



# Official Bulletin



PUBLISHED DAILY UNDER ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION  
GEORGE CREEEL, CHAIRMAN

Vol. 1.

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1917.

No. 151

## WARNING AGAINST HOARDING OF DOMESTIC COAL IS ISSUED BY FUEL ADMINISTRATION

### READY TO TAKE DRASTIC ACTION

*Production Greater Than Last Year  
and There Should Be No  
Shortage of Supply,  
Officials Say.*

If any shortage of domestic coal develops it is due to the individual hoarding of coal and may result in its redistribution by the apportionment and distribution division of the United States Fuel Administration.

The production of anthracite coal for the present year will be 10 per cent in excess of the production for 1916. The demand is also greater. Figures are not available as to the increase of production in bituminous, but the total tonnage will be in excess of last year's output.

#### Increase in Anthracite.

The shipments of anthracite coal for New York, Philadelphia, and New England for the first eight months of 1916 and for the first eight months of 1917 were as follows:

	Tons.	
	1916	1917
New York.....	12,666,650	13,912,380
Philadelphia.....	4,186,700	4,928,000
New England.....	5,790,237	6,455,941

Shipments to Washington are approximately 40,000 tons in excess of the same period last year.

It would appear, therefore, that any shortage of domestic coal would show hoarding—a practice the Fuel Administration strongly discourages as being a matter difficult to deal with and regards such action as unnecessary, unwise, and unpatriotic in this emergency.

#### Will Take Necessary Action.

If the practice is indulged in to an extent as to cause the redistribution of coal the matter will receive prompt consideration, and such action as may be necessary to the general good will be taken.

The Fuel Administration has information and is conducting a general inquiry in the direction of the storing of coal by industrial consumers and various manufacturing establishments.

Through the cooperation of both shippers and consumers the Fuel Administration hopes and believes that it will not be necessary to take drastic action in the direction of suspending shipments to such plants.

## GERMANS KILL 3 U. S. SOLDIERS, WOUND 5, CAPTURE 12 IN RAID ON SALIENT AT NIGHT

The War Department has received a dispatch from the commanding general of the American expeditionary forces which states that before daylight, November 3, a salient occupied for instruction by a company of American Infantry was raided by Germans. The enemy put down a heavy barrage fire, cutting off the salient from the rest of the line. Our losses were 3 killed, 5 wounded, and 12 captured or missing. The enemy's losses are not known. One wounded German was taken prisoner.

The list of casualties, all in the same company, follows:

#### Killed.

Pvt. Thomas F. Enright; Mrs. Mary Irwin (sister), 6641 Premo Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pvt. James B. Gresham; Mrs. Alice Dodd (mother), 1001 West Ohio Street, Evansville, Ind.

Pvt. Merle D. Hay; Harvey D. Hay (father), Glidden, Iowa.

#### Wounded.

Pvt. John J. Smith; F. D. Smith (brother), box 82, Ludington, Mich.

Pvt. Charles J. Hopkins; James W. Hopkins (brother), Stanton, Tex.

Pvt. George L. Box; James L. Box (father), 700 North Grady Street, Altus, Okla.

Pvt. Homer Givens; William F. Givens (father), Cloverdale, Ala.

Pvt. Charles L. Orr; Mrs. Sarah Regnell (mother), R. F. D. No. 5, Lyons, Kans.

#### Captured or Missing.

Sergt. Edgar M. Halyburton; George B. Halyburton (father), Stony Point, N. C.

Corpl. Nicholas L. Mulhall; Mrs. Bridget Mulhall (mother), 189 Ninth Street, Jersey City, N. J.

Corpl. Edwin H. Haines; Mrs. Elizabeth Haines (mother), route No. 4, Woodward, Okla.

Pvt. Herchel Godfrey; William C. Oberst (father), 709 North Ridgeway Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Pvt. Vernon M. Kendall; Sam Kendall (father), R. F. D. No. 2, Roll, Okla.

Pvt. William P. Grigsby; Mrs. Lizzie Grigsby (mother), 1278 Willow Avenue, Louisville, Ky.

Pvt. Frank E. McDougal; R. L. McDougal (father), 822 East First Street, Maryville, Mo.

Pvt. Daniel B. Gallagher; Neil Gallagher (father), Blocton, Ala.

Pvt. John P. Lester; William Lester (father), Tutwater, Miss.

(Continued on page 2.)

## COMPTROLLER OF CURRENCY IN STATEMENT POINTS TO NEED OF RAILROAD RATE REVISION

### WILL HELP TO STEADY SECURITIES

*High Cost of Material and Labor  
Cited and Readjustment of Tariffs  
Held as Remedy—Praises  
Interstate Commission.*

The Comptroller of the Currency today made the following announcement:

Three weeks ago this office announced that instructions had been issued to national bank examiners that they need not at this time require national banks holding high-grade bonds of unquestioned intrinsic value and merit to charge such investments down to present abnormal figures, but that intelligent and conservative discretion should be exercised as to the prices at which national banks can safely and reasonably be permitted to carry such high-class securities, and as to what proportion of the depreciation should be charged off in any six months' period.

That statement was issued in the confident belief that the credit and welfare of the railroads of this country, whose securities had sustained the heaviest shrinkages, and which had been the leaders in the downward movement of values, would be safeguarded and protected, and that they would be permitted to charge such rates for transportation of freight and passengers as would, with honest and efficient management, enable them to meet their expenses and yield a fair return upon the billions of dollars of capital, whether represented by bonds or shares, which was invested in them.

#### Defends Interstate Commission.

I have no sympathy for the unreasoning and selfish critics of the Interstate Commerce Commission who have been so ready in times past to question the decisions and rulings of that body and I have admired the firmness with which the commission has refused to permit itself to be swayed by an artificially created public pressure or moved in any way by unjust abuse or criticism. Those who are best informed know that the commission has proved itself to be the best friend of the railroads as well as the guardian and protector of the public, and one can not review the old days of cut-throat competition among the railroads or remember the gross discriminations in rates in times past when railroads used their rate-making and rate-cutting powers to create fortunes for favored shippers and to ruin others without appreciating this great power for good which the commission has so beneficently exercised.

When the railroads shall have laid frankly before the commission the facts

and figures which will show so conclusively the extent to which the rates now in force are insufficient to maintain the credit of the roads and to enable them to perform efficiently their public functions, under the present unusual and extraordinary conditions, we have no right to doubt but that the decision which the commission will reach will be one which its superior knowledge and painstaking study of the whole situation will in every way justify and that the relief needed will be accorded promptly.

