

BUOYANCY MARKS NEW YORK MARKET FOLLOWING SLUMP

Demoralization of Thursday Gives Way To Recoveries of Chief Stocks.

RECOVERY STARTS WITH OPENING GONG Setbacks Take Place During Day But Are Quickly Overcome.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Buoyancy marked the stock market today. The slump of the last fortnight, which culminated in yesterday's demoralization, gave way to recoveries of five to ten points in the better known stocks and considerably more in issues of an ultra-speculative class.

On today's extreme recoveries numerous shares fully regained yesterday's losses, while a few were at or above final quotations of Wednesday. The rebound was effected on a much smaller volume of operations—about 1,750,000 shares—against the tremendous outpouring of more than 3,000,000 shares Thursday.

Better Understanding. Outstanding factors today were the better understanding of the international situation based upon reports from Washington and other centers of importance and the support given by investors who quickly availed themselves of the "bargains" offered at yesterday's decline.

Today's recovery began at the opening, when stocks of all descriptions showed gains of 3 to 8 points. Setbacks of 2 to 6 points, occasioned by professional profit-taking, occurred during the morning with dullness and some hesitation at midday, when the speech by King George became public.

Best prices were recorded in the last hour, when the market again became active and trading was broader than at any previous time of the day. Closing quotations were at or near the day's maximums, greatest strength being shown by yesterday's weakest shares.

Steel Gains. United States Steel gained more than six points; American Woolen, 6; American Hide and Leather, 6; Central Leather, 11 3/8; American Locomotive, 5 3/8; American Woolen, 5; Atlantic Gulf and West Indies, 13 5/8; with 1 1/4 for Atlantic Marine preferred and 2 3/8 for United Fruit; Baldwin Locomotive, 6 3/8; Bethlehem Steel, 11 1/2; Copple, 7; with 5 1/4 for Anaconda, 5 1/2 for Granby, and 3 to 5 for other metals; Lackawanna Steel, 7; Crucible Steel, 7; The Motors, 3 to 7; Petroleum from 3 to 10; New York Air Brake, 12 3/4; Republic Iron, 5 1/2; and Pittsburgh Coal, 6.

Rails made moderate headway, but advances of 2 to 4 points were general with 2 to 10 in issues of varied classifications, including Sears-Robuck, Sugars, Tobaccos, and 14 for Industrial Alcohol.

Money ruled at easy rates, with indications of another gain in investigation which will prevent the suspension of publications now dependent on the open market for their paper supply. It is also expected that information being collected now will throw much light on the problem.

Resumption of the hearings, it was explained, does not necessarily mean the failure of a news print distribution plan proposed last week by the manufacturers under which the larger publishers would share paper they have bought on contract for 1917 needs with small publishers who buy in the open market.

Committees of the interests concerned are co-operating with the trade commission, in accordance with an agreement reached after last week's hearings to ascertain the extent of next year's paper needs and the probable output of the mills. In the proposed distribution plan small publishers would be supplied with paper at the average price sold all customers. Information collected by the trade commission's investigators concerning profits and costs of paper manufacture, presented at the last hearing, but not taken up at length after the distribution proposal was made, will be gone into at the new hearings.

THE WEATHER. WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Forecast for North Carolina: Fair Saturday; Sunday fair; slightly warmer west portion.

EARLY REPLY TO WILSON'S PEACE NOTE IS UNLIKELY ACCORDING TO DISPATCHES

Allies Must Discuss Question With Each Other Before Taking Any Action On Note—Washington Watching Expressions of Opinion in the Press.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—While nothing official came from Europe today to show when the belligerents will reply to President Wilson's note urging discussion of peace, or what the nature of the response might be, the London news dispatches indicating that an early reply was unlikely because of the necessity of consultation between the allies agreed with the view prevailing here.

