

# WAREHOUSES ARE ALL WELL STOCKED

### Can Now Stand Interruption of Receipt of Food Without Trouble.

London, May 21.—The warehouses of the American commission for the relief of Belgium at Rotterdam and various provincial centers are at last sufficiently well stocked so that the commission can stand the shock of interruptions in the receipt of supplies without fearing that the Belgians will starve over night.

One of the hardest problems with which the commission had to deal, was the fact that Belgian nations refused to permit the purchase within their boundaries of food stuffs for the Belgian sufferers. It was consequently necessary to obtain all the food overseas. It was found that if purchases were made in the primary centers and the most economical transport undertaken, it was necessary to have in transit at all times three months' food supply. The commission, therefore, managed to borrow \$10,000,000 secured upon the goods in transit and the members of the commission pledged their personal credit for the further commences to bring up the stock of goods in transit as high as possible, as high as \$20,000,000. In the early days the commission would have to send canal boats first to one port of Belgium and then to another where the supplies were within less than twenty-four hours of exhaustion.

**Gain in Efficiency.**

At first the commission endeavored to distribute the actual gift food consigned to them to the actually destitute persons. Within a week they found an enormous amount of difficulty and confusion arising out of this arrangement because it would be necessary to divide a cargo of gift flour, for instance, over 3,000 communes in Belgium, and at the same time to ship parallel with it a large quantity of food stuffs, consisting of flour, for instance, for those who could pay. This meant a duplication of the entire transport organization and in fact was quite impossible because no gift cargo was sufficient in size to distribute over 3,000 communes; and the next thing the commission found was that it was borrowing from the gift cargoes and was loaning food from the sales department to the benevolent department. The direct business minds of the managers untied this knot by a very simple device, by which they sold all of the gift food from the benevolent department to the provisioning department. The benevolent department instead of having foodstuffs thus had cash in hand. This they proceeded to distribute by weekly subscriptions to the communes, and the communal authorities with this money purchased their required imports from the sales department. The result was an enormous simplification in the work and an actual gain in efficiency, as the communes were then able to buy precisely what they required for each individual and local institution.

**Follow Course of Foodstuff.**

It is of some interest to follow the actual course of a cargo of foodstuff through the commission. Take the case of Argentine wheat. One of the largest firms of grain buyers in the Argentine undertook to make purchases on behalf of the commission without profit to themselves. This grain would be purchased in one of the central Argentine provinces, transported to Buenos Aires, and a freight paid on it, less than the usual rate by virtue of arrangements by the commission with the railway companies at Buenos Aires. A cargo would be taken up by one of the regular steamers of the commission. Inasmuch as the commission has negotiated an arrangement with all of the belligerent governments that ships flying the commission's flag would be immune from attack, they were able to charter ships and obtain rates at less than normal. This cargo, in due time arrived at Rotterdam and was there discharged into lighters which are under time charter to the commission. These lighters are towed down the canals from Rotterdam into Belgium and discharged into one of the five milling centers in Belgium. The flour mills in these five cities are operated on behalf of the commission, whereby the commission agrees to pay for the labor and actual cost of operation. The wheat is milled into 80 per cent flour and 20 per cent bran and the bran is sold to the municipal dairies to feed the cattle and thereby maintain the cycle of milk supply for the baby canteens. The flour is again loaded into lighters and is distributed into provincial centers on behalf of the commission. From these warehouses it is again distributed into "arrondissement warehouses." The communal authorities come to the arrondissement warehouses for their supplies. The communes pay in cash to the arrondissement managers the stipulated price of flour, and having received it to the communal warehouses there begins one of the most interesting phenomena in the detailed measures taken to secure absolute economy and justice in the method of distribution. In the case of flour, in the first instance, the joint organization required the communes to secure from all of the bakers a complete list of their customers. These lists were compared with the communal record and a definite number of persons are

## HELPS FRAME GERMANY'S ANSWER



Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

Von Bethmann-Hollweg, chancellor of the German empire, is taking an important part in the preparation of Germany's answer to Wilson's note of last week. Von Bethmann-Hollweg is the man who referred to the treaty guaranteeing Belgium's neutrality as a "scrap of paper."

assigned to each baker for him to supply with bread. The baker is put in good bread made from no other material than that of the commission (in order to prevent adulteration) daily to each adult customer, and at a price fixed by the commission. For this purpose he received daily from the communal warehouse 250 grammes of flour per adult. The communes sell the flour to the baker at the same price which they pay for it. The baker is compelled to sell the bread to his customers for the same price that he pays for the flour, but, inasmuch as bread made from 250 grammes of flour increases to 325 grammes of bread, by virtue of the water incurred in baking, the baker thus obtains a small margin of profit with which to pay his workmen. Any contravention by the baker of the minute rule set down means the punishment of having his list of customers assigned to some competitor.

