

# RESTRICT MEAT DISHES IN RESTAURANTS

From: "VEHA" (Morning), Democratic;  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning), Conservative;  
"ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (23 October):--In accordance with a new market inspection order, the cooking and sale of meat dishes in restaurants, etc., will be allowed only on Thursdays and Sundays. The preparation of dishes of heads, feet or intestines will be allowed on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Fresh fish days are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

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# ANNOUNCE 10,000 EXECUTIONS OF GREEKS IN GERMANY

From: "ETHNOS" (Afternoon), Democratic.

London (22 October. Special Correspondent):--According to a statement issued by the Allied Occupation Authorities in Germany, 85,000 Greeks were transported to Germany, among which were 25,000 Jews. 10,000 Greeks were executed. This number includes 1,500 who went to the gas chambers.

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# TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON SPECIAL TAX DEFAULTERS

From: "VRADINI" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
All Morning Papers.

Athens (23 October):--According to an announcement by Mr. Psarazoglou, Sub-Minister of Finance, an order has been issued to the effect that all shops which have not yet paid the special tax as well as the tax on those who unlawfully amassed great wealth are to be closed down.

At the same time, another order decrees that the shops will be taken over from their proprietors in accordance with the law. The State will operate these shops as they are taken over.

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# DISCUSS DISTRIBUTIONS OF COAL IN CAPITAL

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (22 October):--In a conference yesterday, the Minister of Transport and the General Secretary of the Ministry of Supply discussed, among other things, the possibilities of holding distributions of coal to the population of the ex-Governorate of the capital.

If a definite decision is taken, the ration will be fixed at 5 ckes per person.

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# CEMENT PRICE FIXED AT 13,000 DRS. PER TON

From: "ETHNOS" (Afternoon), Democratic.

Athens (22 October):--A market inspection order fixes the price of cement, unsacked, at 13,000 drs. per ton, F.O.B.

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BELIEVES UNRRA WILL FACE  
HARDEST TASK THIS WINTER

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (23 October):--The "CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR" of September 17, just received here, carries an article on Greece by Derek Patmore, British War Correspondent now in Athens, in which he describes existing conditions in Greece and an interview he had with the Minister of Labor.

In that interview the Minister speaking on the labor problem expressed the hope that UNRRA would help the Government create cooperatives throughout the country and organize big Government distributions. Continuing, Mr. Patmore writes:

"... Economics are gradually replacing politics in the average Greek's thoughts. This week, I made a tour of the villages in Boetia, between Athens and Thebes, which rely mainly on UNRRA for their food rations and supplies. Many of these villages were burned by the Germans in reprisal for Partisan activities and in these communities it is food and not politics which is the main preoccupation. UNRRA officials told me that they were hoping to avoid starvation this winter by accumulation of three or four months' food stocks in various depots before the winter sets in.

Food Stocks Stored

"In its large storerooms there, UNRRA now has 600 tons of foodstuffs and feeds 50,000 persons monthly in Thebes and the surrounding villages.

"As an UNRRA representative pointed out, their aim is at supplementing food rations with the necessary calories rather than providing complete rations. Since in the Thebes district eggs, vegetables and fruit are fairly plentiful, it is mainly wheat, canned meat, milk and soap which are distributed.

"In one village, called Aghios Thomas, which has been completely destroyed by the Germans, I saw peasants who had begun to repair their homes with UNRRA materials and although the village was well off the main road I noticed that each family had enough food rations except for the children, some of whom still looked undernourished. The population appeared extremely healthy and full of courage. They were deeply grateful for UNRRA's help and when we left they gave three cheers for America. Yet the coming winter will render UNRRA's task more difficult and all these people still need warm clothes if they are going to resist what experts predict will be the hardest winter in Europe's history.

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EXCHANGE FACILITIES  
AFFORDED TO IMPORTERS

From: "ELEFThERIA" (Morning), Democratic.

Athens (23 October):--This evening the Government Economics Advisory Council will meet again chiefly to discuss import questions.

Mr. Mantzavinos, Minister of Finance, stated that the Government has already begun to grant free foreign exchange for the import of food and raw materials.

According to reliable information, this exchange will come from credits which have been opened in Great Britain against drachma which the Greek Government will pay monthly to the British Military Authorities in Greece. It is estimated that by the end of the year this credit will amount to ten million pounds. These credits will cover imports from Great Britain and countries where the pound is used as legal currency.

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A CORRECTION

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (23 October):--In an article on Exchange Rates of Pound and Dollar published in the Greek Press and carried in the DAILY NEWS DIGEST of 22 October reference was made to Mr. Samston, British Naval Advisor to the Greek Government. The person referred to is actually Commander R. W. Sampton, British Technical Shipping Advisor to the Greek Government.



NEW GREEK BUDGET  
READY FOR RATIFICATION

From: "VRADYNI" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (22 October):--After a long conference between Mr. J. Mantzavinos, Minister of Finance and the Sub-Minister Mr. Pessmazoglou, the new 1945/1946 Budget was finally drawn up including the introductory report. The budget will be brought before the Council of Ministers at this afternoon's session. This morning it was submitted to His Beatitude, the Regent-Prime Minister.

According to absolutely verified information, there is a firm conviction that the new budget for the current fiscal year will be balanced in spite of the increased wages which the State employees and pensioners are to receive.

Mr. Mantzavinos will explain in general terms the country's public finances and the economic situation to the Council of Ministers. He will put special stress on the stability of our nation's currency and on the confidence which we must all have in the drachma.

The new budget was submitted to the economic experts of our Allies who were completely satisfied with it. They stressed the vitality of the Greek people who managed, after so many hardships, to find once more the road to recovery and who with their industry and well-known thriftiness are working for the restoration of the country.

The appropriate Government circles express absolute optimism as regards the balancing of the budget. They base this optimism on the revenue which was collected during the first six months. It is sufficient to note that the income from the various taxes is increasing rapidly from one month to another. The revenue collected from the various taxations is as follows:-

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 1) Tobacco; first six months 1945/46; revenue collected         | 4,729,214,619 Drs. |
| Pre-estimate for the full year                                  | 7,000,000,000 "    |
| It is expected to go above 12,000,000,000 drs.                  |                    |
| 2) Electricity; first six months                                | 50,000,000 "       |
| Pre-estimate for the full year                                  | 40,000,000 "       |
| It is expected that 125,000,000 drs. will be finally collected. |                    |
| 3) Public amusements; first six months                          | 358,000,000 "      |
| Pre-estimate for full year                                      | 500,000,000 "      |
| Expected revenue 800,000,000 drs.                               |                    |

Revenue from all other items shows a proportionate increase.

NOTE: At this stage UNERA refrains from commenting on the expression of opinion contained in the above statement.

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TO IMPORT 200,000  
PAIRS OF SHOES

From: "HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (23 October):--It has been announced that it was decided during the last meeting of the Government Economics Advisory Council that 200,000 pairs of ready made shoes will be imported from abroad to meet the immediate needs of the country.

In connection with this, it is stated that the permit for the above order will be granted to the importer who will be the lowest bidder at a special auction to be held for this purpose.

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STATES 100 LIBERTY SHIPS  
OFFERED TO GREECE

From: "ELEFThERIA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (23 October):--When asked if cargo vessels were to be brought by Greece, the Minister of Merchant Marine stated that Americans had offered 100 ten thousand-ton Liberty ships to a group of Greek shipowners. The terms, however, were not considered profitable, in view of the fact that each Liberty ship would cost about 250,000 pounds. Within the next few days, the Minister will leave for Great Britain and the United States where, among other things, he will try to secure better terms for the purchase of the 100 Liberty vessels.

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TO ENCOURAGE  
HOME ARTS

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (22 October):--After discussing a proposal by Mr. Petrides on the organization and development of popular handicraft, the Directorate of Coordination in the Ministry of Welfare approved and decided to make arrangements, so that raw materials may be supplied to indigent families, in order that they may fill their requirements, such as clothes, household furniture, etc. Furthermore, a circular has been issued to all Nomarchs, Municipalities and Communities, requesting information as regards local handicraft activities.

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A CORRECTION

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (23 October):--Our Fuel Section informs us that the 3,000 tons of coke mentioned in yesterday's DAILY NEWS DIGEST (p.2) as having arrived in Volos per S.S. "HELLAS" was actually 3,000 tons of coal.

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FRIDAY NIGHT'S  
CHARITY DANCE

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (23 October):--Don't forget we're relying on each and every one of you to do your share in making the dance at the Acropole this Friday (from 9:30-1) a real success - both as a dance and a contribution to the poor children of Athens.

The dance is being sponsored by the UNRRA Bureau of Relief Services. With the proceeds a Xmas party will be held for the poor children of Athens. Tickets at 1,000 drs. each are available at Room 29 - 3rd floor.

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STOP PRESS

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (23 October):--Contrary to the announcement carried on page 1 of today's DAILY NEWS DIGEST, Lt. General Sir Humphrey Gale, Deputy Director General, in charge of the European Regional Office of UNRRA, London, Commander R. G. A. Jackson, Personal Representative of the Director General of UNRRA, Washington, and party, did not arrive today from Rome. It is expected that they will reach Athens tomorrow.

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 174

Athens

Wednesday, 24 October 1945

### SAYS UNRRA FACES MOST CRITICAL YEAR

From: "HELENIKON AITHA" (Morning)  
Royalist;  
"VIMA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist;  
"ELIMFOS" (Morning)  
Conservative  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative.

London (23 October. Special correspondent):--According to announcements from Rome, UNRRA's Deputy Director(?) Mr. Jackson stated to representatives of the press that UNRRA is facing a most serious crisis this year, almost to the point of bankruptcy.

Mr. Jackson added that UNRRA's available funds would only last until the first week of January 1946.

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### PRESIDENT TRUMAN STRESSES URGENT NEEDS OF LIBERATED COUNTRIES

From: "HELENIKON AITHA" (Morning)  
Royalist.

New York (23 October. Special Correspondent):--During the last few days, in two consecutive addresses to Congress, President Truman urged strongly the approval of a 550-million-dollar appropriation to supplement the \$1,350,000,000 originally approved as the United States' contribution towards UNRRA. In his addresses, President Truman stresses the urgent need of assisting the liberated countries, especially during the coming winter. Furthermore, it is believed in Washington that a new bill will be introduced shortly for a further grant to UNRRA of \$1,350,000,000 to cover next year's expenditure.

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### BELIEVES CENTRAL EUROPE FACES STARVATION

From: "MAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist.

London (24 October. Special Service):--Mr. Alfred Catin, one of UNRRA's directors in Europe, stated that during the coming winter 6-8 million people in Germany and Central Europe will die of starvation and cold.

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CRETANS PROTEST DECISION OF  
WAR SHIPPING CONTROL BOARD

From: "RIZOSPASTIS (Morning)  
Communist.

Athens (23 October):--It was recently broadcast over the radio and published in the press that delays had been observed in the unloading of the allied relief supplies, due to so-called strikes. Specifically, it was announced on the 19th instant that the discharging of ships at Crete would stop because the strikes had caused a reduction in rate of discharge. Is there any truth in the above? If not, who is the instigator of this malicious anti-labor campaign?

Following is an official telegram which answers both the above questions: "Iraklion. 19/10/45. No. 2246. Urgent. To the President of the Government. Ministry of Supply. Athens. We learn from a radio broadcast that ships will no longer touch at Iraklion port for the reason that 80 tons are being unloaded daily as against the 750-tons previously discharged. This information is entirely inaccurate.

Lumber is at present being unloaded at the rate of 500 tons daily, notwithstanding that it is in pieces and not in lots and that the cargo has not been methodically loaded in the ships' holds. With respect to wheat, the port union will responsibly undertake the discharge of any vessel at a discharge rate of no less than one thousand tons daily, excluding cases of Force majeure."

We request you kindly to revoke any decision which may have been taken.

The Monarch of Iraklion  
(sgd) G. Jeronimaldis".

Why has the Government not refuted the statement in accordance with the above telegram from its responsible representative? Simply because as a tool of the oligarchy it is interested in slandering the working classes, and dividing the people. At a time when the workers are undergoing sacrifices in blood, the Government introduces or tacitly allows the slandering campaign, even though it may have most serious effects on the country's food situation.

There are a number of official documents proving how great a spirit of self-sacrifice, patriotism and sense of responsibility is shown by the stevedores in Crete, as well as throughout the country. They overcome tremendous obstacles and sacrifice their own rights to serve the people. We give a small excerpt:

"Iraklion. 20/10/45. No delay in the discharge of the ships carrying allied relief supplies has been caused by the workers. The latter have always worked willingly and intensively. Certain delays were unavoidable owing to the fact that the unloading operations were limited, in some instances to only one hold of the ship, the remaining holds having been loaded with different supplies. It is also a fact that during strikes the port workers carried on their work in order to unload the relief supplies in due time.

The Harbormaster  
(sgd) P. Theocharis  
Commander".

The Workers' Center of Iraklion submitted a complete statistical chart to UNRRA showing the discharge rate for that port from June to date. This chart shows how quick the workers have been unloading allied supplies. In the same letter, the Workers' Center stated that it would undertake the unloading of ocean-going vessels, during the winter months as well, at the rate of 800-1000 tons per day.

The Cretan and the entire Greek people now know who will bear the responsibility in case the unloading of supplies in Crete is stopped. The Management of UNRRA has all the particulars to thwart the plans of those who, for the sake of slandering the class of workers, pronounce a sentence of death from starvation on the proud Cretan people.

NOTE: No statistical chart, as the one referred to above, showing the  
(continued on page 3)



(continued from page 2)

discharge rate for the Port of Iraklion from June to date has been received by our office.

The official figures of our Shipping Section given below show the decrease in offloading at the Port of Iraklion, for the month of September

The S.S. "GEORGE CHARLESWOOD" arrived at Iraklion on the 21st of September 1945 and commenced discharging on the 22nd. The S.S. "R.S. "ILSON" arrived at Iraklion on the 15th of October 1945 and commenced discharging on the 16th. The following is a record of the daily discharge of the above ships.

S.S. "GEORGE CHARLESWOOD"

22nd September	270 Tons
23rd "	352 "
24th "	381 "
25th "	352 "
26th "	416 "
27th "	- "
28th "	257 "
29th "	253 "
30th "	215 "
1st October	86 "
2nd "	150 "
3rd "	115 "
4th "	118 "
5th "	57 "
6th "	Sailed

S.S. "R.S. "ILSON"

16th October	400 Tons
17th "	900 "
18th "	470 "
19th "	- "
20th "	200 "
21st "	Not reported
22nd "	" "
23rd "	" "
24th "	" "
25th "	Expected completion date.

10 days average discharge  
270 tons per day.

Average 175 Tons daily

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SIR ERNEST COWELL  
SPEAKS ON HEALTH PROGRAM

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (24 October):--Major-General Sir Ernest Cowell, Director of Health Division, UNRRA Greece Mission, yesterday delivered a most interesting and enlightening lecture on the Work of the Health Division in Greece.

Speaking on the Health Policy, Sir Ernest pointed out that, according to the original agreement of the 9th November 1943, there were two main points, namely (1) the provision of medical supplies and hospital equipment and (2) the restoration of the Greek Health Services to pre-war standards. Sir Ernest explained that the eight health projects already in function were:

Malaria: About one million Greeks contract malaria every year. This serious scourge can be controlled and UNRRA and the Greek Government plan to wipe out malaria from Greece within two years. For that purpose UNRRA is importing twelve airplanes fitted with the latest DDT spraying devices.

Tuberculosis: Due to the years of occupation and privation there is a vast increase in the number of tuberculars in Greece. T.B. is a preventable disease, but it takes a long time to wipe out. UNRRA has a T.B. section, with one of the world's experts in charge of it, with five teams headed by expert doctors, equipped with mobile X-Ray apparatus.

Nursing: Sir Ernest pointed out that nursing was probably the most important aid to restoring health and that the nursing position in Greece requires a great deal of assistance. UNRRA is working with the Ministry of Hygiene on a nursing program; it has begun a recruitment campaign and has started training schools.

Medical supplies: The UNRRA Health Director said that there was no shortage of drugs or dressings and a satisfactory agreement with the Ministry of Supply had been reached for the equitable distribution of supplies.

Nutrition: UNRRA has a very active section dealing especially with child nutrition, in cooperation with Greek agencies such as the Patriotic Foundation.

(continued on page 5)



SUBMIT SUGGESTIONS ON ALLOCATION  
OF UNRRA LEATHER FOR SOLES

From: "ETHNOS" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (23 October):--The organizations engaged in the making and sale of footwear have submitted certain suggestions to the Government, requesting (1) that the allocation of leather for soles imported by UNRRA be carried out on the basis of a planned program, (2) that the free import of sole-leather be permitted and (3) that a committee be set up representing all branches concerned, to control the production and processing of locally produced sole-leather and to determine the cost and selling of same. It is stressed that, unless the demands are met, the shopkeepers will close their shops.

The Government must examine the claims - which, it must be admitted, are reasonable - and do its best to satisfy them. The footwear problem, with winter at our door, is most serious and nothing suggestive of a solution should be neglected.

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EXPLAINS REASONS FOR  
DETERIORATION OF SALTED FISH

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (23 October):--The Region "A" Distribution Service (Ministry of Supply) has sent us a long letter - which our limited space does not allow us to reprint in full - giving satisfactory explanations in reply to our recent article concerning the auction held for the sale and conversion into flour (for animal fodder) of herrings and codfish that were judged to be unsuitable for edible purposes.

The quantity of unsuitable herring for sale is about 142 tons. If to these we add another 75 tons which had been sold previously when the JRC was in operation, we have a total of 217 tons as against the 15,000 tons that represent the approximate total quantity of herring imported to date. That is to say the waste percentage amounts to approximately 1.47%. On the other hand, out of the 10,250 tons of codfish imported so far, about 52 tons will be judged as inedible representing a percentage of 0.5%.

The above waste percentages are considered more than reasonable in view of the fact that the unloading and storage was not carried out under normal peace time conditions but under a temperature of 40° C. and that the fish had been packed in light barrels that were easily broken.

Furthermore, a part of the above waste is to be accounted for by the fact that following the last distribution of herring that took place in March, the grocers returned large quantities which many of their customers did not wish to buy.

The delay in the sale of the inedible fish has been due to the fact that the State only recently determined what the procedure should be.

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CANADIAN AMBASSADOR  
HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

From: "MAHI" (Morning) Socialist.

Athens (24 October):--The Canadian Ambassador, Mr. La Fleche, received the representatives of the Press and made certain announcements concerning the economic policy of his country as regards the United Nations. He stated that Canada, over and above its assistance to the work of UNRRA, is playing a prominent part in the "Food and Agricultural Organization", which will continue where UNRRA leaves off. The new budget provides an allocation of 800 million dollars for credits to Allied Nations so that they may meet their needs. As regards the immigration of Greeks to Canada, the Ambassador said that this was free. He stated, however, that under the present circumstances emigrants could not be accepted now because Canada must first take care of some 2,500,000 demobilized ex-servicemen and munition-plants workers. Mr. Crew, Commercial Attache at the Canadian Embassy in Cairo, who arrived here the day before yesterday to study the questions of commercial transactions, stated that his country might be interested in Greek products if their prices are good. As regards a Canadian loan to Greece no specific proposal has been made as yet; however, it is not improbable that credit accounts may be opened.



(continued from page 3)

Hospitals: This is a very important section. Before the war there were 13,000 hospital beds in Greece, or 220 beds for every 100,000 people. In some regions there are now only 30 or 40 beds per each 100,000, which means that many urgent surgical cases die in their homes.

Laboratories: UNRRA has a very fine laboratory section that carries out surveys, provides equipment, prepares vaccines, etc.

Rehabilitation of the Disabled: A plan is in operation for the rehabilitation of the disabled. Vocational training for blind ex-soldiers, providing artificial limbs, orthopaedic treatment for crippled children, etc., are some of its activities.

Sir Ernest Cowell went on to explain other plans approved or in partial operation such as maternal and child health, epidemiology and vital statistics, venereal diseases, health education for the public, etc.

Sir Ernest also stressed the necessity for UNRRA personnel to keep fit by taking inoculations, seeing that nurses are kept clean and that quarters are rid of flies.

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 175

Athens

Thursday, 25 October 1945

### HIGH UNRRA OFFICIALS ARRIVE IN ATHENS

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (25 October):--Lt. General Sir Humphrey Gale, Director of UNRRA's European Regional Office in London and Major General Richard Lewis of E.R.O. Headquarters Staff and later of the War Office arrived yesterday afternoon at 5:15 at Hassani airfield from Caserta, Italy. Sir Humphrey, who has just attended an UNRRA conference in Rome, where administrative matters were discussed, plans to leave Athens on Saturday.

who Commander R.G.A. Jackson, Personal Representative of the Director General of UNRRA, was due to arrive at the same time yesterday afternoon, but was forced down in Brindisi, when his plane developed engine trouble, arrived in Athens early this afternoon. Commander Jackson also plans to leave Athens on Saturday.

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### TO GRANT HALF MONTH'S PAY TO SALARIED PERSONS

From: "MAHI" (Morning), Socialist;  
"KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning), Democratic;  
"VEMA" (Morning), Democratic;  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning), Royalist;  
"HELLINIKON ADMA" (Morning), Royalist.

Athens (25 October):--A joint decision issued by the Ministries of Labor and Finance was yesterday communicated to all enterprises, whereby the latter are obliged to pay their employees and workers an extra grant equal to half a month's salary.

The decision states that salaried persons who are not working due to lack or curtailment of business are also entitled to the above grant. However, persons whose daily wages exceed 1,200 drachmae are excluded.

Another provision contained in the above decision stipulates that salaried persons who are idle because the enterprises in which they were employed have no business, will be paid 75% of the fixed wages as of 1st October.

The 35% increase on the basis of the salaries paid in May 1945 is also payable to employees working for enterprises that had no fixed salary classification scales or had not been applying such scales.

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### "WHEN WE MAKE A MISTAKE IT'S A BEAUTY!"

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (25 October):--In reporting Sir Ernest Cowell's speech on the Health Program yesterday, by a typographical error we had Sir Ernest stress the necessity to see "that nurses are kept clean"; instead of "nurses".

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This news digest is a service for members of the UNRRA Greece mission. Its purpose is purely informational. It does not reflect mission policy. The aim is to summarize the daily news & comment about UNRRA and matters pertinent to the relief program for Greece or of interest to staff members.



# STUDY PLAN FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF PIRAEUS HARBOR

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist;  
"VRADINI" (Afternoon)  
Royalist;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic;  
"ETHNOS" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (24 October):--The Public Works Council has examined a proposal which was submitted by the Piraeus Harbor Organization concerning the application, with certain modifications, of a plan drawn up by Galli, harbor expert and reached certain conclusions.

This plan includes condemning and purchasing of land on a large scale for the purpose of facilitating movements on the docks.

During the discussions, various opinions which had been given from time to time as regards changes in the contour of the harbor, change of location, etc., were considered.

The results of the Council's investigations were submitted to the Minister, who will personally ask all those who are in a position to express an opinion on the matter to submit their views before he comes to a final decision.

In connection with this question, the Minister stated that he does not intend to take a hasty decision. However, he will try to reach a decision which if not a definite solution as regards all details, will at least be able to determine the general lines on which further studies and discussions will be based.

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# TO CONTINUE SHIPMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO CRETE

From: "RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning)  
Communist;  
"TAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist.

Athens (25 October):--The President and Secretary General of the Iraklion (Crete) Workers' Center, Messrs. Pergialides and Stavroulakis, travelled to Athens and called upon Mr. Zakkas, Minister of Labor. The Workers' representatives produced documents which they had brought with them from Crete signed by the Nomarch, Harbormaster and steamships agents, proving not only that the rate of discharge of UNRRA supplies had not been reduced but, on the contrary, the workers were making superhuman efforts to increase their output.

Mr. Zakkas presented the workers' representatives to Mr. Maben who said that his information was inaccurate and stated that the shipment of allied relief supplies to Crete would continue.

NOTE: Mr. Maben stated to the representatives of the Cretan workers that UNRRA was simply carrying out the orders of the War Shipping Control Board, which had ordered that no more ocean-going vessels go to Crete, as a result of the reduction in the rate of offloading relief supplies. He did not characterize his information as inaccurate.

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SOME ASPECTS OF  
THE COST OF LIVING

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (25 October):--From the Office of the Financial Analyst of UNRRA Greece Mission we have received the following information which will be of interest to DAILY NEWS DIGEST readers.

Prior to the recent wage and salary increases, an average clerk in the civil service earned roughly 15,000 drs. monthly, the equivalent of \$30. Out of this income, the October ration price per individual absorbed the value of less than one day's work, i.e. 398 drs. or \$1.80. Purchases of foodstuffs from local markets, at prices of October 20th, required to secure a reasonably balanced diet cost more than 9,000 drs., or \$18.00, or 18 days labor per person. Total food costs for a family of four thus amounted to no less than 36,000 drs., or \$76, or 76 days labor, comparing with total required expenditure of 8,000 drs. or \$16 in July. The cost of fuel (charcoal) required to cook foodstuffs for a family of 4 amounted to no less than 4,500 drs., or \$9.00, or 9 days labor, comparing with a cost of roughly 1,500 drs. or \$3.00 in July. Travel to and from work by tram cost roughly 1,250 drs., or \$2.50, or 2½ days labor. The number of days labor required to purchase major items of consumption are set forth below:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost in days of labor</u>
Meat, oke	1.6
Olive oil, oke	2.4
Fish, oke	1.0
Sugar, oke	7.0
Macaroni, oke	1.0
Rice, oke	3.0
Cheese, oke	5.0
Soap, oke	1.6
Suit	220.0
Shoes	68.0
Shirt	18.0
Underwear (cotton)	11.0
Underwear (wool)	50.0
Tramfare (month)	2.5

If a price inflation of comparable magnitude, combined with similar disruption and inefficiency of the economic machine, were in progress in the United States or the United Kingdom, an American or British clerk earning, say, \$1,800 annually (\$ Stg. 444) would be required to pay the following prices for major items of consumption.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dollar Price</u>	<u>Sterling Equivalent</u>
Meat, lb.	\$ 2.85	£ -/ 4/3
Olive oil, lb.	4.30	1/ 1/6
Fish, lb.	1.75	-/ 8/9
Sugar, lb.	12.50	3/ 2/6
Macaroni, lb.	1.75	-/ 8/9
Rice, lb.	5.35	1/ 6/9
Cheese, lb.	9.00	2/ 5/-
Soap, lb.	2.85	-/14/3

(continued on page 4)



(continued from page 3)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Dollar Price</u>	<u>Sterling Equivalent</u>
Suit, men's	£ 1,110.00	£ 277/10/-
Shoes, men's	340.00	85/-/-
Shirt, men's	90.00	22/10/-
Underwear (cotton) men's	55.00	13/15/-
Underwear (wool) men's	250.00	62/10/-
Tramfare (month)	12.50	3/ 2/6

Comparative Change in Prices from Pre-War

<u>Item</u>	<u>October 22, 1945</u>		<u>Increase over October 1941</u>
	<u>Drachmae</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	
Bread, (oke)	320	£ 0.64	28 times
Meat, (oke)	840	£ 1.69	17 "
Olive oil, (oke)	1,500	£ 2.40	24 "
Olives, (oke)	320	£ 0.64	13 "
Eggs, (dozh)	90	£ 0.12	29 "
Fish, (oke)	440	£ 0.88	14 "
Sugar, (oke)	3,400	£ 6.80	77 "
Macaroni, (oke)	560	£ 1.12	25 "
Rice, (oke)	1,600	£ 3.20	71 "
Cheese, (oke)	2,400	£ 4.80	55 "
Beans, (oke)	400	£ 0.80	13 "
Potatoes, (oke)	350	£ 0.70	50 "
Soap, (oke)	810	£ 1.62	26 "
Charcoal, (oke)	155	£ 0.31	29 "
Wood, (oke)	45	£ 0.09	21 "
Drillcloth, (pic)	2,400	£ 4.80	43 "
Calico, (pic)	400	£ 0.80	40 "
Leather, (pair)	2,000	£ 4.00	80 "
Cigarettes, (20)	165	£ 0.33	12 "
Wine, (oke)	300	£ 0.60	30 "
Suit, (each)	110,000	£ 220.00	50 "
Shoes, (pair)	34,000	£ 68.00	68 "
Shirt, (each)	9,000	£ 18.00	60 "
Underwear (wool) (each)	25,000	£ 50.00	71 "
" (cotton) (each)	5,500	£ 11.00	60 "
Socks, (pair)	1,800	£ 3.60	30 "

(continued on page 5)



(continued from page 4)

Item	October 22, 1945		Increase over October 1944
	Drachmae	Dollars	
Handkerchiefs, (each)	1,200	£ 2.40	12%
Tramfare (month)	1,250	£ 2.50	-
Ration (month)	500	£ 1.00	-

(One cke equals 28 lbs. One pic equals 0.64 metres)

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UNRRA'S CONTRIBUTION IN  
EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAMFrom: "TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (23 October):--Today we give UNRRA's answers regarding our educational institutions, the reorganization of fisheries, mines and the rebuilding of destroyed villages, which are as follows:

Question: Will any material for the operation of higher educational (University, Polytechnical School) institutions be imported?

Answer: No. UNRRA does not import material for normal educational work.

Question: Is paper suitable for printing school and other books going to be imported?

Answer: No. UNRRA will continue importing only newsprint for newspapers and periodicals.

Question: What is the program for the reorganization of fisheries?

Answer: UNRRA has a full program for the reorganization of the fishing industry? There is, however, a world shortage of the necessary materials, which is lessened by degrees. It is proposed to import 6,000 tons of fishing material for the six-month period between January-June 1946 and another 6,000 tons for the following six months. This material includes lumber for the building of fishing boats. Forty tons of fishing material have already been received. This material has been distributed to six out of the ten Districts, preference having been given to the Districts of Kavalla and the Cyclades, as they had suffered so terribly during the war. Other small quantities are arriving regularly and they will be distributed to the other Districts.

Question: What is the program for the reorganization of the mines?

Answer: The program for the reconstruction of the mines includes the import of 1772 tons of material and machinery for the six-month period ending in December 1945 and another 1844 tons for the following six months, up to June 1946.

Question: What is the program for rebuilding destroyed villages and what is UNRRA's contribution in this?

Answer: The question needs a detailed answer. Following <sup>an</sup> agreement between the Greek Government and UNRRA, the Agricultural Bank undertook the responsibility for the Temporary Shelter Program in Greece. The Agricultural Bank works in close cooperation with UNRRA which provides the necessary material. UNRRA also, supervises the equitable distribution of building material in sections where the need is greatest and gives advice on technical problems and on the most economical use of the imported material. Moreover, three engineers are touring the country in order to supervise and advise on shelter work going on in destroyed sections.

A careful survey of the whole country has already taken place and it is estimated that the extent of destruction in the rural districts covers 1770 villages whose destroyed buildings amount to 90,000. Since the rural districts have suffered more, it has been decided to limit repair work only to buildings of rural workers. In view of the vast volume of work in order to repair such a great number of houses, some restrictions should have been imposed, so that the material available and the work be used wherever the destruction was greatest. The Greek Government, therefore, and UNRRA decided that all houses in villages where the destruction is over 80%

(continued on page 6)



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(372 villages with 37,200 shelterless people) will be repaid. This is necessarily an approximate estimate of damages, because it is recognized that in the case of some villages the population has moved to other districts and so certain villages with destruction of less than 80% will undoubtedly be included in the temporary shelter program.

Up to the end of September 1945 the walls of approximately 2,400 houses in 31 villages had been rebuilt. In spite of the fact that most of the necessary lumber and roof tiles were secured locally by the Agricultural Bank, in very few houses are roofs replaced. The reason for this is the lack of nails and the great difficulty for transporting material to the isolated villages which need them.

During September, UNRRA imported the following building material: 30,360 tons lumber, 95 tons nails, 45 tons wire, 9,200 tons tar-paper for roofing and small quantities of tools. Greater quantities have been requested and it is hoped that they will begin arriving shortly.

NOTE: Up till September 15 all masonry work (walls, etc.) was completed on 2,400 houses in 31 villages. Masonry work was nearing completion on another 10,087 houses in 272 other villages on the same date. The total work completed or nearing completion on that date was 12,874 houses in 293 villages.

In addition to the masonry work in the above houses, the roofs had been completed on 5,312 of the above houses and windows and doors had been installed on 575 houses.

Since September 15, the date for which the above figures were obtained, masonry work has continued so that to date the total of completed houses amounts to 13,000.

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#### SAYS UNRRA DIRECTOR REFUSES TRACTORS TO TERRORISTS

From: "ELEFTHERI HELLADA" (Afternoon), EAM.

Molos (24 October):--UNRRA's representative in Thessaly, Mr. Trayfors, said to members of the press that tractors would not be given to Bandit Chief Sourlas. Last March, said Mr. Trayfors, Sourlas submitted a petition to the agricultural supplies committee asking for tractors. The petition was rejected and Sourlas submitted a new one in July, which was approved by the committee because all requisite credentials were in order. However, Mr. N. Trayfors told the chairman of the committee not to let Sourlas have the tractor unless he appeared in person to take delivery of it, because he (Mr. Trayfors) believed that Sourlas would not appear before the committee in person. Mr. Trayfors added that Sourlas took the tractor belonging to the Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Farsala by force, with which he now cultivates 'his estate' and that he also has seized and is cultivating farming plots belonging to persons who fled from his village.

NOTE: No comment on the above article is possible until an explanatory note is received from Mr. Trayfors, Director of 'F' Region.

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#### GRANTS FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR IMPORT OF VEHICLES FROM AMERICA

From: "MAHI" (Morning), Socialist.

Athens (25 October):--It has been announced that the Government Economic Advisory Council approved the granting of foreign exchange so that 14 large buses, 50 automobile chassis and large quantities of spare automobile parts may be imported from America.

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 176

Athens

Friday, 26 October 1945

### SHELTER AND OTHER PROBLEMS DISCUSSED AT WEEKLY UNRRA-PRESS MEETING

From: All Papers.

Athens (26 October):--At yesterday's regular weekly UNRRA-Press Meeting, Mr. Maben, Chief of UNRRA Greece Mission, said that following the decision of the War Shipping Control Board not to send any more ocean-going vessels to Crete, due to the decrease in the rate of discharging supplies, both the Government and the Representatives of the Workers have assured UNRRA that if additional ships were sent there, they would be offloaded at the rate of 800-1000 tons per day.

"We have assured the Shipping Authorities", said Mr. Maben, "that we believe these promises made to us and they have granted us permission to send another ship into Iraklion".

On another question left over from last week - whether the police were getting extra rations, Mr. Maben said that these extra supplies are coming from the Military and not from UNRRA. However, UNRRA is checking further on the subject.

Answering a suggestion that UNRRA should take over more responsibility, since things do not move evenly and the Greek people are getting impatient, not only because distribution is not equitable but because it is also very slow, the Chief of Greece Mission said that if the Greek Government felt it advisable to make any change they would say so. UNRRA and the Greek Government in such case would have to negotiate and agree on the change to be made. Mr. Maben added that Greece is one of the Allies, a member of UNRRA and certainly this Organization should not come in here to decrease the prestige of Greece or infringe on the sovereignty of the country.

On the question of the emergency shelter program, Mr. Maben said that although UNRRA had requested 70,000 tons of building materials to be imported into Greece, due to world shortage of materials and shipping space, only 35,000 tons have been imported thus far. The Agricultural Bank, which has the responsibility of the execution of the shelter program has been asked to take all materials that would not be used by their crews by January 1st, and turn them over to the villagers, so that they can go ahead and repair their own houses. More materials are expected and it is hoped that the program will have been completed before another winter sets in.

Asked whether UNRRA was bringing in additional food supplies this year or if there was any possibility of making changes in the program of UNRRA imports into Greece, Mr. Maben told the correspondents that the possibility of making changes would be governed by:

- 1) an increase or decrease in supplies needed here;
- 2) availability of supplies and shipping space; and
- 3) UNRRA's financial limitations.

However, because of this year's poor crop, the wheat for this month amounts to 106,000 tons, instead of 76,000 tons as originally planned. He added that he has recommended also that shipments of foodstuffs to Greece should be increased, in order to maintain the level of 2,000 calories per day per person.

(Continued on Page 2)



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When newspapermen questioned him on the purpose of the arrival in Greece of High UNRRA Officials, Mr. Maben said that they were attending a conference in Rome and they came to Athens to discuss the entire UNRRA program and the future of UNRRA activities in Greece.

When a member of the Greek Press said that the people were rather worried over reports published in the newspapers that an UNRRA official had stated in Rome that UNRRA is on the verge of bankruptcy, and that the Greeks would like some statement on the question, Mr. Maben stated that UNRRA's fiscal year is on a calendar basis and, like every other Government agency, by the end of its fiscal year will have spent its appropriation for the year. Therefore, it is now asking the contributing nations to make another allocation for next year and expects to get it.

Returning to last week's discussion on the industrialization of UNRRA raw materials, some newspapermen again raised the question whether industrialists were fulfilling their promises or were still using their own cotton on their looms. The Chief of UNRRA Greece Mission explained that Industrialists had old stock in hand and on the looms, which they had to finish before processing UNRRA raw materials. But assurances have been given that that material will be exhausted by the end of this month and all the looms will be working on UNRRA cotton by then. There is a definite check on the raw material turned over to the factories for industrialization, Mr. Maben said, and both the Government and UNRRA know how much manufactured material the industrialists must deliver. Any discrepancy would be immediately brought to light, unless the industrialist bought locally produced cotton to make and deliver a similar amount of cloth or yarn. Reports received to date from factories examined by UNRRA technicians show no substitution of UNRRA raw materials. UNRRA technicians are going through every factory and if anything of the sort were to take place it would soon be discovered.

Concerning imports of supplies from abroad independently from UNRRA, Mr. Maben again stated that UNRRA cannot and should not bring in all the goods needed in Greece. Private industry and the Government must assist. UNRRA imports must gradually become smaller as private industry imports become larger. Government representatives in foreign countries would probably handle the business of placing orders and Embassy Commercial Attaches here can give every assistance to Greek firms wishing to import goods from foreign countries. As always, UNRRA will give every possible assistance.

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#### WORKERS & SCIENTISTS' ORGANIZATIONS ON FOOD AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

From: "MAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist.

Athens (26 October):--A conference was held yesterday at the Parnassus Hall, attended by representatives of 600 trade, workers', employees' and scientists' organizations, to examine the food situation of the people of Athens. Following introductory talks by Messrs. Papazoglou, President of the Cooperative of Kavalla Committee, Kavada, Professor at Thessaloniki University, and Spiliopoulos, Health Specialist, tradesmen, employees and representatives of the Workers Center took the floor and stressed the necessity of cooperation between all classes in order to face the acute food situation and economic chaos.

The meeting passed a resolution which, after describing the situation, concludes with the urgent appeal to assist the cooperatives, increase salaries and wages, distribute more equitably the burden of taxation, develop the country's productivity and distribute more equitably the supplies. Indispensable for all this is the participation of the people, through their lawful organizations, in production and consumption. This will be made possible by developing a close cooperation between the State, UNRRA and the Cooperatives.

A "Committee for the Survival of the People of Athens" was then appointed to continue the efforts for the relief of the people.

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Friday, 26 October 1945

MINISTER OF SUPPLY GIVES FIGURES  
ON COTTON AND WOOLLEN GOODS

From: "ELDENIKON AIDMA" (Morning)  
Royalist;  
"MAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist;  
"KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"VEMA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (26 October):--Mr. Paraskevopoulos, Minister of Supply, issued a statement yesterday concerning the industrialization of the raw cotton and wool which were imported into Greece by UNRRA. The statement says that according to information from UNRRA 7227 tons of raw cotton have been shipped to June. Up to October 20, 2735 tons of this quantity had been delivered to textile and spinning mills. The Athens-Piraeus textile mills had produced 444,000 meters of cloth by October 13, and the Patras textile industries had manufactured 59,276 meters of cloth and 71,000 packages of yarn. During the week ending October 13, the output came to 252,517 meters of cloth. It is estimated that the output will be increased so that from November forward a monthly output of 1,200,000 meters of cloth, 45,000 packages of yarn and 220,000 knitted and flannel articles, 60,000 pairs of stockings and 20,000 boxes of thread (1 box = 10 spools) will be attained.

Furthermore, UNRRA has shipped 3,122 tons of raw wool. 620 tons had been allocated for industrialization by October 20. 60% of the balance is being cleaned and manufactured into yarn. It is estimated that 3,500,000 meters of woollen cloth and about 600,000 knitted articles will be manufactured from this. Up to October 13, 70,000 meters of woollen cloth had been weaved and it is calculated that another 40,000 will be manufactured by the end of the month. It is estimated that the monthly output will reach 350,000 meters of woollen cloth and 100,000 knitted articles.

NOTE: Our textile Section informs us that the figures in the above statement on arrivals, allocations and productions approximately correspond with its own figures. However, the estimates given of future production are considered to be low, and now that the initial difficulties have been overcome, production should be considerably increased.

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APPROVE LARGE GRANT  
FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION

From: "TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (25 October):--According to an announcement issued from the Ministry of Public Works, the Ministry of Finance has approved of a 546 million drachma grant in order to carry out temporary road construction work.

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APPROVES 300,000,000 DRS LOAN  
TO PROVINCIAL POWER PLANT.

From: "TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (25 October):--An announcement by the Minister of Transport states that the Government Economic Advisory Council approved of a 300 million drachma loan to the Union of Electric Power Enterprises in the provinces, in order to help them restore their installations.

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FIX PRICES FOR  
BUILDING MATERIALFrom: "TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic

Athens (25 October): -- A market inspection regulation fixes the price of lime, roof tiles and bricks as follows: Lime, manufactured in factories which use coal for fuel, 440 drs. per quintal (100 lbs) or 5,300 drs. per cubic meter. Lime, manufactured in factories using oil as fuel, 350 drs. per quintal or 4,400 per cubic meter. Roof tiles, Dilaveri type, 56,000 drs. per 1000; French type, "Cyclops" 52,000 drs. per 1000; Greek type 45,000 drs. per 1000; hand-made 18,000 drs. per 1000. Bricks, perforated, 7500 drs. per 1000; solid 7000 drs. per 1000; 5 centimeter bricks, 8,100 drs. per 1000.

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UNRRA SUPPLIES  
KEEP COMING INFrom: "ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon)  
Conservative;  
"ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (25 October):--The following cargo vessels have arrived in the port of Piraeus:-- The British steamers, "Empire Scott" from Naples with 3000 tons of general merchandise and the "Costar" from Thessaloniki with a miscellaneous cargo. The Greek ship "Argo" also arrived from Haifa with 7800 tons of crude oil.

The British cargo vessel "Strathcona Park" arrived from Montreal with 7000 tons of wheat, 1800 tons of general cargo and 70 automobiles. The American freighter "Milton Foriman" with 8510 tons of wheat. The Greek steamer "Antiklia" from Patras with 167 barrels of cod-liver oil.

NOTE: Our Shipping Section informs us that the S.S. "Empire Scott" arrived in Piraeus with a cargo of approximately 2272 tons, the breakdown of which is 1 ton medical supplies, 1840 tons Industrial Machinery and equipment and 431 tons of Communications and Transport material and equipment. The "Strathcona Park" arrived with a cargo of approximately 8091 tons. It will unload 175 vehicles and 3000 tons of wheat in Piraeus. It will then proceed to Patras to discharge 4423 tons of wheat, 281 tons of canned sausages and 212 tons of soap. The "Milton Foriman" will proceed to Thessaloniki to discharge its cargo of 8464 tons of wheat in bulk.