Watching the Press. Apparently the administration, having dispatched the note and, in the interest of caution having taken steps to see that no misconception abroad was placed on the president's purposes, now is carefully watching the expressions of opinion, particularly in British press. As the attitude of the belligerent allies had been clearly foreshadowed in advance and the president in the note specifically disclaimed any association with that attitude, the interest of American officials centered on the reception of the note in the belligerent countries and among the European neutrals.

It was recalled, as the London dispatches, most of them hostile, arrived, that similar expressions greeted the original proposals of the central allies, but that the views were moderated in the British press and among the entente diplomats here after reflection and discussion. Statements Cabled Abroad. To preclude any possibility of misconception from the flurry of yesterday's statements were cabled today to American diplomats abroad in neutral as well as belligerent countries, so they might be prepared to correctly state the president's attitude to the governments to which they are accredited. They are intended to offer official evidence, if it be needed, that the president's note is exactly what it purports to be on its face.

The German view here is that whatever the reply of the entente allies, the relation between Germany and the United States will have been immeasurably improved, probably to the point of assuring careful steps by the Berlin government to avoid any such conditions as led up to a crisis which threatened a break in diplomatic relations.

Entente diplomats, while they apparently had decided to accept the president's attitude in good faith had not wholly disposed of their fear that it might rebound to the advantage of their enemies. Perfect Understanding. It was reiterated today in all official quarters that there was perfect understanding between Secretary Lansing and the president and whatever might have appeared as discord in interpretation of the note to the belligerents was removed by the issue of the secretary's second statement and the steps to inform the foreign governments of the facts.

The note to the belligerents, Secretary Lansing's explanatory statements and recent German submarine activities furnished the chief topic of

discussion at today's cabinet meeting. Later it was said that the discussion was directed toward no particular end, but merely brought forth the views of cabinet members.

After the cabinet meeting Secretary Lansing said that full information concerning the sinking of the British liner Arabia was not at hand. The American government is anxiously awaiting word from Berlin regarding the British horse whip machine, which admittedly was sunk without warning by a German submarine and which, the state department has been convinced was not a transport. No course of action will be decided until Germany has been heard from further.

It was learned that after full discussion the cabinet took the view that the force of the note to the belligerents had not been materially affected by Secretary Lansing's statements.

Press Comment. In both England and Germany was read with the deepest interest by members of the cabinet.

Messages congratulating the "resident" poured into the white house today in increasing volume. Almost without exception the senders interpreted the action as a peace move. Republican Leader Mann referred to the note on the floor of the house, today and heartily praised President Wilson's action.

