

1—Mayor Gilman of Newark supervising the sale by the municipality to the public of provisions bought from the government. 2—The U. S. S. first German submarine to enter the Mississippi, in dry dock at New Orleans for minor repairs. 3—First photograph of the "million dollar fire" at Columbray-les-Belles, France, when junked airplanes and other material were burned.

## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

### President Addresses Congress on Cost of Living and the Possible Remedies.

### PACKERS TO BE PROSECUTED

General Campaign Is Started Against Profiteers—Railway Unions Demand More Pay, Urge the Plumb Plan and Threaten to Strike.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The open season for profiteers has come. If there is a bright spot in the world's sky, that is it. For the rest the clouds are black enough to suit the most confirmed pessimist.

Government officials, investigating bodies, individual economists—all have been earnestly seeking for the prime causes of the high cost of living. The cold-blooded, greedy profiteer who batters on the misfortunes of the people is the most easily discerned of those causes and is going to be the first to be dealt with. All the sympathy he gets must come from himself.

President Wilson appeared before congress Friday and delivered a scholarly essay on the subject, which included various recommendations for legislative action, and told what the government already is doing in the way of curbing the operations of the profiteers. He urged the permanent extension of the food control act, a law regulating cold storage, a law requiring that all goods entering interstate shipment be marked with the producers' price, prompt enactment of the pending capital issues bill, and, what seems to the writer most important of all, the passage of a law requiring federal licensing of all corporations engaged in interstate commerce.

The president did not overlook the opportunity to push the immediate ratification of the peace treaty and league covenant. He devoted much of his message to assertions, in varied form, that until peace is established only provisional and makeshift results can be accomplished in the way of reducing living costs. There can be no settled conditions anywhere in the world, he declared, until the treaty is out of the way. Such views did not meet with the approval of most of the Republican congressmen, and their indignation was aroused by the fact that the president used the domestic issue as a weapon in the contest over the League of Nations.

Most prominent of the alleged profiteers are the Chicago packers, the "big five" who are reputed to control much of the world's food supplies. Some time ago they were investigated by the federal trade commission and that body made a report that was bitterly attacked by the defenders of the packers. Now with that report as a basis President Wilson has directed the department of justice to institute at once civil and criminal proceedings against the big five. The attorney general stated that he was satisfied the evidence developed indicated a clear violation of the anti-trust laws, and that Isador J. Kresel of New York was in charge of the prosecution. The packers are to be accused of unfairly and illegally using their power to manipulate live stock markets, to restrict interstate and international supplies of foods, to control the prices of dressed meats and other foods, to defraud both the producers and the consumers of foods, to crush competition, to secure special privileges from railroads, stock yards companies and municipalities, and to profiteer. The department of justice will proceed against them not only for violation of the anti-trust laws but also under the provisions of the food law of 1918 against the hoarding of food.

As for the heads of the big packing companies, some of them profess to welcome the legal action as giving them a chance to demonstrate to the public their innocence, harmlessness and helplessness, and all of them repeat their oft heard protestations that they are

the victims of economic conditions beyond anybody's control. Their assertions that they make an almost infinitesimal profit and often operate at a loss do not seem to make much impression on either the public or the agencies of justice. That their statements are not always ingenious is indicated by the following assertion of the "commercial research department" of one of the big five:

"The general high price level is not due to manipulation. This is shown by a recent report of the war industries board, which proves that prices in other countries of the world have risen as much as or more than they have in the United States, and that this has been true even in countries relatively unaffected by war conditions, such as Japan and Australia."

The truth is that Australia is glutted with food products and its people are struggling to keep prices up to a profitable level. Also, while there was a big advance in the prices of Japan's chief food, rice, it was admittedly due to the manipulations of hoarders and profiteers and was the cause of riots and of government action.

