

# WASHINGTON PROGRESS

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## GLOOMY VIEW OF TRADE SITUATION

THE BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS HAS ISSUED STATEMENT.

### DISAPPEARANCE OF OPTIMISM

Commercial Agent Dennis Says That the Business Depression in Great Britain Has Largely Increased.

Washington.—Financially and economically the situation throughout the world improved but little during the month of March, with few signs of better conditions to come, according to cables summaries for the month received by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce from its trade commissioners and commercial attaches in foreign countries.

In Europe tight money, unemployment and unsatisfactory industrial and shipping conditions were in evidence while some declines in prices and slight revival of building activities were noted. In the east the situation was described as somewhat easier, while in South America conditions were reported as practically unchanged from the previous month.

Commercial Attaché Dennis reported that the business depression in Great Britain had increased owing to the perspective failure of an early settlement with Germany on the reparations question. Optimism that prevailed in the cotton textile industry has been dissipated, he declared, both by the increase in customs tariff of British India and a further decline in the price of silver.

American imports into France continue to show marked reductions. Commercial Attaché Huntington at Paris informed the bureau.

### Teeth Behind Eye.

Paris.—One of the most remarkable freaks ever reported has been discovered here in the case of a woman possessing a complete set of teeth behind her right eye. The woman complained of a pain in her right eye, and the X-ray disclosed the teeth.

### Death of Judge Pritchard.

Asheville, N. C.—Federal Judge Jeter Conley Pritchard, of the United States circuit court for the fourth district, died here following an illness of several months. Death of the famous jurist was due directly to pneumonia.

### Caruso Plays Safe.

New York.—Denial of reports that Enrico Caruso had given his voice a trial to find whether it had been affected by his recent illness was made by Bruno Zirato, his secretary. Caruso will not risk any strain on his vocal chords for some time, Zirato added.

### Express Robbers Convicted.

Macon, Ga.—Thirty-six of the 45 men tried during the last four weeks in Federal court here on charges of conspiracy to rob the American Railway company of goods valued at more than \$1,000,000 were found guilty and the other nine were acquitted.

### Burlington to Sell Cotton.

Austin, Texas.—Albert H. Burleson, former postmaster general, will leave soon for Europe to sell unsold Texas cotton. N. A. Wroe, president of the National Bank of Austin, said.

### To Be No Obstruction.

Washington.—National Chairman George White pledged the democratic party to refrain from "obstructing and harassing" the Harding administration.

### Capacity of Canal, is 16,550 Ships.

San Francisco.—Under normal conditions the annual maximum capacity of the Panama canal is 16,550 ships.

### 21 Persons Were Killed.

Rio De Janeiro.—Twenty-one persons were killed near here in a collision on the Central Brazil railway. A score were injured.

### Heavy Snows in Virginia.

Cumberland Md.—Five inches of snow at Rowlesburg, W. Va., with temperature of 28. Snow has been flying all day. Other points in Virginia and West Virginia also report falls of sleet and snow.

### Fewer Divorces in New York.

New York.—In Chicago there were 900 divorce decrees granted in January and 1,000 in February. New York had only 178 in January and 207 in February. St. Louis had 372 decrees in January and 338 in February.

## INCREASE IN RATE IS NOT JUSTIFIED

SCHEDULES UNDER SUSPENSION ARE ORDERED CANCELLED BY THE COMMISSION.

### A COUNCIL OF BUSINESS MEN

Members of Nat. Automobile Chamber Commerce and American Dyes Institute Met With Hoover.

Washington.—Proposed increases of twenty cents a ton in the joint rates on coal from mines on the Cumberland railroad to points on the Louisville & Nashville and connections in Tennessee, Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida and Alabama were found by the Interstate Commerce Commission to be not justified. The proposed schedules now under suspension were ordered cancelled.

Secretary Hoover continued the series of conferences with representatives of leading industries looking toward the formation of an advisory council to the Department of Commerce, composed of business men.

