

## COOLIDGE WANTS TAX REDUCTION

PRESIDENT EXPRESSES HIS  
VIEWS AGAINST SOLDIERS  
BONUS.

## KILL EXTRAVAGANT PLANS

Declares That Nothing Will Give Pub-  
lic More Confidence Than an In-  
come Tax Slash.

Washington.—President Coolidge specifically recommended to Congress a reduction of more than \$300,000,000 in the national tax bill and at the same time presented views in opposition to a soldiers' bonus.

The executive, in a message transmitting the annual budget, said frankly that "any program of new expenditure on a large scale would make tax reduction impossible for years to come." He added that tax reduction "would certainly tend to align the whole people in support of economical administration of government" which he declared is becoming "every day more and more necessary."

"I recommend a revision of tax laws," Mr. Coolidge said, "along lines which will effect a reduction of income taxes by taxing earned income more lightly than income from business or from investment; by reducing the percentages of the normal tax, and by reducing the surtax rates, with commencement of their application at \$10,000 instead of \$6,000. I also recommend repeal of the tax on telegrams, telephones, and leased wires, and of the tax on admissions, and revision of the miscellaneous taxes which are a source of inconvenience to taxpayers, and difficult to collect. On the other hand, amendments which would cause some increase of revenue should also be made to existing income laws relative to deductions of capital losses; deductions from gross income for interest paid and non-business losses sustained, wherein income from tax-exempt securities is involved; and the manner of taxing community incomes. These changes would reduce taxes by more than \$300,000,000, which is safely within the probable surplus.

"I know of nothing which will give the people of this nation greater assurance that we are unalterably committed to a campaign of economy in public expenditure than a reduction of our present taxation. It will take from the realm of debate plans which contemplate extravagant expenditures, or expansions of the business of government beyond those necessary to keep pace with a growing nation and fix the measure of our requirements an amount which will represent what is actually necessary to carry on efficiently the proper business and functions of government and meet our reduced debt charges payable out of current revenue. It would certainly tend to align the whole people in support of economical administration of government, and I frankly state that such an alignment is becoming every day more and more necessary.

**Mystery Surrounds Slaying of Guard.**  
Neffield, Ala.—Mystery still surrounds the slaying of Harry S. White, 38, a government guard at United States nitrate plant, No. 1, here. He was shot while riding his horse on his beat, his body dragged 50 feet and thrown into an unused cistern where it was found in two feet of water. Officials so far have been unable to establish a motive for the crime. White had no known enemies.

**Salesman Drowns on Fishing Trip.**  
Tampa, Fla.—Harry Thomas, 28, salesman, well known throughout Florida, was drowned in Lake Worrell near New Port Richey, where with two companions he had gone on a week-end fishing and hunting trip. The boat in which he and one of his friends were fishing capsized when Thomas tried to take a fish off a hook. His companion swam ashore to divest himself of his clothing and return for Thomas but when he started back, both Thomas and the boat had disappeared. The body was recovered.

**Reject Demand Made By Italy.**  
Paris.—The rejection of Italy's demand for representation in the conference regarding Tangier, which had been known for weeks unofficially, was announced officially in a carefully worded note.

"It has not appeared possible," says the note, "to comply with the request of the French government has just notified the Italian government in a friendly spirit to that effect, Italy's demand having only reached Paris when the conference already had commenced work."

## SLAYER OF TWO MEN DIES FROM WOUNDS.

Chicago.—John Sheehy, who shot and killed two employes of the Rendezvous Cafe because of "rotten service" and wounded a policeman and was himself shot in a pistol duel, which followed, died in a hospital here.

"Well, if I die, just tell them I was drunk and didn't know what I was doing," Sheehy told physicians a few minutes before he died.

Sergeant Williams O'Mally, the policeman who was wounded in the battle in the cafe after Sheehy had shot two waiters, will recover.

## IN PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

TO CONGRESS TOUCHES NUMEROUS  
QUESTIONS LIKELY TO  
BE ISSUES.

Gives "Unqualified Approval" to Mellon Tax Program; Declares Against Soldier's Bonus.

