

## A BREADSTUFF CRISIS.

### Alarming Situation of Affairs in Germany.

An Interesting Letter Just Received at the State Department From Consul General Mason.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 15.—Consul General Mason, at Frankfort, has sent to the state department an interesting report on the breadstuffs crisis in Germany. He says the most notable commercial event of the present summer was the sudden announcement recently by the Russian government of an imperial decree forbidding, until otherwise ordered, the exportation of rye from the Russian empire to any foreign country. This is equivalent to an official declaration that the harvest of cereals in Russia is so deficient that the export of rye must be forbidden in order to avert danger of famine. The consul general then explains what this means to the laboring classes of Germany.

"Very little pure wheat bread," he says, "is eaten by the middle and lower classes in Germany. The staff of life, to a vast majority of the German people, is black bread, made with flour ground from a mixture of rye and an inferior quality of wheat. The consumption of this material is so enormous that Germany imported 8,612,500 meter centners in 1890, or 947,375 tons of rye, of which 7,500,000 meter centners, or 85 per cent of the entire import, as well as 55 per cent of the whole import of wheat into this country came from Russia. The recent edict, therefore cuts off nearly five-sixths of the entire foreign rye supply of Germany. How difficult it will be to fill this vast deficit by increased importations from other sources will be evident from the fact that the entire export of rye from the six countries which rank next to Russia as producers of the cereal attained only the following yearly average during the period from 1884 to 1888:

Countries.	Bushels.	Countries.	Bushels.
Roumania.....	2,522,331	United States.....	1,272,606
France.....	1,683,000	Canada.....	381,606
Servia.....	80,000		
European Turkey.....	132,000	Total.....	6,142,331

"This is barely one-fourth of the rye import of Germany from Russia alone during the year 1890. In view of the short cereal crops which prevail this season more or less uniformly throughout Europe, it is not certain that either France, Roumania or Servia will have any considerable amount of rye for export. The deficit of Germany cannot, therefore, be filled from any known source of supply on this side of the Atlantic, and the effect of this situation upon the rye market has been startling. One year ago rye was selling in Berlin for 164 marks per 1,000 kilogrammes, or \$35 per gross ton of 2,200 pounds; on August 3d the effect of the meager harvest had raised the market price to 219.50 marks, or \$52.34 per 1,000 kilogrammes. Then came the Russian edict, and within twelve days the price had risen to 260 marks, or \$61.88, and the end is not yet reached. Add to this a short and inferior potato crop throughout nearly the whole of Germany, the direct result of a late spring and a cold, wet cloudy summer, and it will be seen that the food question in this country has assumed a portentous aspect. The demand has been made by certain newspapers that the government shall suspend, provisionally, the import duty on cereals, but thus far the situation has not been regarded sufficiently serious to require such a step. The early concession that has thus far been made is a reduction in the freight tariff for cereals on all the state railways of Prussia, which will go into effect on the 1st of September. This will, of course, facilitate, to some extent, the distribution of grain throughout a large portion of the German empire, but, as a leading journal points out, it will not create a pound of breadstuffs which does not already exist, and in the end the people of Germany, like those of France and England, will have to draw upon the well-filled granaries of the United States for a large part of their food supply during the coming year."

#### The Blaine Mansion Open.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 15.—The house of Secretary Blaine which has been closed tight since May was wide open to-day letting in the September sunshine and bracing breezes. Instructions have been received by those in charge to have the residence ready for occupancy by the family on the 1st of October.

## CHAIRMAN COOLEY RESIGNS.

Ill Health Induces the Railroad Commissioner to Give up His Duties.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Sept. 15.—Judge Thomas M. Cooley, chairman of the interstate commerce commission, has handed in his resignation at Washington. When seen by a reporter to-day he stated that his reason is failing health. Although not by any means in a dangerous condition, the several relapses which he has suffered during the past two years have rendered such a course necessary. As to his future plans they are not yet determined upon. He will take a much needed rest with his family in this city. It is his intention to abstain from all study or worry whatever.

HIS LETTER TO THE COMMISSION. WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—This letter has just been received here:

"ANN ARBOR, Mich., Sept. 4, '91.

"To E. Mosley, Secretary.

"DEAR SIR:—I have had within the past few days quite a serious relapse, which, though I have in some degree recovered from it, I think renders imperative that I should resign my commission as interstate commerce commissioner, and I have, therefore, sent my resignation to the president. I regret greatly the necessity of withdrawing from the commission, but I feel that my duty to the public, as well as to myself, under the circumstances, demands it. I shall ever cherish, with the liveliest sentiments of affection and respect, the recollections of my association with you while my connection with the commission continued.