**Issue Bread Tickets.**

The same system applies to the handling of other materials. On the benevolent side, those who cannot afford to buy their bread from the baker or their groceries from the grocery, apply to the communal authorities and, on investigation, are given tickets on the communal store. These tickets equal a certain ration per head of the family per diem. The communal store is stocked with foodstuffs, partly imported and as stated above, partly purchased locally by the communes from the cash partially supplied to them by the communes. In addition to the handling of the imported food supplies the commission now handles a considerable amount of internal food produce, as it has been necessary to buy potatoes in some portions of Belgium and send them to other parts aside from the very large quantity of potatoes now being imported. The commission recently purchased 5,000 tons of coffee from the stores commandeered at Antwerp and has resold this throughout the country.

### SOME BUSINESS RESULTS FROM WAR

Berlin, May 21.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—The annual reports of a number of German companies manufacturing arms, ammunition, automobiles and machine tools, have been issued, showing to some extent the business resulting from the war.

The Ludwig Loewe company of Berlin, which produces machine tools of American type, has just declared a dividend of 20 per cent, after having paid 18 per cent for 1913.

The Deutsche Waffen und Munition Fabriken (arms and ammunition trust), which is in close business relations with the Loewe concern, is distributing \$1,430,000 in dividends, as compared with \$1,200,000 for the previous year. This does not tell the whole story of its business success, for it increased its bank balances and outstanding claims by \$8,000,000.

The Daimler Motor company, which has a much smaller capital than the company just mentioned, doubled its bank balances and other reserves, raising them to \$2,570,000, and made a very large increase in its dividend. This concern subscribed \$1,200,000 to the new war loan.

Some criticism has been called forth in the press by the annual reports of these companies. It being claimed that they left some matters involved in obscurity so as not to show what huge profits they are making from army contracts.

### FAKE PICTURES ARE EXPOSED

Berlin, May 21.—Another case of alleged faked war pictures has been exposed by Der Tag, an illustrated daily published by the Lokal-Anzeiger company.

The London Daily News in its edition of April printed a picture of a big crowd of men standing in line, each with an empty metal bowl in his hand. Above the picture was the inscription: "German worker feels the pinch," and below it the following explanation: "The above crowd lining up for rations is a familiar sight in Germany. It reveals one aspect of our naval power."

Alongside of this picture Der Tag reproduces its original taken from its own issue of August 13 and bearing the inscription: "How we treat interned Russians and French; they are standing in line waiting for their food to be given out." The two pictures are identical in every respect.

### ATTEMPT TO SAVE FORTRESS COLORS

Petrograd, May 21.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—A Kiev newspaper publishes the following account of the Austrian officers' attempt to save the colors of the fortress of Przemysl:

"At the surrender of Przemysl the standard of the fortress and the colors of regiments constituting its garrison disappeared. A few days ago a party of captured officers, with General Tomaszewski at their head, was quartered in Kiev. As the result of in-

formation received, the prisoners were searched. In General Tomaszewski's baggage was discovered, complete and in perfect condition, the standard of the fortress of Przemysl. Further search disclosed long colored stripes of material hidden away in the lining of the officers' headresses. These stripes proved to be parts of the regimental colors.

"It appears that on the eve of surrender of the fortress all the regimental colors were cut up into strips, numbered, and then handed over to the officers of the garrison. These officers, on return from captivity, were to give back to the authorities the pieces of colors entrusted to them, so that it would be possible to remake the colors and in this manner give the regiment the right of further existence."

### FINE FORESTS ARE DESTROYED

Bar-Le-Duc, May 21.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—The splendid forests of the Argonne, as well as those of the Alsatian slope of the Vosges mountains and of the Wever, are being gradually razed by shell and shrapnel fire. Of the majestic pine covered these heights there remain only hacked and blackened stumps and a wild tangle of fallen trunks.

