

Leaders Hail 1926 As Promising To Lead Us Away From Depression

Views of Representatives of Dry Goods, Railroads, Labor and Banking Predict Better Times.

RECORD BREAKING CHRISTMAS SEASON

A Rising Standard of Living Will See an Upward Trend in Wages and the Prices of Commodities.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Financial, industrial and agricultural leaders hail 1926 as promising to lead the nation much farther away from the bugaboo of post-war depression.

Their views representative of the wholesale and retail dry goods, railroads, farmer, labor and banking, both that in agricultural and livestock regions and in industrial districts, agree that the new year will marshal in an era of better times.

This outlook comes on the heels of a record-breaking Christmas buying season which closed a "most successful" year during which many business records were broken.

A rising standard of living will see an upward trend in wages and commodity prices, business executives believe.

The farmer is on the threshold of prosperous days, industry and manufacturers will increase production and need all of the available labor, the railroads will be busy with heavy traffic, and the year will be one of large but conservative profits in the consensus of opinion.

Firmer money will tend to a moderate slackening of stock and bond activity and speculation in real estate and other fields, it is felt. The prediction is for ample credit at satisfactory rates.

"The peak of this period of prosperity probably will be reached during 1926," says Leonard P. Ayres, of the Cleveland Trust Company, a nationally known statistician.

"In the earlier months of the year the course of the general business promises to be ascending to that peak, and during the later months of the year descending from it."

"The farmer's condition is, on the whole, the most favorable since 1920," says Samuel H. Thompson, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. "but much remains to be done to put agriculture on a prosperous basis."

Secretary Mellon's View. — Washington, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Improving conditions both at home and abroad during the past year justify the belief that 1926 will see continued progress toward world stabilization in the view of Secretary Mellon.

CONFERENCE CALLED BY SECRETARY JARDINE

To Discuss the Agricultural Surplus Question.—To Be Held January 12th.

Washington, Dec. 31.—(AP)—A conference for the discussion of agricultural surplus question has been called by Secretary Jardine to convene here January 12th. It will be the first of a series of conferences planned by the secretary for this purpose.

The date coincides with that for the first session of the fourth national co-operative marketing conference to be held here, and many leaders in agriculture are expected here for both meetings.

Those invited by the agriculture secretary to attend the farm surplus gathering include former Governor Lowden, of Illinois; Samuel Thompson, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Aaxon Spairo, attorney for a number of co-operative marketing organizations, and editors of leading agricultural publications.

FIRE AT GREENVILLE, N. C.

Damages Estimated at \$150,000 Sustained Early Today.

Greenville, N. C., Dec. 31.—Damage estimates at \$150,000 was caused by fire early this morning in the heart of the business district of Greenville, destroying one-fourth of a block of buildings. The flames were brought under control with the aid of the Washington and Farmville fire departments which responded quickly to an appeal for assistance.

A very large crowd witnessed "Every Man's Wife" at the Star Theatre Wednesday and Wednesday night, and acclaimed it the best picture they ever saw. The same picture is on today and tonight only.

THE CONCORD NATIONAL BANK

Capital \$100,000.00 Surplus \$175,000.00

Pastime Today
 New Year's Watch Tonight
 Last Show 10:45 to 12:30

It's Happened



MISSISSIPPI LED IN NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS

Six Persons Met Death in That State at Hands of Mobs in 1925.—No Lynching in North Carolina.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Mississippi led the states of the Union in the number of persons lynched in 1925. Six persons met death in that commonwealth at the hands of mobs, reports compiled by Tuskegee Institute show. The total number of lynchings for the year was 16, the same number as for the year 1924.

Florida and Georgia reported two lynchings each, while one each was reported from Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Utah and Virginia.

This number is 17 less than during the year 1923, and 41 less than during the year 1922.

Two of the victims were insane, the report shows, while the third had been released by the courts. Ten of the persons lynched were taken from the state while one was put to death and the body burned.

There were 39 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

EIGHTEEN IN GEORGIA CONDEMNED TO DEATH

The Death Sentences on Most of Them Were Passed During the Year.

