

CONFIRMS REPORT THAT FRANCE WILL SETTLE HER DEBTS

Ambassador Herrick Sends Note to Washington Concerning Conversation With Premier Herriot.

PARTICULARS TO BE GIVEN OUT

Secretary Hughes Studying Message, Which Was Welcomed Much at the Capital City.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 31.—Ambassador Herrick's report of his conversation with Premier Herriot on the question of the Franco-American debts reached the State Department today and is understood to contain first official assurances to be received here since the question entered its present phase, that France does not intend to repudiate her obligations to this country.

Pending a careful scrutiny of the report by Secretary Hughes, department officials declined all comment, but it was obvious that they welcomed the communication because of its official and timely nature.

It had been hoped, since M. Clementel, the French finance minister, published his celebrated balance sheet and gave rise to a whirl of discussion that some representative of the Paris government, either in the foreign office there or in the embassy here, might see fit to explain facts of officials here.

French Give Assurance They Will Pay

Paris, Dec. 31 (By the Associated Press).—Premier Herriot last night gave the American Ambassador additional verbal explanations and assurances, together with an explicit detailed memorandum on the subject of France's attitude on the debt question, and an annotated copy of Finance Minister Clementel's memorandum containing an inventory of France's financial position. The ambassador, it is understood, immediately called the information to Washington.

Finance Minister Clementel continues greatly exercised at what appears to him to be the inexplicable effect produced by his inventory in the United States, and is giving repeated statements for publication denying that he ever declared France would never fulfill her engagements.

The finance minister declared today that the principle of capacity to pay which was applied to the settlement with Germany ought to be applied to allied debtors as well and he was in favor of the Dawes plan without the control feature for all the war debtors.

The finance minister said this was not an official proposition but simply his personal amplification of his own remark that "the principle of capacity for payment which is rightly applied to Germany ought to be granted to all the war debtors."

In an extended explanation of his inventory of France's debts and claims made public last week, he expressed regret that a single phrase from the document had been isolated from the rest, and had given rise to some unfavorable comment in the United States.

Dead Cat Best Bait

Quakake, Pa., Dec. 30.—After two years of "watchful waiting," John Sorber, a Quakake Valley farmer, caught a mink which had, in that time, killed 47 chickens. The animal spurned all kinds of bait, until Sorber heard that dead cats were considered a dainty by minks and he quickly landed it by using such a lure in a trap.

CITY TAXES

Effective January 1st an additional penalty on City Taxes. You have only a few days left to pay until the January penalty will be added.

CHAS. N. FIELD, City Tax Collector. 27-4t-chg.

NEW SAVINGS QUARTER

Begins January 1st, 1925

Opportunity during the New Year will knock at every Man's door. Help it along by saving some of what you earn.

The Concord National Bank CAPITAL \$100,000.00 SURPLUS \$150,000.00

SEEKING PART OF THE MARK HOPKINS ESTATE

Lawyer Says Relatives in North Carolina Are Entitled to Part of Big Estate.

(By the Associated Press.) Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 31.—George A. Work, a local attorney, today was continuing his plans for filing suit in local courts on behalf of Randolph County, N. C. heirs of Mark Hopkins, one of the founders of the Central Pacific Railroad. He yesterday took the testimony of George Bray, of Trowbridge, as to his acquaintance with Mark Hopkins years ago, announcing in summoning Bray that a suit was to be filed.

Work said that the suit would be filed to impress the property of Moses Hopkins—property he receiving from Mark Hopkins in original or altered form—with a trust for the benefit of 120 Hopkins heirs.

Mark Hopkins died in 1878. Moses Hopkins, a brother, acted as administrator. Work said the plaintiffs would allege that Moses Hopkins concealed from the court the fact that he and Mark Hopkins had three brothers and sisters in North Carolina. Work said that Moses Hopkins and wife took the estate and that when Moses Hopkins died he left an estate valued at \$5,000,000. His widow, Emily Hopkins, said to be in New York City, is said to have received the bulk of the Moses Hopkins estate.