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SIR HUMFREY AND COMMANDER JACKSON  
ADDRESS GREECE MISSION STAFFFrom: Office of Public  
Information.

Athens (26 October):--At 1:00 p.m. today Colonel G. White, Senior Deputy Chief of Mission, introduced Lt. General Sir Humphrey Gale, Director of UNRRA's European Regional Office and Commander R. G. A. Jackson, Personal Representative of the Director-General of UNRRA, to the Headquarters Staff of UNRRA Greece Mission.

Sir Humphrey Gale spoke briefly, outlining the functions of ERO. He stressed the need of close cooperation and teamwork among the members of all missions and pointed out that above all loyalty to the organization is absolutely essential for the ultimate achievement of our aims. He assured the Staff that ERO would be always glad to consider suggestions from UNRRA personnel in the field. He also promised to return to Athens soon for a longer stay, which would enable him to observe more closely UNRRA activities on the ground.

Commander Jackson, speaking immediately after Sir Humphrey explained the difficulties which UNRRA had to face in its efforts to secure adequate funds and key personnel of the high caliber so indispensable for carrying out UNRRA's mission. He praised the Greece Mission staff for the high standard of their work and congratulated them for "having stuck to their guns" under adverse conditions.



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 177

Athens

Saturday, 27 October 1945

### SAYS UNRRA's URGENT NEED IS MONEY

From: "A.G.I.S."  
Anglo-Greek Information Service.

Quebec City (26 October):--Mr. Andrew Cairns, chief of the Food Division of UNRRA, and Mr. Edwin Henson, chief of the Division of Agricultural Rehabilitation, told the Press here today that an immediate contribution of the second year's allotment of funds for UNRRA would permit heavy increases in the food shipments needed to prevent deaths by starvation in Europe this winter.

Mr. Henson has just returned from a two-month tour of Greece, Italy, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Austria and Germany. Both men emphasized that with the shipping difficulties now eased, the great need was money, without which UNRRA's work must be halted.

By money, Mr. Cairns said he meant contributions from such countries as Canada, which make their contributions in kind and have the necessary commodities to do it.

Mr. Henson said that the average production in the countries he visited was now between 40 and 60 per cent of the normal figure, while livestock holdings were from 20 to 50 per cent below normal.

It would be years, Mr. Cairns said, before the food producing areas in these countries were back to normal. (REUTERS).

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### PRAISES UNRRA's WORK IN GREECE

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning)  
Communist.

London (26 October):--A REUTER's despatch says that during the discussion which followed Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ernest Bevin's speech in the House, Labor Representative Edelman, speaking on Greece, said that UNRRA has performed a huge task in that country and that great quantities of supplies have been shipped to Greece.

"However, more than one-fourth of these supplies are finding their way into the black market or are sold in some other way.

"I should hope that the Government would propose to send a Committee to Greece to reorganize the Greek Ministry of Supply. This would not only relieve Greece, but British and American taxpayers, as well", said Mr. Edelman.

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# FORECASTS ON OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION ARE OPTIMISTIC

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative;  
"KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (26 October):--Telegrams were received at the competent Directorate of the Ministry of Supply reporting that the production of oil this year is highly satisfactory and that the oil produced is of better quality than that of last year. The crushing of olives at the olive-presses has already commenced but not to a satisfactory extent, because of the fact that the olive crop is not yet sufficiently ripe. It is hoped that by mid-November all olive crushing mills will be in operation, when the first considerable quantities of olive oil will begin to be transferred to the Capital.

In view of this year's production, prices have already started to drop. It is believed that the drop in prices will be considerable. Prices at the oil producing centers are rather unsettled and merchants are reluctant to buy in advance.

It is also forecast that the production of edible olives will be abundant. Processing has not been completed yet and the first deliveries of this year's olives are expected to arrive in the market around the end of November.

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# REGENT RECEIVES SIR HUMFREY GALE AND COMMANDER JACKSON

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic;  
"ETHNOS" (Afternoon)  
Royalist;  
"VRADYNI" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (26 October):--His Beatitude, the Regent, had a long discussion this morning with Sir Humfrey Gale and Mr. Jackson, two of the higher UNRRA officials in Europe.

We later learned that the discussion dealt with future programs of UNRRA activities in Greece and greater assistance to the Greek people.

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# CONGRESS CONSIDERS ALLOCATION OF \$450,000,000 TO UNRRA

From: "UNION JACK"  
British Military;  
"A.G.I.S."  
Anglo-Greek Information Serv.  
All Greek Papers.

London (26 October):--In his speech in the House of Commons yesterday, Mr. Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary, referring to Europe's food situation generally, said that Congress was now considering the voting of 450,000,000 pounds to UNRRA.

"If that vote is not carried", said Mr. Bevin, "UNRRA will be broken and the situation to be faced in a few weeks' time would be disastrous."

Difficult as Britain's own financial situation was, she had agreed to pay the same equivalent amount as America - one per cent of her national income.

Commenting on UNRRA, the Foreign Secretary said it had come in with a flourish of trumpets. "It is a misfortune", he said, "to hold a Press Conference at

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a birth, for you don't quite know how the infant is going to grow".

He regarded the evolution of UNRRA from the standard of efficiency standpoint as most remarkable in the past few months, but its responsibilities were growing as well.

On the transfer and migration problem in Eastern Europe, he said there was a total of from 14,000,000 to 15,000,000 people moving at once, some one way and some the other.

Then there were more than 10,000,000 displaced persons to move out of Germany back to Italy, France and elsewhere. "At a rough estimate", he said, the Allies had handled or were handling 20,000,000 to 25,000,000 people.

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CLAIMS UNRRA ASKED TO  
ADMINISTER GREEK CAIQUES

From: "MAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist.

Athens (26 October):--We are informed that UNRRA requested to take over from the Ministry of Merchant Marine the administration of the MIN Caiques which have been allocated to the Greek Government for transports.

NOTE: UNRRA has not made such a request.

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ELECTRIC POWER PLANT IS  
IN URGENT NEED OF REPAIRS

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative;  
"MAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist;  
"RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning)  
Communist;  
"VIMA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (26 October):--The Special Committee from the Ministry of Transport submitted its report to the Minister, Mr. Mehas, on the damages of the installations and machinery of the Electric Power Plant. Two of the Plant's eight boilers are not working. Four more, although operating, are in urgent need of repair.

Also in need of replacing or repairing are: Tubing, steam filters, steam chamber partitions, 70 boiler valves, cooling systems, pumps and a large part of the piping and reservoirs. The bridge-crane of the machine shop, four coal cranes, the old filters and other machinery are also badly in need of repairs.

The damages are so extensive that repair work must start as soon as possible. The report states that the factory personnel is not adequate for the repair work and indicates that an extra 55 technicians and 130 skilled workers must be employed.

The Minister will confer with the Electric Power Company, so that the repair work may go on in all sections simultaneously, making it possible to repair the damages in the smallest possible period of time, in order to avoid the existing danger of having the electric supply cut off.

On the other hand, various spare machinery parts which cannot be found in Greece will be ordered from abroad.

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CLAIMS NEWSPRINT FINDS ITS  
WAY INTO THE BLACK MARKET

From: "HELENIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (27 October):--We agree entirely with yesterday's newspapers which characterize the newsprint situation as no less than scandalous. The newsprint which was brought into the country for the needs of the newspapers and should be disposed of at lawful prices, is running the risk of becoming the object of most vicious black market dealings. We hope that neither Press Under-Secretary Dendramis, nor Supply Minister Paraskevopoulos will permit this imminent danger to materialize. We trust, likewise, that Mr. Dendramis will not fail to recommend to the newsprint committee to enforce Law No. 444, regarding the protection of national resistance newspapers especially, which is not being applied at all.

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FIXES PRICES  
FOR FIREWOOD

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (26 October):--In accordance with the new price list, wholesale prices for firewood are fixed as follows: Uncut wood, delivered at the dealers shop, 30 drs. per oke. Sawn wood for stoves, 40 drachmae per oke wholesale and 44 drachmae retail.

The wholesale price for charcoal has been fixed at 120 drachmae and the retail price at 140 drachmae per oke. There is an increase of 2-3 drachmae per oke for wood sold in the districts of Kallithea, Nea Smyrni, Paleon Thaleron, Glyphada and Voula. The price to be charged by saw mills for sawing firewood has been fixed at 4 drachmae per oke.

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SAYS 50,000 TONS OF SUPPLIES ON  
QUAY ARE IN DANGER OF DESTRUCTION

From: "MAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist.

Athens (26 October):--The appropriate authorities have announced that 50,000 tons of various goods are in danger of being destroyed on the Piraeus quays. These supplies are destined for the provinces, but their shipment is being delayed because the necessary sea-transport is unavailable.

NOTE: According to our Warehousing Section, in spite of the acute sea-transport situation, which has caused serious delays, all UNRRA goods awaiting transshipment are well stored. In fact, there were only 3000 tons of goods on the quay yesterday - and these well protected with tarpaulin, etc.

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SIR HUMFREY AND COMMANDER JACKSON  
HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (27 October):--At 11:00 A.M. today Sir Humphrey Gale, Director of UNRRA's European Regional Office and Commander R. G. A. Jackson, Personal Representative of the Director-General of UNRRA, who have been visiting Athens for the last three days, held a Press Conference in the offices of the Chief of Greece Mission. The Conference was attended by Greek and Foreign Correspondents.

Both Sir Humphrey and Commander Jackson, who were presented by Mr. Maben, spoke on UNRRA future operations in Greece, stressing the fact that the more effective and successful the use of UNRRA supplies in the various countries and especially in Greece was, the stronger UNRRA's case would be before the contributing United Nations.



# DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 178

Athens

Monday, 29 October 1945

## UNRRA OFFICIALS EXPRESS CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE OF GREECE

From: "ELEFTHERIA" (Morning), Democratic;  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning), Democratic;  
"ELEFTHERIA" (Morning), Socialist;  
"ELEFTHERIA" (Morning), Conservative;  
"ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (28 October):--In an atmosphere of cordiality and friendly expressions towards the Greek people, at 11:00 a.m. yesterday (Saturday) in the UNRRA Headquarters, Sir Humphrey Gale, Director of UNRRA's European Regional Office and Mr. R.G.A. Jackson, Personal Representative of the Director General of UNRRA, received the representatives of the Press and made several important announcements.

Sir Humphrey Gale, who since <sup>1942</sup> until five or six weeks ago had been serving as Chief Administrative Officer at General Eisenhower's Headquarters, stated that he faced the problems of UNRRA with some trepidation because, among other things, he had a very difficult predecessor to follow, namely Commander Jackson who had done magnificent work in the European Regional Office (London) of UNRRA before taking up his present post in Washington.

Sir Humphrey said that he was now visiting various missions in order to obtain closer first hand knowledge of UNRRA operations and requirements. In Greece, Sir Humphrey said, he had the opportunity to talk to various people, including the Regent, and learn more about the needs of the Greek people who have suffered so much and have borne their sufferings so gallantly.

Sir Humphrey went on to say that provided sufficient funds were made available by the contributing countries, UNRRA hoped to maintain the supply program at approximately present levels, supplying primarily those materials which would enable the Greeks themselves to make the best use of their own resources.

Sir Humphrey explained that the maintenance of UNRRA operations was dependent on contributions made by various members of the United Nations and he emphasized that those nations naturally wished to feel that the money and materials which they were giving were being used in a helpful and successful manner, otherwise they might consider the discontinuance of contributions. UNRRA, therefore, is obliged to see that its funds are used in the best possible manner. The development of stability and improved economic conditions in Greece, for example, said Sir Humphrey, was bound to be taken as a proof of the wise use of those funds. In conclusion, Sir Humphrey said he hoped conditions in Greece would improve rapidly, primarily for the sake of Greece itself but also because on such improvement might depend the fate of UNRRA itself.

Commander Jackson then spoke of the UNRRA activities in general, since he last saw members of the Greek press in April of this year. While the war was still on, UNRRA faced serious difficulties, he said, both in the field of securing supplies -- in which the great armies were UNRRA's competitors, -- and in obtaining key personnel.

(continued on page 2)



(continued from page 1)

The Missions in South Eastern Europe, and particularly in Greece, were the missions first coming into operation and received first attention. Last autumn it was necessary to recruit 6,000 people in a few weeks' time, and, at the same time, endeavour to increase the flow of supplies from America and also make preparations for UNRRA's work in the Far East. Mr. Jackson said that the type of difficulty facing UNRRA was exemplified by the end of the Japanese War. Though given no advice on the use of the atomic bomb or the sudden end of the war, nevertheless it was expected of UNRRA to be working in China almost immediately afterwards.

"If the scientists could have invented an opposite kind of atomic bomb - one which would have spread supplies over Europe - our task would have been made very much easier", said Mr. Jackson.

Continuing, Mr. Jackson said that the improvement in the supply situation as a result of the end of the war was very encouraging, though the world food situation had not improved so much as the material situation. More transport had been sent to countries than had been previously hoped for, and the early arrival of that transport had, in fact, enabled food produced in some countries to be used, whereas before it would have simply rotted because of the lack of transport.

Mr. Jackson said that unfortunately Greece has had a poor harvest, but that UNRRA had been able to increase substantially the number of vehicles coming into Greece. With reference to the future he said that if the contributing nations continued to give their financial support, supply operations would go forward successfully.

Along with the bringing of supplies into Greece, UNRRA would continue to assist in the field of Health, Welfare and Displaced Persons. The end of the war, the improvement of the world supply situation and the fact that more countries have asked for UNRRA assistance, said Commander Jackson, all have increased the rate of expenditure of UNRRA resources. He felt confident, however, that the United Nations which created UNRRA will continue to provide their support. But effective use of UNRRA resources everywhere, and especially in Greece, is absolutely essential for the continuation of this support.

Finally, Commander Jackson expressed his and Sir Humphrey's satisfaction with the work accomplished by the UNRRA Greece Mission and assured his listeners that UNRRA Headquarters would lend their support to the Mission in every way.

In answer to questions of newsmen, Mr. Mahen, Chief of UNRRA Greece Mission said that it is considered advisable to raise the very low price of food rations, so that when UNRRA imports end the economic condition of the country will not be threatened by collapse.

Discussing the question of effective distribution, Commander Jackson said that this question is being raised in other countries where UNRRA is represented. The problem, he said, is one of efficiency. The more efficient is the distribution of UNRRA supplies in Greece, the easier it will be for UNRRA to present its case to the contributing nations for further aid.

Asked whether it was true that a mission was being sent to Greece from Great Britain to organize the Ministry of Supply and whether this was a result of an UNRRA request in order to improve distribution, Commander Jackson said that this was news to him, and that UNRRA had made no such request.

Answering the suggestion that UNRRA should take on more responsibilities in order to ensure more effective, more rapid and more equitable distributions, the Director General's Personal Representative, again referred his listeners to the UNRRA-Greek Government Agreement, which sets down clearly UNRRA responsibilities, and added that both he and Sir Humphrey had discussed the problem of distributions with the Government officials.

Sir Humphrey added that the difficulties of distribution are not limited to Greece alone, but are the predominant problem in every country in Europe.

(Continued on page 3)



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At the close of the Conference, Commander Jackson assured the Press representatives that UNRRA is determined to do all it can to bring aid to Greece. The fact that Governor Lohman, the UNRRA Director General, came to Greece in July, and that both he and Sir Humphrey were visiting Greece nine weeks later, was a fairly good example of the interest UNRRA is taking in Greece.

"We don't minimize for one moment your difficulties", said Commander Jackson, "and we are proceeding on a positive and confident basis that things are going to improve".

Immediately after the Conference Sir Humphrey Gale left by plane for Rome.

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#### TO APPLY NEW METHOD FOR SELLING CIGARETTES

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (28 October):--The Ministry of Supply announces that following a joint agreement between the tobacco manufacturers, wholesale tobacco dealers, and retail tobacco sellers, it has been decided that, beginning Monday, cigarettes will be sold in the Athens-Piraeus area only at the kiosks owned by disabled war veterans.

Cigarettes will be sold to the public throughout the whole day. The buyer will be obliged to show the tobacco seller his identity card. The latter will write down the date of the purchase on this card with ink.

We advise the public not to crowd in front of the "kiosks" because an adequate supply of cigarettes has been ensured following the arrival of quantities of cigarette paper.

Any "kiosk" that is closed or is not for some reason selling cigarettes and does not conform with the above decision should be reported to the Ministry.

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#### EMPLOYEES DEMAND ADJUSTMENT OF SALARIES AND WAGES

From: "ELLEFTHERIA" (Morning), Democratic;  
"RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning), Communist;  
"EVBROS" (Morning), Conservative;  
"KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning), Democr.  
"MAHI" (Morning), Socialist.

Athens (28 October):--The Executive Council of the Confederation of State Employees called on the Minister of Finance to describe the deplorable condition of the employees. They insisted that a definite arrangement should be made regarding their wage-scales through the following measures:

1) By adjusting salaries according to the cost of living on the basis of a fortnightly evaluation (in money) by a special committee of the most important food items; i.e. meat, fats, olive oil, pulses, cheese, etc. 2) By financing the employees' cooperatives to ensure supplementary food items. 3) By issuing the necessary footwear and clothes. In order to balance the budget it was proposed that all imports which entered the country during the occupation, amounting to thousands of gold marks, should be taxed. A tax should also be imposed on all those who became rich during the occupation, on black market profiteers, and on collaborators.

Mr. Mantzavinos avoided giving a final answer on the proposed measures for the definite solution of the wage-scales question. Apparently he intends to abandon this problem, unsolved, to the new Government which is being formed.

The Executive Committee of the Confederation of State Employees calls on all State Employees "to take upon themselves the just struggle for their survival".

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POPE PIUS RECEIVES  
HIGH UNRRA OFFICIALS

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

London (27 October):--REUTER's cables from the Vatican that yesterday evening five highr UNRRA officials, including Mr. Jackson, Personal Representative of the Director General, were received by Pope Pius XII at a private audition. The Pope addressed the visitors in English. He said, "Your enterprise is wonderful in view of its wide scope and its humanitarian task. Racial or political conflicts cannot overshadow the truth, which says that all human beings are members of one great family governed by Holy Providence."

Further information reveals that the Vatican has announced that the concordat between the Catholic Church and the German State, which was drawn up 12 years ago, is considered by the Allies as still in force. REUTER's adds that the Nazis violated the concordat almost immediately after it was signed. In 1936, the Pope had condemned the Nazis' intervention in the Church. Many German Church leaders had also protested.

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APPROVES CREDIT TO BUY  
WHEAT, BARLEY AND OAT SEED

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (27 October):--According to an announcement from the Ministry of Agriculture a credit of 1200000 drs. has been approved for the purchase of wheat, barley and oat seed. The purchasing prices will be fixed by committees consisting of the head of the local agricultural service and the representative of the Agricultural Bank.

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FIXES PRICES OF MILK  
AND CURRANT SYRUP

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative;  
"HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic;  
"ETHNOS" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (28 October):--By a market control order, the price of milk was fixed as follows: Wholesale, 220 drachmae per cke; retail, 265 drs.; "E.V.G.A." milk (bottled milk, product of the E.V.G.A. Co.), 285 drs.

Another order determines the selling price of currant syrup as follows:  
In natural state, liquid: wholesale, 400 drs.; retail, 460 drs. Frozen: In barrels, wholesale, 410 drs.; retail, 476 drs.; in packages, wholesale, 420 drs.; retail, 480 drs. Refined, light color, liquid: wholesale, 420 drs.; retail, 480 drs. Frozen: In barrels, wholesale, 430 drs.; retail, 490 drs. In packages, wholesale, 440 drs.; retail, 500 drs.

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UNRRA SPECIALISTS BRING  
MEDICAL RELIEF TO EUROPE

From: "A.G.I.S." (Anglo-Greek Inf. Service).

London (28 October):--Under a British medical man, Dr. Neville Godman, Director of UNRRA's European Health Division, 1,200 health specialists in Europe are conducting the greatest medical relief operation in Europe. They are helping to restore hospitals, laboratories and sanitation, and are bringing in medical supplies to increase nutrition. They are also developing child welfare and rehabilitation for the blind and disabled. (BEC).

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 179

Athens

Tuesday, 30 October 1945

### INCREASE OF TRAM, BUS AND RAILROAD FARES APPROVED

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (30 October):--The Economic Council of Ministers met yesterday and approved a proposal of the Electric Transport Company for the increase of tram-fare from 14 to 25 drachmae.

A proportionate increase has been approved for the suburban tram and bus lines. The Economic Council has likewise increased the fare of the Electric Railway of Athens-Piraeus by ten drachmas a trip. In other words, for a single trip from Athens to Piraeus the fare is now 40 drachmae.

It must be noted that the Electric Railroad Company had requested an increase of 20 drachmae for a single trip, but the Economic Council allowed an increase of only ten drachmae.

On the other hand railroad fares and freights have been increased to ten times their pre-war level.

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### SHOE LEATHER TO BE CUT AND DISTRIBUTED TO POPULATION

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (30 October):--The Ministry of Supply issued last night the following statement: "It is announced by the Ministry of Supply that the UNRRA imported shoe leather now in the warehouses will be used first for the manufacture of children's shoes. The leather will be cut by sizes under the Ministry's supervision and will be distributed very shortly to the population, in sealed envelopes."

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### DECLARE LOW PRICED SHOES POSSIBLE

From: All Papers.

Athens (30 October):--At the invitation of the cooperating employers and workers leather organizations, a large meeting was held yesterday in the "KENTRIKON" Theatre, in which were present the members of the following organizations: Shoemakers, shoe-workers, tanners, etc., for the question of low priced shoes.

The speakers criticized bitterly the tactics followed by the Ministry of Supply. They emphasized the fact that the Ministry refused to distribute to the cooperating organizations the sole-leathers attached by the Government, which amount to 250,000 soles, as well as those imported by UNRRA, with which the cooperating organizations undertake to manufacture shoes which will not cost more than 3,000 drachmas a pair and to secure two pairs for every person.

A resolution was passed reflecting that spirit, and it has been decided to declare tomorrow a 24-hour strike of all related organizations, as a protest against the Ministry's policy.

This news digest is a service for members of the UNRRA Greece mission. Its purpose is purely informational. It does not reflect mission policy. The aim is to summarize the daily news & comment about UNRRA and matters pertinent to the relief program for Greece or of interest to staff members.



COOPERATIVES ADDRESS JOINT  
RESOLUTION TO GOVERNMENT

From: "VRADYNI" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (28 October):--The Boards of the Cooperatives of the Athens Union of Workers and Employees, representing some 120,000 members, having held a joint meeting to examine the economic and food situation, came to the following conclusions:

1) That the food situation after liberation has not only failed to show an improvement but on the contrary, has rendered life problematical for the majority of the Greek people.

2) That the cooperatives, as economic organizations having a social and not a commercial character, would, if properly assisted by the State, constitute the sole weapon whereby the black market might be crushed.

As a result, a resolution was drawn up, addressed to the Government, by which it is requested (a) that funds be granted to the cooperatives, either in the form of subsidies or loans; (b) that the State give credits, transport means and fuel; (c) that UNRA turn over to the cooperatives raw materials (wool, cotton, leather) to be processed and distributed to their members; (d) that market control formalities concerning the transfer of food and commodities of prime necessity by the cooperatives be simplified; (e) that a joint UNRA-Greek State-Cooperatives set-up be created for the procurement of basic foods produced locally (oil, pulses, cheese) in exchange for manufactured products.

The above resolution was also handed to the leaders of the political parties and the Chief of UNRA Greece Mission. Printed copies were also distributed in the various factories and offices.

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MINISTRY OF SUPPLY FIXES  
NOVEMBER RATION SCALES

From: "VRADYNI" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"EMEROS" (Morning), Conservative.

Athens (29 October):--The Ministry of Supply has fixed the ration scales for November as follows:

Bread	120 dramia (daily)
White flour	200 dramia
Macaroni	600 dramia
Pulses	200 dramia
Sugar	80 dramia
Fats or oil	66 dramia
Soap	35 dramia

NOTE: (1) 400 dramia = 1 oke = 2,75 lbs.  
(2) Our Food Division informs us that the November rations of fats and soap were pre-issued in August.

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CLAIMS DISTRIBUTIONS IN  
EUBOEIA ARE NOT EQUITABLE

From: "ELETHERIA" (Morning), Democratic.

Athens (27 October):--In reply to a note published in our paper regarding the discrimination shown in the distribution of UNRA supplies in Eadi, Euboea, the Under-Secretary of the Prime Minister's Political Bureau informs us that UNRA Director in Euboea, Captain Whitelock, has carried out an investigation whereby - as reported by the Nomarch of Euboea - it was ascertained that distributions have been normal. We do not wish to doubt Mr. Whitelock's conclusions but we might remark that the complaints were filed by many villagers whose signatures we have at our offices.

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# WANTS POLITICAL STABILITY FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY

From: "ASTERMATOS" (Afternoon)  
Conservative.

Athens (29 October):--Without UNRRA's assistance we would not be able to stand on our feet. The officials at the head of this great organization promise to continue the assistance, under the obvious condition that an elemental political stability be secured, because without a normal political life, it is impossible to bring about the rehabilitation of the country.

UNRRA's assistance has a distinct aim: to relieve us temporarily, until such time as our productive machinery functions once more. In this blessed land we are letting valuable time go by without taking advantage of it, until one beautiful morning we shall awake to find UNRRA gone, leaving us where it found us when it came in-with Messrs. Sofoulis and Kafantaris (leaders of the Liberal and Progressive Parties) still trying desperately to thwart every effort towards the country's final reconstruction and peace.

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# CONGRESS REPORT URGES \$550,000,000 FOR UNRRA

From: "UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE"  
(American Official).

Washington (30 October):--The Republican Party Food Study Committee in its report to Congress recommended immediate appropriation of \$550,000,000 to enable UNRRA to carry on relief work in Europe on the grounds of "humanity and future world peace."

After extensive investigations in Europe, some of the Republican Congressmen said they felt that UNRRA was insufficiently and poorly managed and administered. Nevertheless, the Committee in its report to the House Minority Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr., declared that there was no alternative but to use UNRRA's service since winter was close and distribution of food, clothing and medical supplies desperately needed. The Committee described UNRRA's operation as a national obligation, saying that the United States was committed to assist the peoples of liberated Europe and countries with displaced persons.

The Committee report said, in part:

"Our own security and self-interest will be best served by pitching in now to relieve the desperate plight of those people who were lately our Allies. The seeds of peace do not thrive in an environment of hunger, disillusionment and disease. Everything we can do, therefore, to alleviate suffering in Europe this winter will be a sound investment in peace for world security for ourselves and control of the atomic bomb in the only way it can be controlled - by removing the desire to make war -."

Among the 11 specific recommendations made by the Committee were: Immediate allocation of the remaining U.S. contribution of \$550,000,000, restriction of UNRRA operations to Europe, establishment of a new relief organization for the Far East, and ending of European relief operations with next year's harvest.

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# UNRRA DEPUTY HEALTH DIRECTOR ARRIVES IN ATHENS

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (30 October):--Col. T.C. Boyd, of the Indian Medical Service has arrived in Athens to take up the position of Deputy Health Director in UNRRA Greece Mission.

Col. Boyd has spent most of his life in the Indian Medical Service, as Chief Medical Officer in a Province whose population was 50,000,000 people. He was President of the Calcutta Medical School for 15 years and Inspector of Hospitals for 7 years. His experience in organizing medical services with limited funds will be very useful in Greece.

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UNRRA OFFICIALS STUDY  
NEW ECONOMIC PROGRAM

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (29 October):--We have been informed that the new plan for the improvement of the country's economic conditions was studied with great interest by the higher UNRRA officials who have arrived in Greece. This plan was drawn up by the competent Ministers of the Voulgaris Cabinet. The Prime Minister approved of it after repeated conferences, and it was to be finally endorsed by the Council of Ministers at the October 9 session (i.e. the day following the resignation of the Voulgaris Cabinet). Then, it was to be put into immediate application. The Regent, who at present is acting as Prime Minister studied the plan and gave it his full approval. Because, however, of the prevailing unstable political situation, no definite decision has yet been made concerning the application of the plan.

According to the same source of information, the plan in question is chiefly based on the necessity to pave the way for a gradual return of export and import trade to normal conditions, so that when UNRRA eventually stops importing supplies after a certain period of time, the country will not be unprepared. It is also based on the need of dealing with the problems and requirements of the suffering wage-earners in a fairer and more just way, but always within the frame work of the present potentiality of Greece.

Thus, following negotiations with the British Government, it has been provided that the foreign exchange - or to be more exact, part of the exchange - which Great Britain is depositing to the credit of Greece, as payment for services rendered to the British Forces here, (in drachmae) will be allocated for the Greek import trade. Within the frame work of the existing possibilities, as regards the securing of required tonnage for sea transportation of goods - which possibilities it must be noted, are constantly improving - exchange facilities will be granted for organized import trade so that much needed supplies may be imported from Great Britain or her colonies to this country.

Something similar is being arranged for the exchange in dollars which have come into the possession of Greece through remittances from Greeks in the U.S. However, this is still only an idea.

The Price of Commodities.

On the other hand, it is provided that the prices of the raw materials for Greek industries, which are imported by the Allies, will be revised. These raw materials are at present allocated by the State at prices varying between 1/4 and 1/3 their actual cost abroad. Low prices, such as these, considerably limit the State revenue, and at the same time, will seriously undermine our national economy, if at the time UNRRA discontinues its shipments, our country is unprepared to take over and to readjust itself to the actual prices of all these supplies. As a result, it is provided that the price of the raw materials allocated to industries will be increased. Of course, they will not reach the level of the actual cost, but there is no doubt that they will be on a higher level than at present. At the same time, however, a much quicker and regular allocation to the industries of all supplies arriving from abroad will be ensured.

A small increase in the price of certain foodstuffs is also provided. This concerns foodstuffs which are distributed to the Greek people and which have been described by foreign experts as "ridiculously low". For example, the small increase in the price of bread will not constitute a serious burden on even the poorest Greek, whereas it will add a considerable revenue to the budget.

Employees' Wages

On the basis of this increased revenue, the State will be able - without danger to its budget, which is being covered satisfactorily from the regular revenue - to increase, within reason, the wages of the State employees, who today constitute

(Continued on Page 5)



(continued from page 4)

the most neglected and suffering class of Greek people. On the other hand, it is believed that the securing of the elementary requirements concerning exchange facilities for the import trade, will result in the automatic removal of the gold sovereign as a means of investment for merchandise or capital. The price of the gold sovereign will fall to more reasonable levels, with beneficial results for the cost of living.

It is understood that the economic program as a whole - the general lines of which are mentioned above - requires primarily a basic assurance of governmental stability for a few months, until the elections, so that all required measures may be taken. This seems to be the chief reason, which prevents the taking of a decision concerning its application, in spite of the fact that a month has elapsed since it was first drawn up.

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#### UNRRA HEALTH CONFERENCE OPENED TODAY IN ATHENS

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (30 October):--"Our gratitude to UNRRA and you, its workers, is emphasized by our realization of the contrast between your work and constructive program and the completely destructive one we endured throughout the four years of occupation", said Dr. Voilas, Minister of Hygiene, this morning. Dr. Voilas was opening the conference of UNRRA Regional Medical Officers and Regional Sanitary Engineers, in the office of the Director of the Health Division, Major General Sir Ernest Cowell. Most of this conference will be devoted to lectures by UNRRA experts and discussion by the Regional Officers of their difficulties. The fact that their work is being recognized and appreciated both in its spirit and magnitude was, however, well brought out at this opening session, not only by Dr. Voilas' presence and tribute, but also in the speeches of Dr. Kopanaris, Director General of Hygiene at the Ministry of Health and in the reply made by Mr. Buell F. Maben, Chief of the UNRRA Greece Mission.

"You face one of the largest and most difficult jobs of anyone in Greece", said Mr. Maben, directly addressing the Regional Medical Officers. "From your work can be effected the best and most lasting control of the health situation in this country."

The Conference, attended by UNRRA personnel from all eleven Regions of Greece, will continue for four days.

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#### IRVING POSNER ADDRESSES GREECE MISSION STAFF

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (30 October):--Introduced by Mr. Truman Mitchell, Personnel Director of UNRRA Greece Mission, Mr. Irving Posner, Chief Classifications Officer, Washington H.Q., presently in Greece, explained the work of his office and the purpose of Job Classifications, to a meeting of the Greece Mission staff at 11:00 a.m. today. This purpose is to accord the same treatment to all people doing the same type of job.

There is a fifteen-grade system in UNRRA, said Mr. Posner, and work and its difficulty determines the Grade of each employee. Classification in UNRRA - which is a unique organization in that representatives of so many nations are sent to work in various countries - is creating an international language. All UNRRA personnel will be classified on exactly the same basis, so that complete uniformity will exist throughout the organization. Differences in salaries, however, will always be present since they are due to the nature of UNRRA's composition. For each grade, UNRRA has a separate salary for each nation. The difference in the standard of living in the different countries is the determining factor. "Equal Purchasing Power for Equal Work" is UNRRA's slogan. Answering a question on whether this applies to Greek employees in Greece, Mr. Posner said that according to a decision of the UNRRA Council the standards of each country must be followed, but that UNRRA Greece Mission is doing everything to improve the condition of its local employees and has brought to the Government's attention the fact that UNRRA works longer hours than Greek Offices, UNRRA employees need two languages for their work, etc.

In conclusion, Mr. Posner assured the staff that, although UNRRA is a very complicated organization and has a very complicated job to do, yet no other organization has tried to do more for its employees.



# DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 180

Athens

Wednesday, 31 October 1945

## GREECE HAS RECEIVED GREATEST AID FROM UNRRA

From: All Papers.

Washington (30 October):--Mr. Herbert H. Lehman, Director General of UNRRA said yesterday that this coming winter would be the severest that Europe had known. Mr. Lehman added that 1,215,000 tons of relief supplies had been sent to Greece thus far, but that the Greek people were in need of still greater help in the form of foodstuffs, machinery, etc., in order to survive this winter.

Mr. Lehman also said that Greece had received the greatest aid of all the United Nations but that its needs were also the greatest. So far, Greece, Yugoslavia, Poland and Czechoslovakia have been given UNRRA assistance. China is also about to be helped, as well as Italy and two of the Soviet republics. UNRRA's funds, however, concluded Mr. Lehman, have been practically exhausted and this organization will not be able to continue its task unless further appropriations are made by the American Congress.

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## NO UNRRA SUPPLIES AFTER 1946 RECOMMENDS U. S. REPORT

From: "A.G.I.S." (Anglo-Greek Inf. Service).

Washington (30 October):--The recommendation that no UNRRA supplies should be sent to any country, except China, after December 31st 1946, and none to China after March 31st 1947, are contained in a report by the United States House of Representatives Appropriations Committee approving President Truman's recommendation that the United States should give additional 552,000,000 dollars to UNRRA.

These dates were introduced because the Committee declared it wished to see the date for the cessation of UNRRA activities established well in advance.

The Committee also contended that as far as possible surplus agricultural commodities must be used in meeting UNRRA needs and that none of the money should be used after December 31st this year, unless the countries receiving aid had agreed to make available to UNRRA all information on trade and barter agreements and on export.

The Committee also made public a report on UNRRA's finances by a private New York firm which declared:

"Detailed accounts were generally found to be in a state of confusion, but our examination does not lead us to believe that there has been any wrongful diversion of administration's resources." (REUTER)

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TO INCREASE GAS AND  
ELECTRICITY RATES

FROM: "VRADONI" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (30 October):--It has been officially announced by the Gas Company that it has been decided to increase the price of gas by 50%, i.e. instead of 40 drs. per cubic meter, the price will be 60 drs. beginning retroactively from October 1.

The management of the Electric Power Co. has also decided to increase the price of electric current, beginning October 1, from 49 drs. to 70 drs. per kilowatt.

When asked if he approved of the above increases, Mr. Mahas, Minister of Transport, under whose control the above companies operate, said that according to a recent law, decisions of this nature are taken only by the Government Economic Advisory Council. He will take the matter up with this Council.

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UNSANITARY CONDITIONS IN PRISONS  
ARE A MENACE TO PUBLIC HEALTH

From: "TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (30 October):--The Ministry of Justice dispatched a Ministry of Hygiene circular to all health centres throughout the country today. It is underlined in this circular that due to the overcrowded conditions in the prisons and the prisons and the police station cells, there is great danger of an epidemic breaking out, especially typhus.

The circular goes on to emphasize that in order to prevent this danger, it is absolutely necessary to keep a vigilant and systematic watch on the sanitary conditions of the inmates of the prisons. It is also necessary to carry out a thorough and careful job of delousing.

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1,500 MOTOR BUSES ARE  
ORDERED IN THE U. S.

From: All Papers.

Athens (30 October):--The Ministry of Transport announces that 1,500 buses have been ordered from an American factory. 400 of these will be two types of 45-passenger buses for urban lines and 1,100 will be a 24-passenger type for inter-city lines.

It is estimated that the first consignment of these buses may be possibly shipped to Greece before the end of December.

NOTE: Our Transport Section informs us that 200-300 chassis, suitable for 3-ton buses, have been included in the UNRRA import requirements for the last six months of 1945. No such chassis have been included in the program for the first 6 months of 1946.

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PARCELS FROM AMERICA  
ARRIVE ON THE GRIPSHOLM

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (31 October):--The Swedish liner S.S. "GRIPSHOLM" is expected to arrive in Piraeus from New York between November 1-3 with a large number of parcels from Greeks in America to their relatives here, as well as a cargo of UNRRA supplies.

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\$300,000 UNRRA SUPPLIES SENT  
TO YUGOSLAVIA, SAYS SENATOR PEPPER

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"ETHNOS" (Afternoon), Democratic;  
"ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon), Conserv.

London (30 October):--It is announced from Belgrade that Senator Pepper, speaking to representatives of the press, said that during the current year UNRRA had shipped to Yugoslavia foodstuffs of an approximate value of \$300,000, 70% of which have come from the United States.

Senator Pepper is leaving Belgrade today for Bucharest and thence to Sofia, Prague and Nuremberg.

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UNRRA AIDS INHABITANTS  
OF EASTERN SLOVAKIA

From: "ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon)  
Conservative.

London (30 October):--REUTER's special correspondent in Prague, Guy Betani, cables that 60,000 tons of UNRRA supplies will reach Eastern Slovakia from Bremen and Hamburg every month this coming winter, to face the needs of this war-devastated area. UNRRA will supply the stricken inhabitants with foodstuffs representing 2,000-2,650 calories. UNRRA officials have made appeals to the relief societies of Great Britain and the United States to come to the aid of suffering children.

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SAYS SUPPLEMENTARY FOODSTUFFS  
WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN NOVEMBER

From: All Afternoon Papers;  
"KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning), Democr.;  
"HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning), Royalist;  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning), Conservative;  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning), Royalist;  
"EMBROS" (Morning), Conservative.

Athens (30 October):--Mr. Maben, Chief of UNRRA Greece Mission, conferred with the Minister of Supply yesterday on the question of increasing the rationed commodities that are distributed in the various regions of the country.

Mr. Maben pointed out to the Minister that UNRRA was considering to increase the daily caloric value to 2,000 calories by distributing the balances of various foodstuffs now in storage. As a result, we are informed that UNRRA, in cooperation with the proper Minister, will draw up the official ration scales for November which, apart from the food items originally included (i.e., 600 dramia macaroni, 80 dramia sugar, 200 dramia pulses, 200 dramia flour) will be supplemented by other foodstuffs.

The new ration scales will be announced in the course of this week. The supplementary items will very probably include salted fish which has been at the disposal of the Ministry of Supply since last summer. As regards the 1,800,000 lbs. of tinned fish, it was made known that these will not be distributed to the public as they are already being distributed to hospitals and various charitable institutions.

NOTE: The official ration scales for November have already been issued. Apart from the items mentioned in brackets above, they also included (a) 120 dramia bread daily and (b) 66 dramia fats and 35 dramia soap, which were pre-issued in August.

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PRAISES UNDERSECRETARY OF PRESS  
FOR WISE HANDLING OF NEWSPRINT

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (31 October):--Congratulations are in order for the Under-Secretary of Press for handling so successfully the question of newsprint, which was threatening to take on scandalous proportions because of the monopolistic exploitation of private individuals.

It was actually confirmed yesterday that the quantity of newsprint which recently arrived from Sweden will be administered by the Newsprint Committee, legally set up to meet the newspapers paper requirements. In this way, the fear of the newsprint getting into the black market has been avoided once for all. There remains the question of determining costs, which naturally comes under the authority of the Ministry of Supply. However, we do not doubt that a satisfactory solution of this matter will also prevent any extra charge on the price of newsprint which would render the publication of newspapers most problematical and freedom of the press non-existent.

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CONSUMER TAX ON WINE  
FIXED AT 25 DRS. PER OKE

From: All afternoon papers.

Athens (30 October):--In accordance with a decision issued by the Minister of Finance the consumer tax on wine for the current fiscal year has been fixed at 25 drachmas per oke for the Nemes of Attica and Boeotia and at 20 drachmas for the rest of the country.

A quantity of 400 okes is allowed to each producer for his own personal use, for the which the tax is reduced by 50%. All other additional taxes will be calculated on a 10 drachmae per oke basis.

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OLIVE OIL PRODUCERS  
ASK FOR SUPPORT

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning), Royalist.

Athens (31 October):--At the meeting of the Panhellenic Union of Cooperatives Mr. Efstratiou, representative of the Oil Producers of Mitylene stated that the Olive Oil Producers need every encouragement and support to heal the wounds of the last years.

The oil producers as a class have been suffering for the last 15 years. The crisis they have been undergoing had forced the Metaxas Government to take certain measures, in spite of the lack of every liberty then and the impossibility of free expressions, yet it had been possible to abolish the land taxation which amounted to 60% of gross income. The conquerors ruined completely the olive oil producers, so that today it is not an exaggeration, stated Mr. Efstratiou, to say that they are barefooted and naked; whatever they had left was swallowed by the black market. Olive production is subject to the adversity of the elements, and, as is known, it produces every two years and has many expenses. The cultivation expenses in one instance only last August were as follows: For one stremma (1/4 of an acre) on mountainous land, which yields 250 okes, 14,450 drs. and in the second year 1,800 drs., that is to say, a total of 16,250 drs. adding the expenses for collecting the olives, of 9,300 drs., the total expenses for one stremma amount to 25,550 drs. The product brings in 15,000 and there is a deficit of 10,550 drs. This is the real picture of olive oil production, said Mr. Efstratiou.

After this, it is easy to realize the problem of the producer. Some leave their land uncultivated, others work alone with poor results and that affects the whole national economy. The producers have shown every willingness to help in the general condition. But most of the olive oil has been concentrated in the hands of a few exploiters. The few UNRRA foodstuffs were not enough, of course, to support the producers, so they were forced to go to the black market and to exchange their olive oil, which thus has been concentrated in the hands of the profiteers. But if the Government does not take the necessary measures to protect the producers this year's production is also in danger of finding its way in the black market.



# DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 181

Athens

Thursday, 1 November 1945

## HOUSE APPROVES \$550,000,000 APPROPRIATION FOR UNRRA

From: "A.G.I.S."  
(Anglo-Greek Information Service);  
"ELEFTERI HELIADA" (Afternoon)  
FALL.