Atlanta, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The last day of 1925 finds in the jails of Georgia eighteen men condemned to death, thirteen of whom are white. The death sentences on most of them were passed during this year.

Fourteen of these are convicted of murder, and four of attacks on women. All four of those convicted of attacks are white men. All the negro condemned men were convicted of murder.

Dates have been set for the execution of four, all to die on the same day, January 29th. Nine white men and four negroes are awaiting the outcome of appeals to the State Supreme Court. One negro has been respited several times by Governor Clifford Walker, and now is in the penitentiary under another respite.

Warm and Dry Year Now Nearing Close.

Washington, Dec. 30.—"Warm and dry" is the epitaph written by the Weather Bureau for the year 1925.

The period will go into meteorological history marked by one of the most devastating and widespread droughts, and by a record-breaking number of high temperatures, weather bureau experts said today.

Nearly every part of the country recorded excessive heat marks for the year as a whole and in many sections nearly every month was warmer than normal, especially in the South Atlantic and North Pacific states. The spring was one of the earliest of record in all sections.

Rainfall was deficient for the year throughout most of the country, notably in the South, where drought prevailed through most of the spring and summer.

An unusually cold and wintry October and the cold waves of this month failed to change the character of the year as one of the warmest known.

CHARGES AGAINST VETERANS' BUREAU

In Charlotte Were Forwarded to Washington Yesterday.

Charlotte, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The Charlotte News will say this afternoon that it has learned through "official sources" that documents relating to allegations of "improper and irregular conduct" on the part of employees of the North Carolina division of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau were forwarded to the Civil Service Commission at Washington yesterday.

North Carolina ranks fourteenth in the United States in population and twenty-seventh in area in square miles.

Strawberries \$4 Quart.

Philadelphia, Dec. 30.—Strawberries at \$4 a quart in the wholesale market today established a new high price for this fruit in Philadelphia.

A recent experiment showed that an ant can lift with its jaws a weight equal to three thousand times its own weight. To equal this, the average man would need to lift with his jaws a weight of two hundred and twenty-five tons.

The timber from an oak tree is not perfect unless the tree was at least a century old when felled.

Coldness often results from hot woods.

Watch Night Party
Y. M. C. A.

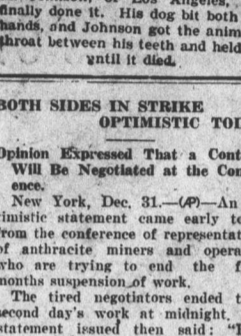
BASKETBALL
 HIGH POINT
 —VS.—
 CONCORD Y
 8:30 O'CLOCK

VOLLEYBALL
 CONCORD Y
 —VS.—
 SALISBURY Y

BASKETBALL
 JUNIOR Y
 —VS.—
 NEWELLS
 7:00 O'CLOCK

ADMISSION 25c AND 35c

Ready For the Jump!



OPTIMISTIC NOTE

Is Struck by the Fifth Federal Reserve Band in Its Review of Reviews.

Raleigh, Dec. 31.—(AP)—An optimistic note is struck by the Fifth Federal Reserve Bank at Richmond, in its monthly review of business and agricultural conditions, just released for publication.

After summing up business and agricultural conditions during November and the early part of December, the review predicts "excellent" business conditions in the early months of 1926.

"On the whole," it says, "1925 is closing well, and the leading industries of the fifth district appear to be confident that the outlook for the early months of 1926 is excellent."

"Business barometers" in the district indicate a "very satisfactory volume of trade during November and early December. The Christmas trade was fully underway and was in large degree an increase of 5.5 per cent. in department store sales in November in comparison with sales in November, 1924.

"Wholesale trade in November was seasonally below that of October, but as a consequence of the activity in retail circles the wholesalers received a larger volume of refill orders than during the corresponding period a year earlier."

Debts to individual, firm and corporation accounts, "one of the best indicators of the current volume of trade," are running ahead of those for November, 1924, by 12 to 15 per cent. Business failures were fewer during November than in October or November of last year, and liabilities were comparatively low.

