

THE CONCORD TIMES

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A CONSPIRACY OF SPECIAL INTERESTS.

Former Senator Smith W. Brookhart seems to have reached the gist of all agitation about lack of interest being manifested for farm relief when he says the farmers will have no chance until they elect a majority in both houses of Congress that will fight to a finish "a conspiracy of special interests."

"Agriculture," Mr. Brookhart said, "has perhaps passed its most critical stage in American history. The Haugen bill faces imminent defeat. This defeat has been brought about by a gigantic conspiracy of special interests against the basic industry of our country."

"These interests have devised a scheme of economy which denounces everything as economically unsound unless it promotes their special welfare. Because of their size and prestige they are able to control the views of the statesmen and dictate the actions of the United States government."

These interests control the government now because the Republicans are in power. The Democrats have nothing in common with the plans to aid industry to the detriment of every other class.

The Republicans have failed apparently in their plan to adjourn Congress at once. Upsetting the program of Republican leaders, the House declined today to set a definite date for the close of the present session.

By a vote of 191 to 133 a move, sponsored by Representative Tilson, the Republican floor leader, to bring about adjournment June 30 was defeated for the time being at least.

Headed by Representative Madden, Republican, Illinois, a group of western Republicans and Southern Democrats, mustered sufficient strength to send a resolution proposing sine die adjournment a week from Wednesday to the House ways and means committee.

The action of this group, as explained by Mr. Madden, was prompted by a desire to prolong the session until the Senate can act on the rivers and harbors bill and farm legislation.

The Democrats are doing all they can to aid the farmer and they are going to keep Congress in session as long as possible so that some relief measure can be adopted.

OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.

Concord today is host to the building and loan men of the State who are gathered in annual convention for the purpose of discussing common problems, renewing friendships, creating acquaintances and gaining from one another suggestions and plans that will increase the efficiency of their work in the State.

Concord bids the men welcome, offers her every facility to them and assures them it is a pleasure to serve them during the days of their convention.

Citizens of Concord have displayed their eagerness in making preparations for the reception of the building and loan men because the event is one of unusual interest to them. The rank and file have co-operated in perfecting details of the program for the rank and file of the city's citizens have enjoyed the benefits of the league's associations and they feel closer, perhaps, to the building and loan associations than to any other form of banking.

No class of men, perhaps in the history of North Carolina, have done more to add impetus to the rebirth of the State than the men of the building and loan associations. They have kept available money for home building, putting their money within the reach of the salaried man as well as the man of independent income, and in no small measure is due to their credit for much of the building progress of the State.

Concord has three very active associations, a survey of the records showing that fully 90 per cent. of the homes built or bought here within the past ten years have been purchased or built through one of the local associations. This means the public feels a close interest in the associations, and it feels a close interest in building and loan men from other cities whose efforts have made available these progressive building programs.

Concord looks forward with keen anticipation to the convention with the hope that the visitors will find their stay here one of the most profitable in the history of their League.

JUST GETTING STARTED.

Many times have we heard or read some statement about the lack of saving among the people of the Southern States.

That has been true but it is not true now. "During the last decade the group of Southern States has made far more progress than any other section of the country in the matter of saving money," says The Charlotte News, adding that we saved nothing in years gone by because "we had nothing to save."

That's a fact. While the New England States and other sections of the country were

prosperous the South was just beginning to live again following the depression after the War Between the States. "But its another story now," to quote again from The News, which shows in a recent editorial the following facts:

"Savings deposits for the entire country on June 30, 1925, are placed at \$23,134,000,000, or \$204 per capita. In the thirteen Southern States, these deposits aggregated only \$1,761,734,000, or \$57 per capita. However, while the entire country made a gain of only 131 per cent. in per capita savings during the period of 1912 to 1925, the Southern States showed a gain of 216.6 per cent.

"Massachusetts leads the United States in the amount of per capita savings, with \$518 laid up in the bank for every man, woman and child. South Carolina, on the other hand, has savings deposits aggregating \$112,016,000, or \$63 per capita. That is considerably above the Southern State's average, but far below that of the New England States. But it is worthy of special notice that in the 1912-1925 period, South Carolina has increased her per capita savings by 231.5 per cent., while Massachusetts increased by only 103.1 per cent. Arkansas stands first in percentage of per capita wealth gain, with 400 per cent. All the Southern States have a high rank in this respect. South Carolina ranks 11th among the 48 States and the District of Columbia. On the other hand New York ranks 31st, Massachusetts ranks 38th, Rhode Island 46th, New Hampshire 43rd, Connecticut 45th, Vermont 33rd."