London (31 October):--The Appropriation Committee of the House of Representatives has approved President Truman's recommendation that America should give an additional 550,000,000 dollars (137,500,000 sterling) to UNRRA. (REUTER)

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## PRICE OF NEWSPAPERS INCREASED TO 30 DRS.

From: All Morning Papers,

Athens (31 October):--In accordance with a Governmental Decree, the price of newspapers will be increased to 30 drs., beginning tomorrow, November 1. The Undersecretary for Press, Mr. Dendramis, issued yesterday the following decision:

"We approve the decision of the Committee on Newsprint Allocation, of 20 October 1945, taken after a request signed by nine daily Athens newspapers, and after an examination of the budget of one newspaper of 15,000 average daily circulation, from which it was proven that even if that newspaper receives all necessary newsprint from the Committee, it still cannot cover its expenses because of the 100% increase in the salaries of its technical and editorial staff and the 300% increase in the price of raw materials used for its publication (ink, metal, repairs of machines, presses, etc.), that the sale price of the daily newspapers be increased to 30 drs. per copy, as of 1 November 1945"

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## TO FURNISH POPULATION WITH GENERAL RATION CARD

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (31 October):--The appropriate committees are carrying out discussions on the method of distributing the new general ration cards to the entire population of Greece. The competent services have already commenced to take delivery of the new cards which have been printed on special quality paper.

The above ration card, which has been characterized as the "basic distribution card" contains various data concerning distributions made by the bakers, grocers, etc.

When the new ration cards are handed out, which will be some time before the end of the year, all indigent cards, which have been issued, will be subjected to a strict check-up.

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### MERCHANTS WILL CLOSE THEIR SHOPS ON FRIDAY

From: "ETHNOS" (Afternoon), Democratic;  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning), Royalist;  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning), Conservative;  
"ELEFTHERIA" (Morning), Democratic;  
"HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning), Royalist.

Athens (1 November):--A decision was issued at a special meeting this morning by the Administrative Council of the Athens Merchants' Association, describing the social and economic dangers which threaten to do extensive harm to the country.

The Merchants' Association calls upon all responsible factors to aid in the stabilization of the currency, to take measures against the economic chaos and the employees' problems and to secure adequate supplies.

The Administrative Council decided, in protest against the unendurable situation which has been prolonged for so many months, that all merchants will close their shops, this coming Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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### TO RATION WINE

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon), Democratic;  
"VRADINI" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (31 October):--It is announced by the Ministry of Supply that during the month of November one hundred special agencies will be picked out in Athens and Piraeus through which the public will receive a uniform quality of currant wine, on the basis of the bread ration card.

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### NO PLAGUE IN RHODOS

From: "VRADINI" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon), Democratic;  
"ELEFTHERIA" (Morning), Democratic.

Athens (31 October):--The information that the plague has broken out in Rhodes is absolutely unfounded. No case of the plague has been noted in the above island.

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### WORK ON SEWERS REPAIR CONTINUES

From: "TA NEA" (Afternoon), Democratic.

Athens (31 October):--The Ministry of Public Works announces that the work of repairing the sewer system has been going on regularly. 125 million drs. have been spent for this purpose since last June.

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### GREEK REFUGEES IN SOUTH AFRICA START OUT ON THEIR HOMEWARD VOYAGE

From: "VEMA" (Morning), Democratic;  
"MAHI" (Morning), Socialist.

London (30 October, Special Service):--The first contingent of approximately 2,000 Greek refugees in South Africa has arrived at Dar El Salaam in East Africa. One thousand of these will be transported to Greece in December and the other thousand in January.

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TO DISTRIBUTE REQUISITIONED  
WHITE CHEESE TO CIVIL EMPLOYEES

From: All Papers.

Athens (1 November):--A Market Inspection order forbids, for a period of two months, the sale of white cheese (feta), which is stored in the Athens-Piraeus cold-storage warehouses. This cheese will be sold following a special resolution. Its price has been fixed at 1,000 drs. per oke.

In the meantime, the Ministry of Supply announced yesterday that the requisitioned 120,000 oks. of white cheese will be distributed to the Athens-Piraeus public employees through their cooperatives, and on the basis of the number of members of their families, for 1,000 drs. per oke.

Mr. Paraskevopoulos, the Minister of Supply, stated that other additional foodstuffs, as well, will be distributed to the Civil employees.

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S.S. "GRIPSHOLM" HELD  
IN NAPLES FOR REPAIRS

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (1 November):--The War Shipping Administration has been notified that the S.S. "GRIPSHOLM" which was due to arrive in Athens between the 1st and 3rd of November, will be held in Naples for major engine repairs for a period of at least two weeks. The "DAILY NEWS DIGEST" will carry information on the probable arrival date as soon as this is known.

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SETS UP LEATHER DEPARTMENT  
IN MINISTRY OF SUPPLY

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative;  
"ELEFTHERIA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist;  
"EMBROS" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (1 November):--By the Minister of Supply, Mr. Paraskevopoulos, a Leather Department has been set up in the Ministry, under the direction of Mr. Zoumboulis. The Department, whose function will be the general supervision of leather, has begun working already, and has delegated to a special committee the supervision of the cutting of leather for children's shoes, which will be distributed to the Provinces.

Mr. Paraskevopoulos stated that the question of manufacturing low-priced shoes will be handled in the most efficient manner, so as to put an end to profiteering. The Minister also emphasized the fact that the shoe-makers are 100% wrong, in protesting against the Ministry's decision, because, although he had tried to unite them in a cooperative in order to manufacture low-priced shoes, they refused thinking that they could bring pressure to bear upon the Ministry and receive the State and UNRRA leather and manufacture without control or supervision shoes, which they would sell at whatever price they wished.

The main shoe stores of Athens remain closed, after the calling of a 24-hour strike in which shoe-makers are also participating.

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ELECTRIC POWER IS CUT OFF  
AS RESULT OF 5-HOUR STRIKE

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (1 November):--A committee of Electric Power Company employees called on the Minister of Transport yesterday and demanded an answer on their request for an increase in wages, which they had submitted a few days ago. The Minister answered that only the Council of Ministers can deal with the question of an increase in wages. However, because of the political crisis, no meeting has yet taken place.

The workers' committee then departed and at two o'clock the company's employees went on strike. As a result the electric supply was cut off.

To the press the Minister stated that the Government which is to be formed will take up the question of wage-increases as well as the question of repairing the electric power plant. Mr. Mahas also said that there was no excuse for the strike because the Power Company's workers have received a full month's pay over and above their regular October wages and today they are to receive their wages for the last week in October. Besides this, on the occasion of the October 28 anniversary, the employees received a gift of 300 drs. for each year of service and an additional 10,000 drs.

Later, Mr. Mahas conferred with Mr. Zakkas, Minister of Labor, as well as with the Military and Naval technical experts and the appropriate Allied Authorities on the question of dealing with the situation in case the strike continued for any length of time, so that the electric current supply may continue uninterruptedly through the work of naval units working under the supervision of Ministry engineers.

At 5 p.m., Mr. Mahas and Mr. Zakkas went down to the power plant and spoke to the employees. They persuaded the workers to return to their posts with the promise that they will immediately receive 15,000 drs. which will be deducted from their pay as soon as their new wage scales are determined by the Government.

As a result, the supply of electric current was resumed at 7:00 p.m. The above financial aid is by no means a permanent solution to the employees' demand for the readjustment of wages. The whole question of increased wages for all wage-earners will be dealt with by the future Government.

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BRIGADIER STAYNER TAKES UP  
DUTIES IN UNRRA GREECE MISSION

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (1 November):--Brigadier G.F.H. Stayner, formerly of the Fifth American Army and more recently Deputy Adjutant and Quartermaster General with the 8th Army in Austria, has just joined UNRRA and arrived in Athens to take up his duties as Deputy Chief of Mission for Supply and Distribution.

Barr Washburn, who for the past several months was Acting Deputy Chief of Mission has gone to Washington to attend an UNRRA Conference on the Supply and Distribution program for 1946.

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 182

Athens

Friday, 2 November 1945

### UNRRA HEALTH PROGRAM DISCUSSED AT WEEKLY PRESS MEETING

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning), Conservative;  
"RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning), Communist;  
"EMBROS" (Morning), Conservative;  
"VENI" (Morning), Democratic;  
"HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning), Royalist.

Athens (2 November):--At yesterday's weekly meeting of the Press with Mr. Mabon, Chief of UNRRA Greece Mission, Colonel Dodge of the Health Division spoke on the UNRRA health and sanitation program in Greece. She spoke of the efforts for the reorganization of clinics and the establishment of a health program throughout the country.

Speaking on the composition of the H.Q. Health Division she first laid emphasis on its Nursing Section. UNRRA has 53 nurses in Greece, 44 of which are in the Provinces, concentrating especially in educating and rehabilitating the nursing profession in Greece. The Ministry of Hygiene has appointed a Nursing Officer in the Ministries to work very closely with UNRRA. She is drawing up a complete list of all trained and graduate nurses, in the country who are at work or can be put back to work. Great effort is being made by the Ministry of Health and by UNRRA to get more of the trained nurses of Greece out into the provinces. In this, the Evangelismos Hospital and the Greek Red Cross are cooperating fully and are arranging to send their nurses out.

Another important part of the UNRRA Health Division, said Col. Dodge, is the Sanitation Section, which so far has dealt chiefly with the control of malaria, one of the major scourges of Greece. For the control of tuberculosis UNRRA has five teams consisting each of one Doctor specialized in Tuberculosis and a nurse. These cover the different areas of Greece, make surveys and assist in the repairing of existing and the establishment of new sanatoria for tuberculars. Mobile X-ray units which are expected to arrive in Greece will supplement their work. Those already in the country are being assembled by a special UNRRA X-ray technician. In a Diagnostic Center which has been opened here in Athens about 7,000 people have already been examined.

The Nutrition Section of the Health Division works very closely with the Food Division in giving nutritional advice on the ration scales, surveying nutritional dietary standards, particularly in the mountain areas and cooperates also with the Greek War Relief Association in the development of the supplementary child feeding program.

The Rehabilitation Section is concerned with the physical and vocational rehabilitation of cripples. It cooperates with the Near East Foundation and a rehabilitation center for vocational training and physiotherapy which assists in fitting and improving artificial limbs has been established.

Speaking of the Medical Supply Section, which is the last of the main Sections of the H.Q. Health Division, Col. Dodge said that hospital equipment and trucks have been brought into the country and distributed to the regions. Penicillin distribution, said Col. Dodge, outside of Athens was held up during the summer because of refrigeration difficulties. However, this is no longer a problem and penicillin is now going out to the Penicillin Control Committees in all the provincial areas of Greece.

This news digest is a service for members of the UNRRA Greece mission. Its purpose is purely informational. It does not reflect mission policy. The aim is to summarize the daily news & comment about UNRRA and matters pertinent to the relief program for Greece or of interest to staff members.



Col. Dodge stated that she thought there was now in the country and will be distributed within the next week sufficient penicillin to take care of every serious disease where penicillin is a life-saving measure.

Col. Dodge then explained the set-up of UNRRA's Regional Health Divisions, each of which consists of a Regional Medical Officer, a Sanitary Engineer, a Regional Nursing Consultant and two or four public health nurses. The Divisions work in cooperation with the Nomiatroi, reestablish vaccination and typhoid inoculation programs; to survey water supply, sanitation needs, hospital equipment requirements, to establish child health clinics, etc.

In reply to a question on the percentage of imported UNRRA beds that have already been used, Col. Dodge said that out of the approximate total of 13,000 equipped beds expected to arrive in Greece, 6,887 completely equipped beds (i.e. including all surgical, nursing, etc. materials) have arrived and of these 5040 are already out in the regions where most of them have been distributed to various hospitals. The remaining 1840 beds are still in Athens.

Answering a question on the rumor that Sir Humphrey Gale and Commander Jackson are returning shortly to Greece, Mr. Maben said Sir Humphrey had left for London, but Commander Jackson had returned from Cairo yesterday and will depart on Saturday. During his stay here Commander Jackson will discuss the working relations between UNRRA and the Greek Government.

On the purchase of the 20 Canadian corvettes, Mr. Maben said that when the Under-Secretary for Finance asked his opinion, he said that he thought it was a very good proposition, very reasonable and a good opportunity for Greece to start regaining its pre-war position in the shipping world. The offer was made to Greek Shipping companies.

As for the 78 motor equipped caiques, the UNRRA Chief said that these are part of the military stockpiles and UNRRA will not accept title to them or negotiate prices unless so requested by the Greek Government. If a request is made then UNRRA will consider it in the light of the needs of the country and the price asked. by M.W.T. UNRRA will ask the Government to send its own technicians to join UNRRA's in determining the condition of the caiques and will also assess their value. Then UNRRA will make its recommendations to Washington and London.

Asked on how UNRRA determines the food rations distributed to the people on the basis of the 2,000 calories per day, Mr. Maben said that the amount of food-stuffs produced in the country is determined, converted into calories and the difference between that and 2,000 calories is issued as the UNRRA ration. When several newspapermen asked if UNRRA takes into consideration the tremendous rise in prices of the foodstuffs sold in the free market, which the majority of the people cannot afford to buy, since salaries and wages remain the same, Mr. Maben said that UNRRA realizes that. "However", he said, "we cannot go back to the supplying nations and say we want more money to buy more food because the price of the food produced in Greece is too high for the people to buy it".

To a final question regarding industrialization of UNRRA raw materials, Mr. Maben said that he expected a full report on that but in the meantime, he himself had visited two textile factories that very morning, and found that they were working 100% on UNRRA cotton. UNRRA wool was not yet used 100% because of some technical difficulties, although sufficient quantities are in the country. He has been promised, however, that very soon UNRRA wool would also be used by the Industry one hundred per cent.

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#### AIR VICE MARSHAL R.E. SAUL VISITS UNRRA GREECE MISSION

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (2 November):--Air Vice Marshal R.E. Saul who has recently replaced Governor Cochran as Liaison Representative in the Mediterranean Theater, UNRRA, at Caserta, Italy, has arrived in Athens in order to familiarise himself with the problems of the Greece Mission and to see how he can best serve in his liaison work between UNRRA and A.F.H.Q.

AVM Saul joins UNRRA after a long and distinguished career with the R.A.F. Following his brief visit to Greece Mission he expects to return to Caserta in a day or two. Retiring Liaison Chief Governor Robert L. Cochran returns to the United States to occupy a position with the U.S. Government.



CLAIMS NEWSPRINT  
DISTRIBUTION IS NOT EQUITABLE

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (31 October):--The newsprint which came from England has again been distributed by tons to various occupation newspapers and other publications, so that those colossal quantities have been exhausted. To the newspapers of National Resistance were given as usual only crumbs.

Why has the Committee on Newsprint Allocation again ignored the law which provides special privileges for the resistance newspapers, giving them priority for paper allocation and greater quantity of newsprint. If the committee continues to ignore this law, the resistance newspapers will be obliged to take it to Court, in order to force it to respect and apply the law.

But we would like to ask the two UNRRA Representatives how do they allow themselves to become equally responsible for such flagrant violation of a law, whose provisions for the protection of the Resistance Press are a moral obligation.

NOTE: UNRRA Representatives are fully aware of their responsibilities in the equitable distribution of newsprint to all newspapers throughout Greece. They are now taking additional steps to ensure such equity of distribution.

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ELECTRIC CURRENT WILL  
BE CUT OFF TWICE A WEEK

From: All Papers.

Athens (1 November):--It was announced by the Ministry of Transport that, according to a decision taken, the supply of electric current would be cut off twice a week, instead of once as had been the case hitherto, because of the damage to the company's installations. The maximum load that can be carried at present is 31-32 thousand kilowatts. All are informed that further restrictions in the use of electric current may be imposed as soon as winter sets in, where the consumption of electric current increases with a corresponding increase in the load.

The technicians of the Ministry have stressed the need of immediate repairs in the Electric Power Plant and, in fact, in all sections requiring repairs simultaneously. In this way, basic repairs might be completed by Christmas. Before this could be achieved, however the differences of opinion between the Company and its personnel as regards the manner in which repairs should be carried out would have to be overcome. A decision on the above question can only be taken by the Cabinet.

Concerning yesterday's strike, supplementary information from the Ministry of Transport is that the navy detachments left the Electric Power Plant at 22:00 hours and work continued normally after that.

The new Government to be formed will have the responsibility of solving the problems of salaries paid the personnel of the Company and of repairing the damages to the Plant.

Mr. Zakas, Minister of Labor, stated today that yesterday's strike was prompted by purely economic motives and was due to the abnormal Government situation which prevented the taking of a decision on the demands submitted by the personnel of the Company.

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NEW GREEK GOVERNMENT  
SWORN IN LATE LAST NIGHT

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (2 November):--The political crisis which started about a month ago was suddenly terminated last night, when Mr. Kanellopoulos, Leader of the National Unitive Party, undertook to form a Government. Within a few hours, Mr. Kanellopoulos had his list of Ministers ready. The new Cabinet was sworn in at 23:00 hrs. in the presence of His Beatitude the Regent.

The members of the new Cabinet are as follows:

- P. Kanellopoulos: Prime Minister, Minister of the Navy, provisionally Minister of Foreign Affairs.  
Gen. S. Georgoulis: Minister of War.  
G. Kassimatis: Minister of Finance and provisionally of Agriculture.  
Ch. Psaros (lawyer): Minister of the Interior.  
Col. P. Katsotas: Minister of Public Order (new post).  
Prof. T. Theodoracopoulos: Minister of Education.  
Prof. K. Tsatsos: (Former Minister of the Interior in Voulgaris Cabinet), Under-Secretary for Press and provisionally Minister of Air.  
K. Kallias (lawyer): Minister of Telephone, Cable and Postal Communications.  
D. Katavelos (lawyer): (Formerly Secretary-General of Ministry of Interior), Minister of Labor.  
G. Economidopoulos (lawyer): (Hitherto Governor General of Epirus), Minister of Justice.  
V. Voilas: Minister of Health (as previously).  
Admiral K. Alexandris: Minister of Merchant Marine.  
A. Demetracopoulos: Minister of Public Works (as previously).  
D. Mahas: Minister of Transport (as previously).  
Col. N. Panagopoulos: (Previously Secretary-General of Ministry of Supply), Minister of Welfare.  
D. Papaligouras (lawyer): Under-Secretary for Supply and provisionally, for the Prime Minister's Political Bureau.  
D. Galanis (Director of the Commercial Bank): Under-Secretary for National Economy.

The post of Minister of National Economy has not yet been filled. That of Minister of Supply will be offered to Mr. E. Kypriades, Governor General of Eastern Macedonia.

After the new Government was sworn in, Mr. Kanellopoulos made the following statement: "I was called in this afternoon by His Beatitude and felt it my duty not only to accept, but to put into realization the mandate to form a government.

"The times are so critical, especially as regards the daily life of our people, that there was no room for hesitation. The first and main aim of the new Government is to face decisively and courageously the economic chaos. We are determined to pull the country as soon as possible out of the seeming economic impasse. We undertake our difficult but morally beautiful task with absolute confidence in the Nation, with our eyes turned especially towards the unjustifiably suffering popular classes, and with the deepest optimism."

The new Prime Minister added that more explicit statements on the new Government policy will be made after the first meeting of the Cabinet, which will take place today at noon or in the afternoon. Asked on the purpose of the creation of the new Ministry of Public Order, Mr. Kanellopoulos said that "its establishment has as its purpose to bring about as soon as possible, the democratic civil equality in the country".

On the question on the composition of his Government, Mr. Kanellopoulos said that the Government he has formed is political. "The word 'service' must be deleted from the political vocabulary. Every Government is political, because it undertakes responsibilities". Continuing, the Prime Minister emphasized that he did not form the Government as leader of the National Unitive Party, but as a political man, who was picked out to lead the country out of the impasse. "Consequently," he said, "every other previous statement of mine of a political nature as a Party Leader, does not stand today. My policy as Prime Minister will be determined from now on".



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 183

Athens

Saturday, 3 November 1945

### COMMANDER JACKSON MEETS WITH NEW PRIME MINISTER

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (3 November):--Commander R.G.A. Jackson, the Senior Deputy Director-General of UNRRA, who is passing through Athens on his way back to London and Washington, called yesterday evening on the new Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. Kanellopoulos.

Commander Jackson took the opportunity of drawing attention to the very large quantities of UNRRA supplies which were now arriving in Greece. He stated that up to the present time approximately 1,400,000 tons of supplies had arrived, at a cost of nearly \$300,000,000. UNRRA supplies were arriving in Greece at such a rate as to permit the economic recovery of the country and by this means the United Nations were endeavouring to repair some of the destruction and devastation suffered by Greece during the war. He stated that in many cases the provision of these supplies meant a real sacrifice on the part of the people in the main contributing countries, but they did this willingly for they appreciated the great suffering of the people of Greece. The willingness of people in countries which had suffered during the war to help the people of Greece, who had suffered still more, was a true example of the principles for which the peoples of the United Nations had established UNRRA.

During the interview Commander Jackson emphasized the urgent need for ensuring that supplies brought to Greece by UNRRA were utilised most effectively for the benefit of all the people in Greece. This was not only necessary in order to ensure that the UNRRA principles of equitable distribution were observed, but also to reassure the people in the countries which contributed supplies that the best use was being made of their contributions.

It followed therefore that the distribution of UNRRA supplies in Greece, as in other countries, should be made effective. Distribution could not be made completely effective in Greece unless inflation were brought under control.

Commander Jackson pointed out that inflation could be checked. In the present case the budget must be balanced as quickly as possible. The great quantity of UNRRA supplies now arriving in Greece should materially aid the solution of this problem so long as those supplies were sold at proper prices. Other measures would also be necessary and taxation and national expenditure would need to be handled properly. The solution of this problem would require some immediate sacrifices on the part of the people in Greece in order to gain a strong economic position in the future. Commander Jackson expressed the hope that all those concerned with this problem in Greece should be able to unite in achieving a successful solution, so that the people of Greece should receive the greatest possible benefit from the help which UNRRA was now bringing from the peoples of the other United Nations.

The Prime Minister expressed the gratitude of Greece for the aid which UNRRA was bringing to the people of Greece and declared his firm desire that the financial and economic condition of the country should be improved as quickly as possible. The urgency of the situation was acknowledged and the Prime Minister stated that he would make public in a few days the economic program which the Government intended to carry out.

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In taking leave of the Prime Minister, Commander Jackson reiterated the desire of UNRRA to help the people of Greece to the greatest possible extent. He said the Chief of the UNRRA Mission to Greece, Mr. Buell Mahen, would always be ready, as in the past, to receive representatives of all those bodies concerned with the wellbeing of Greece and explain to them the responsibilities of the Administration for bringing supplies to this country and the conditions under which those supplies could be used to the best advantage.

This morning's Athens Press comments variously on the above. Thus, "RIZOSPASTIS" (communist) writes:

"By the above suggestions, Mr. Jackson acknowledges that the administration of UNRRA supplies to date has not been good. This had been pointed out repeatedly by the Greek Communist Party and by 'RIZOSPASTIS'. Mr. Jackson also accepts that, if properly utilized, UNRRA assistance would render possible Greece's recovery. Finally, Mr. Jackson warned the Government that if today's unacceptable conditions, as regards the administration of UNRRA supplies, should continue, UNRRA will be forced to discontinue the import of supplies because the Nations which contribute, so that UNRRA may function, cannot go on being burdened. It was also said that an increase in the price of UNRRA commodities will be made and that there will be asked new sacrifices. However, the public cannot bear such an increase in the price of UNRRA goods. The conditions of the working classes must be improved by an increase in salaries, wages and pensions and by distributing greater quantities of foodstuffs. The burden should be borne by capitalists and those who amassed wealth during occupation."

"MAHI" (socialist) writes: "The economic circles attach special importance to yesterday's meeting between Mr. Jackson, Senior Deputy Director General of UNRRA, who is returning to London today, and Mr. P. Kanellopoulos, the new Prime Minister."

"It is known that Lt. Gen. Sir Humphrey Gale who, together with Commander Jackson toured the Middle East before coming to Athens twelve days ago, had cabled requesting that the Greek Government refrain from announcing its economic program until it communicated with them. Meanwhile, due to the governmental crisis, such a contact was not made. Sir Humphrey Gale departed and Commander Jackson stayed on. He made known to the Regent, however, that he would not be able to extend his stay here longer than Saturday (today) awaiting the formation of a Government. According to the Regency circles, His Beatitude's decision to give a solution to the crisis by all means before Commander Jackson's departure was based on the above statement."

"KATHIMERINI NEA" (democratic) comments as follows: "From what the Senior Deputy Director of UNRRA told the new Prime Minister one concludes that those at the head of this international organization are completely discouraged with the negligible results obtained after such considerable assistance. The above conclusion has been reached long ago by the Greek people who, hungry and naked, have been watching the results of the criminal wasting of most valuable supplies that should have already given some relief. And it is the Greek people first who put forth the demand 'that the UNRRA supplies be utilized most effectively for the benefit of all the people in Greece' and not to increase unlawful riches of various clever individuals and big sharks."

The Conservative "KATHIMERINI" and "EMEROS", the Royalist "ACROPOLIS" and "HELLINIKON AIMA" and the Democratic "ELEFTHERIA" and "VIMA" make no comments.

**NOTE:** In connection with "MAHI"'s comment above we wish to state that Commander Jackson left Athens on Sunday, 28 October, for the Middle East and on Wednesday Mr. Mahen, Chief of UNRRA Greece Mission, asked him to stop over one day in Athens en route to Washington, to discuss UNRRA problems. The formation of a new Government was in no way related to Commander Jackson's visit in Athens.



U.S. MILK FOR RELIEF TO  
BE INCREASED FOUR FOLD

From: "UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE".  
American Official.

Washington (2 November):--The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced today that greatly increased quantities of dairy products for the current quarter year have been allocated to UNRRA, France, Belgium, Netherlands, French North Africa and British services overseas. Recipients will get 450,000,000 lbs. of dairy products this quarter or about four times the amount the U.S. has made available in any previous quarter to meet relief needs.

Allocations which substantially meet the requests of these claimants are possible as military agencies have virtually ceased to order dairy products this quarter and U.S. milk production this year is expected to reach an all-time high of 123,000,000,000 lbs.

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PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES  
HIS GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (3 November):--The Cabinet met at noon yesterday and approved the statement on the new Governmental program. Although the statement places first emphasis on the economic program, we have it on authoritative information that a more intimate meeting last night dealt with the date of the elections. The prevailing opinion is that elections will be held some time between the 20th of January and the 16th of February.

The statement on the program is as follows: "The new Cabinet has a politically impartial character but a direct political mission. Its aims are the following:

A) Above all, to face decisively the economic problem by taking all indicated measures within the framework of a precise and full economic program. This program will be put into effect at once and every care will be taken to prevent the program from being destroyed during its application.

Strong aid to production, immediate and vigorous aid to the farmers and working classes, suffering unjustifiably, and the indispensable equilibration of the organization of the State by lawful private initiative, will have a special place in the above program.

B) To promote the morale of the Greek people who have the right to be proud and to have firm self-confidence and not, as it happens today, be doomed to let themselves be dragged towards the future and be forever in doubt as to the morrow.

C) To prove both at home and abroad that there is order and security in Greece. In this direction, there will be absolute democratic civil equity, and any tendency to dominate by force will be crushed ruthlessly, regardless of its origin. The State will be organized in such a way that it will not need protection from anyone, because the State protects - it is not protected.

D) Connected inseparably with the above two aims and purposes is the need for the implacable enforcement of justice, in order to bring about a moral purge, and the determined application of sanctions against those who, by their collaboration with the enemy or by crimes unacceptable by the Greek conscience, have sullied the morally splendid Greek people.

E) The purely political questions, which are connected with the holding of elections as soon as possible, the Government will attempt to solve in common with all the political factors of the country and taking into consideration the psychology of the Greek people and international situation.

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"The Government depends on the support of the Greek people and believes that with this support it will bring its task to a happy conclusion. We ask of the people work, confidence in themselves and in the idea of Greece. Our success will be their success. We are certain that the Greek people, realizing the seriousness of the situation, as well as the great possibilities of a happy outcome of our effort, will make our effort their effort, just as we consider their labour as our own sacred purpose."

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MR. KASSIMATIS' STATEMENT ON  
GOVERNMENT' ECONOMIC POLICY

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (3 November):—Mr. Kassimatis, Minister of Finance in the new Cabinet, took over the Ministry and the General State Accounts Bureau from Mr. Mantzavinos, his predecessor. On taking up his duties, Mr. Kassimatis took the opportunity to make the following statements on the economic policy of the Government:

"The new Government has undertaken primarily the most difficult task of the country's financial rehabilitation. With the help of the Greek people and our great allies, it hopes to complete this task. In view of the fact, however, that it does not intend to take temporary or halfway measures, but to apply a complete program to effectively meet all problems, the Government asks the Greek people to show patience and discipline.

"Within a very few days, I will introduce a complete plan before the Cabinet. However, as of today I promise that in accordance with our program, it will be necessary to tell the people the whole truth, no matter how bitter or how unpleasant it may be. Financial rehabilitation cannot be founded on lies and concealment of the truth. Only when the people are fully aware of the State's difficulties, should their assistance be asked for - because the people will be asked to give their assistance.

"Consequently, the first action of the Minister of Finance will be to directly call a meeting of the Government Economic Advisory Council to discuss at length the whole problem. There are, however, general lines which must be made known now. Indeed, the basis of our efforts will be four: 1) We will discuss an increase of the assistance which is allocated to us by the Allies. It is humanly impossible for Greece to subsist on her own lean flesh. 2) We will make every effort to distribute this assistance quickly, fairly and under strict control. 3) It is imperative that tax burden should be fairly distributed. Each, according to his financial standing and in relation to the manner in which he reached this standing, will be called upon to shoulder his portion of the tax burden. 4) We will constantly have in mind the need for a speedy improvement of the status of those who are financially weaker."

His Old Memo

Speaking to representatives of the Press yesterday evening, the Minister of Finance stated that within the next few days the Government would announce to the people, the completed economic and public finance program which it intends to put into effect. Asked whether this program will be chiefly based on the opinions which he had developed sometime ago in a memo to the Regent and the then Prime Minister Voulgaris, he answered that now he will examine the various questions in the light of his new responsibility as Minister of Finance.

In that memo, which was submitted on the 21st of last September to the Regent and the Prime Minister, he supported, among other things, the following:  
a) That a "visible" or "invisible" control should be practised on the buying and selling of gold currency through the Bank of Greece. This Bank with its reserve of 385,000 gold sovereigns can keep prices at a stable level. b) Concerning transactions in gold or foreign currency, the No. 5422 Law should be brought back into force. This Law determines that such claims relating to the above transactions will be paid in drachmas at the current gold or foreign exchange rates on the day of payment.

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c) The stabilization, by law, of the drachma as against the pound should be completely abandoned. Instead, efforts should be made for a "de facto" stabilization on the basis of the present rates of gold and foreign exchange. The stabilization by law will be possible only after one or two years, on the basis of conditions prevailing at that time. d) Taxation should be readjusted on the basis of a larger taxation imposed upon those who are financially stronger. As it was applied, the Special Contribution Tax was not a socialistic measure. e) The country's foreign exchange reserve, amounting to 175 million dollars according to the official price of gold, should be directly utilized for the country's productive machinery. f) Efforts should be made to obtain credits from the Allies, because the opposite policy which has been followed to date has been disastrous.

Continuing, Mr. Kassimatis also examined the currency question, upholding the fact that the way things are at present, there is no danger of inflation even if the circulation of currency reaches 80 billion, so that the position of the salaried man and the wage-earner may be improved, as a result of getting the country's productive machinery into operation and restoring our commercial relations with other countries.

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TO RE-ORGANIZE  
MINISTRY OF SUPPLY

From: "EMEROS" (Morning) Conservative;  
"TATHIMERINI" (Morning) Conservative.

Athens (3 November):--Taking over the direction of the Ministry of Supply until the arrival of Mr. Kypriades, Mr. Papaligouras, Sub-Minister of Supply, stated the following in an address to a gathering of higher employees:

"Under the direction of the Minister who will be sworn in within the next few days, we will proceed to reorganize the Ministry and to expand its operations. All employees will be judged and will be used strictly on the basis of service and moral qualifications".

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HOUSE PASSES \$550,000,000 UNRRA  
APPROPRIATION WITH "FREE PRESS" CLAUSE

From: UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE  
American Official.

Washington (2 November):--The House of Representatives yesterday approved a \$550,000,000 appropriation for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration after voting that funds may not be used to help any country which refuses to admit the U.S. press representatives to report on UNRRA activities. Appropriation has yet to be approved by the Senate.

The appropriation, if approved by the Senate, would complete the U.S. initial UNRRA commitment of \$1,350,000,000.

Secretary of State James F. Byrnes in a letter opposing the free press restriction to the House Appropriations Committee said, in part:

"It would be fortunate indeed if we could provide succor under ideal conditions of all kinds, but hunger and cold and tragedy will not wait upon perfection. We cannot put ourselves in the position of denying promised relief to millions of human beings because we have failed to secure our other objectives in advance."

The measure as passed sets December 31, 1946, as the deadline for shipping supplies bought with UNRRA funds to countries other than China, and March 31, 1947, as the China deadline. (USIS).

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 184

Athens

Monday, 5 November 1945

### UNRRA TO TRAIN LOCAL EXPERTS

From: "A.G.I.S."  
(Anglo-Greek Information Service).

London (3 November):--A scheme to train experts from war-devastated Europe in the various branches of relief work has been launched by UNRRA, who will provide fellowships in such subjects as health, welfare and agriculture. The scheme is open to candidates from all countries where UNRRA is now operating.

Those selected will be trained at UNRRA's expense, on the understanding that they will afterwards return to their own countries to apply the knowledge they have gained under the scheme. (BBC).

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### REPAIRS TO ELECTRIC PLANT TO BEGIN WITHIN THE WEEK

From: All Afternoon Papers;  
"ELEFThERIA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative;  
"EMEROS" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (4 November):--The Minister of Transport, Mr. Mahas, had a long meeting yesterday with the Prime Minister, during which, among other things, he discussed the questions of the country's railroad communications, the repair to the damages of the Electric Plant and the allocation of the vehicles which have been imported and will be imported by UNRRA.

Mr. Mahas announced after the conference that at the first Cabinet Meeting he will propose several bills which will permit the Ministry of Transport to go forward and solve effectively the above questions.

Thus, it will be possible to begin within the week intensive repair work in the plant producing electricity, so that the danger of cutting off the current will be avoided and the restrictions will come to an end.

At the same time the functioning of the State machinery will be regulated and definite decisions will be taken for the allocation of vehicles to the professional car owners, on the basis of the plan prepared by the competent service and in view of the great number of vehicles to be imported from abroad.

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AGRICULTURAL BANK TO  
ISSUE FARMING LOANS

From: "ELEFTHERIA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"VEMA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (4 November):--The Administration of the Agricultural Bank issued an urgent order to all its branch offices directing them to issue farm loans for autumn cultivation. These loans will not exceed 2,000 drs. per stremma (Greek acre) and they will be granted independently of allocations of seed or of expenses for mechanical cultivation.

The Ministry of Agriculture has decided to import 10,000 tons of wheat seed from Turkey, following a recent decision by the Turkish Government allowing the seed to be exported.

As a result of the efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Agricultural Bank, the following quantities of seed will be imported: 1,000 tons of oats and 700 tons of barley to Volos; 400 tons of barley to Piraeus; 300 tons of barley to Mytilini; and 200 tons of barley to Calamata.

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UNRRA AIDS CZECHS

From: "A.G.I.S."  
(Anglo-Greek Information Service).

London (4 November):--Luxemburg Radio reported tonight that the first UNRRA consignments unloaded at Hamburg and Bremen have arrived in Prague. They contained wheat and sugar.

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TO RESTORE TELEGRAPH  
AND TELEPHONE NETWORK

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (3 November):--According to an announcement from the Ministry of T.T.T. (Post, Cables, Telephones), the British Authorities have delivered considerable quantities of wire for the restoration of six circuits of the telephone and telegraph network between Athens and Thessaloniki.

Thus, it is hoped that, following the installation of the high tension machines, the complete network will be restored before the end of the month.

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NEEDS MORE APPROPRIATIONS  
FOR PUBLIC WORKS

From: "ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon)  
Conservative.

Athens (3 November):--The Minister of Public Works will inspect all flood control works in Attica (Kifissia, Coucouvaounes, Piraeus, etc.) today. He stated that there is danger that these works will be destroyed if more credits are not approved for their continuation. The old credits have been exhausted, mainly because of the depreciation of the drachma.

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9,000,000 TONS OF FOOD FOR  
EUROPE, SAYS UNRRA EXPERT

From: "UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE"  
American Official;  
"A.G.I.S."  
(Anglo-Greek Information Service).

London (5 November):--Nine million tons of food must be exported to Europe during the coming winter if the European people are to survive until the 1946 harvest, according to figures quoted by Dr. H.C.M. Case, UNRRA consultant on agricultural economics.

Mr. Case, just returned from a tour of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece, Italy, France, Holland, Denmark, Belgium and Norway, said that while these countries probably will produce two-thirds of their pre-war food consumption, approximately 90,000,000 city dwellers will average about 1,200 calories daily or under half the "acceptable minimum". Farm dwellers will fare somewhat better.

One million tons of food and 2,400 milk cows have been delivered to eastern and southern Europe by UNRRA; about 5,000 cows, horses and mules are scheduled for delivery each of the remaining months of the fall and winter.

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SEEKS IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION  
OF OLIVE OIL

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (4 November):--The new Under-Secretary of Supply, Mr. Papaligouras, is making every effort to obtain UNRRA's consent for the immediate distribution of over 200,000 oke of olive oil which have been collected in exchange for UNRRA supplies, and 300,000 oke of seed oil to be pressed from UNRRA olive seeds. If UNRRA's consent is obtained,  $\frac{1}{2}$  oke will be distributed per capita at the price of 500 drs. per ration. Olive oil will also be sold on the open market under the supervision of Market Inspection Police at 1,000 drs. per oke.

NOTE: Our Food Division informs us that the quantity of olive oil and olive seed oil involved in the above article are 215 tons (172,000 oke) and 317 tons (253,600 oke) respectively.

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THE PRIME MINISTER ON  
THE OLIVE OIL MYSTERY

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (4 November):--When questioned by an "ACROPOLIS" reporter on the question of the "olive oil mystery", the Prime Minister answered:

"As you will see in a very few days, no such question exists."

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MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
INCREASES TAXES

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning) Royalist;  
"KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning) Democratic;  
"VRADYNI" (Afternoon) Royalist;  
"ESTIA" (Afternoon) Royalist;  
"ELEFTHERI ELLADA" (Afternoon) EAM.

Athens (4 November):--By decision of the Ministry of Finance the coefficient of the drachma (coins) is increased to six times that of September 1941. Another decision increases the amusement tax to three times that fixed in September of this year. The tax on public amusement permits is doubled. The tax on games of chance is also doubled for the second six-month period of the current fiscal year, as well as the additional license fee for private automobiles and motor boats. The tax on gun powder and all explosives is tripled. Finally the price of saccharine sold through the State pay-offices is increased to 500 drs. for each vial or box of 10 grams and to 350 drs. for each box of 7 grams.



GREEK PRESS COMMENTS ON  
COMMANDER JACKSON'S SUGGESTIONS

(Commander Jackson's meeting with the new Prime Minister has been the subject of various comments in the Greek Press, which we reproduce below with their own titles intact).

UNRRA'S ASSISTANCE

From: "ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon)  
Conservative.

Athens (3 November):--The question of UNRRA supplies should be given special attention. The supplies should be utilized in such a manner as to relieve the people and, at the same time, fulfill the purpose for which they were sent, namely to aid the effort for the country's economic rehabilitation.

We must acknowledge that so far the UNRRA supplies have been administered without a program, without organization and without purpose. Large quantities were wasted, others destroyed or abused. Still others have not yet reached their destination notwithstanding the fact that they are to cover urgent productive requirements. UNRRA's assistance is of the utmost importance for our recovery. Because it affects not only the food situation, but also public finance. Let the Government then pay special attention to Commander Jackson's, UNRRA's Senior Deputy Director General, thoughts, because winter is knocking at our door and it seems that much suffering is in store for us.

NOTES

From: "VRISS" (Morning), Democratic.

Athens (4 November):--What Commander Jackson, Senior Deputy Director General of UNRRA, said during his meeting with the Prime Minister regarding the contribution of this international organization towards the economic rehabilitation of Greece and the obligations of the Greek Government resulting from this contribution, are neither new nor surprising. On the contrary, they are a repetition of sincere and unselfish suggestions which have been made to Greece, as well as to other countries receiving UNRRA assistance. The international assistance is being given to the liberated countries so that they will be able to recover, to put the foundations of their economic rehabilitation and to be able then to continue alone their reconstruction. Greece is not going to be subsidized indefinitely. The end of 1946 has been generally fixed as the end of UNRRA activities. Within this year our country also must balance its budget, stabilize its currency, organize its production and its commerce, so that it will be able to go under its own power from 1947 on. But at the moment UNRRA is interested in seeing that the foodstuffs and the other goods which it imports are distributed equitably and especially among the indigent population; and that all other materials are used for the promotion of the agricultural and industrial production. Commander Jackson gave us the general lines of an economic program, which the Government should not and cannot ignore.

IT MUST BE  
INVESTIGATED

From: "EMBROS" (Morning), Conservative.

Athens (4 November):--Public opinion is greatly perturbed over certain points of the summary of the talks held between Commander Jackson and the Prime Minister which do not seem sufficiently clear. Mr. Jackson emphasized, for instance, the necessity of ensuring the utilization of UNRRA supplies in the most effective manner for the benefit of the entire Greek people. Furthermore, he stressed that it is necessary "to ensure that the UNRRA principles of equitable distribution were observed" and also that the contributing nations become convinced that their contributions are used to the fullest advantage.

What is happening? Are not the incoming supplies being used for the benefit of the whole population? Is not UNRRA's principle of equitable distribution being applied? And have the contributing countries commenced to doubt whether their

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contributions are used in the best manner? All these are accusations - most heavy accusations - and we must find out where the responsibility lies. The matter should be investigated without delay. If there are guilty persons, sanctions should be imposed on them. Above all there must be a step to whatever gave reason to Commander Jackson to point out what he did point out - whether it is actual fact, no matter of what degree of importance, or part of the well known defamation campaign against Greece.

#### NAZR-EL-DIN'S DONKEY

From: "EMBROS" (Morning)  
Conservative;

Athens (4 November):--Amongst the measures suggested to the Prime Minister by the Senior Deputy Director General of UNRRA, Mr. Jackson, according to the summary of their talks published yesterday, it was pointed out that a suitable handling of taxations and state expenditure would assist in controlling inflation. "The solution of this problem", said Commander Jackson, "would require some immediate sacrifices on the part of the people in Greece, in order to gain a strong economic position in the future."

We do not know what the Prime Minister's reply was, but the Greeks for years now are well acquainted with the taxation cure for a non-balanced budget and there was no need of a special delegate coming from so far to make the suggestion. Unfortunately, however, the Greek people have reached such a state of economic exhaustion that new taxation experiments would closely resemble the experiment carried out by Nasr-El-Dir Hodja who wished to train his donkey to go without food but unfortunately the donkey died just as it began to get used to this excellent diet.

