Lansing, Baker and Daniels and George Creel, who compose the new government publicity bureau, created by President Wilson, met today to map out a course of action. The primary purpose of the bureau, it was stated, was to profit immediately by the mistakes made abroad in imposing a military censorship at the beginning of the war and to open to the public all proper information as to what the government is doing or intends to do.

MOST BEAUTIFUL SUFFRAGE PICKET TO WORK IN SOUTH

Washington, April 14.—Miss Benah Amidon, daughter of Federal Judge Amidon of North Dakota, who a few weeks ago was voted the most beautiful suffragist doing picket duty before the White House, will open suffrage headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., next week. She will organize a state conference of the National Woman's party for the first week in May. Miss Amidon has just finished a month of active campaigning in North Carolina. She was working with Doris Stevens, national chairman of organization for the National Woman's party.

HALLAND LATEST POSSIBILITY IN RACE FOR TOGA

Former Superintendent Public Instruction Being Boosted by Friends for Job

CANDIDATES EXPECTED TO RUN ON PETITIONS

The Hon. John G. Halland of Fargo, for two terms superintendent of public instruction for North Dakota, for an equal length of time superintendent of schools in Traill county and who has just been elected president for the seventh time of the Fargo Norse society, is the latest congressional possibility from the First. Friends of Mr. Halland regard him as the best candidate who has been put forward at this time. The Republicans contend he is admirably fitted to represent his district in Washington and that he would reflect credit on the entire state.

E. C. Cuthbert of Devils Lake is now an avowed candidate, but old war horses are picking Birchbush of Grand Forks as a more probable winner among the entries from the north end of the district. Lieut. Gov. A. T. Kraebel has been mentioned, but while in Fargo last week he strenuously denied the imputation. F. S. Talcott, warden of the state penitentiary, is a receptive candidate. All of the above are Republicans. On the Democratic side are Senator Drown of Page, Fred Bartholomew and George Baugert of Grand Forks and E. E. Cole of Fargo. Drown is an avowed candidate, and his supporters among the Democrats predict he will make a strong race.

League Out of It (?)

President Towley states the league will take no part in the congressional fight. The league, says the big boss, is still out of national politics. Senator Drown, if nominated by the Democrats, relies upon the support of the league, but Bill Lemke of Fargo, who has well developed congressional aspirations, may have something to say on that score. While the league did not enter national politics openly last fall, there is no question that league leaders quietly passed word to knife Hughes and elect Wilson. It is entirely probable that in the coming battle the league will have an ardent ally, and Mr. Lemke has a clearly defined idea that he can be that candidate, if he wishes.

Lemke's only chance of being nominated on the Republican ticket would be through league votes. The rank and file of the Republican party is the first district and the state generally have never approved of the manner in which Lemke ran the state campaign last fall. Should Lemke and Drown be rival candidates, some interest would attach to the result, but reports from the first indicate little probability of such a line-up. NO PRIMARIES

It seems safe to conclude there will be no primaries for the selection of party nominees. No provision for the holding of a primary is made in the statute governing the filling of vacancies by special election. It is believed that Section 501, of the 1889 code, provides that candidates may qualify on petitions signed by not less than ten per cent of the electors voting for congressman at the last preceding general election, will govern.

In this event, it would be necessary for the Republican nominees to secure only 207 signatures and the Democrat but 132. Governor Frazier is expected home from New York tomorrow evening, and it is probable he will issue a proclamation Wednesday calling the special election, which must be advertised once each week for four successive weeks.

MAYOR LUCAS GETS RESPONSE TO MESSAGE

A. W. Lucas, president of the city commission, has received the following word from Secretary Tumulty in response to a telegram sent two weeks ago extending "hearty and united support" in behalf of the city to the president on his war message: "The president thanks you cordially for the good will which prompted your kind message and which has helped to re-assure him and keep him in heart."