GOOD BUSINESS IN PROSPECT.

Most of the familiar barometers of trade last week indicated that a new forward movement in business was getting under way. The improvement in conditions which has been faintly evident for several weeks, was not clearly enough defined to permit adjustment of its duration, but financial and business sentiment was unmistakably more optimistic.

A vigorous upturn in the stock market which carried United States Steel to the highest point in its history and other leading industrial stocks to new top prices for the year, contributed to the more cheerful outlook. Credit conditions were distinctly easier following the treasury's redemption of more than \$350,000,000 of notes without a new offering, while a strong investment demand quickly absorbed about \$175,000,000 in new bond flotations.

For the first time this year exports of merchandise in May exceeded imports, the month's surplus of \$38,000,000 contrasting with a favorable import balance of \$10,000,000 in April and \$68,000,000 in March.

Progressive improvement in iron and steel condition was evident from latest reports from the industry. An advance of \$2 a ton in structural steel attested a firmer price situation.

This stiffening price tendency, the weekly trade reviews indicated, was spreading to other lines with a general firmness of wholesale quotations replacing a rather extended decline as the first half of the year draws to a close. The manufacturing output in most industries was reported to be in close balance with actual demands.

Leading automobile companies continued to advertise record breaking sales. Occasional price reductions apparently have caused little uneasiness in view of well sustained demand for cars and have been ascribed chiefly to the keen competition in the price field.

Railroad earnings reports for May due this week, are expected to carry forward the improvement which has been characteristic of the year's operations to date.

ONLY FOR THE RICH.

"The good old United States Senate is coming back into its own," says Robert T. Small, the reliable Washington writer. "Years ago it was known far and wide as the 'Millionaires' Club. In those days a senator was supposed to have a million dollars—all except the less well-to-do ones from the South, who were elected on tradition or ability or both, regardless of their financial position. Nowadays you have to spend a million or so to get to the Senate, so that old sobriquet is coming back."

With the exception of the South a poor man has no chance at all to go to the United States Senate. In the States of the Southland money does not play such an important part in elections for it is possible for a man to be nominated and elected here without the expenditure of any scandalous sum.

We haven't the figures at hand and we do not remember them off-hand, yet we are certain Senator Overman and Robert R. Reynolds spent only meager sums in their primary fight. Neither could have spent money lavishly because of lack of it and because you can't find "citizens' committees" or "business men's committees" in the South willing to give several hundred thousand dollars just through love or interest in some candidate.

A man of moderate means has a chance to represent his State or district in the South but elsewhere such is not the case. What chance would a poor man, regardless of his ability have had in the dollar battle in Pennsylvania?

WILHELM REMAINS RICH.

The German people may have wanted to get rid of their emperor but apparently they are unwilling for him to live except as a millionaire.

In the referendum to determine whether all

property would be taken from the former kaiser the people showed a disposition to let him keep what he has. Most of the people who voted to strip Wilhelm of his wealth are workers in the great manufacturing plants.

The former kaiser lives in luxury and ease all right and his son does too. They took what they wanted when they left Berlin following the armistice and they were careful to take enough.

WHERE THE SCHOOL FUNDS GO.

State School Facts for some time has been running a series of articles dealing with elementary and high school expenditures. We have quoted data from the articles from time to time, with the idea of giving this informative data to our readers.

In his latest issue School Facts deals with current expense distribution, it having shown in a recent issue that \$21,030,810.23 or 61.9 per cent. of the total public elementary and high school expenditure was for current expense items and \$12,947,253.45 or 38.1 per cent. was spent for permanent improvements or capital outlay.

During the year July 1, 1924 and June 30th, 1925, the figures show, of the total \$21,030,810.23 current expenditure, \$17,536,526 or 83.4 per cent. was for teaching and supervision. Of this amount, \$11,021,242 or 62.8 per cent. was for the expense of the rural schools and the remaining \$6,515,284 or 47.2 per cent. was for the special charter and city schools. The teaching and supervision expense is the primary expenditure for school purposes. This represents the annual salaries of nearly 23,000 school teachers, principals, supervisors, superintendents and superintendents of public welfare. If it were divided equally among these officials each would receive less than \$800.00 apiece.

The percentage of current expense for teaching and supervision purposes is less in the rural schools at 82.5. In the city schools 85 per cent. of the total current expense is for teaching and supervision. Among the city schools group III used 86.5 per cent. of the current expense for teaching and supervision and group I used 82.8 per cent. for this purpose.

