

# GOVERNMENT TO FLEE PETROGRAD; WILSON SETS NEW FIGURE ON WHEAT

## \$2.20 IS WHEAT PRICE FIXED BY PRESIDENT FOR THIS YEAR'S CROP

Wilson Takes Definite Action to End Agitation for Increase Which Is Stopping Flow of Cereals to Market; Differential Scale Shows \$2.15, Figure for Omaha.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 23.—A price of \$2.20 a bushel—the same as for last year's crop—was fixed by President Wilson tonight for the coming season's wheat yield. The price is for No. 1 northern spring wheat at Chicago, with a scale of differentials for other markets.

### STIMULATE PLANTING.

In fixing a price now for the new crop, which will not be harvested until June, the president was believed to have had two objects in view. The first was to halt legislation pending in congress to fix prices at from \$2.25 to \$3, and the other was to stimulate spring planting.

The introduction of the price raising bills had begun to check the flow of wheat to market and food administration officials feared that mills soon would have to close down. Hoping the legislation would pass, farmers is declared, have been refusing to sell at the present price of \$2.20.

In enacting the food law, congress put a guaranteed price of \$2 on next season's crop and this has been construed as a minimum price. To draw wheat to market the president fixed a price of \$2.20 on last season's yield and it had this effect until the price raising bills were introduced. Then the flow began to stop.

### Upset Flour Program.

Food administration officials have declared that if the bill passed the government would be forced to raise present prices to the new levels and that to do so would upset the food administration's flour and bread program.

On the basis of No. 1 northern spring wheat and its equivalents, the president fixed the prices as follows: Chicago, \$2.26; Omaha, \$2.15; Kansas City, \$2.15; St. Louis, \$2.18; Minneapolis, \$2.17; Duluth, \$2.17; New York, \$2.28; Philadelphia, \$2.27; Baltimore, \$2.27; Newport News, \$2.27; Charleston, S. C., \$2.27; Savannah, \$2.27; Portland, Ore., \$2.05; Seattle, \$2.05; San Francisco, \$2.10; Los Angeles, \$2.10; Galveston, \$2.20; New Orleans, \$2.10; Salt Lake City, \$2; Great Falls, Mont., \$2; Spokane, \$2;ocatello, Idaho, \$2; Fort Worth, Tex., \$2.04; Oklahoma City, \$2.05; Wichita, Kan., \$2.08.

### Fix Selling Date.

The equivalents of No. 1 northern, to which the same price applies, are No. 1 hard winter, No. 1 red winter, No. 1 durum and No. 1 hard white. The wheat must be harvested in the United States during 1918 and sold in the market before June 1, 1919.

The president's proclamation states that the action is to meet an emergency requiring the stimulation of wheat planting.

In a statement accompanying his proclamation the president said: "Under the food control act of August 10, 1917, it is my duty to announce a guaranteed price for wheat of the 1918 harvest. I am, therefore, issuing a proclamation setting the price at the principal interior primary markets in the present guarantee. It is a continuation of the present prices of wheat with some adjustments arising from the designation of additional terminal markets for the crop."

### Assures Farmers Profit.

"This guaranteed price assures the farmer of a reasonable profit even if the war should end within the year and the large stores of grain in those sections of the world that are now cut off from transportation should again come into competition with his products. To increase the price of wheat above the present figure or to agitate any increase of price would have the effect of seriously hampering the large operations of the nation and of the last year's crop to be withheld from the market. It would, moreover, dislocate all the present wage levels that have been established after much anxious discussion and would, therefore, create an industrial unrest which would

(Continued on Page Two, Column One.)

## The Weather

For Nebraska—Continued mild temperature.  
Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday:  
5 a. m. 40  
6 a. m. 37  
7 a. m. 35  
8 a. m. 34  
9 a. m. 33  
10 a. m. 32  
11 a. m. 30  
12 m. 28  
1 p. m. 27  
2 p. m. 26  
3 p. m. 25  
4 p. m. 24  
5 p. m. 23  
6 p. m. 22  
7 p. m. 21  
8 p. m. 20  
9 p. m. 19  
10 p. m. 18  
11 p. m. 17  
Lowest yesterday 17  
Highest yesterday 40  
Mean temperature 27  
Precipitation for 24 hours .00  
Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal since March 1:  
Normal temperature 42  
Excess for the day 24  
Total deficiency since Mar. 1, 1917, .659  
Normal precipitation .92 inch  
Deficiency for the day .92  
Total precip. since Mar. 1, 1917, 23.26 inches  
Deficiency since Mar. 1, 1917, 7.19 inches  
Deficiency for cor. period 1915, .49 inch  
"0" indicates trace of precipitation.  
L. A. WELSH, Meteorologist.



## NEW HINDENBURG LINE UNDER CONSTRUCTION WILL SHORTEN FRONT ON AMERICAN SECTOR

German Forces Ready to Fall Back to New Entrenchments Near Fortress of Metz; Will Straighten Long Line Around Verdun; Trenches Are Sea of Mud.

By ARTHUR S. DRAPER.

London, Feb. 22.—(Special Cable to New York Tribune and Omaha Bee.)—Petain's 11-mile attack Wednesday near the Seille river, in Lorraine, has added interest today with the news the Germans in that part of the front have prepared a new "Hindenburg line."

## TRAFFIC MEN TO MAKE FIGHT FOR DEFEAT OF BILL

Proposal to Eliminate Functions of Interstate Commerce Commission Denounced by Omaha Shippers.