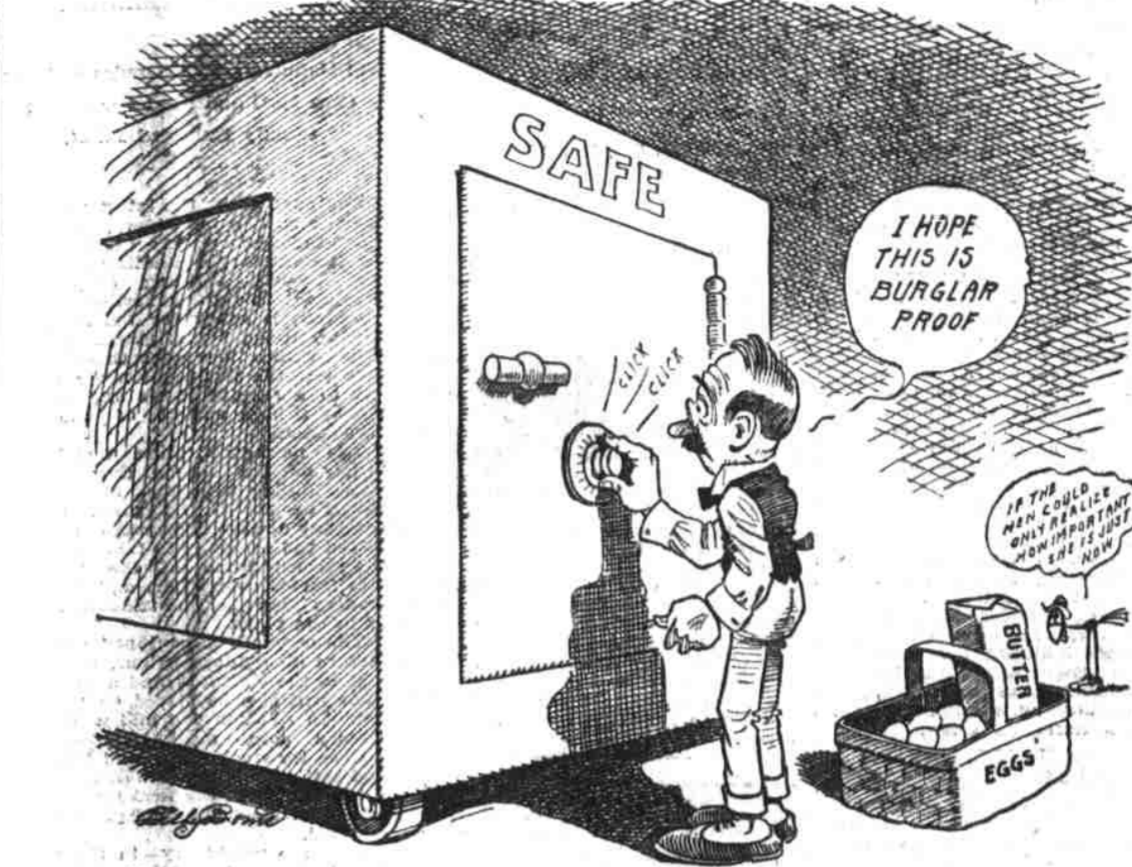
"Without regard to partisanship," he said, "I believe the whole people of the country warmly congratulate and commend the president in every effort he has made or may make to restore peace in the world." It became known during the day that some members of the diplomatic corps are worried over their personal status with their home governments, whom they have been informing for weeks past that the United States would take no action in the European situation. With the arrival of the German proposals and the announced decision of this government not to add any word of its own, most diplomats became finally convinced, and so reported to their governments that no step towards peace would be taken here unless a decided change occurred.

LONDON INTERESTED. LONDON, Dec. 22.—Chief interest here concerning President Wilson's note to the belligerent and neutral powers on the possibilities of the belligerents making known their requirements concerning peace, now centers upon the reception of the document by the central powers. The first advice received here from Germany regarding the note evince enthusiasm and welcome it, as was the reverse in England. The discussion here overnight was so absorbed in British emotions and as to the type of what should be Great Britain's reply that the attitude of the central powers commanded little attention.

The note, which is the only subject of interest here. It's only parallel in Anglo-American relations as regards the sensation it created was President Cleveland's Venezuelan message, and the two documents are

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

Taking No Chances



NORTHERN DOBRUDJA, WHERE TEUTONS CONTINUE THEIR ADVANCE AGAINST THE ROUMANIANS, IS CENTER OF INTEREST

Little Important Activity in Other Fields of War in Europe—Petrograd Announces That Russians in Dobrudja Were Compelled to Retire Before Numerically Superior Forces—British Troops Make Progress in Far East.

Except in northern Dobrudja, where the troops of the central powers continue to drive the Russians and Rumanians towards Bessarabia there has been little important activity on the battle fronts in Europe.

The Russian troops in Dobrudja, Petrograd announces, were forced to retire northward under heavy attacks from numerically superior, hostile forces. Berlin states that the Teutonic army in Dobrudja continues to advance successfully and announces the capture of 600 Russian soldiers. East of Lake Babadagh a Russian regiment, Petrograd records, drove a force of Bulgarians into Lake Ibolata. A great many Bulgarians were drowned and 115 made prisoners. The artillery bombardment continues at various points on the eastern front. Berlin reports increased activity, especially in the Somme sector and on the east bank of the Meuse in the Verdun region, the scene of the latest French advance.