"Labor is well employed for this season, and a continuation of a very active building program appears to guarantee a sufficient amount of employment for the near future to provide for practically all workers."

"In the textile field, conditions are improving. The mills are increasing operating time, and more forward orders are being secured than in recent months, the review says. Conditions in the textile industry, however, are described as "still far from ideal."

"Except in the northwestern counties of South Carolina and a few other sections of limited area, agricultural conditions are fair to good, and the yields of many crops turned out better than earlier season conditions led the growers to expect."

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Both Sides in Strike

Opinion Expressed That a Contract Will Be Negotiated at the Conference.

New York, Dec. 31.—(AP)—An optimistic statement came early today from the conference of representatives of anthracite miners and operators who are trying to end the four-month suspension of work.

The tired negotiators ended their second day's work at midnight. A statement issued then said: "Both sides express the opinion that a contract can and should be negotiated at this conference."

If no material progress is made today, the joint wage conference expects to observe New Year's by remaining at work.

Coolidge Is Ready to Specie to Father

Washington, Dec. 31.—Although hoping that his father, Col. John C. Coolidge, will recover from the latest recurrence of his illness, President Coolidge is ready to depart for Plymouth in the event that alarming reports come from the bedside.

The reports received by the President from Plymouth yesterday were more encouraging. Dr. Arthur W. Cram, the family physician, sent word that the complete paralysis of the Colonel's right leg continues, but that the old gentleman retains his calm and cheerful disposition. He may never regain the use of the leg.

President Coolidge is visibly depressed. He feels that his father's condition is what might be expected, considering his age and the illness which have beset him the last year. He has suffered the leg trouble before, and the President thinks he may again recover from it. But it was evident he awaited with anxiety the reports from the mountain farmhouse.

Two Shot in Raid on Randolph Distillery

No Details Were Given in the Message Received at Charlotte.

Charlotte, Dec. 31.—(AP)—A telegram received by federal prohibition headquarters here today said that two men had been shot in a raid by officers on a distilling plant near Asheville. No details were given in the message.

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VOLLEYBALL
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BASKETBALL
 JUNIOR Y
 —VS.—
 NEWELLS
 7:00 O'CLOCK

ADMISSION 25c AND 35c

HIP Pocket Revelers

to Receive Attention

Night Clubs in the Cities to Be Well Manned With Detectives Tonight.

New York, Dec. 31.—(AP)—"Hip pocket" revelers in Boston, Philadelphia, New York and Atlantic City will receive special attention from the law enforcement officers after the Liberty Bell breaks its 90th year of silence at midnight to welcome the New Year by radio.

In Atlantic City each night club will have one detective assigned to it to uphold the Volstead act. They will be assisted by more than a score of federal prohibition agents who arrived yesterday from Philadelphia.

Police and prohibition officers in evening attire will mingle with the New Year's revelers in Philadelphia and keep a diligent lookout for prohibition law infractions, according to Director of Public Safety Elliott.

The Liberty Bell which in 1776 tolled the dawn of a new era in the history of nations at midnight will ring in the New Year and the dawn of the Philadelphia Sesqui-Centennial celebration. The tones will be broadcast across the continent through radio station W I P.

The bell cracked when it was rung at the funeral of Chief Justice John Marshall, July 8, 1835. Attempts to repair it were not entirely successful. However, tests by radio engineers have demonstrated that a resonance of about 80 per cent. of the full volume may now be had from the bell.

Ford Passenger Plane Damaged.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 31.—(AP)—Three of the Ford-Stout all-metal passenger planes en route to Florida, were damaged in an accident today. No one was hurt.

The accident occurred at Blackwood Field at 10:15 o'clock when Pilot Lee F. Schoenhair was taking off in the Miss Fort Myers. The plane crashed into the Miss Tampa and the Miss Miami on the ground which were unoccupied, after Pilot Schoenhair had lost control of his ship.

The occupants of the Miss Fort Myers escaped injury. The planes arrived here for a stop en route to Florida from Detroit.

