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M'ADOO'S REPORT SHOWS COST OF GOVERNMENT

Fiscal Year Ending Next June Will Show Balance, but Year Later Deficit Will Result-- Economic Conditions Sound, Says Secretary of Treasury.

(By Associated Press)
Washington, Dec. 6.—Secretary M'Adoo's annual report of the government's finances, presented to congress today, estimates that the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917 will show a balance of \$115,000,000 in the general fund, but that the figures a year later—June 30, 1918—will show a deficit in the general fund of \$285,000,000.

Preliminary estimates place the cost of conducting the government for the coming fiscal year, 1918, exclusive of the postal service which is expected to be self sustaining and other deductions at \$1,278,021,000. The ordinary receipts for the fiscal year 1918 he estimates at \$995,550,000, which is \$282,471,000 less than the estimated expense.

Estimates of large expenditures for national defense carry the estimated outlay beyond the estimated income. For the fiscal year 1916 now drawing to a close, the secretary reports that the government has shown a surplus of \$115,000,000. "During the past year," the secretary says, "the prosperity which set in during the fiscal year 1916 has grown in strength and volume and is now widely diffused throughout the United States. Favorable economic conditions have been more sound. In all lines of industry efficiency of organization and production have reached the highest point in the country's history. General confidence in the future, healthful enterprise and development have been marked characteristics of the year.

The fiscal strength of the United States is the greatest in our history and is in a commanding position in the world. We have been transformed from a debtor into a creditor nation. On November 1, 1916, the gold coin and bullion in the United States was estimated at \$1,439,976, an increase of \$714,000 in the past 16 months. This is the largest stock of gold ever held in the United States or in any other country of the world. Through the operations of the Federal Reserve System and with out abundant supplies of gold as a basis, the credit resources of the United States have become more than sufficient for home demand, and we have been able to finance our great domestic and foreign trade without strain and to extend vast amounts of credit to other nations throughout the world.

Chautauqua is Secured for Hickory Next Summer; to be Fine Attraction

The Record is sure its readers will be gratified to learn that Hickory is going to have a seven-day Chautauqua next summer, either the latter part of June or the first of July, and when they learn that it will be the Swarthmore, than which there is no better, they will be doubly satisfied. This will, in a way, be some compensation for not having a local course this winter.

The Swarthmore Chautauqua is organized as a non-profit making corporation. If there is any loss in the work, the promoters bear the loss, doing in a larger way what local guarantors do in a smaller way for their community. If there is any profit, the funds are added to better the program for the following year.

The Philadelphia American, in writing about the work of this Chautauqua says: "There has been no day in the seven of this Chautauqua has devoted to such town which has not afforded the people a chance to hear, at almost nominal cost, able and serious presentations of matters that must be decided—and by the people—if the American experiment is not to prove a failure. So widespread and valuable is the service it is rendering that we do not hesitate to rank among the benefactors the men who conceived and planned this Chautauqua. It has proved beyond peradventure of doubt that the people are awake to the need for information regarding their own status and prospects. Also it has shown conclusively that a sincere effort to satisfy the hunger and thirst will be more than met half way by the real leaders in the community—the useful members of the human hive." The cost of this program is estimated at \$2,000, and the following gentlemen have signed up a guaran-

GOOD SPEECHES HEARD BY ODD FELLOWS

Mr. S. M. Crouch of Martinsburg, Ohio, past grand master and representative of Grand Master Guy Weaver of Asheville, of the North Carolina Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, delivered a splendid address in Hickory Tuesday night to members of the local lodge and their friends. Mr. Crouch, who was introduced in a happy manner by Mr. R. P. Wagner, chairman of the committee on entertainment, spoke of Friendship, Love and Truth, the cardinal principles of the order, and gave the members something to think of. It was a fine oration. Mr. Crouch, who is a lawyer, is thinking of locating in Asheville, and local Odd Fellows hope to see him in the near future.

Mr. J. M. Martin of Granite Falls, supervisor of the 15th district, made a good talk, as did Messrs. J. T. Setzer, J. F. Joy and others. The refreshments were good despite the gloom at the Baptist church, and after a fine service many Odd Fellows gathered under the direction of Mrs. J. C. DeRhodes and Mrs. R. P. Wagner. The organization of a Rebekah lodge is being discussed in Hickory and Odd Fellows hope that it will come. The Rebekahs go hand in hand with Odd Fellows in their work and form an important auxiliary.