Spirited Engagement. In Galicia near the Ziochhoff-Tarnopol railroad there has been a spirited engagement. Berlin reports the breaking of the advanced Russian line northwest of Zalostea, while Petrograd says the Austro-Germans were compelled to retire after occupying some trenches. Some fighting has taken place in the Trotus valley on the Moldavian frontier and along the Bystrița river in the Carpathians. El Arish, ninety miles east of the Suez canal in Egypt, has been captured by British troops. The town has been occupied for two years by the Turks, who had built strong entrenchments around it. The defend-

ers fled from El Arish on the approach of the British army.

STRANGE PROCESSION. (From a Staff Correspondent of The Associated Press.)

WITH THE ARMIES IN FRANCE, Dec. 22.—(Via London.)—In these last days before Christmas it is a strange procession, indeed, that winds its way on the travel-scattered roads of northern France to where the greatest armies of the world have ever known are locked in a life and death struggle. Vying with the seemingly endless train of motor trucks, growing armies of foot soldiers, and the great variety of all the varied and sinister material of war, are numerous other trucks fairly bulging with presents and greetings of the Yuletide. Oddly enough, both the types of trucks are decorated with holly and mistletoe. It appears now that soldier, regardless of how humble his station, will not be forgotten.

Mail Offers Problem. The handling of the vast amount of mail for the English, Canadian and Australian troops is fraught with great difficulties, for powder and shell cannot be carried in the same vehicles and the holiday season will bring no lessening of the gun pressure on any part of the front. Despite the complex problems connected with the task the organization behind the British front makes it possible for letters and parcels to reach the men in the front line trenches forty-eight hours after being posted in London. One reason for this is that the mail is being handled and distributed by "Tommy's" who formerly were postal employees. Canadians received the bulk of their mail last week, most of the soldiers obeying with childish impatience in-

structions not to open the parcels until Christmas. The mail for the Australian troops, necessarily, was posted six or seven weeks ago and naturally there were many casualties in that period, so that the authorities were confronted with a number of parcels which never will reach their intended owners.

Outgoing Mail Heavy. A feature of the Christmas army mail is that the outgoing post is almost as heavy as the incoming, with a strange cross current of money orders going home and coming east. The outgoing mail, however, is heavy because of the fact that normally the British army sends 1,100,000 letters and post-cards and 11,000 parcels daily. This number is being doubled and tripled during the Christmas rush. Another interesting fact is that a soldier receives an average of four letters a week and writes one.

The packages being sent from the front contain all manner of souvenirs from the battlefields and trenches. Letters and parcels for the men on the very front line are sent to them by the railroads. The favorite Christmas card that the "Tommy's" are sending home is one on which loving mottoes are woven with varicolored silk threads.

VIOLENT WINDSTORM. HARRISONBURG, Va., Dec. 22.—Houses were unroofed and cattle killed by a violent windstorm, accompanied by rain and electrical display, which swept over Rockingham county today. So violent was the wind that it blew over vehicles on county roads. The storm followed a week of snow and unseasonably cold weather.

PUBLIC HEARINGS IN THE NEWS PRINT PAPER PROBE WILL BE RESUMED FRIDAY

Hoped To Find Some Method of Preventing Suspension of Publications.

