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BUSINESS SHOWS LARGE INCREASE

Federal Reserve Board Reviews Conditions Over the Nation—Production Is on the Increase.

The usual post-holiday slump in general business was narrower in scope in January and February this year than usual and sharp increases over preceding months were noted in the production of basic commodities, the Federal Reserve Board reported in its periodical business review.

Coupled with the increased output in basic commodities was a heavier demand for credit for commercial purposes, indicating continuation of a healthy business development, the review said.

Production increases were most marked in steel ingots, lumber and bituminous coal and in the mill consumption of cotton. Contract awards for new buildings were slightly higher in value in January than in December and were 26 per cent greater than in January, 1923.

Along with the increased production in basic commodities there was a resultant increase in railroad shipments. Compared with a year ago, January department store sales were seven per cent greater than a year ago, although the stocks of the reporting stores were slightly smaller than those on hand in January, 1922.

The volume of borrowing for commercial purposes at member banks of the Federal Reserve System in the leading cities, after an almost continuous decline for more than three months, increased considerably, the review showed, the increase being particularly notable in the last two weeks of January and the first two in February.

The increased credit demand has resulted in larger loans by reporting banks than a year ago and smaller investments. Since the first week in February the volume of discounts by member banks has been about five hundred million dollars, while the holding of securities purchased in the open market has stood close to four hundred million dollars.

Coweta Locals.

Mr. Mount Cabe and father, Mr. David Cabe, have gone to Demorest, Ga., to move Mr. John McPherson.

Mr. Calloway has moved back to this place. We are glad they have returned.

Mr. Cornell Anderson has recently built a new house, and moved into it.

Miss Ruth Sanders was the guest of Miss Willie May Thomas Saturday night.

Mr. Charley Moffitt and family took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Childers Sunday.

Mr. Herman Childers spent Sunday afternoon with home folks.

People of Coweta are glad to know that Brother Stallcup preaches twice a month, the first and third Sundays.

The B. Y. P. U. at Coweta every Sunday afternoon at three o'clock, is progressing nicely. Everybody is invited to come.

Mr. William Carpenter has recently bought a place from Mr. Southards and moved to it.

Messrs. Floyd Thomas and William Carpenter are working for Wallace and Cunningham on Wallace Branch at the saw mill.

The many friends of Mr. Henry Childers are glad to learn that he is out of the hospital at Richmond, Va.

Mr. Wiley Stamey was the guest of Mr. Fred Sanders Friday afternoon.

Mr. Lyman Calloway took a trip to Prentiss Friday.

Miss Ellen Dowdle took dinner with Miss Neta Childers Sunday.

BLACK-EYED SUSIE.

A Correction.

We are in receipt of a letter from Rev. R. E. Ward, who is now living at Yadkinville, N. C., asking us to say through the columns of the paper that the report about his boy being accidentally killed is an error. How the report was started, Mr. Ward is unable to explain, but it has been generally understood in this section that the boy was accidentally shot shortly after leaving here. Mr. Ward has received several letters of sympathy from his good friends in Macon, and has asked us to set the matter straight before our people. The many friends here of Rev. Ward and family will be glad indeed to know that this report was an error, and that the boy is now alive and in the best of health.

TO OPEN BRANCH LICENSE OFFICES

Believed Branch Office Plan Will Greatly Increase Efficiency and Be of Value to Territory Where Located.

The plan of the automobile license bureau to establish branch offices in the principal cities of the State for the distribution of license tags is expected by Secretary of State W. N. Everett to greatly increase the efficiency of the bureau, and at the same time prove of considerable value to the branch locations and to the territory they will serve.

Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Wilmington and Asheville are the places tentatively selected for branch offices, it was announced. The Charlotte office opened a few days ago, simultaneously with the inauguration of the annual Carolinas Automobile Show. Capt. H. Sprague Silver, title register, and A. L. Fleming, chief clerk, direct the first branch office temporarily.

The bureau has been distributing approximately a quarter of a million license plates from the Raleigh office. The work has necessitated the employment for two or three months during the periods of distribution—the fiscal year ends June 30th—of large groups of young men and women to assist in mailing and handling the multitudinous clerical duties.

It is expected that the saving in postage alone will practically defray the cost of operating the branches, as it is hoped by the new plan to enable a majority of the automobile owners to purchase their license plates by personally calling at the office. The annual cost for postage for mailing the tags has been aggregating \$50,000, and if the establishment of branches throughout the State will encourage personal calls for tags the postage expense can be reduced tremendously.

Olive Hill News.

We are having some bad weather at this writing.

The singing class at Olive Hill is getting along fine, with Mr. Earnest Roper as leader.