A CHRISTMAS BOX FOR SOLDIER BOYS

A Christmas box for the soldier boys on the border will be sent from Hickory in time to reach them by the festive day. Mrs. J. Worth Elliott, who is in charge of the provision side of the big sent off for the soldiers last summer, is arranging details and all persons who expect to contribute are urged to communicate with her.

The box will contain chickens, turkeys, ham, cakes and other delicacies and it must be sent of by December 15.

"OLIVER OSBORNE" IS CHAS. H. WAX

(By Associated Press.)
New York, Dec. 6.—Chas. H. Wax was identified at the United States attorney's office here today by James W. Osborne and his wife, together with Edwin Wilcox, an assistant in his office, as "Oliver Osborne," the man who won the affections of Rae Tanzer. Mr. Osborne picked him out from among a roomful of men.

"I was told I could speak to you now," said Mr. Osborne, placing his hand in a friendly manner on Wax's shoulder. "I am glad to see you."

NORTH CAROLINA CONGRESS READY TO RESUME WORK AT DURHAM CONFERENCE

(By Associated Press.)
Durham, N. C., Dec. 6.—Whether the conference will or will not be for unification of the Methodist church in America according to the tentative plan submitted to the church at the last general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, at Oklahoma City, is the question of supreme importance before the North Carolina conference, which began its 80th annual session in Memorial church here today. Both the Western North Carolina and Virginia conferences recently voted in favor of unification and it was expected that this conference would take similar action.

A proposal to amend the constitution of the conference in order to increase the lay representation and permit the lay leader to become a member also is attracting a great deal of attention. There are now four lay representatives from each of the nine districts of the conference.

Interest today centered on the selection of the secretary of the conference and it was expected that the Rev. Mr. H. Willis, secretary during the last five years, would be re-elected to this important position. The report of virtually every department will show progress in the work of the conference during the year, it was said. The North Carolina Conference embraces all counties in the state east of the Yadkin river and skirting the edges of Randolph, Guilford and Rockingham counties. At the 1915 session a membership of 89,704 was reported in the several circuits, stations and missions. There were 729 churches, 231 Sunday schools, 200 parsonages, 179 parsonages and 9 district parsonages.

Interest in the appointments to be made during the conference is intense. Only one presiding elder, the Rev. Mr. L. E. Thompson of the Wilmington district and twenty two presiding elders served their time limit of four years on one charge, but other charges were also expected. Among the charges open are: Edenton; Hay Street church, Fayetteville, Sanford, St. John's church, Goldsboro, Louisiana; Central church, Raleigh. The charge at Smithfield also will be open because of the resignation of the Rev. Mr. B. J. John of his duties as president of Maxton College.

Nine applications for admission and two for re-admission into the Methodist ministry will be received by the conference. Deacons and elders will be ordained at the Sunday service when Bishop Kilgo will deliver his annual sermon.

Many prominent ministers and laymen from other states were expected to deliver addresses, the program including the names of Dr. W. F. Murray of Louisville, Ky., secretary of the general board of extension; Dr. John R. Pepper of Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. Franklin N. Parker of Atlanta, Ga., of the faculty of Emory College; Dr. F. S. Parker of Nashville, general secretary of the Episcopate League; and Dr. John R. Stuart, also of Nashville, Tenn., secretary of the Ministerial Relief Fund.

The greeting accorded the Rev. Mr. A. D. Betts of Greensboro, on his arrival here was an interesting feature today. Mr. Betts is observing the sixtieth anniversary of his entry into the Methodist ministry having been admitted into the conference at Greensboro in 1856. In point of continuous service he is the oldest ordained minister in the organization.

WILSON PUTS MUCH WORK BEHIND HIM

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 6.—President Wilson disposed of a great number of miscellaneous engagements today to clear his calendar for the first day's work of the new congress. Among other things he reviewed 800 champion boy corn growers and canning club girls from Ohio and touched a button giving a signal for the opening of the Tulare Circuit Fruit Fair at Vasillia, Cal.

