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ECONOMIC REVIEW HOLDS OUT HOPES

GRADUAL UPWARD MOVEMENT NOW INDICATED—COMPARISON OF MONTH WITH PRECEDING YEAR CAUSE OF OPTIMISM—BETTER TREND SEEN.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Continued gradual movement of business and gradual restoration of normal conditions are indicated in the comparative reports for last month of the corresponding month of 1920, according to the December review of the economic situation tonight by the federal reserve board.

Net improvement was found by the board despite the recession of business activity in December as compared with the same month last year. "The holiday trade," the board said, "is a test of the soundness of preceding business activity. Reports from the various federal reserve districts covering over half of the month show that this year's demand in the Eastern districts has registered an increase running as high as 10 per cent of that of 1920, while in other districts the situation is pronounced satisfactory."

Manufacturing conditions, however the board reported as far from uniform, there being a decrease of activity in the iron and steel industry while textiles showed little change from previous months and uncertainty exists as to the future of the clothing industry, due to labor disturbances and the continued demand of consumers for lower prices.

"Freight rates," the board said, "continue as a disturbing factor due to the belief that reductions already announced as affecting some commodities may be much more widely extended in the near future."

Relatively lower prices for cereals and cotton, the board continued, had discouraged trade in the agricultural districts and also had resulted in retarding the process of liquidating frozen loans. Hardware and related lines also were said to be in an unsatisfactory condition, but wholesale prices "are showing increased stability." Unemployment conditions were reported by the board as but little changed.

"A decided improvement in European exchanges," the board said, "has tended to some extent to help the foreign trade situation during the month of December but the extreme caution in the extension of bank credits which was previously so noticeable a phase of our foreign trade still continued. Export figures indicate a still further decline of activity in staples, while imports show an advance."

"Disturbed conditions in various countries of Europe still render a maintenance of business relations with them uncertain and hazardous."

Reviewing the year in the shipping industry the board declared that the "industry has been through a most difficult period, in which many of the weaker operators have been forced out of business, and in which greatly reduced freight rates have resulted in smaller available cargoes and continued high costs of operations. This condition has been world wide, although American companies have felt in special degree the handicap of a higher scale of wages than their foreign competitors have been obliged to pay."

BACK TO CLEMSON.

The following Abbeville boys left Tuesday to resume their studies at Clemson after spending the Yuletide season with their home people: Jim Coleman, Truman Reames, Andrew Hill, Weber Wilson, Maxey Johnson, Geddings Roche, Bill Hughes, Hal Moore, Harold Tate, Frank Thornton, Richard Swetenburg, George Cann J. C. Cheatham and Sam Williams.

INCOME TAX BLANK GOES TO PRINTER

FOR INCOMES NOT ABOVE FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS.—THIRTY-FIVE FREIGHT CARS WILL BE REQUIRED TO TRANSPORT TO HEADQUARTERS.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Drafting of the new 1921 income tax return form for incomes of \$5,000 or less has been completed by the tax simplification board, of which J. H. Beal of Pittsburgh is chairman, it was said tonight at the treasury.

The new forms, which are regarded as much more simple and less confusing than those in use last year, have gone to the printers and probably will be ready for distribution about January 15. From 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 copies of the new forms are being printed and it is estimated that 35 freight cars will be required to send them to internal revenue collectors throughout the country. Efforts to simplify Form 1040—which is the form used by the average taxpayer—has resulted in reducing the number of pages from six to four and in eliminating the block system of return utilized in 1920 which was said to be confusing to the great majority of taxpayers who had income from only one or two sources. The internal revenue bureau estimated 70 per cent of the persons using the \$5,000 form have income from only salaries and wages and possibly interest and have few deductions to make from that income.

The new form will require taxpayers to list on the first page the amounts of income received from a number of sources and then from the total of these amounts to deduct the amounts to which they are legally entitled, the balance being the taxable net income.

The second page will require certain information from persons receiving incomes from specified source such as a business carried on by the taxpayer, and the third and fourth pages are devoted to instructions.

