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GREAT BRITAIN BUYS 200,000 TONS OF COPPER

Prices for Red Metal Harden Under Tremendous Stimulus of Enormous Order From Across the Sea.

Boston, Mass., April 19.—Enormous contracts for copper have been placed during the past week. The British government alone has purchased 100,000,000 pounds at a price which it is estimated will yield producers a profit of not far from $75,000,000. In addition, heavy tonnages have been taken by domestic consumers. In fact, the extent of the domestic demand is unprecedented, and there are no indications of any appreciable statement at the moment. The result is that prices have hardened, although not to a degree which such stupendous buying might have been expected to cause. Very little 27cent copper seems to be available now, even for the most distant delivery, while all deliveries from August to December are quoted at 27¾ cents, and there have been sales for July delivery at 28 cents.

How there can be any serious reaction in the price of the metal for months to come in view of the extent to which producers are sold ahead is hard to imagine. The person who has any doubt as to the stability of the present price level wouldn't believe the evidence of his own senses. Producers have been guilty of manipulating the market in times past, but there is no manipulation at present, simply because none is called for. The producer who can sell all the copper he can possibly produce for months to come at the highest prices recorded within the memory of most people now living may well be satisfied without resorting to manipulative tactics to secure another fraction of a cent.

Nevertheless, with only a few exceptions, like Kennecott and United States mining, the copper shares failed to enjoy any sustained activity and developed a reactionary tendency after recording moderate gains. In the local group Calumet & Arizona, Copper Range and Old Dominion gave brief exhibitions of life, the rest of the group being rather neglected. Keweenaway and Franklin among the lower priced stocks were conspicuous, but the other stocks of the same aggregation were disappointing. It looked last week as if these cheap issues were about to give a better account of themselves. Keen interest continued to center upon the zinc issues, Butte & Superior and American Zinc, the former rising five points more to 97¼, and the latter five points to 37¾, although both lost about half these gains in the later trading.

MONTH'S SALES REACH 500,000,000 POUNDS

The copper review of the Mining & Engineering World for the past week follows:

Buying on a tremendous scale continued and it is estimated that since the first of the month selling agencies have taken orders for 500,000,000 pounds from both foreign and domestic sources. England has placed several large orders. In addition to the 200,000 pounds purchased last week England has taken 100,000,000 pounds and has an option on an additional 100,000,000 pounds, which probably will be closed this week. Thus inclusive of the 135,000,000 pounds purchased last December, England has ordered 435,000,000 pounds of copper, deliveries on which will run well into next year. The effect of this vast buying has been to elevate prices, which have gone up about a half cent since our last report. In the opinion of leading copper factors conditions are shaping for a shortage in the metal despite the unprecedented output of 180,000,000 pounds a month. Exports usually run to about a third of the month's output and apportioning recent purchases and those under contract previously, over exports up to the end of the first quarter of 1917 it is figured that exports of copper will run in excess of a third of the output. This drain on the available supply is expected to affect domestic consumers. As pointed out in these reports the position of copper could not be better. Producers are sold well ahead, are carrying little surplus metal and for every pound of augmented output will find a consuming demand for five pounds.

Domestic consumers are buying heavily. The Anaconda interests are understood to have taken one order for 40,000,000 pounds from a domestic smelter, while numerous other round lot orders have been placed. Covering of requirements is not limited to nearby months, most of the larger consumers contracting for copper to fill their needs for the balance of the year. There is little electrolytic available for April delivery and a buyer would probably have to pay over 30 cents f. t. for a 50-ton lot. May and June copper is very scarce. In fact, May and June are almost considered "spot," while supplies for July are not much larger. Sales of May and June electrolytic were made at 29 cents at the opening of the current week, while June and July deliveries were sold at 28½ cents. The volume of buying is not expected to undergo contraction in the next week. Domestic consumers are still to cover needs, while additional foreign buying is in prospect. Russia and Italy are expected to partake in the recent English purchase, but France is expected to place additional orders covering delivery over the second half of the year.

An easier market in American electrolytic and advances in standard copper at London have been noted in the interim. Electrolytic declined £2 to £134, but interests assert that the reaction is unimportant. Standard copper, on the other hand, continues to climb without sales of a supporting nature. Standard spot advanced £2 last week, with futures making a similar gain.

Negotiations which have been pending for several weeks between Henry Lockhart of Albuquerque, representing the Crown Point Mining company, and W. H. Brevoort of the Cossack Mining company, have resulted in a deal whereby the Crown Point properties are to be operated by the Cossack interests on a royalty basis.