Washington.—President Coolidge frankly informed the Congress and the country of his position on all of the major problems confronting the nation.

For more than an hour calmly and in terse phrases, the executive addressed a joint session of the house and senate, thus breaking the silence on public questions so studiously maintained since he entered the white house four months ago.

Many of the score and more of subjects upon which the President touched seem destined to play their part in the coming national political campaigns and this accounted in some measure for the more than usual importance that was attached to this, his first annual message.

Outstanding points in the address were: an "unqualified approval" of the Mellon tax reduction program; a declaration against the soldiers' bonus; endorsement of American adherence to the world court with reservations; immediate reorganization of the railroad freight rate structure; government assistance in the disposition of exportable wheat, the declarations against price fixing, the excess profits tax, repeal of the rate section of the transportation act and revision of the tariff.

Mr. Coolidge spoke in the house chamber where the smoke of battle over the speakership precipitated by insurgents within his own party had scarcely cleared away. A number of the recommendations he presented run counter to the legislation program announced by the insurgents and, since the hold the balance of power in both houses, there was general doubt at the capitol that Congress would be able to translate into law even a substantial portion of the proposals of the chief executive.

The President presented some of his recommendations without argument, but others were discussed and at some length. He did not mince words on the subject of tax reduction. Telling Congress it could render no higher service to the country than to cut the tax bill, he declared that "to neglect it, to postpone it, to obstruct it by unsound proposals, is to become unworthy of public confidence and untrue to public trust."

**New Cable Line Complete.**

New York.—The largest and fastest trans-oceanic cable ever manufactured has just been put into service between New York and Paris by the Postal Telegraph Commercial Cables system. It is being operated between the system's New York office at 20 Broadway street and its Paris office, at 24 Boulevard Des Capucines. According to Clarence H. Mackay, president of the system, this will insure virtually instantaneous communication between the two continents.

The first messages to be transferred over the new cable were exchanged between Mr. Mackay and M. Millerand, president of France.

**Bandits Rob Express Car.**

Norfolk, Va.—A safe containing \$30,000 in currency was stolen from the express car of the Norfolk and Western "cannon ball" between Waverly, Va., and Petersburg, according to an announcement here by the American Railway Express company.

The bandit is supposed to have boarded the train at Waverly about 6 o'clock. Upon the train's arrival in Petersburg, the express messenger, J. H. Stevens, of Richmond, was found in the car, gagged and blindfolded. The safe, containing a shipment of currency from Norfolk, was missing.

## NINE KILLED IN TRAIN COLLISION

SEVEN OTHER PEOPLE ARE IN-  
JURED, TWO PROBABLY  
FATALLY.

## BILL DONOVAN IS A VICTIM

Third Section Telescopes Second  
Which Had Stopped on Account  
Auto on Track.

Forsythe, N. Y.—Two sections of the Twentieth Century Limited, the pride of the New York Central railroad, crashed in the fog and rain here with the loss of nine lives. The locomotive of one section ploughed through an observation car on the rear of the other, which had stopped because of the wreckage of an automobile by the foremost section of the train which was running in three parts.

All of the dead and injured were in the observation car, which was ripped open by the impact. The dead include W. B. (Wild Bill) Donovan, manager of the New Haven club of the Eastern league, who with other baseball magnates was on his way to Chicago to attend the baseball convocation. The automobile which was the indirect cause of the wreck became stalled on a railroad crossing, and three occupants of the machine jumped as they saw the express train thundering down upon them. They escaped injury and were eye witnesses of the wreck which followed a few minutes later.

The second section of the limited had passed the first when the latter developed engine trouble near Albany and it was this section which hit the automobile. After determining that no one was injured, the train proceeded. The first section, following a few minutes later, stopped to investigate when the blazing automobile was sighted, and was standing still when the third section crashed into it.

President John A. Heydler, of the National League, and other baseball men were among the first to reach the wrecked car and helped in removing the dead and injured.

Charles J. Patterson, of Cleveland, engineer of the third section, declared at the scene that he had seen the warning block signal and red flare to stop the train. He declared he had applied his brakes when he first saw the signal, but that because of the fog he was upon the other section before he could stop.

