WOULD EXTEND WAR CONTROL OF ALL FOOD

That, and Provision of Penalties for Profiteering, Advocated by the President.

TO FORCE SALE OF SURPLUS

In Address to Congress the Chief Exscutive Makes Assertion That We "Are Dealing With Very Critical and Difficult Matters."

Washington.-Addressing congress and proposing remedles to check the high cost of living, President Wilson declared existing laws were insidequate and high prices were not justified by shortage of supplies, present or prospective, but were created in many cases "artificially and deliberately" by "vicious practices."

He spoke practically as follows:

Gentlemen of the Congress: I have sought this opportunity to ad-dress you because it is clearly my duty to call your attention to the present cost of living and to urge upon you with all the persuasive force of which I am capable the legislative measures which would be most effective in controlling it and bringing it down.

The prices the people of this country are paying for everything that it is necessary for them to use in order to live are not justified by a shortage in supply, either present or prospective, and are in many cases artificially and deliberately created by victous practices which ought imme diately to be checked by law.

Profiteers Lawbreakers.

Some of the methods by which these prices are produced are already illegal, some of them criminal, and those who employ them will be energetically pro-ceeded against. But others have not yet been brought under the law, and should be dealt with at once by legislation.

With the increase in the prices of the necessaries of life come demands for increases in wages-demands which are justified if there be no other means of enabling men to live.

the increase of wages there follews close an increase in the price of the products whose producers have been accorded the increase—not a proportionate increase, for the manufacturer does not content himself with that, but an in-crease considerably greater than the added wage cost and for which the added wage cost is oftentimes hardly more than

The laborers who do not get an increase in pay when they demand it are likely to strike, and the strike only makes matters worse.

It cheeks production; if it affects the railways it prevents distribution and strips the markets; so that there is presently nothing to buy, and there is another excessive addition to prices resulting from the scarcity.

Conditions Not "Natural." These are facts and forces with which

we have become only too familiar; but we are not justified because of our familarity with them or because of any hasty and shallow conclusion that they are "natural" and inevitable, in sitting inactively by and letting them work their fatal results if there is anything that we can do to check, correct or reverse them. We must, I think, frankly admit that there is no complete immediate remedy to be had from legislation and executive action. The free processes of supply and demand will not operate of themselves, force them into full and natural operation until there is peace.

Must Know Terms of Peace.

There can be no confidence in industry, no calculable basis for credits, no confident buying of systematic selling. no certain prospect of employment, no normal restoration of business, no hopeful attempt at reconstruction or a proper reassembling of the dislocated elements of enterprise until peace has been established, and, so far as may be guaranteed. Our national life has no doubt been less radically disturbed and dismembered than the national life of other peoples whom the war more rectly affected, with all its terrible ravaging and destructive force, but it has been nevertheless profoundly af-fected and disarranged, and our industries, our credits, our productive capacity, our economic processes are inextricably interwoven with those other nations and peoples-most intimately of all with the nations and peoples upon whom the chief burden and confusion of the war fell and who are now most dependent upon the cooperative action of the world.

Exports Greatest in History. We are just now shipping more good out of our ports to foreign markets than we ever shipped before-not foodstuff merely, but stuffs and materials of every sort; but this is no index of what our foreign sales will continue to be or of the effect the volume of our exports will have on supplies and prices. It is impossible yet to predict how far or how long foreign purchasers will be able to find the money or the credit to pay for or sustain such purchases on such a scale; how soon or to what extent foreign manufacturers can resume their former production, foreign farmers get their accustomed crops from their own fields; foreign mines resume their former output, foreign merchants set up again their old machinery of trade with the ends of the earth. All these things must remain uncertain until peace is established and the nations of the world have concerted the methods by which normal life and industry are to be restored. life and industry are to be restored.

All that we shall do in the meantime to restrain profiteering and put the life of our people upon a tolerable footing will be makeshift and provi-There can be no settled condition here or alsewhere until the treaty of peace is out of the way and the work of liquidating the war has become the chief concern of our government and of the other governments of

Europe will not, cannot recoup her

capital or put her restless, distracted peoples to work until she knows exactly where she stands in respect to peace; and what we will do is for her the chief question upon which her qui-etude of mind and confidence of pur-pose depends. While there is any posability that the peace terms may be changed or may be held long in abey-ance, or may not be enforced because of divisions of opinion among the powers associated against Germany, it is idle to look for permanent relief.