BUSINESS MEN ENLIST IN MOVE TO BOOST CROPS

Congress Urged to Adopt England's Policy of Fixing Minimum Price

FARGO CONFERENCE IS WELL ATTENDED

National Reserve Banks to Operate With Local Institutions in Crisis

Fargo, N. D., April 16.—Interest in North Dakota's part in the war measures centered today in the appointment of an executive committee, authorized here yesterday, when 150 bankers and agricultural leaders of this state and adjacent portions of Minnesota, in conference here on means of increasing and conserving foodstuffs production during the war adopted a resolution urging congress to follow England's policy of fixing a minimum protective price to the farmer for all food production while the war continues.

For Conscriptio. Another resolution adopted favored congressional action allowing home-steaders credit for claims in time spent for farm labor during war, and universal selective conscription, "so that the boy required on the farm and who is trained in farm work and produces the food to supply the fighting forces at the front shall be recognized as performing no less a patriotic duty than the soldier and sailor under arms."

Eleventh Hour Call. The conference was the result of an "eleventh hour" call issued Saturday by Chairman John H. Rich of the Ninth Federal Reserve District, with headquarters at Minneapolis. In response to summons by telephone and telegraph, representatives were present from every section of the state, particularly from St. Paul and Minneapolis. The meeting was marked by a willingness to co-operate in assuming a responsibility enabling the farmers to produce the maximum food production possible, as a measure of promoting the war successfully. W. C. McDowell, president of the First National bank at Marion, N. D., presided.

John Rich Present.

Mr. Rich was present and gave assurance that the National Reserve banks would provide the country with plenty of money to finance the farmers of North Dakota in their farming operations, and also guarantee plenty of help to harvest the crop.

Attorney J. M. Witherow of Moorhead, Minn., late in the meeting, asked the gathering to let the farmers know what rate of interest should be charged for the money advanced to finance seed operations.

Not to Fix Interest.

Following the adoption of the resolution favoring the establishment of the minimum price for products, Mr. Witherow said 7 per cent should be the rate allowed. He was advised by Mr. McDowell, the president, that the conference was for the purpose of providing ways and means to increase the products of North Dakota farms, and not to fix interest rates or the price of wheat.

Insure Against Loss.

Mr. Witherow was supported by F. O. Hellstrom, former warden of the penitentiary at Bismarck, who asserted the government should insure the farmer against loss of crops.

Action was taken authorizing the appointment of an executive committee by Mr. McDowell.

The advisability of holding a meeting of this committee at Grand Forks some time this week was considered informally by members of the committee, following the gathering. (Continued on Page Three.)

May Wheat Prices Soar

Kansas City, April 16.—Advances in May wheat continued today as a result of additional efforts by shorts to cover. The closing Saturday's figure of \$2.33 1/2 was raised to \$2.47 1/2.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT AMERICA!

Haven't you forgotten many of the facts about early American history that were taught you in school? Wouldn't you like to "brush up" on the happenings that built this United States, so as to better understand the stirring times into which the nation now is moving? The Daily Tribune, believing its readers will wish to review their history, has prepared a tabloid history of the American nation, complete in a few chapters. The first chapter appears on another page.

7 BILLION WAR CREDIT BILL BEFORE SENATE

Indications Are That It Will Be Passed by That Body Tomorrow

REPRESENTATIVE OF ALLIES TO ARRIVE THIS WEEK

All Wireless Stations Not Operated by Government Are Ordered Dismantled

Washington, April 16.—The \$7,000,000 war revenue bill, which had passed the house, was approved by the senate finance committee and will be taken up tomorrow for passage in the senate.

The \$7,000,000,000 war revenue bill was in the hands of the senate today and its passage by tomorrow was expected when the finance committee of the senate met to consider the measure as it came from the house, which passed it Saturday. All wireless stations not operated by the government were ordered dismantled today by the secretary of the navy. Failure of owners to comply with this order will result in confiscation of equipment.

It was announced today that President Wilson would receive the British war commissioners at the White House on Wednesday and the French commissioners on the same day if they have then arrived. Elaborate preparations have been made for their reception and entertainment. With the approval of the administration, Chairman Adamson of the House conference committee today introduced a war embargo bill to empower the president to forbid exports of any sort which he deems it in the public interest to do so.