By reducing the form to four pages the board has eliminated the duplicate or "work sheet" of the 1920 form but it was explained if taxpayers wish to keep a copy of their returns sufficient forms will be available for duplicates to be obtained.

COLLECTING DOG TAX

Many Persons Pay Charges to Keep Animals.

To date R. B. Cheatham, county treasurer, has sold about 600 dog license tags at \$1.25 each, which means an additional revenue to school districts of \$600. Since the money goes to the schools direct, the trustees in many communities are interesting themselves in handing the treasurer lists of dog owners, as well as actually collecting the money in a few instances. If the tax is not paid when the time limit comes the treasurer will call on the magistrates to make collections, the law requiring that they impose a penalty of from \$5 to \$20, one-half of which will go to the person reporting the dog.

Sniping Resumed.

Belfast, Jan. 3.—After a lull caused by intervention of the crown forces, the sniping was resumed at midday with further serious consequences. Other bullets went through the head of a 14 year old youth and struck a child in its mother's arms. One of the children were mortally wounded.

Turks Form War Committee

Angora, Asia Minor, Jan. 3.—Formation of an extraordinary war committee which will control the activities of various ministers of the Turkish nationalist government has been decided upon.

GOVERNOR SPROUL TO BE SENATOR

PENNSYLVANIA EXECUTIVE IS CONSIDERING URGE TO SUCCEED BOIES PENROSE—REPORTED THAT HE HAS NOT MADE UP MIND.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Prediction that Governor Sproul of Pennsylvania would within 48 hours announce his intention of resigning to accept appointment as United States Senator to succeed the late Boies Penrose was made today by Senator Watson, of Indiana, one of the Republican leaders of the Senate, after a call at the White House.

Senator Watson said he had been in conversation with the Pennsylvania governor several times over the telephone during the last two days and that in his opinion the matter was practically decided.

The particular reason which induced the Senate Republican organization to urge speed in filling the vacancy left by Senator Penrose's death is understood to be the approaching vote in the Ford-Newberry election contest. Senator Watson would be close.

Governor Sproul would succeed to the seat of Senator Penrose by the process of resigning as governor and taking an appointment to the Senate at the hands of the present lieutenant governor, who would succeed to the governorship.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 3.—Fifteen minutes before the Watson prediction came from Washington that Governor Sproul would succeed Boies Penrose as United States Senator, the Governor told newspaper men he had not made up his mind as to what he would do regarding the Penrose succession. It is known that strong pressure has been brought to bear on the governor to take Senator Penrose's place immediately and equally strong representations have been made to him by other friends to make a temporary appointment and be a candidate later in the year.

VOLUNTARY FREIGHT RATE REDUCTION

Railroad Commission Secures Lower Tariff Effective January 1st, to Try it Six Months

Columbia, Jan. 3.—Additional reductions in freight rates on cotton are announced by the South Carolina railroad commission today. The new rates are effective from January 1st, and are a cent or two per hundred pounds lower than the low rate ordered by the railroad commission last fall. The new rates were voluntarily submitted by the railroads operating in the state and are put in for a period of six months as a trial.

The new rate for example shipments five miles or less is eighteen cents per hundred pounds as compared with the December rate of nineteen cents per hundred which itself was a reduction of several cents under the rate effective several months ago. From this the new schedule graduates up to sixty-nine and a half cents per hundred for shipments of three hundred miles as compared with the December rate of seventy-one and a half cents for shipments over three hundred miles. The new rates are the same as the railroad commission low rate of the past few months. These new rates are effective for the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama and are both interstate and intrastate.

NATIONAL BANK PAYS DIVIDEND

Four Per Cent Semi Annual Payment Made.

The National Bank of Abbeville Monday paid out \$3,000 to its stockholders, a dividend of 4 per cent on its capital stock of \$75,000. The directors were well pleased with the showing the bank's officials have made.

