

Expanding Business Maintains Safe Basis

Advance in Cotton Too Late to Be of Advantage to the Producers

New York, Feb. 14.—R. G. Dun's Weekly Review of Trade tomorrow will say:

Business continues to progress satisfactorily notwithstanding heavy losses through the elements. The new year has been unusually handled in this way, floods and snow blockades being closely followed by fires and explosions, destroying much property and retarding traffic. It is only another evidence of the solid basis upon which the nation's industries are established that plans for rebuilding on a grander scale were made before the shock of the catastrophe had fully passed.

The labor situation has distinctly improved during the past week. Disputes at woolen mills were adjusted except as to weavers, threatened disturbance in coal mines averted, while some railway employees received voluntary advances in wages. A slight decrease of 3.5 per cent in railway earnings for the first week of February as compared with the same week last year, was not surprising in view of the many severe storms and the diminished movements of grain. Even without these special reasons some loss in traffic returns would not occasion alarm, as the advances have continued with scarcely a break for several years. They still appear an increase of 8.9 per cent over the figures for the corresponding week of 1900.

Notwithstanding the depressed volume of speculation in the stock market bank exchanges at New York for the week fell below last year's but 2.8 per cent, while compared with 1890 there is an increase of 30.4 per cent. At other leading cities the gains are 6.5 and 20.6 per cent respectively.

In the iron and steel industry it is now being demonstrated that there is such a thing as too much prosperity. During the last few years there has been such a marvelous expansion in domestic business that the capacity of furnaces and mills as well as transportation facilities have failed to keep pace. The result is a gradual falling behind in deliveries, and a tendency of buyers to send orders abroad whenever needs are urgent. Home producers are fully up to about September 1. Liberal distribution of dry goods has brought a gradually expanding demand except on southern orders which are below expectations. Stocks of cottons, light weight woolen goods and worsted fabrics are short and deliveries are often later than the specified date.

Higher prices were the rule in the markets for the leading agricultural staples. Cotton was vigorously advanced, middling uplands attaining the top point of the crop year. The late improvement will be of little benefit to producers, however, since over eight million bales have been marketed, and most of the balance has undoubtedly passed into the hands of factors.

Another new high record was achieved early in the week for the average price of the sixty most active railway shares, although the market was narrow and there was little evidence of participation by the general public. The bulk of sales was confined to a few stocks.

Prices Generally Hardening

New York, Feb. 14.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say:

Sales for spring account, demand for manufactures and industrial operations generally are expanding while prices are hardening. Specially good reports come from the west and northwest and the leading eastern markets note the growth of sales for spring. Demand and consumption of iron and steel are alike in advance of all records of the past. An especially encouraging feature is the advance in cotton which is reflected in better prices and demand for cotton goods and finds echoes in reports of improvement at the south. Clearings, reduced by a holiday, are smaller than last week, but larger than last year despite continued dullness in speculation. Railway earnings are still in excess of a year ago, but the big gains in the southwest, so long a feature, are no longer reported.

The large and growing loss by fire is a serious menace and tax upon the community generally. Complications by Bradstreet's show that the aggregate fire loss for the three prosperous years—1899, 1900 and 1901—exceeds the loss from all business failures by \$87,000,000, or 25 per cent.

The best advice as to distributive trade comes from the west and northwest, though New York exhibits activity in dry goods equal to a year ago. Speculation is much quieter than a year ago in that city; hence a decline of 13 per cent in clearings, though it should be remembered that a year ago New York clearings showed an increase of 65 per cent over 1900. Least favorable advices come from the south and southwest, though Chicago notes exceptionally large buying by wholesalers from those sections.

Continued strength is to be noted in all of the cereals and flour, fractional advances being shown during the week, while hog products, country produce generally, iron and steel and other metals are also quoted higher.

The advance in raw cotton has been rapid, 3c. for the week and 3c. since the present movement began. Patient bulls are at last reaping the reward of their confidence in higher prices for the South's staple. Despite increase receipts, visible supplies will probably show another falling off this week and the heavy export movement, shipments for five months 13 per cent larger than last season, strengthens claims that domestic manufacturers are not as well supplied as expected and relatively cotton is being over-exported. Cotton goods have felt the quickening influence operative in the raw product, but also reflected the increased demand at leading markets for all varieties. Print cloths are 3-16 cent higher on the week. Fruits and ginsams are higher and the advances in staple cotton have been numerous, the latter branch of trade displaying more animation.

Business failures number 215 for the week, against 217 last week and 223 in this week last year.

twice wounded, once in the abdomen and once in the breast. Leslie Estill received three of the balls from Chambers revolver. Jim Estill came out of the fight without a scratch. The men were drinking, and quarreled about a trivial matter. Revolvers were drawn and fifteen shots were fired in the fusillade.

