

# COAL FAMINE STARES IDAHO IN THE FACE

While More Fuel Delivered to State So Far This Year Than Last, Consumption Greater.

Secretary to Federal Fuel Administrator Says Fully 100 Towns Now Without Coal—Critical Here—Meridian Hard Hit.

What gives promise of becoming one of the most serious coal famines in the history of the state is now squarely staring Idaho in the face.

There are today fully 100 towns without anywhere near an adequate supply of coal, many families being entirely out and unable to secure the black diamonds, while others only have a limited supply.

Consumption of coal by factories, etc., and of railroads is 20 per cent higher in Idaho than it was a year ago. The Oregon Short Line, one of the biggest carriers operating in the state, is practically without storage coal. This is true also of many other large coal consuming concerns.

California, which secured a large supply of foreign coal, is practically dependent upon the Utah mines. This is taking away from Idaho part of the supply that formerly came to this state. Labor is scarce and high.

### MORE COAL RECEIVED.

The records of the public utilities commission of this state show that there has been more coal delivered in Idaho from the mines up to the present time this year than there was last. In November Idaho received a total of 917 cars. Over 100 cars have been received so far this month.

Meridian has been hard hit by the coal shortage. A serious condition exists there. Emmett was without coal until a carload brought some relief. Murphy and Silver City were in the same condition. Gooding and many other towns have suffered.

"The situation is very serious," said C. E. Elmer, secretary to Federal Fuel Administrator F. R. Gooding. "In some communities where there is a coal shortage and they have been able heretofore to secure saguaro, even the latter is now gone. Many families in cities and towns are without fuel of any kind."

### CONDITIONS IN BOISE.

A partial survey of coal on hand in Boise was made by Mayor Hays, upon request of Fuel Administrator Gooding. It was found in the bins of coal dealers, there was some 400 tons at the time of the survey several days ago. This week he intends taking up the survey in Boise in the business and resident section to learn just the amount of coal in the bins here.

Since the survey of the coal dealers, however, the supply has been exhausted and Saturday evening only two companies in Boise had coal. One had a small amount of nine run and the other had coal, but declared it was all sold.

### SERIOUS AT MERIDIAN.

"THERE ARE 30 FAMILIES IN MERIDIAN WHO HAVE NOT GOT ENOUGH COAL TO LAST THEM UNTIL MONDAY." That statement was made Saturday by W. H. Johns of Meridian, who has made a coal survey of Meridian for the state fuel administration. He complains because so much coal is being diverted to farmers. He took this matter up with the fuel administrator and received the following:

Gooding, Ida., Dec. 5, 1917. W. H. Johns, Meridian, Idaho. Dear Sir: Replying to your favor of the 5th: I agree with you thoroughly that the schools must be kept running. What I have tried to do Mr. Johns, is to stir up the people so that those who have conveyances, can go to the forests, where it is possible, and get wood so as to relieve the coal situation as much as possible, so that we can better take care of the schools and the people in town who have no possible chance to secure fuel of this kind and have to depend entirely on coal or wood that is shipped in by rail.

If the people will only help themselves a little I believe that we will be able to pull through the winter, if it is not too severe, without a great deal of suffering. If they would only remember that the country is in war and that coal is the most vital force of the nation and that every industry is running full-blast. Coal that was shipped here from Australia has been discontinued so that you can understand why the shortage is.

I am sure that if the farmers could be made to see this in the right light, that they would be quite willing to do everything possible to relieve the situation so that our schools and those who are depending entirely on coal, could be amply supplied. Unless the situation is improved, we may have to do some radical things before the winter is over in order to get through without intense suffering.

Very respectfully,  
F. R. GOODING,  
Federal Fuel Administrator for Idaho.

A couple residing in the English village of Bunwell has given 10 sons to the British army and navy. Among them they have served 120 years, the periods ranging from six months to 28 years. Two have won commissions, and three have given their lives for their country.

# COAL DEALERS WILL ASK FOR GREATER MARGIN IN PROFIT

Vote to Submit Uniform Cost of Doing Business to Administrator to Get Just Advance.

The retail coal dealers propose to submit a uniform cost of doing business to the state fuel administrator in order that he may allow a just reasonable profit. They will also ask that all delivery charges be arranged separately and apart from the charges at the bin and that delivery charges be determined for each individual community.

The coal dealers arrived at the above decision Saturday afternoon after spending a day and a half in session discussing the coal situation with operators and going into the details of their cost in doing business. Most of the dealers feel that the price as fixed by the fuel administrator does not allow sufficient profit and they propose to present their claims in order to secure a price, which they deem will be just to them.

### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

The resolutions passed at the closing hour of the session are as follows: "We, the undersigned, committee appointed by the fuel dealers in session at Boise, Idaho, Dec. 8, 1917, respectfully submit the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the appreciation of those present be extended to Mr. D. H. Pape for the effort expended in getting this meeting called, and that our condolences be extended in connection with the very sad occasion which made his attendance impossible.

"It is further resolved that it is the desire of the fuel dealers in attendance at this meeting to co-operate in every manner possible with the state and national fuel administration.

