

November Trade Report Heartens Roosevelt Aides

Largest Favorable Balance In Months Attributed To Dollar Depreciation

Washington, Dec. 27.—Pleased at the November strength of America's export trade, officials tonight interpreted it as the partial result of depreciation of the dollar abroad coincident with the first several weeks of the Roosevelt bold-buying program.

The total of foreign purchases in the United States was slightly below that of October, but the drop was not so sharp as statistical records showed was to be expected at that time of the year. Meanwhile, America bought less abroad, giving the nation the largest favorable trade balance in months.

Studying these developments, Administration officials today held the gold-purchasing program stationary, offering \$34.06 an ounce for domestic newly-mined gold, the figure unchanged since December 18. At the same time, they noted, but without surprise that the Treasury's deficit had passed the billion-dollar point.

At the White House, it was said that the deficit was expected to go even higher as the result of continued emergency expenditures and that President Roosevelt's principal interest in this connection was making sure that receipts would cover the government's normal and ordinary expenditures. Today's Treasury statement showed them doing so with a little to spare.

The foreign trade figures, published by the Commerce Department showed November exports totaling \$184,000,000, a figure \$9,734,000 less than in October and \$45,000,000 greater than in November, 1932. Imports aggregated \$128,000,000 as compared with \$150,856,000 in October and \$104,468,000 in November, of last year. Thus, November, 1933, showed a favorable trade balance of \$56,000,000, October one of \$34,000,000 and November, 1932, one of \$34,000,000.

Commenting on the figures, the department noted that the drop in exports from October to November was about five per cent and said that "seasonal declines in the exports of such commodities as cotton and tobacco usually result in a decline of about six per cent for November as compared with October."

"The decline this year thus was slightly less than seasonal," it added. "Imports, on the other hand, showed a much greater falling off, the normal downward movement amounting to only about two per cent."

Speaking informally, officials noted that the figures covered the first full month of operation of the Roosevelt gold-buying program. During that period the dollar fell from \$4.70 to the pound to \$5.50 before strengthening to \$5.13, where the end of the month found it. During a large part of the month it ranged between \$5.13 and \$5.50. The dollar-franc relationship followed an identical course.

Thus, they said, with foreign importers enabled to buy more dollars with their pounds and francs, they were able also to obtain American goods at lower cost, attracting them to the American market. For the American importer, the process worked inversely. His dollar commanded fewer pounds and francs; the cost to him of foreign commodities was thus increased, influencing imports in a downward direction.

Although intended primarily to increase domestic commodity prices, the Administration's gold plan also had the purpose of depreciating the dollar in terms of foreign currencies and then of steadying, though not stabilizing, the relationship between them. Since the wild fluctuations of November in foreign exchange rates the dollar and pound exchange rate has moved over a narrow margin, above and below \$5.10, generally a little above that figure.

Today's Treasury statement, giving the status of the government finances as of December 22, showed a deficit of \$1,024,121,667 and officials thought that in the three business days since then it undoubtedly had risen higher. It will continue in that direction, they predict, until March income tax payments reduce some of it.

All expenditures totaled \$2,464,315,121, of which \$1,568,890,842, receipts totaled \$1,440,294,483. The principal item in the emergency expenditures were \$51,000,000 for the Reconstruction Corporation and \$204,000,000 for the Public Works Administration.

Polk County farmers who gave inspection this past summer are so pleased with results that a shortage of seed is expected in the county this winter.

Praises New Silver Plan

South Carolina Representative Sees Benefits To South

Greenville, S. C., Dec. 28.—Representative J. J. McSwain, Democrat, of the fourth South Carolina district, said President Roosevelt's silver program was the greatest thing which has happened for the South since the invention of the cotton gin in a statement here today.

"I am enthusiastic about President Roosevelt's silver program," he said. "Every person in the South is sure to feel the benefits before the year is far advanced. Farmers will get more for their cotton; mill workers will get more for their labor; stockholders in cotton mills will receive greater earnings and business in general will be stimulated."

"Fully half of our cotton crop, whether or not many persons realize that fact, must be sold abroad. That means that we must look beyond the shores of our own country for customers. There is where then we are going to benefit from the silver program. The remainder of the national harvest is sewed up their markets; America then must turn to South American and certain Asiatic countries for its trade. Those are silver-trading countries, and under the new program they will be able to buy thousands of dollars worth of our over-estimating the importance of this move to the South. It is the greatest thing which has happened to the Southland, the most far-reaching, since the invention of the cotton gin."