The capacity of the Cossack company's mill has been increased to 1,000 tons a month and the new arrangement guarantees the development of two other properties beside the Cossack claims.

Lordsburg, N. M., April 19.—Two big mining transactions were recorded in this section last week. T. B. Bryant, a Tombstone, Ariz., man purchased the Ollem lead and zinc mines at Stiles for a consideration said to be $10,000 and John Haydon sold the Panama mines to T. A. Lister and associates of Lordsburg.

Considerable shipping has been done from both mines.

SANTA FE REPUBLICANS STRONG FOR MR. CATRON

Santa Fe, N. M., April 19.—The Santa Fe county Republican convention held here last night endorsed the candidacy of United States Senator T. B. Catron to succeed himself in the upper house and chose the following delegates to the state convention soon to be held in Albuquerque:

Thomas B. Catron, Marcelino A. Ortiz, Celso Lopez, Jose D. Sena, W. G. Sargent, J. V. Conway, C. C. Closson, Feliciano Sena, F. C. Abbott, E. H. Baca, George Armijo, Mariano F. Sena, Benjamin F. Pankey, Tom De Lallo, C. A. Rusch, B. Reed Holloman, Esquipula Montoya, Jose Dolores Espinosa.

Senator Catron presided.

An Inside Bath Makes You Look and Feel Fresh

Says a glass of hot water with phosphate before breakfast keeps illness away.

This excellent, common-sense health measure being adopted by millions.

Physicians the world over recommend the inside bath, claiming this is of vastly more importance than outside cleanliness, because the skin pores do not absorb impurities into the blood, causing ill health, while the pores in the ten yards of bowels do.

Men and women are urged to drink each morning, before breakfast, a glass of hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate in it, as a harmless means of helping to wash from the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels the previous day's indigestible material, poisons, sour bile and toxins; thus cleansing, sweetening and purifying the entire alimentary canal before putting more food into the stomach.

Just as soap and hot water cleanse and freshen the skin, so hot water and limestone phosphate act on the eliminative organs.

Those who wake up with bad breath, coated tongue, nasty taste or have a dull, aching head, sallow complexion, acid stomach; others who are subject to bilious attacks or constipation, should obtain a quarter pound of limestone phosphate at the drug store. This will cost very little but it is sufficient to demonstrate the value of inside bathing. Those who continue it each morning are assured of pronounced results, both in regard to health and appearance.

Build Scaffold for Grant Hanging.

Silver City, N. M., April 19.—Work of erecting a scaffold in the jail yard here for the hanging of Lucius C. Hightower and Pedro Montes, recently convicted of first degree murder, has been commenced. It is not thought the governor will interfere with the execution.

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Industrial Preparedness And What It Means to You

(Diana Burnel, in the New York Evening Sun.)

(Within the past two years a certain word has attained great prominence in the United States. It has crept into our common speech. It has been hoisted to the masthead of our public orators. Yet for all that it still remains a word obscure in meaning, vague in its application to practical affairs.)

It is the word preparedness.

With the exception of the extreme pacifists most Americans agree today that this country should be prepared. Those who perceive only the immediate sense of the word conclude that preparedness means preparedness for war. But the larger and better view is that it means preparedness for peace. The idea of a national insurance effected through adequate armament is beginning to take hold of us. We realize that we must extend the ordinary safeguards of community life to the nation itself. It is absurd to protect the part and not preserve the whole. And of all forms of insurance, preparedness is the cheapest in the long run.

But what does preparedness mean? Does it stop with a suitable army and navy? When our defenselessness was first pointed out to us by the prophets we began to ask for more battleships, more fighting men. We learned that it would take some 750,000 trained soldiers to defend the Atlantic coast alone, and we knew that our total available forces were not more than 90,000. We read that the German cruiser Blucher, sunk in the North sea because she had not the heels to escape, was a faster ship than any vessel in our navy. We cogitated these things and were depressed in spirit. We lifted up our voices and cried to congress for a larger and a more efficient navy.

We need them both. We need them immediately. We need them now. But we need other things as well, prosaic, unromantic, everyday vital things without which an army and a navy would be as a sword without steel. We need industrial preparedness.

Indefinitely complicated as the subject is in its detail, the general conception of it is exceedingly simple. Industrial preparedness means the harnessing of economic forces to maintain the forces in the field.