Commander Jackson and our Allies should realize that not only ample supplies are indispensable, but funds as well, and that an immediate loan would help to put this devastated country back on its feet. Because as far as wisdom is concerned, we even sell it in this blessed land.

#### CONSEQUENCES

From: "EMBROS" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (4 November):--In continuation to what we write above about Commander Jackson's remarks to the Prime Minister, we would like to learn what has become of the Kerassiotis case. Why has not Mr. Paraskevopoulos, in whose honesty we firmly believe, placed the matter in the hands of justice and have the above person give an account for his slandering. Also, what has happened with the famous accusations of Mr. Varvaressos according to which all Greeks are thieves. Leniency and negligence such as the above, are/cause of the despicable rumours, which gave reason to Commander Jackson to say what he did say.

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#### NEW SECRETARIES GENERAL AT MINISTRIES OF NATIONAL ECONOMY AND EDUCATION

From: "ELEFTEHRIA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (4 November):--Mr. Th. Christides, higher employee of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, was appointed Secretary General of the Ministry of National Economy. Mr. P. Pampoukis, lawyer, was appointed Secretary General of the Ministry of Education.

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 185

Athens

Tuesday, 6 November 1945

PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSES  
CONFIDENCE ON ECONOMIC SITUATION

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (6 November):--The Prime Minister held another meeting yesterday evening with the Advisory Economic Council which lasted for three hours.

At that meeting, at which all the Council members outside the Government spoke explaining their views, a full agreement on all discussed questions was noted. Thus, the final plan of the Council's views has been drawn up, which, of course, will be subject to modifications by the Cabinet, as well as the proper allied circles, before it is announced and applied.

At the end of the meeting Mr. Kanellopoulos made the following announcement: "The third meeting has come to an end and the task of the economic committee has been completed. All the members of the committee are convinced that it is possible to face effectively the question of currency, public finance and economic condition. And I find myself in the happy position to announce that all the members of the committee agreed with the measures which the Government will announce and will apply".

The Prime Minister stated also that the Government will be in a position, probably within 2 or 3 days to make public its economic program.

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MINISTER OF FINANCE  
PROCLAIMS HIS OPTIMISM

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (6 November):--The Minister of Finance, Mr. Kassinatis, made yesterday the following announcement on the economic situation:

"Today I am optimistic and, naturally, at first sight it seems strange to feel optimistic in an atmosphere of nervous tension and the rise of the price of the sovereign which is due to those well known people who undermine our economic life, and, moved either by political or selfish motives, harm our country. However, you will realize completely my optimism when you learn: 1) That, for the first time after liberation, all the economic factors of our country who participate in the economic committee, which has met three times already under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, will find themselves in agreement. Names like Maximos, Mantzavinos, etc., guarantee the importance of the agreement of the country's most serious economists on the program which will be announced very shortly by the Government.

2) That the stockpiles in UNRRA raw materials and supplies are especially important and at this moment, because of one delay, there have been confined in the Greek warehouses the following goods which will be distributed under proper control. As is shown from the list below, many goods which the Government has today at its disposal are greater in quantity than those that were ever at the disposal of the Greek economy.

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**FUEL:** Coal - 27,989 tons. Metallic coke - 864 tons, petrol - 10,800 tons. Mazut - 17,702 tons. Kerosene (Paraffin) - 2,587 tons. Crude oil - 10,261 tons. Lubricants - 1,100 tons.

**COTTON:** Quantity imported - 7,694 tons. Quantity delivered to Industrialists totals 1,483 tons.

**WOOL:** Quantity imported to date, 3,145 tons. Quantity delivered to Industrialists totals 1,151 tons. Another 1,100 tons have been allocated for home industries.

**TEXTILES:** To date the industrialists have delivered to the State 243,527 meters of "cabot", manufactured from the above cotton. 77,143 meters of "alatza", 67,083 "drilli", in other words, 389,753 meters are ready for distribution. The following commodities are also in the warehouses, ready for distribution:

"Raincoats, 8,784. Men's suits, 8,886. Children's suits, 9,950. Men's coats, 15,176. Women's coats, 20,102. Girls' coats, 18,678. Children's coats, 3,589. Children's raincoats, 560. Men's jackets, 14,596. Children's jackets, 2,384. Women's raincoats, 119. Women's jackets, 246. Women's hygiene items, 260. Men's trousers, 90,076. Children's pants, 1,580. Children's shirts, 19,338. Underwear, 88,056. Children's underwear, 18,426. Women's panties, 109,219. Children's panties, 20,663. Mixed cotton and woollen goods, 5,118. Cotton cloth for shirts, 880,154 yds. Cloth for women's coats, 169,159 yds. Cloth for suits, 91,898 yds. Cotton flannel cloth, 504,617 yds. "Alatza" 39,791 yds. "Dimito", khaki, 2,684 yds. Men's flannels, 64,443 pieces. Girls flannels, 105,746. Workers' overalls, 12,056. Men's pyjamas, 42. Men's socks, 145,626 pairs. Women's stockings, 96,942 pairs. Women's skirts, 1,366. Girls' dresses, 39,016. Women's dresses, 14,517. Men's shirts, 48,496. Women's sweaters, 18,100. Cotton towels, 32,213. Men's coats, 4,965. Babies' bibs, 1,585. Colored cotton cloth, 147,218 yds. "Percall" cloth, 850,47 yds. Cloth for women's underwear, 71,175 yds. Cotton cloth, 49,307 yds. Cotton and wool cloth for dresses, 10,665 yds. Cloth for women's skirts, 4,158 yds. Children socks, 6,120 pairs.

"Furthermore, there are 11,960 parcels and boxes containing 600 tons of cloth.

**LEATHER** for distribution in the warehouses: Sole leather, 256,672 kilos. Synthetic rubber sheets, 103,904, which are sufficient for 1,353,752 pairs of rubber soles. Ready-cut rubber soles, 59,468 pairs. Shoe-leather, 222,148 feet, which are sufficient for 111,674 pairs of shoes.

**SHOES:** Ready-made men's, women's and children's shoes, 717,853 pairs, of which 148,000 pairs have already been delivered to "Region 'A'" for distribution. In addition, we have already cut 110,000 pairs of rubber soles from used tires.

"Besides all these, however, we are successfully negotiating for the immediate purchase of 6,000 tons of rice while at the same time we have come to an understanding and within the next few days shipments of the 200,000 pairs of shoes will begin from Egypt. These shoes will be primarily distributed to the State employees and laborers.

"As UNRRA stated categorically, it is not true that the distribution of UNRRA food for November will be below that of October. The stocks of wheat are absolutely adequate. I am even more optimistic, because Allied circles show even greater understanding of our economic difficulties and are always willing to help in the economic restoration of the land. At this point, I would like to express the Nation's gratitude for this understanding and for the constant supervision and aid to our efforts towards economic recovery which they are giving us through their economic advisers and specialists.

"For all these reasons, I am optimistic. And still more so, because I believe that, following the announcement of the Government's economic policy and the balancing of the Greek budget which will be achieved on a firm basis, the measures to be taken will immediately transform the prevailing atmosphere of panic into one of optimism and faith in the economic future of our country. I am optimistic because I have the right to expect the same direct understanding on the part of Allied circles for the fundamental demand of our country concerning reparations by those who devoured almost all of the country's economic wealth during the occupation.

"On the basis of conservative estimations, the reparations which we will demand from Germany will amount to a sum representing approximately 3 billion dollars,

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(continued from page 2)

1,300,000,000 dollars from Italy, and 400 million dollars from Bulgaria.

"The above figures concern looting, destruction and in general all positive damages which Greece suffered as a result of the war against Germany and Italy and the occupation. They have been taken from the official data which have been collected and they do not include the decrease of our national income and output of Labor, as well as the pensions and other grants which the Government must pay to the victims of the war and the brutality of the invaders, which it also intends to demand from the responsible parties.

"Furthermore we have a surprise in store for those who speculate in gold pounds, and which will teach them a lesson, because certain measures are going to be taken of which even those who are supposed to be the top experts are absolutely unaware. I am not making any announcement concerning the Government's economic program. This will be presented in a very few days and will disillusion all those who play with the drachma. No thought of inflation exists or ever existed in the Government. The drachma will be protected and it will survive.

"In conclusion, I must emphasize that one reason for my optimism is the fact that everyone on the Economics Committee and in the Government has agreed that there is no reason why we should follow an inflation policy. At the same time it is possible within the framework of the right policy to substantially satisfy the employees and the laborers, who are trying to meet the present difficult situation only through their work".

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#### CLAIMS THIEF GETS UNRRA MULES

From: "ELEFTHERI HELLADA" (Afternoon)  
EAM.

Athens (5 November):--The newspaper "FONI TIS KARDITSAS" (Voice of Karditsa) writes: "Amongst those whom the appropriate committee judged as entitled to receive UNRRA mules, because they had the necessary credentials, is Aliftiras, the well-known animal thief". Quite appropriate!

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#### NEW MINISTERS SWORN IN YESTERDAY

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (6 November):--In the presence of the Regent and the Prime Minister the following new ministers were sworn in yesterday:

Mr. Epaminondas Kypriades as Minister of Agriculture.  
Mr. N. Ghiokas, Florina representative, as Under-Secretary for Repatriation.  
Mr. G. Mangakis, as Under-Secretary for the Prime Minister's Political Bureau.  
Mr. C. Cambas, as Service Under-Secretary for Welfare.

The Prime Minister is continuing his negotiations in order to fill the remaining vacant posts in the Cabinet.

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#### PARCELS FROM AMERICA DUTY FREE TILL END OF YEAR

From: "VRADYNI" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (5 November):--We have been informed that a new decision by the Council of Ministers fixes the deadline for the duty-free import of parcels from the U.S. and Canada for December 31.

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6 November 1945

COMMANDER JACKSON'S INTERVIEW WITH  
THE PRIME MINISTER - FURTHER COMMENT

From: "ELEFTHERI HELLADA" (Afternoon)  
 EAM.

Athens (5 November):--"THE SLAP IN THE FACE. The steps taken by Mr. Jackson, Personal Representative of UNRRA's Director General, with the new Prime Minister, Mr. Kanellopoulos, are a real slap in the face of provocative and corrupt post-December Greece. About three hundred million dollars worth of food supplies and materials have arrived within a period of a few months - and \$300,000,000 is a huge sum for Greek economy and for Greek consumption.

"What happened to them? How is it that after the importation of such immense quantities, for which - under different conditions - we would have had to pay incalculable amounts of foreign exchange, we find ourselves with a depreciated currency, a chaotic budget, inactive industry, dead foreign commerce, restricted credits abroad, with our reserve frozen. What has become of the raw materials that actually were turned over to the industrialists?

"What about conditions out in the rural districts, where supplies, destined for the villagers, are stolen or secretly delivered to monarchist organizations, according to irrefutable information, data and documents written by the responsible authorities themselves.

"Mr. Jackson's suggestions are a heavy blow which all of us feel, because it humiliates and humbles the Greek State. It places it in a position where it has to apologize for being incapable even to handle the supplies that international aid lays at its feet, that it is a State of embezzlers - which the post-December State actually is."

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TAKE MEASURES AGAINST  
FISH BLACK MARKET

From: "ETHNOS" (Afternoon)  
 Democratic;  
 "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
 Royalist.

Athens (5 November):--In accordance with a joint decision issued by the Ministries of Supply and Merchant Marine all fishermen in the Saronic Gulf and the southern part of the Gulf of Euboea will be obliged to unload their catch at certain fish piers. From there, the fish will be transported directly to the Athens-Piraeus markets. In this way, it is hoped, that the black market in fish will be curtailed.

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TO IMPORT FRESH  
FISH FROM TURKEY

From: "EMEROS" (Morning)  
 Conservative;  
 "VEMA" (Morning)  
 Democratic;  
 "ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
 Royalist.

Athens (6 November):--The Ministry of National Economy has granted permission for the import of 600 tons of fresh fish from Turkey, which will be sold to consumers on the Athens-Piraeus markets.

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PARCELS FROM ABROAD  
EXPECTED AT PIRAEUS

From: "ELEFTHERI HELLADA" (Afternoon)  
 EAM.

Athens (5 November):--It was announced that this week 50,000 new parcels are to arrive at Piraeus. The Canadian Postal Service has also intimated that parcels will be sent from Canada.



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 186

Athens

Wednesday, 7 November 1945

GREECE, POLAND, YUGOSLAVIA  
SUFFERED GREATEST DESTRUCTION

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

London (6 November):--The newspaper 'OBSERVER' says, in an article on the Educational Conference, that Poland, Greece and Yugoslavia suffered the greatest destructions. It adds that, according to a statement by the Greek representative, Professor Fotiades, 45% of the Greek schools and 60% of the classrooms have been destroyed. Only 14 out of 180 schools have been left in Epirus. Greece needs 400,000 students' desks. It must be noted that Greece has very little lumber and no iron. 6,000 instructors are needed for elementary and high-school education.

The children are weak, undernourished and hungry. Mr. Fotiades estimates that between 300,000 and 400,000 children are tubercular or pro-tubercular. The number of children suffering from malaria has also increased alarmingly.

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MINISTRY OF HEALTH ANNOUNCES  
MEDICAL COUNCIL'S DECISIONS

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning), Royalist.

Athens (7 November):--It was announced by the Ministry of Health that the Central Medical Supplies Council held its first meeting last Saturday under the chairmanship of the Health Director-General, Mr. F. Kopanaris. Representatives of UNRRA, the Ministry of Supply and the Greek Red Cross sit in the above council. UNRRA was represented by the Director of its Health Division, Sir Ernest Cowell.

Following an enlightening introductory talk by the Chairman on the work carried out thus far in connection with the medical supplies and the equipment for hospitals and charitable institutions imported into Greece by UNRRA, decisions were taken concerning the manner in which such supplies and equipment would be distributed in the future. Other decisions were taken regarding the distribution of drugs to the indigent and the allocation of 120 kinds of drugs of prime necessity to private pharmacies throughout the country, to be sold through regular commercial channels. The pharmacies will be supplied by agencies set up by the pharmacists' cooperatives. Finally, the prices will be fixed by the Ministry of Supply, following which the allocations will take place. Further allocations will follow when more UNRRA medical supplies arrive, so that an adequate quantity may be secured for the free pharmaceutical trade.

The Council also approved the allocation, against payment, of hospital equipment to private clinics, so that these may be restored to their pre-war condition. A special committee, consisting of members of the Council, has been set up for this purpose and will consider the applications submitted by private clinics, and determine the equipment to be furnished to each of them.

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This news digest is a service for members of the UNRRA Greece mission. Its purpose is purely informational. It does not reflect mission policy. The aim is to summarize the daily news & comment about UNRRA and matters pertinent to the relief program for Greece or of interest to staff members.



CHARGE UNRRA DRUGS  
FOUND IN BLACK MARKET

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (6 November):--There is no doubt but that there is a black market for drugs. The point is, who is behind it. The public is under the impression that the pharmacists have their part in it too. And the public is right in thinking so, because it so happens that the pharmacists very often sell drugs at black market prices. Where do they get such drugs? They must have had them concealed. This, however, is not entirely correct. There may have been a few pharmacists who, at the beginning of the occupation, did put aside some drugs. During the four years before liberation, however, these small stocks were exhausted and today the druggists, not being supplied by local pharmaceutical industries, find themselves customers of the black market. That is to say, they too have tied themselves with the fatal chain and purchase small quantities in the black market with which they serve their clientele making a small profit. For the drugs are chiefly in the black market instead of being in the hands of the pharmacists. That is their greatest complaint. With what are they to deal. How are they to live? They did await UNRRA medical supplies very eagerly but these were swallowed up, as they say, by the voracious market which they definitely accuse.

They write in their journal: "The simplicity whereby large quantities of UNRRA medical supplies reach the black market betray the existence of an organized system of robbing the State warehouses, Hospitals, medical center pharmacies or the numberless Red Cross medicine agencies".

The accusations are heavy and should reach the District Attorney, so that we may finally see what is going on and protect persons and institutions from slander, in case the above accusations are unfounded. It is a fact, nevertheless, that medicines do circulate in the black market and also that a District Attorney does exist in Athens. It is up to him.

The pharmacists also make the following accusations in their journal: "We know and have available data which prove that thousands of phials of Digitalin Nativel and thousands of boxes of Quabain Arno, which were sent by foreign firms to be distributed to the Greek people free of charge, were sold on the black market at 1,200 drachmae (when the price of the sovereign was lower than what it is today) per phial or box. That is to say, millions of drachmae were collected. How did such large quantities of the above precious drugs appear in the market since all stocks had been exhausted long ago? Our information is that the above drugs were at that time exclusively administered by the Supplies Committee. The Athens representative of the firms mentioned above assured us that no stocks existed in Greece. However, 3,000 phials of Digitalin and 1,000 boxes of Quabain were shipped to the Committee for Medical Supplies".

This charge is also serious, because members of the above committee continue to handle the medical supplies today. Consequently, they should not be insulted without investigation nor should the medical supplies vanish for one or another reason. This is also up to the District Attorney. Yet, we too should have a rough idea of what is going on and in this connection let us begin at the beginning.

UNRRA imported into Greece large quantities of medical supplies and hospital equipment, which the pharmacists expected to take delivery of and distribute through a general agency set up by them under the supervision of the Ministry of Health. UNRRA turned over the supplies to the State which, according to a decision issued by the Voulgaris Cabinet, set up at the Ministry of Health a "Medical Supplies Council" under the chairmanship of the Health Director General. The Council also consists of the following members:

- (a) One representative from the Ministry of Supply and another from UNRRA.
- (b) One representative from the Greek Red Cross.
- (c) The Director of Medical Relief of the Ministry of Health.
- (d) The Director of the Department of Medical Professions of the Ministry of Health.
- (e) The Director of Economic Services of the Ministry of Health.
- (f) The Technical Advisor, formerly Director of the Medical Supplies Department of the Swiss Red Cross.
- (g) The Chief of the Bureau for the Administration of Equipment.

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Whenever necessary the following persons are invited: (a) The Chairman of the Panhellenic Pharmaceutical Association or, in his absence, the Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Association of Athens. (b) A pharmacist appointed by the Minister of Health. (c) The Representative of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry at the Medical Supplies Council.

Secretarial duties are carried out by an employee of the Ministry of Health appointed by the Chairman. This is the starting point wherefrom the distribution of UNRRA medical supplies commences. "But", charge the pharmacists, "an endless series of various state and private agencies - Health Centers, orphanages, polyclinics, state pharmacies, etc. - take delivery of and distribute to privileged parties the medical supplies. At the end of the line waits the druggist who gets what is left. But what is left after the above agencies have taken their share, especially when the right is given to the three or four wholesale drug merchants to establish a selling agency of their own. What could possibly be left over for the pharmacists when the former Swiss Red Cross drug agencies are maintained?"

That is the situation as seen and described quite agitatedly by the professionals. However, we notice something else: that UNRRA supplies are distributed in so many directions that, notwithstanding the wish of the blameless newly established Medical Supplies Council, they are, on their way, dispersed by the recipients into the black market. That is to say, it is impossible for any control to exist under the present distribution system. We notice, furthermore, that the people are not adequately served, because the drugs are not in their proper place, i.e. in the local pharmacies. In the provinces, this is even more so.

In our present investigation, we do not side with any one of the parties arguing for the possession of the drugs. We only take the side of the people who have to suffer before they can find the drugs they need and pay for them dearly when they do find them in the black market. We also side with the doctors who, as we observed yesterday, protested through their President, Dr. Karzis, against the difficulties faced in order to get prescriptions prepared under the present system. That is what we see for the time being.

At the last moment, however, we are informed that the question was given a solution and that the Medical Supplies Council met last Saturday, and, according to a relative announcement published today, allocated 120 kinds of drugs to the pharmacists. To confirm this, we applied to the Chairman of the Association of the Pharmacists of Attica-Boeotia, Mr. Tsitsonis, who nevertheless, by no means considers the question solved. Here is what he says:

"I was also present at the meeting of the Supplies Committee on Saturday. The allocation of 120 items of UNRRA drugs for private pharmacies in Greece was announced during this meeting. The number of the pharmacies is 1,400 and the portion of rare drugs to be allocated to each will amount to only 50-100 grams. The total quantity of metallic iodine, for example, which is to be distributed amounts to only 75 kilograms, i.e. 50 gr. for each pharmacy which means that it will receive enough iodine for one day's needs. In the meantime, the public which has been informed through an announcement made by the Ministry of Health that we have received 120 kinds of drugs, will justly demand these drugs, the quantity of which, as I have said is negligible. Therefore, to avoid any misunderstanding - because we have been slandered enough - I will call a general assembly of the members of our Association, so that we may decide whether we will accept this allocation. Of course, we don't know what stocks are in the hands of the Ministry. They should be considerable, however, in view of the fact that UNRRA began to import pharmaceutical supplies since last June. I feel that I am obliged to call the attention of public opinion and to emphasize the fact that if the unrestricted import of drugs from abroad is not allowed, we will be without drugs in a very short time".

When asked how the black market in drugs is carried out, Mr. Tsitsonis very analytically set forth the opinions of the pharmaceutical world. Because of the importance of his statements we publish them in full.

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"All drugs in general have fixed prices. The last price list was issued in 1940, a few days before the outbreak of the Greek-Italian war. This price list even covers the pharmacists' scientific work. For example, as a drug, aspirin costs one drachma per gram. In order to make it into a powder or a pill, a certain amount of work is required. Today, the price of all drugs is fixed, excepting a few rare drugs which were not included as a result of a petition by the pharmaceutical organizations. The 1940 prices are used as a basis, multiplied by certain coefficients which are determined by the Ministry of Health.

"The major portion of drugs is sold at prices fixed by the Ministry of Health. These drugs are mainly chemical drugs and specialties produced by local pharmaceutical industries. But there is a number of important drugs which are no longer imported and the persons who are in possession of such drugs have hidden them or are demanding prices based on the value of the gold sovereign. Those are the drugs which are being sold at prices not included in the price-lists and the reason is claimed to be the fact that they are no longer imported. You probably are not aware of a certain fact concerning pharmaceutical supplies which is a result of the Ministry of Health's tactics to keep the prices of drugs at a low level.

"A considerable number of people who have absolutely no connection with drugs or any specialty whatsoever, i.e. novelty peddlers in the Stoa Fexi, chauffeurs, tailors, doctors, grocers, etc., have invested considerable capital in drugs which they have maintained as a stable reserve against the fluctuations of the drachma. And this happened because, as a result of the fixed-prices policy in drugs, the prices went up only  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or  $4\frac{1}{2}$  times over the 1940 prices, while the prices of all other goods went up 8-20 times.

"Today, the price at which drugs are being sold averages 9.50 times over pre-war fixed prices, while the price of all other goods averages 25-35 times their pre-war prices. That, fundamentally, caused the creation of a black market in drugs. If we add to this the decrease in the output of the Greek Pharmaceutical Industries, which in most cases is different to explain; we have the principal reasons for the existence of a black market in drugs.

"However, who are those who are dealing with the black market? If you ask the man in the street, he will impulsively and unhesitatingly point out the pharmacist, because it was from him that he bought the high-priced drug and therefore he must be responsible. An old myth pursues the pharmacist, the one about his huge profits; indeed, he even sells water for camomile and collects money without any expense whatsoever on his part.

"This myth coupled with the mysticism inherent in the pharmaceutical science plays on the imagination of the public which feels that the pharmacist gets his drugs at very little expense and, on the contrary, he collects excessive prices. Our fundamental mistake is our silence on this question and I am happy because I have found the opportunity to break this silence. A word should be heard from the pharmacist and an attempt should be made to dispel certain slanderous accusations against him.

"During the occupation, the pharmacist did not receive anything from the enormous quantities of drugs which were imported at fixed prices. He did not receive anything because the four chief importing firms were German Companies: "BAYER", "SCHERING", "KNOLL" and "MERCK" had a certain number of agents before the war whom they maintained throughout the occupation. All their imports were delivered to these agents who were to distribute them to the various pharmacies. Among these, there were 3 or 4 pharmacies, which as agents of the above mentioned firms received their drugs directly. The other 1,400 pharmacies had to purchase their drugs from the agents. During that period I represented the Athens Pharmacists' Association. Supported by the Department of Medical Professions, I requested that this measure be amended, but the Germans and a few Greek Directors, whose interests would have been affected, refused to comply with the orders of our Ministry and the appropriate service of the medical professions department. The above service often issued regular orders in favor of the pharmacists, which were forwarded to the Pharmacists' Association for execution.

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"Of the immense quantities of imported German drugs, the Pharmacists' Association of Attica-Boekia, which comprises 325 pharmacies, received in all 30,000 boxes of aspirin, out of a total of one million boxes aspirin imported during one year, and these after the intervention of the then District Attorney, Mr. Trambos.

"The pharmacists then used to go to the clients of German firms in order to renew their stocks. They allocated a certain part of their drugs at prices several times over and above the fixed prices, and the rest they used to hide until the time when they would be able to collect their real value on the basis of the gold pound. But while these clients of the German firms were thinking and acting as is shown above, the State at that time, powerless to apply the right and moral solution, left the commerce of drugs in the hands of merchants and exploiters, who established even stands in the streets and squares of the city, selling freely even the most essential drugs, which they were procuring at exorbitant prices from the clients of the German firms.

"Therefore, the bad system of importing German supplies and the erroneous policy of the Ministry, at such a time of general chaos and lack of power on the part of the State, to try and keep drug prices low, by attempting a most dangerous experiment against the pharmacists, brought about the concealment of the drugs and their channeling into the black market - because it would have been unnatural if the drugs were cheaper than garbage.

"We now come to what happened to the locally produced drugs. Raw materials used to be imported from Germany and, consequently, were obtained at ridiculously low prices. It would be natural for us to ask whether the quantities imported were considerable and for what period of time would they suffice. Certainly the quantities must be considerable. This is shown by the fact that the home industries took over the whole burden of serving the public. The Greek industries <sup>have not</sup> managed to satisfy the needs of the pharmacists and I firmly believe that they <sup>are</sup> capable of doing so even as regards the drugs commonly used and available only at prices above the fixed price list. We have repeatedly found ourselves opposing this class of industrialists because a number of them have gone astray off the lawful path and whereas some did all they could to evade making a bad name for themselves, others indulged in their unlawful dealings ignoring everything else.

"You will observe that sometimes sick people go about from one pharmacy to another in search of a locally produced drug and though they may go to 10 or 20 pharmacies they do not find the drug they are looking for. In a few days, however, the drug in question is available. This happens because the fixed price lists for drugs which are drawn up by the Ministry do not change rapidly enough as to be re-adjusted with the general economic conditions. As a result, our industries suspend the execution of their orders - which are not large enough to last more than a week - and thus a shortage of drugs appears with a simultaneous rise in prices corresponding to the new ones expected to be approved by the Ministry.

"The suspension of orders mentioned above starts on the day when the industrialists submit their application to the Ministry demanding new price lists and ends as soon as the new lists are approved by the Ministry. At the same time, many articles imported by the International Red Cross are in the black market having been stolen due to a poor administration. Recently, the same is true of UNRRA medical supplies which are to be found in greater quantities in the various arcades and small shops.

"As a result of the above situation, which is at the expense of the pharmacist because, in various instances such unlawful sale of drugs was made through him, he is crushed both economically and morally. The pharmacists' position is so tragic, that in no other profession can one find so many poor members.

"It is necessary to take the following measures on this question: 1) Reasonable prices should be fixed. 2) The enormous quantities of UNRRA pharmaceutical supplies which are being kept in the Ministry of Health's warehouses should be allocated. Those supplies, only, can solve the drug problem. Their allocation should be made in accordance with the plans submitted by the pharmaceutical organizations.

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3) A pharmaceutical department should be set up at the Ministry of Health. (Do not be surprised that such a department does not exist). 4) The inspection of pharmacies should be improved and increased. If these measures are carried out, there will be plenty of drugs and I believe that they will be even offered at competition prices".

And that is the opinion of the pharmacists. However, we will not end here because we must see what the Ministry has to say about all this.

**NOTE:** UNRRA drugs have only been arriving in the country in significant amounts from early in September. Until that time it was necessary to continue the same type of distribution which was so successfully carried out through rigidly controlled committee structure during the occupation. Quarbain and Digitalin Nativel were never handled either by the Swiss Mission Drug Committee nor by its successor, the Joint Medical Supplies Committee, on which UNRRA is represented.

Among its 120 essential drugs offered the pharmacists by the Medical Supply Board last week were the following:

Atabrin	15,000,000 tablets
Aspirin	15,000,000 "
Soda Bicarbonate	10 tons
Vitamins C	3,700,000 tablets
Iron tablets	7,000,000 "
Sulfonamides	5,600,000 "
Sodium Sulfate	2,000 kgs.
Luminal	2,500,000 "
Neosphenamin	150,000 ampoules
Bismuth for injection	10,000 bottles
Antidysentery (various)	1,000,000 tablets
Digitalis	700,000 "
Ether	1,000 kgs.
Celerofom	1 ton
Metallic Iodine	75 kgs.

The last item represents 75% of the available supply. Exact tonnage of drugs and hospital supplies received will be published in a day or two.

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NICK READ LEAVES AFTER  
COMPLETING HIS MISSION IN GREECE

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (7 November):--Nick Read, who has spent the past three months creating a documentary film on reconstruction in Greece "Out of the Ruins", for the National Film Board of Canada, has completed his work and left for Ottawa. All who had the pleasure of working with him are sorry to see him go - and we all await with keen interest his spiritual return in the form of his cinematic opus. Here's a word of farewell from Nick:

"Just as I found it impossible to film all the phases of UNRRA's work in Greece and to visit all the Regions, so now on leaving, I find it impossible to personally thank and say "Good-bye" to the many people who have helped me in the work I was able to accomplish. It was a great pleasure to be associated with the UNRRA Greece Mission and I hope that the picture to which you have all contributed will, in turn, bring some contribution to UNRRA. It should at least give the publics of the contributing nations a clearer idea of the problems involved and the results achieved despite all these problems.

"I can promise you that when the editing and recording job is finished - I hope in about three months time - a copy of the film will be sent to Athens for your inspection.

"Thanks and good luck to you all. Nick Read ..."



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 187

Athens

Thursday, 8 November 1945

### CHANGES IN GOVERNMENTAL SET-UP

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (7 November):--Laws were published whereby (a) The Under-Secretary for Press and Information becomes a Ministry, (b) A new Ministry of Public Order is established and (c) The post of Political Under-Secretary is added at the Ministry of National Economy.

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### CLAIMS THAT FERTILIZER COMPANY DECLARED LOCK-OUT

From: "ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon), Conservative;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon), Democratic;  
"VRADYNI" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"ELEFTHERI HELLADA" (Afternoon), EAM.  
All Morning Papers.

Athens (7 November):--At 22:-- hrs. last night the Fertilizer Company declared the lock-out that it had announced previously. The two thousand night shift workers and technicians who reported for work found the factory doors closed. The company allowed only a small crew of men to enter the factory to attend to the feeding of the kilns. At 10:00 o' clock this morning 2,000 workers and technicians gathered outside of the premises and elected a committee which will take strong steps with the Ministry of Labor.

The Greek Chemical and Fertilizer Company made the following announcement: "The Company did not declare a lock-out as erroneously reported. Work at its factory was suspended at the initiative of the workers themselves, because the Company was unable to pay them the additional remuneration recently imposed by the Government. This was due chiefly to the delay in the payments owed by the Government to the above Company in respect of the processing of fertilizer for account of the State."

It is considered probable that the fertilizer factory will resume operations today, following a promise made by the Government to the Company that payments in arrears would be settled, in order that the latter might fulfill its obligations towards its personnel.

According to our information the funds required by the Company in order to pay the 1½ month additional grant approved by the Government amount to 80 million drs. and the sum required to cover the loan to the personnel for the purchase of UNRRA clothing is 18 million drachmae.

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### NEW SECRETARY GENERAL OF MINISTRY OF SUPPLY

From: "TA NEA" (Afternoon), Democratic;  
"ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (7 November):--Mr. D. Varvouris was appointed Secretary-General of the Ministry of Supply.

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This news digest is a service for members of the UNRRA Greece mission. Its purpose is purely informational. It does not reflect mission policy. The aim is to summarize the daily news & comment about UNRRA and matters pertinent to the relief program for Greece or of interest to staff members.



EMPLOYEES AND WORKERS SPEAK  
ON THEIR ECONOMIC CONDITION

From: "HELLAS" (weekly)  
 Democratic-Socialist.

Athens (5 November):--The economic question affects especially the working classes - the employees and the workers. "HELLAS" has turned towards these classes, trying through a press investigation to uncover the economic impasse and the immediate requests of the employees and workers, with the hope that they will help the competent persons to arrive at a proper solution.

The Workers.

Mr. D. Nicolaides spoke as follows on the economic situation and the workers' requests:

"Lately we find ourselves again in a "pre-strike" struggle of the workers-employees and this time a very justifiable one. The economic impasse of the salaried personnel of Banks, Industries, dock-workers, workers of the SEK (Greek State Railways) and SPAP (Piraeus-Athens-Peloponnesos Railways), etc., will convince every sensible man of the great injustice against the salaried person and the worker in view of the salaries and wages he receives and with which he is obliged to face the problem of feeding his family and meeting his other elementary obligations, such as rent, electricity, water, without even taking into consideration clothing and shoes.

"The indifference of the authorities and their abandonment of these people, on whose industry alone the State depends, has surpassed every sensible limit and has reached its zenith. Thus, for the worker to find some justice, there remains only the last weapon at his disposal, strike, so that the Ministry of Labor may make a move. But let us consider our own questions.

"By Decision No. 25,800 of 25/11/44 of the then Ministers of Labor and Finance, Porphyrogenis and Svelos, on the determination of employees' remuneration, it was decided that, for the period immediately following the stabilization of the drachma and as a temporary measure, the private employees' remuneration depending on their years of service, would be 5,000 to 8,000 drs. for the single people and 5,500 to 8,500 drs. for the married ones, with an allowance of 500 drs. for the first, 400 for the second and 300 drs. for the third dependant member of their family.

"And the temporary nature of these monthly remunerations continued in spite of the efforts and requests of the salaried people, up to April 1945, when a 75% increase was given, and after other struggles and threats of strikes another additional increase was given on the salaries of April-May 1945 and then another of 35%. In other words, the salaried people are now drawing 10,000 to 30,000 drs. a month, with which they must meet so many needs and so many family obligations and, at the same time fulfill their duty with application and conscientiousness. At the same time, the workers' wages were increased.

"In the meantime, foodstuffs disappeared from the market, the gold sovereign began to mount by leaps and bounds, the black market profiteers are licking their chops after their colossal profits from the gold pound, UNRRA is limiting its distributions to the minimum and the salaried people and the wage-earners again see before them the menacing spectre of the famine and the sufferings of 1941.

"Thus, a great opportunity is/ afforded for activities among the masses of the black people of December for adding to the despair and disillusionment of the people, and an opportunity also for all who wish to acquire power and authority. The wise working masses, the law-abiding people, the people who love Greece and visualize its greatness as they saw it on the Epirus mountains, glorious and great, react against these dark activities and again use lawful means in order to bring about an increase of their income which amounts to 300-800 drs. per day.

"A few days ago a half month's salary was given to the working people for the months of October and November. But the question is asked: Is that money enough for the salaried person and the wage-earner to face daily life? Assuredly not.

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Only fundamental solutions will be able to save those depending on the drachma for their livelihood. And fundamental solutions are the readjustment of salaries and wages on the basis of the cost of living, more frequent distributions of UNRRA foodstuffs, distribution of shoes and clothing from the substantial quantities now in the warehouses, the lifting of restrictions on goods of first necessity, regular distribution of olive oil and soap to the public and in sufficient quantities, the crushing with all possible means of the black market of foodstuffs, gold pound, etc."

#### A Comparison of Prices and Salaries.

Mr. Z. Zonis, of 2 St. Irene Street, a plain private employee, expressing his opinion, gives a clear picture of the difficulties which his class faces and of their requests:

"A small family", said Mr. Zonis, "of a private or civil employee - consisting, let us say, of 3 people - which before the war used to live in a house of 2 or 3 rooms, which had the means to eat meat, twice a week, fish once a week, and the rest of the week pulses, macaroni, vegetables, and still had some money left for shoes, clothing and other necessities, without any special amusements, in other words, a family which before the war spent five to six thousand drs. a month, today, in order to live in the same manner, needs 110 to 130 thousand drachmas. Of course, the price of many items of first necessity has been increased a hundred-fold, such as shoes, for example, and the price of others has been increased two-hundred times, as in the case of sugar. On the other hand, the very low rent of the existing rent moratorium, the comparatively low priced electricity, bread, communications, bring down the cost of living to 22 or 23 times over the pre-war level.

"But the salaried person's income does not go over 5 or 6 times that of the pre-war level. How then does this salaried person live? He alone knows it. First of all he does not clothe himself nor his wife or his child. But how long will the clothes he now wears last? Clothes and shoes are 80 to 100 times higher than before the war. But are these the only ones? Here is a comparison of prices of some of the most essential foodstuffs and other items during three different periods: a) pre-war, b) last June-July (when for the last time the State officially fixed prices and wages) and c) today.

Vegetables: a) Pre-war - 5 drs. b) Last July - 90 drs. c) Today - 250 drs.  
Sugar: a) - 18 drs. b) - 1,600 drs. c) - 3,400 drs.  
Rice: a) - 18 drs. b) - 800 drs. c) - 1,600 drs.  
Potatoes: a) - 6 drs. b) - 90 drs. c) - 150 drs.  
Matches: a) - 2 drs. b) - 50 drs. c) - 150 drs.  
Transport: a) - 2 drs. b) - 15 drs. c) - 25 drs.  
Rent: a) - 1,000 drs. b) - 1,000 drs. c) - 1,000 drs.  
Alatzas (Cheap cotton cloth): a) - 10 drs. b) - 130 drs. c) - 450 drs.  
Shoes: a) - 400 drs. b) - 10,000 drs. c) - 40,000 drs.  
Electricity: a) - 12 drs. b) - 30 drs. c) - 50 drs.

"If a salaried person dares to face the problem of one suit of clothes, which cost him pre-war 2,000 to 2,500 drs., and last summer 60,000 drs., he must now spend 200,000 drs. One yard of crepe-de-Chine cost before the war 80 drs. Last summer its price was 1,300 drs. and now 3,500 drs. If the salaried person happens to have a telephone in his house, each telephone call costs him 12 drs., whereas last summer it cost him 8 drs. and before the war 1.15 drs.

"What must be done then? Certainly the State and the enterprises could not and should not give their employees 22 and 25 times over their pre-war salaries, because the State would take it back again through inflation and the enterprises with the rise in the cost of living. It is necessary, therefore, to turn towards our strong Allies. There is need of food allocations. Every salaried person's family must secure through the distributions 20 days foodstuffs and with a few other purchases that it may be able to make (pulses, etc.) not to have to go to the open market except for the remaining 4 or 5 days of each month. UNRRA must be requested to augment clothing supplies. Salary increases and half-monthly grants are temporary solutions.

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"Shall I speak also of the most important thing? There is need of a good and well applied Governmental economic program. And to be more explicit: Is it possible to collect all the gold pounds from the Greeks - those who have them - so that they will stop being indifferent about the rise in prices? And I think that they will stop being indifferent when they, too, will have to deal in drachmas alone. And one last thing: Let the State tell us clearly: What are its resources? Where does our country stand today, financially? What does it have at its disposal and what does it owe? With such an 'open' policy we, salaried people, will also know not only what, but especially, where must we go with our demands."

#### The Bank Employees on Salary Adjustments

Mr. Darakis of the Agricultural Bank, reported as follows on the Bank employees' requests:

"Today's salaries of the Bank employees, as they have been fixed last June by the previous Government, are between 10 and 26 thousand drachmas. Over this, there are allowances for wife and children, 10% for the first dependent and 5% for the others up to 3 in all, as well as an allowance of 5% to 20% for long service. In any case, the highest present day salary, including allowances, cannot go over 13,000 drs.

"These salaries, according to the comparative tables prepared by the Confederate Committee of Bank Organizations represent one-tenth maximum of the pre-war salaries, on the basis of the cost of living. Thus, the average bank salary, which before the war amounted to 6,000 drs. and which, according to the present cost of living should amount to 240,000 drs. hardly reaches the 20,000 drs. It is, therefore, less than one-tenth of the pre-war salary. This means that the employees are taxed 90% on their income - a taxation which burdens no other class.

"Regarding the cost of living of this past June, when the present salaries were fixed, according to the comparisons made, the salaries have been reduced by 100%, since the cost of living has been tripled since then. On the basis of these facts, the bank employees through a memorandum of their Confederate Committee, which was submitted recently to the previous Government on the eve of their last strike, ask in principle the adjustment of their salaries to the cost of living and suggest the ways of applying this:

"1) To divide the necessities of life into 4 categories and prepare expense tables a) food, b) housing, c) upkeep and renewal of items of clothing and shoes, and d) miscellaneous other expenses. On the basis of these tables to arrive at a cost of living index for the adjusting of salaries, multiplied by the pre-war income of the employees, taking as a minimum 2,500 drs. So that the employees also may contribute towards the reconstruction of the country's finances, their salaries, fixed as per above, to be taxed progressively from 20 to 55%, only that salary to remain untaxed which would be the equivalent of the pre-war salary of 3,000 drs. which then also was free of taxation.

"The employees accept that, upon the application of the above system, a maximum be set, over and above which the salary is not to be paid in currency, but to be deposited in their name and to be held for them until the recovery of the drachma.

"2) The second way of adjusting salaries suggested by the Committee is to fix the basic amount necessary for a person to live at the present cost of living, as a basic salary, and to add to this a) an allowance on a classification basis of 0 to 15%, b) a family allowance of 40% for the first dependent and 30% for the other dependents up to three and c) the present allowance for long service".

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TO GRANT FOREIGN EXCHANGE  
FOR PRIVATE IMPORTS

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"HELLINIKON ADMA" (Morning), Royalist;  
"EMEROS" (Morning), Conservative;  
"ELEFTHERI HELLADA" (Afternoon), EAM;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon), Democratic.

Athens (7 November):--The Under-Secretary for National Economy, Mr. Galanis, conferred with the British economic experts yesterday afternoon on the question of granting foreign exchange for the importation of foodstuffs and leather from various countries, in order to meet the country's urgent needs in these items. The British experts agreed with the Government's views on the subject. The Governmental Economic Committee will meet today to approve said imports.

Speaking on the subject, Mr. Galanis said that the quantities of the commodities in question, which will be imported from neighboring countries, Norway and elsewhere, are considerable. Payment will be made in free foreign exchange to be granted by the Bank of Greece.

According to our information, amongst the commodities to be imported are 3,000 tons of codfish from Norway, 10,000 tons of barley and oats for livestock breeding (to be imported by KYDEP, Central Committee for the Administration of Local Produce), 2,000 tons of raw and processed leather, as well as quantities of animals to provide meat especially for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

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VEHICLE IMPORTS TO  
GREECE INCREASED

From: "VEMA" (Morning), Democratic.

Athens (8 November):--The Minister of Transport announced that the rate at which automobiles are being imported has been increased. He added that a considerable number will be allocated for the requirements of the provinces and the war victims. The Minister also stated that no more vehicles are to be allotted to the state organization.