Immediate Relief Measures,

By way of immediate relief, surplus stocks of both food and clothing in the hands of the government will be sold and of course sold at prices at which there is no profit. And by way of a more per-manent correction of prices surplus stocks in private hands will be drawn out of storage and put upon the market. Fortrol act the hoarding of foodstuffs can be checked and prevented, and they will be, with the greatest energy. Foodstuffs can be drawn out of storage and sold by legal action which the department of justice will institute wherever necessary: but as soon as the situation is systemati-cally dealt with it is not likely that the courts will often have to be resorted to. Much of the accumulating of stocks has no doubt been due to the sort of specu-lation which always results from uncer-

Would Have Prices Plainly Marked. I would also recommend that it be required that all goods destined for in-terstate commerce should in every case where their form or package makes it possible be plainly marked with the price at which they left the hands of the producer. Such a requirement would bear a close analogy to certain provisions of the pure food act, by which it is required that certain detailed information be given on the labels of puckages of foods and drugs

And it does not seem to me that we could confine ourselves to detailed measures of this kind, if it is indeed our purpose to assume national control of the processe of distribution. take it for granted that that is our purpose and our duty. Nothing less will suffice. We need not hesitate to handle a national question in a na-tional way. We should go beyond the measures I have suggested. We should formulate a law requiring a federal license of all corporations engaged in interstate commerce and embodying in the license, or in the conditions under which it is to be issued, specific reguations designed to secure competitive seiling and prevent unconscionable profits in the method of marketing.

Law Would Do Much.

Such a law would afford a welcome opportunity to effect other much-needed reforms in the business of interstate ship-ment and in the methods of corporations which are engaged in it; but for the moment I confine my recommendations to the object immediately in hand, which is to lower the cost of living.

We are dealing, gentlemen of the con-

gress, I need hardly say, with very critical and very difficult matters. We should go forward with confidence along the road we see, but we should also seek to com-prehend the whole of the scene amidst which we act. There is no ground for some of the fearful forecasts I hear uttered about me, but the condition of the world is unquestionably very grave and we should face it comprehendingly. The situation of our own country is excep-tionately fortunate. We of all peoples can afford to keep our heads and to de termine upon moderate and sensible courses of action which will insure us against the passions and distempers which are working such deep unhappiness for some of the distressed nations on the other side of the sea.

But we may be involved in their dis-

tresses unless we help, and help with en-ergy and intelligence. Disregarding the surplus stock in the hands of the government, there was a greater supply of foodstuffs in this country on June 1 of this year than at the same date last year. In the combined total of a number of the most important foods in dry and cold storage the excess is quite 19 per cent. And yet prices have

Law Department Active.

The attorney general has been making a careful study of the situation as whole and of the laws that can be applied to better it and is convinced that, under the stimulation and temptation of exceptional circumstances, combinations of producers and combinations of traders have been formed for the control of supplies and of prices which are clearly in restraint of trade, and against these pros ecutions will be promptly instituted and actively pushed which will in all likelihood have a prompt corrective effect There is reason to believe that the prices of leather, of coal, of lumber and of tex tiles have been materially affected by forms of concert and co-operation among the producers and marketers of these and other universally necessary commodities which it will be possible to redress. No watchful or energetic effort will spared to accomplish this necessary result. I trust that there will not be many cases in which prosecution will be neces sary. Public action will no doubt cause many who have perhaps unwittingly adopted illegal methods to abandon them promptly and of their own motion.

The department of commerce, the department of agriculture, the department of labor and the federal trade commission can do a great deal toward supplying the public systematically and at short intervals, with information regarding the actual supply of particular commodities that is in existence and available with regard to supplies which are in existence but not with regard to the methods of price fixing which are being used by dealers in certain foodstuffs and other necessities.

