

Marked Improvement In Business Conditions

Stock and Bond Prices Close at Materially Higher Levels Which is a Reflection of Industrial Conditions.

STILL FURTHER PROGRESS IN 1923

Is Expected by Banking Interests.—Money Market Easier and High Sums Available for Business.

New York, Dec. 30 (By the Associated Press).—Stock and bond prices generally closed the year at materially higher levels, which is not only a reflection of the marked improvement that has taken place in business and industry during the last twelve months, but also construed by conservative New York banking interests as an indication of still further progress in the coming year.

The year closed with conditions favorable for a further appreciation of commodity and security prices in the opinion of the financial community. Unfavorable and unexpected developments in the political and economic world are generally considered as the only probable obstacles to arrest the improvement in the business and financial world, which began in the summer of 1921 and has continued with few temporary interruptions until the present time.

The prediction of further business prosperity is based on several well-known facts. Foremost of these is the easiness of the money market, and huge sums available for business enterprises. In addition, most stocks of merchandise are low, railroad traffic is close to record levels, exports are increasing, the principal European exchanges are heading back to par, and the European economic situation showed signs of improvement, exports are increasing and unfilled orders for railroad equipment are the largest in years. Other favorable signs are seen in the fact that no big strikes are threatening or pending, a great amount of construction work is still in arrears, despite a recent breaking year of activity in the building industry, automobile production reached a new peak, which probably will be exceeded next year, while gasoline consumption has been the highest in history, and electric companies are doing a record business.

Optimism for 1923.
Chicago, Dec. 30 (By the Associated Press).—Optimism for 1923, permeated summarizations from a business standpoint of the year now closing, as made public today by some of Chicago's leaders in finance and industry. They gave their reasons for satisfaction with the situation, chief of which were:
Upward trend of trade.
A tone of greater confidence.
Improved conditions of agriculture.
Increasing business activity.
Favorable condition of bank reserves, interest rates and credit structure.
More normal relationship between prices of different classes of commodities.
Better foreign exchange quotations.
Increased prices of farm crops, were generally given an important place in the statements.

The Woman's Missionary Society of St. James Lutheran Church will meet at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon with Mrs. John M. Cook, on West Corbin street.

ALFRED SMITH COMES BACK LIKE CONQUERING HERO

Vast Crowds Acclaim New York Governor-Elect Upon His Return to Albany.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 29.—For the second time in four years, Alfred E. Smith—"Al" to most of the 12,000,000 men, women and children in the Empire state—today took up his residence in the big red brick mansion set apart by the state as the official home of its executives.

The welcome he received was such as might be extended to a military leader returning from fields of victory. When he alighted from the train that brought him from New York and stepped into the great waiting room of the Union station he was cheered tumultuously by a crowd that occupied every available inch of standing room. He was cheered again by a smaller but no less enthusiastic group which had assembled outside the Executive Mansion.

Mr. Harding May Sign Orders Freeing Political Prisoners.

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Harding is expected to sign tomorrow commutation of sentences of 12 or more "political prisoners," it was said today by a White House spokesman. There will, however, be no "general amnesty," it was added. The commutations, it was explained, will be in the nature of a New Year's gift. Just prior to Christmas the President granted three commutations, but these were not for offenders against war time laws.

No Legion-Sawyer Breach.

Fort Worth, Tex., Dec. 29.—Denial that any breach existed between the American Legion and Brigadier General Sawyer was made by Alvin Owsley, national commander of the organization here as he boarded a train for the Pacific coast. The commander intimated that harmony now existed between the surgeon general's office and the legion which at its last convention demanded the removal of Dr. Sawyer.

John Haden's Residence is Destroyed by Blaze.

Salisbury, Dec. 30.—John N. Haden, Salisbury business man, awoke this morning at 4 o'clock to find his home, a two-story residence, burning. The house and most of the furniture were practically destroyed, as the fire had gained considerable headway when discovered. The fire's origin is undetermined. Mrs. Haden and children left several days ago on a pleasure trip to California and Mr. Haden was in the house alone when the fire occurred.