Air Ship Sunk

Monaco, Feb. 14.—Santos-Dumont's dirigible balloon collapsed at sea this afternoon. The aeronaut started at 2:30 and was proceeding in the direction of Cape Martin. When opposite the casino at Monte Carlo the aeronaut noticed a mist, and in ten minutes all the sea was before him. The balloon fell into the sea. Several boats, including the Prince of Monaco's launch, were following the balloon, and Santos-Dumont was rescued. The balloon sank.

REWARDS OF MERIT

Honors Are Few for Distinguished Military Service

Washington, Feb. 14.—Adjutant General Corbin made public today the report of the army board, of which Gen. McArthur was president, appointed to consider and report the names of officers and enlisted men of the army who distinguished themselves during the recent campaigns in Cuba, China and the Philippines, so as to entitle them to the award either of medals of honor or certificates of merit.

Medals of honor will be awarded in 33 cases, of which ten go to commissioned officers and twenty-three to non-commissioned officers and privates. Only one medal is awarded on account of service in the Cuban war, two in the case of the Chinese campaign and thirty in the Philippine war.

The certificates of merit are all awarded to non-commissioned officers and privates, and of the total number of 56, four are on account of Cuban campaign, 45 on account of the Philippine campaign and 7 on account of the Chinese trouble.

A Rock on the Track Wrecks a Work Train

Little Rock, Feb. 14.—As the result of an accident this morning on the Choctaw Railroad, twenty miles above this city, seven men were killed outright and five of them seriously wounded. As a work train of six cars and a caboose, in charge of Conductor J. R. Gamble, was passing under the high bluffs bordering the river, a heavy rock plunged down the declivity and struck the track. The caboose was at the head of the train and was shivered into splinters. Most of the men who were killed and injured were in the caboose. The men in the cars were a crew of fifty-four white and colored men going up the

BITTEN BY MAD DOGS

One Patient from Raleigh and Two from Statesville Threatened with Rabies

Baltimore, Feb. 14.—Special.—Willie Patterson, aged 7 years, son of J. S. B. Patterson of Statesville, N. C., and Itathy Warren, aged 10 years, son of a farmer of the same place and J. W. Avert of Raleigh arrived at the Pasture Department of the city hospital this city yesterday to be treated for dog bites. The two boys have caused greatest anxiety to be manifested by Prof. N. G. Kierle the director of the institute, and he is watching them closely. An examination of the head of the dog which bit the lads has been made and unmistakable signs of rabies were discovered. Prof. Kierle immediately adopted the method of intense treatment giving double injections of virus twice daily. The boys were horribly mutilated about the face, head and neck, having many wounds. They were both attacked by a vicious shepherd dog while playing in the yards of their homes. One of Willie Patterson's ears was nearly chewed off. Prof. Kierle entertains great doubt as to their recovery on account of the close proximity of the wounds to the brain. He compares them with the cases of eight children who were bitten here three years ago, four of whom died one month later. Mr. Avert's condition is not serious, his wound being but a slight one in the side. The patients will be required to remain here for 23 days.

Big Snow Out West

Kansas City, Feb. 14.—This section got a big snow this morning. It set in at midnight. Nearly five inches fell here. From one to three inches are reported from Kansas points, two to five inches in Missouri and one to two inches in Oklahoma. Farmers are rejoicing and say the wheat is now safe and that there can hardly be another drought this year.

President P. H. Hanes Full of Enthusiasm

Work of Good Roads Train Will Be Finished Today. The Greatest Meeting Ever Held in the State

The practical demonstration of good road building by the Southern Railway's good roads train, aided by the county and city authorities, formed no small part of the instruction imparted to the delegates who attended the great road congress here this week. The process of preparing the road bed with the various kinds of machinery used for that purpose, the crushing of the stone and separating the different sizes, the distribution and scattering of the broken rock, the use of the steam rollers in packing the same, the top dressing and finishing process, were all eagerly watched.

The coming of the train brought many people here to attend the convention who otherwise would not have come. It was the strong lever, the advertising feature which did the work and made the meeting a success. The president of the newly formed Good Roads Association, Mr. P. H. Hanes, before leaving for Winston yesterday morning was asked by a Post representative what he thought of the meeting held and the outlook for accomplishing the ends desired. He said: "I am most highly pleased with the convention held and the interest manifested. We have had the best people in the State here, representative men. I never saw better order and closer attention. It was the greatest meeting ever held in the State and means more for the State than anybody can estimate. I did not want to be made president of the Association; but now that I have been unanimously chosen I am determined to push the work with all my ability and energy. It is a great work, no man can be engaged in it greater, and I am determined to make North Carolina the best good roads State in the South.

