

CAPT. W. C. SHAW GIVES VIEWS ON HARD TIMES

Thinks the Country in Worse Fix Than in 1914—Hears Complaints of High Taxes Mostly From People Who Voted These Taxes—Didn't Listen to the Cavalry Horn—Thought Cotton Would Stay at Forty Cents.

The Press and Banner has received the following letter from Capt. W. C. Shaw, which will be of interest. The Captain says:

Editor of Press and Banner:—There never has been such a time in the history of this country as that confronting the people today. It is far worse than 1914. In the first place, the people are more in debt. They owe three to one more today than they did in 1914. On the other hand everything which must be bought is two dollars to one higher than it was in 1914. In addition to this we have the boll weevil coming. All of these things are operating badly against the renting and tenant class of our people.

It seems that this year it will be impossible for a renter to rent land unless he can run himself, as the merchants and bankers say they cannot afford to take chances on him. Numbers of the tenant farmers, white and black, cannot get homes as the landlords will not run them either, and some of the tenant farmers are getting in bad shape.

The people are raising a great hue and cry about high taxes. It is not any use to hollow, Hello—after you get dog bit. I blew my cavalry horn for the people and told them not to vote for the bond issue which has added three mills more taxes for them to pay. The very men who voted this tax on themselves are making the most complaint about high taxes. It will be remembered that I told the people in writing about the bond issue, that a good thing would not last always and that we would never pay this bond tax with forty cent cotton. A one-eyed man can now see who was right. All you can hear now is fifteen cents cotton and high taxes.

I noticed a statement a few days ago in one of the daily papers that was made by Hon. R. A. Cooper, Governor of South Carolina, in speaking of high taxes, in which he said he could see no way by which taxes could be reduced, and if the legislature could see any way to reduce taxes it was up to them. I do not want to be understood as dictating to our legislature or to the Governor, but let everybody listen and everybody count. Let us commence with the Governor and go on down to the road overseers reducing salaries ten per cent. and see what it will amount to. It will reduce taxes a little I am sure. Remember now, the legislature should reduce the Governor's salary ten per cent, and reduce every other state officer's salary ten per cent, and then commence at every court house in every county in the state and reduce the salary of every officer ten per cent. We will see if this will not reduce taxes a little.

Some people say that if taxes are reduced it will ruin the colleges and our institutions of learning. But this is not true. The salaries of the teachers and professors may be reduced ten per cent. along with the rest. All working people are having their salaries reduced twenty per cent. and why not the people who work for the state. If this is done, there will be no necessity to otherwise reduce appropriations to the colleges and institutions of learning. These colleges and institutions of learning should be able to employ men and women at less salaries than a year ago, and they should be able to purchase supplies for less. They can have the same service and the same supplies on smaller appropriations. This will not cripple them at all. It will only be making the dollar do its duty. I hope that the delegation from Abbeville County will see that not a dollar is appropriated for any purpose which is not necessary. They cannot afford to be extravagant when the taxpayers do not know where the money is going to get the money to pay the taxes.

W. C. SHAW,
Lowndesville, S. C.

IMMIGRANTS ARE COMING IN DROVES DECLARES COLT

Asks For Temporary Suspension Pending a Full Investigation By Congress.

Washington, Jan. 4.—A temporary suspension of immigration pending a full investigation "with a view to passing some permanent legislation" is the "real issue" before Congress, Chairman Colt, of the Senate immigration committee, declared today at the opening of hearings on the Johnson bill, restricting immigration for one year.

In dealing with an emergency bill of this kind, Senator Colt said "we look at it, first from an economic standpoint—how it would affect business—and secondly, we would consider it with reference to the menace—the flood from Europe ready to pour in upon us."

Representative Johnson, of Washington, author of the House measure, was the first witness.

"I am told the situation immediately confronting us," he said, "is such that aliens are coming over in droves. They are gathering at European ports in largest numbers yet reported. They represent a highly undesirable class."

Increasing Unemployment. Mr. Johnson dealt with the increasing unemployment in this country and presented much other information which he gave at the House committee hearings.

Representative Johnson said European governments were encouraging departure of their citizens for the United States.

"Italy has agents in this country assisting these people to come in," he declared. "They are begging us not to stop them for another six months."

"I am advised that Spain is assisting its nationals to get out of that country and finances some who desire to go. Steamship companies also are stimulating the movement to America," the witness said, adding that one company was increasing its facilities for handling immigrants sailing from Rotterdam.

"I am firm in the conviction that the United States is making a fatal mistake in permitting these aliens to come here," Mr. Johnson continued.

"If we continue our policy, we can not be surprised to see the communistic party grow in strength and size."

RUTH TRAINING FOR 60 HOMERS IN 1921

New York, Jan. 4.—If Babe Ruth doesn't get at least sixty home runs in the 1921 season he will be greatly disappointed, he said today. The home run king plans to go into intensive training at once. As he is many points overweight due to his extended vacation in Cuba he will go to his farm in Massachusetts and put in about six weeks at wood chopping. Then he will join the Yankees pitching staff in Arkansas late next month. Ruth believes that his throwing arm will be in good shape next summer and he is counting on doing some of the twirling for the team.

BODY BROUGHT HOME

Colonel Willis To Be Buried At Simpsonville

Greenville, Jan. 6.—The body of Lieut. Col. Robert H. Willis, Jr., chief of the air service, Seventh army corps, A. E. F., who was killed near Reirmont, Vosges, France, on September 13, 1918, is en route from France and expected to arrive in Simpsonville, S. C., in a few days, according to a telegram received by R. H. Willis from the war department today. The South Carolina post of the American Legion will take part in the funeral services.