BEACH CASE NOT YET IN HANDS OF MEMBERS OF JURY

Cross-Examination of Witnesses by Defense Halts Progress of Murder Trial

(Special to Tribune.) Mandan, N. D., April 16.—Owing to the length of time required by the defense in the cross-examination of witnesses, the case of the state against George Smith of Beach, charged with the murder of Horace Ball, did not reach the jury Saturday afternoon as had been anticipated by court attaches. Introduction of testimony and cross-examination of witnesses continued this morning and the latest forecast is that the case will not go to the jury until some time this afternoon.

NORWAY BUILDS SUBMARINES FOR CENTRAL POWERS

Boston, April 16.—German submarines in large numbers have been built in Norway, according to a private letter received here from Christiania, which says that Germany has given orders to build no submarines after May 1. "This means," says the letter, "that she either has enough boats or that the war will terminate sometime this coming summer."

Bryan and Wilson Confer

Washington, April 16.—President Wilson this morning received Wm. J. Bryan. They conferred at the White House before the President went to his office.

Mr. Bryan reiterated to the president his offer recently made by telegraph to be of any service to the government during the war. After leaving the president, Mr. Bryan dictated a statement declaring his intention to protect the government on any war plans on which it might decide. He declined to discuss conscription specifically.

DIVINE SARAH IN HOSPITAL

New York, April 16.—Sarah Bernhardt has been removed from her hotel here, to a hospital, it was learned today.

Vest Pocket Edition of Winter Here

Burling County Soil and Wet Snow Make Dish Resembling Caviar Dressing



A vest pocket edition of winter was issued by the weatherman this morning. Snow to the depth of an inch had fallen from 5:30 o'clock this morning up to the noon hour, and the forecast at that hour was for snow this afternoon and tonight.

Burling county soil and a wet snow such as today make a mixture resembling a Russian caviar dressing for head lettuce. But the mixture today was spread thick over the walks and the pavement, making it not very relishing to the pedestrians. Dry cleaners look for a run of business tomorrow, as the weatherman is of the opinion that the disturbance will "throw down its hand" by that time.

The temperature has taken a slump. The highest yesterday was the number of the Nonpartisan league's famous hill. The reading at 7 o'clock was 30 and the mercury five hours later, or in fact throughout the morning hours was making no efforts to get far beyond that mark, seemingly willing to sit down on the 32 mark and look wise, thinking it had "put over" something.

BEGIN COUNT OF SWINE ON N. D. FARMS

Following Report, Conference of Stock Men Will Be Held in Minneapolis

37 INSPECTORS BEGAN WORK THIS MORNING

Minneapolis, Minn., April 16.—Thirty-seven state inspectors, following a suggestion by Edmund Pennington, president of the Soo Line, and A. R. Rogers of the Rogers Lumber company, today began making a count of swine on the 75,000 farms of North Dakota.

Pennington announced today, following a long distance telephone talk with A. R. Fay of Chicago, vice president of Swift & Co., that a conference of prominent livestock men will be held in Minneapolis, soon as the North Dakota inspectors have finished their count, to discuss the swine shortage situation.

ENGLISH PRESS SAYS APPEAL IS DIRECT TO HEART

Given Great Prominence in Evening Newspapers Which Print Document Textually

London, April 16.—President Wilson's appeal to the American people is given great prominence in the evening newspapers, which print the proclamation textually.

"It goes straight to the heart of the great war problem," says the Westminster Gazette, "and will be read with great appreciation by the Allied nations. No message addressed by their government to any of the countries at war has better combined an appeal to the heart with practical counsel and shown a keener eye to the fundamentals of the situation."