Honor Roll of Gilwood School Second Month.

First grade—Richard Benson, Harold Johnson, Alma Seaford.
Second grade—Dorothy Bradford, Ruth Hartsell, Robert Seaford.
Third grade—Johnnie Craven, Benson Freese, Esther Hartsell, Boyd Seaford.
Fourth grade—Evaloe Benson, Craven, Doris Irvin, Wilson Johnston, Gillie Smith.
Fifth grade—Mary Grace Bradford, Bertha Hartsell.
RUTH LINKER, CARRIE EMBERTON, Teachers.

Fire Breaks Out at Emory University.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 29.—All available Atlanta fire apparatus has been sent to Emory University in answer to a general alarm of fire at midnight. There are approximately 500 students living in dormitories. There is also a large hospital located on the grounds. Only meager details are now available.

OUSTED FOR BIBLE VIEWS

Dr. A. W. Slaten "Too Radical" For William Jewell College.

Kansas City Star. How Dr. Slaten interprets Bible: Differs with the "conservatives" regarding the time of the writing of the Book of Daniel.

Characterizes the story of the Creation as a "Hebrew folk tale."
Does not believe in miracles, demons or Satan.
Believes the Bible is not all of equal value.

Dr. Arthur Wakefield Slaten, professor of Biblical literature and religious education at William Jewell College, at Liberty, Mo., has been officially dismissed from the faculty for his radical views on religion. The action was at a secret meeting of eighteen trustees of the college in Kansas City Thursday. William Jewell is a Baptist school.

The trustees made public this resolution:
Whereas, a serious question has arisen concerning the views of Dr. Arthur Wakefield Slaten regarding the Bible and the Christian faith, he was invited to appear before the board of trustees to give expression for his views on these matters.

He stated that he does not believe in, nor subscribe to, the following doctrines which we deem essential to the Christian faith:

1. Pre-existence and the deity of Christ.
2. Infallibility of his teachings.
3. His vicarious death.
4. His bodily resurrection.
5. His mediatorial and intercessory work.

He also stated before the board that he does not worship Christ nor pray in his name.

By reason of these views the board was of the unanimous opinion that he is disqualified longer to remain in his present position as head of Biblical literature and religious education. The board therefore unanimously voted to discontinue his services as a member of the faculty of William Jewell College, to take effect January 1, 1923. The board also voted that the treasurer be instructed to continue the pay of Dr. Slaten's salary to the end of the term for which he is engaged to teach.

JOE P. JACOBS, Secretary.

Dr. Slaten issued this statement: "The real issue is far greater than a mere personal one. It is far greater than the removal of a teacher against the protest of the faculty and student body. It is the issue of academic freedom. Shall the teachers in denominational colleges be free to teach what their researches convince them to be true, or shall they be controlled by their teachings by the opinions of non-professionals who assume to know the truth already?"

"Suppose the rank and file of the Baptists in Missouri believe that the earth took its present position in six days, and is only six thousand years old. It would be absurd to require the professor of geology to teach this. A bacteriologist or a surgeon has technical knowledge which in teaching he is bound to assert, whether his conclusions accord with lay opinions or not.

"The same freedom must be granted a teacher of religion. They are in honor bound not merely to repeat parrots, but to think for themselves. As leaders they dare not merely shape their teaching to fit the opinions their constituency already hold. That is the mark of the demagogue and the charlatan.

The dismissal of Dr. Slaten revealed a reported movement by the "conservatives" to rid the faculty of "radicals." The disposal of Dr. Ralph Tukey, Dr. E. C. Griffith, Dr. H. R. Richmond and Dr. Ernest Cook in 1917 has been attributed to that movement. Dr. Slaten's case is the first to obtain publicity, because he refused to resign when requested to do so. Mr. Jacobs, however, denied the "resignations" of the four in 1917 were accepted for "religious" reasons.