TO PROBE PROFIT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Public hearings in the Federal trade commission's news print paper investigation will be resumed Friday, December 23. The commission announced today that phases of the situation not completed at the previous hearing would be taken up, including reasonableness of prices, cost of manufacture and jobbers' profits. "It is hoped," said the announcement, "that a plan will be devised which will prevent the suspension of publications now dependent on the open market for their paper supply. It is also expected that information being collected now will throw much light on the problem." Resumption of the hearings, it was explained, does not necessarily mean the failure of a news print distribution plan proposed last week by the manufacturers under which the larger publishers would share paper they have bought on contract for 1917 needs with small publishers who buy in the open market. Committees of the interests concerned are co-operating with the trade commission, in accordance with an agreement reached after last week's hearings to ascertain the extent of next year's paper needs and the probable output of the mills. In the proposed distribution plan small publishers would be supplied with paper at the average price sold all customers. Information collected by the trade commission's investigators concerning profits and costs of paper manufacture, presented at the last hearing, but not taken up at length after the distribution proposal was made, will be gone into at the new hearings.

MEMBERS OF FEDERAL SHIPPING BOARD NAMED BY PRESIDENT WILSON

Nominates Five Men To Compose Organization With Wide Power.

IS NON-PARTISAN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—President Wilson today nominated the following to be members of the government shipping board: William Denman, of San Francisco; Bernard N. Baker, of Baltimore; John A. Donald, of New York; John Barber White, of Kansas City, Mo., and Theodore Brent of New Orleans. The board will have general supervision over freight rates in American waters and is empowered to organize a \$50,000,000 corporation to build or buy merchant ships. The ships built or bought will be available to lease or charter by private interests, but may be operated by the government should private concerns fail to take them. The intent of the law enacted for restoration of ships for American commerce removed by the war, is to open up trade routes which private capital does not yet consider profitable enough for it to enter. Mr. Denman who gets the longest term of six years, is a democrat and a lawyer with experience in admiralty cases. Mr. Baker, nominated for a five-year term has had wide experience as a ship owner and for thirty years was president of the Atlantic Transport line. He is a democrat, and Mr. Donald, the third democratic member was nominated for four years. He has had a life-long experience in the steamship business. Mr. White, a republican, was nominated for three years. He is a lumberman and exporter. Mr. Brent the second republican, was nominated for two years. He is a railroad man and from 1906 to 1910 was assistant to the vice president of the Rock Island-Frisco lines. At the white house it was said he was a republican "with progressive ideas." Under the law the board elects its own officers.

CONGRESS ADJOURNS FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS TO RECONVENE ON JANUARY 2

House Has Passed Five Government Measures During Session.

MORE ARE PENDING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Congress adjourned today for the Christmas holidays to reconvene January 2. In the three weeks of the session the house passed five government supply measures, the urgent deficiency, legislative, Indian, District of Columbia and diplomatic and consular appropriation bills, more than ever passed before in the brief period preceding a holiday recess. One of these bills, the urgent deficiency, has passed the senate. Railroad legislation suggested by President Wilson, failed to get much attention in either branch. The commerce committee decided to await initiative action in the senate, where beginning January 2 the senate commerce committee will hold hearings on the proposed railroad arbitration measure and the bill authorizing the president to take over the railroad, telephone and telegraph lines in case of military necessity. At the conclusion of the hearings the railroad measure in some form will be pressed as amendments to the pending bill to enlarge the interstate commerce commission. Senator Newlands, chairman of the committee, hopes to get action before the March adjournment. The senate passed the immigration bill with its literacy test provisions and it now is in the conference. The senate also began consideration of the District of Columbia prohibition bill and fixed January 3 for a vote. The national prohibition constitutional amendment was reported favorably from the judiciary committee in each house and will be pressed by its champions at every opportunity, although they have little hope of securing the necessary two-thirds majority at this session.

TEPPER FOUND GUILTY SECOND DEGREE MURDER

Charged With Killing His Mother Last January—Sentence Deferred.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 22.—John Edward Tepper, charged with having killed his mother last January, was found guilty of second degree murder late today by a jury which had deliberated twenty-nine hours. The sentence prescribed for second degree murder is a minimum of twenty years imprisonment. Sentence on Tepper was deferred. The verdict broke the iron nerve of the young defendant, who throughout the long trial had given no sign of emotion. As the jury foreman announced the verdict, Tepper's knees sagged and he would have fallen had he not been caught by a deputy. "Oh, my God!" shrieked Tepper as he struggled to rise. This is not fair, this isn't human. In all the balloting up to the last vote, it was said, eleven jurors had stood for first degree murder. One man, according to report, held out against the verdict because the evidence was circumstantial. He would not be won over and the compromise verdict was given.