Miss Mary Tallent has been very sick for the last week, but we are glad to know that she is improving.

Mr. Loyd Tallent, of Rocky Branch, was visiting friends at Olive Hill last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Tallent have been on the sick list for the past week.

Mr. G. J. Frady made a business trip to Franklin last Saturday.

Mrs. Harriet Tallent is improving after a long spell of sickness.

Misses Mary and Beulah Tallent and Annie Frady were visiting home folks Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Tallent have been very sick for the past week.

Messrs. Sam Sweatman and Chas. Willis have been doing some good work on our roads this week.

Miss Etta Guyer spent last Sunday night with Miss Annie Frady.

Mr. Fred Ledford is getting along nicely with his barber shop at Mr. Ed Campbell's mill.

Mr. Ed Tallent, of Oakdale, was in this community Sunday.

BETSY, JANE.

Ellijay Items.

We congratulate our neighbor, Mr. John Corbin, on winning one of the more important prizes given at the pony show at Franklin. His exhibit was a pen of Brown Leghorns. Mrs. T. B. Higdon also exhibited some prize winners.

The women of Higdonville who found it profitable to ship eggs last year have begun making shipments again. They met last Monday and organized themselves into a club which they named The Cackle Club. Mrs. T. P. Moses is president, Mrs. Charlie Crawford is secretary, and Mrs. John Corbin, assistant secretary. They will hold meetings each fourth Monday.

Mr. Lewis Henry has been very sick with measles, but we have the welcome news that he, and the others of the family who have been sick, are all improving.

Miss Martha Moses, of Gastonia, is making a protracted visit with relatives and friends on Ellijay.

Mr. James Peek and his brother, "Little Martin," made a week end trip to Prentiss.

R. N. M.



SHIPPING BOARD WOULD SELL OUT

Announces Terms by Which It Would Dispose of Government Ships—Asks for Bids This Month.

Washington, D. C., March 8.—New terms and conditions under which the government would dispose of its entire merchant fleet, comprising 1,335 vessels of various types, were announced by the shipping board in a general advertisement calling for bids. Records show only a quarter of the whole tonnage now is in operation, the remainder comprising the "laid up" fleet.

In announcing the call for bids the board said the advertisement was designed primarily to comply with the law governing the sale of its property and was not "a sudden effort to force the sale of the board's fleet," it was in accordance with the "due advertisements" provision of the merchant marine act, it was explained.

Previous offer of sale by the board has been on a flat basis of \$30 a ton. Displacing this provision, the board said, it now was prepared to consider offers for purchase "under the various types, based on their relative value as affected by their desirability from point of design, physical condition at time of sale, and other pertinent factors."

The basic sale price of each vessel, it was explained, will be determined by its individual worth, and will be subject to revision whenever necessary, due to repairs, damage or other conditions.

Bids must be submitted on or before March 14 and it was stipulated that the board would make no award before that date. Offers must be made on a lump sum basis and may be for one or more ships or for the entire fleet, the advertisement said, and each offer must be accompanied by an initial payment of two and one-half per cent of the amount bid.

The board's fleet is made up of 824 steel ocean-built cargo ships, 324 steel lake-built cargo ships, 14 refrigerator vessels, 43 steel tankers, 27 passenger ships, 35 tugs and 48 miscellaneous craft.

PRENTISS NEWS.

We are having some cold, snowy weather at this writing.

We are glad to say that Mr. John Rickman's folks, who have the measles, are getting along fine.

Mr. T. H. Callahan's mother came home Sunday from Washington, D. C., where she has been visiting for several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Dowdle spent Sunday with Mr. Dowdle's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dowdle.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Pitts spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Pauline Sanders.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Vanhook have a fine new baby at their home.

Mrs. Clara Rogers went to Franklin shopping Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mason have a big seventeen-pound boy at their home.

Mr. Weaver Donaldson was on North Skenah Sunday.

Mr. Ross Davis spent Saturday night in Georgia.

PET.

MONEY FROM THE PEACH ORCHARD

One Owner Proves That All It Needs Is Proper Care and Attention in Order to Make a Good Profit.

Raleigh, N. C., March 10.—When fruit trees have been planted in the home orchard they should receive some care and attention, finds J. T. Brown, of Wilmington, N. C., who, recently followed instructions given him for orchard management by Extension Horticulturist R. F. Payne of the State College of Agriculture.

Mr. Brown had a small home orchard of some 200 trees all about six or seven years of age. These trees had only given a small return annually. Mr. Brown had always pruned them carefully but did not give the other vital things needed in orchard management. He had not sprayed and fertilized. Seeking more information about these matters, he called on the county agent, who had Mr. Payne to visit the orchard and suggest the best methods of handling it. Every suggestion made by Mr. Payne was carefully followed by the owner with the result that his orchard paid him better returns last year than ever before.