William Jewell students, in a formal resolution, adopted by the student body with only one dissenting vote, protested the dismissal of Dr. Slaten. Many of the students regard him as a martyr and there were touching farewells after the last class had been dismissed.

Dr. Slaten is the author of a recently published book, "What Jesus Taught," which, he said, propounded certain interpretations of the Scriptures that were in harmony with the views held by the rank and file of Baptists throughout the state of Missouri.

One of the points in controversy, according to Dr. Slaten, is the time of the writing of the Book of Daniel in the Old Testament. Dr. Slaten holds the Book of Daniel was written about the year 167 B. C., while it is the belief of the ultra-conservative element of the college that it was written about the sixth century B. C.

Dr. Slaten says his book "angels, demons or Satan have become unreal. To lay insanity, epilepsy, loss of speech or any other disease to possession of a demon would seem to them a retrogression to the primitive ideas of savages who employ witch doctors to call forth the evil spirits from the sick."

In another place the author says: "Bible students made a long step forward when they began to think of the Bible as literature and to study it in the way that other students study."

The story of the Creation is recorded in the Book of Genesis as characterized as a "Hebrew folk tale."
Dr. Slaten has gone to Chicago to resume work on a dictionary of the New Testament, based upon the Greek. In that work he is associated with Dr. Ernest Burton of Chicago university. They expect to finish the task in three years. Dr. Slaten believes a thorough knowledge of Greek is the key to the proper interpretation of the New Testament.

White ants are destroying the beautiful old temples of Nikko, Japan. The temples, built of wood, sculptured and lacquered, are going fast under the attacks of the insects.

The condition of Col. James N. Brown, who has been quite ill for several days, is reported today as slightly improved.



Social & Personal

By MISS COTTRELL SHERRILL Telephone 71, St. Cloud Hotel.

Delightful Musical Event.
One of the most delightful musical events ever given in Concord was the one that closed the year 1922.

This concert was given to the people of Concord by Mrs. William H. Gorman, who paid her friend, Mrs. Lillian Holmesley Bott, the gifted artist, to sing. The audience appreciated Mrs. Bott's selections. This gifted woman studied five years in Europe and has sung in Berlin, Dresden, and London, and some of the same melodies that so much delighted her audience here.

Little Miss Margaret Montgomery made the children think that a real fairy was dancing before their eyes, and all present were delighted with her chaste and rhythmic movements.

Our talented musician, Miss Nell Herring, of whom all Concord is proud, made possible the perfection of the artist's work by her accompaniments.

It seems that such a concert will be an inspiration for placing music in the public schools here.

All who were present feel under lasting obligation to Mrs. Gorman for affording them the pleasure of this delightful concert.

Miss Louise Coffey Married.

Miss Louise Coffey, who formerly lived in Concord and has many friends here, was married December 28th to Mr. Clarence Pichard, a merchant of Chapel Hill. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Nora J. Coffey, of Morganton.

Only relatives and a few intimate friends were present. The bride and groom entered the living room together. The bride wore a becoming gown of dark blue, with accessories to match. After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Pichard left for a wedding trip to Washington.

Mrs. Pichard is a pretty brunette and is attractive and popular. For several years she has been private secretary to Mr. N. W. Walker, of Chapel Hill.

The groom is a merchant of Chapel Hill and is a splendid young business man. They will make their home at Chapel Hill.

Engagement Announced.
Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Harry, of this county, announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Lawing, to Mr. George Reid Trotter, of Charlotte. The wedding will take place at the Harry home January 10th.

Miss Harry was graduated from Queen's College, Charlotte, and is a most attractive brunette.

Mr. Trotter is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Morris F. Trotter, of Charlotte. He was graduated from the North Carolina State college and is an electrical engineer of splendid ability. He is a member of the staff of the Electrical Constructors Company, of Charlotte.