If a way can not be found now to reduce the prices of materials and the cost of labor to a normal basis, and this for the present is hopeless, it seems clear on the facts before us that a revision and modification of the fabric of rates to meet these new conditions has become imperative. If the relief which is manifestly required at this time is granted, I believe that confidence in our railroad securities will be revived and a basis established for new financing and for proceeding with new development and construction work which is now so greatly needed. The beneficent influence and effect of such action would be felt instantly throughout the entire country.

### CERTAIN 10,000,000 FAMILIES HAVE TAKEN THE FOOD PLEDGE; CAMPAIGN TO BE CONTINUED

With a certainty that 10,000,000 families have signed its food conservation pledge, the United States Food Administration to-day starts the second week of its nation-wide enrollment campaign. More than six and a half million signatures have been officially tabulated at the Washington headquarters, and the returns from districts in the country where returns were difficult to secure are beginning to flood in now. In addition, Illinois and Minnesota are beginning their intensive campaign this week; Massachusetts and Pennsylvania are carrying on clean-up campaigns, following their State enrollments of last spring, and a score of States are continuing the canvass begun last Monday, a single week having proved insufficient for the immense task of visiting every house individually.

The Food Administration points out that with the cooperation of half the families of the United States in its plan of food substitution as a means of supplying the allies with the wheat, meat, fats, and sugar that America must furnish, the results will be far more tangible than most people have realized. If, for instance, half the American people save a loaf of wheat bread a week for our allies by substituting some other bread stuff for their own consumption, that alone would amount to releasing 50,000,000 loaves of wheat bread a week, with no disturbance of American convenience or economic conditions worth mentioning.

### GERMANS KILL 3 U. S. SOLDIERS.

(Continued from page 1.)

Pvt. Harry Langhman; Ada R. Langhman, 461 Oakwood Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.

Pvt. Dewey D. Kern; Mrs. Eva Tilton (mother), Collins, Iowa.

Pvt. ——— Keckon; can not be identified.

## SIX AUSTRIANS CONDEMNED TO DEATH, 33 OTHERS TO PRISON FOR COPYING OR READING A RUSSIAN PROCLAMATION

The following is a translation of an article which appeared in the Munchner Post on August 18, 1917. The words in italics were printed in full-face type in the original:

### "SIX DEATH SENTENCES AND 91 YEARS IN THE PENITENTIARY."

"The Wiener Arbeiterzeitung (The Vienna Workingman's Journal) continues its publication of the incredible penalties inflicted by Austrian courts-martial, which it started a few weeks ago, in order to demonstrate the necessity of the general amnesty which Emperor Charles proclaimed. The Thursday number prints the following:

"Aurelia Kolik, clerk, 21 years old, sent her uncle, Vladimir Kolik, a letter in September, 1914, and inclosed in this letter a copy of proclamations by the Tsar and Gen. Rennenkampf, which had been dropped by a Russian airplane on the Austrian troops, and which she had picked up from the floor of a hospital, where she had been to visit a wounded soldier.

#### Girl Condemned to Death.

"The girl was condemned to death on account of this copy. The uncle copied the proclamation into his notebook and read it aloud one day to one Hlasdik, an employee, at a session of the directors of the Land Loan Co. of Brunn, and had him make a copy of it. For permitting this copy to be made Kolik was likewise condemned to death. The employee made three copies and passed them on to some of his acquaintances. He was condemned to death for this, and two of his friends, who had merely read the proclamation and had immediately burned the copies were condemned to five and three years in the penitentiary. The third friend, Paral by name, loaned his copy to an office mate, Brezansky, who immediately made two copies.

#### Death for Loaning His Copy.

"Paral was condemned to death for loaning his copy. Bruch, an employee of an insurance company, read the proclamations on this occasion. He was condemned to three years in the penitentiary. Brezansky gives one copy to a woman employee named Psota, the other to his friend Toman, a confectioner. Brezansky is condemned to death. Toman reads the papers through and, fearing harm, destroys them. He is condemned to three years in the penitentiary. The Psota woman reads the first proclamation aloud to her landlady, named Tichy, and expresses horror at it. After the Tichy woman understood the purport of the proclamation, she became excited at the insult to the Czechs contained in it and strongly urged the Psota woman to burn the copy. This she did in a candle flame after a short time. On the ground that she had undoubtedly contributed to the indignation against these proclamations she was not condemned, although she had read the document. But the daughter of the Tichy woman, a minor, gave the copy to one Oacek, a pupil in the Municipal

School of Manual Training who lived with them.

"What is the crime of the 17-year-old student? 'He made a copy and laid it on the table.' He was condemned to 18 months in the penitentiary. With Oacek was living Stochleba, a pupil of the Trades Academy, 18 years old. This 18-year-old student 'comes home and starts to do examples in arithmetic. He looks for paper and discovers the proclamation lying on the table.' He makes a copy and takes it to school with him and reads it aloud to the students there. As he could not be condemned to death even in the court of Dr. Konig, since he was under 20 years of age, he was condemned to 12 years in the penitentiary.

#### School Children Sentenced.

"We are now in school and there the 'reasonable undertakings' continue. All the pupils who had listened to the reading of the proclamation were accused and condemned. Pavlat (17 years old), Havranek (17), Cech (17), Novak (17), Adenec (15), Bajgar (17), Robunek (15), Huf (17), and Rohac (17) were condemned to 18 months in the penitentiary. Nemac (19), Hruby (16), Sovcik (17), Domol (17), Koprt (18), Polisek (16), Boutr (18), Falt (17), Jabornik (16), Kopriya (17), and Pittaner (16) were condemned to one year in the penitentiary. All the 15 to 18 year-old boys were sent to jail because they had listened to the proclamation and had not reported it. This one reading brought about 244 years of penitentiary sentences.

#### Copied by Stenographer.

"But the affair is still not at an end. One of the pupils in the trade school, Joseph Hudec, 16 years old, copied the proclamation stenographically as it was read by Stochleba and thus obtained a 'copy.' He showed it to one of his friends, Beran, a pupil in the Second Manual Training School, and then destroyed his stenographic notes. They condemned this 16-year-old boy to 10 years in the penitentiary. His friend, Wenzel Beran, likewise only 16 years old, was given a 10-year sentence. He showed the copy to a schoolmate, who read it and showed it to two others. The first of these three got 10 years in the penitentiary, the two others a year each. The landlord of the first pupil, a tailor's apprentice, copied the text and showed it about in the workrooms. He was condemned to death; one apprentice got 3 years in the penitentiary; a second, who had showed it to his helper, was condemned to death. The tailor, Divisch by name, put the piece of paper in his pocket without knowing that the proclamation was on it. With him the affair seems to have become known. 'The police here became active and traced in the reverse direction the path of the proclamations.' And so the copy which Aurelia Kolik sent her uncle became the cause of the condemning of 39 persons. And so six death sentences and sentences aggregating 91 years of confinement in the penitentiary were brought about."

