

SENATOR JONES DEFENDS U.S. COAL AND SUGAR MOVE

Declares Price-Fixing on Commodities Has Saved Country From Chaos; Nation Should Boost.

Washington, March 22.—Speaking in defense of the food and fuel administrations in the senate today, Senator Jones of New Mexico, exonerated both of blame for the recent sugar and coal shortage.

He declared their price-fixing had saved the country from "chaos and confusion." Senator Jones, who was a member of the manufacturers' sub-committee which investigated the sugar and coal shortages, spoke in reply to Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, who recently denounced price-fixing as a failure, blamed the fuel scarcity on Administrator Garfield and asserted that the sugar shortage was largely artificial.

Help, Not Hinder.
"Let these organizations alone," urged Senator Jones. "If they need more power, give it. Don't badger or heckle them. On the other hand help and encourage them. Let us not say to the world that the affairs of our government at this time are in incompetent hands. To the contrary, let us tell the truth and say to the world that the resources of this country are being successfully mobilized for the purpose of the war."

Senator Jones resented the Massachusetts senator's criticism of the fuel administration as being a "bureau largely composed of amateurs," declaring the fuel and also the food administrators are both well qualified and, with the organizations they have created, are "serving the country solely for patriotic reasons."

Senator Lodge's speech was referred to as an "example of studied and deliberate word lashing," its tendency being to bring the entire administration into "disrepute."

To refute Senator Lodge's statement that no actual sugar shortage existed, Senator Jones said that agricultural department reports show that on August 31, 1917, sugar stocks were 125,000 tons below normal.

Defends Sugar Policy.

In defending the administration's sugar price fixing policy he said it was difficult to conceive that anything resulted other than a benefit to the great mass of American consumers without injury to the producer.

Taking up the coal situation Senator Jones said:

"The activities of the fuel admin-

istration from the very beginning have been directed toward supplying the extraordinary demand for coal on the part of the government itself and those branches of industry which the government has called into war service. With the entire coal output inadequate to supply the demands of the country, it has been necessary of course to make readjustments to supply the war demand.

"It is my belief that the question as to the causes of a shortage of coal and the high prices can be answered with one word, transportation. If transportation had not been unlimited I think there can be no doubt but what the ordinary machinery for distribution would have expanded and met all demands."

Fuel Administrator Garfield's fuel order temporarily closing industry east of the Mississippi river during certain days also was defended by Senator Jones, who said "that the order was not wholly without justification may reasonably be inferred from the fact that after the effects of its operation in this country were known, a similar order was issued and made effective in Canada."

BISHOP O'REILLY TO PRESIDE OVER LINCOLN DIOCESE

Rome, Wednesday, March 22.—The Right Rev. Charles J. O'Reilly, bishop of the diocese of Baker City, Ore., has been appointed by Pope Benedict bishop of the diocese of Lincoln, Neb.

General Bell Optimistic Over Outcome of Conflict

New York, March 22.—There is not the slightest occasion for pessimism or discouragement, General J. Franklin Bell, commander of the 77th division of the national army, declared today in his first interview since his recent return from the fighting front in France.

"We are engaged in a serious undertaking, but there is not the slightest reason for doubting that we will finally accomplish our task and accomplish it thoroughly," General Bell said. "Patience and perseverance is all that will be required."

McCormack Sings to 12,000; Raises \$100,000 for Relief

San Francisco, March 22.—Twenty-thousand dollars were added here last night to the \$100,000 war relief fund that John McCormack, the tenor, is raising for the American Red Cross society, when he sang before an audience of 12,000 persons. This was said to be the largest number that had attended a similar entertainment in this country, and the civic auditorium was taxed to its capacity.

RIVAL HOSTS AT DEATH GRIPS ON 50-MILE FRONT

Germans Pass British Outposts, But Nowhere Gain Objectives; Drive Toward Old Battlefield of Somme.

(By Associated Press.)
British soldiers have met and withstood the most stupendous attack Germany has hurled against the western front in three and one-half years of warfare.

On a front of more than 50 miles the armed hosts of democracy are at grips with the forces of Prussianism and what may be the decisive struggle in the great war is raging in northern France.

In their first onslaught, the enemy, after a gigantic bombardment from great masses of guns, passed the British outposts at some points and attained the battle line, but nowhere did the Germans gain the objectives planned. Regiment after regiment was hurled against the defenses of the British front and Field Marshal Haig reports the German losses as exceptionally heavy.

Push Toward Somme.

Desperate fighting continues all along the lines from the Senese to the Oise, and especially on the Cambrai sector. Enemy efforts before Cambrai were aimed principally to the north and south of the salient left after fighting ceased last November, with the evident purpose of cutting off the salient and driving through the opening toward the old battlefield of the Somme.

Germany's latest offensive finds both sides prepared for the shock of prolonged and sanguinary combat. For months the Germans have been training troops and moving up guns and supplies behind their lines between Arras and St. Quentin. The British also have been active and were prepared for any blow the enemy might deliver.

Battlefield for Future.