The popular young couple have a wide circle of friends throughout the state who will be interested in the announcement of their approaching marriage.

Only relatives and a few intimate friends will attend the wedding.

Miss Armstrong Entertains.
Thursday evening Miss Arlie Armstrong entertained a few friends at her home on Kerr street in honor of some college friends, who are home for the holidays: Mr. Ed. Misenheimer, of Maryland State, Mr. Burye Williams, of Carolina, Mr. Bentz Howard, N. C. State. The evening was spent in playing different card games and porchees, after which fruit and candy were served. The remainder of the evening was spent musically, both instrumental and vocal.

The home was gay with holly and mistletoe, still proclaiming the spirit of Christmas. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

Those enjoying the occasion were: Misses Della Murr, Blanche Honeycutt, Ada and Eunice Swaente, Mrs. C. H. Craven; Messrs. Ed. Misenheimer, Buryl Williams, Bentz Howard, Ed. White, Joe Correll, Homer Fink, Frank Perkins and Herbert Craven.

Women's Club to Meet Thursday.
The regular meeting of the Women's Club will be held Thursday at Central Graded School at 3:30 p. m. The attendance of every member is expected, and every one is needed for the wisdom they may contribute to the discussions to be engaged in. The President and Chairman of each department are each one anxious for the membership to consider every question thoroughly, and that action shall be taken after a thoughtful counsel. We all want to be there to give a vote of thanks to our club members, Mrs. Ed. Just Hicks, for the \$12.00 she raised for the Christmas Health seals.

MRS. W. H. GORMAN, President.

Thompson-Bowen.
Mr. Frank R. Thompson, formerly of Concord, and Miss Gertrude Anderson Bowen, of Anderson, S. C., were married on December 29, 1922, at Anderson, S. C. They left on their bridal trip to Atlanta, Ga., and other cities south. On their return they will make their home in Anderson, S. C., where Mr. Thompson is service engineer for Yancey Brothers.

Carolina Alumni Banquet.
Alumni and students of the State University have made elaborate plans for the annual banquet and dance which will be held here this evening. Seventy-five invitations have been issued for the banquet and 150 invitations have been issued for the dance. The former will be held at the Y and the latter at the Merchants and Manufacturers Club.

Miss Lelia Tuttle Here.
Miss Lelia Tuttle, missionary to China for the Women's Missionary Society of Central Methodist Church, is spending several days here. Miss Tuttle spoke at Central Church yesterday morning, being heard with

Next Reparations Move Up to Allied Premiers

RUM PIRATES' BIG HAUL FROM BOOZE-LADEN SHIP

Craft Clearing From Bahamas Held Up on High Seas and Cargo Taken.

New York, Dec. 28.—A report received by customs officials today from Nassau, Bahamas, of a \$1,000,000 liquor robbery on the high seas was taken by customs officials as proof of reports that pirates were raiding rum runners off the Atlantic coast.

The report said that the Vincent A. White, which cleared from Nassau for Miquelon on October 21 with 10,500 cases of liquor, had been boarded off the New York coast and all the liquor and money she carried taken.

With New Year's approaching, clearance reports from the Bahamas, received by customs officials, indicated that a fresh supply of liquor was on its way from Nassau. Although a number of vessels cleared for St. Pierre, Miquelon, Federal agents indicated they would keep a sharp look-out along the Jersey and Long Island shores to prevent any liquor leaking into New York.

Latest reports showed that Swedish craft had entered the rum-carrying trade along the Atlantic seaboard, for clearing from Nassau with a cargo of liquor was the Swedish auxiliary schooner Carnegie.

WISH FOR SILLY THINGS LEADS TO SEPARATE HOME

Screen Actress Leaves Mother After Quarrel Over Trifles.

Los Angeles, Dec. 31.—Mary Miles Minter, motion picture actress, has left the home of her mother, Mrs. Charlotte Shelby, and has set up her own establishment, according to a story printed in the Los Angeles Times today. A report is current, according to the Times, that "mother and daughter have quarreled."