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UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS TO GO TO  
U.S.A. FOR LABORATORY EQUIPMENT

From: "ETHNOS" (Afternoon), Democratic;  
"VRADYNI" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (7 November):--At yesterday's meeting of the Cabinet, it was decided that one professor from each of the two Greek Universities of Athens and Thessaloniki visit America to procure scientific equipment for the laboratories of the above universities.

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ASKLIPSEION PATIENTS COMPLAIN  
AGAINST HOSPITAL CONDITIONS

From: "ELEFTHERIA" (Morning), Democratic.

Athens (8 November):--About 700 children requiring long and careful treatment are being treated at the Asklepseion Hospital in Voula. These children, who also require an appropriate diet, are complaining against the miserable conditions under which they are living. Their diet not only consists wholly of potatoes, greens, macaroni and tinned meat but even this food is badly prepared. Most of the patients have no personal clothes and are facing the coming winter practically naked. Due to the lack of clean and sanitary conditions, almost all of them have scabies. And the lack of even the most elementary medicines and drugs (such as iodine and alcohol) has caused the doctors to put off their operations indefinitely. These are the prevailing conditions in the "Asklepseion". So far, no improvement has been noticed in spite of the fact that complaints have been submitted continuously to the Red Cross and the Ministries of Health and Welfare.



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 188

Athens

Friday, 9 November 1945

### REGENT SPEAKS ON UNRRA SECOND ANNIVERSARY

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (9 November):--His Beatitude the Regent Archbishop Damaskinos issued the following statement on the occasion of the second anniversary of the creation of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration on November 9, 1943, which was carried, more or less fully, by all morning Athens papers with the exception of "RISOSPASTIS" (Communist) and "ELEFTHERIA" (Democratic.) Following is the text:

"Two years ago today the free nations of the world gathered together to create UNRRA. At that time Greece was still suffering under the heel of the savage hordes who, although they had occupied our land, had yet never conquered us. Those who followed our struggle, which never ceased throughout the military occupation, knew that we were not conquered. Throughout that terrible period we stood shoulder to shoulder with our comrades in arms, our Allies, fighting the common foe until his final destruction.

"It has pleased God in His wisdom to see that the friendship forged in the common struggle has continued into the era of peace. Greece sees in UNRRA the first great manifestation of the spirit of international co-operation that we had prayed for in the dark days.

"The realization and the operation of a great international organization based on the Golden Rule has deeply moved the Greeks. When liberation finally came to Greece, as every patriotic Greek knew it would one day, we were in a very unhappy condition. The enemy with ruthlessness, calculation and cunning, had stripped our land bare and devastated the country. Scarcely a bridge was left standing, communications were nearly destroyed and villages were wrecked and burnt while the poor people were left to sleep under the open sky without food, without shelter, with insufficient clothing. The enemy had systematically destroyed our farm animals, our beasts of burden, and had destroyed all the farm machinery that they could find.

"Greece, which had sacrificed everything in the struggle, found itself in a really tragic position the day after liberation. Illness and disease, which had already taken heavy toll during the occupation, threatened a holocaust such as we dare not imagine.

"It was then that our comrades in arms, our brave Allies who fought with us for freedom and liberty, came to our rescue through the organization of UNRRA. And through UNRRA you friends of many lands contributed generously of your own food and clothing and literally saved the Greek people from starvation.

"UNRRA differs from all earlier attempts at international assistance in that it means a sharing of each other's resources in a way that permits not only the immediate rendering of relief, but also the reconstruction of our national economy.

"UNRRA applies the principle of helping peoples to help themselves, and  
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in keeping with this principle Greece avails itself of UNRRA assistance. Our task will not be completed until we in turn shall be in a position to contribute our share to the economy of the United Nations.

"UNRRA has contributed not only in substantial material supplies but also in technical services. Through such assistance we rejoice to see the gradual recovery of our communications, of our agriculture and our industry. And we are especially grateful to the self-sacrificing men and women who have left their homes and their families and have come to labor here in Greece, many of them living under difficult conditions.

"Therefore I wish to express the gratitude of the Greek people to all members of UNRRA in Greece and especially to their Chief, Mr. Buell Maben, and to stress how deeply we feel for all that our friends have done and are still doing to restore our people.

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MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE  
ANNOUNCES PROGRAM

From: "ETHNOS" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (8 November):--On taking over the Ministry from Mr. Koutsomitopoulos, his predecessor, Mr. E. Kypriades, the new Minister of Agriculture, made yesterday the following statement to the Press:

"My very first task will be to make every possible effort so that not one stremma (Greek acre) of arable land may remain unplanted during the current sowing season. In continuation, we will reinforce the soil with all possible means, mobilizing all animal and human factors for the large scale spring cultivation of plants that leave a big output and are of prime necessity.

"I do not intend to make any statement today regarding the more general program of the Ministry. In order to achieve the more important of the Ministry's objectives and chiefly, to increase our farming, grazing and forestry revenue so that we may be able to heal our wounds as quickly as possible, we will be forced to take radical and decisive measures. Besides, it is impossible to expect any progress worth mentioning in our productive work, which is so necessary, especially during the current period, if we overlook the fact that our country has been shaken from its foundations and that our state machinery is very faulty and inadequate in many ways. The first measures on which I will without delay request the assistance of all the appropriate employees, which assistance moreover, was promised to me by the directors of my Ministry, are as follows:

"a) Speedy manning of all rural services by detaching employees from the center; b) transferring of authority from the center to directors of regional services; c) curtailing of bureaucracy. Furthermore the ability of an employee will be judged on the basis of essential output and not on the volume of correspondence; d) speedy transportation and allocation of all kinds of available agricultural supplies so that they may be used to advantage; and finally, e) a huge effort will be made to increase the country's production means and supplies."

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MR. TSARAS APPOINTED  
TO MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

From: "TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic.

Athens (8 November):--A decree was published whereby Mr. Andreas Tsaras, lawyer, is appointed Secretary-General of the Ministry of Transport.

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ASKS 2,000,000 DRS.  
FOR PUBLIC WORKS

From: "VEMA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (9 November):--The Minister of Public Works has requested of the Minister of Finance an appropriation of 2,000,000 drachmas for the continuation of public works.

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CLAIMS POWDERED MILK  
IS GOOD FOR GARBAGE CAN

From: "HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (9 November):--Thanks to the International Red Cross, milk, the only food for babies, was ensured during the occupation. But now that we are free we have reached the point where we have to use the wretched powdered milk which is being distributed since the day before yesterday in lieu of any other kind of milk and which mothers are throwing in the garbage can so that their children will not have intestinal trouble. I wonder whom we must congratulate for this brilliant failure regarding the question of child feeding?

NOTE: Our nutritional experts inform us that powdered skim milk is prepared by removing the cream from the whole milk and then removing the water from the skim milk. It is a product of very high nutritional value, particularly in protein and calcium, seven times as concentrated as whole milk, and has a low fat content. It has been used extensively and successfully in infant feeding in England during the war and has proved to be the single most successful food in the treatment of acute starvation, particularly in German concentration camps. Powdered milk has also been used extensively in other countries in the treatment of babies, suffering from diarrhea. At the present time in Greece, dried skim milk is being used successfully in feeding children - both as a beverage and in cooking. Milk and milk products are in extremely short supply throughout the world. Any attempt at discrediting such a high quality food must be detrimental to the health of the Greek people.

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CONTROVERSY ON UNRRA  
DRUGS CONTINUES

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (9 November):--On the question (we don't want to go so far as to call it a scandal yet) of the drugs, we have seen that the pharmacists consider it an established fact that UNRRA medical supplies are going on the black market. They are also certain that a considerable quantity of hidden German drugs also exists. This stock of rare and - as a result of the destruction of the German factories - irreplaceable drugs seems to be rather large. As Mr. Tsitsonis, president of the Athens Pharmacists' Association told us, 1,000,000 boxes of Bayer's aspirin were imported in one year. Of this quantity, only 35,000 were distributed to pharmacies. The balance naturally had disappeared, and it must be stored somewhere - not only the aspirin but various other items as well.

The black market is not satisfied with selling the drugs to the people at exorbitant prices, but it smuggles them to other countries. That is the worst part of it, because in this country drugs, and especially those drugs, are very rare and they must be saved at all costs. A way can be found to do this, if all of us take

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enough interest in the matter. And now, let us come to the question of UNRRA medical supplies. The pharmacists charge that they find their way into the black market. But where do they come from? From the Piraeus docks where they are unloaded? From the State warehouses? Where do they go from there? Not only the drugs, but the various other goods which also land in the black market? Is it that difficult for the authorities to track them so that an end may be put to this evil? Or are the quantities involved so small that they are not worth worrying about? Then why the appropriate authorities do not give an explanation so that we may avoid the defamation it will cost us abroad? Let them state, for instance, to the pharmacists, that such are the quantities of drugs of which we have taken over delivery from UNRRA and that is why we are allocating such small quantities.

Then the pharmacists would not have sent those two cables which they dispatched yesterday to the Central Council of UNRRA in New York and to the American Pharmaceutical League, protesting and requesting that the plan which had been submitted by the American Major Norelli and in which he expresses his opinion, be applied. This plan has been rejected by UNRRA.

And now that we have investigated and confirmed that a large part of UNRRA medical supplies are in the blackmarket and that in accordance with a recent decision of the Joint Medical Supplies Committee such a very small allocation is to be distributed to the pharmacists that they say they are considering whether they should accept it or not, we think that we should complete our investigation by asking some of the competent authorities. And we asked a member of the Joint Medical Supplies Committee.

"Are there any UNRRA drugs in the black market?" - "Yes, but not as many as the public believes." Starting with this acknowledgement we hope, at last, to come to the mystery of their leakage. - "How do they leak out since you take over delivery?" - "The route, said the competent authority, which the medical supplies from America follow, is the following: The supplies are unloaded in Piraeus. This section of the work does not come under us so that we cannot possibly know what may happen during their arrival and unloading. From then on, that is, when they are loaded onto the trucks and stored in our warehouses, we are responsible. And we can assure you that nothing leaks out, as has been ascertained also by a higher American inspector of UNRRA who congratulated our service on the excellent and regular operation of the medical supply warehouses. From our warehouses, we distribute the drugs to various institutions, where again, our administration over these supplies ends. After this, we have no authority nor are we responsible for what happens to them... The quantities, however, which are allocated are not so great as to supply the black market with large quantities."

"So there is left only the arrival and discharging of supplies in Piraeus?" - "Naturally. But even there we cannot accuse anybody. We are simply showing you the points at which we have no control and are not in a position, therefore, to know what happens to the drugs there." That is what the authority told us. The Piraeus Harbor worries us, because this is not the first time that it has appeared in our investigation of the black market. Just what is going on down there? How are the supplies unloaded? How are they guarded? The "waters" in that harbor are very, very turbid. What do the police say? The authority goes on: - "As regards the other drugs, Digitalin and Quabain Arno, which the pharmacists mention in their accusation against us, we have not even received them because they are French and do not come under our jurisdiction." - "But why do the pharmacists protest that you have kept them away from the drugs?" - "They have not been kept away. In a short time, they will again take over the commerce of drugs. Naturally, drugs will not be plentiful as in pre-war times, because in the first place, even in Great Britain and America, the countless "specialties" which once existed can no longer be found. Consequently, we will receive from UNRRA, the 65 'basic' drugs, as they are called. The doctors will have to adjust their prescriptions to these drugs. Furthermore, it was wrongly announced that the import of drugs by UNRRA began in June; it just began last September and will continue, constantly increasing. At present all drugs have not yet arrived and that is why we are distributing only small quantities to the pharmacies." - "How many have arrived?" - "Col. Dodge, Deputy-Director of the UNRRA Health Division, will give you that information". (G. Nazos)

TOMORROW: Mr. Voilas, Minister of Hygiene, and the American Col. Dodge, Deputy-Director of the Health Division, UNRRA, will speak on the question.



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 189

Athens

Saturday, 10 November 1945

### UNRRA OCTOBER SHIPMENTS SET RECORD

From: "UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE"  
American Official.

Washington (9 November):--Herbert H. Lehman, UNRRA director general, has announced that October shipments of 520,600 long tons set a new high for UNRRA goods sent to liberated areas.

Mr. Lehman said that schedules call for a further rise in shipments in November and UNRRA hopes to reach the 1,000,000 ton mark in December. The countries which have received UNRRA supplies include Albania, China, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Italy, Poland and Yugoslavia.

Mr. Lehman also announced the appointment of Alfred E. Davidson, former general counsel of the Foreign Economic Administration, as general counsel of UNRRA to succeed Abraham H. Feller. Feller resigned to become assistant to Edward R. Stettinius on the United Nations Organization.

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### 50 PER CENT RISE IN FOOD FOR LIBERATED AREAS

From: "UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE"  
American Official.

Washington (9 November):--Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson told a press conference yesterday that nearly 4,000,000 tons of food will go to liberated countries and French North Africa in the October-December quarter of this year.

Countries to which allocations will be made available include those served by UNRRA together with France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway, Italy and French North Africa. In addition, Mr. Anderson said that about 750,000 tons are being exported to the United Kingdom with another total of nearly 1,500,000 tons scheduled to other destinations, including U.S. territories. The Secretary estimated that during the final quarter of 1945 the U.S. will have available for allocation approximately 37,000,000 tons of foodstuffs. Six million tons, or 16 per cent, of this is scheduled for liberated areas and for other exports.

Over half the amount marked for export, or 10 per cent of the 37,000,000 ton total product, is available to liberated European countries. Of the remaining six per cent of the total supplies available, Mr. Anderson said about a third is for the United Kingdom and the British services overseas, and two-thirds for other outlets including U.S. territories, and the Philippines, commercial exports, and military relief feeding in the Pacific.

About 20,000,000 tons, or 78 per cent, will go to U.S. civilians. Two million tons, or nearly six per cent, is for U.S. military and war services.

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Mr. Anderson said that the fourth quarter's allocations to liberated Europe are 50 per cent higher than those of the third quarter. He said it is not certain that the present high level can be maintained through the first and second quarters of 1946 but that in the present allocation an attempt was made to set up the program in such a way that it could be maintained.

Mr. Anderson also explained that the quantities of food being made available to the European countries this quarter "substantially meet stated requests, except for sugar, fats and oils, canned fish and rice."

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500,000 TONS OF FOODSTUFFS  
TO BE SENT TO GREECE

From: "MAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist.

London (10 November):--According to cables from Washington in connection with the statement made by Mr. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, whereby 4 million tons of supplies would be shipped to European countries during the last three months of 1945, it has been explained that 500,000 tons will be sent for Greece, apart from the supplies to be shipped by UNRRA.

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TO INCREASE  
PRICE OF BREAD

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"TO VEMA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (10 November):--We are informed that the Minister of Supply will fix the price of the bread ration at 30 drs. The increase is to take place because, as was announced, the cost of the wheat, milling, transport and taxes totals nineteen drs. per ration. The cost of baking is 10 drs. per ration.

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APPLY NEW SYSTEM FOR  
SALE OF CIGARETTES

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning), Cons.  
"ELEFThERIA" (Morning), Dem.  
"KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning), Dep.  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning), Roy.  
"VEMA" (Morning), Democratic.

Athens (10 November):--Following a conference at the Ministry of Supply on the cigarette question, Under-Secretary Papaligouras decided that, beginning today, the sale of cigarettes would no longer take place on presentation of the buyer's identity card on which up to now was noted the date of purchase. The sale of cigarettes will be carried out by the disabled war veterans' kiosks and private tobacco shops. The sale will commence daily at 16:00 hrs. and will continue until the supply of cigarettes is exhausted. There will be a sufficiency of cigarettes in view of the fact that as of today 60% instead of 40% of the production will be available for sale. The police will supervise the sales.

It should be understood that the above measure for the sale of cigarettes is a temporary one until radical solutions are applied. Mr. Papaligouras threatened that the sale would be made through the grocers if the tobacco sellers should conceal cigarettes.

It might be noted that it was the kiosk-owners themselves who requested that tobacco shops also be supplied with cigarettes and that the identity-card system be abolished.

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GREEK GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES  
ITS ECONOMIC PROGRAM

From: All Papers.

Athens (10 November):--Last night the Prime Minister, Mr. Kanellopoulos and the Minister of Finance, Mr. G. Kassimatis announced the Government's economic program for the country's reconstruction and Greek people's recovery.

The Government's economic measures, which are the result of a series of meetings of the Supreme Economic Committee and have been approved by the Cabinet, were announced immediately to the Greek people over the radio.

The Prime Minister spoke first, then followed the Supreme Economic Committee's announcement and finally Mr. Kassimatis spoke, giving a detailed analysis of the economic program.

Mr. Kanellopoulos' Speech.

The Prime Minister's speech has as follows: "The policy which from this moment the Government is putting into effect, as regards public finance and national economy, is based on the full agreement of all the members of the Economic Committee and has been very favorably accepted by the representatives of our great Allies. Beginning today, the public finance, currency and economic policy of the country, which are one and indivisible in reality, will be the object of the Government's concentrated attention.

"In taking over the responsibility, at a moment of complete economic chaos, the Government felt that it was its duty to face immediately this situation, by utilizing not only its own resources, but the country's precious resources as well.

"Not only does the Government confront the critical situation, but at the same time it inaugurates the new positive and constructive for the country's economy and the people's existence policy. This policy is based on principles which, approved and even decided upon in common by the most competent factors of the country, will, it is believed, continue to be in force and will gradually and increasingly be improved upon, no matter what Government may result from the elections.

"Thus are laid the foundations of a permanency, on which every citizen has a right to depend with an easy mind. It would be a political audacity if in such a transitory period, from a political point of view, we were to decide to bring about innovations based on a peculiar initiative. We realize the political transitory nature of our mission, but also the permanent results of each one of our steps. Such permanent results must be beneficial at any cost. And they will be.

"They will be because we respect the psychological and economic facts and we unite the State and the society of men, instead of dividing these two powers and playing the one against the other. I say that the results will be beneficial because the Government will watch vigilantly the application of the principles and measures now inaugurated, working always closely with the representatives of all classes, of the cities and the provinces.

"Finally, the results of our policy will be, with their aid, beneficial for the people. One of the reasons for this is that our Great Allies, Great Britain and the United States, are assisting us in the now systematic reconstruction of our country. The imminent arrival of the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Great Britain is prompted by the need felt by the British Government to assist us actively in our reconstruction.

"Let us then be optimistic and let us work. The emphasis must be on intensive effort and indofatigable work. The ambition of my Government is to set the example."

The Statement of the Supreme  
Economic Committee

The statement issued by the Government on the meetings of the Supreme Economic Committee has as follows:

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"At the three consecutive meetings of the Supreme Economic Committee, composed of Messrs. Maximos, Pezmatsoglou, Mantzavinos, Sideris, Zolotas and other representatives of the Greek Government, the Prime Minister Mr. P. Kanellopoulos, as President, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Kassimatis, the Under-Secretary of National Economy, Mr. Galanis and the Under-Secretary of Supply, Mr. Papaligouras, the Government's economic program was discussed at length, and the following general principles and directions of this program were formulated by all the members of the Committee and the representatives of the Government.

1. Readjustment of taxation and increase of the prices of UNRRA supplies, in order to balance the budget.
2. Increase of imports. Exchange will be definitely allotted, without obstacles, for the importation of all useful commodities for whose import State permission is granted. The price and use of the imported commodities will be subject to control.
3. Foreign exchange to be sold to importers at official rates but subject to surcharges varying with different commodities, in order to absorb the difference between world and domestic price levels.
4. Credits to be issued under control, in order to develop production and internal trade.
5. Application for financial aid on a broader basis from Allied sources to be made and to be used mainly on the immediate rehabilitation of the country.
6. UNRRA supplies will be distributed and their prices will be quickly fixed.
7. Effective price control tuned to the country's peculiar needs will be organized.

In private meetings under the chairmanship of the Minister of Finance, Mr. Kassimatis, the above general principles and proposals were discussed at length with the representatives of the British Embassy and UNRRA, who were in full accord. The representative of the American Embassy was also present during the discussions.

The publication of the above has also been approved by the above representatives of the Allied Embassies and UNRRA.

#### Mr. Kassimatis Analyzes the Government's Measures

The radio broadcast of Mr. Kassimatis on the Government's economic measures and their application in general has as follows:

"I will tell the people the whole truth. Greek people are quite mature, and want to be fully informed of all the problems of the country. The people have always been and must always be an essential factor in applying all forms of policy and since we want them to participate in the political and the program which regulates it, we should always ask their cooperation in our endeavours for the financial reconstruction of our country. Our economic policy has been very soundly based and will be applied by persons who come directly from the people and the people's cooperation is most essential for its successful application.

"Greek economy suffers. The destructions caused by the war and the occupation have dislocated the country's economic life, and the present difficult international conditions certainly do not contribute to the speedy reconstruction of the country. The war and occupation have left behind them not only material ruins but have also caused a psychological restlessness and fear for the morrow. Nowhere have the victors of the war yet managed to overcome this fear, which in Greece, devastated as it is by war, intensifies the sensitiveness which cannot but express itself in a country's economic life after any war.

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"We have faith in Greece and its future. With this faith we shall try to fight the fear for the morrow. We shall also fight this fear and its consequences with the figures which prove the possibility of restoration; with the efforts required for this restoration; and with work - the work of all the Greek people, which will constitute the foundation upon which the new economic and social life of Greece will be based.

#### The Aspects of the Problem.

This problem has three sides, the economic, financial and reconstructive.

1. The economic side shows the necessity for a really balanced budget. The State expenses have increased after the war because of the many-sided responsibilities today's State is obliged to undertake. On the other hand, there is a terrible decrease in revenue. If we take only one item of the budget as an example, the revenue derived from duties on imported goods, which today is non-existent and which before the war covered one-third of the State's regular income, it becomes evident how important it is to ascertain this decrease in the budget receipts.

Consequently the deficit of the budget has up to now been made up by issue of bank notes. According, however, to a sound economic policy the deficit should not be covered by the issue of bank notes. Bank notes issued to cover State expenses lead to inflation. We must, therefore, try to discover other means in order to avoid the issue of bank notes.

There are two alternatives. We should seek abroad financial assistance in the form of imports and there should exist within the country the necessary funds to absorb such imports.

#### The Deficit Will Be Covered.

The Government having carefully examined the situation in the country, has decided that the financial assistance from abroad, which everyone agrees we have the right to ask for, shall be used for the reconstruction of the country and not to cover State expenses. The State expenditure and the resulting budget and deficit shall be met with the existing margins of our own resources.

We must all intensify our endeavours for greater production in all fields so as to be able to face the present situation and in order to prove that the right which we have, and which we will never cease to proclaim, the right to demand from our great Allies greater financial assistance for the reconstruction of the ruins left to Greece, as a result of its effective sacrifices for the sake of the Allied cause, is a right which we present after having exhausted all our own resources.

The budget for 1945/46 prepared by the former Minister of Finance showed a deficit of 7,849,000,000 drs. to which we should add 3,500,000,000 drs. representing new credits, additional expenses for increased salaries and pensions, the increase of the expenses in respect of administration and distribution of UNRRA commodities, and, finally, the provision for reserve capital so that the deficit of this budget would finally reach the figure of 40 billions. We cannot raise this amount by issuing bank notes, because such a thing would lead to inflation and the Minister of Finance certainly never believed that the solution of Greece's present problem could be found in inflation.

#### The Increase of Taxation.

We thought it preferable to assess additional taxes on certain categories of people, which taxes, however, are not really an additional burden because they come at a time when prices and income have increased by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as compared with the level of four months ago when the taxation had been first assessed. That is why this increase in many points is less than the coefficient in question, and constitutes a decrease rather than an increase in taxation. But this decrease is absolutely necessary because we must start from the principle that taxation is not an mathematical process but a question dealing with a reasonable estimate of the people's capacity to contribute taxes, as well as a matter of social justice and real social policy.

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An example is this increase of the extraordinary tax which has only been increased by 50% and is restricted to the three first tables (20-fold, 15-fold and 10-fold) while prices of goods and services offered by those who have to pay the tax increased at least 3 times over the prices of four months ago. It has been admitted that coefficients were very high at the beginning and have only been counter-balanced by the rise in prices and that the two last categories of taxpayers consist of handicraftsmen and other tradesmen of financially weak standing, and it is not right to add to their burdens.

According to the above principles we are aiming especially at taxing those that became rich during the war. The Government which has set as one of its basic principles the moral purge, has faced this taxation not only from the material, but also from its moral side. For these reasons this taxation, which the rise in prices has made lighter for those on whom it was imposed, will be reorganized, so that it will bring in revenue to the State and will clear up the atmosphere.

By Constitutional Act signed today by the Cabinet the rich tax-payer who did not duly pay his tax, and this tax amounts to one million, both he and his family i.e. his wife and children will be sent into exile until he pays his debt. This exile is obligatory and no decision of Minister or any other authority can either cancel or postpone it. The Minister of Finance has the right to change the assessment and additional increases in this taxation until each installment is actually paid and this, in order to put an end to the foolish belief existing today among tax-payers that by putting off the payment of the tax they will benefit, because of the rise in prices. They will profit nothing. They will pay for the sake of the People.

#### 15 Additional Billions

In the same category are placed those who gained profits during the occupation by importing merchandise through the well known "Dtegriges" Company founded by the Germans. This taxation was already decided by the previous Government and will be applied by a law signed today. Budget expects an increase of its assets by eight additional billion from these two taxations, and we are sure that the result will be favourable, because otherwise taxpayers will be forced to pay by these and other still more cruel measures.

The extraordinary tax increased, for the three first tables, by approximately 50% and with the weaker taxpayers exempted from any increases, will yield two billion drachmae, according to the most conservative estimates. I do not add this to the budget, but consider it as an additional guarantee for the realization of the expected income.

Increase of tobacco tax, rendered necessary following the general increase in prices and which has been adjusted according to the percentage of the increase of wages, will add another five billion. Other consumption taxes are also increased according to the new price level. It has no moral basis, and this applies both to the tobacco as well as to the other consumption taxes, to increase all profits, and only the State's revenue to remain low. Thus from the tax on alcohol we confidently expect 400 million, 100 million from tax on beer, 600 million from stamps, 200 million from amusement taxes and 1,000 million from other adjustments of taxation, or a total increase in revenue from taxation of 15 billion.

There is another tax which will have to be imposed and will contribute to increased assets. We estimate from this only one thousand drachmae for the time being, as this tax has above all a stabilizing and a moral value. It concerns especially entertainment, and the law for its application has been signed tonight. For moral reasons this tax will be fully and strictly applied. It is not allowed that, when salaried personnel can hardly pay for the cinema which the State wants to tax still more, very high sums be paid for the dinner of a few persons, equal to the wages of a Ministry Director.

Of course it is not enough to apply or increase taxes in order to bring in the necessary amounts. There should also exist a "tax conscience" on the part of the

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citizens, and the tax collections must have the necessary zeal. I appeal to all the tax-payers and all employees to face courageously and without exaggeration existing conditions, without any extreme feelings towards one or the other direction, and to realize that the fate of the nation depends upon the effort for economic reconstruction which we are making today and that we must cease at some time to think, each one of us, that in every case we must have all the benefits and the next person all the burdens.

The Greek patriotism is an indisputable thing which here also will show its intensity. The Nation will not forget it. Especially concerning the employees of the economic services, it will not forget their zeal. The State will assist them materially and morally in their every effort which will help the economic reconstruction of our land. To these especially, but also to all other employees I promise that my ambition is to bury in the Archaeological Museum the impression - unfortunately correct - that the State is indifferent towards its employees, in other words, towards its own self.

However, besides the additional taxation, the budget will also depend upon the readjustment of the price of supplies imported from abroad. The prices of these supplies have gone so far away from reality that some of them, as for example, wheat, not only do they not bring in any profit, but on the contrary, the State pays for their transport and distribution, two billion drachmae per month over and above what it collects.

The expenses for the handling of wheat up to the moment of its distribution and taking into consideration the free distribution to the indigent, amount to 76 drs. per oke, or two billion drachmae per month. When the budget has the deficit we have noted, it is not possible to demand more sacrifices from the State on this point. The foodstuffs distributed must not leave a deficit, and the free distributions to the indigent must be carried by the more wealthy and not by the whole, through the State budget.

The State has the obligation only to aid the weak in facing the burdens created by the increase of supplies (on stronger shoulders). In a short while the complete program of such an assistance to the salaried people will be applied. From such an increase of UNRRA foodstuffs, it is confidently expected that the Budget will receive 25 billion, out of which, after the deduction of the added expenses, amounting to 10 billion and increasing the expense side of the Budget, there remains as a net receipt for the Budget, for the next five months, 15 billion drachmae. Thus with the total receipts from UNRRA supplies the expenses for the State Welfare and Assistance program will be completely met. The conclusion from the above is that with these measures taken, the result will be an increase of the State revenue by forty billion.

On the other hand, however, the following obligations will ensue:

1. The salaries of Public Employees cannot remain on the level of last June, and the increases given to them to date are also insufficient. As of November 1, instead of the four half-monthly salaries paid to date every month on the old basis, five half-monthly salaries will be paid in November. The fifth one will be paid towards the end of the month, and as of December 1st, the grants will be combined into increased fortnightly payments. The pensions will also be increased accordingly.

I myself realize, first of all, that even the new increases are not enough, because the salaries were not sufficient neither when they were fixed in November of 1944 nor when they were readjusted last July. However, they will become adequate, first by keeping prices in check, which undoubtedly will come about with the balancing of the budget and the avoidance of inflation; second, by other measures, such as grants in kind to the salaried people; and third, by the general increase of merchandise offered to the Greek market which the Government will seek to bring about by every means as one of its first tasks, fully realizing the absolute power of the law of supply above any other economic measure. The previous budget provided only for a 50% increase of the old salaries and pensions. The new 100% increase, there is an added burden of 15,300,000,000 for the period until March 31st, 1946.

2. Besides this increase, the expenses of handling supplies from abroad are increased due to the new wage levels. This increase amounts to 20 billion drachmae for the five-month period up to 31 March.

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3. We do not believe that the State Budget, with the endless needs created by the elementary effort to rehabilitate the country, can meet, within strictly fixed mathematical limits, the unexpected increases as long as these have to do with absolutely indispensable needs. Because it must be stressed that the expenses will be limited to the absolutely indispensable. But the absolutely indispensable sometimes go outside the budget framework. This is why I increase the budget reserve by 7,115,000,000 drachmas, but I promise that this reserve will be used for real and absolute needs.

#### The Issue of Currency Will Stop

From the resulting readjustment of the budget for the period between 1 April, 1945, and 31 March, 1946, there is an increase in receipts of 40,300,000,000 drachmas, and the expenses, of 52,415,000,000 drachmas, so that the budget covers completely the up-to-now anticipated deficit; a considerable sum is set aside for the increase of salaries and pensions; there is adequate insurance of the reserve; and the budget is absolutely balanced on the level of 142,490,000,000 dr.

In this way we are certain that we will stop the issue of currency for the State's needs, and we will stop it immediately, because it is of course true that these fluctuations and the increases of the prices of supplies will not bring in results beginning tomorrow, nor is it possible to have a monthly or fortnightly budget or accounting, but it is equally certain that within the next few days there will come into the treasury of the State monies from other income as well, and especially from the disposal of exchange for imports, and from the immediate sale to the public of the LIMRA stocks now ready, and these monies are sufficient to permit us to put a stop to our having to go to the printing machine, which will not be used, not even temporarily.

#### Drachma Is One of Healthiest Currencies

The Greek problem is also an economic problem. The anxious state of our economy, which is a reflection of the international anomaly, has been expressed, for us especially, through the lack of price control. This lack of control, closely connected with the depression existing in the psychology of the Greek market since the time of occupation that gold was the only stable means of assuring an individual potential wealth, and added by the threat of inflation, or rather the tragic results of inflation, which we lived through during the occupation, creates every so often waves of panic which put in motion the vicious circle of price increases and the repetition of these phenomena. And it must not be overlooked that this condition is made worse by the idea of gaining profits by repeating what took place during the occupation, on the part of those owing debts or credits in drachmas.

The results of this is that the confidence in the country's currency had been shaken. However, today's drachma is one of the healthiest currencies in the world, but it lacks one of the expressions of the healthy currency—price stability, the instability of which is due, as I said above, to reasons connected with the interweaving of the panic cycles created by bad memories and the bad habits of the past.

Let's go into the situation frankly. The circulation of bank notes amounts today to 63 billions. Particulars will be given each month with regard to the circulation of bank notes and activities of the State Treasury.

If we calculate the 63 billions which represents the bank notes in circulation in gold drachmas of 1940 or in cost of living drachmas, i.e. in drachmas which have buying capacity of those of 1940 (both these prices, that is the gold drachmas and cost of living drachmas, prove the truth of the explanation given above as regards the phenomenon of the disparity in prices) we will see that the present circulation of bank notes as compared with that of 1940 is exceptionally limited because it amounts to only 1,300,000,000 (approx.) of 1940 drachmas. The following comparison offers an excellent example of the fact that the paper currency of 63 billion drachmas, now in circulation, does not constitute inflation as compared with the needs and today's budget.

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The budget from April 1, 1939, up till March 31 1940 amounted to 13 billion drs. while the paper currency in circulation on October 1, 1940, was 11,320,757,550 drs. This means that even for the budget of 109 billion drawn up by my predecessor, the paper currency now in circulation of 63 billion is not inflationary. Even more so then the now in circulation paper currency of 63 billion is not inflationary as compared with today's budget of 142 billion.

In taking this into consideration one must not overlook the fact that there is now in the market a smaller quantity of supplies and merchandise than that which existed in 1940.

#### There Is No Fear Of Inflation.

Certainly then the sum of 63 billion is not inflationary. The danger of inflation refers to the future and would have been a real one if the State continued to meet its needs by issuing new bank notes. This, however, will be stopped with the balancing of the budget which will be effected and it will then become manifest that today's price level, a result of the panic which prevailed in the market, is completely unjustified. The disposal of supplies now in the storehouses, whereby the tendency for concealment shall be eliminated, will contribute much to this end. When after some time, imports will start coming in on a large scale which will eliminate the scarcity of goods and will contribute to the revenue through the duties that will be collected, it will become more evident that what we say is true, and the question will then be asked who was the more clever, those who concealed the goods or those who sold them at the present prices?

On the other hand drachmae has an additional security against any unexpected factor. Our foreign exchange reserve abroad. This reserve consists basically of the following amounts:

£27,000,000, \$26,000,000 and gold worth \$28,000,000, i.e. approximately 40,000,000 pound sterling. This sum converted into drachmae at the official rate of 2,000 drachmae per sterling amounts to 80 billion drachmae, i.e. it covers by 120% the amount of drachmae in circulation today, while if this conversion be represented in proportion to prices of goods, both here and abroad, prices being always used as a standard of economic comparison, the percentage of this cover would represent 180 billion drachmae without including gold reserves in Greece. You can easily imagine the figure to be reached if this gold was calculated at the rate of the sovereign on the Athens black market.

But this is not all we possess in foreign exchange. Some more sums, proceeds of remittances from abroad or payments in advance to our Allies for their expenses in Greece or otherwise, add up to over 10 million pounds sterling, i.e. 20 billion drachmae at the official rate or over 50 billion drachmae at the average rate of prices here and abroad. Cases of currency with such a security are rare, but Greece cannot remain calm and inactive simply relying on its foreign exchange reserves. Part of this reserve must be used for the recovery of its economy and to meet the requirements that have been accumulating during a war of unimaginable sacrifices, that destroy its productive machinery. In complete agreement with the Allies it has been decided that the necessary foreign exchange for importing useful supplies to Greece will be made available. A Supreme Committee consisting of the Minister of Finance, the Minister of National Economy and the Governor of the Bank of Greece or their representatives will handle the matter of allocating exchange for imports. The whole procedure will be very brief and facility for payment in drachma will be offered before the decision of the Committee. In a few days the Bank of Greece will make an announcement concerning this procedure.

It is our unanimous decision that the prevailing spirit will be to facilitate and not impede imports and that new measures must be taken daily to face any eventual omissions so as to complete the system and render it an instrument of facilitating imports and regulating the general trend of the market.

The necessary exchange for imports shall be allocated at the official rate fixed by the Bank of Greece. The present level of prices, however, cannot be ignored.

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Therefore, importers will pay a surcharge on the exchange allocated to them, which will level the difference between the prices prevailing abroad and within the country, and which, although it will not cause a new rise in the prices, will eliminate the exorbitant profits by individuals on the difference between these prices.

"Here again we must face the social aspect of the matter and endeavour to maintain lower prices of essential goods for the people. Goods and surcharges will be divided into three categories. For the first category, which comprises essential goods for the people, the surcharge shall be 2,200 drs. per pound sterling or 520 drs. per dollar. That is, the pound sterling will be sold at 4,200 drs. and the dollar at 1,020 drachmae. For the second category, which shall comprise goods absolutely necessary but not of primary importance, the price of the pound sterling will be 4,500 drs. and of the dollar 1,125 drs. For the third category, which comprises all other goods, the price of the pound sterling will be 5,000 drs. and that of the dollar 1,250.

"In this way the State which has vainly tried so far to bring the prices to the level of those of the international market, will now try to link up the international level with of our market and benefit from the difference rather than let private individuals take all the profit. For the latter, however, there will also be left a sufficient margin of profit.

"Details relating to this system will be determined by decisions of the Minister, which also will determine the mode of a reasonable control and, later on, the manner of safeguarding the Greek importers. I feel confident that these measures will serve the economic life, because they will permit commerce to fulfill its true mission by the use of its own sources and capitals to be found on the money market for commercial activities and not for the sake of enrichment. Bank credits will be regulated accordingly. The most important importers today are those who have available funds, and not these who ask for credit.

"Persons who desire to import goods by using exchange which they have available abroad, will be encouraged to do so in a manner that will be defined in detail by ministerial decisions.

#### The Extent of Our Needs.

"By these measures, the price of foreign exchange is not increased. The problem is not the price of the exchange but the prices of goods, and the question of imports in this way is satisfactorily solved for the State and its economy. We are envisaging a substantial allocation of exchange of imports.

"Fortunately, it is well known abroad that after the almost complete destruction of the productive mechanism of the country, our needs are such that the noble endeavours of UNRRA - to which we already owe much, and which we shall need for a long time yet, no matter how many the individual imports - cannot fully meet our industrial and commercial requirements.

"Taking into consideration the imports effected by UNRRA, preference shall be given (a) to applications by importers who intend to import supplies which will cover the vital and social needs of the Greek industry and commerce, and (b) applications for goods which have not been imported in great quantities by UNRRA so far. I also wish to point out that we shall not exclude the imports of other goods also, since we have decided to allocate exchange for imports of all kinds.

#### Remittances and deposits

"We foresee that when the question of remittances by emigrants and the question of tobacco are settled, we shall have available more exchange, so as to stimulate our imports. The revenue which will be derived from the allocation of exchange will be used for economic reconstruction. Reinforcement of the production, reinforcement of internal commerce, and the reinforcement of the effort for reconstruction, will constitute these different branches of the same endeavour. At the same time we must try to obtain financial assistance from our Allies, so as to achieve the reconstruction of the country as soon as possible.

"This part refers to the third problem which the Government has to face from

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a financial and social point of view. The problem of the economic reconstruction of the country.

"This is a tremendous problem. I have travelled throughout Greece when I was Minister of National Economy and Minister of Social Welfare and I know that Greece lies in ruins, that its roads are destroyed, that its production has been reduced and that the willingness to work has been hampered by the present adverse conditions.

"And yet, throughout Greece there exists a confidence in the Nation's future and I think that a confidence for the future of our economy and our currency must also result from my absolutely frank declarations of today. This confidence will be increased when it becomes known that our application to the Allies for financial assistance, which has been included in the agreement at which the Economic Committee has arrived after its three long sessions, was allowed to be included in the final text, which has received the general approval of the Allies in connection with the Government's economic program. This text is given simultaneously for publication, and proves that the Government's economic measures are a result of long discussions and have had the approval of the most distinguished economic experts, both Greek and those representing the Allies and UNRRA.

"I am optimistic concerning the future of Greek economy and almost certain that our request for more economic aid on the part of the Allies will be granted. Greece, which has offered everything for the Allied cause, has the right to ask for help to recover. We are glad to see that this right is now recognised. For this, Greece thanks our great Allies and their representatives here for their understanding of Greek problems and their help in drawing up and proclaiming these, our first economic measures. This understanding is expressed in many points, i.e. free disposal of foreign exchange in our possession, in order to revive and restore Greek economy; the effort to arrange prices here and abroad, by adjusting foreign exchange rate. These are two of the obvious expressions of this understanding and constitute already a great help for the financial recovery. Greece is thankful indeed and will try to show her gratitude, when, with the aid to be given, she will be able to complete the effort for full reconstruction. The Government believes that no economic program can stand, unless some provision is made for saving deposits belonging to those who believed in the drachma. The State is under the moral obligation to do something for their rehabilitation. The State demands sacrifices from everybody, but then a certain proportion must be maintained regarding these sacrifices. This question will soon be properly solved.

#### A Stable Program

"Finally, another intention of the Government must be announced.

"The Government intends to create an active and useful instrument to follow the country's economic life and help the work of the Government. In a few days the Supreme Economic Council, which rendered so many services in the past, will be reorganized on a more permanent and useful basis and will be called to offer more and still greater services.

"At the same time, the Government will contact the country's political factors, independently of any political complexion, in order to study the possibility of enlarging the present economic committee with the addition of representatives of the political parties, or by creation of a special economic committee of a political nature.

"The Government does not consider its program as a monopoly of its own ideas and its own will. It wants it to belong to the whole Nation. That is why its first action, the day after it took the oath of office, was to call together the economic committee.

"We cannot afford the luxury of changing the economic program every month. Today's program has been approved both by the Economic Committee and by the Allies. It forms the basis of future developments. And this basis must be strengthened from all sides.

"I have explained with absolute frankness the economic measures which the

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Government is taking today. I am convinced that these measures can radically change the Greek economic problem, because they take into consideration the Greek reality in all its aspects, combine Greek requirements with international conceptions, form a social foundation and aim at combining individual initiative with State intervention. Intervention is internationally admitted as a necessity of modern times, but individual initiative is inherent in human nature, enabling man to keep his personality in a disciplined economic organization.

"Social progress, which is embodied in the real socialistic ideals, is the enemy of every orthodoxy, whether it is the orthodoxy of absolute freedom or the orthodoxy of absolute nationalization. It is synthesis and harmony. And this synthesis and harmony is the chief aim of the Government's economic measures.

"We want a strict control, both of production and consumption, but a control in accordance with the special nature of Greek economy; a control which will invigorate and revive rather than destroy individual initiative.

"Within a similar framework shall be placed the system of the disposal of the considerable industrial products which the State had at its disposal.

"I address myself to all social classes, to the Greek people as a whole, and I wish to tell them once more the truth that no economic program can yield all that is expected from it, unless it is conscientiously adopted by the people. That is why we want the people as a whole to adopt our economic program and make it their own.

"This program must be a success, a complete success, along the lines projected, and in order to obtain this we must all start working and producing.

"The Government is very optimistic, but this optimism, which is tantamount to confidence, must become so for the whole of Greece. Thus, the program and the measures will fully succeed to the greatest possible extent for the good of Greece, for the good of the People."

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#### LONDON ECONOMIST ON CONDITIONS IN GREECE

From: "VEMA" (Morning) Democratic.