Defers Increase In Hog Precessing Tax

Washington, Dec. 27.—Secretary Wallace has announced that the processing tax on hogs would remain at \$1 per hundredweight until February 1, 1934, instead of going to \$1.50 on December 31.

The change, made in a revision of the regulations under the farm adjustment act, also provides that the rate of \$1.50 will extend only from February 1 to March 1, when it will be increased to \$2.25 per hundredweight.

The Secretary said the new regulations would "prevent the accumulation of surplus stocks and depression of the farm price of hogs," and added that the revision was made partly because of the continued large slaughter of hogs.

Farmers of Scotland and Hoke counties are cooperating to form a production credit association with 21 leading citizens of the two counties having the matter in charge.

Cold Wave Takes Many Lives Over Widespread Area

At Least 120 Deaths Directly Due To Severe Blast From Wastes Of Alaska

Chicago, Dec. 28.—A bitter post-Christmas cold wave abated only a little tonight after leaving a trail of death and suffering across the United States.

At least 120 deaths were attributed directly to the weather, it was disclosed in a state-by-state survey.

This total included only deaths from freezing, exposure and accidents caused directly by the storm. The death list itself and a list of temperatures in various sections showed the seriousness and extent of the situation, intensified by forecast of a new cold wave tomorrow night.

Included in the death list were two in New York, 23 in the Pacific Northwest, 21 in Illinois, seven in Ohio, and one in Oklahoma. Others were in the sections between these. Only the extreme South and California escaped.

Temperatures ranged from 48 below zero at Lake Edwards, Que., 28 below at St. Paul, 9.2 below at Chicago, and 19 below at Madison, Wis., to 16 above in New York, zero at Louisville, Ky., five above at St. Louis, three below at Columbia, Ohio, 41 above at Jacksonville, Fla., and 40 above at New Orleans.

President Plans To Ask Congress For Large Sum

Growers Will Be Told All About Sales Slips

Raleigh, Dec. 28.—Information regarding the certification of tobacco warehouse sales slips for use in applying for equalization payments will be given fine-cured tobacco growers of the state within a few days, according to E. Y. Floyd, state director of the sign-up drive.

Warehousemen are busy now preparing copies of the sales slips for growers who signed the tobacco acreage reduction contracts. Only growers who sign contracts are eligible for equalization payments in the tobacco they sold before prices rose to parity.

The equalization and rental payments are to be made in 30 to 60 days after Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace approves the applications.

Mr. Floyd appealed to the growers yesterday to finish the sign-up campaign before the markets reopen on January 8. "Those who wait until after that time will find the authorization of their payments slowed by the rush of marketing and by the cotton curtailment drive to be launched soon," he said.

Due to the more detailed nature of the contracts, Mr. Floyd said, the contract sign-up can not be carried through with the speed of the agreement sign-up campaign last fall. "Nevertheless," he said, "we are receiving encouraging reports from many counties, particularly those in the Piedmont section."

"Already quite a few counties have reported the signing of more contracts now than of agreements last fall. Several other counties are not far behind."

"Knee Action" Wheels For The 1934 Chevrolet

Milford, Mich., Dec. 23.—Upward of 3,500 Chevrolet field officials and dealers have been visiting the General Motors proving ground here this week for their first view of the company's new 1934 passenger cars, and for a presentation of merchandising plans for next year considerably expanded over 1933.

The new models, embodying "knee action" wheels and many other advanced features, have generated greater enthusiasm from the standpoint of appearance and performance among the visitors than any models in the recent experience of the company, according to William E. Holler, General Sales Manager, who is conducting the meetings.

The first group entertained here arrived Tuesday. In it were 300 officials of the company operating in the eight regions and forty zones in the United States. There was a three-day convention, held here the first day, during which time the field men drove the car over the severe test roads of the grounds.

The second day was spent at Detroit hearing a detailed discussion of company plans and policies to be effected next year. The third day was devoted to group discussions.

Immediately after the close of this convention, dealers began arriving by regions for a one-day demonstration and test of the new models on the proving ground. First to arrive were fifty dealers from the Pacific coast, who volunteered to make the trip East if they would be permitted to see and test the new models in advance of the public display.

Thereafter, other dealer groups from the remaining seven regions were entertained here during the preview, with prospects that at least one-third of the national dealer body would have seen and driven the new cars in advance of their local zone showings.

