

# The Roanoke Beacon

VOL. 34

PLYMOUTH, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1923.

NO. 35

## BUSINESS UPSWING BEING CONTINUED

PIG IRON PRODUCTION NOW AT  
NEW HIGH LEVEL FAR ALL  
TIME.

## RECORDS IN AUTO PRODUCTION

Railway Car Loading Add Their Testimony to Other Evidences of Intense Activity.

New York.—Although considerable irregularity was apparent in the chief financial markets during the past week, reports from industrial districts showed that the strong upswing in business is being continued.

Pig iron production is at a new high level for all time and a similar condition probably exists with regard to steel. The secondary buying movement in steel products, which started last December, and which was superimposed in one that had begun in the spring, has come to a pause, this is explained, however, by the fact that production is now extraordinarily large and that consumers are assured all the steel which their plants can handle.

That other branches of industry are operating at what amounts to capacity may be seen from the figures for automobile production for March. Some 346,000 cars were manufactured in that month, which exceeds by 57,000 the best previous record, made in June of last year. Over twice as many cars were made in the first three months of this year than last, the total being slightly more than 867,000. Makers believe that the total for the year will be 3,000,000, but point out, significantly that favorable conditions will be needed in the materials markets.

Railway car loadings also add their testimony to the other evidences of intense activity, continuing to set new high records for the season of the year. In this connection much interest has been displayed in program announced by the American Railway association. Anticipating further gains in traffic and a wholly unprecedented autumn movement of freight, the railroads have authorized the expenditure of \$1,100,000,000 this year for the expansion of their rolling stock and other facilities.

### Favors Cut in Surtax Rates.

Washington.—Possible efforts by the treasury to have Congress cut the surtax rate on incomes further were forecast in a formal statement by Secretary Mellon, who asserted that March collections of income and profits taxes, aggregating \$462,000,000, had fully justified his prediction that downward revision would have the effect of actually increasing rather than decreasing the federal revenue.

Coupled with this statement, was a declaration by Mr. Mellon that the March collections which were under the lower rates of the new law of "under such revision as has been accomplished" provided a practical answer to the tax problem and "shows clearly what course further revision should take." He mentioned that although higher rates were in effect in March, 1922, the collections at that time were \$70,000,000 less than in the same month this year, at circumstance which he regarded as proof that the downward revision had acted as a stimulant to business.

### Shoot Auto Carrying Girls.

Greenville, S. C.—The car in which they were riding was badly shot up and Miss Rosalie Bowen and Miss Mary Gwinn, young women of Asheville, N. C., miraculously escaped death when they failed to halt as ordered to do so by a group of federal prohibition officers on the Greenville-Asheville highway about 20 miles north of here, according to a story told by the young women on their arrival here. After a tire was deflated by shots and the car dashed into a ditch, officers searched it, the young women said upon arrival here, and then allowed them to proceed.

Prohibition officers, it was said, were waiting on the roadside near Traveler's Rest in upper Greenville county for expected rum smugglers when the automobile bearing the two young women drove into sight around a curve, T. L. Queen, officer in charge of the party, stepped into the road, the girls said, and attempted to flag down the on-coming car. The young women, they later told officers here, thought the group of men were highwaymen, became excited and dashed ahead.

## PREVENT EXECUTION AND KILL FIVE IRISH REBELS.

Dublin.—While a party of republicans at Glencar, South Kerry, were about to execute a railroad workman named Cornelius Hannafin, who had been kidnapped, tried and condemned, they were surprised by Free State troops. A fight ensued, during which the condemned man was forgotten and escaped. The republicans barricaded themselves in two houses, which were stormed by the Free State forces and captured. The republicans lost five men killed and two made prisoner.

## WANT FAIR PRICE FOR SHIPS

PLAN UNDER CONSIDERATION  
FOR DISPOSING OF FLEET  
NOT YET WORKED OUT.

No Thought of Selling at Sacrifice For Unrestricted Service, Says Statement.

Washington.—Formal announcement was made by the shipping board that no plan now under consideration for disposal of the government fleet contemplated the sale of ships "for unrestricted service" at less than world market prices. Suggestions that a sale at any price policy might be adopted was said to have resulted in a natural hesitancy on the part of operators to venture at this time upon operations designed to build up new lines or take over some of those now maintained by the board.