Members of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce and later representatives from the American Dyes Institute met with the secretary and discussed the personnel of committees to represent their industries on the council.

### Recommends \$680,000 Assessment.

Reno, Va.—A recommendation of the board of education, read by the Rev. H. S. Sherman, Front Royal, Va., that \$680,000 be assumed as the conference's quota of the church's \$33,000,000 education fund, was adopted at the session here of the Baltimore conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, southern district.

### Opposed to 44-Hour Week.

Chicago.—The executive council of the Typothetae of America in a statement denied that it had ever agreed to introduction of the 44-hour week. The statement was issued to correct what were termed erroneous reports that the organization had approved the 44-hour week.

### Complete Re-Organization.

Columbus, Ohio.—Complete re-organization of the state government in Ohio will become effective July 1 as a result of the enactment by the state senate of the administration code.

### Price of Flour Reduced.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Flour prices in Minneapolis have dropped 50 cents a barrel the last week, bringing the price of standard patents at the mills down to \$8.15 to \$8.40 a barrel.

### Another Old Confederate Dead.

Chicago.—Colonel Ephraim Lillard, former warden of the state prison of Kentucky and a veteran of the Confederate forces in the Civil war, died at the home here of his daughter.

### Prices of Bricks Reduced.

Chicago.—A 25 per cent reduction in the price of bricks was announced by the Illinois Brick company. Bricks that formerly cost \$16 a thousand will be reduced to \$12 a thousand.

### Jobless are Put Upon Honor.

Muskegon, Mich.—Muskegon has inaugurated the "honor system" and is making unsecured loans to its jobless citizens. More than \$10,000 has already been loaned to those temporarily out of employment and in need.

### To Build New Mexican Railway.

Mexico City.—A new railway line between La Querande, in the territory of Tepic, and San Marcos, state of Sinaloa, is to be constructed, according to an announcement.

### Ritter Gets Post.

Washington.—Appointment of William D. Ritter of Salt Lake City as assistant attorney general was announced at the White House.

### Consider Currency Reform.

Managua, Nicaragua.—Nicaraguan, Costa Rican and United States government officials are exchanging views relative to currency reform in Central America. The Costa Rican national assembly has also begun considering of the subject.

### Want Coal Shipments Stopped.

Montreal.—The American Federation of Labor is asked to urge the United Mine Workers of America to refuse to mine coal for export to Great Britain, or for English ships.

## SHARP REDUCTION OF ACREAGE URGED

CARE MUST BE OBSERVED TO AVOID ANOTHER GLUTTED MARKET NEXT FALL.

### TALK AT COTTON CONFERENCE

Director Angus W. McLean Will This Year Reduce Production to the Extent of 15 Acres to the Acre.

Raleigh.

Washington, (Special).—Addressing the cotton conference Angus W. McLean, the Tar Heel director of the war finance corporation, asserted a 50 per cent reduction in cotton acreage was imperative unless the market is to be glutted. Director McLean said he had ordered such a reduction on his North Carolina plantations.

Mr. McLean also raised the question whether Southern bankers have been sufficiently "courageous" in assisting agriculture. "Some of the bankers, Mr. McLean said, seemed to him to be too timid in their financing of agriculture.

That he had sustained an "operating loss of \$20,000" on his cotton farm last year was declared by Mr. McLean, who said he discovered this when making out his income tax. This loss, he said, was exclusive of interest on investment. This year, he added, he would reduce production to the extent of eight acres to the acre, instead of 15 acres and \$10 fertilizer per acre, instead of 25.

### Appointments by Congressmen.

Washington, (Special).—Representative Homer Lyon has made his appointments for the naval academy, these going to Daniel C. Britt, of Lumberton, and Philip McNatt, of Johnston. These young men are to be given their mental examination on April 20. There are now four vacancies to be filled from North Carolina, one each for Senator Overman, Representative Stedman, Hammer and Bulwinkle. At the military academy at West Point there are two vacancies from North Carolina, one each for appointment by Representative Kitchin and Representative Bulwinkle.