On December 15 approximately 500 dealers from the Eastern region centering at Buffalo were here; the following day 425 arrived from Dallas.

On Monday, December 18, 325 were from Atlanta, and on Tuesday 400 from the Mid West Region at St. Louis. Wednesday the Atlantic coast region at Tarrytown, N. Y., brought in 508, the following day 550 came from Chicago, and approximately 750 were entertained the remaining two days of the week from the home region at Flint, Mich.

The handling of the demonstrations and the conventions was planned months in advance and occupied the sole attention of sales department heads for a number of weeks past. In view of the enthusiasm shown by the visitors, company officials anticipate a most successful public announcement of their new 1934 models in the near future.

We're inclined to say "He's a gentleman" when we can't think of any other nice appellation.

Administration Wants \$800,000,000 Surplus Above Ordinary Operating Cost To Carry on Work; President Recommended to Present Deficit; "Pay as You Go" Plan To Be Adopted Without Boost to Taxes

Washington, Dec. 28.—High Democratic spokesmen described President Roosevelt as determined today to concentrate primary attention of the 73rd Congress on a budget designed to provide an \$800,000,000 surplus above ordinary Federal operating costs in 1934-35.

Although reconciled to the present year deficit well above the billion dollar mark, because of the emergency expenses the administration was said to have set down tentative budget estimates reading: Income, \$3,600,000,000; ordinary outgo, \$2,600,000,000. The total to be requested of Congress has been described in some quarters as reaching the \$6,000,000,000 mark, including emergency spending.

Sources close to the administration, however, spoke of at least partial "pay as you go" basis without major tax boosts through the R. F. C. loan payments estimated to total another \$700,000,000.

As the President continued today to shape his program for the coming season, there were authoritative indications that he intended to press ahead his gold buying commodity dollar plan.

Christmas Observed Here With Pageantry and Song

The Christmas story has been depicted here during the past week in various forms; a cantata, special religious services, a pageant, and a dramatization of the Nativity, the program of events which has been the most beautiful and inspiring of recent years being concluded on Christmas Eve, when a group of twenty singers sang carols on the streets at midnight.

The first event, a cantata, "The Light of Lights," by Stultz, took place on Sunday evening preceding Christmas Eve, in the Baptist church, with Rev. L. R. Ennis as director and Mrs. Arthur F. Joyner, pianist.

All of the churches of the town were beautifully decorated with state-ly cedar, garlands of evergreens, wreaths of holly and poinsettias for the great festival and regular morning worship hour on Sunday in each, and as the theme of its message and song service the Nativity.

A pageant, "When The King Came," was presented by the Episcopal Sunday school on Christmas Eve at 7 o'clock, under the direction of Rev. J. Q. Beckwith, Jr., with Mrs. J. W. Joyner as accompanist; and the dramatization of the Nativity was given in the Methodist church the same evening at 8 o'clock, by the high school glee club, made up of thirty voices, and Mrs. Haywood Smith, organist.

Holy Communion was celebrated at midnight by Rev. J. Q. Beckwith, Jr., rector of Emmanuel church, Episcopal, in a service marked by great beauty and simplicity, to which was added the grandeur of music.

Immediately following this service, the Episcopal choir was joined by other voices of the various churches in the singing of carols, which was continued throughout the town for an hour.

School Re-Opens For 2nd Semester Monday, Jan. 1

The Farmville High School will open for the second semester on Monday, January 1, after the Christmas holidays, which lasted ten days this year.

The first semester has proven most successful, according to the authorities and an even larger enrollment is anticipated after the holidays.

If some of us got what we deserved we might know what trouble really is.

Gives Details Of New Bank Charges

Raleigh, Dec. 28.—Beginning at midnight December 31, the new schedule of service charges will be assessed checking accounts in North Carolina banks, but it provides for a lower rate than at present for small and comparatively less active accounts.

Details of the charges were announced yesterday by Paul P. Brown, secretary of the State Bankers Association.

At present there is no service charge against accounts of less than \$100 if no more than three checks are drawn. If there are more than three the stationary charge is \$1. The Federal tax of two cents obtains on each check, as in the past.

Under the new schedule, according to which a deposit will be termed a transaction, when an account's monthly average is less than \$50 there will be a minimum charge of 50 cents with five transactions allowed. With more than five, the 50 cents charge will stand, plus four cents for each additional item.