## POLICY IN COLLECTION OF THE NEW WAR TAXES OUTLINED BY INTERNAL REVENUE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Daniel C. Roper, in an address before the American Academy of Political and Social Science at Philadelphia, on Saturday, November 3, spoke in part as follows:

The war-revenue act is now the law of the land. It is a fundamental principle of democracy that the people shall tax themselves. The essential strength of democracy, especially in the time of war, lies in this fact. Through the passage of the war-revenue act of 1917 the people by well-nigh unanimous vote of their chosen representatives in Congress have levied upon themselves additional tribute of substantially \$2,500,000,000 to meet the war needs of their forces on land and sea.

### Differences All Settled.

For months the country and the Congress were divided in opinion as to methods of raising the money, which all agreed was necessary for the common defense. The legislation enacted by Congress for financing the war has definitely settled all such differences. The greater part of the huge total sum immediately needed is to be raised by the sale of Liberty bonds, thus allotting to our posterity its fair share of the burden and deferring to more settled times its final distribution. The first two issues of Liberty bonds, aggregating \$8,000,000,000 in amount, have been taken by the people with an alacrity that speaks the patriotic determination and enthusiasm of a united country and must reassure our defenders as it disturbs our foes. But the financial provision through the sale of bonds is not adequate to the needs of our great cause. In addition to this, it is essential to our success and to the proper support of our sons who are risking their lives that the people of the United States immediately pay a large sum into the country's Treasury in the form of Liberty tax. This is no less essential than that of the Liberty loan, which this tax underlies and supports. The Liberty tax represents that portion of the burden which we assume and discharge for ourselves, while the Liberty loan represents that portion of the burden which it is only fair for us to remit to those who shall come after us.

### Great Task Ahead.

The law providing for this Liberty tax has been determined upon by the people's representatives in Congress. It is law, but the actual administration and collection of the taxes is one of the greatest war tasks now confronting the people and the Government.

This is no time to cavil at the manner or amounts of Government expenditures. The Government as well as business must gradually become adjusted to new conditions. Congress has acted, certain agencies have been charged with the duty of administering, others with the duty of expending. Both must act speedily and cooperatively, for the enemy is at the door. Liberty and its institutions are in imminent danger. The price of its defense can not be excessive as related to the lives and happiness of our people.

This is the greatest tax levy ever undertaken in the United States. In mere magnitude it surpasses any previous draft on the treasure of the people. It exceeds all others in the wide range of its provisions and in the variety of its incidences. But the purpose for which this tax is being raised is the most serious to which the Republic has ever been devoted. The need for every dollar of return due under the law is the need of continued national existence. And at the same time the necessity of retarding or disturbing as little as possible the economic forces and operations of production and distribution was never before imperative as now.

The problems of administering the war-revenue act of 1917 are receiving most earnest consideration by the Secretary of the Treasury and his assistants. A policy has been outlined and the general principles to be observed have been established. The policy is to collect from every citizen the full amount which Congress has determined to be his just contribution to the Nation's need with the least possible inconvenience to the citizen and least possible disturbance to business and industry. Any other program or policy of administration would injure our cause and help the Kaiser.

### Must Reorganize Bureau.

To attain those ends is a task of organization and administration. The first step necessary is the reorganization of the Bureau of Internal Revenue at Washington. A veritable transformation is required to expand this branch of the Treasury Department to assume the greatly increased burden laid upon it by the war-revenue act. For this purpose a new alignment of its forces has been projected, additional divisions have been created, responsibility and authority rearranged and defined and preparations made for a large increase of its personnel. The need of these things is forcefully evidenced by the fact that for the year 1918 it is reliably estimated that there will be 6,350,000 income tax returns made to the bureau as against 780,000 for the year 1917. From its organization in 1862 until the passage of the corporation-tax law in 1909 the bureau was constructed for collecting the taxes on fermented liquors and tobacco, requiring more of a policing procedure than is necessary now. We now need men especially trained in business administration and accounting lines. One phase of the reorganization of the bureau is of especial significance in this connection. Steps will be taken to bring the tax-gathering machinery into closer touch with the best unofficial thought and with the public generally. It is hoped to accomplish this by the appointment of certain business men as advisors to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and by the creation of an office in the bureau to be known as supervisor of business cooperation.

On the 24th of last month the Secretary of the Treasury announced that he would appoint certain persons as excess profits advisors to assist the Commissioner of

Internal Revenue in construing and applying the excess profits provisions of the war-revenue act. These will be men of high standing as economists and directors of business. They will bring to the administration the viewpoint of the taxpayer. They will aid in the formulation of the policy and in the framing of the regulations by which the collectors of the tax will be governed. This also is in recognition of the accepted necessity of treating special conditions in a special way.

The legal review advisors, the proposed appointment of whom was announced simultaneously with that of the excess profits advisors by the Secretary of the Treasury, will be recruited also from unofficial life. Eminent representatives of the American bar will be given opportunity to give their service for advice to the Bureau of Internal Revenue. These advisors will be an assurance to the country that these problems will not be dealt with in a narrow, bureaucratic way, but that they will be solved in the light of the broadest and most constructive legal knowledge and experience available.

### Supervisor of Cooperation.

The third new agency in the organization of the Bureau of Internal Revenue for following up this intimate association of business and government in the administration of the war-revenue measure is the supervisor of business cooperation. His task will be to keep in touch with the public and collect and assimilate for the department business suggestions and also to diffuse correct interpretations of the law and administrative regulations through all possible channels to the taxpayer. In an informal way a nationwide organization of cooperation will be created. In furtherance of this plan the formation of local advisory committees will be encouraged through which it is hoped to enlist the voluntary assistance of patriotic citizens. This service must be purely unofficial and voluntary. As stated, these local committees will be composed of citizens volunteering their services to aid in facilitating the selective draft of wealth. It is proposed that these shall make a special study of the law and of the published aids furnished them from Washington. They will give information and advice to the taxpayers in their communities, direct local propaganda for cooperating with the Government agents in the collection of the Liberty taxes, and keep the department informed regarding the general administration of the revenue law.

A most wholesome sign of the unity and patriotism of the American people is the manifest widespread desire to find a way in which the citizen may help the Government in this critical hour. Thus it is the purpose of the Government to invite the cooperation of all patriotic citizens in the full and fair performance of the great task of fairly administering and collecting the war tax, in that way to afford the citizens whom circumstances may require to remain at home an opportunity for real service in the great cause for which their sons and brothers are fighting.