London (9 November) (Special Service):--In an article today on the situation in Greece, the "ECONOMIST" observes that after "a fortnight of futility" the Regent Damaskinos entrusted the Government to two young professors, Messrs. Kanellopoulos and Kassimatis, neither of whom has the necessary experience or strength to apply rules and administrative measures which could prevent a greater economic chaos than the existing one. The economic problem stands out above all other Greek problems, even that of the elections. Giving analytical figures, the "ECONOMIST" observes that during the first post-war year UNRRA imports to Greece were 111 million dollars less than originally planned, but that the main reason for the Greek crisis is due to the fact that the poorer classes sell their food rations in the black market in order to buy olive oil.

The peasants are willing to sell their olive oil only in exchange for cheap clothing and manufactured goods, which the industrialists must agree to produce. This vicious circle can be broken only by a strong, determined Government. Mr. Varvaressos failed because the industrialists opposed the fixed-price policy; the merchants opposed the special tax; and the consumer public did not have the patience to wait for cheap goods. Where Mr. Varvaressos failed, says the "ECONOMIST", it is improbable that the inexperienced men of the present Government will succeed. Their failure will bring about either economic chaos and civil war, or foreign assistance for the application of a relief program. The MacNeil mission may possibly be evidence of the fact that Great Britain has at last realized that it is futile to try to bring about the granting of amnesty, the holding of free elections and the realization of governmental combines. Granting material aid, together with the application of administrative measures, are the only solution of today's impasse.

The British Treasury submitted to the House of Commons a document explaining that especially for Greece the measure of reciprocal aid has been extended to the end of 1945, so that the items of clothing and equipment of the Greek Army and Gendarmerie may be allocated free of charge. These items represent value of 11 million pounds sterling. (G. SYRIOTIS)



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 190

Athens

Monday, 12 November 1945

### 70 PER CENT OF PLEDGED UNRRA FUNDS AVAILABLE

From: UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE.  
American Official.

Washington (10 November):--UNRRA announced last night that nearly 70 per cent of the total contributions pledged or authorized to it by member nations have been made available, totalling \$1,270,091,087.

Of 44 member nations in 1944, 28 have pledged contributions to operating funds. Thirty-one of the member nations are asked to contribute, the remaining nations being exempted under the provision which states that member nations occupied by the enemy during the war will not be solicited. Negotiations relative to operating contributions are in progress with the remaining three governments.

Contributions totalling \$23,032,849 have been authorized by the member governments but will not be available until after government action. Of this latter amount, 550,000,000 is to come from the U.S., bringing total operating contributions authorized or in process of authorization to \$1,866,624,591.

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### SALARIES AND PENSIONS INCREASED BY 150%

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (11 November):--The Minister of Finance announced that salaries and pensions of Public Employees are increased by 150% as of the 10th November, on which date the application of the Government's economic program will begin.

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### TO READJUST SALARIES AND WAGES OF PRIVATE EMPLOYEES

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (11 November):--The Minister of Labor conferred with the representatives of the industrialists and the workers on the question of salary determination. The Minister has requested the Ministry of Supply to supply him with a price list of the chief food items. After all necessary data are collected, salaries and wages will be readjusted.

According to our information, the new wages scale will classify employees and workers according to their branch and category. Remunerations will depend upon qualifications, the post held, working conditions, etc.

Mr. Katavolos also stated that severe sanctions would be imposed by law against employers who failed to pay their personnel the 2-months additional salary (recently approved).

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CLAIMS GOVERNMENT USES UNRRA  
AID FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES

From: "RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning)  
Communist.

New York (9 November, by our Correspondent):--The Ohio News Agency stated the following in a cable dated 7 November: "The inadequateness of successive Greek Governments has seriously hindered UNRRA's efforts to help the Greek people during the past 7 months. UNRRA representatives in Greece invited Mr. Lehman, the organization's Director General to go to Greece and to call the attention of the United States and Great Britain to the situation.

"In its appeals to Mr. Lehman, the UNRRA mission emphasized the fact that its relief work for the Greek people is very difficult, so long as there are governments which are not supported by the people and which utilize UNRRA distributions for political purposes. In the same memo to Mr. Lehman, UNRRA representatives in Greece throw the responsibility for the failure of UNRRA to achieve its objectives on the Anglo-American policy regarding Greece".

NOTE: The statements attributed to the Greece Mission in the above article have never been the subject of communication to the Director General.

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FREE IMPORTS OF FISH AND  
CEREALS TO COME FROM TURKEY

From: "ETHNOS" (Afternoon)  
Democratic;  
"VRADYNI" (Afternoon)  
Royalist;  
"ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon)  
Conservative;  
"ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (10 November):--The Ministry of National Economy has cabled to all port authorities in the country, informing them that the import of fresh fish, bought with free foreign exchange from Turkey, has been permitted.

It should be noted that the fish can be salted and used in Northern Greece, where it is very scarce. According to another announcement, large quantities (10,000 tons) of barley and oats will also be imported from Turkey to meet the requirements of stock-raisers, especially in Thessaly and Macedonia.

Another 6,000 tons will be imported, of which 1,000 tons will go to Thessaly and another 1,000 to Macedonia. The unrestricted import of meat and shoes will also be permitted.

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MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY  
STUDIES MEAT IMPORTS

From: "VRADYNI" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (10 November):--Concerning meat, the Ministry of National Economy has requested all meat dealers to submit memoranda regarding the import of meat from abroad. We have learned that serious efforts are under way, to ensure adequate stocks of meat in view of the fact that there is a shortage of meat in the market.

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ORDER CONFISCATION  
OF MEAT STOCKS

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist.

Athens (10 November):--The Market Inspection Authorities have announced that the



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scarcity of meat which was noted in the market today is due to the fact that the meat-dealers, although they had bought meat in considerable quantities, did not offer it for sale. Their purpose was to bring about an increase of the prices fixed by the Ministry.

As a result, the Market Police have been ordered to confiscate all existing stocks of meat in cold storage and to distribute these stocks to the public at the fixed prices.

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TO RAISE PRICES FOR  
TOBACCO COLLECTING

From : "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (10 November):--According to an announcement from the Ministry of Agriculture an increase of the prices for the concentration of tobacco is being studied, because the present prices are considered unfair to the producers.

The Ministry is making an effort, also, to buy 40 tons of raisins which will be distributed to the apiarists, so that they may be used as food for their bees.

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CLAIMS ALBANIAN GUERRILLAS  
ARE IN UNRRA CAMP

From : "ELEUTHERIA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (11 November):--According to a telegram from Thessaloniki to the Ministry of Public Order, in the last five days of October 160 armed Albanian guerrillas, citizens of Yugoslavia, from the Kossyphopiedion area, entered Greek territory and gave themselves up together with their arms to the Greek frontier outposts. The Albanians are held in the UNRRA camp in Florina.

NOTE: UNRRA Camps are used to accommodate refugees exclusively. Our Displaced Persons Division is checking on the above story.

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CHARGES UNRRA CAUSTIC SODA  
GOES TO INDUSTRIALISTS

From : "RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning)  
Communist.

Athens (10 November):--UNRRA raw materials continue to follow the way paved by Mr. Katsambas (President of the Industrialists) and his party of big industrialists. They have been regulating the country's economic life recently. Prime Ministers fall, Cabinets change, but the course remains one and unaltered: UNRRA supplies should not reach the people. It is a law of the industrialists and no diversion is permissible.

Last month we revealed the caustic soda scandal. In September alone the industrialists had received seven hundred and fifty tons. The soda became soap, but the people saw no soap. Naturally, the scandal did not move the Government because the latter has become insensible to such matters. Furthermore, the industrialists did not care at all.

And the "patriotic" work continues also with <sup>the</sup> same zeal in October. The Ministry of National Economy issues the delivery-order and the industrialists empty the UNRRA warehouses - a story well known and quite common. The quantity of soda turned over to the industrialists in October is about 286 tons. We mention a few characteristic figures:

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The Union of Soap Manufacturers of Athens and Piraeus took delivery of two lots, of 49 and 45 tons respectively. The Union of Seed-oil manufacturers received 13 tons. Tegopoulos Sons, 5 tons. Th. Theodoroulakis,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  tons. D. Doumas, 2 tons. The Textile Industrialists' Association, 9 tons. Orphanoudakis, 3 tons. Owners of Oil Presses of Corinth,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton. E. Hadzinikolaou,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton. Filiotis Bros., 9 tons. M. Koutaxis, 3 tons. The Chemicals Co., 39 tons. A. Tsaparas,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton. Piraiki, Co., 9 tons. Abatzidellis,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton. E. Demetriades, 15 tons. N. Orphanoudakis and Sons,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tons, etc.

Two hundred and twenty-three thousands okes of UNRRA caustic soda were allocated in the above manner in October. With that amount of caustic soda more than one and a half million okes of soap could be manufactured for the people. Yet not even one distribution of soap made out of UNRRA soda has been made to the public. Soap is not available. The people have to procure soap from the black market at more than 1,000 drachmae per oke. Filth and its consequences assail the people and scabies have taken dimensions, especially in the poorer quarters and the villages, to the glory of the State and the various Katsambassis whom they serve.

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WANTS TO KNOW SOURCE OF  
BLACK MARKET CAUSTIC SODA

From: "RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning)  
Communist.

Athens (11 November):--Regarding the distribution of UNRRA caustic soda to the industrialists about which "RIZOSPASTIS" carried an article yesterday, we have now ascertained that, up to the beginning of October, 1,862 tons of caustic soda were delivered at 125 drachmae per kilo. The quantity was allocated as follows:

1085 tons were placed at the disposal of the Nomarchs to be distributed for local needs with the obligation that 75% be given to soap manufacturers. 133 tons were directly delivered to soap manufacturers in the provinces. 323 tons were allocated to soap manufacturers of Athens and Piraeus. 26 tons were delivered to oil refineries. 292 tons were allocated for special use. At least 6,500,000 okes of soap should have been made with the above quantities of soda, even after deducting the quantity allocated for special use. We ask: What happened to that soda? What became of the 1,085 tons given directly to the Nomarchs? Where does the abundant soda, on sale in the black market at 5 times the price of UNRRA soda, come from?

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From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (11 November):--Below are given the new taxes which follow the announcement of the Government's economic program: 1) Special tax: For the five-month period between November 1945 and March 1946 an increase is fixed for Table A of 60%; for Table B 50% and for Table C 40%. Those included in Tables D and E are not subject to increase. The bakers who are baking rationed bread and the grocers who sell only rationed goods are not included in Table C. The increase may be limited in various towns and villages, not including Athens and Piraeus. The increase for the month of December must be paid before the end of this month. In cases where an enterprise or a trade is discontinued, independently of the will of the person running it (expulsion, withdrawal of permit or prohibition of operation), no special contribution will be paid. The Economic Ephor has the right to reduce the contribution by as much as 30% for tax-payers included in Tables A, B and C.

2) Tax on imports from April 27, 1941 up to October 10, 1944 (De Griges): All those who had imported goods whose value amounted to 2,500 marks are exempt from taxation. Those who imported up to 10,000 marks worth of goods will be taxed 600,000 drs.; up to 25,000 marks, 1,950,000 drs.; up to 50,000 marks, 2,450,000 drs.; up to 100,000 marks, 10,450,000 drs.; up to 200,000 marks, 124,450,000 drs.; up to 400,000

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marks, 56,450,000 drs.; and finally up to 700,000 marks, 110,450,000 drs. The mark is calculated at  $7\frac{1}{2}$  liretta. This tax is increased by 30% if the importer was not an industrialist or a merchant before April 28, 1941. All those who are liable under this tax should submit their assessments before November 30. The tax will be paid in five equal monthly installments. A reduction of 30% is provided in cases where the goods were not in good condition upon arrival, etc., and up to 50% if they were sold at prices fixed by the State. The tax will be determined by a committee composed of representatives of the parties involved and of private citizens.

3) Taxation persons who became rich during the occupation. The installments will be reduced from 12 to six monthly payments. Provision is made for the simplification of the procedure for closing the shops of those not paying their tax; for arresting and holding the directors and managers of corporations; to liquidate real estate, etc. This tax may be additionally increased up to 500%. All those who became rich and come under this paragraph and who did not receive official notification of the decision of the Committee on Taxations, are obliged to submit to the Ephor, before November 20, a list of their gains during the occupation. Property acts (purchase, etc.) of any nature taking place after the present law enters into effect will not be taken into consideration so far as the tax on those who amassed wealth is concerned.

By constitutional act, the penalty of deportation has been established for the tax-evader, his wife and his children in case the tax is not paid.

#### Consumer Taxes.

4) Cigarettes: The price of popular cigarettes has been fixed at 150 drs per package. De luxe cigarettes will cost 300 drs. per package. The tax on popular brands is 3,800 drs. per kilo and 9,200 on the exclusive brands.

5) Public Amusements: The total tax included in a movie ticket amounts to 20-50 drs. and 10 to 60 drs. on a theatre ticket, depending on the price of the ticket. A ticket costing from 400 drs. upwards will be taxed 50 drs. for each hundred drs. where movies are concerned and 30 drs. per hundred regarding theatres.

6) Stamps: 0.5% tax stamps must be affixed on commercial and other documents. Petitions and applications must bear a 30 drs. stamp and affidavits a 75 drs.

7) Amusement Centers: 33% tax on all gross receipts. 8) De luxe goods: On wholesale prices: a) Beer, 30% tax. b) Extracts (for liqueurs, perfumes, etc.) 300%. c) Artificial silk, 20%. d) Grape alcohol, 10%. e) Imported leather, 40%. There is also a possibility of increasing the wine tax. A fine up to 1,000,000 drs. may be imposed for violation of the consumer tax regulations.

9) Land tax on olive oil and edible olives: This tax is determined in kind, and its value is paid in drs. It will be collected on the basis of taxation lists. The tax on olive-oil is as follows: 50 okes are exempt from taxation for every producer. For an output of 150 okes, the tax will be 5 okes; for an output of 300 okes, it will be 16 okes; for 600 okes, 43; for 1,000 okes, 57; for 1,500 okes, 152. For an output of over 1,500 okes the tax will be 15% of the total output. Olives: 100 okes will be exempt from taxation. For an output of up to 300 okes, the tax will be 10 okes; up to 700 okes, 38 okes; up to 1,500 okes, 110 okes; up to 4,000 okes, 415 okes. For an output of over 4,000 okes, the tax will be 15%. Special tax scales will be applied for the intermediate quantities.

#### Council of Ministers Passes Act on Taxes:

The Council of Ministers passed the No. 75 constitutional act yesterday which concerns the imposing of sanctions on those who became rich during the occupation and who are not willing to pay their tax. This act has as follows: 1) In case the State's debtors as defined in the compulsory law 182/1945 (amended) refuse to pay their obligations to the State, the Minister of Public Order will be obliged to order the deportation of the debtor, his wife and all children over 5 years of age, if and when the debt to the State amounts to more than 1,000,000 drs. The penalty will continue until the tax has been paid in full. Payment in part, before or after the deportation is not acceptable. 2) The competent pay offices and accounts services will be obliged, on the day following the expiration of the time-limit for payment, to send, on receipt, to the Ministry of Public Order, a list of the taxpayers who refuse to pay their tax. If an employee neglects his duty about sending these lists he comes under the decision passed by the Council of Ministers regarding the dismissal of negligent employees. 3) The present constitutional act will come into effect from the moment it is published in the Government Gazette. It will be submitted for approval in the future House of Representatives.



# DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 191

Athens

Tuesday, 13 November 1945

## PRIME MINISTER SPEAKS ON REACTION TO GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC PROGRAM

From: All Papers.

Athens (13 November):--Speaking to the press yesterday, in relation to the strong reaction which has been noted in the Exchange Market against the Government's economic program and in answer to a question from an extreme left correspondent, "...if this reaction is due to political or party reasons", the Prime Minister stated the following:

"The Government is certain that this reaction does not spring from either the Democratic Center parties, nor the Royalist parties. At this moment which is so critical for the whole people, the political world belonging to these two groups is following a serious policy regarding the national questions and the economic problem."

In answer to a question from the same correspondent whether he considers the extreme left as reactionary, Mr. Kanellopoulos answered that even though the Government has specific information that other circles besides the economic collaborationists are reacting against its efforts at economic restoration, it has avoided making a direct accusation, wishing to leave it to the people to judge the attitude of those who are committing the crime of trying to deprive them (the people) of their daily bread.

"In any case", emphasized the Prime Minister, "the Government will continue to take all those measures which it considers necessary in order to face the economic crisis, with the assurance that it will soon be able to create all those factors which will lead to an improvement of the conditions of the suffering people, who are looking ahead with faith in the effort which we have undertaken".

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## SWEAR IN NEW MINISTERS

From: All Papers.

Athens (13 November):--In the presence of His Beatitude the Regent, the following new Ministers were sworn in yesterday:

Kypriades, as Minister of Supply and, temporarily, Minister of Agriculture;  
Rokkas, Assistant Professor of the University, as Under-Secretary of Finance;  
Tsoucalas, as Governor General of the Ionian Islands;  
Tsimboukis, as Governor General of the Aegean Islands.

The Prime Minister announced that he is considering the establishment of a Council of the Governors General under his chairmanship, as well as a General Secretariat, to form a liaison between Provincial Greece and the Center.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO  
BE ISSUED FOR IMPORTS

From: All Papers.

Athens (13 November):--Mr. Galanis, Minister Of National Economy stated yesterday that following the application of the Government's program, a new period has begun of actual revival of the country's productive and commercial activities.

"Within a space of ten days," he said, "we have granted permits for the import of food, raw materials for industries, animal fodder and urgently needed spare parts for machinery which amount to a total value of 552,000 English pounds. This amount concerns applications which were pending at the Ministry.

The Ministry called on all importers to come into immediate contact with their buyers abroad to place orders. The Minister went on to explain that the importer will secure the foreign exchange directly, as soon as the credit is opened abroad, by paying the value in drachmae at the official rate of 2000 drs per pound sterling and 500 drs. per dollar, plus the additional charges which have been determined as follows:--2,200 drs. for animal fodder; 2,500 for raw materials; and 3,000 for other merchandise. By paying the total value in drachmae the importer will definitely have the exchange at his disposal for imports, and will not meet with further exchange difficulties.

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ASK SALARIES BE ADJUSTED  
ON COST OF LIVING BASIS

From: All papers.

Athens (13 November):--The economic situation is continuing in its downward path at an accelerated pace following the announcement of the economic measures. The chief characteristic of this situation is the complete lack of confidence in the drachma with the actual result that the price of the gold sovereign soared up over and above 50,000 drs. yesterday and that all kinds of merchandise has been hidden again. The price of any merchandise that was offered for sale was increased by 50% in comparison to last Friday's prices.

This situation has created psychology of fear which threatens to turn into a panic among the working classes, which have begun to act as they did during the occupation demanding remuneration based on the cost of living or in kind.

Thus, at 5 p.m. today, all members of the Bank-employees' Association have been called to attend a meeting in the Employees' Meeting Hall. The employees emphasize that the loan of the fortnightly wages, which was granted to them following their recent strike, was defined as an advance payment and, in reality, it was not paid to them. As a result decisions will be taken as to how to confront the situation.

Furthermore, the actors who are playing at the "Kotopouli", "Moussouri," and "Katerinas" theaters are continuing their strike. They request that a basic wage, equal to the value of five tickets, be established, over and above the payment of the two fortnights' wages.

In a letter to the Industrialists' League, the Electric Power Confederation and the Unions of Electro-technicians of Athens-Piraeus, protest against the procrastination on the part of the industrialists in the solution of their problems, and request that the electricity technicians be accepted as salaried personnel and be classified in the same pay-category as the practical engineers. The various associations have declared that their branch is being persecuted and have called on all their members to drop work when they receive directions. The electricity technicians employed by the Fertilizer Co. have been ordered to call a two-hour strike.

In an announcement the coordination bureau of the Federation of Electricity and Public Welfare Enterprises stresses the fact that it accepted the two fortnights' wages only as a temporary solution and that it has decided to adopt the basis which has been set by the Confederation of Workers and to impose it through the organized power of the workers.

According to an official announcement, the salaries of State employees and

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State pensions have been increased by 150% as compared against the basic salaries of last June. A 50% raise had been granted when Mr. Mantzavinos was Minister of Finance and now a 100% increase over the June salaries and pensions is granted.

Consequently, State employees who have collected their two fortnights' wages will collect three more in November. Pensioners will receive an amount equal to one and one-half their monthly pension.

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#### RESTRICTS USE OF ELECTRIC POWER

From: All Papers.

Athens (13 November):--The Ministry of Transport announces that it has been decided to impose new restrictions on the use of electric current, because of the bad condition of the electric installations, but especially because of the increase in demands.

Beginning today the use of electric current in stores of every description and in offices, except public offices, is prohibited between 4:30 and 10:30 p.m. It is added that this prohibition does not mean that stores and offices must close during the above hours. They may remain open provided they use their own means for lighting up their establishments.

Also beginning today, all industries are prohibited from using electric current during the same hours, unless they have their own installations for producing electric current.

The Ministry of Transport sent also an order to the Municipalities and Communities of the Capital Governorate asking that as of today they reduce by 50% their electric current consumption.

The restrictions are extended to lighted signs, which are altogether prohibited beginning today.

The Minister, Mr. Mahas, speaking on these restrictions, said that every effort is being made so that no new restrictions on the use of electric power be imposed on houses during the night. However, the public must help in this, said the Minister, taking care not to waste any power and limiting its use to the lowest possible degree.

Regarding the news about new general restrictive measures during the day, Mr. Mahas said that at present the proper service has not taken any final decisions, wishing first to see the result of the above special restrictions.

It must be noted that the Electric Company had discontinued yesterday its supply of current to whole areas of the Capital between 8:30 a.m. and late at night.

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#### SYROS HALLS ARRIVAL OF FIRST AMERICAN SHIP WITH UNRRA GRAIN

From: Office of Public Information.

Syros (11 November):--The American Liberty Ship "TABITHA BROWN", loaded with UNRRA grain, arrived in the Island of Syros this afternoon. This is the first American ship and also the first ship from a producer country to arrive in Syros since the occupation. The ship was greeted with enthusiasm by the islanders. Church bells began ringing and the ship's sirens answered in salute. The whole scene was reminiscent of the arrival of food ships on D Day.

The arrival of the "TABITHA BROWN" is hailed by the people of the Island as the restoration of Syros to its previous position as a deep sea port.

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GLEN LEET SPEAKS ON  
WELFARE DIVISION'S FUNCTIONS

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (13 November):--In the series of weekly instructive speeches which is taking place in the UNRRA Greece Mission Offices, Mr. Glen Leet, Director of the Welfare Division, spoke on the functions of his Division. In defining the task of this Division Mr. Leet pointed out that this involves not only the procurement and furnishing of relief supplies, but also the finding of those who are in greatest need. Mr. Leet said that the effectiveness of a welfare program depended upon the governmental economic program and, furthermore, on the proper application of such a program.

By the end of the first year of assistance, said Mr. Leet, Greece will have received relief supplies valued at 250 to 300 million dollars. However, in spite of this value, the proceeds from the sale of the supplies cannot possibly bring about the complete rehabilitation of the country since the technically low prices at which the supplies were sold to the public do not give the State sufficient revenue. Mr. Leet pointed out that an increase in the selling prices of the relief supplies would afford the State a considerable and steady income, but that such an increase could only be made, if the classes which have a small income or no income at all were given special consideration.

In applying the welfare program effectively, the system of decentralization was followed, whereby Welfare Centres were set up in the provinces, manned with a permanent staff which was allowed to act upon its own initiative, to a great extent. Local committees of distribution consist of persons permanently residing in the district. The same is true of the committee in every village and parish. This system enables all the welfare centres, and consequently the entire Welfare organization, to have a complete picture of the needs and also of the number of indigents and unemployed, as well as the reasons for indigency and unemployment. This, explained Mr. Leet, is most important because a real rehabilitation and consequently a fundamental relief to the people, is impossible unless work is available for every citizen.

As an example Mr. Leet pointed out how in the clothing distribution, which comes under Welfare, the necessity of local production was faced, because a large percentage of the 8 to 9 million ready-made garments imported for the people's immediate needs was found to be unsuitable for the peasants. To overcome this, 1100 tons of raw wool was allocated to the provinces, so the villagers could spin and weave and make their own clothes out of it.

Another serious question facing the Welfare Division, and the entire Mission, is the fight against discrimination during distributions, since discrimination thwarts valuable contributions to UNRRA's common fund and consequently weakens and limits its function.

In concluding, Mr. Leet said that apart from the efforts towards solving general Welfare problems, the Division had made special efforts to solve specific problems, such as finding homes for orphans and homeless children, assisting mothers, improving living conditions of prisoners, etc. The result of these efforts has been quite satisfactory.

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UNRRA GREECE MISSION MOURNS  
TRAGIC DEATH OF TWO NURSES

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (13 November):--UNRRA Greece Mission is mourning the loss of two members of its nursing staff, Lily True, SRN, SCM, and Catherine McCarthy, USPHS, who were killed in an airplane crash over Palermo, Sicily, last Friday.

Miss True, who was County Superintendent of the Dorset Country Nursing Ass'n, came to UNRRA Greece Mission as a Regional Nursing Consultant, and was one of the first nurses to enter Greece in November 1944, less than a month after liberation. During the December disturbances Miss True rendered valuable assistance, both in Peloponnesos and in Piraeus, where her work at the Zameion Hospital is one of the epics of our Mission in Greece. Later Miss True came to Athens to continue her splendid work and, since March 1945 she went back to her region in Peloponnesos, where she was in charge of the nursing work of the Region.

Miss McCarthy, a graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital of Denver, Colorado

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and a B.S. from Columbia University, was Public Health Nursing Supervisor in Peloponessos under Miss True. The excellence of her work in an isolated region of Greece which she performed on her own initiative and under difficult circumstances, resulted in a recommendation for promotion to the rank of Captain.

Last week Miss McCarthy had an accident which resulted in a badly broken leg. She was being sent to Naples for hospitalization, in the company of Miss True, when their plane struck a storm and crashed.

UNRRA Greece Mission, shocked at the double tragedy, is sincerely mourning the loss of two such splendid personalities. A Memorial Service was held this afternoon at the little Church in Phaleron for the two UNRRA nurses and the other victims of the airplane crash.

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 192

Athens

Wednesday, 14 November 1945

### INCREASES FREIGHTS FOR SEA TRANSPORT

From: "VEMA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative;  
"ELEFThERIA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (14 November):--A Decision was signed yesterday by the Minister of Merchant Marine whereby freights for sea transport by motor caiques are increased retroactively for charters made since the 25th October 1945 as follows:

Sea transport up to 30 miles - 25 drs. per ton per mile; up to 60 miles - 23 drs. per ton per mile; up to 90 miles - 20 drs. per ton per mile; up to 120 miles - 15 drs. per ton per mile.

The above rates are increased by 10% during the winter months. Fares of passengers travelling by motor caiques are doubled. The freight lists are valid for transfers of UNRRA supplies and military, State, Allied and Red Cross requirements.

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### MORE PARCELS ARRIVE FROM AMERICA

From: "HELLENIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist;  
"EMBROS" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (14 November):--Mr. Kallias, Minister of Telephone, Cable and Postal Communications, stated that two ships arrived in Piraeus with 130,000 more individual parcels from Greeks in America to their relatives in Greece. The parcels are already being unloaded and, following their classification, will be sent out to the various provincial centers for distribution. According to the same announcement, 250,000 parcels have arrived to date from America since last August.

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### "MIN" CAIQUES TO BE TURNED OVER TO WAR-STRICKEN SHIP-OWNERS

From: "VEMA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (14 November):--Since the purchase of the 70 "MIN" Caiques by UNRRA did not materialize, the vessels will be turned over to a group of ship brokers and motor-caique and sailboat owners, on the basis of the contract previously drawn up. The above group includes ship owners whose vessels were lost during the war.

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DISCUSSION ON PRICES CAUSE  
DELAY IN CIGARETTE DISTRIBUTION

From: All Papers.

Athens (13 November):--It was made known today that the complete lack of cigarettes yesterday is due to the fact that the tobacco manufacturers refused to deliver cigarettes for consumption, because of a difference of opinion between the State and themselves regarding the determination of the price. That the seals did not arrive in time to seal the cigarette boxes is simply an excuse.

According to available information, the tobacco manufactures allege that, following the determination by the State of the retail prices at 150 drs. per package for the popular brands and 300 drs. for the more exclusive brands, the profit which remains after the tax is deducted, is not satisfactory. Their chief argument is that the State should have calculated their tobacco on the basis of present prices and not the prices at the time it was purchased, since they must replace this tobacco at present prices. Since the Ministry was not disposed to change the prices as they have been fixed, they asked that the tax be reduced in their favor.

Repeated conferences on this question were held yesterday at the Ministry of Finance. Even though a definite decision has yet not been taken, it seems that the Minister will yield. The manufacturers will deliver 150% of their daily average allocation for consumption today because absolutely no quantities of cigarettes were put on the market yesterday. In any case the non-distribution of cigarettes yesterday resulted in a considerable increase in the price of cigarettes in the black market.

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TO ALLOCATE SUPPLEMENTARY  
RATIONS FOR TUBERCULARS

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"ELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist;  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (13 November):--By joint decision of the Ministries of Supply and Health, beginning December 1st, a supplementary food ration will be issued to all tuberculars, after examination by special medical teams.

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PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS  
ON ECONOMIC PROBLEM

From: "MAHI" (Morning):  
Socialist.

Athens (14 November):--At last night's meeting with the Press, the Prime Minister again attributed the failure of the economic policy of the Government to the "reaction of the circles affected by the government measures on the profit and moral question".

The Prime Minister added that "the reaction will be annihilated when the seed will have been planted". He also spoke about taking measures which will show clearly "the government's policy, to those who thought until now that it was only a policy of words".

Mr. Kanellopoulos also asked that the rumours be denied that the American representatives and leaders of UNRRA went back on their word and, therefore, the position of the Minister of Finance became difficult.

It must be noted that the information among certain circles was that the American economic experts and the UNRRA representatives were mentioned in last Friday's governmental announcement as having agreed fully on all the "points" of the economic policy of the Government, without this being absolutely true.

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PROPOSES INCREASE OF SALARIES  
OF PRIVATE EMPLOYEES

From: "ELEFTHERIA" (Morning)  
Democratic;  
"RIZOSPASTIS" (Morning)  
Communist;  
"ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (14 November)1--At yesterday's Cabinet meeting the Minister of Labor introduced the question of an increase in salaries and wages of employees working for private firms. The Ministers of Finance, National Economy and Supply will meet to discuss the matter before the end of this week.

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TO DISTRIBUTE EDIBLE  
OIL IN CAPITAL AREA

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (14 November):--It has been decided to distribute within a few days 100 dramaia of seed oil per person at 125 drachmas per ration. The distribution will be held in the entire area of the ex-Governorate of the Capital first, and will be extended later to all districts that do not produce oil.

NOTE: According to our Food Division the above distribution comprises both seed and olive oil.

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GIVE OFFICIAL FIGURES  
ON UNRRA DRUG IMPORTS

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (11 November):--As we have seen, the pharmacists have complained that they were barred from the distribution of UNRRA Medical supplies. However, beginning last Saturday, the Joint Medical Supply Committee which administers these supplies, allocated a certain quantity of them for the pharmacists. The pharmacists will consider whether they will accept this quantity, because, they say, it is very small for their 1,400 pharmacies. To put an end to this story we had to find out how many and what medical supplies were imported. And we did find out. The official figures were given to us by Col. Dodge, Deputy Director of UNRRA Health Division, who is working with zeal for the improvement of our country's health condition.

Following are the figures on the imports of Medical Supplies to date: "The import of medical supplies", states Col. Dodge, "from April up to November 8th amounted to 3,550 tons. Of this quantity 1,500 tons are sanitary material and equipment, including medical instruments; and 307 tons are cod-liver oil. The import of drugs proper began last September and has already reached the 500-ton figure. Two-sixteenths of this amount are aneurine, one-twentieth disinfecting material and the remaining 172 tons are drugs. This quatnity will be continuously increased, said Col. Dodge.

The Minister of Hygiene

Those are the figures on the drugs. And now we must seek information on how they are to be allocated and utilized for Public Health. We approach Dr. Voilas, Minister of Health, for his views on this general subject.

"The pharmacists, as I see, are complaining against the quantity of drugs allocated to them by the Joint Medical Supplies Committee", said the Minister, "and they even go so far as to say that they probably will not accept it. I do not want to believe that this information is true, because the pharmacists are not only merchants; they have also a mission of social welfare to perform, which elevates their profession - the mission of serving those who are suffering. Even though they

(Continued on Page 4)



(Continued from Page 3)

consider the quantity of the drugs to be allocated at present very small, they must accept it in order to facilitate the people in finding these drugs and in this way strike at the black market. They will receive, thanks to the understanding of our relief problems in America, 120 kinds of drugs instead of the 65 basic drugs to which even in England, today, the medical science is limited. Here we had been somewhat "spoiled" by the great amounts of imported "specialties" which did not signify anything more than the international competition of the industries involved.

"Nevertheless, the Americans have given us 120 kinds of drugs because every country has its own pharmaceutical customs and therapeutics. It was not possible for UNRRA to profusely supply all pharmacies in Greece from the first shipments that arrived, so it allocated as many drugs as it possibly could. For instance, out of 100 kilograms of metallic iodine, 75 kgs. were allocated, and so on. The balance will be distributed to various centers which take away a certain part of the burden of work carried by the pharmacists; to indigents and to different hospitals.

"Let the pharmacists have a little patience and more drugs will arrive. The transitory period will end and the commerce of drugs will again go to them. Furthermore, the Ministry of National Economy has permitted the import of drugs from abroad. Only legally recognized parties are allowed to carry out these imports, so that the goods may not end up in the black market again. There can be no reason for the black market on the one hand, and private imports on the other."

Dr. Voilas concluded by saying that all our concern is aimed at relieving the suffering people on as an extensive scale as possible. "I hope that our pharmaceutical associations", said the Minister, "will imitate the example of the Thessaloniki Cooperative which took over delivery of the drugs immediately to distribute them to the people."

Those are the statements of the Minister of Hygiene. With these authoritative statements we close our investigation on the drugs situation. If we have not satisfied the expectations of our readers, who expected perhaps more specific information, that, for instance, such and such person is a black market profiteer and that his storeroom is on such and such a street, we are sorry. Even if we had the particulars at our disposal, we could not bring about any effective results. Black market dealings cannot be stopped with the arrest of one black market profiteer or with the confiscation of one storeroom. They can be stopped only when the various professional classes decide on a purge of all black market dealers, who belong to their class, and whom they must certainly know, by depositing all necessary particulars concerning names and warehouses, at the District Attorney's office. This is the primary obligation of the various leagues and associations of the professional world.

But the State also has the obligation to remember its District Attorney and, especially, its Market Inspector Regulations Code, which the Ministry of Justice has turned over to the Ministry of Supply, so that it may be studied and which is still pending. We do not know the contents of this code, but we hope that it will begin as follows:

"Article 1:-- Any person arrested for black market dealings, will be deported and his property and possessions will be confiscated by the State".

No other article is necessary, if such dealers are actually accused and arrested, so that the chains which bind all of us to the "hard labor" of black "marketism" may be broken once for all.

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#### UNRRA MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO DATE TOTAL 3,500 METRIC TONS

From: "VEMA" (Morning) Democratic;  
"HALI" (Morning) Socialist.

Athens (14 November):--According to a letter addressed to the Minister of Health by the UNRRA Health Division, 3,500 metric tons of medical and sanitation supplies and 26 tons of drugs, including ML balance, have reached Greece since the 1st of April, 1945. Penicillin, which has arrived in special shipments, is not included in



(Continued from Page 4)

the above supplies. Besides the above, other quantities arrived and were immediately distributed through commercial channels.

NOTE: The full text of the letter mentioned above, which was addressed to both the Minister of Health and to the Members of the Central Medical Supplies Board, has as follows:

"In view of the inauguration of the Central Medical Supplies Board by the Ministry of Hygiene, it would seem a good opportunity to present to you some figures on the tonnage of Medical and Sanitation Supplies which have been imported by UNRRA.

"Very small amounts of drugs remained from M.L. stocks when UNRRA took over on 1st April 1945, and only insignificant amounts arrived during the following three months. Because the war was still on, and supplies and shipping space were limited, UNRRA drugs did not begin to arrive until July, and were not available for distribution in any significant amounts until September.

"Since April 1st, including undistributed M.L. stocks in the Warehouses at that time, a total of 3500 metric tons of Medical and Sanitation supplies have arrived. Of this total tonnage approximately:

- 1500 tons are Sanitation supplies;
- 1530 tons are Hospital, Surgical, X-Ray, etc. equipment;
- 370 tons are Cod Liver Oil;
- 300 tons are drugs.

"The 286 gross tons of drugs received (the actual weight of the drugs themselves is not more than 60% of this or 162 tons net contents) includes approximately:

- 20 tons Sulphur Ointment;
- 15 tons Atebrin;
- 40 tons Aspirin and Iron Tablets.

"Penicillin which has come in separately in special shipments is not included.

"The drugs programmed by UNRRA represent, according to world wide experience, all the drugs considered essential for the treatment of disease. They are in the form which is most practical and most widely used. The amounts of the 120 or so essential drugs which were allocated November 3rd, by the Board for immediate distribution through the trade, represent an average of approximately 75% of what was available for distribution on that day. The remaining 25% was reserved for distribution to State and Philanthropic Institutions and to the indigent throughout the whole of Greece. Among these drugs allocated to the trade were:

Atebrine	15,000,000 Tablettes
Aspirine	15,000,000 "
Sulfonamides	5,600,000 "
Vitamin C	3,700,000 "
Tablettes de fer	7,000,000 "
Luminal	2,500,000 "
Antidysentery(varie)	1,000,000 "
Digitalis	700,000 "
Neocarsphenamine	150,000 ampoules
Bismuthé pour injection	10,000 bouteilles
Bicarb. de Soude	10 tonnes
Sulfate de Soude	2 "
Chloroforme	1 "
Aether	1 "
Knoline	400 kilo

"Additional cases of drugs are being unpacked or are arriving weekly, and will be available for allocation by the Board at subsequent meetings."



# DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

Mo. 199

Athens

Thursday, 15 November 1945

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S MESSAGE  
TO CONGRESS ON UNRRA FUNDS

From: "U. S. I. S."  
United States Information  
Service.

Washington (14 November):--The following is the text of President Truman's message to Congress yesterday on the UNRRA appropriation:

This country has pledged itself to do all that is reasonably possible to alleviate the suffering of our war-torn Allies and to help them begin the task of restoring their economic productivity. UNRRA is one of most important instrumentalities for accomplishing this great task.

As I stated in my message to Congress on September 6, 1945, the 47 nations of the Council of UNRRA determined at their meeting in London last August that contributions beyond those originally made would be necessary if we expect to complete the minimum tasks assigned to UNRRA. The Council recommended on a motion of the United States delegates that each member country whose territory had not been invaded by the enemy should contribute an additional amount equal to one per cent of its national income for the fiscal year 1943.

In accordance with this recommendation, the United States share would be \$1, 350,000,000, matching our original contribution authorized by the Act of Congress of March 28, 1944.

The original contributions of all member nations have been applied principally to the activities of UNRRA in providing relief and rehabilitation assistance to the countries of eastern and southeastern Europe and to the care of United Nations displaced persons stranded in enemy territory. UNRRA, of course, does not undertake relief or rehabilitation responsibilities in either Germany or Japan.

The invaded countries of northwest Europe, comprising Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Norway, by and large possess sufficient resources in foreign currency and credit to acquire their own essential imports from abroad. Direct assistance to northwest Europe is therefore not being furnished by UNRRA.

Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece and Albania, on the other hand, not only have suffered greatly at the hands of the enemy in the course of the war, but they are almost entirely without foreign exchange or credit resources. Consequently, to date they have been the chief object of UNRRA activity.

UNRRA had undertaken a program of \$50,000,000. in Italy to provide for help and care of children and expectant or nursing mothers.

Italy, since her participation in the war as a co-belligerent with the United Nations, has contributed substantially in both manpower and facilities to Allied victory, becoming at the same time one of the most severely contested battlefields of the war. The destitution and needs there are appalling. Italy has virtually no foreign exchange resources and without the aid of UNRRA the country might well lapse into starvation.

UNRRA has also assisted in the care and repatriation of millions of Allied victims of Axis aggression who were deported to and enslaved in Germany. It has

This news digest is a service for members of the UNRRA Greece mission. Its purpose is purely informational. It does not reflect mission policy. The aim is to summarize the daily news & comment about UNRRA and matters pertinent to the relief program for Greece or of interest to staff members.

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initiated a preliminary program of assistance to China.

By the end of the year, UNRRA anticipates that all funds which will be made available to it from all sources in accordance with the original contributions will have been spent or encumbered. The flow of supplies purchased with these funds cannot last beyond early spring.

The end of the war with Japan has made it possible to estimate the relief requirements of China and other Far Eastern areas. The reports of the European harvest of 1945 reveal a serious shortage of all types of foodstuffs.

China presents the largest of all relief responsibilities which UNRRA now faces. With inadequate supplies and resources it has struggled bravely for eight years to combat the enemy as well as the ravages of famine, disease and inflation. Other programs are required for Korea and Formosa, two areas of the Far East which are now being restored to the peaceful ranks of the United Nations after decades of Japanese oppression and extortion.

UNRRA proposes extension of aid to Austria. This proposal is in accordance with the Moscow and Potsdam declarations by the major powers to the effect that Austria should be treated independently of Germany and encouraged to resume the free and peaceful role which it played before being invaded by Hitler's legions.

A limited program of aid is also intended for the Soviet Republics of White Russia and the Ukraine. These areas constituted principal battlefields in the struggle between Russia and Germany. They were the scene of some of the worst German atrocities, devastation and pillage.

Recommended additional contributions will hardly suffice to permit UNRRA to meet the most urgent and immediate needs for relief and rehabilitation for which it is responsible. We hope to fulfill a substantial part of this contribution through the use of military and Lend-Lease supplies which have become surplus since the surrender of our enemies.

I know that America will not remain indifferent to the call of human suffering. This is particularly true when it is suffering on the part of those who by sacrifice and courage kept the enemy from the realizing of early victories and from bringing his military might to bear upon our own shores.

UNRRA is the chosen instrument of 47 nations to meet the immediate relief and rehabilitation needs of invaded countries.

UNRRA is the first of the international organizations to operate in the postwar period, one which the United States originally sponsored and in which it has played a leading part. Apart from purely humanitarian considerations, its success will do much to provide the possibility of establishing order and cooperation in a world finally at peace.

I therefore request Congress to authorize a new appropriation of \$1,350,000,000. for participation in the activities of UNRRA.

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#### DISCUSS SHIPMENT OF CLOTHING TO THESSALONIKI

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning) Conserv.  
"KATHIMERINI NEA" (Morn.) Democr.  
"EMIROS" (Morning) Conservative.

Athens (14 November):--The Joint Committee will meet today at the Ministry of Supply and will discuss the shipment of clothing and cloth to Thessaloniki, Calamata, Volos, Chanea, Iraklion, Patras and Ioannina for distribution there. Another problem to be discussed is the supply of Athens-Piraeus shops with further quantities of clothing for distribution to the 6th and 7th categories of wage-earners. 250,000 wage-earners have received their clothing and there remain another 125,000. The pensioners and unemployed, estimated to amount to 220,000, will receive their clothing in December.



GREEK AND FOREIGN EXPERTS  
CONFER ON ECONOMIC SITUATION

From: All Papers.