German and French have co-operated in this devastation, but the greater destruction is credited to the intense, concentrated fire of the 3-inch and 6-inchers that alone could dislodge underground German fortresses. There is said to be abundant evidence that all the ground had been carefully plotted and the ranges taken by the Germans before the battles. On many occasions French detachments following obscure paths unknown to any but the woodmen of the region, fell a grey tree that seemed to be secrets in the thickets of the Argonne. Against the advantages of preparation, the French had but one resource—a complete unbelief of the entire ground by concentrated artillery fire.

If the French succeed in driving the Germans finally into the open, the priceless forests of the entire region of the Argonne, from Bar-Le-Duc north, will exist no more.

### USED KITES TO CATCH MESSAGES

Liverpool, May 21.—Some interesting particulars are given by the captain of the German raider Kronprinz Eitel Friedrich, which is now interned in the United States, intercepted wireless messages and avoided the attention of the British warships, in given by the captain of the British ship Invincible, one of the Kronprinz Eitel's victims.

The British captain said: "They rigged up an eight foot kite used the thin drawn wire of Lord Thompson's sounding machine, made this fast to the kite and attached to it the wireless receiver. Every night they would send up the kite and catch every bit of wireless news that was going. They were wireless could send only 300 miles. The news that was picked up in this way was written out in German and put up on a bulletin board.

"These kites had to be flown against the wind, and on some nights, the course of the ship had to be altered so as to bring the wind ahead. They lost sixteen kites during the time I was on board, due to the wind suddenly shifting, but they had made enough to make as many more as they wanted."

### TEACHES SOLDIERS WITH ONLY ONE ARM

Paris, May 21.—Soldiers in hospitals of the Somme, who have lost an arm, are being trained in the use of the remaining member by Leon Coblenz, of Abbeville, who, during 35 years' experience, has developed a marvelous dexterity with one arm.

Monsieur Coblenz lost his arm in a railroad accident. Little by little he became able to dress himself, make his toilet, lace his shoes, tie his cravat, peel fruit, do his own gardening and trim his own finger nails. He swims, rides a bicycle, plays a game, and has a license as a conductor of a motor-car. Now he is spending his time in the hospitals wherever there are convalescents lacking an arm, showing them how they can get along in life nearly as well as if they had two.

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## CONTRACT SCANDALS GIVEN AN AIRING

Venice, May 21.—During the debates in the Hungarian parliament, the army contract scandals were given an extensive airing, although few new facts were developed. There was a unanimous demand from the speakers for a complete public exposure of the culprits. The chief criticism was directed at the graft in clothing, shoes and canned meat. One of the meat contractors, who is alleged to have supplied bad meat at a profit to himself of over \$100,000, has just been imprisoned.

It was also developed that peasant farmers who sold horses and grain to contractors on army requisitions have in many cases either not been paid at all, or paid only a small part of the contract price.

One speaker charged that the army contractors were endeavoring to impose silence on the press by giving out extensive advertising.

## HOPE TO REGAIN FORMER TRADE

Paris, May 21.—The officers of the Association of Hat Manufacturers of Paris have asked Monsieur Thomson, minister of commerce, to organize an exposition of German-Austrian articles in Paris. This exposition is not for the general public but is intended to inform the manufacturers of little articles such as are generally known as "Articles de Paris" concerning the ways of manufacture, the materials

## EMPEROR HELPS MINERS FAMILIES

Petrograd, May 21.—The emperor has sent a message of condolence and a gift of \$5,000 to the families of the victims of the explosion at the Oktyenkiy melinite works. The official report of the disaster gives the total number of killed as 24. Of the wounded, 63 are still in the hospital. The works are located in a suburb of Petrograd.

## NORWEGIAN NAVY PICKS UP MINES

Christiania, Norway, May 21.—The Norwegian navy has been enriched to the extent of about \$120,000 by 500 German and English mines which have been picked up off this coast. Each mine is valued at \$200. The Norwegian navy, however, is not to make use of them as mines. The explosive contents are being carefully removed and used for other naval purposes.

Even the man who says he wants nothing but justice hates to go to court without a lawyer.—Dallas News.

**IF ev'ry man's name described him as well as VELVET'S name describes it, a lot of folks I know would be applyin' to the legislature.**

*Velvet Joe*

# ONE OF THE BARGAINS



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<b>NOW \$58</b>	<b>NOW \$120</b>	<b>NOW \$118</b>
<b>DOWN \$2.00</b>	<b>DOWN \$2.00</b>	<b>DOWN \$2.00</b>
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