WAGES INCREASED.

NEWTON, Dec. 22.—The Fidelity Hoisery mill announced today that on each weekly pay day after January 1 an increased wage of 5 per cent would be found in the envelopes of every employee. The company explains that this is not to be regarded as a permanent increase, but rather as an emergency measure to enable the employees to meet the high cost of living. Should mill conditions continue good, it is understood that the increase will be continued indefinitely; but if the business of the mill should suffer during the coming months, the 5 per cent will be taken off. It is a sort of Christmas gift entirely voluntary on the part of the management.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION IN ACTION

Railroads Must Show Cause Why Cars Are Not Returned Promptly.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—An order was issued by the interstate commerce commission today requiring the railroads to show cause at a hearing here December 23 why they should not return at once to their owners, without diversion or misuse, all foreign coal and refrigerator cars immediately after unloading at their destination. The commission's order follows an announcement yesterday by the American Railway association's car service commission that eight of the 115 cars in the mail being handled in the east, had failed to comply with its instructions to deliver a designated excess of box cars to southern and western connections above the number of cars received. The car service commission has established headquarters here and for weeks has been working in co-operation with officials of the interstate commerce commission to relieve the almost nation-wide car shortage.

OFFER \$500 REWARD.

DUBLIN, Ga., Dec. 22.—The Drightville and Tenuille Railroad company today offered \$500 reward for arrest and conviction of persons who stole large whiskey shipments from the railroad stations at the towns of Brewton and Lovett near here last night and burned the station at the latter place. Fifty cases of liquor were taken at Brewton. The exact amount stolen at Lovett is not known but the fire loss was estimated at \$1,500 to \$2,000.

JUNIORS TO MEET.

NEWTON, Dec. 22.—The Catawba Junior council next Wednesday night will give its members and friends a smoker at Catawba, and District Deputy Z. V. Long of Statesville, is scheduled for an address. The Catawba council numbers more than seventy members and the council is live and growing.

FLOOD CONTROL BILL FAVORABLY REPORTED

Humphreys Bill, Which Has Passed House Meets Favor In Senate Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The Humphreys flood control bill, appropriating \$50,000,000 for the lower Mississippi and Sacramento rivers, which passed the house at the last session, was ordered favorably reported today by the senate committee on commerce. An unsuccessful fight was made by Senator Newlands, for a compromise measure to include the administration plan for the creation of a river regulation commission and a comprehensive scheme of waterway conservation and control throughout the country. Rejection of the compromise, which would have carried the Humphreys bill appropriating of \$45,000,000 for the Mississippi and \$5,000,000 for the Sacramento rivers besides \$1,000,000 for inaugurating the country wide custom, will result in determining opposition to the Humphreys bill on the floor of the senate. Senator Newlands, Kenyon and other western senators have banded together to prevent further "piecemeal" waterway legislation. Before the committee voted today, Secretary Baker of the war department appeared in behalf of the Newlands compromise.

ADVANCE CONTINUES.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—(Via Sayville.)—Teutonic forces continue to advance in Dobrudja and have taken 900 Rumanian and Russian prisoners, says the official statement issued from German general headquarters today. On the other fronts there has been little activity.

GEN. WOOD DEAD.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Brigadier General George A. Wood, U. S. A., retired, died here today aged eighty-one. He was a native of Wilkesbarre, Pa., and a civil war veteran.

BLACK MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD IN THE COURT

Promoter Westbrook Reaches Durham To File Sensational Suit.