## The Official Bulletin

Published Every Week Day, Except Legal Holidays, by the Committee on Public Information.

Office: No. 10 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

Copies of the OFFICIAL BULLETIN will be furnished without charge to newspapers, all post offices, officials of the United States Government and all governmental institutions equipped for the dissemination of official news of the United States Government.—E. S. ROCH-ESTER, Editor.

### RATES BY MAIL.

Daily { One year..... \$5.00  
Six months..... 3.00  
Make all checks payable to the OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

### EXECUTIVE ORDER.

I hereby create a Committee on Public Information, to be composed of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and a civilian who shall be charged with the executive direction of the committee.

As civilian chairman of the committee I appoint Mr. George Creel.

The Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of the Navy are authorized each to detail an officer or officers to the work of the committee.

WOODROW WILSON.

April 14, 1917.

### Equal Vote Wise Policy, Secretary Lane's Belief

Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, issues the following statement:

I see no reason to fear woman suffrage. It has not worked disaster in California. To be sure, it is not a panacea for all political and social ills; nor can any other change in the political machinery of the State prove to be a cure-all. Nations are not made wise nor virtuous by their laws. But this is an industrial world, and those who do the work, whether men or women, are not to be denied their opportunity for protection and advancement through the action of the State. As a matter of political philosophy suffrage can not be put aside, and as a matter of wise policy it is not to be denied.

### TREASURY STATEMENT.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
November 3, 1917.

Receipts and disbursements this day:

RECEIPTS.	
Customs receipts.....	\$467, 302. 52
Ordinary internal-revenue receipts.....	3, 715, 487. 15
Income-tax receipts.....	84, 641. 25
Miscellaneous receipts.....	801, 844. 78
Total ordinary receipts.....	5, 069, 275. 70
Panama Canal receipts.....	44, 567, 203. 67
Public-debt receipts.....	1, 038, 623, 020. 25
Balance previous day.....	1, 088, 259, 499. 62
Total.....	1, 088, 259, 499. 62
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Ordinary disbursements.....	\$13, 175, 715. 63
Panama Canal disbursements.....	9, 644. 33
Purchase of obligations of foreign governments.....	111, 700, 000. 00
Public-debt disbursements.....	80, 185. 27
Balance in the general fund today.....	963, 313, 263. 05
Total.....	1, 088, 259, 499. 62

## Western Front Now Extended From North Sea to Adriatic As France and Britain Hurry Help to the Italian Armies

The Secretary of War authorizes publication of the following review of the military operations of the war for the week ending November 3:

Our attention during the past week has been centered on the gigantic struggle now going on in the Friulian Plain.

The Austro-German forces, breaking through the Italian defenses along the upper reaches of the Isonzo, have erupted into the lowlands, and carried forward a series of rapidly coordinated operations, which have resulted in the conquest of much territory.

### Trench Warfare Halted.

Trench warfare has, for the time being, been abandoned. Great troop masses are maneuvering in open country.

Under the direction of Gen. Cadorna the Italian Armies have withdrawn to the west bank of the Tagliamento River.

France and Great Britain have already dispatched large reinforcements to the threatened battle area. The western front to-day stretches from the North Sea to the Adriatic.

The Venetian Plain has become part of the western battle front. No doubt the enemy calculated that Italy would be abandoned to her fate, or that the allies would be unable to dispatch the necessary forces in time to be of effective value.

### Allies Firmly United.

England, France, and Italy stand firmly united, ready to oppose any further advance of the enemy in the Italian sector.

The momentous events in Italy should not lead us to forget that the principal battle front of the war remains, as it has been since the beginning, the important sectors of the western front, in France and Flanders. Here the overwhelming bulk of enemy strength is concentrated. Here our forces are fighting. Steadily the Franco-British forces are pushing forward.

### Successes in Flanders.

In Flanders allied attacks were particularly successful. The British have compelled the Germans to retire north of the Ypres-Roulers Road. They have penetrated within 400 yards of Passchendaele, where the Canadian troops distinguished themselves by capturing Bellevue Spur after inflicting serious losses on the enemy. In the vicinity of Dixmude the Belgians executed several successful raids, while the French by a well-directed assault occupied the eastern outskirts of the Houthulst Wood and captured several villages, including Merken and Kipps,

as well as a number of strongly fortified farmhouses.

This success is of importance as marking an extension of the allied lines north of Ypres, which means a further sharpening of the blade of the wedge in Flanders.

### French Gains Important.

North of the Aisne the French have enlarged their success of the preceding week by taking certain villages, which they have successfully held in the face of strong counterattacks by the enemy. Though mentioned only briefly in dispatches, these operations are of great tactical importance.

The Germans, unable to withstand the intense pressure of the French in this sector, have made a retiring movement. As yet no exact indications have been received as to its extent, though it is anticipated that it may result in a readjustment of the enemy line in the region of Laon, La Fere, and even northward to St. Quentin.

In the Verdun sector the enemy, after violent bombardments, launched several sanguinary attacks, which were beaten off by the French. One attack in the area of Chaume Wood was temporarily successful.

### Little Change on Eastern Front.

Along the eastern front there has been little change in the situation. The enemy is apparently continuing to draw in his outposts in the Riga sector, but no engagements of importance are reported.

The Germans have evacuated the Werder Peninsula. This leaves the enemy without any foothold on the northern peninsula of the gulf of Riga, and would indicate that he is contemplating no further advance on Petrograd for the time being.

### British Advance in Palestine.

In Palestine the British have scored a distinct success by the capture of Beersheba, including a large number of prisoners. The Turkish forces, commanded by German officers and assisted by heavy artillery, put up a determined resistance.

The British are extending their gains in this area and pushing northward toward Jerusalem, which objective is now less than 40 miles distant.

### ARMY ENLISTMENTS.

Reports to The Adjutant General's Office on recruiting for the Regular Army show that on November 2, 714 men were accepted. This makes a total of 241,100 acceptances since April 1, 1917.

## REPORT SHOWS LARGE INCREASE IN THE FEDERAL BANK RESERVES

Admission to membership in the Federal Reserve System and payment of large reserves by the newly admitted members account for some of the principal changes in the board's weekly bank statement issued as at close of business on November 2, 1917. Members' aggregate deposits show an increase for the week of 107.7 millions, the New York reserve bank alone reporting an increase of 104.1 millions under this head, following the admission to membership of about 10 of the strongest State banks and trust companies, including the Equitable and New York Trust Companies, the Metropolitan Bank, and the Bank of America in New York City and the Buffalo Trust Company, of Buffalo, N. Y. Aggregate cash reserves of the banks show a gain of 43.9 millions, notwithstanding the large loan demands by members on the reserve banks in connection with Liberty Loan transactions.