DANIELS IS OPPOSED TO BORAH RESOLUTION ON DISARMAMENT

Says It Would Mean Another Alliance and Cause Condition Identical That Which Brought On World War.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Secretary Daniels said today that so far as he had been advised President Wilson was not considering the calling of a world disarmament conference. Reiterating his opposition to the Borah resolution looking to a reduction of naval building by Great Britain, Japan and the United States, the naval secretary said "such a move would amount to nothing less than another alliance, for these three nations would still wield the naval balance of power of the world."

"The remainder of the nations could reasonably be expected to form an entente," said Mr. Daniels, "and thus we would soon have a condition identical to that which caused the world war."

"As for the United States talking about reducing or limiting its navy until it is second to no nation in the world in sea power, such a move is almost beyond thought. We have no thought that Great Britain in insisting on the mastery of the seas, menaces the United States, but Great Britain could well afford to favor an agreement to curtail naval building today for such an agreement would leave her with a navy almost twice as powerful as any other in the world in addition to the fact that she has an alliance with Japan. That alliance probably does not mean any danger to the United States, but it exists and if these three nations should agree to limit naval building today the British navy alone would be much superior to ours while the combined Japanese and British navies would overshadow the American sea forces."

Action Is Deferred. Washington, Jan. 4.—Senator Borah's resolution looking to a reduction in future naval building by the United States, Great Britain and Japan was considered today by the Senate foreign relations committee but final action was deferred. Senator Borah said after the committee session, which was secret, that considerable sentiment developed in the committee to include France and Italy in the disarmament negotiations which the President would be asked to initiate.

MUCH EQUIPMENT TO BE BOUGHT IN 1921
Although Railroads Bought Big Supplies in 1920 They are Arranging for Still Larger Purchases.

Washington, Jan. 4.—During the year 1920 the railroads of the country spent \$349,500,000 for new equipment, according to figures announced today by Robert S. Binkerd, of the Association of Railway Executives. The largest item of expenditure was \$135,000,000 for 45,000 freight cars and the railroads, Mr. Binkerd said, now are trying to make financial arrangements to secure an additional total of 60,000 cars. Purchase of 15,000 refrigerator cars at a cost of \$67,500,000 and 1,500 new locomotives at a cost of \$105,000,000 is planned, and contracts already have been made for 1,200 passenger cars to cost \$42,000,000 he said.

In addition to equipment uncontracted for by the railroads the Pullman company, Mr. Binkerd said, is building 500 new cars, none having been built during federal control. Mr. Binkerd declared it would be impossible for the railroads to make large capital expenditures even if the new freight and passenger rates bring the roads a six per cent return as they would be forced to go into a seven and eight per cent money market to secure needed funds.

10,000 EX-SERVICE MEN TO GET SCHOLARSHIPS

Knights of Columbus Will Offer Free Courses.

Ten thousand free scholarships for former service men who attend night schools conducted by the Knights of Columbus will be offered during the year, according to the plans of the national education committee of the organization which were announced yesterday. There are now 107 night schools in 85 cities, and it is proposed to have 200 schools in operation, accommodating 100,000 students, by the end of 1921.

THOMAS MEIGHAN IN CHIEF ROLE IN WM. DE MILLE PICTURE

Talented Player Cast in Leading Role of "The Prince Chap" Friday Night.

Thomas Meighan, who was so large a factor recently in the success of George Loane Tucker's "The Miracle Man" and Cecil B. De Mille's "Male and Female," is the featured player in the picturization of Edward Peple's well known play, "The Prince Chap." It will be shown at the Opera House Friday night.

Mr. Meighan is another of those young men who became actors when their fathers advised them to be something else. The elder Meighan sent Thomas to college with the idea of making a physician of him. Instead, the youthful graduate broke into dramatics in a small part with Henrietta Crossman in "Mistress Nell." Subsequently he played opposite Grace George and William Collier and went to London in the leading role in "The College Widow." He returned to America and took up screen work, appearing opposite practically every prominent feminine star of the cinema and becoming noted for his clear-cut, intelligent performances in roles varying from butlers and master crooks to ex-army captains and society men.

In "The Prince Chap," Mr. Meighan is a sentimental artist who upsets his love affair by acquiring a four-year-old child as his ward, but who later achieves happiness. William De Mille produced the picture, and it is a Paramount Artercraft release.

STUDEBAKER WILL RESUME WORK ON JANUARY TENTH

South Bend, Ind., Jan. 4.—The Studebaker Corporation will resume work on a scheduled production of 90 automobiles daily January 10, it was announced here today. The output will be increased gradually until it reaches 500 cars daily, it was said.

ERSKINE ALUMNI MEETS TODAY

Gather at Jefferson Hotel To Hear Short Addresses—Will Discuss Athletics.

Alumni of Erskine college living in Columbia will hold a meeting at the Jefferson hotel Friday night at 7 o'clock at which time various matters of interest to the alumni and of importance to the institution will come up for consideration.

Dr. Patterson Wardlaw of the University of South Carolina, Prof. Edgar Long of Erskine college faculty, Gardner Phillips, outstanding football star of Erskine; B. L. Parkinson state high school inspector of South

Carolina, M. L. Cashion, state "Y" secretary of inter-racial work, and probably others will be present at the meeting to address the Columbia alumni. Athletics will come up for considerable discussion and other matters will also be given consideration. There are about 25 alumni of Erskine living in Columbia and they hold the institution in affectionate regard. The meeting Friday night will serve to bring together many of the alumni of the college who heretofore have not become acquainted. Luncheon will be served during the evening.—The State.

A pneumatic planer has been developed which displaces six or eight men on ship and car building.

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