"It is true," the board's statement said, "that studies are being made for offering government owned ships on lines at a considerable reduction from world market prices in those cases where the purchasers will guarantee to maintain the services in foreign trade for a term of years but there is no intention of making reductions where there is no guarantee of the maintenance of service to foreign ports, an no reason at all why reductions should be made for the sale of vessels to be used in the protected coastwise trade where foreign flagships may not compete.

"There is therefore no reason why ship owners should hesitate to buy ships at the present time for unrestricted coastwise or intercoastal operation because of any expectation that ships for such service would be sold at greatly reduced prices later on."

The policy committee, headed by Commissioner Lissner, was understood to have agreed upon the basis of the report to be submitted to Chairman Lasker when he returns to Washington about the middle of this month.

Beyond the statement that there would be no bargain sales of good ships offered and that the market will be relieved of the competitive threat held in the unadaptable tonnage there has been no suggestion as to the scope of this report.

Reports are being received daily by the valuation committee, of which Commissioner Plummer is chairman in the form of replies to the exhaustive questionnaire sent to operators and captains of ships in active service and custodians of those tied up. No compilation has yet been attempted but estimates have been made which place the total obsolete and undesirable shipping in the government fleet at upwards of 2,500,000 dead-weight tons or nearly 30 per cent of the entire fleet. The last official report showed about 3,350,000 tons in active service and twice that "in ordinary" or tied up but presumably available if sudden demand arose.

### Grew to Attend Lausanne Meet.

Paris.—The American embassy here has received no instructions regarding participation by the United States in the forthcoming Near East conference at Lausanne, although there is no doubt that America, as before, will be invited to attend.

Jose C. Grew, American minister to Switzerland, will probably attend the negotiations as an observer whether Ambassador Child goes from Rome or not. F. Lamont Belin, attached to the American embassy here, also is expected to attend.

### Hughes to Speak on Court Plans.

Washington.—An important declaration in support of the Administration proposal for American membership in the permanent court of international justice is expected from Secretary Hughes, when he speaks April 27 before a meeting here of distinguished international lawyers.

Although it was said that the detailed arguments to be set forth for the secretary had not taken form, it was indicated he would lay down at length the considerations on which the membership proposal is to be renewed with the reconvening of Congress.

## SECRETARY WARNS ARMY OFFICERS

NOT TO ENGAGE IN CONTROVERSIES CONCERNING MILITARY POLICY.

## WELL TO INFORM THEMSELVES

Weeks Urges People to Beware of Incorrect and Misleading Statistics.

Washington.—Secretary Weeks in a formal statement urged the public to be wary of individuals and organizations who, he said, are responsible for "the widespread circulation that has been given recently to incorrect and misleading statistics concerning the cost of the military defenses of the United States."

American citizens, he added, "would do well to inform themselves of the facts and to examine into the character and patriotism of those who are prompting the pacifist campaign before taking a step that may readily align them with the enemies of the republic."

During the day Mr. Weeks also took occasion to warn army officers not to engage in controversies with any organization as to military policy. He made it clear that the department itself would criticize the activities of such groups, if criticism were necessary.

Mr. Weeks admitted he had received a statement from Brigadier General Amos Fries, chief of the chemical warfare service, which had been prepared by the general as an answer to attacks made against him by the National Council for Prevention of War and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. It was stated that General Fries' reply would not be made public, either by him or the department.

The decision to withhold the statement, it was said, is in line with Secretary Weeks' policy to personally deal with controversies originating between army officers, organizations and groups of citizens, and is not to be considered in any way as a reprimand or censure of the general.

"I am perfectly willing for officers to speak," Secretary Weeks said, "and they are doing it every day in the corps area."

"But when any criticism of organizations or citizens are necessary in the interest of national defense and welfare, I will make them personally."

### Three People Killed Crossing Track.

Raleigh.—John Henry Weathers, prosperous farmer, his wife and Miss Irene Weathers, their 16-year-old adopted daughter, were killed when their automobile was struck by a Norfolk Southern freight train at Fuquay Springs, 20 miles from here.

Miss Weathers, who was driving, was horribly mangled, but was rushed to a Raleigh hospital, where she died three hours after the accident occurred. Her foster parents were killed outright.

The half dozen or more witnesses of the accident differ as to the manner, some holding that the automobile stopped dead on the track in front of the approaching freight, others maintaining that while the automobile was moving very slowly, it did not stop.

### Georgians Honor President.

Augusta, Ga.—Citizens of Augusta gave a dinner in honor of President Harding, the fourth chief executive of the United States to visit the city in its history, which dates back before the foundation of the republic. The others were George Washington, William McKinley and William Howard Taft.