### Large Increase in Discounts.

The New York reserve bank reports a large increase for the week of discounted paper, largely members' collateral notes, the banks' present holdings, 277.7 millions, being about 140 millions higher than the maximum shown for June 15, when subscriptions to the first Liberty Loan closed. For the past two weeks discounted bills held by the New York bank increased by about 150 millions, as against 136 millions for the last two weeks of the first Liberty Loan campaign.

Assistance by the New York reserve bank was extended to some of the largest city members, who, besides meeting considerable withdrawals of funds by correspondent banks in the interior, also paid to the Government within the last two weeks by cash or credit on their books several hundred millions subscribed to the last issue of United States certificates of indebtedness. As a matter of fact the amount of certificates of indebtedness allotted to the New York reserve district since August 9 is nearly equal to the estimated total of 1,500 millions subscribed in that district to the second Liberty Loan. Other banks which report considerable increases in discounts on hand are Chicago and Kansas City.

### United States Securities.

Aside from the disposal of 10 millions of United States certificates of indebtedness by the New York bank, no material changes are shown in the holdings of United States securities. The New York bank reports an investment of over \$1,000,000 dollars in New York City warrants. Total earning assets of the banks stand at present at 790.3 millions and constitute 1,229 per cent of the banks' paid-in capital, compared with 1,094 per cent the week before and 846 per cent on June 15, when subscriptions to the first Liberty Loan closed. Of the total, discounts constituted 63.8 per cent; acceptances 23.5 per cent; United States securities 12.5 per cent; and municipal warrants 0.2 per cent.

The food YOU waste to-day may mean HUNGER to Someone, Somewhere, Sometime. Be Saving!

## Ambassador Bakhmetieff Points to Russia as an Example of the Vital Necessity for Food Conservation in Time of War

Ambassador Bakhmetieff, of Russia, in a statement issued on behalf of the Food Administration, draws some economic lessons from the conduct of food control in his own country. Russia, he says, the greatest granary in the world, with all its immense agricultural capacities, is now passing through an acute food crisis because the authorities under the regime now superseded did not institute proper food regulations at the right time. He points out that this food crisis is the greatest menace to the new freedom in his country. The sort of food regulation which the United States is now endeavoring to establish through voluntary agreement of all the citizens he calls highly important since it is a democratic method of solving a problem which he terms not merely national but of world-wide importance.

### Necessity of State Regulation.

In his statement Ambassador Bakhmetieff says:

"The necessity of State regulation of economic activities of a country while in war, the subjection of the mechanism of production, distribution, and consumption to Government control, is certainly one of the most obvious experiences of the war. The reason for this lies in the fact that the requirement of warfare supersede in large any possible capacity of national output. Economic activity, therefore, in a country while at war can not any more be governed by natural adaptation of such demand and supply, regulated by sane competition. Uncontrolled economic activities will inevitably result in waste and the high prices of monopoly.

"Nowhere, perhaps, has the necessity of such procedure been revealed more conspicuously than in Russia. The policy of regulations has been applied late, not before the second period of the war, and the evil results of this have manifestly revealed themselves in the present economic crisis.

The food situation in Russia is especially illustrative. The greatest granary, with all its immense agricultural pro-

ductive capacities, Russia is at present going through a most acute food crisis, and this crisis, carrying probably the greatest of dangers which threaten the new freedom, has occurred only because old Russia did not find the way of properly regulating the food supply at an appropriate time.

"It is most gratifying that the United States has deliberately used the experiences of the European countries and has adopted a policy of general regulations since the very beginning of military operations. The proper food regulation is especially important, owing to the fact that the control of food is not merely a national problem for this country but has become a question of world-wide importance. Really on the issues of the food control in this country depends to the greatest extent the proper provisioning of the fighting forces in France, Belgium, Great Britain, and Italy.

### Differs from Other Commodities.

"The problem of the regulation of food in certain respects is different from the problem of control of other commodities. It is not sufficient that the Government should introduce a certain centralized system of distribution. To attain the main purpose of food regulation—to leave in the hands of the central authorities as much as possible of the food products needed for export—it is necessary that the whole consumption of the country should be reduced in those commodities, and this purpose can be attained only in case the whole of the people will use individually all their efforts by confining through self-denial their personal use of those products.

### Duty Upon Individuals.

"It is a small sacrifice on the part of each individual to bring a certain restraint into his own consumption, but to perform this is a democratic duty. It is in the united efforts of individuals based on conscious agreement and willingness for concerted action that is revealed the strength of democracy, that is exemplified the very possibility and the bearing of democratic action."

## WAR TRADE BOARD BRANCHES.

### Officers in Nine Cities in Various Parts of the Country.

Following is a list of the branch offices of the War Trade Board: Galveston, Tex., George W. Briggs, special agent, bureau of exports, Federal Building; Los Angeles, Cal., William Dunkerley, special agent, bureau of exports, customhouse; Mobile, Ala., M. Waring Harrison, special agent, bureau of exports, customhouse; New Orleans, La., Joseph P. Henican, special agent, bureau of exports, Canal Bank Building; New York, N. Y., P. K. Condict, special agent, bureau of exports, 11 Broadway; Portland, Oreg., Henry L. Corbett, special agent, bureau of exports, 748 Morgan Building; San

Francisco, Cal., C. O. G. Miller, special agent, bureau of exports, 216 Customhouse; Savannah, Ga., J. W. Motte, special agent, bureau of exports, Savannah Bank & Trust Co. Building; Seattle, Wash., J. MacPhoe Ferguson, special agent, bureau of exports, care of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

The following are branch offices of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce which cooperate with the War Trade Board: Boston, Mass., Ansel R. Clark, special agent, care of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, 1501 Customhouse; Chicago, Ill., George W. Doonan, special agent, care of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, 504 Federal Building; St. Louis, Mo., Paul M. La Rose, special agent, care of Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, 402 Third National Bank Building.

## LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR TRADE IN COTTONSEED MEAL

The subcommittee on fertilizers of the committee on chemicals, Council of National Defense, authorizes publication of the following letter setting forth the present position of the Food Administration in reference to the licensing question in connection with the sale and use of cottonseed cake and of cottonseed meal:

### Text of Letter.

WASHINGTON, November 2, 1917.

Mr. W. B. OWENS,  
Law Department, License Division,  
United States Food Administration,  
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. OWENS: Confirming conversation of this morning, we understand the final position of the Food Administration in respect to the taking out of licenses in connection with the sale and use of cottonseed cake and/or cottonseed meal to be as follows:

(1) It is necessary for a fertilizer manufacturer to obtain license to sell cottonseed cake and/or cottonseed meal as such to a farmer.