The Miss Fort Myers went into a ground loop while taxiing and before leaving the ground.

Ten-Cent Advance in Price of Golf Balls.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—The price of golf balls is going up. A large manufacturer has announced that standard balls have retained for 75 cents, are to sell for 85 cents, and the 50 cent variety for 60 the advance being due to the high price of rubber.

MANY INQUIRIES RECEIVED ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA

One of the First Questions Is "What About the Climate?"

Raleigh, Dec. 31.—(AP)—What is first question a prospective settler asks about a new state or section? One of the first, it would seem, is, "What about the climate?" At any rate, that is the question that many persons outside North Carolina are inquiring about with reference to this state.

"I am thinking of locating in North Carolina. Can you give me information about the climate in that state?" and generally there is some question with reference to a particular locality. That is the general tone of literally hundreds of letters received by the local weather bureau during the past year.

Hardly a day passes without one or more such inquiries, said Lee A. Denson, meteorologist.

It would appear, therefore, that outsiders are interested not only in North Carolina roads, North Carolina schools, North Carolina farming advantages, but also in North Carolina weather conditions. And of course, with North Carolina's wide variety of climate, the meteorologist's replies are as varied as the sections about which inquiry is made. A particularly large number of inquiries are received asking about climatic conditions on the coast, Mr. Denson said.

And the hundreds of letters received by the weather bureau here are undoubtedly only a fraction of the inquiries made about North Carolina climate and weather, Mr. Denson suggested. For, he pointed out, the climatological data about North Carolina is on file in every weather bureau office in the country, and undoubtedly large numbers of people interested in this state made their inquiries direct to their local weather bureaus.

700 Autos

Charles Kurfee, 43, is held at Wichita, Kan., charged with being the head of a ring that stole more than 700 automobiles, mostly Fords, in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado. Officials expect to arrest 25 more men as accomplices.

THE COTTON MARKET

Sold From 14 to 17 Points Higher.—March Goes to 19.69.

New York, Dec. 31.—(AP)—The cotton market opened steady today at an advance of 5 to 8 points and sold about 14 to 17 points net higher in the early trading, March advancing to 19.69 and July to 18.89.

Traders who had sold yesterday on unfavorable trade reports from Lancashire appeared to be covering this morning on the relatively steady showing of Liverpool, private cable advices stating that increased curtailment in the Lancashire mills not likely. Otherwise no special news feature was mentioned in connection with the advance, and the market was comparatively quiet after the early spurt of covering had subsided. Prices, however, held steady and within a point or two of the best at the end of the first hour.

Cotton futures opened steady: January 19.70; March 19.60; May 19.17; July 18.83; October 18.22.

GRAVITY OF POLITICAL SITUATION IN ROUMANIA

Due to Absence of Crown Prince a Crown Council Has Been Summoned.

Bucharest, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Because of the gravity of the political situation created by the absence of Crown Prince Carol, a crown council was summoned unexpectedly today.

A crown council differs from an ordinary cabinet council in that besides the members of the government, all former premiers and the leaders of the various political parties are invited to participate.

Grove Says Suit Can Be Settled Out of Court.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Dec. 30.—The will suit brought against E. W. Grove, president of the Paris Medicine company, by his son-in-law, E. L. Seely, of Asheville, N. C., involving property valued at between \$7,000,000 and \$8,000,000, will be settled out of the courts, Mr. Grove announced here late today.

The suit has been filed in circuit court at St. Louis by the son-in-law. When questioned as to the legitimacy of Seely's claims that his father-in-law had destroyed or revoked a will, made according to terms of an agreement reached by the two 20 years ago and depriving Seely of compensation, Grove declared:

"I expect he is right."

The aged medicine manufacturer said that because of the close relationship between Seely and himself, the case is entirely a family affair and can be settled between themselves.

Seely is said to claim that 20 years ago his father-in-law agreed to transfer a controlling interest in the Paris Medicine company, or all other of his property to Seely at his death, if the latter so chose. He said he was suing so he could testify on certain points before his father-in-law's death.