Retailers in Part to Blame. There can be little doubt that retailers are in part-sometimes in part-responsible for exorbitant prices; and it is quite practicable for the government through the agencies I have mentioned, to supply the public with full information as to the prices at which retailers buy and as to the costs of transportation they pay in order that it may be known just what mar-gin of profit they are demanding. Opinion and concerted action on the part of purchasers can probably do the rest. Let me urge, in the first place, that the present foodstuff control act should be extended both as to the period of time during which it shall remain in operation and as to the commodities to which it

shall apply. Its provision against hoarding should be made to apply not only to food but als to feed stuffs, to fuel, to clothing, and to many other commodities which are in disputably necessaries of life. As I stands now it is limited in operation to

the period of the war and becomes inoperative upon the formal proclamation of peace. But I should judge that it was clearly within the constitutional power of the congress to make similar permanent provisions and regulations with regard to all goods destined for interstate com-merce and to exclude them from interstate shipment if the requirements of the law are not complied with. Some such regulation is imperatively

would materially add to the serviceability of the law, for the purpose we now have in view, if it were also prescribed that all goods released from stor-age for interstate shipment should have plainly marked upon each package the selling or market price at which they went into storage. By this means the purchaser would always be able to learn what profits stood between him and the producer or the wholesale dealer.

The world must pay for the appalling destruction wrought by the great war, and we are part of the world. We must pay our share. For five years now the industry of the state o dustry of all Europe has been slack and disordered. The normal crops have not been produced; the normal quantity of manufactured goods has not been turned

Not until there are the usual crops

and the usual production of manufactured goods on the other side of the Atlantic can Europe return to the former conditions; and it was upon the former conditions, not the present, that our economic relations with Europe were built up. We must face the fact that unless we Europe to get back to her normal life and production a chaos will ensue there which will inevitably be communicated to this country. For the present, It s man)fest, we must quicken, not slacken,

our own production. U. S. Must Hold World Steady. We, and we almost alone, now hold the world steady. Upon our steadfastness and self-possession depend the affairs of na-tions everywhere. It is in this supreme crisis this crisis for all mankind-that American must prove her mettle.

in the presence of a world confused, dis tracted, she must show herself self-pos-sessed self-contained, capable of sober and effective action. She saved Europe by her action in arms; she must now save it by her action in peace.

In saving Europe she will save herself, as she did upon the battlefields of the which she deals with and masters the problems of peace will be the final test and proof of her place among the peoples of the world.

And, if only in our own interest, we must help the people overseas. Europe is our biggest customer. We must keep her going or thousands of our shops and scores of our mines must close. There is no such thing as letting her go to ruin without ourselves sharing in the disaster. In such circumstances, face to face with such tests, passion must be discard-Passion and a disregard for the rights of others have no place in the counsels of a free people. We need light, not heat, in these solemn times of selfexamination and saving action. Everyone who is in real touch with the

silent masses of our great people knows that the old strong fiber and steady selfcontrol are still there, firm against viowould throw their affairs into confusion. I am serenely confident that they will readily find themselves, no matter wha the circumstances, and that they will address themselves to the tasks of peace with the same devotion and the same stalwart preference for what is right that they displayed to the admiration of the whole world in the midst of war.

Sinister Influences at Work. And I enter another confident hope. have spoken today chiefly of measures of imperative regulation and legal compulsion, of presecutions and the sharp correction of selfish processes; and these

no doubt are necessary.

But there are other forces that we may count on besides those resident in the department of justice. We have just fully awakened to what has been going on and to the influences, many of them very selfish and sinister, that have been producing high prices and imposing ar intolerable burden on the mass of our

To have brought it all into the open will accomplish the greater part of the result we seek.

I appeal with entire confidence to our producers, our middlemen and our merchants to deal fairly with the peo-It is their opportunity to show that they comprehend, that they intend to act justly, and that they have the public interest sincerely at heart.

Labor Must Consider. I believe, too, that the more ex reme leaders of organized labor will presently yield to a sober second thought, and like the great mass of their associates, think and act like true Americans. They will see that strikes undertaken at this critical time are certain to make matters worse not better-worse for them and for

everybody else. The worst thing, the most fatal thing-that can be done now is to stop or interrupt production, or to interfere with the distribution of goods by the railways and the shipping of the

There are many things that ought to be corrected in the relations be tween capital and labor, in respect of wages and conditions of labor and other things even more far-reaching and I, for one, am ready to go into conference about these matter with any group of my fellow countrymen who know what they are talking about and are willing to remedy existing conditions by frank counsel rather than by violent contest. General Interest First.

No remedy is possible while men are in a temper, and there can be no settlement which does not have as its motive and standard the general in-

Must All Work Together.