Leaders of the life of Augusta and of this section of Georgia joined in honoring Mr. Harding at the dinner, at which other members of the presidential party were guests. About 200 persons attended the dinner.

Brief addresses were made by Thomas J. Hamilton, editor of The Augusta Chronicle; Major Joulain M. Smith, Benjamin E. Pierce, vice president of the Augusta Chronicle Publishing company; Rodney C. Cohen, commander of the Georgia department of the American Legion; Federal Judge William H. Barrett, and Judge Henry C. Drummond, all of Augusta.

Responses to these addresses were made by various members of the presidential party, including Brigadier General Charles E. Sawyer, the president's physician, and Edward B. McLean, publisher of The Washington Post. The final address of the evening was by the President, who spoke briefly and informally.

## TWO DEAD AND SIX HURT IN AUTO CRASH

Raleigh.—William Naylor and Robert Chappell, both of Raleigh, are dead and six other boys are injured as a result of a collision of two automobiles here.

Naylor was killed instantly and Chappell died after being removed to a hospital. Hospital authorities stated Bud Rankin, McKeesville, a North Carolina State college student, whose injuries at first had been reported slight, had been removed to the hospital in a serious condition.

Bill Bethune, State college student, driver of the automobile in collision with Chappell's car, was arrested on charges of manslaughter, when discharged from the hospital later. He was released in \$1,000 bond, signed by his father, L. A. Bethune, president of a Clinton bank. Hearing was set for April 17 in city court.

## FLIGHT WITHOUT ACCIDENT

SECRETARY WEEKS EXTENDED  
OFFICIAL WELCOME TO THE  
PILOTS.

Left Texas on Six Thousand Mile Trip to Porto Rico and Thence to Washington.

Washington.—The six army airplanes which left San Antonio, Texas, a month ago on a 6,000 mile flight to Porto Rico and thence to Washington, landed at Bolling field bringing to successful conclusion one of the most remarkable pioneer flights ever attempted by the army air service. Secretary Weeks extended the official welcome to the 12 pilots who made the trip and directed that a citation be placed in their records crediting them properly with their achievement.

Air service officials said the flight negotiated by land planes, over wide stretches of water and strange land areas without accident and on schedule, splendidly illustrated the role aircraft would take in the scheme of national defense. Capt. Thomas G. Lanphier, in command of the squadron, also pointed to this possibility. He declared Porto Rico formed the logical base of action for an air force against an enemy fleet approaching the Panama canal from the Atlantic side, adding that it had been proved possible, as a result of the flight just made, to concentrate an air force at Porto Rico within 24 hours and attack an enemy fleet or bombard land basis within a radius of 800 miles.

Major General Patrick, chief of the army service, also called attention to the part aircraft could play in defending the country and providing means of quick communication between the continental United States and the island possessions.

"The 12 army air service pilots who flew from San Antonio, Texas, to the island of Porto Rico and who landed at Bolling field ending their flight, have accomplished something really worth while," General Patrick said. "I am naturally proud of the enthusiasm with which they undertook their task and the skill with which they carried it through, flying over strange countries, piloting land planes over considerable water areas, all without accident and on schedule time."

"They have given a remarkable demonstration not alone of the role aircraft can play in national defense, but also of the possibilities of quick and easy communication by air with this, one of our most important island possessions. The flight could easily have been continued for the few remaining hundreds of miles to the main line of South America."

### Liquor Thieves Make Big haul.

Baltimore.—Whiskey thieves broke into one of the storage buildings of the Spring Garden's General Bonded Warehouse Number 1 district of Maryland, in southwest Baltimore, bound the three watchmen and carried away three large trucks loads of liquor.

The watchmen were liberated two hours later by a Baltimore and Ohio trainman who heard their cries for help. They said there were about 40 men in the gang. The bandits gained entrance to the warehouse, the watchmen said, by breaking the lock on the door.

### Volcano is Active.

Hilo, T. H.—Kilauea Volcano is more active than it has been for years. The glow in the sky is visible for miles. With forty acres of fire less than 300 feet from the rim, ten fountains are sprouting an amount of lava estimated at three million cubic yards weekly.

## FIND BUSINESS CONDITIONS GOOD

SECRETARY MELLON FINDS SATISFACTION IN EAST "VERY SATISFACTORY."