CONFEDERATE ARMY VETERAN WOULD JOIN UNITED STATES NAVY

Little Rock, Arkansas, April 16.—Another gratifying example of loyalty was demonstrated at the United States navy recruiting office here when J. L. Leigh applied for enlistment in the navy. Mr. Leigh requested that he be enlisted at once and sent to the largest battleship afloat for service on that vessel. He was greatly disappointed when informed by the recruiting officer that he exceeded the required age limit by 40 some odd years, he being 69 years of age. Mr. Leigh is a warrior of experience, having enlisted in the Confederate army at the age of 13 and having served for four years, which ended in April 1865, under General Lee, at Appomattox.

HAIG'S PATROL IN STREETS OF THESE CITIES

Occupation by Allies Seems Only Question of Hours, Say Reports

ENTENTE HAVE REACHED MAIN HINDENBURG LINES

Teutons Make Stubborn Resistance as British Open Up Large Gaps in Defense

By Associated Press.) The fighting on the western front has assumed almost the proportion of almost a general engagement of the North Sea to the Swiss border.

As yet the infantry has not been heavily engaged much to the north of Loos, in the Lens region, or east of the Soissons region, within which confines the battle of Arras and the struggle for St. Quentin are being waged.

Dramatic Situation. Were attention not centered on the dramatic situation about Lens and St. Quentin, the fall of both being considered imminent, the great artillery battle in the region between Soissons and Rheims which has been going on for several days doubtless would have attracted more notice. As it is, the potential importance of this duel of the big guns cannot be minimized presaging, as it may, offensive movements of the infantry on a large scale.

Important Operations.

Increasing probability of the opening of important operations between Soissons and Rheims and in the western Champagne is indicated by the German official report that "infantry fighting develops this morning over wide sectors" after heavy artillery firing and reconnoitering drives. The sincerity of the fighting accompanying the German counter attack yesterday on a six-mile front on both sides of the Bapaume-Cambrai road, is emphasized by today's German headquarters' statement.

In connection with the Soissons-Rheims region, the probability of a northward push by the French from the Rheims region to turn the left flank of the Hindenburg line, as the British have turned the right at Vimy, has come to the front, while the artillery battle has been raging.

London, April 16.—Although British patrols have been in the streets of Lens and General Haig's men are on the outskirts of St. Quentin, the fall of neither of these towns as yet, has been officially announced.

The Germans, it is apparent, have sent in their reserves, and are making a desperate defense to enable their engineers to complete the destruction of the mines and factories at Lens, which might have been useful to the Allies.

NEAR MAIN LINE

Despite the fact that all along the lines between Lens and St. Quentin, the German resistance has stiffened, General Haig reports today the capture of Villlette, which strengthens his line northwest of St. Quentin and announces further progress northwest of Lens. Counter attacks which the Germans have launched at Monchy and Languecourt suggest that the British are approaching dangerously near to the new German lines, which, according to unofficial account the Germans have not had time to complete before the British offensive was launched.

WIDEN GAPS

(From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press.) British Headquarters in France, via London, April 16.—The British continued today gradually to widen the second gap in the Hindenburg line north of St. Quentin, having captured the position known as the Three Savages, east of Gricourt. St. Quentin continues to tremble. Away to the north Lens still holds out. The Germans have several strong positions about the city, to which they still cling.

WANT TO SAVE CITIES

The British apparently would like to take Lens without inflicting too great damage from an extensive bombardment. They always have been in position to reduce the city to ruins, but the shells have been directed against several spots known to be used for military purposes by the Germans. Nevertheless the Germans continue to destroy the city by blowing up buildings.

ATTACK FROM ALL SIDES

Further details of yesterday's fighting show the desperate character of several German attacks on the new British positions. The attack which was essayed from both sides of Quant and temporarily pierced the British line at Langcourt was extremely bitter. It began at 4:30 a. m. Sunday and continued for three hours without interruption. British advance posts were driven but the support units joined the issue with the Germans.

HAND TO HAND ENCOUNTERS

Many hand to hand encounters followed. There was also more actual aimed rifle shooting than for many months. During this fire the Germans fell in clumps. They attempted to seek cover behind bushes and in small pickets. The British fired into these with good results. When the reserves (Continued on Page Three)