A military unit is a sensitive human machine. Its efficiency depends upon a proper equipment behind the line. It must be fed, clothed, armed, transported from place to place, provided with medical attention and otherwise kept in fighting trim. The military organization is the cutting edge. The industrial organization is the grindstone that whets the blade.

It is necessary for the country to understand clearly that without industrial preparedness military preparedness is worse than futile. It is utterly useless.

Some months ago Mr. Daniels created the naval consulting board. Shortly afterward a subcommittee of this non-political board was appointed to investigate our national industries with a view to their mobilization in time of war. It was called the committee on industrial preparedness.

The chairman of this committee is Howard E. Coffin, one of the best known engineers in the country. Associated with Mr. Coffin is W. L. Clifford, who has been made super-band director of the committee's work.

It is not the purpose of this article to go into the details of that work but rather to present the general problem that confronted the committee at the outset of his career. Mr. Coffin decided that there were three initial steps to be taken in the effort to mobilize industry.

The first step was to discover exactly the quantity and nature of munitions that American industry could produce in time of war.

The second step was to formulate a plan by which that knowledge could be applied in such a way as to put the plants of the country quickly into the service of the government when needed.

The third step was to form an organization of skilled labor that would not break down in time of war, that would prevent such jobs from going to the front when it should remain at its accustomed tasks. The indiscriminate enlistment of skilled labor at the outset of the European war, it is now known, caused a serious demoralization of industry in certain European countries, and cost millions in lives and in money.

The first step, then, was to make an inventory of the nation's business. To accomplish this Mr. Coffin and Mr. Clifford entered the services of the engineers of America. In each state in the union a board of five directors was formed, composed of leading engineers. Such a board was also formed in Alaska. Working in connection with these boards at the present time are some 10,000 engineers, who would compose the machine of industrial organization in time of war, as they do now in time of peace.

Mr. Clifford, who is the chief statistician of the American Telephone & Telegraph company and whose services have been offered gratuitously to the committee as a matter of patriotism, was placed in charge of the inventory. He prepared a printed form which was to be sent broadcast to the 10,000 engineers throughout the country. The writer has seen this form, and so can testify to its value. How long it took Mr. Clifford to evolve it we cannot say, but we predict that it will take those 10,000 engineers the better part of a working day to answer it. When the information thus acquired is digested and filed away for reference in the archives of the war department a tremendous advance will have been made in the effort toward industrial preparedness.

The second step on Mr. Coffin's programme was to formulate a plan whereby the plants of the country could be converted to the government service at a moment's notice. The mere gathering of information was not enough. The committee realized that this information must needs be utilized if any practical benefit was to come out of the work.

The plan suggested by Mr. Coffin's committee is very simple. It provides that the manufacturers shall maintain an annual minimum production in times of peace, of those munitions to which their respective plants are best suited.

In other words, every plant shall produce every year a definite article of war in small quantity which shall be paid for by the government at a price to net the manufacturer a fair profit. The ghost of the "munitions trust" will be laid forever. In this way a peaceful machine will be created which, as Mr. Coffin says, "will require only the opening of the throttle to be set in motion at the outbreak of war."

This plan will also insure the continued employment of skilled labor during the period of conflict. Every workman will know his place and remain in it, which is the third step toward industrial preparedness. The economic condition of the country will be stabilized, and suffering through unemployment reduced to a minimum.

In future articles it is proposed to discuss the various phases of this great organization of business. Suffice it to say at this time that our economic resources are now in a totally unprepared state. For instance about 90 per cent of our steel production is dependent upon ore supplies which could be cut off instantly by war. The authority for this latter statement is Richard H. Edmonds, editor of the Manufacturers' Record. Other products are in a like precarious condition.

The main thing to remember just now is that we need industrial preparedness and that certain patriotic private citizens have already begun the tremendous work of obtaining it, with the full sanction and approval of the United States government officials.

MYSTIC SESSION OF SCOTTISH RITE THURSDAY EVENING

Following the annual custom of the order the Scottish Rite Masons will hold a solemn meeting Thursday night. The Thursday before Easter called Maundy Thursday, is a most important day in the Scottish rite year. The members of the rite wherever there is a lodge hold a mystic feast in which a lone of a paschal lamb figures, and if a member be unable to join with his brethren on that evening he is required to observe the anniversary by himself.

Following the mystic meeting the coming Thursday the local Scottish Rite Masons will hold a session to which all members of the Masonic fraternity have been invited. A lecture on the Scottish Rite will be given.

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