## SMALL NUMBER OF FAILURES

Federal Reserve Board Calls Attention to High Rate of Industrial Production

Washington.—Declarations were made in two official quarters that general business conditions throughout the east were nearly normal. The central and western parts of the United States were said, at the same time to be making rapid strides toward recovery and the prediction was offered that those sections soon would be in better condition than at any time since the prosperity incident to the war.

Secretary Mellon asserted, on returning from his first vacation since he became head of the treasury, that the industrial and financial situation in the east appeared "very satisfactory." His trip included visits to several important centers and in all of these he reported he found renewed evidence of prosperity and optimism concerning the future.

The federal reserve board declared in its official monthly bulletin, that continued active business conditions in every section were shown by the maintenance of a high rate of industrial production. Along with this, the bulletin said, there had been increases in freight traffic and employment and a larger volume of wholesale and retail sales.

The bulletin also called attention to the unusually low number of commercial failures reported in February which, according to its figures, was the smallest since September, 1920. The total number of failures, the report showed was 44 per cent less than in February, 1922, and 54 per cent below the record reached in December, 1921, near the height of the deflationary process through which the country went. There was a marked decline in the number of failures in February as compared with January and incomplete reports for March indicate another reduction.

Some concern has been expressed by the government officials recently regarding harked tendencies toward inflation, but these were discounted by the treasury secretary. He said that while there undoubtedly was some speculation, as is true always during periods of prosperity and expansion, it need not be considered dangerous.

Mr. Mellon's views on this phase of the situation were substantiated by the bulletin which reported little increase in the borrowings from the federal reserve banks. Commercial banks which are members of the reserve system, however, have greatly increased their loans and investments. The total of the two items of assets a few weeks ago was something like \$25,700,000,000, whereas the highest point reached by loans and investments at the peak of the 1920 expansion was only four hundred million dollars greater.

### Arlington Hotel Burns.

Hot Springs, Ark.—The Arlington hotel, oldest hostelry in Hot Springs and one of the most noted in the south, was destroyed by fire of undetermined origin, all guests, numbering more than 300 escaping without serious injury although dense smoke threatened to overcome many as they groped from the exits.

The loss was estimated at upwards of a million dollars with something more than half that sum covered by insurance.

In addition, loss of personal effects, including jewelry, money and clothing of guests will run into a considerable sum. Most of the hotel occupants were left with no personal property other than the clothing they wore when the alarm was given.

### Car Loadings at Record Figure.

Washington.—Railroads loaded 917,036 cars with revenue freight during the week ending March 24, or 12,750 cars more than the week before, 79,795 cars more than the same week a year ago, and 230,469 cars more than during the corresponding week of 1921. The car service division of the American Railway Association, which compiled the reports, pointed out that the total broke all previous seasonal records, and with one exception, was larger than the amount of freight taken into transportation during any week this year.

## Professional Cards

**W. J. JACKSON & SON**  
(Established 1895)  
Plymouth, N. C.  
UNDERTAKERS  
AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
Will Arrange for Embalming Upon Request  
Motor Hearse Service

**D. B. MIZELLE**  
DENTAL SURGEON  
In Plymouth every Tuesday and Wednesday prepared to do all kinds of MODERN DENTAL WORK.

**MUSIC SHOP**  
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS  
PIANOS  
Baldwin, Hamilton, Howard  
SHEET MUSIC  
Quality Line Throughout

**DR. W. L. DAVIS**  
EYE SPECIALIST  
Graduated at Philadelphia Optical College, 1896; took post graduate work in 1909. Offers Optical Work not surpassed in South.  
Office with Plymouth Jewelry Co.

**Plymouth Market & Grocery Company**  
BUTCHERS  
STAPLE AND FANCY GROCERIES  
Individual Cold Storage Plant  
Everything Kept in Perfect Condition  
WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

**W. T. NURNEY**  
UNDERTAKER  
Everything to be Desired in Funeral Supplies  
Modern Motor Hearse Service  
Splendid line of Caskets and Coffins.  
Cemetery Lots for Sale. We can arrange everything for Funerals. "Ask those We Have Served."

## Our Hobby

Is Good Printing

Ask to see samples of our business cards, visiting cards, wedding and other invitations, pamphlets, folders, letter heads, statements, shipping tags, envelopes, etc., constantly carried in stock for your accommodation.

Get our figures on that printing you have been thinking of

**New Type, Latest Style Faces**

## Patronize Our Advertisers

They are all boosters and deserve your business.