DEBTOR NATIONS ASKED TO PAY

FRANCE'S STUBBORN ATTITUDE PROVOKED DRAFTING OF THE RESOLUTION BY REPRESENTATIVE REAVIS—U. S. NEEDS HER MONEY.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The administration would be directed, under a resolution introduced today by Representative Reavis, republican, of Nebraska, to demand re-payment by France of money loaned to her by the United States during the war. Mr. Reavis, in a statement, said prompt payment of the debt should be insisted upon because France has indicated her intention of expending "large sums of money on increased naval armament."

Washington, Jan. 3.—The text of the resolution follows:

"Whereas the proceedings of the conference on the limitation of armaments disclose a determination on the part of certain debtor nations of the United States to expend large sums of money on increased naval armament.

"Resolved by the house of representatives (the senate concurring) that it is the desire of congress that the government of the United States advise such nation or nations through the proper channels that the payment of obligations now due to the United States will be acceptable."

Mr. Reavis in his statement says that "the United States feels very great sympathy for the distress of Europe, aside from any selfish interest we may have in the matter. But with France standing unmoved before the prayers and pleadings of mankind for a tranquil world and asserting the intention of vastly increasing the most barbarous and inhumane implement of war, viz., the submarine, I think it is time to wipe the tears of sympathy from our eyes and try to see with clearer vision what the present situation pretends."

UNUSUAL INTEREST IN FOREIGN DEBT

Treasury Receiving Advice From All Parts of the Country On the Subject.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Unusual interest in the ultimate disposition of the \$10,000,000,000 debt owed the United States by the allied governments has been evidenced throughout the country during the past few weeks, treasury officials said today.

Many letters have come into the treasury asking for information on the subject and offering advice while debating societies in different parts of the country have been writing in for data on which to build arguments both on behalf of and against the government requiring payment of the principal and interest of the debt under various plans.

What were described as "nut letters" are also coming to the treasury, it was said, submitting plans for obtaining payment of the debt under schemes of varying complexity and over diversified periods of years, the proceeds to be used by the government for as many different projects.

Meanwhile, officials declared, the solution of the allied debt problem awaits the action of congress upon the legislation now pending to authorize negotiations with the foreign debtor government for winding up their war time financial transactions with this country.

AT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Preparatory to communion services, the Rev. George M. Telford will preach in the Presbyterian church Friday evening at 7:30. The Rev. Melton Clark of the Columbia Theological Seminary will preach Sunday morning, at which time communion will be observed.

IRISH DISCUSSING TREATY QUESTION

DAIL EIREANN LOSES NO TIME AFTER CONVENING IN TAKING UP PACT WITH ENGLAND. O'CONNOR THINKS IT STEP BACKWARD.

Dublin, Jan. 3.—The Dail Eireann lost no time after reconvening today following its holiday recess in plunging again into sharp debate on the Anglo-Irish treaty. It had before it once more an order of the day calling for consideration of both Arthur Griffith's ratification motion and Eamon de Valera's alternative proposals. It was not generally thought the debate would run many days longer, many members anticipating a vote by Thursday night or Friday.

An opponent of the treaty, Art O'Connor, of South Kildare, Dail minister of agriculture, opened today's debate with an argument that the treaty was a step backward and a declaration of belief that the real heart of the Irish people had not changed, despite the numerous resolutions by various bodies in favor of the pact.

O'Connor asserted the campaign since the Dail's adjournment, had in reality hurt the treaty, declaring it had been waged by people who had never done any good work for the country and were now "howling at us."

He attacked the southern Unionist, saying the people of Ireland would have none of them in the Irish free state.

O'Connor was interrupted several times during his address, notably by Michael Collins, who resented his attack on resolutions favoring the treaty passed by meetings of farmers and other public bodies. Collins called attention to the suffering of the rural population, whose houses had been burned on all sides.

Michael Collins opened the debate in the afternoon session with a denunciation of a joking reference of Countess Markiewicz, during the morning session to the possibility of a cancellation of the engagement of Princess Mary and Viscount Lascelles, in order that the Princess might marry Collins and make him eligible to the governor-generalship of Ireland. Collins termed the suggestion an insult to the lady in question, and declared it was calculated to cause pain not only to her but to his own finances.