Athens (15 November):--Repeated conferences took place at the Ministry of Finance yesterday, which were attended by the Ministers of Finance, National Economy and Supply and the foreign experts Mr. Davidson, British Treasury Advisor, who is accompanying Mr. MacNeil, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Messrs. Hill, Rankin and Lingeman, economic advisors of the American and British Embassies, and the UNRRA representatives, Messrs. Lippincott, Coombs and White. Mr. Maben, Chief of UNRRA Greece Mission, being ill did not attend. During these conferences discussions were carried out on the public finance and supply situation, as well as the determination of the forthcoming assistance from the Allies.

When the conferences were concluded, the Minister of Finance made the following statements:

"All current problems have been regulated in detail and in absolute agreement of all parties concerned.

"The rumors that the Government's program is meeting with opposition on the part of one or another of the Allied organizations are completely vicious and false. They are being circulated by various profiteers."

Winding up his statement, the Minister said characteristically, "He laughs best, who laughs last".

We have been authoritatively informed that the principal subjects discussed by the experts during the conferences was the economic questions, especially the question of the release of the Greek Government deposits in pounds sterling, which are deposited abroad to the credit of the Greek State against the expenditures in drachmae of British Armed Forces in Greece. This sum amounts to £,500,000 pounds.

During the conference Mr. Davidson requested detailed particulars on the budget, which he studied and found satisfactory. He advised that the issuing of more currency should be avoided if stability and balancing of the budget were to be achieved.

The matter of allocating the supplies which arrive from abroad was also taken up. According to information, the Government is considering the free allocation of supplies to industry and commerce, because there are no sufficient quantities for general distributions throughout the country.

Indicative of the outcome of the conferences is last night's announcement by the Minister of Supply, Mr. Kypriades, to the Press:

"Beginning tomorrow we shall open the warehouses and we'll offer, at the new prices, the raw materials, such as cotton, tin, etc. to the merchants and industrialists, in order to crush the black market".

Price and Allocation  
of UNRRA Supplies

First among the questions discussed yesterday, came that of prices and the method of allocating UNRRA supplies. Both Mr. Davidson and the Embassies' economic advisors agreed that it was necessary to raise the prices. The Government maintains that the prices should be increased by a percentage which will secure the income provided for in the new budget. A conference on this question took place last night between the Ministers of National Economy and Supply and the various department Chiefs of the "Ef-Ex" Service (Service for the allocation of imports from abroad) for the purpose of drawing up a table of increases in price of all kinds of supplies. During this conference the prices which will be brought today before the Allied Economic Representatives for approval, were determined. They will be announced before the end of the day.

According to unconfirmed information, which we pass on with all reservations, it was decided in principle that the price of the bread ration be fixed at 30 drs. As regards other supplies, such as food, etc., the prices will be increased by 100% to 150%.

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Certain reservations were expressed by the UNRRA representatives on the question of an excessive increase in the price of supplies, since UNRRA, bringing in these supplies free of charge, is bound by its charter and by the very nature of its purpose to guard against that very thing. In any event, it is hoped that the percentages of increase will be approved today and announced immediately after.

Regarding the method of allocation of supplies, the discussion will continue today. It is hoped that an understanding will be reached before the day is over. Concerning this question, as Mr. Kypriades stated in his announcement, the Government's intention is to sell a certain amount, so that a certain amount of the currency now in circulation will be withdrawn and so that market stocks may be replenished. This, Mr. Kypriades believes, will result in a drop in prices. However, no one can know what decisions will be taken when the discussions are resumed today. Most probably, the goods to be sold will be those that are in quantities too small for a general distribution. The method of sale has also not been decided as yet.

#### Exchange for Imports From Abroad.

The Bank of Greece issued the following announcement yesterday:

"The Bank of Greece will publish a circular tomorrow on the basis of which all details concerning the procedure to be followed for the granting of foreign exchange will be determined.

"In this manner all branches of the Bank throughout Greece will immediately be in a position to satisfy the huge number of applications which are submitted daily for granting exchange for imports."

Following the bill passed by the Cabinet regarding the setting up of a Supreme Imports Committee, a joint decision was signed yesterday by the Ministers of Finance and National Economy whereby goods imported into Greece from abroad are classified in the following categories:

Category A: Foodstuffs, fodder, books, magazines and newspapers, with an additional charge on the rate of foreign exchange granted of 2,200 drs. per pound sterling and 550 drs. per dollar.

Category B: Raw materials, leather, fuel, with an additional charge of 2,500 drs. per pound sterling and 625 drs. per dollar.

Category C: All commodities other than those mentioned in the above two categories, with an additional charge of 3,000 drs. per pound sterling and 750 drs. per dollar.

In case there is any doubt as to which category the goods to be imported belong, the Supreme Imports Committee will be called upon to decide. The Supreme Committee may, by special decisions, classify certain goods in a category other than in the one in which they appear above. The additional charge mentioned above is payable by the importer in full or in part, simultaneously with the full or partial payment of the value of the exchange granted and in the same proportion.

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#### ANNOUNCE NEW RESTRICTION IN USE OF ELECTRIC CURRENT

From: All Papers.

Athens (15 November):--Supplementing the restrictions on the use of electric current announced last Tuesday, the Ministry of Transport stated that it has been informed by the Company that electric current will be supplied from early morning till 2:00 p.m. every other day during the week, except Sundays.

Violations of the announced restrictions will be punished by closing down during the afternoon hours of the offending shops and offices. A bill has been drawn up authorizing the Minister of Transport to impose restrictions locally on the use of electric current, to determine the manner and hours during which current will be supplied and to order the discontinuance of the supply to certain categories of consumers. The Minister is also given the authority to fine violators with a fine of 1,000 to 1,000,000 drs. or to stop the supply of electric current temporarily or permanently.



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 194

Athens

Friday, 16 November 1945

### DISCUSSIONS ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS TO END TOMORROW

From: All Papers.

Athens (16 November):--According to information the discussions between the Prime Minister and the appropriate Ministers and the British officials on the economic question showed no further development as the British Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. McNeil, was chiefly engaged on political matters.

At the meetings held yesterday, views were exchanged on secondary questions. It was officially announced that final decisions on the economic matters in general would be taken by tomorrow evening, when an official announcement would be issued.

Following his first talks which enabled him to become acquainted with the situation, Mr. McNeil, it was made known, asked for certain instructions from London to carry on negotiations.

Governmental circles were optimistic yesterday regarding the outcome of the economic negotiations that are directed towards the granting of credits and the lifting of the restrictions on our foreign exchange reserves. In the meantime the Government is continuing its work towards the settling of the internal economic questions which have been included in its program. First among these is the manner of the allocation of free trade and the prices of UNRRA supplies.

On this point we are informed that the representatives of UNRRA had originally expressed certain reservations on the manner of allocation of the supplies, which however, have been lifted, following the intervention of official allied circles. Thus, UNRRA consented that the Ministry of Supply turns over to free trade quantities of the supplies. In connection with the quantities of cotton to be granted, it was decided that these be replaced later by the State. The manner in which the allocation will take place has not yet been made known.

According to the same information, metals, shoes, leather, cloth, caustic soda, agricultural and other machinery and various other supplies valued at millions of drachmas will be turned over to free trade. The Committee for supplies from abroad has already drawn up the relative lists giving the prices of each commodity in the international market, as well as in the Athens-Piraeus open market. The Ministry of Supply will determine the manner in which the commodities will be disposed of as well as the prices. The disposal of the above commodities by auction is under consideration but this system presents difficulties as there will be large numbers of offers from those interested. It is more probable that the supplies will be turned over to organizations of merchants, tradesmen, professionals, etc., to be distributed to their members at fixed prices.

The Ministry of Supply issued the following announcement: "The conflicting information published in the morning newspapers regarding the manner of distributing supplies is inaccurate. It is true that conferences were held throughout the day yesterday by the Ministers and the various State services and the foreign officials. There was complete agreement. The Ministry is drawing up the country's food and supply program which will be announced officially within the next few days. Our purpose is to expedite the equitable distribution of supplies. The first measures to be taken today and tomorrow will be announced through a statement signed either by the Minister or the Under-Secretary."



MR. ROWNTREE EXPLAINS  
OPERATIONS OF FOOD DIVISION

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (16 November):--Mr. A. W. Rowntree, Director of the Food Division, UNRRA Greece Mission, spoke to members of the H.Q. staff on the functions of his Division. He traced the work done from the time when requirements are assessed, through their procurement, shipment and arrival in Greece and up to their final distribution.

The Food Division, said Mr. Rowntree, advises the Greek Government of the quantities of foodstuffs which must be imported in order to provide a diet which, together with locally produced commodities, will reach a value of 2000 calories per day. The Agriculture and Fisheries Division of the Mission assists by furnishing crop estimates etc., for the next six or twelve month periods, on the basis of which the import programs are drawn up.

The requirements program is submitted to Washington six or twelve months in advance and on the basis of this program the appropriate bureaux go forward with their procurements in accordance with supply and finance limitations, and taking also into consideration the claims of other nations, all of which cause very considerable alteration in the original requirements program.

So far as possible, Washington advises the Mission of the availability of supplies and gives advance information of procurement. However, said Mr. Rowntree, in actual fact it is frequently impossible to know what supplies are going to be received until the boats have arrived or nearly reached Greek ports.

Mr. Rowntree explained that there are always difficulties because of the fact that only 5 ports in Greece are at present capable of unloading ocean going ships and thus transshipments on a very large scale are necessary.

When foodstuffs arrive they are transferred to warehouses under the control of the Greek Agricultural Bank and are released for transshipment or distribution on the order of the Ministry of Supply, in accordance with ration scales drawn up by the Food Division and submitted to the Ministry of Supply for their agreement. The ration scales are compiled on the basis of actual stocks in the country and not on anticipated receipts. Occasionally, however, said Mr. Rowntree, when "cushion stocks" have disappeared, it is necessary to rely on future arrivals to honor a part of the commitments. Mr. Rowntree stressed the fact that this is a most unsatisfactory method and should be avoided if at all possible.

In preparing the ration scales, requirements are assessed taking into account availabilities of local foodstuffs. For example, wheat-producing regions do not get wheat, nor do olive-oil producing regions receive any fat rations, and so forth. On the question of rationing, Mr. Rowntree explained that the system here differs from the one used in Great Britain and the United States. In Greece, the grocer works under the Distribution Committee, being responsible to see that supplies are distributed equitably and in accordance with the current ration program, to the individual recipients. However, as distances from villages to distribution centers vary, transportation costs also vary in proportion and this results in different selling prices for different villages. This is a difficulty now being dealt with by the Food Division.

Another function of the Food Division, explained Mr. Rowntree, is to advise through its Milling Section the Government on all questions related to milling, such as extraction rates, yield of bread, disposal of milling by-products, control of mills and bakeries, etc. Another section of the Division is responsible for all matters pertaining to fats, olive oil and soap.

The Food Division is also interested in the control of all industries concerned in the processing or packing of foodstuffs, for example, canning and smoking of fish, manufacture of chocolate, extraction of glucose, and a number of other industries. In collaboration with the Industrial Rehabilitation Division it is hoped that the government may be able to institute a close control on a number of these industries which will enable them gradually to replace imported foodstuffs by commodities processed locally.

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INCREASES BUS FARES  
AND FREIGHTS

From: All Papers.

Athens (16 November):--By decision of the Minister of Transport, fares and freights for private bus itineraries in Athens, Piraeus, and suburbs have been increased as of yesterday. Freights and fares for inter-urban lines are also increased.

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TO REPAIR GRAIN SILOS  
IN PIRAEUS

From: "HEMERIKON AIMA"  
(Morning) Royalist;  
"EKLLOS"  
(Morning) Conservative

Athens (16 November) Mr. Demetropoulos, Minister of Public Works, announced that he has requested an appropriation of 110,000,000 Drachme to carry out repairs to the grain silos in the port of Piraeus.

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ORDERS OF EXCHANGE ALLOWED  
TO USE IN NC DEPOSITS.

From: "VELA" (Morning)  
Democratic

Athens (16 November):--By ministerial decision, it is determined that persons having foreign exchange deposited abroad may use it for payment of imports without being subject to payment of the additional charge imposed upon importers obtaining exchange from the Bank of Greece.

\* \* \* \* \*

TO IMPORT FOOT WEAR

From: All papers.

Athens (15 November):--According to an announcement by the Minister of National Economy it has been decided to import 200,000 pairs of ready-made shoes. These will be given to civil servants, employees of state subsidised agencies, bank employees, private employees and university students through their co-operatives.

The Ministry has invited the co-operatives to submit applications together with offers made by importers.. Employees in the provinces who do not belong to co-operatives may submit lists ratified by their supervising authority.

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CONTRACT ON CONSTRUCTION  
OF PUBLIC WORKS.

From: "HEMERIKON AIMA"  
(Morning) Royalist  
"EKLLOS" (Morning)  
Conservative  
"VELA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist

Athens (15 November) Mr. Demetropoulos, Minister of Public Works, conferred with UNRRA representatives on the question of road-building,



(continued from page 3)

bridge-building and the transport of indispensable machinery for the operation of the silos. The UNRRA representatives told the Minister that ready-built "Bailey" bridges will arrive shortly, as well as the necessary machines for the silos. The question of the repair of the Athens-Salonica automobile road, many sections of which are in frightful condition, was also discussed.

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REPAIRS TO ELECTRICITY PLANT SATISFACTORY,  
SAYS MINISTER OF TRANSPORT.

From "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (15 November):--The conference between the Prime Minister, the Minister of Transport and other authorities on the question of repairing the electric power plant machinery was continued today.

This morning the Minister explained his satisfaction on the progress of the repair work and he stated that one of the three totally useless boilers will be repaired within a fortnight.

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DISTRIBUTION OF EDIBLE  
OIL BEGINS TODAY.

From: All papers.

Athens (16 November):--The grocers have taken delivery of their share of seed-oil and its distribution to the public will commence today.

The price is 125 drachmae per ration of 100 drama ( $\frac{1}{2}$  oke)

TO LEVY HEAVY TAX ON PURCHASERS OF  
REAL ESTATE DURING OCCUPATION

From: "HELLENIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist.

Athens (16 November):--According to reliable information, the Government is considering to levy a heavy taxation on those who bought real estate during the occupation.

According to the same information, the new taxation will be progressive in proportion with the value of the real estate involved. It may amount to as much as 80-90% of the property's value.

The Ministry of Finance announces that, following the publication of Compulsory Law No. 273, all physical or legal parties subject to the special taxation on those who amassed wealth during the occupation, are obliged before the 20th instant to submit to the local Economic Ephors statements on their gains and to pay the tax.

Naturally, all physical or legal parties who undertook to carry out various projects for the occupation authorities, who bought real estate, ships, automobiles or other vehicles, gold coins, gold, jewelry; who established or extended enterprises and who bought shares and checks in foreign currency during the occupation come under this obligation. The assessment will be judged on the basis of the gains realized from October 1940 up to the end of 1944, evaluated in drachmae and after the amount of 500,000 drs. has been deducted. Most severe penalties will be applied for all violators, which besides the fines involved, consist of imprisonment, closing of the violator's shop, deprivation of rent-moratorium benefits. His fortune will be liquidated and he will be deported with the rest of his family.

The importers of merchandise from abroad during the occupation do not come under the above provisions since they came under another taxation.

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 195

Athens

Saturday, 17 November 1945

### GREAT BRITAIN TO GIVE £75,000,000 FOR UNRRA

From: "A. G. I. S."  
Anglo-Greek Information Service.

London (16 November):--Declaring that UNRRA needed more money if it was not to collapse in the near future, Mr. Noel Baker, Minister of State told the House of Commons today the British Government proposed to give another 75, 000, 000 sterling to UNRRA. UNRRA, he said, was not charity but enlightened self-interest. If international trade could be got going three months sooner than otherwise, Britain would make a handsome dividend on the money she put in. If epidemics could be stopped it was good business, but it also had a moral purpose. "The Government by their action and example are resolved that UNRRA must not and shall not fail," he added.

Mr. Noel Baker was speaking in the debate on UNRRA's aid for Europe during which criticism was expressed of its organisation.

One speaker, Flight Lieutenant Hairo, Labour, said Hungary was completely devoid of food and he had seen people in Vienna starving.

Mr. Noel Baker replied that a commission was going to Austria to study the whole problem. He said UNRRA was playing a great part where the situation was at its worst. Most complaints of waste, extravagance and inefficiency were proved to have no foundation and nearly all were grossly exaggerated or capable of some other explanation.

UNRRA health services at the end of September included 1000 hospitals with more than 1000 doctors and a great many nurses and sanitary engineers. (REUTER)

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### UNRRA A GREAT FACTOR IN GREEK RECOVERY, SAYS McNEIL

From: "UNION JACK"  
British Military.

Athens (17 November):--Mr. Hector McNail, Britain's Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, who is in Greece carrying out a personal examination of the situation, has told the Greeks that Britain would always do whatever she could to help them.

The Under Secretary, who was speaking at a dinner given in Athens by the Government, reminded the people of Greece how Britain had already helped them.

He said: "I want to recall to your people, because I am certain I don't need to recall to any members of this Government, some instances of how we have been prepared physically and materially to help our Greek friends.

"In 1941 when, as my friends know, my country was not exactly affluent, we scraped the bottom of the barrel to lend them 46 million pounds, not for commercial purposes, I say at once, but to finance the magnificent Greek war effort. Even

(Continued on Page 2)



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today I believe Greece still has 26 million pounds of that original 46 million.

"Since then we have supplied the equipment and the maintenance for the Greek armed forces without charge. In addition there have been the UNRRA supplies which I know my friends don't think sufficient, but without which they could hardly have sustained life in their country. These supplies have been very substantial in volume and have for considerable periods exceeded pre-war imports into Greece.

"Naturally I want here to pay tribute to the generosity of the United States as the largest contributor to UNRRA.

"I draw attention to this not because we gloat in it, and not because we think Greece has had all she needs - far from it - but because I want, as I said, to remind people outside that even when we have been very hard pressed indeed, we have never forgotten our Greek friends and never will". (AGIS)

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BRITISH OFFICIALS AWAIT THEIR GOVERNMENT'S  
DIRECTIONS ON GREEK ECONOMIC SITUATION

From: All Papers.

Athens (17 November):--Yesterday morning the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance conferred in the British Embassy with Mr. McNeil, British Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Davidson, Economic Advisor at the British Treasury and other British experts. During this conference the foreign officials were fully informed of the public finance and monetary conditions of the country. They also had the opportunity to hear the final opinions of the Greek Government about the way and the means to be used to confront the economic crisis.

Later, the Under Secretary for Supply also arrived at the British Embassy to place before the British officials full particulars on the conditions in Greece from the supply viewpoint. It is clear from these particulars that UNRRA supplies are not sufficient to cover the requirements of the country. It is absolutely necessary that imports be increased and especially facilitated from the allied side.

Both Mr. McNeil and Mr. Davidson considered it advisable to inform their government of these particulars and to request further directions from London. Following this, the discussions on the economic subjects will be resumed as soon as the expected directions arrive.

When the conferences come to an end, possibly tomorrow or Monday, an official communique will be issued announcing the results and perhaps new economic measures.

What Greece expects  
From The Allies

In the meantime the economic situation was even graver yesterday, as manifested by a sharp and unaccountable raise in the price of the gold sovereign to 60,000 drs. and by the serious increase in the prices of foodstuffs and other goods. Many items were hidden.

The general opinion is that the aggravation of the situation is due to unfavorable conclusions drawn from Mr. McNeil's speech regarding the intentions of the Allies on the question of economic assistance.

On the Government's side, however, it was stressed that this attack was launched by persons or groups who moved by profiteering or political motives, manage to neutralize the favorable psychological atmosphere created by the Government's economic measures. The Government, however, retains all its optimism regarding the favorable development of the situation.

According to information from reliable sources, the whole question can be summed up as follows:

(Continued on Page 3)



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The chief purpose of Mr. McNeil's visit to Greece is to find a way of facing the economic crisis in Greece. The Government has had the opportunity to give the British Minister particulars on the whole economic problem in Greece in full detail. He discovered that, as was the case with the Economic Advisory Council, no effort was made to acquaint and inform the Allies of the country's economic problems and economic claims. That is, the country went through a period during which there was a tendency to conceal its requirements.

Today the Government found its opportunity to address itself to the Governments of Great Britain and the United States and to ask for their assistance, as well as to point out the measures by which it would be possible to face the situation. In other words, according to reliable information, it has been requested that credits be opened abroad and that the import of merchandise to Greece be facilitated. In addition, the matter of regulating the question of money withdrawals by the Bank of Greece for the requirements of the British Forces in Greece has been discussed. The Government hopes that concise answers will be given, so that specific measures may be announced in the Communiqué.

#### Imports and UNRRA Supplies

The Government in the meantime is continuing its efforts to organize a system of imports. Beginning yesterday the Bank of Greece is issuing foreign exchange and it has dispatched directions to all its branch offices to facilitate importers. The Government believes that the importers will be prompt in buying goods. By issuing exchange, by the rapid allocation of UNRRA supplies and a few other measures, it hopes to succeed in withdrawing a certain amount of the circulating currency.

Regarding the allocation of UNRRA supplies, it has been learned that UNRRA has agreed to give its approval to the price list submitted by the Ministry of Supply. In this way it will be possible to raise an income which will be adequate enough, so that there will be no more resorting to the printing press in order to cover budget expenses.

Conferences are still going on concerning the allocation of supplies, especially raw materials. It is hoped that decisions on this matter will also be announced soon.

The following has been announced from reliable sources regarding the budget:

It was drawn up on the basis of the internal buying value of the drachma, on the day it was submitted for approval. The budget is balanced and its exact execution will depend on the maintenance of the value of the drachma. Its most important items are: For salaries and pensions - 62 billion drs. Expenses for the Administration of UNRRA supplies - 35 billion. Public Welfare - 14 billion. Public Works - 12 billion. Administration - 5 billion. A reserve of 12 billion is also provided to cover any chance deficits which may appear. The chief income in the budget is 67 billion drs. which will represent the product from the sale of UNRRA supplies. The Government, as officially announced, is determined to safeguard the balancing of the budget against the attacks which are being launched for the purpose of undermining the value of the drachma and, consequently, upsetting this balance.

An official government source announces that no immediate improvement of the situation is expected, because all the government measures will begin to show results in due time. It was pointed out that within a few days considerable sums of money will begin to pour into public pay-offices and the Bank, so that a fall in prices may occur. In general, the Government is optimistic as regards the success of its measures.

#### Reconstitution of Economics Committee Is Not Considered

When asked if there was any intension of reconstituting the Economics Committee along the lines of the Foreign Affairs Committee by including representatives of the various political parties, the Prime Minister answered that no such proposal had been received from any of the parties, nor has such a question been considered.



RESTRICTIONS ON  
WATER TO CONTINUE

From: "ANAGHENISSIS" (Morning)  
Conservative  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative  
"HELLENIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist  
"EMPROS" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (17 November):--Mr. Demetrocopoulos, Minister of Public Works, announced that the water which has entered the Marathon Reservoir as a result of the heavy rainfall during the last two days amounts to 43,000 cubic meters. This figure plus the 25,000 cubic meters of water that entered the reservoir on the first day of rain brings the total up to 68,000 cubic meters, a quantity which suffices for the water consumption of three days. For this reason, the Minister stated that restrictions on water would continue.

Meanwhile the installation of pipes to conduct the waters of the Souli springs into the Marathon Reservoir are in progress. It is hoped that the pumps ordered from America will arrive in December, in which case as soon as the pumps are installed (in January) the waters will be conducted into the Marathon Reservoir and restrictions will be partly lifted.

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NESTOS RIVER OVERFLOWS  
FLOODING VILLAGES.

From: "ANAGHENISSIS" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Thessalonika (16 November):--The heavy rainstorm caused the Nestos River to overflow. The waters totally flooded the villages of Monastriraki, Nea Karya and Keranisti.

The inhabitants had to climb up trees and on to the roofs of their homes in order to escape the waters.

The Nestos River fisheries have been completely destroyed and it is estimated that the damages inflicted amount to many million drachmae.

Mr. Kotoulos, representative of the Governor General, accompanied by a relief team, rushed to the flooded district.

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ANNOUNCES NEW PRICES  
FOR NOVEMBER RATIONS

From: All papers.

Athens (17 November):-- According to an official announcement, prices of the November rations which will begin to be distributed on Monday have been increased as follows:-- Sugar, 80 dramia at 100 drs per ration; flour (farina), 200 dramia, 60 drs; peas, 200 dramia, 50 drs; and pastes, 1½ okes at 240 drs. per ration.

The distribution of the above goods will have been completed by November 25. The Ministry is taking steps to carry out two more distributions around the end of the month. Furthermore the Ministry of Supply is making every effort, with UNRRA, to make the December ration scale as large as possible because of the holidays.

In the meantime, a new system of distribution is being studied regarding the various goods which are in the warehouses, such as clothing, shoes, auto tires, medical supplies and other first necessity goods. The accent will be on getting these goods to the popular classes as quickly as possible.

The Ministry of Supply announced that beginning today the bakers will not be allowed to issue flour instead of bread. For any back-issues of bread rations, those entitled to these issues may demand their delayed rations in flour. They will pay 7 drs. per ration.



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 196

Athens

Monday, 19 November 1945

### GREECE ASKS FOR CREDITS IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE

From: All Papers.

Athens (18 November):--According to reliable information yesterday's talks between the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and the British Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. McNeil, dealt chiefly with one Greek demand, namely, the granting to Greece of credits in cash and in kind as a partial advance against reparations.

The Government officials stressed the fact that Greece requests the Allied Governments of Great Britain and the United States to grant such credits, which would make possible the rehabilitation of the country, the reorganization of its economy and the partial coverage of State expenditures included in the Budget. This would in no way damage Allied interests, since the credits in question would be easily covered by the reparations to which Greece is undoubtedly entitled for the damages and destruction inflicted upon the country by the Germans, Italians and Bulgars.

The above was also announced to the governmental Economic Committee which met last night under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister and was attended by the Ministers of Finance, National Economy and Supply, the ex-Governors of the Banks, Messrs. D. Maximos, A. Diomedes, X. Zolotas and the present Governors of the National Bank and the Bank of Greece, Messrs. G. Pasmazoglou and Mantzavinos. The ex-Ministers of Supply and National Economy of the Voulgaris Cabinet, Messrs. Paraskevopoulos and Mavrikis, were also present.

The introductory talks were made by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance. The members of the Committee unanimously and unreservedly applauded the Government's policy and approved the manner and means whereby the Government sought to convince Mr. McNeil that Greece's claim must be fulfilled if the economic, currency and public finance stability of the country is to be secured.

A discussion on the possibilities of stabilizing the drachma followed, during which the members of the Committee put forth their views. The bank situation was then dealt with. Owing to the curtailment of banking business the banks are unable to meet their expenses. It was decided that the Bank of Greece give the right of administering part of the foreign exchange which the Government eventually approves for imports, to the National Bank of Greece, as well as to other smaller Banks.

In this connection, we are informed, the Prime Minister was highly satisfied to find the Advisory Committee entirely in accord as regards the handling of the economic question and the presentation of the just Greek claims to the Allies by the Prime Minister himself.

On the other hand, during the talks with Mr. McNeil, the Cabinet, as well as the majority of the leaders of the political parties, who conferred also with Mr. McNeil, made certain that the economic problem, as outlined above, was fully understood by the British Government, and this is considered a most favorable omen for the final outcome of the negotiations.

Speaking to representatives of the press last night, the Prime Minister

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made the following statement:

"The Government firmly believes that the situation will develop satisfactorily because a complete understanding exists on the part of the Allies."

The above statement was made in reply to a question put by a newspaperman as to whether there was any truth to the rumours concerning the imminent resignation of the Government due to the refusal of Great Britain to assist Greece. The statement, therefore, proves conclusively the Cabinet's optimism and its future stand, which will depend upon the adequate fulfillment of Greece's economic demands so that the situation will be improved.

The Prime Minister has communicated twice since Thursday with the Regent, whom he has kept informed on the development of the economic negotiations and the governmental views thereon.

The reply from the British Government will probably arrive today or tomorrow at the latest, when Mr. McNeil will again meet with the Prime Minister to discuss it. It is believed that an official communique will be issued by tomorrow evening.

The Minister of Finance announced yesterday that Greece's foreign exchange reserves are not restricted, but are at our disposal to be used at will. It should be noted that our sterling reserve in sterling areas had never been restricted, except that its export was prohibited. The same is true of our dollar reserve, which may be used freely in dollar areas but may not be exported. Thus, Greece has never lost its right to dispose of its sterling and dollar reserves freely in sterling and dollar areas respectively.

Both the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance expressed their confidence that the increase in the exchange rate of the sovereign is of a temporary nature and that it is possible to be controlled.

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SAYS UNRRA WILL CONTINUE ITS  
TASK UNTIL END OF 1946

From: "HELLINIKON AIMA" (Morning)  
Royalist.

London (17 November) (Special Service):--In an editorial today the "TIMES" touches on the question of European relief, saying that although the task is gigantic it has been ensured to a reasonable degree that UNRRA at least will be able to carry on its work until the end of next year. Until then, if endurable political conditions prevail and more or less normal harvests are ensured, the present crisis may be overcome.

"But neither UNRRA nor the Allied Military Governments, says the paper, can fight the various Nations' battles for survival against all kinds of privations, unless their efforts are backed by Public Opinion. It is on these governments that the greatest burden will fall. It is up to them to prevent, in Germany and Japan, the double threat of epidemics and social chaos. The contention that the burden should fall on those who lead the world into the present situation is quite absurd. Neither disease nor social disruption could be possibly limited within the boundaries of the countries where there is danger that they will first appear.

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TAKES MEASURES FOR  
PROTECTION OF TREES

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon) Royalist.

Athens (17 November);--The Appropriate department of the Ministry of Agriculture is making every effort to help in the development of the various nurseries for trees in the Athens area.

In the meantime, to protect whatever greenery has been left, grazing, especially for goats, will be strictly forbidden in Attica during the winter period.

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FIX NEW PRICES FOR  
VEGETABLES AND FRUIT

From: "KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative;  
"HELLINIKON ADMA" (Morning)  
Royalist;  
"ANAGHENISSIS" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (18 November):--The competent department of the Market Inspection Police attached to the Ministry of Supply, issued a weekly price list for vegetables and fruit, which will come into effect as of tomorrow, Monday. The prices which have been fixed are as follows:

Vegetables: Greens, 90 - 120 drs. per oke; cabbage, 180 drs.; eggplant, 320 drs.; tomatoes, 330 drs.; potatoes, 360 drs.; sweet potatoes, 200 drs.; squash, 160-170 drs.; cauliflower, 290 drs.; onions, 200 drs.; red beet, 90 drs.; leeks, 130 drs.; peppers, 240 drs.; dandelions, 116-130 drs.; radishes, 90 drs.; celery, 180 drs.; string-beans, 250 -340 drs.; carrots, 180 drs.; spearmint, 100 drs.; garlic, 8-20 drs. each; lemons, 25 drs. each.

Fruit: Pears, 660 drs. per oke; Cretan chestnuts, 420 drs.; various kinds of chestnuts, 390 drs.; quinces, 170-220 drs.; apples 480-550-580 drs.; sour apples, 390 drs.; oranges, 45 drs. each; pomegranates, 290 drs.; grapes 480 drs.; tangerines, 30 drs. each.

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TO ALLOCATE 60 MILLION DRS.  
FOR HARBOR REPAIR WORK

From: "EMEROS" (Afternoon)  
Conservative;  
"ANAGHENISSIS" (Morning)  
Conservative;  
"ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (18 November):--A credit of 60 million drachmae will be allocated for reconstruction work in the harbors of Volos, Katakolon, Preveza, Tinos, Chalkis, Nauplion, Kalamata, Styliis, Gythion and Vathy (Samos).

Furthermore, repairs have been completed at the 29 kilometer point of the Athens-Larissa railway line. In one month, the line will be repaired up to the 36th kilometer, so that it will be possible to start a regular railway service from Athens to Dadi and Chalkis.

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SWALLOWS GOLD SOVEREIGNS  
TO DESTROY EVIDENCE

From: "VEMA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Thessaloniki (17 November) (By our correspondent):--Police caught Char. Hadjipetrou red-handed today at the moment he was negotiating the sale of gold sovereigns. In order to destroy the evidence, Hadjipetrou swallowed the gold pounds and is now being held until he is delivered of the superfluous weight in his stomach. Then the case will go to the District Attorney.

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CARGO OF TUNNY FISH  
ARRIVES FROM TURKEY

From: All Papers.

Athens (18 November):--The Turkish motor vessel "OUTS GILDIZ" arrived at Piraeus yesterday with 9000 5-oke tunny fish (fresh) which were disposed of to the public at 640 drachmae per oke.

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COMMITTEE FOR SURVIVAL OF  
PEOPLE OF ATHENS MEETS

From: "ELEFTHERI ELLADA" (Afternoon)  
EAM.

Athens (17 November):--The Committee "for the Survival of the People of Athens" submitted copies of the Resolution, passed at its conference of the 25th October, to the Regent and the governmental authorities. The Committee also met with Mr. Lippincott, UNRRA Chief Liaison Officer, to whom it outlined the tragic food situation facing the people. Furthermore, the Committee took up various urgent questions, such as the prices of UNRRA foodstuffs, profiteering, the industrialization, distribution and control of raw materials, etc. It suggested that assisting the cooperatives and workers' organizations would be an effective measure for the solution of their problems.

The Committee will continue its efforts and will publicly accuse every one who undermines the life and health of the people.

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CHARGE LEAKAGE OF UNRRA  
SUPPLIES INTO BALKAN COUNTRIES

From: "KATHIMERINA NEA" (Morning)  
Democratic.

Athens (18 November):--There was information yesterday, which was brought to the attention of the Allied Authorities, that UNRRA supplies which had been turned over to the State for industrialization, have leaked out of Greece into Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. This information caused great surprise.

A detailed investigation will be carried out to discover the sources from which supplies destined for the relief of the Greek people are leaking out into the black market and thence into other Balkan countries.

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APPROVE SPECIAL GRANT TO  
WORKERS & OFFICE PERSONNEL

From: All Papers.

Athens (18 November):--A decree has been signed by the Ministers of Labor and Finance according to which a special financial assistance of 15,000 drachmas will be granted to the labor and office personnel, both permanent and temporary, of: the Enterprises coming under the Federation of Railway and Electricity Workers, the Telephone Company, Water Supply Company, Sewerage Company, Gas Supply Company, Electric Power Plants throughout Greece, all electricians employed at factories, institutions, Banks, Municipalities and Communities and the Piraeus Gas Company. All non-union laborers are also entitled to the above financial assistance.

The Minister of Labor will introduce the question of determining the basic salary and wage scale at today's session of the Council of Ministers.

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APPLICATIONS FOR IMPORT PERMITS  
RECEIVED IN LARGE NUMBERS

From: All Papers.

Athens (18 November):--According to an official announcement three to four thousand applications for the import of various goods have been submitted to date at the Ministry of National Economy. They are mainly applications for permits to import foodstuffs, condensed milk, raw materials and miscellaneous merchandise.

The Ministry's judging committee is working feverishly in order to attend to all applications. The applications which refer to small quantities will be approved by the Minister; the others will be passed on to the Government Committee.

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## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 197

Athens

Tuesday, 20 November 1945

### CLARIFIES QUESTION OF BRITISH CREDITS

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (20 November):--Late yesterday afternoon the following cable was received from London, transmitted by the Athens correspondent of REUTERS:

"REUTERS received the following information from Athens:

"According to current information the British Government has rejected the Greek Government's request of a loan for reconstruction. The Greek Government did not specify the sum, but asked for 'economic assistance on a larger scale, which would be used mainly for the immediate reconstruction of the country'.

"The British view on this request was made evident when Mr. McNeil, the British Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, speaking in Athens recently, reminded the Greek Government that Greece has still 25 million pounds sterling from the original loan of 46 million granted by Great Britain for the financing of the Greek War effort of 1941.

"According to the same information, Great Britain, while refusing the loan, offered to place at the Greek Government's disposal the advice of experts on all economic problems. It is possible that Great Britain may send an economic mission to help the Greek Government".

### Authoritative Announcements.

In connection with the above cable, and the statement of Mr. McNeil made during the dinner given four days ago in his honor, official Government source announced the following:

"The Government does not know whether its request for the granting of credits for reconstruction has been rejected. The writer of the cable obviously knows all about it. However, both Mr. McNeil and REUTERS made the same mistake, obviously because of erroneous suggestions, because Greece does not possess the exchange mentioned. Greece accepted the economic assistance of Great Britain after the beginning of the Greek-Italian war in order to meet its expenses. Great Britain opened credits for Greece. Originally it granted Greece one sum and then the grants were repeated every month, so that the total sum granted reached the 35 million pounds sterling. All this happened a few days before the late President Roosevelt announced the Lend-Lease law.

"These credits formed the basis upon which the Greek Government issued bank notes for financing the war. Later, Great Britain opened further credits of 10-11 million pounds sterling, which we had the right to use for buying war material for the war operations. The orders for the material were placed, but the ships never reached the Greek ports, because by then the front had collapsed. The British Government, not wishing to define the cargo as war spoils, requisitioned it, and deducted its value in favor of Greece.

(continued on page 2)



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"In any event, when in April 1941 the Tsouderos Government left Greece, there was a credit balance of 7-9 million pounds sterling. On March 8, 1942 the agreement regulating the relations of the Greek armed forces in the Middle East was made between the Greek and the British Governments. Britain undertook the responsibility to issue foodstuffs and supplies to the officers and men, and the Greek Government the responsibility of the officers' and men's pay and every other cash expenditure. Except for the credit balance and the taxation on the merchant marine, the Government had no other income.

"In March 1944, during the Tsouderos Government and shortly before the insurrection, the credit balance had been exhausted. When after the Lebanon Agreement Mr. Kanellopoulos became Minister of Finance, he took certain steps and entrusted to Messrs. Mantzavinos and Agnides to negotiate with the British Treasury, the granting of credits to Greece.

"At that time the Rimini Brigade was landing in Italy, and the Greek Navy and Air Force was continuously taking part in the war operations. Unfortunately, no credits were given, because Great Britain was not in a very good financial condition at that time. The war in Europe ended but the war in the Far East intensified. In an answering letter Mr. Eden suggested to the Greek Government to use the existing exchange reserve, which at the same time, was the drachma reserve. But this constituted the national wealth".

It has also been learned that the Prime Minister explained in detail to Mr. McNeil the whole case, when the latter stated that Greece has a balance of 25 million pounds sterling from the old credits. The British Under-Secretary gave no answer, and this gave the impression that he had understood fully the case.

Another official Government source stated last night that the impression should not exist that Greece has no need of economic assistance for its reconstruction, as some Greeks and foreigners claim. The Government economic program included seven points, all of which had been approved by the Allied experts. In that program the need of granting credits to Greece was clearly mentioned. The Government, however, continues to be optimistic regarding the final solution of the economic problem. It follows the general principles agreed upon and within this week it will take decisive steps for the application of its economic policy.

"Among the Government's aims", said a Government official, "is the recognition of the right of Greece to receive credits from the Allies".

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#### GOVERNMENT'S POSITION LINKED TO ECONOMIC PROBLEM

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (20 November):--The REUTERS cable, information from other sources and the two long meetings yesterday between the Regent, Mr. McNeil and Ambassador Leeper created an atmosphere of nervous tension. Rumours were circulating that the country was undergoing a new Government crisis and that even the Regency was not secure. These rumours have not been confirmed from any authoritative source.

In connection with the above there is the following information: During its formation, the Government placed clearly before the Regent, as well as before the British, the request for economic assistance for reconstruction, and stated that as far as the regular expenses are concerned, the State can meet them out of its own resources.

The Government found the Regent in complete accord. The British also expressed full understanding of the Greek request and, in collaboration with the British experts, the 7th point of the Government program was drawn up. It should be noted that the Government's view has the support of the Economic Committee and the political world. From the British side, however, it was stated that the details should be discussed with the then expected to arrive Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. McNeil.

(continued on page 3)



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When Mr. McNeil arrived, the country's economic situation was presented to him in full and it was stated to him that reconstruction would be impossible without the Allied assistance. Mr. McNeil recognized the seriousness of the situation. However, he did not conceal the fact that the British Treasury would find it difficult to grant such assistance. The Government then made it clear that what it requests is not the specific granting of aid by the British Treasury, but the recognition of Greece's right that recovery would be based on Allied assistance granted either by the United States or anyone member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. In order to secure such assistance the Greek Government requested the British Government's moral support. Mr. McNeil then asked his Government for advice. There was no official information as to whether <sup>any answer</sup> had been received and what that answer was. The only information was REUTERS cable.

#### The Regent's Intervention.

In the meantime, the unsettled condition prompted the Regent to get directly in touch with Mr. McNeil and Ambassador Leeper. At 11:30 a.m. both Mr. McNeil and Ambassador Leeper visited the Regent and conferred with him for three hours. The meeting was continued for another 1½ hour in the afternoon. Nothing has been announced concerning the result of these meetings. It can be said with certainty, however, that the Regent insisted that Greece needs absolutely allied assistance, otherwise, both the Government and the Regency would be placed in a critical position. According to other information yesterday's conversations dealt also with the political situation.

The fact that up to midnight the Government did not get in touch with the Regent was considered as an indication of the existing difficulties.

#### Mr. Kanellopoulos' Statement.

The Prime Minister, when asked whether the Government's position is connected with the Allied assistance for the solution of the economic problem, stated: "The Government's existence is connected with its national duty".

According to information from a government source the situation will be definitely cleared up within the day. The Prime Minister will meet this morning with the Regent and will be able then to make a full statement on the Government's position, which is really closely connected with the granting of Allied financial aid to Greece for the work of reconstruction. The Government circles are under the impression that the solution of the problem of Allied aid cannot but be in agreement with the recognition of the country's condition and the **resulting** undoubted needs.

In the meantime, it was announced that an allied source had suggested to the Regent that a "Center" Government would receive greater allied assistance. The rumour has not been confirmed.

#### The Prime Minister Meets With Mr. McNeil.

The Prime Minister met yesterday with Mr. McNeil at the house of Admiral Turner in Psychiko. During that meeting there was no discussion on the pending questions. Mr. McNeil informed only the Prime Minister that he will remain here as long as the Government needs his services.

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#### ANNOUNCE NEW SCALE FOR WAGES & SALARIES

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (20 November):--By a joint decision of the Minister of Labor and Finance, approved at Sunday's Cabinet meeting, minimum daily wages payable to workers and technicians employed on the basis of a private contract are fixed as follows; retro-active to 15th November:

Men: Chief technician and foreman, drs. 1,800; technician, 1,500 drs; skilled worker and assistant technician, 1,250 drs; unskilled worker, 1,000 drs; first apprentice, 675 drs; second apprentice, 550 drs.

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AHEPA DONATES 1000-BED  
HOSPITAL TO GREECE

From: "MAHI" (Morning)  
Socialist;  
"KATHIMERINI" (Morning)  
Conservative.

Athens (20 November):--A meeting took place yesterday noon at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, attended by the Prime Minister, the Mayors of Athens and Piraeus, representatives of the University, the Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Red Cross, the Medical Associations, etc. At the meeting, the Minister of Hygiene announced that the "AHEPA" (American-Hellenic Educational Progressive Association) in America has offered a complete 1000-bed hospital to the city of Athens. This hospital will be up-to-date and fully modernized. It will form a milestone, not only for Greece but for the Balkans as a whole. The expenses will be also covered by AHEPA for a number of years.