In Concord there was an expenditure of \$84,779.14 for teaching and supervision and \$1,297.97 for administration.

In Cabarrus county for teaching and supervision there was expended \$109,369.26 and for administration \$2,994.27.

Operation and maintenance expenses for 1924-25 amounted to \$2,970,367 or 14.1 per cent. of the total current expenditure. It took \$1,981,115 of this amount to run all the rural schools and \$89,252 to run the 120 special charter and city schools. Of the total amount spent for operation and maintenance of these 120 city systems \$726,999 or 73.5 per cent. was expended in the 34 cities listed in the accompanying table. The eight largest cities 14.2 per cent. of the current expense for operation and maintenance, the cities in group II 13.2 per cent., and the cities in group III 11.4 per cent. for this purpose.

In the rural school systems the percentage spent for operation and maintenance ranged all the way from 1.41 per cent. in Ashe to 28.0 per cent. in Granville. The explanation of this wide difference is readily explained by the fact that Ashe County only operated 9 trucks for the transportation of pupils while Granville operated 84 trucks for this purpose. Transportation costs are classified as an operation and maintenance cost. This same fact will account for the differences that occur among other counties. Among the cities the differences are not so great—from 6.85 per cent. in Smithfield to 19.66 per cent. in Asheville.

The largest per capita expenditure for teaching and supervision was in Greensboro at \$49.51 per child. The lowest of the 34 cities listed was in Rocky Mount at \$25.54 per child. The total cost on school enrollment was \$25.97 in the State as a whole during the year 1924-25. This was an increase of \$1.91 over the previous year. Of this increase \$1.25 was for teaching and supervision and .66 for operation and maintenance. There was no increase in per capita administrative cost. Better teachers and the increased term would account for the former increase, and increased term and increase in the number of pupils transported would account for the latter.

An average of \$21.65 per child enrolled was spent for teaching and supervision, .65 cents for administration, and \$3.67 for operation and maintenance. In the rural schools an average of \$17.98 per child was spent for teaching and supervision, .59 cents for administration, and \$3.23 for operation and maintenance—a total of \$21.80 per capita for current expense. The city schools on the other hand, spent an average of \$33.07 per child for teaching and supervision, .81 cents for administration, and \$5.02 for operation and maintenance, for a total of \$38.90 per capita for current expense. Better trained teachers and longer school terms in the city schools largely account for this difference in cost in the two groups.

ANOTHER BOOST FOR THE WILSON ADMINISTRATION.

James Cameron has completed his work as Director of Investigations and Accounts in the War Department, and after four years of work among war contracts he deals what would be a death blow to the charges of wholesale graft in connection with war contracts made by the government.

Mr. Cameron it must be remembered, was

appointed by a Republican Congress, in fact his job was created after the "smelling committee" of 1919-20 were unable to get anything on the Democrats and he was given full authority to investigate anything, anywhere at any time.

And he did that. Some 200,000 contracts have been investigated by him and while he has found cases where the government agents through inexperience made contracts that were not to the best interests of the government he did not find cause for the great uproar made just after the war by those persons who were anxious to condemn anything Democratic.

The investigation not only shows absence of graft but it shows on the other hand that the World War was administered with a greater degree of honesty and efficiency than any other conflict in the history of the nation.

The Cameron report must be accepted as another boost for the Wilson administration.

VAST INCREASE IN U. S. SURPLUS.

Business may not have been good during last year but the government's income indicates that money was made by some one.

The Federal Government will end the fiscal year June 30 with a surplus estimated at \$390,000,000 and with the public debt reduced to \$19,680,000,000, President Coolidge told the business organization of the Government in an address on "Constructive Economy."

The public debt June 30, 1925, stood at \$20,516,193,888, the new figures meaning roundly a drop of \$836,000,000, which is \$101,000,000 in excess of the reduction of \$735,000,000 brought about last year.

At the same time, expenditures for the fiscal year just closing will top those of 1925 by \$89,000,000. Expenditures for 1925 were \$23,000,000 above those of 1924.

Calling attention to the increased cost this year, President Coolidge said, "We cannot anticipate further appreciable reduction in the total annual expenditure for the business of the Government," and added that "our main chance comes in debt reduction."

It's a strange tale coming out of Asheville about a man seeking safety in jail from alleged pursuers. The man said he had to jump from a moving train Friday night to escape his assailants and then hid in a tree all night with a search for him being conducted in the woods where he was hiding.