Interviewed at her new home, Miss Minter said her mother was "ideal," but admitted:

"It is true we have quarreled, but we had only motherly and daughterly quarrels, such as happen in any family. I wanted a home of my own, where I could do the funny little things I like to do, and I got me one."

Miss Minter said she would be 21 years old next April. At the Shelby residence inquiries about Miss Minter met with the statement she was out on location.

Blind From Birth But Is to Be Graduated Astronomer.

An Arbor, Mich., Dec. 30.—Blind from birth, with his conception of the heavens formed by descriptions from others, Joseph Caldwell, of Indiana, Pennsylvania, is studying astronomy at the University of Michigan in order that he may meet the scientific requirements to permit him to be graduated from the College of Literature, Science and Arts.

Mr. Caldwell, a sophomore and 46 years old, is doubly handicapped. In addition to his blindness, he lacks the mechanical aids for the study of astronomy that often are afforded students who take up other studies. Blind students of astronomy are so rare that there are no text books with raised type. Therefore, he depends upon fellow students to read his lessons to him. So proficient has he become, his professors say, that he frequently memorizes a lesson by hearing it read only a few times.

In addition to astronomy, Mr. Caldwell is studying psychology, German, French and Italian. He ranks as one of the most adept students in his classes.

Ismet Pasha Reaffirms Demands.
Lausanne, Dec. 29 (By the Associated Press).—Ismet Pasha sent a letter to Marquis Curzon this afternoon reaffirming his demands that the Mosul district with its available oil fields be turned over to Turkey. The note denied the British contention that the Kurds who inhabit the district are not friendly to the Turks, and want Mosul to remain under the Arab government of Iraq.

One Killed in Oklahoma Fire.
Ardmore, Okla., Dec. 30.—At least one person was killed and two blocks of frame business buildings were destroyed in an early morning fire here today. Two other persons are reported missing.

His: "Can you take a joke?" Her: "Oh, Jack, please don't propose!"

Views of Washington Government on Reparations Question Made Public by Secretary Hughes.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Disclosure by Secretary Hughes in his New Haven speech last night of the belief of the Washington government that an international commission of financiers, including Americans might as well be called to recommend a method of settlement for the reparations crisis apparently leaves the next move in the hands of the allied premiers.

The American suggestion, Mr. Hughes specified, was offered as an alternative in the event that the premiers at their Paris meeting Tuesday failed to find a basis for adjustment of their views "among themselves."

PREMIERS MEET IN PARIS SOON

And if They Fail to Agree, Mr. Hughes Thinks the American Plan is the Only Practical One Left.

The Secretary stressed the view that settlement by the premiers was to be hoped for. He pointed out that failing such an agreement, the world might be facing the employment of forcible means to collect reparations from Germany, and outlined the danger to world peace the American government foresaw in that course.

The plain warning to allied Statesmen that the United States could not look with favor on attempted forcible collection was reiterated by Mr. Hughes in his address, and the financial commission plan put forward as an alternative that would "open helpfully" the way for American helpfulness.

As a first condition of appointment of an economic commission, however, Mr. Hughes specified that the whole question of Germany's capacity to pay and methods of payment must be "taken out of politics." He emphasized that the distinguished forces assigned to recommend not only a financial plan of payment, but the amount to be paid, must be freed of the domination of foreign officers, and the necessity of obeying political instructions. The problem must be squared with economic facts alone, he said, and relieved of all the questions of sentiment and clashing political opinions, recombinations and counter charges which have blocked the recuperation of Europe up to this time.

SCIENTISTS UPHOLD EVOLUTION THEORY

Leaders in That Field Unanimously For It, Council of Association Says.
Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 26.—The scientific world is convinced of the truth of the evolution theory, it was strongly affirmed today in a formal statement issued by the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, whose convention began here with between 2,000 and 3,000 of the leading scientists of America in attendance.

