

ALLIES KNEW OF POPE'S PEACE PLANS; OMAHA COAL MEN FACE BANKRUPTCY

COAL TRADE DEMORALIZED, DEALERS FACE HEAVY LOSS, DECLARES OMAHA JOBBER

George M. Wallace Says Action of President Wilson and Federal Trade Commission in Fixing Prices at Mines Will Throw Many Merchants Into Bankruptcy; Famine Coming.

"There was never a time in the history of the country when the coal trade was so completely demoralized as right now. This applies to both the jobbers and the retailers," said George M. Wallace, secretary and general manager of the Nebraska Fuel company, one of the largest jobbers of coal west of the Mississippi river.

"This condition is brought about by the action of President Wilson and the federal trade commission in fixing the prices at which coal shall be sold at the mines.

"Omaha coal jobbers, as well as jobbers in other cities, are loaded up with soft coal bought at the high prices and the same holds true with a large number of the retailers in the cities, but not to so great an extent with the retailers in the towns and smaller cities. With the proposed cut of \$1 or more per ton the question is:

"What is going to become of this coal bought at high prices and what is going to become of the dealers if they are forced to sell at the lower prices proposed?

Bought on \$3 Basis.

"Last July most of the jobbers made contracts for their coal. They did so on the supposition that Governor Fort of the trade commission was the special representative of the president and that he was in close touch with the administration. The proposition at the time and the one that had the approval of Governor Fort and the operators provided for \$3 per ton for eastern and \$3.50 for Illinois and Indiana coal. No price was set for coal from the mines west of the Mississippi.

"With the understanding that these were to be the prices that would maintain jobbers filled their yards. There was no gambling in futures and we all felt certain that the maximum as well as the minimum had come to stay, at least during the season.

"Now with that coal in our yards and not much of it sold, if the cut in price is applied we stand to lose heavily and unless some provision is made for the government or somebody else to absorb the loss many of the leading dealers will face bankruptcy before spring.

Country Dealers Safe.

"Country dealers and those of the larger towns supplied by Omaha jobbers as a rule ordered their stocks, but to them the coal has not been shipped. Now these orders are being canceled on the belief that prices are going to be lower, so you will see that we are not getting rid of our coal as was expected. The same applies here in the city, except in cases where the retailers had their coal put into the bins.

"Everything points to an enormous demand for mine run coal for the reason that the president has fixed its price at \$3 per ton.

(Continued on Page Two, Column Five.)

Gompers Lays Grievance Of Labor Before Wilson

Washington, Aug. 23.—The general strike situation throughout the country was discussed today at a conference between President Wilson and President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Gompers declined to discuss it further than to say that he had laid "labor's" just grievances before the president and that he had been assured that the rights of labor would be cared for.

The Weather

Table with weather forecasts for Nebraska, including temperature, precipitation, and wind speed for various locations like Omaha, Lincoln, and St. Louis.

German Submarine

Boston, Mass., Aug. 23.—The Leyland liner Devonian, which left an Atlantic port on July 28, has been sunk, presumably by a German submarine. Officers of the line today confirmed the report that the vessel was lost, but stated that they had received no word as to the safety of the crew.

PRICE OF HARD COAL IS FIXED BY WILSON

Effective September First Range From Four to Five Dollars; Dealers Protest; Garfield Is Administrator.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Aug. 23.—Prices of anthracite coal were fixed in a statement issued tonight by President Wilson, and Harry A. Garfield, president of Williams college, was named coal administrator.

The anthracite prices, effective September 1, range from \$4 to \$5 per ton (2,240 pounds) f. o. b. mines. Jobbers are allowed to add a profit of not more than 20 cents per ton for deliveries east of Buffalo and of not more than 30 cents west of Buffalo.

The jobbers' profit on bituminous is limited to 15 cents per ton of 2,000 pounds, wherever delivered.

Allow for Re-Screening.

Producers who incur the expense of re-screening anthracite at Atlantic or lake ports for reshipment by water are permitted to add not more than 5 cents per ton to the price.

