

Plays, Players and Playhouses

BUSINESS MEN TAKE STOCK OF FUTURE

Guaranty Trust Company of New York Issues First of Series of Reviews of Financial and Economic Conditions in Foreign Lands in Interest of American Overseas Trade—Advantages and Disadvantages of This Country in Comparison With Others Pointed Out.

Everywhere throughout the world men and nations are preparing for peace, says the Guaranty Trust Company of New York City, in the first of a "Taking Stock of the Future" series of reviews of financial and economic conditions in foreign lands. Their preparations, the paper continues, are going forward not in the belief that peace will come in a month, or a year, or within any other fixed period, but rather in the conviction that no matter how far off peace may be, its known problems are of such magnitude and importance as to require immediate consideration, adding:

"Even those countries which at the moment are chiefly concerned with war measures are taking stock of the future, and are seeking with all the provision they can command to get from its uncertainties some up-to-date basis of the principles that must obtain in reclaiming the wreck that this conflict has made of the activities and relationships of mankind."

Numerous features of these questions are discussed. Among them the following: "Neutral countries, no longer able to import the things they require, are turning in their own fields and mines for food and raw materials. They are increasing their manufactures and developing their foreign trade. Out of this is growing not only an understanding of the wants of other peoples, the extent of their resources, and their methods of doing business, but also—and more important—an understanding of their own capacities. Accordingly there is observable a growing spirit of enterprise and preparation not unlike that of the Renaissance which swept over Europe at the close of the Middle Ages."

"To come to any appreciation of what part the United States may play in world affairs at the close of this war, and by what means it is to hold its position, a clear idea must be had of what the coming of peace will immediately involve. The warring countries for a considerable period must direct their efforts largely toward taking apart, or demobilizing, the vast and intricate war machine, and toward rearranging society, not according to pre-war standards, but according to the new requirements which a long and disastrous war has made unavoidable."

"It is beginning to be realized that the individual nation must organize for peace just as it did for war, if it is to give effective aid to mankind in reconstructing the structure of a civilization which it took 1,400 years to build up and less than three years to break down. The first step toward such an organization for peace, however, must be the clearing away of the debris of war. In this America will have the advantage of being able to turn more quickly to what may be termed development, as distinguished from demobilization and rebuilding."

"It has been estimated that 35,000,000 men are under arms or are directly connected with the military and naval services of the nations of the earth. Then come others whose talents and energies are directed toward supplying goods and services that are needed only because so many men and women have been withdrawn from production and distribution. These are merely indicators of the vast multitudes who are now doing things they did not do before the war, and who may or may not continue to do them after the war. In itself, the demobilization of the fighters and their return to their own countries is a huge problem, but there are wartime industries, wartime railroads and wartime trade and shipping routes which will cease to serve any useful purpose when peace returns."

"While America will escape the burden of rebuilding, while her demobilization problem, difficult as it will be, is insignificant compared to that of the European nations and while we shall, accordingly, have a very important advantage over our commercial and industrial rivals, it should be remembered that the European nations will also have certain very material advantages. First of all, they will have the impetus given by their colossal national debts. To pay these will be the proud ambition of every honorable nation. None of them will care to face the world with a record of repudiation. To their purpose to pay they will bring a skill in manufacture bred through many years during which competition forced them to produce cheaply and quickly. They will have colonies, rich in raw materials, which have developed during the last three years a higher degree of productive efficiency. They will have an intimate acquaintance with the conduct of foreign trade and the framework of an organization upon which its success depends. They will have a system of foreign banks with staffs of trained men in charge. They will undoubtedly have a degree of governmental assistance and support with which American traders have heretofore been unacquainted."

"Aside from a favorable position at the opening of this race for commercial supremacy, America has certain other advantages of importance. At the foundation lies a huge gold reserve upon which can be built a structure of credit sufficient not only to finance our own enterprises, but also to give aid to those of foreign countries. To guide and assist these credit extensions we have a banking system characterized by some of our rivals as ideal. This system will lend itself to the extension of American financial houses into foreign countries. Already a beginning has been made, but only by the setting up of branch banks and foreign offices—establishments which may be termed money and credit depots for the advancing trade army—but also by the organization of merchandise banks, institutions with the usefulness and working of which European nations have long been familiar."