How did his assailants know the exact spot where he was hiding, unless they jumped from the train too? And who has heard anything about four men jumping from a moving train? It isn't reasonable to presume that four men could jump from a moving train without someone on the train knowing it or without someone of the four getting hurt. It sounds like another of the sad war cases, mounting ever higher and higher. It is not impossible to imagine a war veteran picturing some one following him, always with the desire to take his life. These shell-shocked victims are deserving of every care and attention we can give them. They are the most sympathetic examples of the horrors of war.

Governor McLean started out to run the government on a budget and he has done just that thing. As a result North Carolina has money in the bank and so far as can be detected we have not gone backward. We have progressed to be sure, but we have progressed only to the extent of cash on hand and as a result we end the year with a better taste in our mouth.

WISE CRACKS.

By International News. Officials at Washington no longer fight duels with swords. They use ink bottles.—Tampa, Fla., Tribune. Having seen the difficulty experienced by the Democrats in beating the dem. the Republicans apparently have decided to beat themselves.—Durham, N. C. Sun. The right of self-determination of peoples often produces obstinacy when applied to individuals. Singular, but true.—Greensboro, N. C. Record. Popular songs would be more nearly tolerable if so many persons didn't remember both the words and the tunes.—Nashville, Tenn., Banner. Congressmen are in a jam. They are afraid to go home and more afraid to stay in Washington.—Durham, N. C. Sun.

CHICAGO'S SHAME.

Dearborn Independent. Chicago has been brought very low before the country. From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it; but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment. The liberty to commit crime is a concession sold to all bidders, and machinery to punish crime is neutralized by bribes. More criminal than the so-called 'criminal classes' are those official classes that have licensed the practice of theft and murder as a state licenses the practice of medicine.

The strangest element in it all, to outsiders, is the calm with which these stupendous revelations have been received by the city whose honor they drag so low. Mysteries involving officials still remain mysteries. There are "gangs" in city government which correspond to gangs in the criminal world, and which war upon one another, and the citizens seem to possess no machinery to penetrate and destroy the massed corruption.

The people of this country used to think that the days of municipal corruption lay behind us, that nothing could again occur as bad as New York was twenty-five years ago. But New York was a quiet village of pikers compared with the official criminality of modern Chicago. And with successive disclosures, the same "gangs" remain in control. Only one thing is worse than the actual crimes exposed, and that is the moral apathy of John Citizen.

Forty-five passengers who landed at New York on a French liner had no passports. A steward throwing away waste paper had picked up the envelope containing the passports and by mistake dumped them overboard.

Farms in the United States represent one-fifth of the total national wealth and contribute one-sixth of the national income.

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THE CONCORD TIMES.

Monday First Day of Dental Clinic.

Concord school children between the ages of six and twelve will have an opportunity to get their teeth fixed up free of charge when the dental clinic opens at the County Health Department next Monday. This is a real service that the state is offering to safeguard the health of the coming generation and one that should be taken advantage of by every child.

By getting at the work here at this early date, the expert dentist, who is to have charge of the clinic, will have more time for ultra-careful and complete work. Children are urged to make appointments at the earliest possible moment. This is necessary in order that a regulated working schedule may be arranged.

Mrs. Dezerne Buried Here Tuesday.

Mrs. Julia Dezerne, who was killed here Thursday night when struck by an automobile, was buried in Oakwood cemetery here Tuesday afternoon.

Funeral services were held in the chapel of the Wilkinson Funeral Home, conducted by Rev. C. Herman Trueblood, pastor of the First Baptist Church.

Daughters of the deceased, Mrs. Cal Owens, of Derita; and Mrs. Willard Kissiah, of Reidsville, arrived in Concord Tuesday for the funeral.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Brower and Frank Brower returned Monday from Laurinburg, where they were called on account of the illness and death of Mrs. Brower's mother, Mrs. McNeil Smith.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Having qualified as the Administrator of the estate of Julia Dezerne, deceased, all persons owing said estate are hereby notified that they must make prompt payment or suit will be brought. And all persons having claims against said estate must present them to the undersigned, duly authenticated, on or before the 22nd day of June, 1926, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

C. A. ISENHOUR, Administrator.

June 22nd, 1926.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Having qualified as the Administrator of the estate of Jno. T. Gardner, deceased, all persons owing said estate are hereby notified that they must make prompt payment or suit will be brought. And all persons having claims against said estate must present them to the undersigned, duly authenticated, on or before the 22nd day of June, 1926, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

C. A. ISENHOUR, Administrator.

June 22nd, 1926.

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THE CONCORD TIMES

Vertical sidebar containing various small advertisements and notices, including 'Penny', 'The Concord Times', and 'Miss B...'.