### Reduction in Tax Valuations.

Sweeping reductions in property valuations made by boards of commissioners through the state will make little difference in the state's new taxation policy, according to legislative experts who came to Raleigh.

The present state tax commission, composed of Chairman Tom Lee and Commissioners Pell and Maxwell are out of the city and the new taxation commissioner for the state, Col Alis Watts, was reluctant in discussing the action of the several boards of commissioners.

### Ward is First on the Ground.

Washington, (Special).—The first of the North Carolina Congressmen to arrive in the city is Hon. Hallett S. Ward, of Washington. Mr. Ward went early in the day to the Navy Department and named for the vacancy from the first North Carolina district at Annapolis, Grace McMullen, of Elizabeth City.

### Hefner Pardoned by Governor.

Governor Morrison pardoned Cecil Hefner, charged with the murder of Glenn Lippard and under sentence of 15 years for the crime.

Solicitor Huffman's letter brought the freedom, new evidence tending to show Hefner's complete innocence having been found. The prisoner was convicted a few months ago.

### Explosives Must be Removed.

Half a million pounds of high explosives stored to near Raleigh for safety will be moved in part, according to Insurance Commissioner Wade, who is informed by the national inspectors that the combination TNT, dynamite and black powder is not safeguarded as it should be. All have been located within the danger zone and must be changed.

### Governor goes to New York.

Governor Cameron Morrison and State Treasurer B. R. Lacy will leave later in the week for New York and other financial centers to investigate the feasibility of a present issue of bonds or the sale of short term notes to provide for road construction, and institutional expansion authorized by the 1921 session of the general assembly.

This mission was determined upon after the Governor had discussed with the Council of State the general financial situation.



JAMES A. STILLMAN

James A. Stillman, president of the National City Bank of New York, is suing his wife for divorce in one of the most sensational suits of the day. An Indian guide is named in the proceedings and the paternity of Guy Stillman, twenty-eight months old, is questioned.

## THE LAW IS TO BE ENFORCED

The Department of Justice Will Ask for More Aid From Outside Than It Has Received Heretofore.

Washington.—A general warning to business that the Department of Justice will countenance no violations of the law was sounded by Attorney General Daugherty. The country, Mr. Daugherty said, "should take notice of a new day and a new way" and those who had been guilty of illegal practices should not "close their eyes." His statement, he added, was a "modest, but emphatic warning" to those for whom it was intended and could be regarded as an opportunity for any of those who should mend their ways to do so.

The Attorney General said the Department of Justice did not intend to harass business in any way, but that it did intend to enforce the law. He pointed out that, while the profiteering sections of the Lever act had been declared unconstitutional, the department still could proceed under the Sherman anti-trust law.

Mr. Daugherty was discussing specifically the situation in the building materials industry, which he declared reports to the department showed to be "intolerable." He said the department of justice would ask for more aid from the outside than it had received heretofore.

### Victory for Peanut Growers.

Suffolk, Va.—The peanut growers of Virginia and North Carolina now see victory in sight for their organization. Now that they have about 4,000 signers they are bending all efforts to getting the additional thousand signers which will be necessary to complete their organization.

### Try Prohibition Fifty Years.

Chicago.—The country should give the prohibition amendment a trial for about fifty years "to see whether it is the best thing for us or not," is the opinion of Judge K. M. Landis.

### Mexican Mines Closed.

Mexico City.—Because of the large amount of copper on hand and inability to market it at satisfactory prices the mines in the State of Sonora, especially those near Cananea, continue to be paralyzed.

### John C. Noel Appointed.

Washington.—John C. Noel, of Pennsylvania Gap, Pa., was appointed by President Harding as Collector of Internal Revenue for the district of Virginia. Mr. Noel is a former state senator.

### All-American Day Celebrated.

Philadelphia.—Philadelphia celebrated all-American day with General Pershing, Admirals Benson, Sims and Coontz and Governor Sprout among the guests-of-honor.