"This, in broad outline, is the situation. To the solution of these problems every great nation of the world, with the exception of the United States, is already giving the thought of its most able men. Under the auspices of their governments, financiers, manufacturers, traders and workmen are being organized for the purpose of investigating and reporting on what will best serve to lift their respective enterprises out of the ruin of war. When all the resultant mass of information and opinion shall have been accumulated and organized it will be co-ordinated and will form the basis of policies which the governments are expected to adopt. Already it is evident that some of these policies may shatter traditions and ideals long adhered to, and will be bitterly opposed both by those who live in the past and those who dream of the future. Certain it is, however, that these problems of peace must be solved and the nation that solves them with the largest measure of vision and practical insight will soonest get out of debt and resume effort of the nations. After the war all will be concentrated no less vigorously on the work of reconstruction."

"The extent of that wreck is incalculable. It is only when one turns to the problems of eventual peace that some realization may be had of the destruction of the last three and one-half years. The money cost alone has been estimated at \$100,000,000,000. Literally millions of men, women and children have been killed, have died, or have been rendered physically useless. Entire countries have been laid waste. In every warring country equipment for the production and distribution of goods, other than war supplies has been deliberately scrapped or allowed to deteriorate beyond hope of rehabilitation. Trade routes on land and sea have been abandoned and new ones, to meet temporary needs, have been established. The demand for ships has taxed the resources of every country in material and labor."

In subsequent articles more specific instances of the changes that have come about during the last few years will be given. It is promised, in connection with an account of the measure for meeting them which various countries now have under advisement and of the principles to which they intend to adhere in the work of reconstruction. Finally it is proposed to submit information concerning trade opportunities in various foreign countries which will be of interest to Americans desirous of extending their business into new and profitable fields.

"The extent of that wreck is incalculable. It is only when one turns to the problems of eventual peace that some realization may be had of the destruction of the last three and one-half years. The money cost alone has been estimated at \$100,000,000,000. Literally millions of men, women and children have been killed, have died, or have been rendered physically useless. Entire countries have been laid waste. In every warring country equipment for the production and distribution of goods, other than war supplies has been deliberately scrapped or allowed to deteriorate beyond hope of rehabilitation. Trade routes on land and sea have been abandoned and new ones, to meet temporary needs, have been established. The demand for ships has taxed the resources of every country in material and labor."

In subsequent articles more specific instances of the changes that have come about during the last few years will be given. It is promised, in connection with an account of the measure for meeting them which various countries now have under advisement and of the principles to which they intend to adhere in the work of reconstruction. Finally it is proposed to submit information concerning trade opportunities in various foreign countries which will be of interest to Americans desirous of extending their business into new and profitable fields.

BIG SUMS FOR COKER.

Needs to Raise \$10,000 to Secure \$150,000.

Hartsville, S. C., March 23.—Founder's day was celebrated at Coker College Friday. The leading address was made by Major Ullern of the French army, whose address was a forcible presentation of what France has done during the war. He commended highly the preparation America has made to enter the struggle.

At the close of the exercises it was announced that the general education board of New York offered to give Coker College \$40,000 on condition that the trustees raise \$110,000 more. The treasurer of the college then announced that Maj. James L. Coker, the founder of the college, had just given \$100,000. The leaves only \$10,000 to be raised by friends. The entire \$150,000 is to be used as a permanent endowment fund. This makes the endowment of Coker College over \$400,000.

Arrive in France. Word has been received here announcing the safe arrival in France of Messrs. C. B. Thomas and Robert Harrell, two Mullin boys who enlisted early in February in the 20th Engineers. They volunteered in Co. D, 8th Battalion. Mr. Thomas was principal of the Mullins school and Mr. Harrell held a responsible position with the Mullins Lumber Company prior to enlisting in the foreign service. The news of their safe arrival will be read with interest by friends here.—Mullins Enterprise.



MABEL NORMAND IN "DODGING A MILLION" GOLDWYN PICTURES

MABEL NORFAND The Stellar Attraction at the Grand Monday and Tuesday.

CATLESS REVUE LATEST WRINKLE IN RIALO REVUE

By O. O. McIntyre.

New York, March 23.—A song and dance team who have won more or less reputation by appearing in midnight revues tried to put on a real Broadway shot for \$980 the past week. It was called castless, careless and costless—and it was all of these and more too. Hooverism is a great subject but it cannot be carried to the stage in New York. That is unless it is in the manner of dress for the show girls.

The show was unmercifully panned. The producers held up to ridicule and it will probably close in a week. There were no programs or ushers—probably an idea glitched from the theatre of Harry Kemp, the tramp poet.

Among other things they have been panning Shakespeare in New York this week. An advertising pundit, addressing an audience, said that Shakespeare had far less "punch" than the gentleman now writing certain tobacco ads. He declared that the tobacco ads would be remembered when Shakespeare had been forgotten. The audience booed him off the rostrum.

Peach growers and others may gain comfort from the meteorologists of the curb market, who officially recognized the presence of spring on Thursday by amusing the old "egg game" from its winter sleep. All day spring revellers were welcoming the vernal season in by dropping eggs into the pockets of their fellow brokers. Sooner or later, in the turmoil of trading on the curb, disaster follows. The present price of eggs did not hamper the revel appreciably. The revel was first started a number of years ago by a facetious broker and each year it is revived. Oil issues were still spurting on the curb this week. Okmulgee Oil jumped from about \$1 a share a few months ago to more than \$9 a share. They are exclusive up at Sing Sing

prison. Folk go through a lot to get into the prison organization and they do not welcome uninitiated intruders.

Twenty State police rode up to the prison and demanded shelter for the night, explaining that their instructions were, whenever possible to put up at State institutions.

"Cops are not welcome here, unless they've been caught with the goods," quoth the doorman, "and besides every room in the place is taken." New York has closed its doors to the rich and poor flaneurs of New York. Since the Governor signed the bill making it necessary for every man in Jersey to go to work or the workhouse, there has been a steady stream of idlers to New York. The police commissioner got on the job and turned them back. He doesn't care for them and they will have to return and go to work or seek some other State. New York is no place for gentlemen of leisure.

A newspaper man was surprised this week to get a check for \$200 from an author. The check came with a letter explaining that three years ago the reporter told the author a story and out of that story the author wrote a short story that sold for \$1000. The author considered that \$200 was a fair commission. Now the newspaper man is hunting up every author he can find and spins yarn after yarn in the hope of having a regular annuity for his ideas.

Women who wear army uniforms—or rather uniforms that specify special army relief organizations—are refused drinks in New York hotels now. One woman tried to order a cocktail in a downtown hotel and was refused and the hotel got so much publicity out of it that other hotels are following the lead.

Will Hold Hearing. Chesterfield, S. C., March 23.—The nor Manning has designated next Saturday, March 30, at 11:30 o'clock in the morning for the hearing on the five cents car fare act, passed at the recent session of the general assembly. The act would limit fares between Columbia and Camp Jackson to five cents instead of 10 cents as now obtaining.

THEATRE

A GREAT SHOW COMING

Positively the greatest, the most pretentious stock organization that ever has toured the South comes to the Royal Theatre for a limited engagement, commencing Monday, April 1, the United Southern Stock Company, a combination of the three best-known stock aggregations below the Mason-Dixon line—and embracing the stellar members of each—Mabel Paige, Peruchi-Gypzene and Edouard D'Oize. In addition, such recognized Dixie performers as Joseph Cusack and Charles W. Ritchie will be seen in every entertainment.

The affiliation of three big shows enables the United company to offer at popular prices plays heretofore unobtainable by the single traveling stock, plays not to be seen in the South except at a scale of high prices of admission. The Eternal Magdalene will be the initial offering, to be followed by the skyscraper of all modern farces, A Full House, and the most novel melodrama of the decade, Under Cover.

The Eternal Magdalene, chosen for the opening performance in Wilmington, is a drama that has set the people talking from Maine to Frisco. It is a violent, yet at the same moment sincere recital of facts, as they presumably would occur should a street woman suddenly be introduced into a modern American home. The central figure is a prototype of the woman of the Bible; opposed to her in the play is a present day business man, a captain of industry, who is the predominating factor in a vice crusade upon the "red light" district and its denizens. He is backed by an evangelist and is opposed by a brainy newspaper reporter.

Reserved seats open next Friday at the theatre box office, and for this engagement seats may be reserved not only for the higher priced seats but for all section of the house for any performance, being on sale at all times for three days in advance. Patrons who remember the many disappointments upon the opening of the Pickert's engagement will undoubtedly avail themselves an early opportunity to make reservations.

THRILLING MYSTERY.

If ever there was a play shown on the screen that contained more thrilling mystery than Mabel Normand's first Goldwyn starring vehicle, "Dodging a Million," the authors, Edgar Selwyn and A. M. Kennedy, would like to know it.

"Dodging a Million," which is to be shown at the Grand theatre Monday and Tuesday, has neither murders nor detectives to create suspense; but by a clever unfolding of a novel plot the interest is kept at high tension to the very end.

Everything is handled from the viewpoint of the heroine, Arabella Flynn, who is a humble dresser in a fashionable modiste shop. The spectator shares her wonder at the mysterious things that happen to her, beginning with the appearance of a strange young man who asks her the names of her mother, father, grandmother and grandfather, and then hurries off, and learns the complete facts only as fast as they are explained to her.

Events come thick and fast. An expressman delivers three trunks to her, numbered consecutively, and a letter containing a check for \$800 and instructions to open the trunks one at a time on consecutive days. The first trunk contains beautiful clothes of the Civil War period; the second is filled with jewels, and the third holds bottles of a curious poison that brings death painlessly and instan-

taneously in three hours after taking. To complicate matters, a mysterious, but always polite, Spaniard with unlimited funds, suddenly appears near her and guides her in the purchase of more clothes and jewels, and otherwise helps her to live the life of a veritable princess.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED SHOW

For the coming week the Royal announces the presentation of Gracey's Colonial Maids company, a new show on this circuit, which during the past week has played to capacity audiences in Raleigh and comes to Wilmington with one of the highest recommendations ever given a show on this circuit.

Gracey's Colonial Maids present clean, classy and refined musical comedy plays with elaborate special scenery and gorgeous wardrobe with more changes of costume to each show than have before been seen during the past season.

Six big vaudeville specialty acts are carried with this aggregation, headed by the famous Colonial Trio, in harmony singing that is something different from anything seen heretofore in Wilmington. Wentworth and Young, in singing and dancing specialties; George Adams, a singing comedy artist; the Schiffers, harmony singers who know how; Milly Berning, singing and talking comedians, and Amy Lee, a dainty little comedienne, are among the big headliner specialties to be presented. Their opening bill, one never before seen at the Royal, will be "Cupid's Mix-Up," a roaring farce with lots of singing and dancing.

Monday and Tuesday the fourteenth chapter of Jimmie Dale; Wednesday, the fourth chapter of "The Neglected Wife," and Friday, the fourth chapter of "The Mystery of the Double Cross" will be the picture offerings.

Building in Chesterfield. Chesterfield, S. C., March 23.—The two brick stores to replace those burned last fall on Main street, that have been under construction, are now completed. The same occupants have

ROYAL

One Week, Beginning Monday, April 1

United Southern Stock Company

The most Pretentious Stock Organization That Has Ever Toured the South. With the Southland's Favorites.

Mabel Paige

Peruchi-Gypzene Edouard D'Oize Also Jos Cusack and Chas. W. Ritchie

Highest Class Royalty Plays Direct from Long Metropolitan Runs, Including "The Eternal Magdalene"

"A Fullhouse" "Under Cover"

"Faust" "The Common Law"

Seat Sale Opens Friday, March 29. Reservations May Be Made for Any Part of the House.

ROYAL All This Week

GRACEY'S COLONIAL MAIDS

A New Show, Highly Recommended, Presenting Clean, Classy and Refined Musical Comedies

VAUDEVILLE SPECIALTIES

The Colonial Trio Singing | Geo Adams Singing Comedian | Wentworth and Young Singing and Dancing

The Schiffers." | Amy Lee Singing and Talking Comedienne

The "Harmony Pair" |

SPECIAL SCENERY FOR EVERY BILL ELABORATE WARDROBE



MABEL PAIGE As the Woman in "The Eternal Magdalene" the Opening Attraction by the United Southern Stock Co., at the Royal, Monday, April 1.

GRAND MONDAY and TUESDAY

Goldwyn Pictures Present

"THE LITTLE GIRL YOU CAN NEVER FORGET"

MABEL NORMAND

SUPPORTED BY TOM MOORE In Her Motion Picture Debut Under the Banner of Goldwyn Pictures

DODGING A MILLION

One Million Dollars—A Beautiful Heiress—A Handsome Lover—A Mysterious Foreigner—A Trunkful of Jewels—A Bottle of Slow Poison—And All the Clothes in the World.

Mabel Normand's Most Glittering Screen Play. Never in her screen experience has she been fitted with a vehicle that so fully displays every facet of her remarkable acting ability or so admirably a setting for her youthful beauty and charms.

Matinees 15c Nights 25c