The sugar situation is confusing and statements are as conflicting as those relating to the packing industry. However the government believes the sugar men also are profiteering and three officials of the Pittsburgh branch of a Chicago concern were arrested. It is asserted that scalpers have vast quantities of sugar stored away and that dealers are forced to buy where they can and pay what is asked. In this, as in the case of other food products, the accused say the government is partly to blame for shipping vast supplies to Europe and thus creating a domestic shortage. The concerted attacks by federal and local authorities caused immediate and sharp declines in the wholesale prices of many foods, but there was little evidence that the consumer was profiting by the declines, which seemed to put some of the onus on the retailers.

The federal trade commission lately has been making an inquiry into the shoe business, and has informed congress that the high prices of shoes are due to the unprecedented and unjustified profits taken by the slaughterers, tanners, manufacturers and dealers. Here, again, the packers are hit, for they are charged with causing an unwarranted increase in the price of hides, the supply of which they are said to control.

Following up the memorandum of the locomotive engineers presented to the president, fourteen railroad unions acting as a unit handed to Director General Hines a demand for wage increases with a general program designed to meet the present crisis, involving the threat of a general railroad strike. They ask that congress appropriate the money to provide increased pay and that the proper rate-making body then determine what increases if any should be made in rates.

"Any permanent solution of the railroad problem must necessarily remove the element of returns to capital as the sole purpose of operation," say the unions, and so the director general is asked to recommend to President Wilson that he try to obtain the passage by congress of the so-called Plumb plan. This plan, in eliminating private capital from the railroads, not only proposes but demands that the present private owners be reimbursed with government bonds for "every honest dollar that they have invested"; that the public, the operating management, and labor share equally in corporations to take over the railroads, and that in all revenues in excess of the guarantee to private capital the operators and employees share one-half, "either by increasing the means for service without increasing fixed charges or by reducing the cost of the service which the machinery then in service."

The union leaders say that if the Plumb plan is rejected they will start a campaign both in and out of congress that will compel its adoption, and they declare frankly that it is their hope that it will lead to the nationalization of all other basic industries. Senator Thomas of Colorado denounced the demands of the rail workers as near-treason, and other members of congress shared his opinion, though they were less outspoken.

Already the railroads of the country are greatly hampered by the strike of the shop workers. This was not authorized by the national unions, and it began to collapse when the president told the men their demands would not be considered until they resumed work.

Both England and France are handling their tremendous labor difficulties fairly well. In the former the strike of city policemen seems to be a failure, though in Liverpool it was accompanied by serious rioting. In France the workers have sensibly agreed to postpone all strikes for six months and meantime they will join with the employers and the government in earnest efforts to solve the problems of wages and prices to stimulate greater production, which alone, it is believed, can save their country from economic disaster. It would be an unmeasurable blessing if some of the common sense that has moved the French laborers to keep up production could be instilled in the American workers so they might realize that in cutting off production they are cutting their own throats.

Chicago's race war, which at bottom was largely industrial and partly political, practically came to an end, and on Thursday more than 3,000 colored employees of the packing houses returned to work. As they walked in, a large number of white employees laid down their tools and quit, some of them because most of the colored workers are nonunion and others because they objected to laboring under police and military protection.

After Bela Kun and his communist government of Hungary quit and made way for the Socialists things moved rapidly in Budapest. The Roumanian army, which had routed the Hungarian Red troops, advanced to the city and occupied it, and Roumania issued an ultimatum to Hungary which was not countenanced by the allied peace council. Therefore French and American troops were sent to Budapest and assumed control and the Roumanians were told they must get out. Next the socialist government was overthrown and its members arrested and Archduke Joseph assumed power with the title of governor of the state. He was supported by the entente mission in the city and announced he would form a coalition cabinet with Stephen Friedrich as premier.

The Austrian peace delegates made their counter-proposals to the treaty terms submitted by the allies. These were unexpectedly mild and the complaints of the Austrians are almost pathetic. They assert that too much territory is taken from their country, citing especially the Tyrol and southern Bohemia, and say the war debt loaded on them is so heavy they are not sure the Austrian people can exist under such conditions.