### Ex-Kaiser's Yacht for Sale.

London.—The yacht Meteor V., formerly the property of the ex-Kaiser, has been offered for sale to certain Dutch interests.

### Found Guilty of Mayhem.

Atlanta, Ga.—Mrs. Nell Goodman Rolander was found guilty by a jury in superior court here of the charge of mayhem, growing out of her action in throwing acid into the face of Mrs. Gladys Presnell.

### 18 Per Cent Wage Reduction.

Pittsburg.—The managers' committee of the Pennsylvania Railroad presented a plan for proposed wage reductions of approximately 18 per cent to representatives of the telegraph department employees.

## CONDENSED NEWS FROM THE OLD NORTH STATE

BRIEF NOTES OF INTEREST TO CAROLINIANS.

Shelby.—Nine divorces were granted at the spring term of superior court and eight men were given road sentences.

Lumberton.—Provision for a complete revaluation of real estate in Robeson county for taxation was made by the board of county commissioners at their regular monthly meeting here.

Charlotte.—Mecklenburg county property values were reduced 25 per cent as the result of a meeting of the board of appraisers and review and the Mecklenburg county commissioners.

Wadesboro.—Mrs. James Coppedge, the oldest resident of this city, and one of the finest Christian women in Anson county, is critically ill at her home here. She is 95 years of age.

Morganton.—A. C. Avery was elected mayor of Morganton by a majority of 255 over his opponent, John M. Pearson, the vote being 516 to 261.

Norwood.—Rev. J. W. Patton, D. D., of Greensboro, deputy grand lecturer of the grand lodge A. F. and A. M., of North Carolina, is spending two weeks here drilling Pee Dee lodge No. 150.

Lenoir.—J. Wilburn Sudreth died at his home about three miles west of Lenoir, being 83 years of age.

Mr. Sudreth was an ex-soldier of the Confederacy, and was a member of the 58th N. C. regiment. High Point.—According to a story members of his family told High Point newspaper men Elder Samuel McMillon, a primitive Baptist minister of this city was robbed of \$105 while a passenger on a Charlotte trolley car.

Winston-Salem.—Daniel C. Roper, of Washington, former United States commissioner of internal revenue, has accepted an invitation to deliver the address at the sixth luncheon of the members council of the chamber of commerce here at noon on April 22.

Asheville.—Conditions in the cotton mills of this section are reported far better than were experienced at the first of the year, yet not so promising as enjoyed six weeks ago, according to a summary of the work under way and orders on hand, say mill officials.

Burlington.—News has been received here of the suicide of James Story, at his home near the village of Glencoe, a few miles from this city.

Monroe.—William Gerald, a mechanic at Iccan Knitting company, was instantly killed when a long section of pipe which he was carrying came in contact with a live wire.

A jury in Wake county superior court awarded J. W. Kimbrough, of Boylan Heights, \$15,000 as damages for injuries inflicted by a train of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad in 1919.

Wilson.—J. C. Lassiter, 30, vice president of the R. G. Lassiter Contracting company, of Norfolk, Va., with branches in a number of Southern cities, died from a bullet wound, believed to have been accidentally self-inflicted.

Belmont.—In the triangle composed of the debating teams from the high schools of Bessemer, Mt. Holly and Belmont, none of the teams were successful in winning but one debate, and therefore this series of towns will not have any representation at Chapel Hill.

Durham.—The Charlotte high school won a unanimous decision over the Raleigh high school in this city in the end of the annual triangular debate.

Durham.—Lora Ashburn, 13 years old, daughter of Mrs. Mary Ashburn, of this city, was burned, perhaps fatally, when her clothing became ignited from flames which burst from a stove which she was lighting with kerosene oil. The fire practically destroyed the Long home on Walnut street.

Wilson.—The arrest of two couples here on the charge of violation of the Mann white slavery law resulted in one marriage, but the Bellamy law prevented the other proposed nuptial event.