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SLUMP IN BUYING IS WORRYING G. O. P.

Fordney-McCumber Prosperity Imperiled by Falling Off in Purchase Totals.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Intimations and signs of buyers' strikes because of advancing prices to consumers are worrying administration Republicans, who are anxious to have prosperous times under the Fordney-McCumber tariff act. People have refrained from buying costly apparel, and are slowing down on the purchase of homes.

The Department of Commerce has found that there was very little change in the average cost of living during last November and the same month a year ago. It makes this explanation: "Increases in the cost of food, fuel and light and sundries" were "offset by declines from October in shelter and clothing."

Wholesale trade was slightly smaller in November this year than in November last year. "Sales of meat, furniture and diamonds were larger than last year, while the volume of business in practically all other lines was smaller," a statement issued today declares. The largest reduction was in sales of millinery, which was reported by the Kansas City district to be 27 per cent. less than a year ago.

WOMAN WHO KILLED FOUR SENT TO ASYLUM

Mrs. Emma Hobough Declared Insane and Will Face No Criminal Charges.

Ligonport, Ind., Dec. 30.—With the finding of a sanity commission that Mrs. Emma Hobough, 33, a widow, who today confessed to Sheriff Walter C. Bowyer that she shot and killed her father, mother, brother and her baby daughter, is insane, Merl Wood, prosecuting attorney of Cass county, announced tonight that the state would place no charge against the woman, but would order her held for commitment to the Northern Indiana Hospital for the Insane.

Taken before the sanity commission late today, Mrs. Hobough declined to answer questions regarding the slaying of her family and her only statement related to the crime was made to Sheriff Bowyer, who had asked her directly if she fired the fatal shots.

"I never handled a shotgun before and I did not know how to open and close the breech, but I did it. I wondered if the neighbors heard the shots," she said simply. Then her talk drifted incoherently.

Smith Ginning Bill Approved in Senate.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The bill of Senator Smith, democrat, South Carolina, to require the director of the census to include in the cotton ginning reports the names of the owners of gins and the quantity of cotton ginned at each gin, was passed today by the senate without objection.

The bill also provides that the reports shall show the quantity of cotton ginned from each crop prior to August 1, August 16, September 1, September 16, October 1, October 18, November 1, November 14, December 1, December 13, January 16 and March 1.

Former Congressman Dead.

(By the Associated Press.) Oneonta, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Geo. W. Fairchild, member of Congress from 1907 to 1917, died in New York City today of heart trouble.

Ring Out the Old, Ring in the New

Ring out wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light; The year is dying in the night; Ring out wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow; The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true.

—Tennyson

DUKE TRUST MONEY AVAILABLE IN 1926

Power and Tobacco Magnate is Pleased by Action of Trinity Board.

Charlotte, Dec. 30.—Colleges and other institutions named as beneficiaries of the \$40,000,000 trust recently established by J. B. Duke, multi-millionaire tobacco and power manufacturer, will not receive any of the proceeds of the fund until 1926, according to a statement here today by Mr. Duke.

He pointed out that the income from the trust property in 1925 has already been included in the plans for expansion of the Southern Power company and that the trust estate really will not begin to function until a year from now. However, it is understood that the \$6,000,000 for Duke University will be available at once.

Mr. Duke expressed genuine pleasure at the action yesterday of the board of trustees of Trinity college in changing the name of the institution to Duke university, thereby receiving \$6,000,000 in cash and an annual income of 32 per cent of the yearly earnings of the trust fund.

Mr. Duke said he had anticipated the board's action and was not surprised by the acceptance of his offer. Many hospitals already have applied for help from the fund, according to Mr. Duke. He pointed out that these applications will be handled by the trustees. In this connection he pointed out that no hospital operated for private gain can become a beneficiary of the fund.

BRITISH AND FRENCH ARE IN AGREEMENT

Agree on Text of Note to Be Sent to Germans in Regard to Leaving Cologne.