The list of dead announced officially by New York Central headquarters here follows:

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Sweet, Los Angeles, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Ernest Sturman, Springfield, Ill.

W. B. Donovan, manager New Haven, Conn., Eastern League baseball club.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sullivan, of Springfield, Ill.

Mrs. Carl D. Kinsey, Chicago.

R. Pannell, Pullman porter, New York city.

**Message of Coolidge Well Received.**

New York.—Interest in financial and business circles during the past week naturally centered in President Coolidge's message, and, judging by the behavior of the securities markets, the document was well received. Business men were reassured by the definite stand taken in favor of tax reduction and most observers were pleased with the position taken in regard to railroads.

Final returns on the net earnings of class one railroads in October showed a total of \$102,700,000 or 4.78 per cent of the interstate commerce commission's valuation as compared with \$98,200,000 or 4.46 per cent in September. Car loadings continued to hold up well, the total for the week ended November 24 being 990,000 a figure larger than ever was reached in any preceding November.

**Sign Trade Pact With the Germans.**

Washington.—The United States Government is gradually extending its commercial treaties and trade agreements to cover all the wartime nations of the world, securing in every instance the "most favorable national clause" which ensures for American commerce at least an equality of opportunities and conditions in the fight for world trade.

A new treaty of this character was signed at the State Department between the United States and Germany, one of the few formal conventions that have been consummated between the two Governments since the signing of the separate treaty of peace in 1922.

## REINFORCEMENTS FAIL TO STOP REBELS—300 KILLED.

Mexico City.—Although stubbornly contesting attacks by superior rebel forces of General Guadalupe Sanchez, Jalapa, capital of the state of Vera Cruz, General Frederico Berlanga, with a portion of the 25th cavalry, which refused to join the De la Huerta revolt, and hundreds of partially equipped and unorganized agrarian civilians, were captured, according to advices received from Vera Cruz.

The arrival of 1,000 federal reinforcements under General Fausto Topete failed to stem the onrush of the rebel forces.

There were more than 300 deaths on both sides during three strong attacks, according to advices from the war department.

Three thousand agrarians in the vicinity of Maltrata have petitioned for and been given arms for the purposes of opposing the advance of the De la Huertistas.

## N. CAROLINA CROP DELAYED

TRUCK CROPS AND WINTER CE-  
REALS BENEFITED BY HEAVY  
RAINFALL.

Wet Soil in Texas Prevented Field  
Work; Heavy Snow Damaged Cot-  
ton in Northwest.

Washington.—Southern crop conditions for the week were reviewed by the department of agriculture as follows:

Rainfall was heavy in the gulf states except in Florida, where temperatures during the week were considerably higher than the past week, and moderate to rather heavy precipitation was reported from the central Mississippi valley.

There was some interruption to farm work by frequent rains in the central gulf states and in the southern great plains, but elsewhere seasonal farm operations made satisfactory progress. The rainfall in Texas was favorable for winter crops and for truck, although it was much too dry in Florida, where crops need rain badly. The mild, moist weather was likewise favorable for winter crops in the south Atlantic states.

Cotton picking was delayed in most sections of Oklahoma by frequent rains and wet fields, while the week was rather unfavorable for field work in Texas where snowfall in the northwestern portion was damaging to un-gathered cotton. There was also some delay in picking by wet weather in the more northwestern portion of the belt while freezing weather in the Rio Grande valley of New Mexico killed some plants and undeveloped bolls. Frost in Arizona favored the opening of bolls, however, while cooler weather in the imperial valley of California favorably affected the cotton crop.

The review by states:

North Carolina: Gathering cotton delayed two days by rain.

Texas: Wet soil prevented field work in most sections, and heavy snow damaged cotton in northwest.

Oklahoma: Picking cotton delayed most sections by rain and wet fields.

Arkansas: Unfavorable for outdoor work. But little cotton in fields.

New Mexico: Freeze on the 30 killed some undeveloped cotton bolls and plants in the Rio Grande valley, where picking practically completed.

Arizona: Heavy frost on the 20 causing late cotton to open nicely.