We have been informed that the site where the new hospital will be erected will be either Omorfi Eklissia (near Galatsi) or the Home for the Aged (near Psychiko).

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GREEK-AMERICANS AID  
UNIVERSITIES IN GREECE

From: UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE.  
American Official.

New York (November 17):--A shipment of five cases of electrical equipment for the Polytechnic Institute, sent by the Hellenic University Club of New York through the Greek War Relief, is to reach Greece shortly. The shipment which includes a 16 mm. film projector, is the first made possible as the result of the Club's national drive, inaugurated last October 15, to collect and purchase scientific instruments and books for the Universities of Athens and Salonika, the Polytechnic Institute, the Advanced School of Commerce, and other institutions which suffered losses under the occupation.

The material is selected on the basis of letters of appeal submitted by the heads of the various institutions and forwarded to the Hellenic University Club together with a letter of endorsement from the Minister of Education. Another shipment of five cases for the Polytechnic School is en route and the Club is now preparing a radiophysics laboratory for the Polytechnic, and medical and surgical supplies for the University of Athens.

The Hellenic University Club has a membership of 350 Greeks, or Americans of Greek descent, who hold university and college degrees. Similar professional clubs active in other American cities, including Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia and Los Angeles participated in the drive. The \$150,000 set as the goal of the campaign is being raised through appeals in the Greek press, in radio programs, and in churches, with the support of Archbishop Athenagoras.

The money collected is tax-free, as the Hellenic Club is coordinated with the Greek War Relief, which handles its shipping. Plans call for the purchase of much of the needed material from the U.S. Government's surplus war stocks.

The Club emphasizes that needs will be filled on the priority basis of "first come, first served" so that those schools whose appeals are received first will be the first to receive consideration. Among the members of the Club are Dr. John A. Levandis, president; Dr. Leonidas Lantzoounis of the Orthopedic Hospital of New York; Mr. Constantine Menis of the Edison Electric Company, and Dr. George Pappanicolaou, professor of bacteriology at Cornell University. -- USIS.

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# ACHESON, LEHMAN SUEK FUNDS FOR UNRRA

From: "UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE".  
American Official.

Washington (20 November):-- Under-Secretary of State Dean Acheson and Herbert H. Lehman, Director General of UNRRA, testified yesterday before the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee in support of a bill to authorize another \$1,350,000,000.

Mr. Acheson said, in part: "UNRRA is not just another agency which we can alter or discard to suit some temporary convenience, for it has become one of the foundation blocks of our whole effort to secure a functioning international organization. It was always recognized that the greatest part of the job would have to be done by the devastated peoples themselves; UNRRA could only supplement these efforts by providing from abroad essential imports which some of the countries lacked foreign exchange resources to provide for themselves. The magnitude of the war far exceeded our expectations and the destruction wrought by the enemy as well as the damage of battle caused by our own invading armies were more extensive than the world has ever known before.

"In addition, it has become urgently necessary, in the opinion of the Council of UNRRA, to widen the scope of its responsibilities. New programs have been authorized for Italy and Austria because of our determination to distinguish between those nations and Germany and Japan. Programs authorized for Korea and Formosa, until recently claimed as parts of the Japanese Empire, are great and will involve the expenditure of a large part of the funds now sought.

"Today the world is at peace, but the cessation of hostilities has not solved the problems of starvation and misery in lands which suffered the direct impact of war. We and our Allies have united through UNRRA to try to alleviate this suffering by common action and we are now in a position to accomplish that task. Together we have won the war. Surely we cannot afford to dissipate our unity and cooperation now that victory has been achieved. There is no question of need; the only question we face is whether we will make our contribution and join with other United Nations to meet that need.

"Mr. Lehman said that UNRRA's job was only 'half finished', and that its funds were exhausted 'at the most critical period of Europe's recovery'. Countries receiving UNRRA aid, he said, are not yet self-sustaining nor is their strength restored to the point where they can help themselves.

"We in the United Nations asked these peoples to blow up their bridges, wreck their railroad tracts and rolling stocks, burn their crops and sabotage their factory machinery to hasten victory", he continued. "They did not make such sacrifices during the war to die by starvation in peacetime. If hunger and epidemics should continue in Europe and the Far East, no one can foresee the political and social reaction, no one knows better than this committee that this is a critical time for international cooperation".

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## TO DISTRIBUTE OLIVE-OIL AND WHITE CHEESE

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (20 November):-- It has been decided to distribute 100 drams of olive-oil to the public at 125 drs. per ration. This distribution has nothing to do with the 100 drams of seed-oil. The children who possess children's ration cards will receive 150 drams of white cheese (feta) per ration-card at the price of 550 drs. per ration.

52 centers are being set up in the various neighborhoods for the exclusive sale of wine made from currants (stafiditis). Another 20 centers will be opened in Piraeus. This wine will be sold on presentation of the bread card and at a price fixed by the Ministry. This price will be 50 lower than the price of wine made from grapes.

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men: Technician, 1,250 drs; skilled worker, 1,000 drs; unskilled worker, 800 drs; first apprentice, 625 drs; second apprentice, 500 drs. Workers and technicians of enterprises which are not making use of their services owing to curtailment of business operations will receive 75% of the remuneration paid to those engaged in full time work. The above minimums may be increased by as much as 30% depending upon the quantitative and qualitative output in work of each employee. They are valid for the Attica area whereas in the remaining parts of the country they are fixed at 5% less.

By another decision of the above Minister which enters into force as of the 15th November, minimum basic monthly salaries of private employees and servants employed on the basis of a private contract are fixed as follows: (A) Private Employees and Servants: Employees aged 14-15 years, 23,600 drs; 16-17 years, 26,600 drs; 18-21 years, 29,500 drs. Employees over 21 years: with up to 2 years service, 29,500 drs; with 3-5 years service, 31,500 drs. with 6-8 years service, 35,000 drs. with 9-12 years service, 38,500 drs; with 13-16 years service, 41,000 drs; with 17-20 years service, 44,500 drs; with over 20 years service, 47,000 drs.

Servants (regardless of age): with up to 2 years service, 23,500 drs; with 3-5 years of service, 26,000 drs; with 6-8 years service, 30,500 drs; with 13-16 years service, 33,000 drs; with 17-20 years service, 35,500 drs; with over 20 years service, 38,500 drs. The term "servants" should be understood to include doormen, janitors, watchmen, messengers, charwomen, etc.

Scientific personnel (regardless of age): with up to 4 years service, 1,000 drs; with 5-8 years service, 45,500 drs; with 9-12 years service, 50,000 drs; with over 13 years service 54,000 drs. The term "scientific personnel" should be understood to include all salaried persons who are holders of a diploma of a higher school and are engaged in a service wherein the diploma of such an institution is necessary paper qualification or in which, though such a diploma may not be an indispensable paper qualification, nevertheless the duties carried out by the employee are in immediate relation to his educational training.

(B) Personnel of banks and enterprises of public utility which do not function on the basis of special organizational statutes, (depending on years of service): Employees: With up to 2 years service, 27,000 drs; with 3-5 years service, 29,000 drs; with 6-8 years service, 36,000 drs; with 9-12 years service, 40,000 drs; with 13-15 years service, 44,500 drs; with 16-18 years service, 47,000 drs; 19-21 years service, 50,000 drs; with over 21 years service, 52,000 drs.

In public utilities and banks where special internal statutes are legally in force, the basis for the determination of the minimum salaries payable to the higher employees are 27,000 and 25,000 drachmae for employees and servants respectively. However, the salary increases to be made according to the rank classification of the personnel will not exceed three times those limits, namely 81,000 drachmae for employee and 75,000 drs. for servants. The following are considered public utilities: The Electric Transport Co.; the Electric Power Co.; the Gas Co.; the Water Co.; the Sewer Co.; the Telephone Co.; the Piraeus Gas Co.; the steam railway companies operating in Greece, with the exception of the S.E.K. (Hellenic State Railways), the State Tram and Electric Companies of Thessaloniki and Trun Co. of Kalamata. To the above minimum or basic salaries there will be added a family allowance of 10% for a wife and 5% for each child up to three children. Persons working up to 3 1/2 hours daily will receive 70% of the determined salaries. Persons not working owing to lack or curtailment of business will receive 75% of the remuneration paid to those working full time. Salaries will be paid twice a month. As regards the computation of an employee's past service, this will include his service with any employer - not excluding the State. The minimum salaries stated above may be increased by up to 30% at the most, depending upon the quantitative and qualitative output of each employee.

In reply to a question on the newly determined wages and salaries, Mr. Katavolos, Minister of Labor, stated that the Government is well aware of the fact that the question is by no means completely solved, but that the measures taken constitute the basis on which the matter will be settled. The Government will improve the conditions of the salaried people by granting them commodities through their cooperatives. A special committee is being set up for the purpose of following up prices and, whenever necessary, of readjusting wages and salaries. Apart from the above, a legislative measure was also taken at Sunday's Cabinet meeting, whereby the failure on behalf of the employer to pay salaries and wages on time is considered a penal violation and is treated accordingly.

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#### TOP PRESS WEEK GOVERNMENT SUMMITS RE RESIGNATION

From: All Afternoon Papers.

Athens (20 November):--The Prime Minister, Mr. Kanellopoulos, visited this morning the President and submitted his Government's resignation. Later he issued the following statement: "The Government has submitted its resignation this morning. I believe that the solution of the Governmental problem, beneficial to the country, especially from the economic point of view, is in the process of being formed. I hope that all the political parties, which have the Nation's interest at heart, irrespective of their political beliefs, will wish to rise above party politics and contribute towards the country's salvation".



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 128

Athens

Wednesday, 21 November 1945

### GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY TO BE FORMED BY MR. SOFOULIS

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (21 November):--The Government crisis which broke out yesterday morning culminated in Mr. Themistocles Sofoulis, leader of the Liberal Party, accepting a general mandate to form a Government of National Unity, as it was described in the British note, submitted two days ago to the Regent by Sir Reginald Leeper, British Ambassador. Mr. Sofoulis acceptance was announced by Mr. Hector McNeil, British Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, at a press conference last night. Mr. Tsouderos is to be Minister-Coordinator of Economic Policy in the new Cabinet, on whose program reconstruction has the first priority.

A semi-official statement, issued last night by the Regency, says:

"His Beatitude the Regent invited all the former Prime Ministers and appealed to their patriotism to form a representative government. After this he gave a general mandate to Mr. Sofoulis, as the oldest of all, to form a representative Government, expressing the wish that this Government would embrace, if possible, the whole political world."

Mr. Sofoulis, accepting the mandate, stated that he will try immediately to form his Government and submit to the Regent the names of his Ministers today. Mr. Sofoulis stated that, both as a formality and also because he thinks that the Populist Party must take part in the Government, he will get in touch with its Administrative Council and will try to induce it to participate. However, Mr. Sofoulis said that since he accepted the British note, the postponement of the Plebiscite forms an integral part of his Government's program. Consequently, it is not considered probable that the Populist Party will accept to take part in the new Government. However, places were still being left open and the Populists would have ample opportunity to consider their participation. Representation of the Resistance Movements by one or more of their younger members was also considered probable.

After an announcement by Mr. Sofoulis, it is now certain that besides Mr. Tsouderos, the former Prime Minister, G. Kafantaris and S. Venizelos will also participate in the new Government, the former as Minister without portfolio. The participation of Mr. Kanellopoulos is also considered certain, as well as of the leader of the Democratic-Socialist Party, Mr. Papandreou.

At 9:30 p.m. yesterday, Mr. Sofoulis and Mr. Tsouderos had a long meeting with Mr. McNeil and Ambassador Leeper at the British Embassy. Mr. Balfour was also present.

During that meeting, as Mr. Sofoulis said, the Greek views were presented, concerning the needs for the country's reconstruction and it was pointed out that the formation of the Government will be based upon the presupposition that the British promise "about granting complete British aid for Greek reconstruction" will be carried out.

Following the meeting, Mr. McNeil expressed his optimism as to the earnestness of the new leaders concerning the restoring of the economic situation.

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This news digest is a service for members of the UNRRA Greece mission. Its purpose is purely informational. It does not reflect mission policy. The aim is to summarize the daily news & comment about UNRRA and matters pertinent to the relief program for Greece or of interest to staff members.



(continued from page 1)

The Government's first concern would be to restart the national economy and raise the standard of living and no individual would be allowed to stand in the way of this aim. While acknowledging the principle that Greece needed external aid, Mr. McNeil emphasized that determined action by the Government and the people of Greece was the essential key to the solution. Discussions as to the details of the reconstruction program would start immediately on the next day.

The Basic Lines of  
Mr. Sofoulis' Program.

Speaking shortly before his visit to the British Embassy, Mr. Sofoulis defined as follows the aims of his Government:

A. To follow up the national claims. However, the Sofoulis Government does not think that it is possible to adopt the Populist Party's view on the subject as it has been formulated.

B. To solve the economic problem through British and, more generally, through allied assistance. Such assistance is a fundamental necessity if the Sofoulis Government is to remain in power.

C. To rid the State Machinery of those who act against the restoration of equality of civic rights and the preparation for elections on this basis.

D. To guarantee the postponement of the Plebiscite. It is gathered from this that the Populist Party will be asked to refrain from adding the question of the form of Government to its political platform during the elections, since it wishes that elections be held in Greece.

The British Note mentioned above forms the answer of the British Government to the Kanellopoulos Government's request for financial assistance. The Note says that the British Government is willing to grant its full support for the economic reconstruction of Greece.

This support, however, presupposes the following: a) The holding of free and fair elections by March 1946 the latest. b) The guarantee that these elections will not be based on the question of the form of government. Such a guarantee is the postponement of the Plebiscite until Spring of 1948.

The British Government suggests and hopes for the formation of a Government of a broad coalition with the participation of all political parties, which will undertake the realization of the above two presuppositions. To this Government or any other which would accept these presuppositions, the British Government will lend the above full economic assistance.

A favourable reaction to the new Government has already been indicated by the downward movement of the price of the sovereign which reached Drs. 73,000 at its highest, but late at night was offered at only 59,000. Commodities also have begun to reappear in increased quantities on the Athens market.

It is expected that Mr. Bevin will refer to the Greek situation in the Foreign Affairs debate in the House of Commons on November 22nd.

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UNRRA MISSION BEGINS  
WORK IN POLAND

From: "A.G.I.S."

(Anglo-Greek Information Serv.)

London (19 November):--The Polish Provisional Government in Warsaw has agreed to give full recognition to the UNRRA mission in Poland. The head of the mission is Brigadier Drury who, with his chief officers, is already at work in Warsaw.

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GOVERNOR LEHMAN  
PRAISES UNRRA WORK

From: "VEMA" (Morning)

Democratic.

New York (20 November):--Addressing the appropriate Senate Committee last night Mr. Lehman spoke highly of the work of UNRRA which, he said, is unprecedented in the history of the world. The Director General stated that with the help of the American, British and French military UNRRA managed to repatriate 5,250,000 persons and gave assurances that this part of UNRRA's activities would be supplemented by the repatriation of the remaining refugees and hostages within the next few months.

With reference to various criticisms against UNRRA, Mr. Lehman said that the organization did not intend to give an apology at a moment when its work spoke for itself. "We have made mistakes", said Mr. Lehman, "and we may make more in the future. However, our mistakes have been but infinitesimal part of the good done for the suffering peoples. At present there is no organization that can replace UNRRA, which will continue its task thanks to the new financial assistance requested on its behalf by President Truman."

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UNRRA DIRECTOR GENERAL  
APPEALS FOR FUNDS

From: "A.G.I.S." Anglo-Greek Inf. Service;  
"UNION JACK" British Military.

Washington (20 November):--Mr. Herbert Lehman, Director General of UNRRA, in a broadcast last night said that orders for vital relief supplies had been suspended for lack of funds. He was making a nation-wide appeal for support of the United States contribution to UNRRA. The British Government had already approved their second contribution, he said. (REUTER)

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PASS LAW TO RESTORE  
SMALL DEPOSITS

From: All Morning Papers,

Athens (20 November):--The Council of Ministers met last night (Monday) at 6 p.m. Various routine matters were discussed at first. Then, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance informed the members of the Cabinet on the progress of the conferences with the British Experts regarding the application of the Government's economic program and how to meet the economic crisis.

The Council then proceeded to pass a constitutional act regarding the restitution of small deposits up to the amount of 100,000 drs. In connection with this, the following was determined:

Deposits up to 100,000 drs. at Banks or other Credit Institutions which existed on April 27, 1941 and which have not been touched to date, will, with all the interest attached, be readjusted to an equal value in present day drachmas. The depositors will be able to withdraw their deposits according to certain regulations which will be determined by a law to be passed within a month's time.

Deposits over 100,000 drachmas come under the provisions of this law only as far as the first 100,000 drs. are concerned.

Control of Trust.

Another law was also passed as regards the control of credits. This law has as follows:

The regulation of credits, as a whole, is a question to be taken up by the State. The question will be regulated by a decree to be issued within one month.

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The issuing of any kind of credit by Banks or Trust Organizations in general will be controlled by the State. The utilization of these credits by physical or legal parties will also come under the same control.

The use of credits for purposes other than those for which they were issued and in which the recipient of a credit is legitimately engaged will be considered as an unlawful act and will be punished at the instigation of the State, according to the provisions of Compulsory Law 296 of 1938.

In connection with the law regarding the regulation of credits, Mr. Tsouderos stated that, "... with this law the Government throws the whole question of credits to the whirlwind of Government changes and the party interests of each Government". Mr. Kafantaris refused to make any comment.

When asked about the uneasiness which has been noted, Mr. Kassimatis stated that he was surprised that such a question was ever brought up. "Credits are not a private, but a State affair", he said. "The law does not say that credits will be nationalized, nor that each Government can do as it pleases. It says that the guidance, the details and the control will be in the hands of the State".

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#### MR. RODNEY YOUNG EXPLAINS UNRRA'S REGIONAL OPERATIONS

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (21 November):--Mr. Rodney Young, UNRRA Chief Field Liaison Officer, spoke recently to members of the HQ Staff about the regional set-up and regional operations of UNRRA in Greece. Mr. Young said that operations in the regions were the most important. UNRRA Staff out in the field, he said are fulfilling the final obligation of UNRRA, since they are seeing that supplies get to the people who need them. Mr. Young compared regional offices with retailers who have to get the supplies to the individual consumers, while the HQ functions as a wholesaler, procuring and shipping supplies to the regions.

In order to face provincial problems - which have their effect on the problem of the Capital - more effectively and without delay, said Mr. Young, UNRRA has delegated wide authority to Regional Directors - always, of course, within the framework of UNRRA policy, Council resolutions, the Greek Government-UNRRA Agreement, etc. The tendency of the Greek Government, on the contrary is to centralize and keep all authority in Athens. Thus, notwithstanding the excellent cooperation shown by the local authorities in the provinces, it often happens that the execution of decisions taken by UNRRA's regional offices is delayed for three or four days until the local Greek authorities receive explanatory instructions - which they are compelled to ask for - from Athens. A solution to this problem, said Mr. Young, would greatly help in dealing more efficiently with the provincial needs.

Mr. Young said that UNRRA's regional offices are a miniature of the Athens UNRRA HQ with a Regional Director - who, in practice, is Chief of Mission for his area - with an Administrative Officer, Bureau of F & A Representative, a Supply and Distribution Officer, Transport Officer, Warehouse Officer, Welfare Officer, Medical Officer, etc. Mr. Young went on to explain the functions of the various regional officers, who work in cooperation with the Greek State Services, and he mentioned examples of the numberless and varied difficulties they have to face. Mr. Young also paid tribute to the Voluntary Society teams working in the provinces in close cooperation with UNRRA, chiefly on welfare and health projects.

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#### HOLD DEMONSTRATION OF UNRRA SPRAYER-PLANES

From: "MAHE" (Morning), Socialist;  
"VEMA" (Morning), Democratic.

Athens (20 November):--A trial flight of the special sprayer-planes which were brought here from the United States took place early yesterday at the Eleusis Airport. These planes arrived in Greece to be used in the anti-malaria campaign for spraying the special DDT solution which kills mosquitoes. The Minister of Hygiene and the UNRRA sanitary engineer Col. Wright, watched the demonstration. To date, four such planes have arrived from America and eight more are due to arrive soon. The demonstration was a success. The planes are small and are piloted by fliers who were specially trained in the U.S. to fly at low altitudes. The planes will be used next spring. Still later they will be used for agricultural purposes.



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 199

Athens

Thursday, 22 November 1945

### SOFOULIS GOVERNMENT SWORN IN THE RESIGNATION OF THE REGENT

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (22 November) :--The political developments moved at an unprecedented pace yesterday and culminated in the Regent's unexpected resignation, which followed the announcement of the King's strong protest from London about the solutions offered for the Government crisis and about the postponement of the Plebiscite to 1948.

The political situation which started under very good omens yesterday morning, became quite complicated at noon and developed into a serious crisis by evening, putting in jeopardy the whole effort for bringing the country out of the political and economic chaos.

The Leader of the Liberals, Mr. Sofoulis, having received in the afternoon of Tuesday carte blanche - as it was announced from the Regency - for the formation of a Government, and having conferred for two hours on Tuesday night with the British Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in the presence of Mr. Tsouderos, on the economic assistance to be given to Greece, began yesterday morning his efforts towards forming a Government. It was expected that by 1:00 p.m. the new Government would take the oath of office.

Thus, at 9:30 a.m. Mr. Sofoulis met with Mr. Tsouderos, who later worked for two hours with Mr. McNeil on the economic questions, since he was to coordinate the economic reconstruction in the new Government.

At 10:00 a.m. Mr. Sofoulis visited Mr. Kafantaris, to whom he offered the Vice-Premiership in his Government, and at 11:00 he received the Administrative Council of the Populist Party, to which he proposed governmental cooperation. The Populists stated clearly that they do not agree with the solutions proposed by the Allies and refused to cooperate. Mr. Sofoulis got in touch also through a friend of his with Messrs. Papandreou and Kanellopoulos. Mr. Kanellopoulos wishing to coordinate his decision with that of Mr. Papandreou, asked for time to think it over. Mr. Papandreou asked for the two Ministries of War and Navy.

By noon Mr. Sofoulis held practically ready his Government and was to present it to the Regent. For this purpose he sent his private secretary to the Regency to determine the hour at which the Cabinet could take the oath of office. By that time, however, Messrs. Kafantaris, Sofianopoulos and Tsouderos had stated that they refused to participate in a Government which would include Mr. Papandreou. Mr. Sofoulis then sought a new meeting with the Regent, which took place at 6:00 p.m. The Regent announced then that he could not swear in a one-sided Government, one, that is, in which Messrs. Papandreou and Kanellopoulos were not included.

Following this, the Regent returned to his residence in Halandri, after he had notified Mr. McNeil and Ambassador Leeper of the new developments. Later Mr. McNeil visited the Regent in Halandri and asked him to swear in the Sofoulis Government, without Mr. Papandreou, stating that otherwise he would be forced to return to London immediately. The meeting was dramatic and finally the Regent returned once more to the Regency. At 7:00 p.m. he again invited Messrs. Papandreou and Kanellopoulos

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BEGIN REPAIRS TO  
ELECTRICITY PLANT

From: All Afternoon Papers;  
"ELEFThERIA" (Morning), Democratic;  
"MAHI" (Morning), Socialist;  
"ANAGHENISSIS" (Morning), Conservative.

Athens (20 November):--It has been announced by the Ministry of Transports that repairs to the three boilers - which had been out of commission - in the Electricity Plant have already begun. Repairs are being carried out by the permanent technical staff and by personnel temporarily engaged under the supervision of overseers from the Ministry. According to the same announcement, repairs will be completed in two month's time at the latest.

Efforts are being made to ensure an adequate supply of electricity during the holidays. As soon as repairs to the above three boilers, and four other boilers that are now in operation, are completed, restrictions on the consumption of current will be lifted.

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NEW SYSTEM OF CIGARETTE  
RATIONING TO BEGIN IN DECEMBER

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning), Royalist.

Athens (21 November):--According to an announcement from the Ministry of Supply, it has been definitely decided that cigarettes are to be rationed. The ration-cards have already been ordered three days ago and are being printed at the Bank of Greece mint in Cholargos. Under the new system, each smoker will be able to buy a two days' ration of cigarettes at any time during the day at any tobacco dealer's establishment, by depositing a coupon from his ration card.

We have been informed that because certain technical difficulties have arisen so that the new system cannot be put into effect until the first week of December, a temporary rationing system will be applied beginning next Monday. These ration-cards will be distributed by the bakers to all the male population over 20 years of age. The federation of tobacco-sellers and disabled war veterans announced that 1,200 tobacco shops and "kiosks" in Athens and another 300 in Piraeus will handle the distribution of cigarettes in the temporary rationing scheme.

The holders of tobacco cards may deposit them - in order to receive a cigarette card - with a dealer of their own choice. Each dealer will be able to receive 300 cigarette-cards. A total of 450,000 packages of cigarettes will be sold daily through the above dealers.

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TO IMPORT MEAT FROM  
NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

From: "ANAGHENISSIS" (Morning), Conservative.

Athens (21 November):--Negotiations are in progress between the Ministries of National Economy and Supply and meat importers and dealers regarding the import of meat from neighboring countries at the same prices as those of local produce. According to the same information, the Ministry of Supply expressed the opinion that the meat imported from Turkey should not exceed the price of 1,000 drs. per oke.

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STUDENTS APPEAL TO UNRRA

From: "ACROPOLIS" (Morning), Royalist.

Athens (21 November):--Approximately 1,500 students of the "Archimedes" evening schools forward an appeal to UNRRA's Chief of Mission, to take up the matter of immediately transferring approximately 70 aliens who have been living in the school's building for a long time.

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and had a long talk with them, during which Mr. Papandreou stated that in order to facilitate matters he agreed not to participate in the Government. The Regent then expressed his intention to resign.

Still later, at 9:30 p.m. Mr. Kanellopoulos went to the British Embassy where he apprised Mr. McNeil and Ambassador Leeper of the Regent's decision. Mr. McNeil stated then that the British Government's wish was the immediate solution of the Government crisis and that the Sofoulis Government should in any event be sworn in, by the Kanellopoulos Cabinet, if necessary, acting for the Regency.

Mr. Kanellopoulos visited Mr. Papandreou and then returned to the Regency, where the Regent reiterated his decision to resign and Mr. Kanellopoulos sent a cable to the King announcing the Regent's resignation. At 11:00 p.m. Mr. Kanellopoulos returned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he received a new letter from the British Ambassador. This was an appeal to the patriotism of the Kanellopoulos Cabinet to agree, under its capacity as the Regency Council, to swear in immediately the Sofoulis Government.

Further conferences followed and the opinion of law experts was asked, as to whether the Kanellopoulos Government did have the constitutional right to swear in the new Government. Opinion was divided and finally the members of the Kanellopoulos Government sent a written decision to the British Embassy stating that they had no such constitutional right and the swearing in of a new Government while the Regent's office remained vacant would constitute a revolutionary act.

After this Mr. McNeil and Ambassador Leeper again visited the Regent in Halandri accompanied also by General Scoby. Messrs. Kanellopoulos and Tsouderos also visited the Regent.

#### Regent Swears In New Government at 3:00 a.m.

After a long discussion and about 2:45 a.m. His Beatitude agreed to swear in the Sofoulis Government in order to preserve normal conditions. The fact that the Regent's resignation had not yet been accepted by the King made legal his administering the oath. Then the Regent returned at 3:00 a.m. to the Regency and in his and Mr. Kanellopoulos' presence, Mr. Sofoulis and the members of his Cabinet were sworn in. The ceremony was performed by the Metropolitan of Patras, Germanos.

#### The New Ministers.

The sworn in Ministers are the following:

Themistokles Sofoulis, Prime Minister.

George Kafandaris, First Deputy Prime Minister without portfolio.

Emanuel Tsouderos, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the future Ministry of Coordination.

G. Vorazanis, Minister of National Economy.

Th. Manettas, Minister of War.

Constantine Rentis, Minister of Interior and of Justice.

John Sofianopoulos, Minister of Foreign Affairs and temporarily of Press.

Th. Haviris, Minister of Public Works.

G. Kartalis, Minister of Supply.

J. Athanasiades-Novas, Minister of Education.

Ch. Evelpidis, Minister of Agriculture.

D. Mahas, Minister of Transport.

L. Iasonides, Minister of Welfare.

S. Merkouris, Minister of Public Order.

G. Merenditis, Minister Governor-General of Northern Greece.

Mr. A. Mylonas will be sworn in today as Minister of Finance and the other vacancies in the Ministries will be filled.

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"SPECIAL TAX" YIELDS1,090,000,000 DRS. FOR NOVEMBER

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon), Conserv.  
"VRADYNI" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon), Democratic;  
"MAHI" (Morning), Socialist.

Athens (22 November):--We are informed that the "special taxation" in the area of the Capital yielded 1,090,000,000 drachmas for the month of November as against the 800,000,000 drachmas collected in October. The former figure does not include the 50% increase in the tax.

State cashiers have been instructed to submit to the Ministry of Public Order by the 1st December lists of the names of all those who have amassed wealth during the occupation and who have not fulfilled their tax obligations. In accordance with the law, such persons, as well as the members of their families will be deported. In the cases of limited companies, the managers will be deported.

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WILL NOT LIFT RESTRICTIONS  
ON WATER SUPPLY

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (21 November):--According to an announcement from the Ministry of Public Works, no restrictions will be lifted as regards the water supply. This is due to the fact that there are only 5,100,000 cubic meters of water in the Marathon Reservoir, whereas at the same time last year, the reservoir contained 6,300,000 cubic meters.

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ANNOUNCES UNRRA  
PURCHASE OF 370 TRUCKS

From: "MAHI" (Morning), Socialist.

Washington (21 November, special service):--A cable from Teheran says that UNRRA bought 370 surplus trucks there, as well as a number of spare parts. The trucks will be used for the transport and distribution of food and clothing in the destroyed areas of Greece and Yugoslavia.

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ALLOCATE TRUCKS FOR TRANSFER  
OF BUILDING MATERIALS

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon), Royalist;  
"MAHI" (Morning), Socialist.

Athens (22 November):--UNRRA has placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Public Works a number of trucks to be used for the transfer of materials for temporary housing. The vehicles in question will be pooled under one management and will be disposed of on the basis of eventual requirements.

NOTE: Our Transport Section informs us that both the Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry of Agriculture received a number of vehicles to be used in road-building, shelter work, etc.

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PERU APPROVES  
\$1,000,000 FOR UNRRA

From: "A.G.I.S." (Anglo-Greek Inf. Serv.)

Lima (21 November):--The National Congress has unanimously approved an agreement with UNRRA amounting to 1,000,000 dollars, of which Peru has already furnished about 615,400 dollars in food and goods. (REUTERS)



## DAILY NEWS DIGEST

Issued by  
Office of Public Information  
UNRRA Greece Mission

Telephone 32-610

No. 200

Athens

Friday, 23 November 1945

### GREEK GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT TO THE PEOPLE

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (23 November):--The first meeting of the new Cabinet took place yesterday afternoon under the chairmanship of Mr. Sofoulis. Mr. Emanuel Tsouderos, one of the Deputy Prime Ministers, explained at length the conversations he has had on the economic questions with the British Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. McNeil.

Following this, the Cabinet took the decision to request the Regent, through the Prime Minister, not to insist in his decision to resign. The Cabinet also approved various measures and bills. It has been decided that the regular Cabinet meetings take place every Thursday.

After the meeting the following statement was issued: "The present Government takes over its official duties under tragic conditions for the country, which is in economic chaos and internal upheaval.

"The main concern of the Government is the economic question. The Government will study carefully this question, without making pompous, rash promises, but taking care that every promise is fulfilled. Another primary concern of the Government is to consolidate order and to ensure full equality of (civic) rights and, generally, to restore justice. This is indispensable for holding free and fair elections and the preparation of true electoral lists. It is superfluous to add that the Government will study seriously and with deep interest the recognition of our national sacrifices and rights.

"The Government invites the people to be calm and well disciplined and to devote themselves completely to their productive work so that, through the common national effort and cooperation the country's wounds may be healed and Greece may become a power respected by all. We have the right to hope that in such an effort we shall have the full assistance of our great allies and to look forward with certainty to better days for the Greek people".

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### MR. MYLONAS SWORN IN AS MINISTER OF FINANCE

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (23 November):--Mr. A. Mylonas was sworn in by His Beatitude, the Regent yesterday noon as Minister of Finance. He then went to the Ministry and took over his duties.

All the Ministers took over their duties yesterday.

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TO DISTRIBUTE SUPPLIES  
AT HALF THE CURRENT PRICES

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (22 November):--Following an agreement between UNRRA and Ministry of Supply representatives, it has been decided that large quantities of prime necessity supplies will be immediately allocated for distribution through ration-cards in the area of the Governorate of the Capital. The supplies will be sold at one-half the current prices.

Locally produced clothing will be allocated, first in the capital area, amounting to 628,000 picks of cabot, 471,000 picks of drill, and 361,000 picks of calico. 763,000 picks of UNRRA cloth will also be distributed. Furthermore, 27% of ready made UNRRA clothing will be distributed as well. Altogether this will correspond to 33,500,000 points, including the UNRRA cloth.

Between now and December 15, 3,700,000 picks of cabot, drill and calico and 2,063,000 picks of UNRRA cloth will be sent to the provinces. Ready made clothing, representing a total of 38,000,000 points will also be consigned to the provinces.

It was also decided that the following footwear would be allocated at low prices: Used army boots, new and used shoes for men, women and children, soles and leather.

In addition, it was decided that three billion drachmae worth of raw chemicals and minerals, (aluminium, copper, tin, etc.) will be allocated at low prices. Details will be definitely determined at another conference of the authorities.

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CIVIL SERVANTS TO RECEIVE  
FORTNIGHT'S PAY TODAY

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist;  
"ELEFTHERI HELLADA" (Afternoon)  
EAM;  
"TA NEA" (Afternoon)  
Democratic;  
"ASYRMATOS" (Afternoon)  
Conservative.

Athens (21 November):--An order was issued regarding the payment today of half a month's salary to civil servants. The installment for the clothing loan will not be deducted from the above payment.

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LARGER PARCELS BEGIN  
TO ARRIVE FROM ABROAD

From: "ESTIA" (Afternoon)  
Royalist.

Athens (21 November):--Larger parcels (boxes and suitcases) have begun to arrive from America and other countries, sent through shipping agencies. Many of the parcels weigh 50 to 60 cks. They contain mostly clothing and foodstuffs. The key to boxes and suitcases is sent to their consignees together with the notification of their arrival.

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CANDY AND PASTRIES MADE  
WITH SUGAR FORBIDDEN

From: All Papers.

Athens (22 November):--A market inspection order issued on November 30 forbids the preparation and sale of candy and pastries made with sugar. Beginning today, a "popular sweet" is to be instituted, the ingredients of which will be: Pain d'Espagne, eggs, currant syrup, fats, marmalade and almonds. The price of the new pastry has been fixed at 170 drs. for Class B and C shops, 180 drs. for Class A shops and 200 drs. for de luxe shops.



MINISTERS CONFER WITH  
BRITISH ON ECONOMIC QUESTION

From: All Morning Papers.

Athens (23 November):--The conversations with the British officials on the economic subjects were continued yesterday. At 2:30 p.m. the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Tsouderos, and the Ministers of Finance and Supply went to the British Embassy and conferred for more than an hour with Mr. McNeil, Ambassador Leeper, the British Treasury Advisor, Mr. Davidson, and the experts, Messrs. Hill and Lingenan. The conversation dealt generally with the economic situation and the way in which it could be met.

Efforts were made by the Greek officials to clarify the extent and the kind of economic assistance which, the Allies have indicated, is to be given to Greece.

It is necessary that the conversations continue. However, because Mr. McNeil is leaving today, it was decided that as soon as possible a Greek economic mission be sent to London or a British mission come to Athens. There was no decision taken on this point, as Mr. McNeil will first consult with his colleagues of the British Government.

There is no information yet from any official source regarding the specific economic assistance which, as it has been stated, both the Greek and British side, will be accorded to Greece. It was said that no announcement could be made on this until final decisions are taken. It is very probable that before any decision is taken it will be necessary for England and the United States to come to an understanding on this. The preparatory conversations between the representatives of the two Allies have already taken place in Athens. This was also the purpose of the American Ambassador's visit yesterday to the British Embassy.

The economic circles here believe that everything that concerns the economic assistance to Greece will be announced first by the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Bevin, either in his speech in the House of Commons or in a special statement.

When he was asked, last night on the economic question, Mr. Sofoulis said: "Do not expect words from the Government. Everytime it will present specific data. We shall always tell the truth."

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MISS BELL GREVE SPEAKS  
ON REHABILITATION OF DISABLED

From: Office of Public Information.

Athens (23 November):--Miss Bell Greve, Specialist in Rehabilitation, recently delivered a most interesting talk to members of the HQ staff on the work carried out in Greece for the rehabilitation of the disabled. Miss Bell Greve was in Greece in 1923 to help the people from the after-effects of the first World War. In 1936 she helped organize the Hellenic Society for Crippled Children which continued to work during the occupation.

Miss Bell Greve explained that rehabilitation of the disabled is really an innovation in most of the countries and that before the war the majority of countries had no definite national program for the rehabilitation of these people. Usually, work of this nature was dependent upon the interest of some private group. "Many of us who came from nations in which there have been established programs", said Miss Bell Greve, "have not appreciated the fact that so many disabled people have been pushed aside and ignored."

Miss Bell Greve went on to say that the International Society for Cripples had come into existence and held several world conferences to help nations to outline programs. A lot of things have been learned during the war regarding rehabilitation, because more and more able-bodied people went to war, thus making it necessary that their places in industry be taken by people who were disabled.

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Miss Bell Greve stressed the fact that the disabled people must be given opportunities for development and training. The philosophy in rehabilitation today is that a person with disablements has capacities as well as limitations. Industry is interested in production and pays a man for what he does and not for what he cannot do.

Miss Bell Greve said that it is hoped that a census of all the disabled blind, deaf and crippled children and adults - war veterans and civilians - in Greece will be taken soon. The Veterans' Bureau so far has listed 24,000 names, of which 6,500 are under special investigation. It is estimated that fifty percent of these people have amputations.

Miss Bell Greve said that the plans for Greece are based on the philosophy that a man is more than the part of the body which has gone. The program will reach all the disabled but it will be a long-term program not to be completed during the time of UNRRA. The plans now being made will extend in to the post UNRRA period and will become part of the health and welfare of Greece.

Miss Bell Greve went on to explain why the rehabilitation of an individual is not a short-time program. Rehabilitation has to recognize that in addition to the body we have the emotional attitudes which change according to the mode of living and according to the feeling and philosophy of the people with whom they live. A disabled person is a member of a family and a member of a community and his successful future often is determined by the attitude of the community in which he lives.

Miss Bell Greve explained that the able can hope and build dreams for the future but a person who has lost his legs or arms must not build his future on the hope that he will grow new legs or new arms. He must have a new philosophy for living and this is one of the basic facts of rehabilitation.

The rehabilitation program in Greece, said Miss Bell Greve, is a comprehensive one and is a combination of Government, private agencies and UNRRA. It is so planned that when UNRRA moves out the continuation of the program will <sup>not</sup> be affected in any way.

Miss Bell Greve then explained that there are many special services which go to make a rehabilitation program, whose aim is to have all services developed equally. A man must have the best possible medical care for his disability. Orthopaedic defects should be seen by the best orthopaedist and it is realized that there must be development of orthopaedic service in Greece. It is hoped that an orthopaedic hospital will be established.

After medical care comes education and a disabled person must be taught to think in terms of his capacity as well as his limitations.

Next comes vocational training which, Miss Bell Greve pointed out, is a very important part of the program. "If you take rehabilitation from a point of view of a person who is disabled", said Miss Bell Greve, "you will find that he is interested in one thing - how to support himself - which means a job for money".

UNRRA is pulling all these sections in the country together, planning here and there, and beginning to bring them in for one purpose and one plan. Miss Bell Greve concluded by listing the specific things done for the Greek program in coordination with UNRRA, the Greek Government and private agencies. In connection with the private agencies, Miss Bell Greve pointed out the achievements of the Near East Foundation and the Greek War Relief Association.

The Near East Foundation has established a Rehabilitation Center which is open and functioning. It has been attempted to put into this center all the services outlined above. The center is not big enough to meet the Greek needs but it is a demonstration of what should be done. It will serve as a model on the basis of which a bigger training shop might be built some day. At present, people are sent there from the provinces for examination and training and live at the Home for the Incurables.

The Near East Foundation also maintains a therapy center for crippled children in which we have orthopaedic clinics, a special school and a reception center. It is hoped this will eventually result in a fine convalescent home for crippled children.

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Apart from the above, the Near East Foundation runs a training school for physical-therapists, who are needed in Greece because a person must have as much physical restoration as possible before starting a training program. Miss Bell Greve said that there are many people in Greece today who are crippled because they did not have proper treatment when it was needed, particularly in the case of infantile paralysis.

Speaking of the Greek War Relief's activities, Miss Bell Greve said that this organization has greatly helped the rehabilitation project in the development of artificial appliances, by furnishing funds for a longer appliance shop and providing materials until such time as the UNRRA materials arrive.

Miss Bell Greve feels that in about two or three years there will be a very fine program and within a year all persons with disablements will be able to be examined and something done for them. Miss Bell Greve said that there is a State school for the Blind and one for the Deaf with long waiting lists. Those over school age may be referred to the Rehabilitation Center for training.

UNRRA has planned this program of rehabilitation and has furnished medical supplies and is procuring materials for appliances. UNRRA will supply specialists, such as orthopedists, 2 orthopedic nurses and an artificial appliance technician and visiting specialists for the deaf and blind, so that the newest methods may be presented to the deeply interested local professions.

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#### EISENHOWER URGES MORE UNRRA FUNDS

From: UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE  
American Official;  
"NAHI" (Morning), Socialist

Washington (23 November):--Speaking before the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee yesterday General Eisenhower testified in favor of a second United States contribution to UNRRA.

General Eisenhower underlined the importance of UNRRA's job and saw it a test of whether or not international collaboration could succeed. He said that if the needy peoples of the world saw UNRRA fail then they could not help but feel that not only had the United States failed them but that the hope of solution of world problems through United Nations action was an illusory one.

"I am convinced that the best way of developing the habit of cooperation is by building and supporting effective operating international organizations such as UNRRA", he added.

General Eisenhower spoke against proposals which have been advanced in Congress that UNRRA should be abandoned and its work taken over by a United States organization to replace the present international setup.

"The relief of Europe and those areas of Asia which have similarly suffered is not the responsibility of our nation and of a group of nations", he said. "It is a world problem and no nation desirous of a peaceful world can ignore it".

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#### TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN ATHENS AND THESSALONIKI RESTORED

From: All Afternoon Papers.

Athens (22 November):--According to an announcement from the Ministry of T.T.T. (Post, Telephone, Telegraph Communications), the telephone communications between Athens and Thessaloniki, which had been disconnected for two years, have been restored. Large sections of this line had been completely destroyed by the invaders. This connection will be limited in the beginning only to the most urgent requirements of the State services and the public, because for the time being, only two circuits will be in operation as against the fourteen which existed before the war.