Very respectfully yours,  
"THOMAS M. COOLEY."

Judge Cooley was appointed by President Cleveland at the organization of the commission for a term of six years. At the first meeting of the commission, March 31, he was unanimously chosen chairman of his associates.

#### Is He Still in Chili.

VALPARAISO, Chili, September 15.—Rumors continue to spread concerning the whereabouts of the fugitive president. The other day it was said he was fleeing by way of Los Andes, in the Argentine Republic, his purpose being to reach Buenos Ayres. Now it is reported that, not daring just at present to attempt to escape from the country he has taken refuge in some of the legations, or else has concealed himself in a monastery. If he has been fortunate enough to gain admission to a legation, he will, in all likelihood, be protected from the wrath of his triumphant enemies. If, on the contrary, he has sought refuge in a monastery, he is in immediate danger of being captured. The council of state will undoubtedly cause all the monasteries to be searched for him if it puts any faith in the report. It seems hardly plausible, however, that he should seek an asylum with the clerical party, as ever since the outbreak of the war the priests have been almost unanimously in sympathy with the Congressionals.

Ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs Aldunate, while traveling toward Santiago to-day, was stopped at Quillota, fifty miles from here, by an armed body of men.

Last Friday the American department of state cabled Minister Egan that, if the congressional party had formed a government which was acceptable to the people, he should recognize it. Yesterday Mr. Egan answered stating that a provisional government had been established with George Montt as president and was universally accepted by the people, and that Mr. Egan was in cordial communication with it.

#### Will Speak for McKinley.

NEW YORK, September 15.—O. F. Williams, United States consul at Havre, France, was among the arrivals on the steamship La Touraine, Sunday. He is home on a two months' leave of absence. His district comprises all northern and western France, including about 150 municipalities. Mr. Williams will take part in the campaign in this state and will go to Ohio to make speeches for McKinley. He will return to Havre November 7th.

#### New Offer for Convict Labor.

NASHVILLE, Sept. 15.—The Tennessee Coal Iron and Railroad company has submitted a proposition to the legislature for the lease of convicts. The present contract providing for the payment by the lessees of \$100,000 a year to the state is to be canceled and the lessees are to pay the state \$250,000 a year for the labor of the convicts during a lease running from twenty-five to thirty years.

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Trains run conveniently for those wishing to attend the fair on all Railroads entering Fort Scott except the Fort Scott, Wichita & Western and the K., N. & D. These roads will run special trains for the fair as follows:

#### K., N. & D. RAILWAY.

Leave Garnett.....	9:15 a. m.	Leave Fort Scott.....	6:00 p. m.
" Bush City.....	9:37 a. m.	" Azua.....	6:15 p. m.
" Selma.....	9:53 a. m.	" Devon.....	6:25 p. m.
" Blue Mound.....	10:15 a. m.	" Harding.....	6:40 p. m.
" Yoro.....	10:27 a. m.	" Mapleton.....	6:50 p. m.
" Mapleton.....	10:42 a. m.	" Yoro.....	7:02 p. m.
" Harding.....	10:52 a. m.	" Blue Mound.....	7:15 p. m.
" Devon.....	11:05 a. m.	" Selma.....	7:35 p. m.
" Azua.....	11:15 a. m.	" Bush City.....	7:50 p. m.
Arrive Fort Scott.....	11:30 a. m.	Arrive Garnett.....	8:15 p. m.

#### FORT SCOTT, WICHITA & WESTERN RAILWAY.

Leave Yates Center.....	8:20 a. m.	Leave Fort Scott.....	6:00 p. m.
" Piqua.....	8:48 a. m.	" Marmaton.....	6:20 p. m.
" Iola.....	9:05 a. m.	" Redfield.....	6:30 p. m.
" La Harpe.....	9:20 a. m.	" Uniontown.....	6:54 p. m.
" Moran.....	9:37 a. m.	" Bronson.....	7:15 p. m.
" Bronson.....	9:53 a. m.	" Moran.....	7:30 p. m.
" Uniontown.....	10:11 a. m.	" La Harpe.....	7:48 p. m.
" Redfield.....	10:24 a. m.	" Iola.....	8:03 p. m.
" Marmaton.....	10:32 a. m.	" Piqua.....	8:21 p. m.
Arrive Yates Center.....	10:53 a. m.	Arrive Yates Center.....	8:50 p. m.

Come and bring all your friends. For full information, premium lists, etc., address the secretary.

C. H. OSBUN, President.

J. C. LETCHER, Secretary.

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KANSAS CITY, Mo., Oct. 29th 1891.

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