Denying that the theory of evolution was "a mere guess," the council asserted that it was thoroughly established and that there were no doubters among scientists of note.

BATTLESHIP MOVEMENT CREATES MUCH INTEREST

British Have Not Announced Why Ships Were Ordered Back From Malta to Near East.

London, Dec. 29 (By the Associated Press).—The hasty return of the British fleet to Constantinople from Malta attracts wide attention here. Nothing is forthcoming from official sources to explain the move, but the obvious assumption, that it is connected with the uncompromising attitude of the Turks at Lausanne is everywhere adopted.

There are still many foreigners in Constantinople, and the dispatch of the warships is regarded as a necessary precaution in the event that there is a breakdown in the Lausanne negotiations.

In Moorish cafes green tea is served in a glass of mint.

COURT CALENDAR

The January Term of Cabarrus Superior Court will be held January 8th, 1923, before His Honor James L. Webb, Judge. The Civil Docket will not be called until Monday, January 15th, 1923, and will be called in the following order:

MONDAY, JANUARY 15th, 1923.

- No. 32—Wm. Story Lumber Co. vs. National Lumber Co., for judgment.
- No. 50—C. B. Roberts vs. E. C. Lowery.
- No. 51—Chas. Lipe vs. B. D. Umberger.
- No. 56—D. E. Boggs vs. Perl Boggs, for judgment.
- No. 60—Blacklock Produce Co. vs. W. A. Foil, et. als.
- No. 61—Jane Wall vs. Household of Ruth No. 4019, for judgment.
- No. 66—Salisbury Realty & Ins. Co. vs. L. L. Honeycutt.
- No. 73—J. S. Archer vs. W. F. and R. L. Smith.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16th, 1923.

- No. 79—G. R. Gaskey vs. Mason Goodman, Admr.
- No. 84—E. M. Taylor vs. Jno. C. Gorman and J. B. Green.
- No. 86—Mason Goodman, Admr., vs. G. R. Gaskey and W. S. Ritchie.
- No. 93—T. C. Faggart vs. Boyd and Paul Krimminger.
- No. 94—G. W. Earnhardt vs. Cabarrus Motor Co.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17th, 1923.

- No. 102—K. Katz & Sons vs. B. D. Corl (under protest).
- No. 103—The Hetch Co. vs. B. D. Corl (under protest).
- No. 104—L. Elesinger & Sons vs. B. D. Corl (under protest).
- No. 108—Ada Sigman, Admr. vs. So. Ry. Co., and Yadkin Ry. Co.
- No. 109—R. L. Wise vs. M. F. and Marshal Peeter.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18th, 1923.

- No. 111—F. J. Lewey vs. East Side Mfg. Co. (under protest).
- No. 113—W. Ed. Harris, et. als., vs. F. E. Robinson.
- No. 119—W. J. Barnhardt vs. Richmond-Flowe Co.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19th, 1923.

- No. 127—Landis Milling Co. vs. E. I. Hinson.
- No. 131—Ehrd Bros. & Co. vs. W. J. Hill, Jr.
- No. 134—Peerless Brick Co. vs. Southern Ry. Co.
- No. 138—H. M. Hartsell vs. G. E. Crowell and W. C. Burleyson.
- No. 163—Joe Neal vs. Sam Alexander.
- No. 172—J. F. Bost vs. J. E. Russ and M. E. Russ, for judgment.

By consent of the bar, divorce cases are not calendared, but may be tried at the convenience of the Court.
The Motion Docket will be called to suit the convenience of the Court.
Witnesses need not attend until day set for trial, and cases not reached on day set for trial, will take precedent of cases for next day.
This December 30th, 1922.
J. B. McALLISTER,
Clerk Superior Court.

New Year Is Here
May It Bring YOU ALL Peace, Prosperity and Happiness
BELL-HARRIS FURNITURE CO.
"THE STORE THAT SATISFIES"