In an account averaging over \$50 one free transaction will be allowed for each \$12 on deposit in excess of \$50, with a charge of four cents for each additional transaction.

Although deposits will be termed transactions, there will be no charge for any number of deposits in a month when there is no check drawn against the account.

Large accounts will be analyzed and assessed according to the expense they cause the bank. Should an account earn for the bank more than the cost of handling it, there will be no service charges.

Savings accounts will be affected only by a charge in interest bearing as it affects the date of deposit. Deposits made on any except the first day of the month will not start bearing interest until the first day of the next month.

JOYNER WIDOW FILES ACTION AGAINST HOTEL

Wilson, Dec. 28.—A suit to recover \$25,000 damage was instituted in Wilson County Superior Court last week by Mrs. Mabel Joyner, widow of William Lyman Joyner and administratrix of his estate, against the Cherry Hotel, Incorporated.

The action was filed by Charles M. Griffin, local attorney and Harold D. Cooley, and Walter J. Bone, Nashville attorneys, representing the plaintiff.

The complaint set forth that the deceased died from injuries sustained on the night of November 4th, when he went to the hotel to make a business call on an associate. Joyner after knocking on the door of room No. 308 and receiving no answer, thought he probably had misunderstood the man's room number and started up the real stairway to room No. 408.

Joyner opened the door to the freight elevator, which the complaint alleges is next door to the stairway door, and is very similar in appearance to the door to the stairway. He stepped in the elevator shaft and fell four floors into the cement basement of the shaft.

The injured man was removed to a local hospital where he died from the injuries sustained in the fall on November 18th.

EVERYBODY ALIKE

Raleigh, Dec. 28.—"We mean to treat everybody alike and go after all the old license plates we find on the road after sunrise next Monday morning."

Thus declared Allen J. Maxwell, Commissioner of Revenue, as he took occasion yesterday to warn motor vehicle operators that only three more business days are left in which motorists can qualify for use of the highways on January 1.

Yesterday's report on issuance-taking the total to 94,681 pairs of plates, showed a jump of 20,469 in sales of the past two days. "They'll go fast within the next three days," predicted Mr. Maxwell.

"Generous publicity has been given to the firm warning that cars with old licenses will not be permitted to use the roads on and after January 1. Notice by mail has also been given to every motorist. Positive instructions have been given to all enforcement officers in the State to observe this policy strictly."

One of the compensations of being poor is that you can get a thrill out of finding a dime in the pocket of an old overcoat.

Why write a book if all you've got to say can be expressed in an epigram?

Congress May Be Asked To Change NIRA Rules

Pave Way For Leaf Payment

Farm Board Mails Out Application Blanks For Price-Equalization Payments

Sixteen hundred application blanks have already been mailed out to growers and the remainder will be mailed out as quickly as contracts have been received.

Every effort will be made to wind up the campaign during the next several days, Mr. Arnold said, and those who have not signed the government contracts as they agreed to do in the initial sign-up were urged to get busy and do so immediately.

After seeing their committeemen, growers were advised to carry their price-equalizing blanks to warehouses next week to get figures as to amount of tobacco sold and prices they received for it.

After this they were instructed to carry the blanks to the farm office at the courthouse where they will be finally prepared for presentation to the federal government.

Triple Parentage Claim For Twin Boys Allowed

Yankton, S. D., Dec. 27.—The legal claim that twins born 10 years ago to Mrs. Ewald Peddie had three parents was recognized today in the court of Judge A. B. Tripp, when the jurist granted Peddie's plea for a divorce on infidelity grounds.

The divorce plea was believed to be without precedent in legal annals and medical authorities said such a case never had been authenticated by science, although theoretically possible.

Peddie's petition, won by default, claimed that his wife had been unfaithful and had admitted infidelity. Peddie maintained that he was the father of one of the twins born to his wife and that a neighbor was the father of the second child.

Medical testimony presented to the court said that in the case of fraternal twins, it was possible for a different man to father each child.

The court, impressed by the weight of the evidence, awarded to Peddie custody of the boy which he said was his, and gave the mother custody of the son whose parentage was disputed.

Peddie testified that his wife had told him that only one of the boys was his. The twins, said Peddie, resembled each other in no important physical characteristic. One boy looks much like Peddie. The other, said the husband, resembles the neighbor with whom the mother admitted infidelity.