(2) It is necessary for a fertilizer manufacturer to obtain license to sell cottonseed cake and/or cottonseed meal, as such, to a dealer or agent, who in turn sells the materials, as such, to a farmer.

(3) It is necessary for the present for a fertilizer manufacturer to obtain license to use cottonseed cake and/or cottonseed meal in a mixture with other fertilizer materials. We understand, however, that this requirement may be modified later.

(4) It is necessary for a dealer or agent who has bought from a fertilizer manufacturer cottonseed cake and/or cottonseed meal to obtain a license to sell such materials to a farmer, provided he is strictly a retailer and provided his gross sales of food commodities (including cottonseed cake and/or cottonseed meal) do not exceed \$100,000 per annum.

### Penalty Provisions Stayed.

(5) No manufacturers who have been acting in good faith and who take prompt steps to secure license when notified of the necessity for such license will be penalized upon failure to obtain such license by November 1. If steps are taken by them in good faith to secure such license, they need not fear interference.

(6) Applications for license should be made to the United States Food Administration, Washington, D. C., law department, license division, on forms prepared by it for that purpose, which may be secured on request.

(7) Manufacturers having branch houses or offices are only requested to take out one license. Subsidiary companies, however, if duly incorporated, must take out separate licenses.

We further understand that you are entirely agreeable to our publishing the above information in our weekly bulletin.

Permit us to say that the industry will greatly appreciate the change which you have made in your ruling as given under date of October 26, making it now unnecessary, within certain limitations, for a dealer or agent to obtain license to sell cottonseed cake and/or cottonseed meal.

Very truly yours,

HORACE BOWKER,  
Chairman.

## MINERS REFUSE TO AGREE TO THE INSERTION OF PENALTY CLAUSE IN PROPOSED WAGE PACT

Representatives of coal miners in the States of Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas have declined to agree to the insertion in a proposed new wage contract of an automatic penalty clause satisfactory to the United States Fuel Administration. Negotiations between the miners, operators, and Fuel Administration officials came to an end and the

miners' representatives called a general convention of union representatives in Kansas City November 12.

The Fuel Administration has declined to approve any new wage contracts granting increases unless satisfactory penalty clauses are provided.

"I stand absolutely firm," said Dr. Garfield, "The penalty clause must be put in exactly as indicated."

## RED CROSS SENDING AID TO ITALIAN PEOPLE "IN THEIR PRESENT SACRIFICE AND HEROISM"

The War Council of the American Red Cross has sent the following cablegram to American Ambassador Thomas Nelson Page in Italy:

"Please advise the Government and people of Italy that the American Red Cross is organizing and operating a commission to proceed to Italy to establish permanent headquarters there, and to take at once, in cooperation with the Italian Government, every practical step to alleviate suffering, and especially to extend to the soldiers and civilian population of Italy such assurance and comfort as may

be possible. To that end and acting upon the recommendation of our recently returned commission to Italy, an appropriation has been made to develop an ambulance service and to operate such civilian relief as it may be feasible to extend in the immediate future. Please advise the Government and people of Italy that it is the desire of the American Red Cross that nothing which can be done shall be left undone to assure the people of Italy, in their present sacrifice and heroism, of the cordial and continued support in every possible way of the American people."

## LICENSED DEALERS IN FOOD WARNED TO PREPARE INVENTORY OF STOCKS

All dealers in foodstuffs who were licensed November 1 by the Food Administration will do well to take an inventory at once, because they will be required to give details of the condition of their business November 1 in their first reports, which must be submitted at Washington December 1.

### Forms in Printer's Hands.

Forms for these reports are in the hands of the printer and will not be immediately available. When they are issued they will be sent at once as a reminder that the first report must be made. The Food Administration gives this general notice now, because later many deal-

ers might have difficulty in stating just what stock they had on hand November 1.

The inventory, when compared with reports of later date, will enable the authorities to determine whether hoarding has been practiced. Reports are to be made monthly and will be a transcript of monthly business of all licensees.

### Records of Perishable Stocks.

Dealers in perishable products should make a careful inventory of stocks both in and out of storage November 1 and keep a record of the income and outgo of all merchandise during the succeeding months, as well as detailed records of the cost of all merchandise.

## COUNTRY'S STOCK OF GOLD INCREASED OVER BILLION BY IMPORTS SINCE 1914

For the four weeks ending October 12 the net outward movement of gold totaled \$18,529,000, compared with \$33,312,000 for the immediately preceding four weeks, says a statement made public by the Federal Reserve Board. Gold imports totaling \$4,053,000 are credited chiefly to Canada, Mexico, and South American countries, while gold exports amounting to \$22,582,000 were destined largely to Japan, Spain, British India, and South American countries. The net increase in the country's stock of gold

through recorded net imports since August 1, 1914, is seen from the following exhibit:

(000's omitted.)			
	Im-ports.	Ex-ports.	Excess of im-ports over exports.
Aug. 1 to Dec. 31, 1914.....	\$23,283	\$104,972	\$81,719
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1915.....	451,955	31,426	420,529
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1916.....	685,745	185,793	529,952
Jan. 1 to Oct. 12, 1917.....	545,080	353,646	191,434
Total.....	1,706,063	645,837	1,060,196

<sup>1</sup> Excess of exports over imports.

Remember, those boys in France are YOUR boys. Do YOUR bit in saving food and they will get THEIR bite.

## BOXING EXPERTS TO INSTRUCT SOLDIERS IN BAYONET PRACTICE

The commission on training-camp activities, through Dr. Joseph E. Raycroft, of Princeton University, has arranged for expert boxers to teach groups of men in training camps, who will in turn instruct other groups. Thus everyone will receive some certain amount of training, which will teach them confidence, aggressiveness, shiftiness on their feet, and the boxer's coordination of eye and hand.

### Good "Bayonet Practice."

This will make these men better bayonet fighters. That is the real purpose of the boxing work. Exhibition matches are strictly secondary. Dealings with boxing promoters outside or inside the camp is to be entirely avoided. The training will be principally shadow boxing. Matches will take possibly 10 minutes of the hour's training. Classes will be from 75 to 100 men. The plan of instruction is based on a scheme worked out by Sergt. Billy Armstrong of the Canadian Army. This scheme was found to be not only practicable but highly successful. The men are placed in lines or files, three or four paces apart, facing the instructor's platform. The motions taught are very nearly the same motions used in actual bayonet fighting.