Japan, through Foreign Minister Uchida, promises to restore Shantung to China on conclusion of arrangements with the Peking government to carry out the pledge given in the agreement of 1915. President Wilson, however, now reveals the fact that the Japanese peace delegates gave substantially the same promise in the inter-allied conference of April 30 without any reference to the agreement of 1915. The president believes the Japanese statement clears up the doubt about the Shantung affair. Secretary of State Lansing told the senate foreign relations committee that China had never protested to the president against the Shantung settlement; that the clause was accepted by the decision of the president and that he, Mr. Lansing, did not believe it was needed to obtain Japan's adherence to the League of Nations.

Secretary of War Baker has presented to the house and senate committees on military affairs the administration bill for a permanent military policy. It calls for a regular army with a peace strength of 510,000 and a war strength of 1,250,000, the reserves to be provided through a modified form of the selective service act. Included is a system of military training of three months for all eligible youths in their nineteenth year. This feature may gain for the bill the support of the advocates of universal military training.

## DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER

### THE ELVES' RIDE.

"Fly-High, the bird of the Elves," said Daddy, "wanted to take the Elves for a ride.

"I haven't taken you in ever and ever so long," said Fly-High. "My back fairly aches to take you riding. My broad wings long for some little Elves to sit upon them."

"We'd love to go," said the Elves, "and where will you take us, Fly-High?"

"I thought it might be nice," said Fly-High, "to have a complete change."

"Where will we go?" asked the Elves again.

"We'll ride along a country road, early, early in the morning before the people come out to ride and walk."

"That sounds nice," said the Elves.

"And we will talk to the Cows by the roadsides," said Fly-High. "We will see what the children see when they go walking and riding through the country. We will enjoy what they enjoy and then we will feel as though we were better friends than ever with the children."

"Don't you think that will make a nice change?" asked Fly-High.

"We do, we do, indeed," said the Elves.

"So they all jumped upon the great broad wings of Fly-High, for it was then early, early in the morning.

"And we shouldn't delay a moment," Fly-High had said.

"So off they started, and took a lovely trip, along a country road.

"Fly-High kept very close to the road. He was hardly up any distance at all for they wanted to talk to the

flowers and say good-morning to the Dew Fairies, and to smile to Mr. Sun as he got up for the day.

"How-do-you, Painter's Brush," they said to the Painter's brush flowers. They're red, you know.

"Good-morning, Buttercups. We're so glad to see you. Are you going to stay much longer? We do hope so."

"Not much longer," said the Buttercups. "Most of our family have gone already. We've stayed a little longer."

"Oh, we're sorry you're going, Buttercups," the Elves said.

"We'll be back next year, the same as usual," said the Buttercups.

"That makes us happy," said the Elves. "We'd be quite heart-broken, if our friends, the different flowers, didn't come to visit the earth each year."

"We'll come, Elves, never fear," said the Buttercups, as they smiled so brightly.

"Hello, Daisies," said the Elves. "You're good friends, good friends."

"The daisies smiled and bowed. "So glad you think so, Elves, and the children like us, too!"

"Of course they do," said the Elves. "Children are sensible!"

"The daisies smiled at the nice compliment.

"Hello, Milk-Weeds," said the Elves. "Hello, hello."

"Then as they went along they came to a tiny babbling brook. There were growing by the banks of the brook little blue forget-me-nots.

"Ah, our dear, dear friends, the forget-me-nots," said the Elves.

"Our dear friends, the Elves," said the forget-me-nots, their little blue faces smiling such adorable little smiles.

"And there are our good friends the black-eyed Susans, or would you rather be called Ox-Eyed Daisies?"

"We don't mind at all," they said. "We like both names."

"Yes," said Fly-High. "It's fine to have two names, fine!"

"Good-morning, pretty green ferns," they said, as they passed some woods.

"How sweet they always are," added Fly-High.

"Good, good-morning, fields of grain," they said.