"The papers are with me; the representative people are with me and all the rest will soon join in. We cannot do everything at once. It will take time; but the people who have been here have caught the fever and it will spread. We will appoint vice-presidents or organizers in every county in the State and a system of agitation and education will be vigorously inaugurated."

Capt. W. C. McMackin was asked for his opinion on the result of the convention. He was as enthusiastic as Mr. Hanes, and replied: "It's the biggest thing that ever took

place in the State. The work of the good roads train and the interest aroused by the convention speeches will be worth a million dollars to North Carolina. The people were brought here from every section of the State. They came from counties where there is absolutely no road improvement. They went home with the knowledge of the fact that they do not have to spend a fortune to commence road work. They realize now that if they only have ten convicts they can put them to work with picks, shovels and wheelbarrows. "They are now impressed with the value of good roads and know they can begin the work on a small scale, realizing that it will grow as the citizens begin to become interested; and that road machinery can be added a piece at a time until their counties are, in fact, equipped and the people thoroughly educated to the great importance of building macadam roads.

"The delegates to the convention were interested spectators in Salisbury street and watched every stage of the work, and their comments as their eyes began to open revealed their deep interest and earnest search after information. The great work has taken on new life this week and road building will be talked in the country homes and in meetings all over the State as it never has before."

The good roads train will finish its work in Salisbury street today at noon and during the afternoon the machinery will be loaded on the train ready for the trip to Danville. The train will leave during the night. Four more weeks will complete the itinerary. One will be spent at Janville, one at Richmond, one at Lynchburg and the last at Charlottesville. The tour has had the effect of electrifying the States through which the train has passed and the effects will be apparent and will grow for years to come.

From Metropolitan Hall and Salisbury street in Raleigh there has gone out a wave of enthusiasm and determination rolling away to the Virginia and South Carolina borders, sweeping down across the broad fields to the sound country and surging up through Piedmont hills and mountain crags that will cause commercial veins to tingle with renewed hope, educational institutions to lift their heads and smile at the beaming rays of morning light, and country homes to shout for joy at approaching freedom from isolation.

Whiskey and Pistols

Richmond, Ky., Feb. 14.—A sensational battle occurred in the streets here yesterday between Jim Estill, Leslie Estill and Shelton Chambers as the result of which Leslie Estill and Chambers will probably die. Chambers was

WHEN HENRY ARRIVES

Program Arranged for the First Formalities

Washington, Feb. 14.—The program for the reception of Prince Henry at Tompkinsville was finally arranged today and will be formally announced later. When the Kron Prinz Wilhelm arrives off the Highlands, February 22, she will be saluted by the special squadron under Admiral Evans. They Admiral Evans will go aboard a government tug in which he will proceed to the Kron Prinz Wilhelm, and that tug will carry the royal visitor to the Hohenzollern, where the President's delegates, headed by Assistant Secretary of State Hill, will welcome him to the United States in behalf of Mr. Roosevelt. The Prince will then receive Mayor Low and special delegations. All these calls will be returned immediately by the Prince in person or by proxy. The Hohenzollern, escorted by the New York, will then proceed to her pier at the foot of 84th street.

BOOKER TO BE ORATOR

The Colored Educator Becomes a Bone of Contention

Lincoln, Feb. 14.—The invitation to Booker T. Washington to be commencement orator at the State University will not be recalled. This was the decision of the senior class in a meeting today. Pressure from the faculty and other members of the class silenced the voice of the opponents and the others were denied the privilege of discussion by a president's cutting off debate. But seven votes were cast in the affirmative, and the matter ended. The recalcitrants insist, however, that they will refuse to be present at the commencement exercises or in any way countenance Booker Washington's coming, but promise that they will offer no further protest to his presence.

PAUNCEFOTE'S POWWOW

The British Government Disclaims All Responsibility

London, Feb. 14.—In the House of Commons today, in answer to a question by Henry Norman (Liberal), Viscount Cranborne, Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said that the discussion, April 14, 1898, was convened by Lord Paunceforte as dean of the ambassadors, at the verbal suggestion of some of his colleagues. Whatever opinions were expressed by Paunceforte during the discussion, which was of an informal character, were personal to himself and not pursuant of any instructions from the British government. The discussion, Lord Cranborne said, resulted in an agreement by the ambassadors to forward identical telegrams to their respective governments suggesting

further communication with the United States government. On receipt of this message, the British government objected to the terms of the communication as injurious. Two days later Lord Paunceforte was informed that the British government had no information of any action in the matter by the German government.