### Motion Pictures as Aids.

In addition to the regular lessons in boxing, the recruits will be shown the relation between boxing and bayonet fighting, by motion pictures, in which the fundamental movements in the two methods of fighting will be displayed. A film has been made showing Kid McCoy, Jim Corbett, Johnny Kibane, and Bennie Leonard going through these blows slowly for educational purposes and more rapidly for match work. Tenbroeck and Lamarche in a bayonet duel show the similarity in the leads and the foot work between boxing and actual bayonet fighting. Some of the men appointed instructors are Bennie Leonard, Kid McCoy, Battling Levinsky, Johnny Schiff, Richie Mitchell and Packer McFarland.

### Drill in Self-Control.

The athletic trainers of the American troops are teaching that initiative and daring must be tempered with caution and self-control. Boxing contests will be used as an object lesson to illustrate this.

## FRENCH COAL OUTPUT INCREASES.

### August Production Double That for Same Month Last Year.

Commercial Attache Veditz at Paris reports:

The monthly production of coal in France has increased from 1,576,062 tons in June, 1916, to 2,845,251 tons in June, 1917, the output of the French coal mines having increased almost steadily during the intervening period. The increase in the output has continued since June, 1917, at which time the total French production, added to the imports of British coal, reached a total of over 3,960,000 tons.

French production and British imports in August, 1917, amounted to 4,346,000 tons, the French mines having produced 2,666,000 tons, as compared with 1,616,000 tons in August, 1916.

## APPOINTMENT OF LIEUTENANTS IN THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The appointment of the following-named probational second lieutenants, Corps of Engineers, recently appointed from civil life, with rank from October 16, 1917, and their assignment for duty is announced.

Samuel Louis Kuhn, of Massachusetts; Louis Graham, of New York; Roy Marsh McCutchen, of New Jersey; William Lohmeyer, Jr., of West Virginia; William Allen Clark, of Massachusetts; Aubrey Hoodenpyl Bond, of Wisconsin; Hubert Walter Collins, of North Carolina; Harold Joseph McDonald, of Massachusetts; Maurice Pelham van Buren, of New York; Frederick Slocum Howland Smith, of Pennsylvania; Frank Bowman Hustie, of New Jersey; Harold Van Vechten Fay, of New York; Oscar Rudolph Peterson, of Massachusetts; Thomas Kronenberg Meloy, of New York; Robert Adams Love, of Pennsylvania; Bennet Hart Bowley, Jr., of California; Robert Dorrance Ingalls, of New York; William Lloyd Garrison Mackenzie, of Massachusetts; Walter Lyman Medding, of Massachusetts; Warren Adams Lyon, of New York; Roger Williams Parkhurst, of Ohio; Albert Carl Lieber, Jr., of Massachusetts; Robert King Munroe, of Connecticut; James August Bjerregaard, of Ohio; Eugene Franklin Gaebler, of Missouri; William Clair Atwater, of Ohio; Henry Elmer Strout, Jr., of Massachusetts; John Arthur Strang, of New Jersey; George Earl Robinson, of Massachusetts; Frank Claxton Rogers, of Connecticut; Philip Nahm Cristal, of Kentucky; Clifford Harry Springer, of Ohio; Edward Perry Morton, of New Jersey; Langley Stoddard Homer, of New York; George Jacob Noid, of Indiana.

Probational Second Lieuts. Love and Parkhurst will remain on duty as student officers at the Engineer officers' training camp, Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and will report in person to the commanding officer thereof for duty.

Probational Second Lieuts. Lieber, Munroe, and Strang will remain on duty at the Engineer officers' training camp in the vicinity of this city and will report in person to the commanding officer thereof for duty.

Probational Second Lieut. Cristal is relieved from duty with the Three hundred and ninth Engineers and will proceed without delay to Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and report in person to the commanding officer, Engineer officers' training camp, that post, for duty. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

Probational Second Lieut. Meloy will remain on duty at the officers' training camp, Fort Myer, Va., and will report to the commanding officer thereof for duty.

The remaining probational second lieutenants, except Second Lieut. Homer, announced in this order will proceed to Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and report in person not later than November 10, 1917, to the commanding officer, Engineer officers' training camp, that post, for duty.

## WHEAT ACREAGE IN NEW ZEALAND.

A cablegram received from the American consul general at Auckland, New Zealand, dated October 31, states that the general crop outlook is unfavorable; that the wheat acreage is 20 per cent short.

## NORTHWEST COAL NEEDS FILLED, SAYS RAILROADS' WAR BOARD

Fairfax Harrison, chairman of the Railroads' War Board, authorizes the following:

The Railroads' War Board has received reports indicating that the efforts of the railroads and coal shippers to prevent the threatened coal shortage in the Northwest during the coming winter has been more successful than seemed possible during the summer.

### Shipments Nearly Completed.

With five weeks or more left before the close of navigation on the Great Lakes, 23,348,100 of the 29,000,000 tons which it was estimated will be required have already been sent to the Northwest.

The Commission on Car Service is now directing efforts to the work of insuring an adequate coal supply for domestic and industrial uses of coal in all other sections of the country.

While a greater supply of coal has been mined and shipped than ever before, the difficulty to-day is that the consumption all over the country is greater than ever before.

## PRICE OF SILVER HAS RISEN STEADILY SINCE END OF 1915

The Federal Reserve Board has made public the following:

Together with the general rise of commodity prices since the beginning of the war, there has been a remarkable advance in the price of silver which set in about the end of 1915, continued steadily during 1916 and the first half of 1917, and assumed speculative proportions in August and September of the present year.

On September 25, the London price of silver stood at 55d., which is equivalent to \$1.20566 per fine ounce (converted at the nominal rate of \$4.8665 per £). On the following day the downward price movement set in which continued steadily until October 23, when silver was quoted in London at \$0.91795 per fine ounce. During the last week of October silver prices resumed their upward course, the quotation for October 30, being \$1.00837. This movement, of course, affects exchange quotations on silver standard countries, notably the China exchanges, New York quotations of Shanghai cables, for instance, declining from \$1.034 on October 1 to \$0.92 on October 23 and rising to \$1.07 on October 30.

## COAL TRADE OF HULL, ENGLAND.

### Shipments for September Show Decline Over Same Month Last Year.

Consul Byington, at Hull, England, reports:

According to the official returns of the Hull coal trade, the total quantity of coal received from the collieries for September, 1917, was 235,356 tons, of which 15,733 tons arrived by river and 219,623 tons by rail. The total for the same month in 1916 was 316,467 tons.

The total arrivals at Hull from January to September, 1917, inclusive, were 2,171,738 tons, against 2,529,199 tons in the corresponding nine months of 1916.