BABY FUND GROWS

More Money Received For Hospital Assistance.

Miss Blanche Reep announces the following contributions to the hospital baby fund, making a total of \$116:

Previously reported,	\$94.00
Mrs. Eugene Gary	1.00
Mr. G. M. Telford	2.00
Dr. H. C. Fennel	1.00
Mr. Joe Little	1.00
Mr. Thos. P. Thomson	2.00
Mr. Dave Thomas	7.00
Mr. Arthus S. Thomas	5.00
Mr. F. C. Dupre	1.00
Miss Mae Robertson	1.00
Grover Wilson	1.00
Dr. S. G. Thomson	1.00
Mrs. S. G. Thomson	1.00
Mrs. D. A. Rogers	2.00
Dr. R. E. Abell,	
Chester, S. C.,	10.00
Dr. J. E. Pressley	5.00
Maria Neuffer	1.00
Dr. G. A. Neuffer	1.00
Mrs. Addie McMurray	1.00
J. C. Thomson	1.00
Total	139.00

50 Injured By Bomb

Berlin, Jan. 3.—A bomb was exploded among the crowd listening to a band in the market place of Dinkelsbuehl, Bavaria, on New Year's eve, injuring 50 persons, 20 of them seriously. The thrower of the bomb, a youth and several other persons were arrested.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS WORLD

OPINION EXPRESSED BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL—OPTIMISTIC FORECAST FOR POLITICAL STATUS OF NATIONS ALSO MADE PUBLIC.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Indications that the turn of the year is being "marked by a striking improvement in the business and economic outlook" of the country and the world generally were discussed tonight by Comptroller of the Currency Crisinger in a forecast for 1922.

There can be no doubt, Mr. Crisinger said, that "both the political and economic index figures" are registering improvement at this time, "when political and economic conditions so intimately interest."

"Taking this wider view," he added, "I feel that we may be justified in regarding the outlook as altogether reassuring, and that the new year is coming to us with guarantees that justify the more optimistic forecasts."

In the political domain, Mr. Crisinger described as predominating favorable factors the limitation of arms conference and "the apparently insured settlement of the long controversy involving the relations of Ireland to the United Kingdom." Already, he declared, a betterment in the conditions of international exchange has taken place, adding that no better index of widespread business conditions exist.

"In view of these accomplishments," he continued, "we may anticipate confidently that the year 1922 will take its place in history as one of the landmarks in the record of human progress. Men have turned their faces definitely in the right direction; they have set their feet in the paths to restore security and prosperity; they have fixed their minds on the higher and better things."

"Already we begin to find evidence of the far-reaching importance of these accomplishments. Every indication of favorable outcome in these great underlying considerations has been practically simultaneous with a distinct turn for the better in the affairs of business and industry. The very promptness with which the commercial community has thus responded is the most emphatic testimony to the readiness and the eagerness of the business world to shape its course toward restored prosperity and resumption of the great peaceful activities of civilization."

COMMITTEE MEETS

Executive Body of Legion Convenes Friday.

In order to complete the organization of the American Legion Post, R. B. Cheatham, Commander, has called a meeting of the executive committee for Friday of this week, at which time an adjutant will be decided upon. Since the meeting last week there has been much discussion on all sides of the organization and its possibilities and the executive committee will take prompt action to keep the interest up. The committee will draw up a constitution and decide what the membership fees will be.

Here's Your Real Winter.

Ithaca, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Temperatures ranging from 15 to 27 degrees below zero were reported from central and northern sections of the state as a result of a cold wave last night. In this city it was 15 below during the night and the mercury had risen only a few degrees today.

Two More Deaths from Wood Alcohol
New York, Jan. 3.—Two more deaths from poisonous alcohol were reported today bringing the total since Christmas eve to seven.

More than 100 patients have been taken to Bellevue hospital.