Anthracite prices are fixed as follows: White Ash, brkn, \$1.55 Chestnut, \$1.90 Egg, \$4.45 Pea, \$4.10 Steve, \$4.70 Lyons Valley, \$5.00 Chestnut, \$4.00 broken, \$5.00 Pea, \$4.00 Egg, \$4.00 Red Ash, brkn, \$4.75 Steve, \$5.30 Egg, \$4.60 Chestnut, \$5.20 Steve, \$4.90 Pea, \$4.55

Coal Operators Protest.

Denver, Aug. 23.—The Colorado Coal Operators' association, representing sixty operators of the state, at a meeting today protested the action of President Wilson in fixing the prices at the mine of bituminous coal on the ground that the prices were fixed without investigation of mining and marketing conditions by the federal trade commission or any other government agency. A telegram was drafted to be sent to President Wilson. Its contents were not divulged.

The Colorado Fuel & Iron company is not a member of the association, but representatives of that company were present as guests and took part in the action of the association.

The association decided to prepare a schedule of cost of production at the Colorado mines to be sent to the government administrator.

Reichstag Committee Gives Way to More Wildly Body

Copenhagen, Aug. 23.—The committee on ways and means of the "Little Reichstag," has proved too large and ponderous for maintaining a quick and constant touch between the German government and the Reichstag parties when the Reichstag is not sitting. It has now been decided to establish a small committee, which will immediately be available for conferences with government representatives on any question that may arise.

Dr. Michaelis, the German imperial chancellor, has accepted the idea. The first work of the subcommittee may be to pass upon the reply of Germany to Pope Benedict's peace note.

25,000 Prisoners Are Taken By Allies in Three Days

London, Aug. 23.—"In the past three days the entente allies on the western front have taken 25,000 prisoners and since July 31 they have taken 32,000 prisoners," said Major General Frederick B. Maurice, chief director of the war intelligence office, in his weekly talk with the Associated Press.

Pomp and Ceremony Attend Military Wedding at Ft. Crook

To the strains of martial music by the regimental band of the Fourth Nebraska, with the khaki-clad forms of the fellow troopers of the bridegroom lined up in a hollow square, the first military wedding ever performed in Omaha took place at 6:30 o'clock Thursday night at Fort Crook.

Grace Dodge Longnecker, a niece of the late General Grenville M. Dodge of Council Bluffs, and Corporal H. A. Oviatt of the machine gun company of the Fourth Nebraska infantry were the principals in this little drama of military life, staged on the green parade grounds of the fort.

The ceremony was impressive in its simplicity. Companies D and K and the machine gun company of the Fourth regiment, the supply company, the headquarters company and the sanitary detachment were lined up in front of the headquarters building.

Sergeant Herbert Gunnard and Mrs. Herbert Gunnard, Sergeant Jess Alexander and Miss Ida Shute, attendants of the bridal pair, together with the bridegroom, quietly took their places

on the steps of the headquarters building.

The bride, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Elsasner, who wore regulation full dress uniform, appeared immediately after.

The marriage vows were administered by the regimental chaplain. The solemnity and perfect stillness which reigned impressed all witnesses as the young couple took their vows and pledged their troth. Several hundred persons witnessed the ceremony.

An amusing incident of the little drama consisted in the bridegroom's absentmindedness, which bridegrooms are supposed proverbially to possess. After the troops were all lined up, and the chaplain was waiting to read the ceremony, a small sensation was caused by the discovery that the marriage license was missing. The best man came to the rescue.

It developed that the bride groom had left the important document at the office of the staff photographer of the Omaha Bee, and Sergeant Jess Alexander jumped on his motorcycle and post haste flew to the Bee building.

Right



Left



GERMANY CUTS OFF HOLLAND'S COAL SUPPLY

Dutch Shipyards May Be Shut Down if Steel and Fuel Requirements Are Insisted On.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Aug. 23.—Germany is increasing its economic pressure on Holland and now refuses to let steel go into The Netherlands for shipbuilding purposes unless the Dutch agree to devote the ships to German uses for a period of five years after the war.

Secretary Lansing said today he had received unofficial advice to that effect; also that Germany has refused to let Holland have more coal unless Dutch miners are sent to get it out.

The State department's information is that Holland has replied that if the terms regarding the steel are insisted upon the Dutch shipyards will be shut down. The allotment of coal by Germany to Holland is exhausted and Dutch industries are said to be in need of fuel. It is not known what Holland will do regarding the German coal.