Threats and undue insistence upon the interest of a single class, make settiement impossible. I believe, as I have hitherto had occasion to say to the congress, that the industry and life of our people and of the world will suffer irreparable damage if employers and workmen are to go on in a perpet-ual contest, as antagonists. They must, on one plan or another, be effec-tively associated. Have we not steadiners and self-possession and business sense enough to work out that result? the meantime-now and in the days of readjustment and recuperation that are ahead of us—let us resort more and more to frank and intimate counsel and make ourselves a great and triumphal nation, making our-selves a united force in the life of the world. It will not then have looked to us for leadership in vain.

ALL TAKE EXCESSIVE PROFITS "The federal trade commission has found that the high price of shoes cannot be justified by underlying eco-

> Means for reducing the present high prices are recommended by the com-

"Some relief from the intolerable prices paid by consumers for shoes may be had by (1) a rigid enforcement of the laws against monopolistic control of commodities, (2) legislation forbidding producers of hides engagtaken unusual margins, and the prices | ing in the tanning business."

MARTIN BOMBER FLYING OVER WASHINGTON



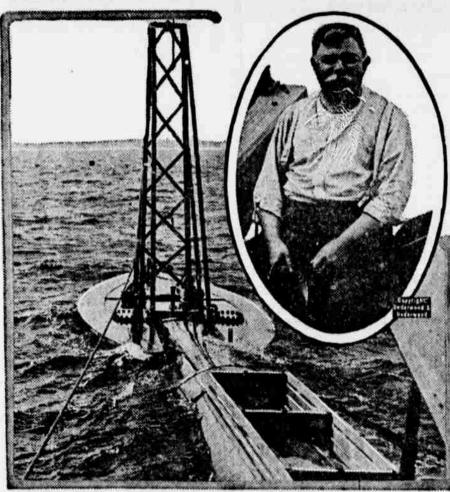
View taken from another airplane showing the Martin bomber which has started on a trip around the United States, passing the Washington monument,

CLEARING AN AERIAL MAIL FIELD WITH DYNAMITE



At Newark, N. J., a small army of men is busily engaged in clearing Heller field which, when completed, will be the first United States aerial mail landing field in the country. Our photograph shows the moment of detonation of a charge of dynamite beneath a mighty tree stump, which is torn from the grounds, roots and all.

SIMON LAKE'S NEW SALVAGING SUBMARINE



This new salvaging submarine, designed by Simon Lake, permitting men without divers' costumes to walk on the bottom of the ocean, was put to a severe test in New York harbor over the wreck of a government boat sunk during the war. At the right is a photograph of Mr. Lake.

HAS MET 20 PRESIDENTS



When President Wilson shook hands the other day with Mrs. H. W. Somers, wife of General Somers of Civil war fame, he was the twentieth chief executive of the United States to whom she had been introduced. Mrs. Somers made her debut at the White House on the arm of Daniel Webster when William Harrison was president. The aged lady declares that since that time she has attended many of the social functions given by presidents and that she was intimately acquainted with many of the executives. Washington has been her home for 90 years. Despite her advanced age she is very active and in the stormlest or hottest weather can be seen among her wards

Heard at Longwood.

"So Blank, our old hard hitter. doesn't play any more. Is he recon-

-the poor.

ciled to married life?" "I guess so. The other morning I saw him sifting ashes through his old tennis racket."

On the Beach. "This seashore resort reminds me of Sunday morning."

"So quiet, eh?" "Not that. The belles are peeling. don't you know."-Boston Transcript.

BIDDING THE YEOMEN (F) FAREWELL



This photograph shows the yeomen (F) and marinettes of the United States navy being mustered out on the grounds of the White House. To the strains of jazz, reviewed by Secretary Daniels and naval officers, and with moments interspersed with wit and sorrow, the farewell was picturesque in its setting. They will be retained for cierical service in the navy department, assuming civil status.

Federal Trade Commission Makes Public Facts Concerning Present High Prices of Shoes.

Washington .- The federal trade commission, which recently conducted an investigation into the leather industry, inquiring especially into the prices of shoes, made public a summary of its report to congress.

In its introduction to the summary the commission says:

nomic conditions. The commission after exhaustive inquiry into the price of hides, leather and shoes, is reporting to congress that the larger packers control the hide supply and have taken excessive profits and passed increased costs to subsequent steps in manufacture and distribution; that the tanner has taken exceptional profits; that the manufacturer of shoes has

charged by the retailer are not justifiable, each factor in the industry adding to the burden he had to bear before he passed it on to the next."

mission in this paragraph: