

Official Washington believes that the nation has not only entered upon an era of economic recovery, but that something resembling a real "boom" is imminent.

That outlook, while encouraging in many ways, is not, however, to the liking of folk who have a keen recollection of the great boom of 1926-29, and of the crash which followed its collapse.

How to control the tendency toward rising prices and prevent the boom from developing into such a speculative wave as that which swept the nation ten years ago is the problem to which many of the ablest minds in the Administration are giving very serious thought.

The best opinion expressed here is that efforts to control prices and curb speculation, either by Government action alone or by closer co-operation between Government and business, will be undertaken when the new Congress gets under way.

The recovery which is definitely here will be of little benefit to the great mass of the people if its result is to increase the cost of living by sending commodity prices sky-high. Official Washington is more apprehensive of that than of the recurrence of a speculative boom on the Stock Exchange.

The powers already granted to the Securities and Exchange Commission are regarded as being sufficient, if intelligently used, to prevent any such "runaway" market as developed in 1929; though the stock market naturally reflects increased business prosperity, and the price of stocks is based, in the main, upon the business outlook.

**PAY AND HOURS PROBLEM**

What Washington fears is that it may be found difficult or impossible to prevent drastic rises in the prices of the ordinary commodities of life, especially in view of the growing strength of the demand for higher wages and shorter hours for workers in industry.

There is a very real conflict now in progress on a number of fronts between those who accept the view that high wages and free competition are not incompatible with low prices to consumers, and those who still believe in the price maintenance policy which underlay the N.R.A.

Those who hold that the general welfare is best served by fixing retail prices to consumers received considerable encouragement when the Supreme Court unanimously declared constitutional the laws of Illinois and California permitting manufacturers of trade-marked goods to fix the price at which retailers must sell them.

A similar law in New York State had been declared unconstitutional by the State Court of Appeals, but the Supreme Court of the United States now holds that any state has authority to abolish price-cutting to consumers by its means. Fourteen states now have laws of a similar nature. It is anticipated here that the project of a Federal resale price-maintenance law will be revived.

**INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS MOVE**

What is looked upon as a move in that direction, if not actually a revival of N. R. A., is the trend developed at the recent conference held here under the direction of Major George L. Berry, the President's Coordinator for Industrial Cooperation.

Even though a definite plan did not come out of this Council for Industrial Progress, and many important leaders of business and industry were not represented, resolutions were adopted recommending the reestablishment of something like the old N. R. A., with agreements between labor and employers on wages and hours, and on fair trade practices among business interests in the same lines.

This cannot be accepted as the Administration's plan, but it is the basis upon which, it is believed, the Administration will attempt to re-establish N. R. A.'s basic principles.

The major weakness, as many large business enterprises see it, is that its control and direction are under a labor leader. Major Berry is president of the International Pressmen's Union. As a result very few of the important industries of the nation took part in the conference. While that conference was on the National Association of Manufacturers was staging a Congress of American Industry in New York. A new spirit in the thinking of  
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**Steel, Auto Strike Set For February First**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



**Everybody Knows There Is A Santa Claus Now and Forever**

We take pleasure in answering dreary would the world be if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there was no Virginia. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable his existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys at Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither men or children can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world, which not the strongest men, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah! Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding. No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia; nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood. —Editorial from The New York Sun, 1897:

**H. L. Dalrymple Passes In Salisbury Hospital**

H. L. Dalrymple, Southern Railway carman at the Spencer shops for 37 years, died Dec. 20th in a Salisbury hospital. The funeral was held Tuesday at 4:30 o'clock at Coburn Memorial Methodist church. He is survived by his widow, one daughter, Mrs. Anna Wheeler of Macon, Ga., two sons, Myrtle and Warren of Salisbury.

**NEW STYLE BOOTEES**

Ankle high bootees with medium built-up heels set a new style pace in feminine footwear. Warm tones of wine and forest green are color favorites.

**Woman's Death Is Investigated**

An investigation was pushed into the death of Mrs. Bessie Fortune, 40, who was found dead Sunday night outside the screen door at the rear of Brunell Whirlow's home at 414 East Horah street.

Ramsey Euart of near Rorkwell, last person seen with Mrs. Fortune is being held in jail pending further investigation. Mrs. Whirlow and Joe Peeler, who had been a visitor in the home during the evening, found the body. The woman's neck had been broken, but in what manner it was not determined.

Euart told officers that he took Mrs. Fortune, at her request, to another home near the city, and they then returned to the Whirlow house, where she left the car and went into the house, while he drove away. Other occupants of the Euart home disclaim any knowledge of the woman's activities from the time she left until her body was found an hour or more later.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at 10:30 a. m. at Wright's funeral home, and burial was in St. Paul's Lutheran church cemetery in eastern Rowan. Her husband, Tom Fortune, from whom she had been separated for four years, six

**Auto Thief Is Caught In Act**

Robert Miller, negro, who was involved in robberies of homes in Salisbury several years ago, was captured Monday night while attempting to steal an automobile in front of the home of B. V. Hedrick, city councilman. The car belonged to Hedrick's daughter. Miller was seen in the car, the household was notified, and Charles E. Brady, a son-in-law of Hedrick, held Miller at the point of a gun until police arrived.

**Funeral Services Held For Billy W. Wrenn, 17**

Funeral services were held Dec. 21 at a local funeral home for Billy W. Wrenn, 17, who died Dec. 20. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Wrenn of 523 South Caldwell street; a brother, Charles, and a sister, Gypsy, all of Salisbury.

children and several brothers and sisters, as well as her mother, Mrs. Bill Troutman, are the immediate survivors.

**Wages, Hours Demands To Be Pressed**

**Labor Chiefs Warn General Walkout Impends**

Washington.—Leaders of the "rebel" Committee for Industrial Organization have set February 1 as the deadline for their showdown fight in the steel and automobile industries, it was announced here.

Unless their demands for substantial boosts in wages and sharp education in working hours are met by that date, they will carry out their threat of a general walk-out in one or both industries, sources close to John L. Lewis, C. I. O. head, disclosed.

In addition to possible tieups of the steel and automobile industries, the C. I. O. is lining up its powerful "army" of mine workers, united almost 100 per cent behind the "rebel" outgrowth of the American Federation of Labor, as another weapon in its three-pronged attack on the mass-producing industries.

Miners will meet with operators in New York City on February 17 and that conference also may be the signal for a fresh outbreak of industrial strife. Operators are offering the miners a 40-hour week at the same wages they are now paying for a 35-hour week. The new schedule is necessary, the operators declare, because of competition from other fuel-producing industries.

Meanwhile, witnesses parading before the National Labor Relations Board continued to accuse the U. S. Steel Corporation and its subsidiary, the Carnegie-Illinois Corporation, of interfering with workers' rights of collective bargaining. The steel firms are on "trial" before the board on charges preferred by the C. I. O.

**N. C. Primary Law Discussed With Com.**

**Advisability of Changing Primary Election Day From Saturday.**

**TUESDAY APPROVED**

**N. C. Press Association Suggested Change at Waynesville Summer Meet.**

Discussion of the advisability of changing the state primary law to provide for the first Tuesday instead of the first Saturday in June, consumed the most of the time at the meeting of the committee appointed by the Democratic state executive committee, in session in Raleigh. In addition to the change in the day for the primary elections the special committee recommended that the voting hours be set between 6 a. m. and 7 p. m., conforming as much as possible to the hours observed in general elections.

The shift from Saturday to Tuesday was asked by the North Carolina Press association at its summer meeting in Waynesville, and very general support of that plan has been given by the press. It was contended that the Saturday primaries cause the loss of a day after the voting in that incomplete returns sent in Sat. night are little supplemented on Sundays. The newspapers contended that they could give a much better news service by this change.

"Recommendations to the state committee were tentatively adopted as follows:  
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