German pressure on all the European neutrals, latest advice says, is increasing, but it is being manifested mainly on Holland, Denmark and Switzerland, although it is understood that Norway is feeling it more and more.

Subseas Sink Nine French Ships in Week of August 12

Paris, Aug. 23.—In the week which ended August 19, five French steamships of 1,600 tons or more were sunk by mines or submarines, according to the weekly official report. Four vessels under 1,600 tons were sunk. Three attacks by submarines failed.

Orlando A. Somers Heads Civil War Veterans

Boston, Mass., Aug. 23.—Orlando A. Somers of Kokomo, Ind., was elected commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic at the closing session of the annual encampment today.

Brigadier General John V. Clem, U. S. A., retired, of Washington, was selected senior vice commander-in-chief.

The committee formally ratified the selection of Portland, Ore., as the encampment city for next year.

476 Bisbee Refugees Are Drafted Into Service

Tucson, Ariz., Aug. 23.—Approximately 476 of the men deported from Bisbee, Ariz., July 12 last, now camped at Columbus, N. M., were drafted into the national army today, the district exemption board here announced, the action being taken on the certificate of the Cochise county board that the men had failed to appear before it.

British Warships Shell Zebrugge U-Boat Base

Amsterdam, Aug. 23.—British warships last night bombarded the German submarine base at the Belgian port of Zebrugge, according to the frontier correspondent of the Telegraph.

INTERN GERMAN PASTOR AS ALIEN ENEMY OF THE U.S.

William G. Krauleidis, Lutheran Minister at Riverdale, Ordered Incarcerated at Ft. Riley for Period of War.

Rev. William G. Krauleidis, the German Lutheran minister at Riverdale, Neb., who was arrested several weeks ago on the charge of being an alien enemy of the United States, was ordered interned at Fort Riley for the period of the war.

The order came from the United States attorney general at Washington. Krauleidis will be taken to Fort Riley in a few days. He has been in the county jail at Grand Island since his arrest.

The little church of which Rev. Mr. Krauleidis was pastor was split in two because of the minister's pro-German utterances. The trouble reached a climax when it was proposed to take a vote on whether to offer prayers for the Kaiser. When the argument was at its height one woman rose and shouted, "Hoch der Kaiser."

This was answered by a man from

(Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

ENTENTE COUNCIL PRECEDED PUBLICATION OF PEACE NOTE, STATES JAPANESE DIPLOMAT

Viscount Okuchi Tells How Allied Representatives Met in Rome Before Pope's Proposals Were Made Public; United States, However, Had No Part in Conference.

High Lights of Viscount Okuchi's Statement of Peace Conference

Here are some significant paragraphs in Viscount Okuchi's interview: "When the United States declared war against our common enemy the first thing that suggested itself in the upper house of Japan was the probability of a more genuine entente between the United States and ourselves."

"I am afraid that the peace proposals will not achieve the object hoped for by the pope."

"I have no objection to being quoted as saying that England appeared to a peace settlement at the present time."

"I see no objection to saying that France had very much the same objection that England expressed."

"After leaving Rome we visited the front in France. We were overwhelmed by the enormity of the action. We bring with us a firm conviction that the Germans cannot hold out much longer."

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 23.—The San Francisco Examiner today says Viscounts Y. Kawai and M. Okuchi of Japan passed through here last night on their way to the orient from Rome, where they attended, at the suggestion of Pope Benedict XV and a high United States official, secret conferences between the representatives of the allied entente nations previous to the publication of the pope's recent peace plea.

VICTORY FOR ITALIAN ARMS ALONG ISONZO

Both Northern and Southern Wings Advance; Fighting Along Verdun Front Dies Down.

(By Associated Press.) London, Aug. 23.—The Austrians are removing everything of value from Trieste to Vienna and other inland places, according to a Rome dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company.

Italy's great effort on the Isonzo front is meeting with continued success, Rome reports officially, and its troops are proceeding toward realization of their objectives.

Further ground has been gained on both the northern and southern wings. Austrian counter attack of great severity are being repulsed. The Austrian losses in the first two days of the battle are computed unofficially in Italy at 30,000.