California: Cooler weather in Imperial Valley was beneficial for cotton.

**Will Attempt Altitude Record.**

Washington.—Lieutenant John A. MacReady, of the Army Air Service, will attempt on the first day practicable, it was announced at the War Department to establish a new altitude record by use of an improved super-charger which will permit the engine of his plane to function efficiently at extreme heights.

The new mechanism was invented by Dr. S. A. Moss, and is an improvement on the equipment used by MacReady in 1921, when he established a world's record for altitude of 34,509.5 feet, which stood until October of this year when Sadi Lacoine, a French flyer, reached 36,564 feet.

**Seven Killed in German Clash.**

Berlin.—Seven persons were killed and 30 wounded in a clash between unemployed and the police at Wanne, Westphalia.

The unemployed, discontented over the amount paid the mass unemployment doles, tried to storm the town hall. They attacked the police with stones and revolvers, whereupon the police returned their fire. French troops finally restored order.

## NEW YORK HAS TEN SUICIDES

ILL HEALTH AND FEAR IS CAUSE  
OF SEVERAL OF THE  
TRAGIDIES.

## JUMPS FROM TWELFTH STORY

Five Victims End Life By Inhaling  
Gas, One By Hanging, One Drowns;  
Terrible Day.

New York.—Ten suicides were recorded in one day in the metropolitan district. A man believed to be M. E. Ketchum, of Babylon, N. Y., jumped from the twelfth story of a downtown Broadway office building.

A man of middle age plunged to his death in the Harlem river from a bridge while passengers in a passing trolley car looked on, horrified.

The body of a poorly dressed man was cut down from the limb of a tree in Central park. Police expressed the belief he had been out of work and despondent.

Business difficulties was said by friends to have caused Alexander Meyer to shoot and kill himself.

Ill-health was believed to have caused Charles G. Schwartz to drown himself in a lake at Newark, N. J.

Paul Alexander Tipler, of Youngstown, Ohio, a student at Columbia university and a war veteran, committed suicide by turning on the gas in his room.

Michael Dillon held his head over the outlet cone of a gas meter until he died of asphyxiation. He had been ill.

Frederick Bernhardt inhaled gas through a tube. He left a note saying he was tormented by fear that gunmen were seeking him.

Andrew Maloen, an elevator operator, who had been ill for some time, killed himself by gas in the basement of the Riverside Drive apartment house where he had been employed.

Joseph F. Pineda, pinned himself between the wall and a bedstead in his boarding house room, turned on the gas, and waited for the end.

**Growth Shown By Wilmington Harbor.**

Wilmington.—That the number of ships making the port of Wilmington is steadily increasing is indicated by the customs house records. During the past month the tonnage of the ships clearing and clearing from Wilmington totaled 76,647, as against 53,730 for November, 1922, a gain of 19,917 tons in favor of the past month over the same month last year.

The tonnage of the vessels entering last month from foreign and domestic amounted to \$34,545; the tonnage of those clearing for foreign and domestic ports was 42,191. In November, 1922, the figures were: Vessels clearing for foreign and domestic ports, 23,274; vessels arriving from foreign and domestic ports, 30,456.

A most substantial gain was shown in the tonnage of vessels clearing foreign this year over those of November, 1922. Last month the tonnage of the foreign clearances were 42,191 as against but 23,274 for the same month last year. The net gain was 13,917 tons.

**Urges Consolidation of Railroads.**

Washington, D. C.—Consolidation of railroads, as proposed by present statutes, but with measures to expedite the process which do not exist at present, is urged in the forthcoming annual report of Secretary Hoover. Extracts from the document, made public declare that commercial and industrial developments of the past two years, "point to imminent desirability of early progress" in the matter.

The issue was raised by the requirement of the transportation act of 1920 that the Interstate Commerce commission proceed to lay out a plan for merging existing railroad systems into 19 or 20 great corporations.

**One Killed and Two Wounded.**

Charleston, S. C.—At Ladson, 18 miles from here, John M. Heape, 79, former magistrate, was instantly killed, his son, John Heape, was seriously wounded and his granddaughter, Elizabeth Heape, was perhaps fatally shot. Harold All was held by the coroner's jury investigating the killing.