"Furthermore, be it resolved in order to assist the state fuel administration in arriving at a gross margin that will allow the retail dealers just and reasonable profit over their costs of doing business so as to enable this branch of the coal industry to better serve the people during the present crisis, and also a margin that will be fair to the consumer, we recommend that a uniform cost of doing business be submitted to the state fuel administration.

"Furthermore, be it resolved that all delivery charges should be arranged separately and apart from the price to be charged at the bin, such delivery charge being determined for each individual community.

"Be it further resolved that the fuel dealers in session at this meeting wish to convey their hearty appreciation to the state fuel administrator for the beneficial services he has been able to render in having placed into effect priority order No. 3, and to him and his assistants for the untiring effort put forth to better fuel conditions in the state of Idaho."

### C. E. ELMER'S VIEW.

"The great thing that all classes are demanding, as Mr. Gooding looks at it, is that through the efforts of all interested, or whose interest may be secured, sufficient coal is brought into the state, so that suffering and distress may be avoided, that the coal so secured shall be fairly and equitably distributed among the different communities, and that the prices charged for this necessity shall not give to dealers or people an unfair advantage. He believes that the organization just formed here can assist in accomplishing these objects.

"But you understand that resolutions of themselves will not relieve an existing fuel shortage," he said, "and speaking for the fuel administrator I would be glad if every person in the

# JAYS HOOVERIZING HELPS THE HEALTH



Speedy Rush.

Speedy Rush, Princeton football coach, says that Herbert Hoover's food ideas are going to help the health of the nation and that when the American people are obliged to eat less they will find their health improved. "More water and less food," says Rush, "that's the way to make any man stronger."

state, who can in any manner conserve the fuel supply should do so; those who can use wood should not neglect the opportunity, and all possible waste should be eliminated.

"The resolutions passed by the coal dealers at their meeting," said Mr. Elmer, secretary of the state fuel administrator, "was a necessary result of such a meeting. The fact that the local dealers are not in some cases entirely satisfied with the amount of profit permitted by the orders of the fuel administration, is not confined to the coal business or to the state of Idaho. Nor would I venture the statement that the demand is entirely unjustified in some places. The state fuel administrator, Mr. Gooding, when told of the action of the coal dealers in the passage of the resolutions, stated that he felt encouraged by the fact that the meeting had seen fit to praise his efforts. He expressed the feeling that both the people and the dealers understood an effort was being made by the fuel administration to do even and exact justice, as nearly as this could be accomplished by himself and his associates, and that no fear need be entertained that he would always be open to conviction in regard to prices and the other regulations that it might be necessary to inaugurate."

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### ARRESTED AS ENEMY RELEASED BECAUSE A NATIVE SON OF IDAHO

Lester Falk was placed under arrest Saturday by T. B. Martin, United States marshal, upon telegraphic advice from Washington, citing him as an alien enemy. Upon an investigation by the marshal, it was found he was born in Boise and had made this city his home all his life. Upon that showing he was released without bail or further embarrassment.

Mr. Falk's father, Sigmund Falk, has spent a good many years in Europe and for the past four years has made his home in Vienna. It is believed it is because of that fact he was taken for an Austrian. Sigmund Falk was American consul at Munich for a number of years.

Lester Falk feels that an injustice has been done him and proclaims himself as a loyal American citizen. He had subscribed to the liberty bond issue and in other ways has shown himself patriotic to this country, his friends contend.

Idaho's Leading Clothing Store

# THE MARKS CO.

Idaho's Leading Clothing Store

This week will be a big one in this Big December Clothes Sale, as four shipments of Suits, and Overcoats will be added to the stock. Late arrivals that should have been here some time back



Society Brand CLOTHES

# Trench Suits Trench and Overcoats FOR YOUNG MEN

English Models, Box Backs and Standard Models FOR MEN

- \$15 Suits and Overcoats cut to \$12.75
- \$20 Suits and Overcoats cut to \$16.50
- \$25 Suits and Overcoats cut to \$19.50
- \$30 Suits and Overcoats cut to \$24.50
- \$35 Suits and Overcoats cut to \$28.50
- \$40 Suits and Overcoats cut to \$33.50
- \$50 Suits and Overcoats cut to \$41.50



Advance styles C. & K. Hats and Dobbs Hats \$4 and \$5

## No Man is Exempt From the Service of the Nation

Age, dependents or physical disqualifications may exempt you from military service in the army or navy.

But these exemptions do not relieve you from the duty of serving the nation at home.

Our forces at the front must be sustained by a nation of workers at home, stirred to super-efforts to keep the useful industries and businesses active and prosperous—that the country's dollar-power may reinforce and make unconquerable its military power.

Work—earn—produce—save, that you may give or lend to the Government. Make your ability to do useful work and to earn money count as never before!

Don't be satisfied with devoting your time and abilities to trivial things—get into the ranks of useful workers. Earn money—and spend it wisely—always keeping in mind that what you do and what you spend must help to win the war!

There's useful work for you to do! Find it through classified advertising!