Wilson.—Sheriff Howard and his force of deputies are continuing their warfare on illicit distilling in Wilson county. Within the past several days two large stills, one of 75-gallon capacity and the other a 60-gallon outfit, have been captured. Five gallons of "corn juice" were confiscated.

## Crops Produced in State.

North Carolina achieved the position of the greatest producer of tobacco in 1920, when the honor was snatched from Kentucky, through five years of consistent gain in production. Frank Parker, Agricultural Statistician, in the March Farm Forecaster issued by the Co-operative Crop Reporting Service here, shows that sales reported to March 1 totalled 395,000,000 pounds of the golden weed, with prospects that the final total will be 420,000,000 pounds. The crop averaged about 21.5 cents a pound. These figures represent a large increase in production and a decrease of almost fifty per cent in price as compared with the previous season.

Mr. Parker shows on March 1, fifty-three per cent of North Carolina's 1920 corn crop was on the farms, the stock being forty per cent greater than a year ago. The estimated stock on hand March 1 is 33,937,000 bushels as compared with 23,940,000 bushels on March 1 a year ago. Four per cent of the crop was shipped out of the counties in which it was grown and 80 per cent was of merchantable quality.

The stock of wheat on farms in the state is twice as much as it was a year ago, there being 32 per cent of the crop, or 2,711,900 bushels. This compares with 1,213,000 bushels twelve months before.

## Doughton Groomed for Governor.

The word has reached Raleigh via Washington in the past twenty-four hours that in the event of his unseating at the hands of a republican Congress "Farmer Bob" Doughton will take a long shot at the governor's job four years from now.

The story is borne to the capital by one of the best informed politicians of the state and in the limited circulation it had here created the most intense interest. Most of those who heard it were familiar with Congressman Doughton's aspirations a year or so ago and are not the least surprised that he should be preparing to make in 1924 the race he wanted to make in 1920.

## Colonel Watts Appointed.

Col Alston D. Watts, who registers himself on the hotel books as a citizen of Iredell county, is Governor Morrison's choice for revenue commissioner of North Carolina, over Corporation Commissioner Allen J. Maxwell.

The new job to which the Iredell man has been appointed is the biggest single creation of any general assembly within the memory of active people. Colonel Watts will take office on the first day of next May.

## Want to Hear Hoover.

The officers of the North Carolina Merchants Association, through their secretary J. Paul Leonard, of Statesville has extended an invitation to Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, to address the twentieth annual convention of the association to be held at the O'Henry hotel in Greensboro June 21, 22 and 23. Mr. Hoover will be asked to discuss the government's relation to business and America's commercial outlook.

## Revenue Agent Resigns.

John F. Lifsey, chief revenue agent for North Carolina has resigned and will return to his home in Norfolk.

Mr. Lifsey, who began his duties with Collector J. W. Bailey, as deputy collector with special duties in running down blockaders became chief revenue agent for North Carolina when the prohibition zones were established.

## Barrett is Named Director.

Governor Morrison announced the appointment of James F. Barrett of Asheville and Dr. Jennis Morrill, of Pitt county, as directors of the State School for the Deaf at Morganton in place of Archibald Johnson of Thomasville, and J. O. Atkinson of Elton College, whose terms have expired.

## New Commissioner on Hand.

The state's new revenue commissioner, Col. Alis Watts, Iredell county, arrived in Raleigh, and will have a conference with Governor Morrison. Colonel Watts was accompanied to Raleigh by Speaker Harry Grier, L. C. Caldwell, Sheriff J. M. Deaton, G. L. Crowell and James A. Hartness, all Iredell citizens.

## Brainage Convention April 12-13.

The acceptance of Mr. Mark W. Potter, of New York, a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to address the drainage convention which meets at Elizabeth City April 12 and 13 was announced by the secretary, Joseph F. Pratt. Mr. Potter is the owner of a large body of reclaimed land in Beaufort county. He will make dairy farming and cattle raising on the reclaimed lands of eastern North Carolina the subject of his talk.