

THE PAPER TRUST

THE WAR AND COTTON.

As The Rebel goes to press, the status of the trouble between the United States and Germany, can be summed up as follows:

Germany on Friday announced that it would sink any and all ships entering within certain zones around enemy countries that it has declared blockaded with its submarines; that submarine commanders have instructions to sink with or without warning as they deem best.

President Wilson thereupon as

President Wilson thereupon severed diplomatic relations with Germany, that is to say all German ministers, consuls etc. in America¹ are sent home, and all American representatives in Germany are called home.

War will undoubtedly come, and German submarines sink without warning a merchant vessel on board of which are Americans.

The chief hope in the situation is that the present submarine policy of Germany does not affect ships that left harbors on February 1, hence another three weeks can elapse before a vessel is sunk contrary to the demands of America. After that it may be possible that the submarine commanders may not find it necessary to sink a ship with American crew or passengers without warning, as the new policy will keep most Americans and their ships out of the war zone (WHERE THE HAVE NO BUSINESS ANYWAY, IS OUR POSITIVE OPINION).

So time will be given to either straighten out this matter, or else give time to the great undercurrent toward world peace that has now set in, to work out.

In any case let us do all we can so that we shall not be involved in the Europe maelstrom of murder and blood for the sake of the grain, oil and munition and other trusts of America who are coin- ing blood-money on the other side and are holding up the people of this side on "account of the war." We don't mind fight-

ing for "our" country but we shall not get excited about fighting for the trusts that really own this country.

THE REASON FOR THE IO

Wilson promised to see that the conservation job should be taken out of the literary bill. He lied to the people because he knew that the job had gone in there to begin with. He wants it to stay for he will make use of it as soon as he succeeds in bringing about a treaty with the Central Powers. They will watch him use the authority of the bill as the joker to pick out the real million abode-godded Democrats that voted for him or his kind and send them to fatten foreign battle-fields so that the Big Red interests of America may not be hurt by the book-locks. As long as it is written in the law as least that is what will happen, you do not write your congressman at once, protesting against war that is wanted by none of the Trust Owners of America and their tools.

By Ovington
The following article was dated Feb.
1917 carry the news that cotton
and wheat prices suffered
enormous declines on the "Kas-
changers" when German declara-
tion of unrestricted submarine
warfare was received, this despite
the fact that the entire crop pres-
entried scarce headlines asserting
that the German note meant the
United States entering the world
war. The article stated that it
would seem, the sky would be
the limit of the wheat and cotton
crops, for more soldiers would be
put on the battlefield to die in
the wars of the plutocrats, and
SOLDIERS MUST BE FED AND
CLOTHED, no matter what hap-
pens to the civilian population,
for soldiers have guns in their
hands, therefore, in the name of
the United States Country, they
want all soldiers to be fed and
clothed.

For cotton especially, whether there be war or peace, an abnormal demand is facing a sub-normal supply, so that, for months, all the "Exchanges" have been doing is gambling down the price of the South's great basic life-

This thing has been going on so persistently, the gambling down of cotton prices, that it bears on its face evidence that the "Exchanges" are being manipulated entirely in the interests of the Textile Manufacturing Trust.

These gamblers in the products of other people's toil have "bought" and "sold" about 110 bales of cotton to every ounce they ever actually held and as "washed" down the value of the entire crop.

A curious thing in this connection is that the manipulation of the crop of 1916 absolutely disproves the childish idea that high prices will necessarily follow restriction of the cotton crop, for the crop of 1916 is over 2,000,000 bales short of the normal demand, and yet its price has been held around an average (to the farmer) of about 16c a pound, which, in the present depreciated monies of the world, does not equal 8c a pound pre-war values.

however, until the actual working farmers and Industrial workers unite, overthrow the system.

that makes the marketing of the world's great crops a world-wide gamble and on its ruins establishes Industrial Democracy—a commonwealth that will own its markets, wherein the Producers will exchange the wealth they have created on equal terms—value for value.

In the meantime, I say unto you farmers who are still holding a few bales of cotton — BURN IT BEFORE YOU LET THE PLUTOCRATS STEAL IT ! It is WORTH MORE than 25c a pound. RIGHT NOW.