Behind the British lines is the devastated area over which the Germans retreated last March. Field Marshal von Hindenburg declares at the time that the devastation was carried out, not only to hamper the allied armies, but to provide a battlefield for the future. The German attack may be only a feint, but a large breach in the British lines might involve the safety of Paris and Amiens and the French channel ports from the mouth of the Seine to Belgium. Germany artillery fire also has been

NEW ZONE SYSTEM OF COAL SUPPLY

Nebraska to Be Supplied From Mines in Missouri, Iowa and Other Middle West States.

Washington, March 22.—Completion of its zone system of coal distribution designed to bring about economies of transportation and increased production was announced by the fuel administration. Railroad embargoes will be used to enforce operation of the plan.

Big Drive Will Decide War Say German Papers

London, March 22.—"We are now entered on a decisive battle for general peace," says the Taegische Rundschau of Berlin, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen announcing that the commencement of the German offensive in the west is received with great felicitation by the German people, who will follow it with feverish interest. The newspaper adds: "A single combat between England and Germany which is to decide the war, our future position in the world and whether the Anglo-Saxons shall continue to press their will on 'the world, opened today."

New Spanish Cabinet With Maura Premier

Madrid, March 22.—Antonio Maura, the former premier, has formed a cabinet to succeed that of Marquis de Albuercas. Maura will be premier, former Premier Data will be minister of foreign affairs, Count Romanones minister of justice and General Marina minister of war. Marquis de Albuercas will take the interior portfolio. Count Romanones also is a former premier.

Clevelanders Recommend Suppression German Daily

Cleveland, O., March 22.—Suppression of all German language newspapers in this country and particularly a Cleveland German daily newspaper, as a dangerous organ of German propaganda was recommended in a resolution signed by 66 prominent Clevelanders, and sent today to President Wilson.

BELL-ANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. Druggists refund money if it fails. 25c

NEW ZONE SYSTEM OF COAL SUPPLY

Nebraska to Be Supplied From Mines in Missouri, Iowa and Other Middle West States.

Washington, March 22.—Completion of its zone system of coal distribution designed to bring about economies of transportation and increased production was announced by the fuel administration. Railroad embargoes will be used to enforce operation of the plan.

Thirty Germans Killed

London, March 22.—Thirty German soldiers were killed and more than 100 others injured and 500 ammunition wagons were blown up by an explosion at Mevrignies station, near Mons, Belgium, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Amsterdam filed yesterday.

Gotham Restaurants Are Checked Up for Fudging

New York, March 22.—Restaurants may not serve the succulent ox-tail ragout, kidney saute, tripe stew or even calf's liver, on meatless days in New York. This decision was rendered today by the federal food board, which had before it several restaurant proprietors whose bills of fare showed that their chefs on barred days had been evolving tasty dishes from meat products.

All the defendants were discharged with the warning that hereafter on pain of being forced to close their places, they must eschew, from horn to hoof, the use of beef or beef products on Tuesdays.

Indians Protest Bill

Washington, March 22.—(Special Telegram).—Senator Hitchcock has received a protest from the tribal council of the Omaha Indians against giving certain Indians a tribal status as provided for in a bill Senator Hitchcock introduced a year ago.

BERG SUITS ME.

Choose Your Clothes

As You Choose Your Associates
"The kind that have a reputation"



Now, more than ever before, men and young men must exercise great care in their clothes selections. They must rely upon the reputation of the store they're from and the makes of the clothes they buy.

As Omaha's Foremost Clothing Store for Men we have buying advantages that enable us to offer unequalled values and clothes of superior merit.

As Exclusive Representatives of

The House of Kuppenheimer

and after careful consideration the additional celebrated lines of

Hirsch-Wickwire and L System

These creations easily surpass all other competition this season as style leaders. Thus this selection in these days of wool shortage. See these renowned clothes that are guaranteed ALL WOOL—

\$20 to \$45

Unusual Styles and Values

In fine all wool fabrics, styled for men and young men. Specially priced from **\$15.00 to \$25.00**

TOP COATS—

Gabardines, Homespun, Tweeds, Oxfords, etc., etc., fitted and belt backs, lined and skeleton—**\$16.50 to \$35.00**

Easter Neckwear

The season's finest have been assembled at this store for your Easter choosing. Flowing four-in-hands, Bats, Clubs—all in new colorings and designs—**50c to \$2.00**
Lion Soft Collars Lion Starched Collars

Our Hat Department

Our Hat experience has brought us the season's best—Stetson's, Borsalino's, Berg's, Mallory's, Connatt's, Hawe's Von Gal Creations. And of equal importance is our service in helping you to select a hat that is becoming in shape and color—Hats are **\$3.00 to \$10.00**
Caps are **\$1.00 to \$2.00**

Spring Weight Underwear

We are prepared to supply men of all proportions in either two-piece or union suits, 1/4 sleeves, 3/4 length or athletic styles.

Prices \$1 to \$6

Smart Shirt Creations

Come and see how successfully we have coped with adverse market conditions—how large our shirt stocks and how large the variety in the most favored material.
Fine Madras, **\$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00**
Soft and stiff cuffs.
Silk Mixtures, stripes and checks, **\$3-\$3.50-\$4**
Pure Silk Shirts, **\$5.00 to \$12.00**

Berg Clothing Co.