The opinion of a medical expert entered in the court's record said:

"In cases of fraternal twins, the children might develop from two separate cells of the female, impregnated at two different times within the interval which might be as great as several hours."

Hog And Corn Tax Payments Is Urged Today

Nate Parker, Deputy Collector, Says November Payments Delinquent Dec. 31

Greenville, Dec. 28.—Nate Parker, deputy processing tax collector for hogs and corn in this district, was in Greenville today in connection with November collections of these taxes.

Mr. Parker said the tax on both hogs and corn for November would be delinquent after December 31 and urged taxpayers to get busy and see that settlement was made in due time. He said the returns for the two taxes should be in the office of C. H. Robertson, state collector at Raleigh or the office of Nate Parker, deputy collector, Elizabeth City, by the end of the month, and impressed those subject to the tax with the importance of making returns immediately if they have not already done so.

Corn carries a tax of five cents a bushel for November and hogs 1-2 cent a pound, live weight.

For December the tax on corn will be the same but on hogs it has been increased to \$1.00 a hundred pounds.

Both Organized Capital and Labor Likely To Submit Their Recommendations

Washington, Dec. 27.—Organized labor and organized capital both will descend upon Washington in the first three weeks of the Congressional session to decide what changes they want in the National Industrial Recovery Act, it was learned today.

The changes sought, for the most part, will be in opposite directions. The administration, though officially silent, is not expected to ask any important alterations. Congressional oppositionists, seeking to avoid the appearance of obtaining recovery, are in the main willing to keep hands off. But the American Federation of Labor and the United States Chamber of Commerce may have different ideas.

William Green, president of the A. F. of L., issued a call today for his organization's executive council to meet here January 24 to "consider recommendations on legislative amendments" to the recovery act and "improvements which time and experience have shown to be necessary"—presumably primarily to strengthen labor protection, and perhaps to seek a mandatory 30-hour week.

He also urged labor organizations to continue to fight for labor legislation in states.

The board of directors of the U. S. C. of C., will meet January 10 and 20 to consider the results of a questionnaire among members associations and chambers, designed to collect data on how the recovery act and other general recovery legislation are working. Specific figures are sought in the questionnaire, answers to which are beginning to flood the chamber headquarters here.

Since the NRA decided not to make public results of its census of Blue Eagle operation last Fall, this will be the first national survey of how the whole program is reacting—in the judgment of chambers of commerce. It will be a one-sided viewpoint, but with no more complete data available, it may be impressive to Congressmen facing reelection next Fall.

The A. F. of L., will have no such compilation of data to support its demands, but it will have the effect of a well-knit body of voters.

Another sharp difference in opinion toward NRA, with an entirely distinct line of cleavage of viewpoint, is growing more evident as Congressmen return to Washington—the vastly different viewpoint of the "Big Fellow" and the "Little Fellow" in business. Senators Borah, Republican, Idaho, and Reed, Republican, Pennsylvania; Representatives Patman, Democrat, Texas, and Collins, Democrat, Mississippi are the outstanding spokesmen so far for the "Little Fellow."

They concede that the NRA is satisfying the "Big Fellows"—as witness the approval of the Iron and Steel Institute, the United States Automobile Chamber of Commerce and the lumber code authority of their codes—but they hold that undue pressure is exerted upon the small business man, the retailer, the jobber, by the increased costs imposed by the Blue Eagle.

Various plans for modifying the method of applying the recovery act, if not the act, itself, are being considered. The U. S. C. of C. is not likely to be sympathetic to them. The A. F. of L., probably will be indifferent to this aspect. The divergent viewpoints of the groups concerned probably will more or less counterbalance each other's effect and aid the administration goal of keeping the NRA about as it is, but there will be plenty of talk of changes.

ENTERTAINS CARD CLUB

Members of the Progressive Bridge Club enjoyed another game of the tournament series on Thursday afternoon, with Mrs. R. O. Lang as hostess at her home on Belcher street. Forest greens and red candles were used as decorations, and tallies were appropriate to the season. A delicious sweet course was served after the usual number of progressions. Mrs. M. V. Jones, Mrs. Robert Lindsay and Mrs. W. S. Royster were special guests at this time.

live weight, or one cent a pound. The December tax is due January 30.

Any further information regarding these two taxes, Mr. Parker said will be furnished by the state or district offices.

Fresh infertile eggs placed in cold storage last spring by Catawba county poultrymen were sold at a net profit of six cents a dozen this fall.