And again I say unto you, this day you **ORGANIZE OR PERISH!**

Sears Roebuck & Co. have declared a stock dividend of 25 per cent and have increased the dividend rate of common stock from 7 to 8 per cent. And the little merchant class who are dying off like flies as a result of the great retail houses, are still thinking they are capitalists and whooping it for the system.

In America.
American newspaper publishers—proprietors of large and small publications in almost every state in the Union—met in Chicago recently at the invitation of a print paper manufacturers to discuss a paper famine which threatens the existence of the newspaper selling at the present prices.

The conference began in the morning as a pleasant "get-together" gathering and ended at night with the two factions of a paper price war farther than ever apart. The newspaper publishers, however, all day to effect any compromise by which they could secure print paper at reasonable cost, left the meeting under an undisguised threat of extermination.

After a long day of persistent evasion of all peace offers from the publishers he defied them even to attempt governmental intervention. Looking toward two members of the Federal Trade Commission, both active in the conference, he said:

"I am unalterably opposed to government domination of our mills. They are private property. Just the moment that you allow the government to interfere with the industry we will discontinue to manufacture news print paper alto-

"I oppose any effort toward supervision of our business by the Federal Trade Commission. Such interference would mean that we submit to the inspection of the commissioners and their assistants, whom we would not even hire as foremen in our plants or bookkeepers in our offices."

which grew more and more unpleasant as the possibility of any sort of compromise or price agreement to turn their differences over to governmental experts.

New York. — The Canadian minister of finance announced that a price of 2 1/2 cents a pound for newsprint will be fixed for 1917 contracts, says The Wall Street Journal. This price represents an advance of \$10 a ton (or 1 1/2 cents per pound) over old contracts, or what might be termed normal prices. Any contracts made since the department of fi-

LATEST FROM AUSTIN.

(Telegram.)

Rebel prophecy proved true again. Submission will not be introduced again this session. Land lords jubilant because of two years more strife over side issues. Land amendment comes up in senate Friday. Have been through exhausting fight. Big story about to break. Particulars next week.

The department in announcing its price states it has considered, first, the increased costs in the manufacture of newsprint paper since 1915 which amounted to from \$3 to \$5 per ton; second, a contingency allowance for 1917; and third the increased profit for the manufacturer for 1917.

The Canadian government will prohibit export of 20 per cent of the output of every newspaper in Canada. This 20 per cent must be sold at a fixed price to Canadian publishers.

Look upon this American picture of the little newspaper publishers who shouted themselves particularly hoarse in behalf of Wilson, and then look at Canada. Here the crooked president of the meanest trust in America today, swells up like a poisoned pup, spits the newspaper publishers in the face and insolently defies the United States government to do anything about it. In Canada—a king, ruled coun-

...y at that — the government
...akes the paper trust uptil its
...teeth rattle. Prices are permit-
...ed to advance only ONE-HALF
...CENT per pound over the prev-
...ous average, and even this ad-
...ance is shown to be liberal.
...In this country print paper
...rices have advanced FOUR
...ENTS a pound and the trust
...ll soon extort still more on the
...hreadbare "war" excuse.

Our Pecksniffian president and his Big Business backers froth and fume over the "offended honor" of OUR country when Germany would keep the American trusts from further feeding the war—while starving the American people.

tion cannot see the damnable dishonor to the country when the paper pirates are being permitted to deliberately destroy the last vestige of a free and independent press, and are literally telling the government in investigating armies — as they march up a hill and down again — to go to hell.

A great nation indeed! The Canunks and Greasers (so-called) should be ashamed to live in this Federation of Putility, the Government by Guesswork, the Paradise of Parasites.

E. P. M.

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into Mexico at the behest of the American interests that own stock in property in Mexico, have come out again. We must hand it to Carranza. In spite of his weakness as against this powerful one, he liked Wilson to a frazzle as a MAN and as a Diplomat, and now he is showing him cards and spades as a statesman.

We are living in the most momentous period of the world's history, and therefore the most gloomy. But it is always darkest just before dawn.