NEW ORLEANS RACES

New Orleans, Feb. 14.—Results: First, 3-year-old, 1 mile: The Four Hundred 6 to 5, won; Panther 9 to 5, second; Chickadee 4 to 1, third. Time 1:29. Second, 2-year-old, 1 mile: The Don 5 to 1, won; Mary Allen 8 to 1, second; R. Deceiver 8 to 1, third. Time 1:43. Third, selling, 1-1/16 miles: Zack Phelps 30 to 1, won; Uncle Tom 5 to 1, second; El Moran 40 to 1, third. Time 1:49. Fourth, handicap, 3-year-old, 1/2 mile: Marie Bell 3 to 2, won; Ben Hulium 5 to 2, second; The Hayden 9 to 5, third. Time 1:11. Fifth, selling, 1 mile: Banish 8 to 1, won; The Ridge 6 to 5, second; Chouce 5 to 1, third. Time 1:40. Sixth, selling, 1-1/16 miles: Egypt Prince even, won; Linden Ella 0 to 1, second; Balloon 5 to 1, third. Time 1:35.

Russo-Chinese Treaty

Paris, Feb. 14.—A St. Petersburg message to La Lanterne asserts that a treaty of alliance has been signed between Russia and China. La Lanterne states the particulars of the treaty will be known within a week. The treaty is the Russian reply to the Anglo-Japanese agreement.

No Fire Escapes

St. Louis, Feb. 14.—A summons has been issued against E. W. Gilham, proprietor of the Empire Hotel in which eleven persons lost their lives last Sunday, commanding him to appear in the district police court Thursday, February 20 and show cause why he should not be punished for violating sections of the city ordinances, which require fire escapes in hotels three or more stories high. Assistant City Attorney Stanton said that formal complaint was made by Mayor Wells.

Pulling for Parry

Indianapolis, Feb. 14.—The Sentinal will say tomorrow: David M. Parry, president of the Parry Manufacturing Company and vice president of the National Manufacturers' Association, is being urged for the Republican vice presidential nomination in 1904 by a large number of personal friends and by many leading politicians, who want Mr. Parry on the Republican national ticket with President Roosevelt.

Banish Dull Hours.



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- ARABY (Leading Novelle), By Baroness von Hutten
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- THE PENANCE OF BEDDIE, By Lillian Bell
- WHEN WHIG MET TOBY LONG AGO, By Alfred Henry Lewis
- THE PRINCES, By James Will Forman
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Serious Smash-up

Altoona, Pa., Feb. 14.—Three men killed, four probably fatally, a d two seriously injured; one freight train a complete wreck and another a practical wreck, are the results of an accident this morning on the Pennsylvania Railroad on the steep grade a few miles above the Horseshoe curve.

Ransom Reported Paid

London, Feb. 14.—A news agency dispatch from Constantinople says the ransom of Miss Ellen M. Stone and her companion, Mme. Tsilka, has been paid. The limit of time allowed for the release of the captives has not yet expired, but their delivery to the American agents is expected hourly.

Trouble Will Be Settled

Philadelphia, Feb. 14.—Manager Shtelzine of the Philadelphia National League club says that the trouble between the two factions of the league will be settled soon. Peace overtures have been made but he declines to say which side took the initiative.

Car for Prince Henry

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 14.—The Wilmington shops of the Pullman Palace Car Co. has today completed work on the handsome car idler, which will be used by Prince Henry and his suite during their tour of the country. The idler is one of the most beautiful cars ever fitted out in the Wilmington shops.

Plot Against the Sultan

Vienna, Feb. 14.—The Tagblatt says that a plot against the Turkish Sultan's

Ravages of the Plague

London, Feb. 14.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Lahore says that under the new regime of non-intervention the plague is ravaging the Punjab and a thousand deaths are occurring daily.

South Mills Fire-swept

Norfolk, Feb. 14.—The village of South Mills, N. C., was nearly wiped out this morning by fire. Nine stores, eleven dwellings and the Methodist church were burned. Loss about \$30,000.

Destroyed by Earthquake

St. Petersburg, Feb. 14.—The town of Schemakha, in Transcaucasia, has been destroyed by an earthquake. No details are as yet available. The town has 22,000 inhabitants.

A DIED MYSTERY

It is a mystery why women endure Backache, Headache, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Melancholy, Fainting and Dizzy Spells when thousands have profited that Electric Bitters will quickly cure such troubles. "I suffered for years with kidney trouble," writes Mrs. Pugh, "and I have been cured by Electric Bitters. I could not dress myself, but Electric Bitters wholly cured me, and, although 73 years old, I am now able to do all my housework. It overcomes Constipation, Improves Appetite, gives perfect health. Only 50c. at all druggists."