In line with the action of similar organizations throughout the country, the Omaha Traffic club has taken steps looking to the defeat of the congressional plan to curtail the powers of the Interstate Commerce commission by vesting in the president of the United States the authority to initiate advances in the rate rules and regulation of common carriers.

## Statistics of Omaha's Thirteenth Annual Auto Show

Date—February 25 to March 2, inclusive.  
Place—Auditorium and Annex to south of Auditorium.  
Auspices—Omaha Automobile Trade association.  
Manager—Clarke G. Powell.  
Opens—Two p. m. Monday, February 25.  
Closes—Ten thirty p. m. Saturday, March 2.  
Hours—(After Monday) 9:30 a. m. to 10:30 p. m.  
Music—Afternoon and evening by Oleson's orchestra.  
Number of Exhibitors—Sixty-four.  
Makes of Gasoline Cars—Eighty-seven.  
Makes of Electric Cars—Two.  
Cars on Display—Two hundred and sixty-one.  
Lowest Priced Car—Four hundred and thirty-five dollars.  
Highest Priced Car—Nine thousand dollars.  
Value of Exhibits—Approximately \$1,000,000.  
Public Entrance—Fifteenth street, between Howard and Jackson.  
Exits—All sides of building.

## Francis Ready to Leave Petrograd

Washington, Feb. 23.—Ambassador David R. Francis advised the State department today of the intention of the diplomatic corps in Petrograd to leave the city with the Bolshevik government if the Germans menace the city.

## Two Big Nebraska Farm Paps Are to Be Merged

By negotiations just completed the Twentieth Century Farmer has been acquired by and will eventually be merged with the Nebraska Farmer, owned and published at Lincoln, by a corporation in which S. R. McKelvie has the chief interest. These two weekly papers are the leading agricultural publications of the state, the Twentieth Century Farmer having been issued by The Bee Publishing company, under the editorship of Thomas F. Sturgess since 1900, as the successor to the old Weekly Bee. The transfer will be made April 1, but The Bee Publishing company will continue to print the Twentieth Century Farmer until June for Mr. McKelvie and also after that the consolidated paper until his plant at Lincoln may be ready to take it over. This will enable The Bee organization to concentrate all efforts upon The Daily and Sunday Bee and make these papers better than ever.

## FOREIGN DIPLOMATS QUIT RUSS CAPITAL TO AVOID CAPTURE

Petrograd is Threatened By Rapid Advance of Teutons; Bolshevik Government Reported Fleeing to Point Farther Inland; Francis Cables Plans for Evacuation to Washington.

### BULLETIN.

Berlin, Feb. 23.—In their new invasion of Russian territory the German forces have reached Walk, in Livonia, 90 miles northeast of Riga, it was announced today by the German general staff. In Volhynia the Teuton armies marching from Lutsk have reached the town of Dubno. The official statement follows:

"In Esthonia we are pressing eastward. In Livonia, Walk has been occupied.

"In Ukraine the forces advancing southward from Lutsk reached Dubno. Elsewhere our operations are taking their course.

"The number of prisoners brought in has been increased to two generals, 12 colonels, 433 other officers and 8,770 men."

(By Associated Press.)

Petrograd, Feb. 23.—The allied embassies will leave Petrograd in the event that the German advance threatens the city. They are ready, however, to aid Russia to fight the Germans.

The embassies are virtually unanimous in a decision not to break relations in any event.

## NATION TO BE PLACED UNDER RATION LAW

Compulsory Food Conservation Urged by House Agriculture Committee; Food Famine Threatens Country.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Compulsory food conservation is necessary in the opinion of members of the house agriculture committee, which today submitted its report on the bill giving the president power to regulate public eating houses and the distribution and manufacture of foodstuffs. The bill does not directly affect householders.

The report recalls that the president has no power to enforce economy in consumption under the existing food law and that the success of conservation plans depend entirely upon the voluntary co-operation of the people.

## MANY SLACKERS.

The appeals to save food have met with gratifying results, the report says, and adds "but there is a small per cent of people who either willfully or for lack of understanding fails to respond to the call made for patriotic duty."

"The food situation as it affects us and our allies," the report continues, "is becoming so critically serious as to warrant the committee in the belief that the necessity is upon us of adopting compulsory methods of conservation in certain well-defined directions."

"It would be foolish for us to shut our eyes to the facts; it would be cowardly in us to fail to attack the problem of waste in foodstuffs in the most vigorous manner."

"The bill is designed to meet a situation which is closely allied to conservation."

"If we ship to Europe all of our exportable surplus of certain foods, there is never going to be more than just enough of such foods available for consumption in the United States."

"In order to prevent local shortages, (Continued on Page Two, Column Four.)

## WOULD-BE DETECTIVE, WITH Erstwhile Sleuth Displays Big Badge, Fingerprint Paper and Magnifying Glass.

'LOTS EXPERIENCE,' SEEKS JOB

A position as "United States detective" was sought by J. Burwil, who wandered into United States Marshal Flynn's office Saturday morning.

He met Deputy Marshal Quinley, whose humorous brain immediately took in the steady-looking individual in the cardigan coat.

"Have you had any experience as a detective?" Quinley asked him.

"For answer Burwil unbuttoned his coat, sweater and vest and showed a shining badge about a foot in diameter, decorated with eagles and stars and inscribed "Deputy Chief of Police."

He also displayed a cheap magnifying glass and a sheet of paper with some finger prints on it.