WANTS TO RECOVER THE SUM OF \$30,000

Makes Charges Against Men Who Were Identified With Movement.

According to a dispatch received by The Citizen from Durham early this morning, the National Music Festival of America has struck a discordant note, with F. E. Westbrook, promoter and former assistant manager of the enterprise, wielding the baton, or rather, the club. In other words, Mr. Westbrook, who filled the newspapers last summer with a wondrous story about the fame that was to come to Black Mountain by means of a great open-air festival, wherewith all the songsters and songstresses of international note would "carol light as early morn," has started civil action at Durham, this state, for the recovery of \$30,000. Promoter Westbrook makes various and sundry charges against some of the men who pushed the big festival movement. The dispatch to The Citizen from Durham follows:

DURHAM, N. C., Dec. 22.—F. E. Westbrook, former assistant manager of the National Music Festival of America, the one-half million dollar musical enterprise of Black Mountain, started civil action here today against the corporation for recovery of \$30,000. He alleges that G. W. Hinesham and H. D. Shult, of Winston-Salem, and R. O. Alexander, the defendants, have diverted the original aims of the company, and used the philanthropic movement to "boom" their real estate holdings at Black Mountain. R. O. Everett, of the law firm of Manning, Everett and Kitchin, has been employed to fight the music festival bitterly. "The scheme," Westbrook charges, "is alleged to have originated with H. O. Alexander, a cotton speculator of Charlotte, and one of the principal directors, sold thirteen acres of his land for \$13,000, and another tract of twenty acres for \$10,000. He is alleged to have negotiated this contract when other sites just as suitable were offered free to the philanthropic movement." Westbrook charges R. O. Alexander with having placed on the board of directors "bumblers" business associates whom he could control. He furthermore alleges that Alexander selected a large list of public-spirited men of America as an advisory board to offset the selfish interests which he had concerted. Governors of South Carolina and North Carolina, Editor Richard Edmunds, of the Manufacturer, of Raleigh, Dr. E. Y. Mullins, of Louisville, and McRoy, of Asheville, son of the Louisville Courier-Journal, are among the distinguished citizens in the advisory board.

CASPER GIVEN PARDON FOLLOWING TESTIMONY AGAINST THOS. C. MCCOY

Winston-Salem Man Served But Short Portion of His Sentence.

"MOONSHINE" CASE

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Dec. 22.—John L. Casper, of Winston-Salem, convicted about a year ago in the federal court at Fort Smith, Ark., in numerous counts of defrauding the government of \$100,000, was sentenced to the Leavenworth prison for a term of nine years, received his pardon tonight at 9 o'clock, according to a telegram received from him by a friend in this city. Casper states in the telegram that he will arrive here Sunday. The case in which Casper was convicted was one which attracted wide attention, the evidence showing that he had defrauded the government out of thousands of dollars in revenue on whiskey manufactured at his distilleries at Fort Smith, Ark., and St. Louis, Mo. Property valued at about \$100,000 was confiscated by the government and in addition to the sentence he was fined \$25,000. Casper had been in Jacksonville, Fla., for two weeks as a witness in the case against Thomas C. McCoy of Asheville, who was convicted in the federal court there a week ago. The conviction of McCoy is thought to have had some influence in Casper's getting the pardon. Casper's sentences amounted to over forty years, but the sentences were made to overlap, totaling about nine years.

VILLA ATTACKS TORREON.

EL PASO, Texas, Dec. 22.—Francisco Villa's forces began an attack on Torreon this morning, according to unconfirmed reports received here today. The battle was said to be in progress at noon. A report received here and said to have come from Chihuahua City, said Villa and his forces were attacking Torreon and that a bloody battle was ensuing. This report was said to have been received by General Francisco Murguía, at Chihuahua City, by wireless from Torreon. A Villa was reported to have passed Bermejillo, twenty-five miles north of Torreon, yesterday going south with his command. The Bermejillo garrison fled to Torreon, it added.