AT BAPTIST CHURCH

Tuesday night at 6:30, the people gathered to enter the church. By 7:15 the auditorium and Sunday school room were filled. Early in the gathering Mrs. Dew gave the boys and girls a drill in song, singing several of the choruses. They sang so they did sing and the children sang to the accompaniment of the organ. While the people were singing the congregation sang, "You must be born again." The chorus, "Deep Sweet" was sung. This seemed to be the favorite chorus to the large congregation. The subject discussed was "Young Men." There were a great many noble young men present, and they quietly listened to the timely lessons given them.

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(By Associated Press.)
Santa Rosa, Cal., Dec. 6.—J. P. Willis, who wrote "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," is critically ill at a hotel here and is not expected to live.

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(By Associated Press.)
New York, Dec. 6.—The steamship John Lambert, listed in the maritime registers as an American vessel, was shelled and sunk without warning by a German submarine off the Isle of Wight on November 22, according to members of the crew, Americans, who arrived here today on a French steamship from Bordeaux.

FOUR-YEAR-OLD CHILD IS FATALLY BURNED

One child was fatally burned and two others were painfully injured in attempting to extinguish the flames that caused death to four-year-old William Aaron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hillary Childers, who lives four miles northeast of Hickory. The accident occurred Saturday morning when the little fellow, with an apron about him, went to near a fire at the edge of a cotton patch where other members of the family were picking the staple. The child had cotton in his apron and when he came too close to the fire, the cotton caught and he was terribly burned. Death followed Sunday night, and Tuesday morning the funeral was held from Miller's church by Rev. J. E. Barb.

MR. GEORGE BUYS BONDS

Mr. John I. George has bought the \$10,000 in war bonds issued by Alexander Co. of Ozzie Falls who was in the city announced today.

THE WEATHER

For North Carolina: Fair, slightly colder tonight. Thursday fair, warmer in western portion; fresh north and northeast winds on coast.

BRITISH CABINET CRISIS CONTINUES UNCHANGED

Public Awaiting Outcome With Greatest Interest -- Domestic Questions Seem More Important Than Winning War--Lloyd-George May be Selected to Lead.

NORTH CAROLINA CONTINUES TO LEAD

(By Associated Press.)
Raleigh, Dec. 6.—For the seventh year North Carolina is first in the production of cotton, sweet potatoes, peanuts and probably soja beans to the acre, according to the report made today to the board of agriculture by Maj. W. A. Graham, commissioner of agriculture. The corn crop this year will be about 56,000,000 bushels, or about 8,000,000 less than last year. The oats crop was the poorest ever harvested. Wheat and crown growth in the state are sufficient to feed the populace, the commissioner said.

STATE ORGANIZER KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Mr. H. M. Roberts of Fletcher, state organizer for the Knights of Pythias will meet with the local lodge Thursday night and a large attendance is expected. Mr. Roberts recently has assumed this work and he is meeting with success throughout the state. Hickory Pythias are numerous and are expecting much from Mr. Roberts' visit.

TO RELIEVE DEPOT AGENT AT MARION

Mr. F. B. Gwin, for the past 15 years connected with the Southern Railway freight office here and for some time chief clerk, will leave Monday for Marion where he will relieve Mr. J. F. Coniff, agent there, for three months. Friends of Mr. Gwin are glad that he is given this promotion, but they will be sorry to lose him and his family, even for three months.

SMITH WILL PUSH IMMIGRATION BILL

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 6.—Senator Smith of South Carolina, chairman of the immigration committee, announced today that if the corrupt practices bill now before the senate is not passed upon, he will move to replace it with the immigration bill.

Rumanian's Plight Still Continues Serious; Serbs Are Pushing Northward

(By Associated Press.)
The plight of Rumania continues acute with no signs of a stand by her armies or those of her Russian allies, which afford hope of saving her capital. Although reports from Turkish sources last night claimed that the troops of the central powers had driven to less than eight miles of Bucharest, the chief pressure of the Teutons seems to be exerted northeast of the capital, with the apparent hope of reaching Ploesti before the Rumanian armies can effect a retreat over the railroad line running there from Bucharest. This encircling movement spells the great apparent peril to the Rumanian forces as the road through Ploesti affords

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