**Seaboard Gets War Guarantee.**

Washington.—A payment of \$650,183 to the Seaboard Air Line was authorized here by the Interstate Commerce Commission, completing a total of \$747,183 which the road was entitled to receive from the government in payment of the guarantee of earnings during the first six months after termination of war time federal control.

## SHIP HOLLY FROM SOUTHPORT

New Industry For Brunswick County  
May Become Profitable to Help  
Out Farmers.

Southport.—The shipment of holly to the north in practically over for this year, in this county, as the time is not long enough to reach the markets where the holly is retailed. The shipments are comparatively small, some five or six cars, though this is, compared with no shipments last year, as there were no berries then, the amount of berries adding to the holly value. While the holly itself grows back quickly after being cut out for the holiday trade, annually, the fruitage is not regular, so that there may be only one year in three when the trees are filled with the berry, and so become a fine marketable and profitable product, to help out the farmer.

The fish oil shipments from here by rail this season, are estimated at about two-thirds in number of gallons, as compared with last year for the same period. Shipments of oil from here are convenient for both the up river factories, and those below this city, and also from the factory at Shallotte, twenty miles down the coast. From the factory barge into the car on track the oil transfer is easily made. From estimates now on hand there will be 400,000 gallons of this fish oil shipped to northern points.

In the matter of furnishing fuel oil for oil-burning steamers, the W. E. and S. railroad is prepared to do so, provided that notice is given in advance. The railroad does not run a supply station, but it is equipped to enter into contracts. It supplies the government oil-burning dredge Comstock, with its fuel oil, the Comstock operating in dredging mostly on the Cape Fear bar.

Word from Columbus county tells the interesting story, that the boll weevil has been found in the cockle-bur, evidently taking his winter quarters in this apparently safe retreat, so as to be early on hand for the cotton of the next crop.

**Heavy Tobacco Sales in Wilson.**

Wilson.—The official figures of sales on the Wilson tobacco market appearing in the report for the week ending December 8, made by H. B. Johnson, supervisor of sales, are as follows: Sales this week, 2,439,602 pounds. Amount sold for \$726,929.26. Average, \$22.41.

Sales last week, 3,154,934 pounds. Amount sold for \$726,929.26. Average, \$23.04.

Decrease, 715,332 pounds. Decrease, \$180,073.48. Decrease, .63.

Sales to date, 54,234,778 pounds. Amount sold for \$12,404,829.03.

**Two School Buildings For Pender.**

Wilmington.—Walter Clark, local contractor, has been awarded the contract to erect in Pender county two modern school buildings which will cost when completed approximately \$100,000. Work on the structures is to begin immediately after the first of the new year, it was announced by Mr. Clark.

One building is to be located at Long Creek and the other at Atkinson. They are to be of the same general type of construction.

**Mah. Shot and Robbed.**

Elizabeth City.—O. C. Bray, 44 years old, a local insurance man, is in the Community Hospital and is not expected to live as a result of a bullet wound in hip and abdomen received as Mr. Bray turned to run when a negro believed to be Leroy White, attempted to hold up the white man in the factory district of this city.

The negro fired as his victim turned in flight and while the white man's body was bent forward. The bullet entered the right hip but was deflected upward into the abdomen, where it punctured the small intestines in four places.

**Hunting Good in Catawba.**

Hickory.—While rabbit hunters report a plentiful crop of cotton tails and duck shooters have no complaint over the scarcity of waterfowl, bird hunters report the supply of quail short in this section this year. In the late summer good reports were received, due to a favorable hatching and raising season, but the opening of the hunting season found a greater scarcity of quail than in many years. Birds are to be found in comparative-ly few places, it is said, and many hunters have put up gun and given up.

Probably the largest kill of ducks reported in this section in two days was scored by James C. Shuford and Dan Chatham, two local shots, who spent two days at Bridgewater the latter part of November. They brought back 48 wild ducks, and distributed them among a number of friends. Mr. Shuford uses wild ducks, now domesticated, as decoys. Several years ago he ordered a pair from the northwest, and has raised from them.