Paris, Dec. 31 (By the Associated Press).—The British and French governments having agreed on what they are going to say to Germany in their note advising her that they "long ago will not be evacuated on January 10th, the allied council of ambassadors meeting here today is expected to settle upon the final draft of the document in short order. The council also is expected to decide upon the date for forwarding the note to Germany.

The reasons given in the note for the extension of the occupation are understood to be briefly these: Conviction on the part of the allies that Germany has not fulfilled her military obligations under the Versailles treaty; the impossibility of her fulfilling them by January 10; the insufficiency of the proportion in which she has fulfilled them up to the present; and finally, the necessity for the allies to await the general report of the inter-allied control commission so as to be able to judge what may be expected of Germany in the future.

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF AUTOS IN COUNTRY

Motor Vehicle Registrations in United States For 1924 Totalled 17,700,179, Which Was Big Gain.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 31.—Motor vehicle registration in the United States for 1924 show that there is one passenger car or truck for every 6.42 persons, based on an estimated population of 114,000,000.

Registrations for the year excluding the last ten days of December totalled 17,700,179, a gain of 16.28 per cent over the total of 15,222,658 recorded in 1923. These statistics, compiled from official figures obtained from every state, were made public today by the magazine Motor.

Beats His Father For Going to Church.

Fayetteville, Dec. 30.—George Jackson, of Cedar Creek township, this county, is under a two-year suspended judgment for beating his father with a chair to keep him from going to church. Judgment was suspended by Recorder Duncan Shaw when the father, J. A. Jackson, exhibited to the court a number of cuts and bruises and testified that the son assaulted him with the furniture when he insisted on going to church last Sunday. The son is said to be more or less irrational.

NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW WHY THEY ARE HERE OR HOW LONG THEY WILL STAY.

Washington, Dec. 31 (By the Associated Press).—With the question of war departments already developed in dense fog of conjecture and diplomatic reticence, two Englishmen, officials of the Bank of England, have added a new first class mystery to the picture by appearing unheralded in New York, accompanied by a flock of war-colored reporters.

The visitors are Montague Norman, governor of the bank, and Sir Allen Garrett Anderson, one of its directors. Important as they are in British financial life they succeeded in crossing the Atlantic without a hint of their departure appearing in English newspapers, and now have appeared on the horizon of official Washington as a factor whose importance can only be guessed.

The State Department today disclaimed any previous knowledge of the visit, the treasury followed suit, and the British embassy insisted that its first intimation came from today's newspapers. Reports that the debt situation would be discussed during the presence of the two financial authorities in the United States were met everywhere in Washington with declarations of complete ignorance.

EXTRA MEASURES KEEP LIQUOR FROM METROPOLIS TODAY

Day Began With Gun Battle Between Rum Runners and Marine Police—Five Men Were Captured.

BIG FIGHT FOR NEW YORK CITY

Places of Amusement Sold Out For the Night.—The Dry Agents to Redouble Their Efforts.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 31.—A gun battle between marine police and rum smugglers on board the 700-horse power bullet-proof motor boat Maybe, which contained 200 cases of champagne, early today inaugurated the offensive against the flow of liquor into New York for the New Year celebrations. The battle, during which 50 shots were fired in a 15-mile chase, ended with the capture of the boat and five prisoners.

While the rum fleet carried out its final maneuvers to check liquor smuggling, and the police department completed plans for increased patrols in strategic positions, Broadway and the other centers of amusement went ahead with plans for gay celebrations to usher in the New Year tonight.

The police plans called for 300 extra policemen on Broadway, between 42nd and 49th street, with 100 extra men to keep a watch on the festivities in Greenwich Village. Two hundred policemen were assigned to duty in the Brooklyn district where the New Year celebrations are largely concentrated. The extra policemen will remain at their posts from 9 o'clock tonight till 5 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Reservations in all restaurants, hotels, dance and supper clubs far exceeded accommodations, according to proprietors who said there was every indication of its being one of the gayest New Year celebrations in a number of seasons.

The offensive against rum smuggling for the holidays reached its final strength last night when an armed flotilla of 40 coast guard run-chasers and destroyers had taken up their positions along rum row to intercept all smuggling trading with the liquor vessels.