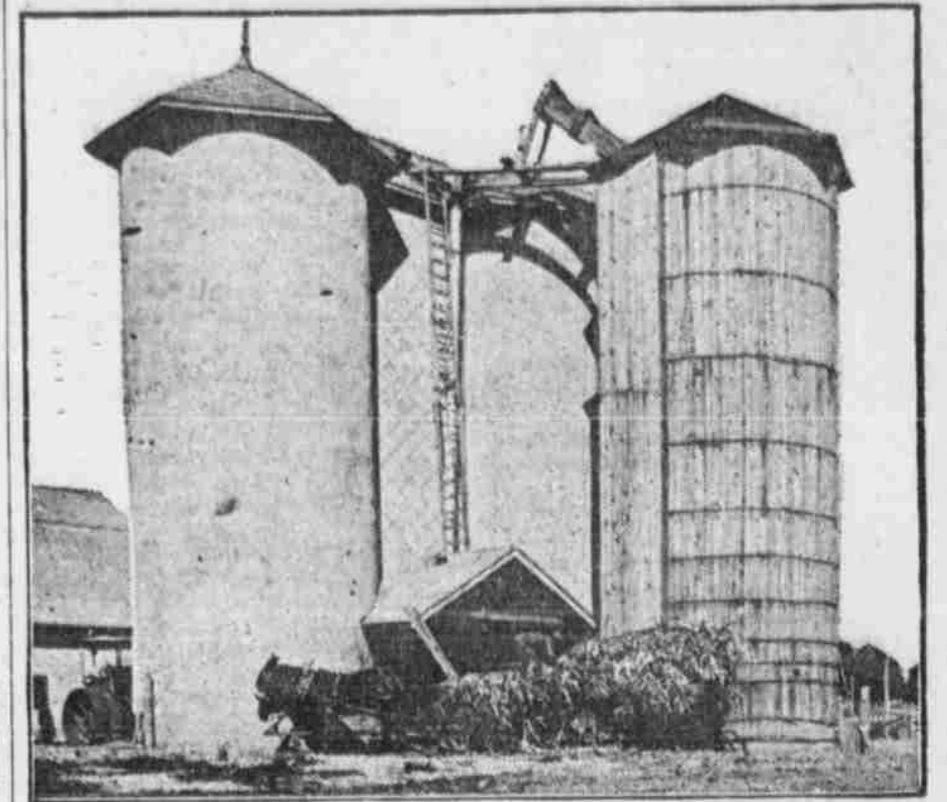
"And so they went on, saying a good-morning to all the flowers they passed, and they told little stories to each other when they had time. The flowers told the Elves how the children had enjoyed them, and how they would be picked to decorate houses and the Elves told the flowers some lovely fairy stories."

Wanted to See to Sleep.

Little Marian had been taken upstairs to bed. Her prayers had been said, but the child seemed restless and clung to her mother as long as possible. Finally she was tucked in cozily and her mother was about to turn out the light when a little voice pleaded:

"Mother, please let the light burn so I can see to sleep!"

## SUMMER SILAGE IS PROPER INSURANCE AGAINST LOSSES DURING DRY WEATHER



Well-Constructed Silos Being Filled for Winter and Summer.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The time has nearly arrived for filling silos—has quite arrived for building additional ones if more space is needed.

Materials are high. It may be a question with the individual farmer whether he can afford to build a silo this year.

Realizing that possibility, the United States department of agriculture believes that many men may be inclined to give too much weight to construction cost and not enough to silage value, and that therefore the advantages of the silo ought at least to be restated.

### Advantages of Silos.

Here are some of the outstanding points in what the department's dairy specialists think of silos:

In general, more cow feed can be grown on an acre of ground in corn than in any other crop.

When put in a silo it is more easily harvested and cared for than any other crop.

Silage operations are absolutely independent of weather conditions. Corn for silage can be harvested in the rain.

The silo makes possible full utilization of corn that otherwise would be destroyed or damaged by frost.

The silo makes it possible to keep more animals on a given acreage, which means more manure and constantly increased soil fertility.

Harvesting corn as silage clears the ground early so it can be prepared for other crops.

With silage it is not necessary to put so many acres in hay.

In any other form a considerable portion of the feeding value is lost.

Corn cured as fodder loses about 40 per cent of its feeding value.

Corn preserved as silage loses only about 10 per cent of its feeding value.

About 35 per cent of corn fodder is wasted in feeding.