At his physician's advice, Mr. Grove, who is ill, did not talk to reporters long. Mrs. E. L. Seely, Grove's daughter, is understood to be in Miami, Fla. She was in St. Petersburg several weeks recently caring for her father during his serious illness.

Bus Line Accuses Jitney of Soliciting

Thomasville, Dec. 30.—Solomon Pegree and his driver were arrested by bus line operators on the charge of soliciting and hauling passengers. Mr. Pegree has operated a car here for hire for many years under State, county and town license. He and his driver gave bond for their appearance in the City Recorder's Court on January 8. The outcome of the case will be awaited with considerable interest.

One of Yale's Football Heroes Died Wednesday at Southern Pines, Following a Long Illness.

BEDRIDEN FOR FOURTEEN MONTHS

Friends Expressed Surprise and Sorrow at His Passing.—Few Realized He Was Near Death.

Southern Pines, N. C., Dec. 31.—(AP)—The body of Frank "Silent" Hinkey, one of Yale's former football heroes, will leave here today at 7 p. m. for North Tonawanda, N. Y., suburb of Buffalo.

Hinkey died here yesterday, following a long illness.

Word was received this morning from Miss Mary P. Hinkey, a sister of Buffalo, to send the body to his home town.

Today friends, many of them former Harvard athletes spending vacations at Pinehurst a few miles away, expressed surprise and sorrow at the news of the former gridiron star's passing. Hinkey had maintained his silence in illness as in play, and few realized that he was near death.

The athlete of thirty-three years came to Southern Pines fourteen months ago from Muskogee, Ontario, sanatorium, and had been unable to leave his bed since.

GEN. PERSHING TO RETURN FOR TREATMENT

Authorized by President Coolidge.—Date For Return Not Given Out.

Washington, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Secretary Kellogg announced today that President Coolidge had authorized General Pershing to return to the United States for medical and dental treatment.

The date for his return has not been communicated to Washington as yet. Mr. Kellogg added, but the head of the Tacoma-Ariza plebeian mission is expected to return on or before January 15th. The condition of his health with dental trouble having affected his blood pressure and general health, Mr. Kellogg said was the "only reason" for Gen. Pershing's return.

FEDERAL TAX REFUNDS

A Total of \$151,885,415.60 Returned by Government to Tax Payers.

Washington, Dec. 31.—(AP)—Refunds totaling \$151,885,415.60 were given to federal tax payers during the last fiscal year by the treasury department.

A majority of the refunds were for less than \$100.

Among those receiving the larger refunds were: Mrs. Melodia E. Jones, of Gulfport, Miss., \$37,893.

The Hurler Mill, Inc., Caroleen, N. C., \$117,208.

With Our Advertisers.

The Kidd-Frix Co. store is closed today getting ready for the big reduction sale on all pianos and phonographs. The store will open at nine o'clock Friday morning, January 1. Be on hand at the opening of this big sale.

See new ad. today of the J. & H. Cash Store, phone 587.

A new interest quarter begins at the Cabarrus Savings Bank January 1st. Phone 870, the Cox Studio, for an engagement to have your photograph taken.

"Black Cyclone," a big special at the Star Theatre January 1 and 2.

Price, quality and service at the Cabarrus Cash Grocery Co.

Saturday, January 2nd, marks the beginning of the January Clearance Sale at Fisher's. Coats and dresses from 25 to 50 per cent. off, and Gossard Corsets at half price. Trimmed Hats at less than half price. See big new ad. today.

Society Wears Paste Jewels in Florida.

Palm Beach, Dec. 31.—Society women here frightened by the numerous thefts which have baffled local police recently, are wearing cunningly fashioned artificial replicas of costly jewels, leaving the genuine gems in safe deposit vaults.

The genuine jewels are removed only on special occasions.

Mrs. Phillip Plant, formerly Constance Bennett, the screen star, left her gems in a vault at a hotel and then forgot them. Meanwhile, a servant lost the key. An expert will have to be summoned to open the vault.

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