Carries His Whiskey in an Empty Cooconut.

High Point, Dec. 30.—B. K. Suggs, of Thomsville, carries his whiskey in grand style. When local police arrested Suggs here yesterday he had in his possession a coconut filled with liquor. A cork stopper had been placed in a hole in the coconut to prevent the fluid from leaking out. Suggs also had a pint bottle of liquor in his pocket and in police court, the Thomsville man was fined \$35 and the costs.

"You Thomsville folks are teaching us a thing or two," said Judge Matt Hedgecock in imposing the fine.

Rules in Favor of Richard Loeb.

(By the Associated Press.) Lansing, Mich., Dec. 31.—A judgment obtained in the Chateaufort county circuit court against Richard Loeb, convicted slayer of Robert Franks, was reversed by the State Supreme Court today. The case revolved about injuries alleged to have been sustained on August 5, 1920, by James Franklin O'Brien, when struck by an automobile Loeb was driving.

To Continue Investigation.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 31.—Further investigation of the prohibition unit by private investigators was determined upon today by the special Senate committee headed by Senator Couzens, Republican, of Michigan.

BANDIT KILLS IN VAIN EFFORT TO ROB TRAIN

Killed Messenger, Locked up Others of Crew, But Could Not Get Safe Open.

(By the Associated Press.) Chicago, Dec. 31.—A youth held up the express car crew of the Viking fast Chicago & Northwestern Railroad passenger train, near Highland Park, Ill., last night, shot and killed a messenger, locked up the train conductor and baggage man, and escaped after a futile attempt to open the safe which contained bonds, jewels and money valued at upwards of \$200,000.

Russell Dickey, 44 years old, of Milwaukee, Wis., was slain when he attempted to disarm the robber, who took one of the two keys necessary to open the safe, from Dickey's body. He failed to find the second key which was in the messenger's overcoat hanging a foot away from the safe, and leaped from the train as it pulled into Winnetka, Ill.

THE COTTON MARKET

Renewed Realizing or Liquidation Featured in Trading in the Market Today.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 31.—Renewed realizing or liquidation featured today's trading in the cotton market. Liverpool cables were rather disappointing while further good rains were reported in the South. After opening steady at a decline of 1 to 5 points, prices eased off under New Orleans, local and commission house selling.

March declined from 24.53 to 24.43, and July from 24.96 to 24.87 before the end of the first hour, or about 7 to 10 points net lower. The Southern rain news was reflected in the relatively easy ruling of October, which declined to 24.10, or 12 points net lower.

The opening prices were: Jan. 24.10; March 24.48; May 24.83; July 24.92; Oct. 24.00.

With Our Advertisers.

Deposits made on or before January 10th in the savings department of the Cabarrus Savings Bank will draw interest from January 1st.

A new quarter in the savings department of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company begins tomorrow, January 1st. Four per cent, compounded quarterly, is paid on deposits in the Cabarrus Savings Bank. A new quarter starts January 1st.

The motor oil you get from Howard's Filling Station is guaranteed. All coats, suits, dresses, headwear and reasonable merchandise at Fisher's is now going at one-half, one-third and one-fourth off.

President Coolidge Speaks.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 31.—Three thousand members of the American Association for Advancement of Science and allied societies were told by President Coolidge today that society and government no longer fear the results of the scientists' search for truth.

"It has taken endless ages to create in men the courage that will accept the truth simply because it is the truth," the President said.

Ruthenburg Must Serve Sentence.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 31 (By the Associated Press).—The petition of Chas. E. Ruthenburg, convicted of violation of the Michigan syndicalism act for a stay of sentence, was denied by the State Supreme Court today.

NOTICE!

The City Board has ordered a new survey of the corporate limits with the view of extending the limits to include the whole of No. 12 Township. All property owners now living in No. 12 Township, but not in the corporate limits and who wish to be included in the corporate limits under the new survey, let it be known to the City Attorney at once so the new boundaries to be presented to the legislature in January. 31-4t-c.