Here is his cash statement:

Cost of fertilizer.....	\$ 18.00
Cost of spraying materials.....	14.00
Total cash spent.....	\$ 32.00
Sold 256 crates.....	\$639.77
Canned 20 crates.....	50.00
Value of Crop.....	\$689.77
Cash spent.....	32.00
Difference.....	\$657.77

This statement shows that the profit from practicing good orchard management gave Mr. Brown a return of over \$600 to pay him for his labor and energy expended in caring for the little orchard. Mr. Payne says that there are many other orchards in North Carolina that would return equally as good amounts if the owners would decide to use better methods of management and would become thoroughly imbued with the idea that there are certain things that must be done at the right time.

Harmony Locals.

Dr. Rogers was called Sunday morning to see Mr. Sam Shuler, who got very badly hurt Friday morning by the mica mine falling in on him.

Mrs. W. E. Allen has returned home from Gastonia, N. C., where she has been for quite a while.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Allen and family visited Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Allen Sunday.

Mr. Cole Buchanan took dinner with Mr. J. E. Allen Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Leatherman and little son Claude were visiting friends at Harmony Sunday.

Miss Leona Rickman will leave Monday for Winston-Salem, to take a course as nurse.

Misses Gladys and Mamie Allen visited their sister, Mrs. Joe Hurst, who has been sick with the measles, last Sunday.

BLUE EYES.

NEED PASTURES FOR LIVE STOCK

Expert of the Department of Agriculture Advises North Carolina Farmers to Provide Good Pastures.

Raleigh, N. C., March 10.—Since the greater part of the cattle and sheep sent to market from North Carolina go directly from the pastures instead of the feed lot, it is necessary that more attention be given to good pastures than in the past, recommends R. S. Curtis of the Animal Industry Division, State College, and Department of Agriculture. Mr. Curtis states that the rugged sections of the State are better suited to the livestock industry than to any other type of farming, but if livestock farming is to be made a profitable industry, pastures must be improved. It is a waste of money, however, to plant grass seed and to use fertilizing materials unless the grass is given an opportunity to grow in the spring and some protection is given the roots in winter by allowing the dead herbage to remain on the ground.

Mr. Curtis finds that a survey made in six West Virginia counties revealed the fact that it took four acres to graze a cow and a little more than this for a three-year-old steer. In his opinion, any pasture to be called a good pasture should furnish abundant grass on at least 2½ acres for a 1000-pound steer throughout the season. If this is true, North Carolina pastures need much improvement.

Before improvement is made, it must be understood that the grass must have a large leaf area to manufacture the organic matter of which the roots are composed. If the leafy portion is eaten too closely or too often, the roots will be held back and after a time the sod will become thin and patchy and the weeds and filth will crowd out the grasses. The main pasture should not be grazed until after the grasses have made good growth in the spring. Good seed mixtures need to be used and where clover is included in the mixture, lime and acid phosphate should be used for fertilizer. It is a good plan, too, to mow the weeds and dead grasses during the summer.

PREPARE.

Everybody must wake up and begin preparing now to take in the big 18-day Normal Singing School to be taught in Franklin by Geo. W. Schren, one of the best singers and teachers in the country, beginning August 4th, 1924. Everybody will bear in mind that the school is not just for teachers, but for all, as he will teach the rudiments in the simplest possible form. Also harmony, versification and voice culture.

The tuition will be \$3.00 for the eighteen days. If you are interested and can't attend, try to interest some one else. I think every preacher of the Gospel in Macon County ought to interest at least one or two from his church or churches, as he is in a position to know what an important place good singing holds in the worship of God, especially in revival meetings.

Let us wake up, one and all, and have our singing in Macon County made three-fold better. So don't forget the date, but be there, August 4th.

O. C. CORBIN.

Farmers Notice.

While in Asheville last week Mr. J. A. Porter bought a tock of grass and clover seeds for the farmers. The first shipment arrived Monday. Come and get your supply. He also has in stock uncertified seed Irish cobbler potatoes. He is ready to order certified seed for those who are willing to pay about fifty cents per bushel more for the better seed.

Child Burned to Death.

The little three-year-old daughter of Charley Scruggs, colored, was fatally burned last Thursday at the home. The parents were out of the house at the time, and it is thought she caught fire from the kitchen stove. The child lived several hours after the accident, but was burned so badly that nothing could be done to save its life. Charley wishes to thank his many friends, both white and colored, for their kindness and help in his time of trouble.