Only about 5 per cent of corn silage is wasted in feeding.

In other silage crops, weedy growth that would not be eaten at all as hay is all eaten as silage.

Saved in any other form, feeds become, in a measure, less palatable and less nourishing.

Silage is all succulent, and all palatable.

### Silage Feeding Pays.

Statistics show that the percentage of profitable herds is almost three times as high among herds that are fed on silage as among herds that are not fed silage.

While there may be some possible question as to the economy of putting up silos under extreme high prices, there can be no question about the economy of filling to capacity those that are already up.

Every man who has a silo should aim not only to put up enough silage to carry his herd through the winter but to have some for summer feeding, at least in case of emergency.

Even in the best of pasture regions, cows frequently drop 20 to 50 per cent in production—even more sometimes—in midsummer when drought cuts the pastures short.

When the rains come later, these cattle do not return to 100 per cent production.

If there is some stuff in the silo when the dry weather comes, the cows can be kept up in production through the drought and carried on at maximum production through the season.

Summer silage is, to the dairy farmer, insurance against loss from drought.

If he has not sufficient capacity to carry over summer silage, more should be constructed as soon as it is at all feasible.

The summer silo, to give the most service possible, should be of smaller diameter than the winter silo, for in order to keep it in perfect condition silage must be fed to a greater depth each day in summer than in winter.

As compared with soiling crops, summer silage saves labor at a time when labor is urgently needed for other things.

Dairy farmers are realizing more and more every year that they must have summer silos.

## PAINTING SILOS FOR FUTURE USEFULNESS

### Of Great Importance to Protect Against Decay.

Good Inside Coating is Coal-Tar Solution, Thinned With Gasoline—Wooden Staves Usually Begin to Rot at the Base.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Now that the cost of constructing silos is high it is more important than ever to protect against decay those that are already built.

A good inside coating for silos, specialists of the United States department of agriculture say, is coal-tar solution, thinned if necessary with gasoline, and applied with a paint brush. The best plan is to apply it one or two days before the silo is filled, but it can be done successfully during filling, the men in the silo painting a strip as high as they can reach, and repeating the process periodically until the top is reached. When put on in this way the material must be thinned with gasoline which evaporates almost immediately and leaves the coal-tar dry enough not to injure the silage.

The same preparation is good also for coating the outside wall. The only objection is that black outside paint, is not as pleasing in appearance as that of a lighter color. The high cost of linseed oil and prepared paints, however, cause many silo owners to neglect painting with those materials, and a black outer coat is certainly preferable to deterioration for lack of paint.

Wooden-stave silos that have begun to rot at the base—where decay usually begins—can be saved by sawing off the rotten portion. It is necessary, of course, to block up the silo before the sawing is done, and then to lower it gradually. Carefully handled, a silo can be sawed off and lowered absolutely without injury. After this operation there is likely to be three or four years of life left in a silo that without it would have been worthless.

## RABBITS CHEAPEST TO RAISE

Compared With Chickens Points Are in Favor of Rabbits—Inexpensive Feed Given.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

It costs about 25 cents to raise a rabbit to the age of three months. At that time it may be marketed at the rate of 35 to 40 cents a pound and the pelts are worth from 15 to 75 cents, depending on the kind of rabbit and its size. Oats, cabbage and water compose the basic diet used by most of the young growers. Compared with chicken raising, the points are in favor of the rabbit, for the hares are very hardy and require inexpensive feed.

## LIVE STOCK NOTES

Pigs are as clean as other animals if conditions are as they should be.

After weaning the colt will need some feeds to supply ingredients furnished by the mother's milk.

If the driver lets the horses' shoulders get sore, even if strong and sound, the horse is useless.

Sudan grass is a good hay for sheep, approximately equal in value to ordinary wild hay or timothy hay.

Alfalfa, sweet clover, red clover, bluegrass, brome grass, barley, oats or rape all make satisfactory hog pastures.

The sow should be given good, milk-producing feeds and she should be fed all she will eat if her pigs are to flourish.

The brood mare previous to foaling time will require a little extra care in her handling; she should not be overworked.