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT. A new quarter begins in this department January 1st. We recommended and advise the regular habit of setting aside something each week or month to care for emergencies or to make an investment when a substantial sum is accumulated. One dollar will start an account in this department. CITIZENS BANK & TRUST COMPANY CONCORD N. C.

It is but fitting as the old year nears its end, and the New Year, bright with promise, approaches, that we extend the season's greetings to our friends and patrons. 1924 has been a good one for us. Among our achievements, we look with a certain element of pride upon the completion of our new home. Not necessarily because of our comfortable quarters, among the best in the State, but because your patronage covering over a quarter of a century has made it possible for us to share our success unselfishly, giving Concord an office building in keeping with the progressive spirit of our city. We want your banking business. Our ample capital and adequate resources enable us to care for your financial needs. Prompt, Efficient and Courteous Service will be our motto in 1925. In making YOUR New Year resolutions do not forget to include the habit of systematic savings. Deposits made on or before January 10th in our Savings Department will draw interest as of January 1st. CABARRUS SAVINGS BANK Capital and Surplus \$450,000.00

State Library. BEST PLANT OF GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS IS COMPLETE

Home and Equipment Would Be Credit to Any City and the Greensboro People Are Proud of Them.

NEWSPAPER MEN VISIT THE PLANT

Formal Opening Began Monday and Prominent Visitors Have Been Attracted to the New Home.

BY W. M. SHERRILL Greensboro, Dec. 30.—"A million dollar plant in a million dollar town."

That doesn't exaggerate my feelings today as I inspect the magnificent new home of The Greensboro Daily News, a home that would do credit to any newspaper in any town. The management of The News has played the cards well in visioning a greater Greensboro and providing a building and equipment for a greater newspaper.

The plant of The Daily News is good enough for any newspaper, and it is so arranged that it can be made big enough for the needs of Greensboro for the next 25 years at least. Of course there are larger plants in larger cities, but these plants take precedent over The News' plant only by their size. In completeness the Greensboro plant is equal to any.

The News has spent half a million dollars on its new home, a sum that would stagger some newspapers in North Carolina and other Southern cities, but it doesn't seem such a large sum to A. L. Stockton and E. B. Jeffress, managing editor and business manager, respectively, of The News. They are already talking about additions that will have to come in the near future. That's the kind of vision that has given to Greensboro one of the best newspapers, as well as one of the best newspaper plants, in the South.

From the engraving department's rooms on the top floor to the sub-basement under the ground, the home of The Daily News is a shining example of efficiency and modernism in newspaper work.

"And I say 'string example' with full knowledge of its meaning. Every floor in the office was as clean as that of a battleship; every machine was in fine running order; the stones had been relieved of excess leads and slugs and other materials that are wont to gather there in many offices; and all equipment showed that it had been carefully washed and repaired.

And speaking of shining, the faces of Stockton, Jeffress, Lenoir Chambers and other members of the staff fairly radiated with happiness and pride as they conducted through the model plant the host of visitors. These men have wrought hard but they have wrought well and their spirit of optimism was reflected in the questions, suggestions and plans expressed by other newspaper men who also have visions of greater things in the future.

Beginning at 3 o'clock this afternoon several groups of newspaper men and laymen from various cities gathered at The News' home and were shown over the entire building. The tour of inspection was made in small groups so the guides could better explain the equipment, its usages and means of operations. I was escorted individually over the plant by Mr. Stockton who proved himself as general a host as he is efficient managing editor.

The press room, perhaps, is the most popular room in the plant, due to the two large presses installed there. One press is used for color work (the Sunday comic sections) and relief duty should the new press break down. The new press, one of the largest of the Goss inventions, prints 54 pages and is a marvel to newspaper men as well as to persons not familiar with newspaper lingo and equipment. Tonight the press was seen in operation as the regular edition (Continued on Page Seven)

BASKETBALL Y. M. C. A. Wednesday Night 8 Concord Y vs. Charlotte Polarine

WHAT SMITTY'S CAT SAYS. Rain tonight and probably Thursday morning, colder Thursday and in the interior tonight.