1415 Farnam Street

Extra Trousers \$2.50 Up

Onxy Hose 75c
Splendid quality Fibre Hose—all new colors—a leading value.

Julius Orkin

1508-1510 Douglas St.

Kayser Silk Vests \$1.95
Extra weight Jersey Vests—flesh and white—several good styles.

Unusual Suit and Blouse Events Saturday

Easter clothes buying will reach its height this Saturday. We are prepared with wonderfully complete stocks to meet the demands of our hundreds of customers on this day. Vast shipments of merchandise have arrived to augment our stocks during the past week.

Thoroughbred Quality SUITS

Easily worth to \$32.50. Featured for Saturday in one dominant lot, at.....

\$24.75

Comparison will prove these to be by great odds Omaha's foremost suit values. Shown in American Poplins and Men's Wear Serges, in Navy, Black, Tan and Gray—well lined—new high waist effects; such values won't linger long, so be here early Saturday.



Wanted—Several courteous, experienced salesladies for suit department at once.

\$29.50 Buys a new SUIT

of undeniable good style, rare values, actually worth to \$39.50.

Wonderful Showing HIGH GRADE SUITS

\$35, \$39.50, \$45, \$49.50

America's finest styled, best tailored Suits are included in our showing of better Suits. Beautiful fabrics, rich linings and unsurpassed tailoring individualizes each suit featured upward from \$35.00.

Pre-Easter Exhibit and Sale of BLOUSES

Crepe de Chine, Georgette and Lingerie

Thousands of new Blouses are involved in this pre-Easter offer—many styles making their initial appearance Saturday.

We are ready Saturday with the greatest exhibit of quality Blouses ever shown by this store. Those who are not acquainted with our Blouse leadership should come Saturday—conclusive evidence will be found in every Blouse involved in sale.

Featured Saturday at \$6.50 Beaded and Embroidered Georgette Blouses in a host of truly attractive styles. All new Spring colors. Values to \$10.00.	Featured Saturday at \$5.00 Crepe de Chines and Georgette Crepe, fashioned into clever Blouse styles. A very extensive range of models; all colors. Values to \$8.75.	Featured Saturday at \$3.50 Crepe de Chine and Georgette in white, flesh and a few colors; new high neck effects; very choice styles. Worth up to \$5.95.
--	---	---

Lingerie Blouses **\$1.95**

Hundreds of Voile, Organdie and Tub Silk Blouses in white, flesh and maize. A great range for choosing. Values to \$3.00.

<h3>EMPRESS</h3> <p>Vaudeville and Photo Plays</p> <p>A NIGHT WITH THE POETS An Artistic Creation in Song, Poetry and Tableau.</p> <p>FRANK & GRACIE DEMONT Non-sensicalities.</p> <p>ROMANO Novelty Artist</p> <p>THE ZIRAS In a Series of Classy Ideas</p> <p>FRANCIS X BUSHMAN and BEVERLY BAYNE in "UNDER SUSPICION" Drama of Adventure and Romance</p>	<h3>BOYD</h3> <p>Tonight Until Sat. Mar. 30</p> <p>THE COMEDY "MARY'S ANKLE" Something Worth Getting Miles to See. Mats., Sat., Sun., Wed., Sat., 50c to \$1.00 Nites, 50c to \$1.50.</p> <p>"OMAHA'S FUN CENTER" Daily Mats., 15-25-50c Evenings, 25-50-75c-\$1</p> <p><i>Gayety</i> The '17-18 Edition of THE LIBERTY GIRLS Musical Burlesque With Our Best Irish Canadian Brand new show throughout. "Betty and the Bonny Girls," "Payton and Green," "Lucky Four," "Girl Bonds of America," "Summer Garden Showy Chorus." LADIES' DINE MATINEE WEEK DAYS</p>	<h3>MUSE</h3> <p>Peggy Hyland — IN — "HER DEBT OF HONOR" WILL S. HART in "DOUBLE-CROSSED"</p> <p>ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW <i>Hipp</i> SUBBARTON Last Times Today ELLA HALL in "BEAUTY IN CHAINS"</p> <p>HAMILTON 40th and Hamilton Today—VIRGINIA PEARSON in "THOU SHALT NOT STEAL" CHARLIE CHAPLIN in "The Immigrant"</p> <p>SUBURBAN 24th and Ames Colfax 2841 Today—MARY MILES MINTER in "BEAUTY AND THE ROGUE"</p> <p>When Buying Advertized Goods Say You Read of Them in The Bee</p>
<h3>Orpheum</h3> <p>"The Naughty Princess" Montgomery & Perry and Current Bill Matinee Today 2:15 EARLY CURTAIN TONIGHT AT 7:55</p>	<h3>Strand</h3> <p>18th & DOUGLAS Final Presentations DOROTHY DALTON — in — "LOVE LETTERS" Also "Toto" Comedy</p>	<h3>Lothrop</h3> <p>24th and Lothrop Last Times Today ETHEL BARRYMORE in "THE ETERNAL MOTHER"</p>