The Italian offensive has resulted

(Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

CAMEL EIGHT DAYS; NO WATER

Blondes Bathe in White Wine; Brunette Turn Other Faucet and Use Only Pure Red. PARISIAN HAS CAMEL PICKLED

(Special cable to the Chicago Tribune and Omaha Bee, Copyright by Tribune company, 1917.) Paris, Aug. 23.—A bas la eu! It is said of a camel that he can go eight days without water.

The Parisian has the camel pickled to death. Back in the states we acquired an atrocious habit of drinking the vile stuff and sometimes even washing our hands and face in it. I know people who employ it for washing dishes, and I must confess that I have often used it to work up a lather before shaving.

No true Parisian ever drinks it. No true Parisian ever bathes in it. The wine is piped right into all Parisian homes. Each bathtub and wash basin has two faucets, the rear one marked "B" and the other "E," meaning Blanc and Rouge.

RED FOR BRUNETTES, WHITE FOR BLONDES. The brunette washes in red wine and the blonde in white. It is the same way with drinks.

For the benefit of visitors from the states some hotels have water for bathing purposes, but in order to conserve the fuel supply they give you hot water only on Saturday and Sunday, so that you can be clean on Monday.

My hotel sprang a new one today when I got up. I occasionally wash my hands and face and shave. I didn't yesterday. The reason was there was no water, either Chaud or Froid. I rang for the bell hop.

"There's no water at all," I said. "Impossible," the hop replied. I showed him that his statement was ridiculous by turning and twisting the faucets round and round—and then some more.

He departed convinced. He promised faithfully to find out what was the matter. He returned two or three hours later.

PROPOSALS OUTLINED.

Viscount Okuchi, who is a graduate of Corpus Christi college, Cambridge, England, according to the Examiner, admitted that he and Viscount Kawai had attended the conferences with representatives of other allied nations, at which the peace proposals of the pope were outlined.

FIRMER FRIENDSHIP. He was said to have issued this statement:

"When the United States declared war against our common enemy the first thing that suggested itself in the upper house of Japan was the probability of a more genuine entente between the United States and ourselves. It was while this matter was under discussion that a message was received from Rome asking that accredited delegates be sent to confer with the other allies.

Suggested by United States. "To tell you the truth, we did not think much of this suggestion until a request came from the United States signed by a man who is revered in Japan. Viscount Kawai and myself were then appointed to attend the meeting.

"All the allies were represented. I am unable to give the names of those who attended, as it was understood that full secrecy was to surround the meeting.

Matter of Diplomacy. "But, since the pope has made public his proposal, which was outlined at our convence, I presume it is a mere matter of diplomacy that kept the European papers from publishing the news of our progress before the proposals were formulated.

"I have no objection to being quoted as saying that England appeared adverse to a peace settlement at the present time.

"I am afraid that the peace proposals will not achieve the object hoped for by the pope. I see no objection to saying that France had very much the same attitude as England as far as the conference was concerned.

"As to what Japan would require in case of peace, I can hardly say anything under present conditions.

Germans Are Weakening. "After leaving Rome we visited the front in France. We were overwhelmed by the enormity of the action. We bring with us a firm conviction that the Germans cannot hold out much longer.

"Being on a secret mission we have not stopped in the United States nor attended any public functions. But we feel, with all the educated class in Japan, that there must be close and cordial relationship between Japan and the United States."

Viscounts Kawai and Okuchi were in San Francisco only a short time. The Japanese consul general here, M. Hamahara, who is in Washington in connection with the visit to the United States, was said to have issued this statement:

Skull Fractured When He is Hit by an Auto

Frank Nitchell, a laborer living at 3811 Madison street, was struck by an automobile driven by Joseph Mitchell, 361 Harrison street, shortly before 7 o'clock yesterday morning. He died about noon.

Witnesses of the accident say Mitchell was driving rapidly south on Thirty-sixth street when he ran into Nitchell walking north. Dr. Shanahan was called and the injured man taken to the South Omaha hospital, where it was found that his skull had been fractured.

Nitchell was employed by the Cudahy Packing company and was on his way to work when killed. He is survived by a wife and six children. He has one son now serving in the army in Cuba.

Mitchell is being held in jail on the South Side for investigation. His bond was fixed at \$5,000. He is an Armour employe and was returning from work when the accident happened.