## FOOD TRANSPORTATION DIVISION DENIES CAR SHORTAGE CAUSES SUGAR STORAGE IN THE WEST

### BLAME PUT ON OVERCONSUMPTION

*Backward Beet Season Is Partly Responsible for Slow Movement Eastward—Storage at Central Points Are Only Temporary.*

The United States Food Administration authorizes the following:

The transportation division of the United States Food Administration states emphatically that it is not true that large quantities of beet sugar are being stored in warehouses because freight cars can not be procured to haul them to eastern markets. This false impression has been created to some degree by the publication of untimely and ill-founded assertions to that effect in the East.

The shortage of sugar is principally due to the fact that this country has not curtailed its consumption, while our exports have materially increased, so that the remaining sugars from last year's crops are not sufficient to last until January 1, when the new Cuban crop will become available.

#### Backward Beet Sugar Season.

The beet sugar produced in the West is largely consumed there, and owing to the backwardness of the season this year's beet crop is two or three weeks later than usual, which has made it impossible to move any volume of beet sugar up to now. The railroads are now moving this beet sugar to the Middle West, where a shortage of sugar exists like that in portions of the East.

When the natural beet territory has been taken care of beet sugar will move to supply the East until the eastern refiners can take care of the situation. The railroads are supplying the necessary car equipment, and in most instances the sugar is now moving eastward as rapidly as produced. Sugar will be shipped from Louisiana as well as from the West, and the supply distributed over as great an area as possible.

#### Temporary Storage Misconstrued.

Beet sugar is now being distributed through a governmental central sugar distributing committee in Chicago, and in order that this may be done equitably it is necessary at times to store sugar temporarily at central railroad points. It is possible that this temporary holding of sugar for distribution later has been misconstrued as being necessary on account of car shortage.

The beet-sugar production of the United States amounts this year to about 800,000 tons, and it is practically produced in three months.

The railroads deserve great credit for the manner in which they are handling the large volume of tonnage now moving, because war-time necessities have placed heavy obligations on them.

Mail your Christmas packages to the boys in France by November 15.

## PRICE OF LOUISIANA DIRECT CONSUMPTION SUGAR LIMITED BY ACTION OF THE FOOD ADMINISTRATION

**Warning Sent to 150 Licensed Manufacturers Not to Charge More Than  
\$7.25 Per Hundred Pounds, Less 2 Per  
Cent New Orleans.**

The United States Food Administration announces that it has determined that a fair profit will be earned by all producers of direct-consumption sugar in Louisiana if their product is sold at not to exceed \$7.25, less 2 per cent, New Orleans basis. This does not apply to refined sugars or plantation granulated sugars, the prices for which will be controlled under the contracts between the Food Administrator and the refiners.

It was also made known that any attempt on the part of the middleman to take advantage of the planters' price in resales will be vigorously prosecuted.

#### Must Get Licenses at Once.

Further information of interest in sugar matters was the announcement that sugar manufacturers who have not as yet taken out their license must do so immediately. If this is not done, proceedings against them under the food-control law will be taken without delay.

The following telegram has been sent to about 150 licensed sugar manufacturers in Louisiana by the Food Administration:

"Under powers conferred by section 5, food-control act, I have determined that any sale of 1917 washed plantation, clarified seconds, thirds, or open-kettle sugars at a price in excess of \$7.25 per 100 pounds, less 2 per cent f. o. b. New Orleans, or raw sugar in excess of \$6.35 per 100 pounds f. o. b. New Orleans will give manufacturers an unjust, unreasonable, and unfair profit. Any sale made after November 2 at greater price will be cause for revocation of license and subject you to penalties of the act."

#### Agreed on Fair Price.

Some time ago it was agreed upon between the Food Administration and representatives of the Louisiana planters that 6.35 was a fair price for raw sugar, and the planters' committee agreed to use its best efforts to secure for refiners contracts for raw sugar on that basis. The refiners buying this sugar must sell it under their agreement with the Government at an average margin of not to exceed \$1.30 per 100 pounds, or 7.65 net. Under this arrangement a fair price for Louisiana sugars has been established. Under normal conditions clarified and washed plantation sugars have sold at an average margin of three-eighths to one-half cent a pound over the selling price of raw sugar. Owing to the unusual conditions now prevailing it is believed that a margin of 75 cents for these sugars over the value of raw sugar will result in a profit largely in excess of the profit earned under normal conditions.

#### Demoralizing the Situation.

Since the meeting with the Louisiana committee in Washington some time ago the Government has not objected to sales of these plantation sugars being made at prices equivalent to the price of granulated in the North Atlantic States. It has been found, however, on account of

the scarcity of sugar that the practice of selling these plantation sugars on such an abnormal basis is demoralizing the situation which the Government is so earnestly trying to control in the interest of the consuming public, and the sugar produced in Louisiana instead of going to relieve the acute situation in the North Atlantic States and making sugar available for the average consumer is going very largely into manufacturing channels, which does not give the relief that is so necessary for household uses.

A margin of 2 cents a pound between raw sugars and semirefined sugars is so manifestly unfair, in view of the Government regulation of the refiners' margin to 1.3 cents between raw and refined for strictly first-class refined granulated sugar, that positive action regulating the profits of the Louisiana planters was taken as of November 2, and the planters notified that extortionate profits would not be permitted.

#### No Modification of Contracts.

The Food Administration will not insist on any modification of contracts actually entered into prior to November 2, and all sellers are hereby authorized to complete deliveries either in the eastern or western territory on the basis of contracted sales price, but no new business should be taken in any territory at over 7.25 for these sugars. Any contract made on November 3 or thereafter shall be made in accordance with this determination of the Food Administration.

This, it is hoped, will clear up the Louisiana situation definitely. Sales direct from the producer to the buyer should be on this basis. In case the sugar is purchased by a dealer or jobber at 7.25 New Orleans basis, his selling price to manufacturers or retailers shall not exceed the base price plus the usual freight added to destination, plus the profit charged by sugar jobbers in the territory in which sold, in no case to exceed 25 cents per 100 pounds.

#### MAY BAR SWEET POTATOES.

#### Department Considering Quarantine Because of Injurious Insects.

Public hearings on proposed quarantines against shipments of sweet potatoes and yams to the continental United States from Porto Rico and Hawaii and all foreign countries are announced by the Secretary of Agriculture to be held November 20 in room 11, Federal Horticultural Board, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

The quarantines are contemplated because of information that two injurious insects, the sweet potato root borer and the sweet potato scarabee, not widely prevalent in the United States, occur in Porto Rico and Hawaii.

The total importations of sweet potatoes and yams during 1912 to 1916, inclusive, was 40,278 bushels. Of these importations 62.8 per cent came from Cuba.