# France Hopeful for New Year

dence Than It Did the Last.

## DUE TO DEFEAT OF RADICALS

Elections Stabilize Internal Conditions, Though Fall of Franc Is Still Berious Problem-Study Financial Policy.

Paris.-France began the new year with far greater confidence than the last. This is in spite of formidable handleaps, such as the balance of trade running against her at the rate of about 1,500,000,000 francs a month, about 50 per cent depreciation of the exchange value of the franc and the tion. consequent difficulty of procuring raw materials and machines urgently needed for reconstruction.

France's renewed confidence is derived directly from the result of the recent elections. These are regarded here as having definitely stabilized internal politics, ended all danger of revolutionary agitation for some time to come and brought about a better attitude by capital and labor toward the Immense effort before France.

Money is forthcoming for investments in anything that promises stability. While the investments in shortterm treasury bonds are continuing at the rate of nearly 2,000,000,000 francs a month, there is plenty of money for Industrial and commercial enterprises and long-term loans. The 4,000,000,000 tranc loan to provide immediate resources for indemnifying victims of the invasion was oversubscribed before the official opening of the subscriphons. Important banks and industrial companies have lately increased their capital to an aggregate of nearly \$00,000,000,000 francs.

### Big Trade on Bourse.

Transactions on the Paris bourse, which still are confined to cash deals, have exceeded on certain days records of pre-war trading, when futures enbered largely into the totals. The upward movement of all industrials which began before the signature of the treaty at Versailles, has been unchecked by successive liquidations. This is regarded by keen observers here as a sure sign of economic re-

Employers say the labor situation is improved and that the last strikes developed signs that the workers themselves were becoming weary of long continued disturbances of business, industry and transportation. They see tendency against frivolous strikes and an indication that only real griev-

quit work hereafter. dustry is seen in the establishing in does contain an amount of that fluid. Normandy of textile industries to replace those in the occupied territory ment of water power in the region of is distilled. It is made from grain,

Begins 1920 With Greater Confi- France. Industrial leaders say that no particular region of France hereafter will monopolize any industry, and declare that this scattering will prove beneficial and result in a more equable recovery of all parts of the

To Transfer Industries.

Powerful financial groups are at the head of the movement to transfer important industries from the coal region to southwestern France, where water power soon will be available. Other groups are being formed to develop manufacturing centers near the coast so as to reduce the cost of transporting raw materials. Industrial leaders say that this activity on the part of capital, supported by the recovery of labor from what has been characterized as a wave of "laziness." gives a healthy tope to the situa

Instability of the exchange value of the franc is regarded as one of the weakest points in French conditions. It is pointed out that France cannot pay twice over at present high prices for supplies she needs, and that is what the present low value of the franc means. The French government up all short-term bonds and floating to 10,000 in 1914.

### Germany Accused of Taking 26,000 Dogs

Paris.-The French ministry of agriculture has lodged with the commission of war damages a claim for 26,000 dogs alleged to have been stolen by the Germans during the war. The ministry specifies some of the thefts, naming specially six valunble setters taken to the German crown prince and a prize pointer taken by General Von

debt, and important increases in all taxes to bring the revenues up to the annual budget, estimated to require 20,000,000,000 to 25,000,000,000 francs. It is not expected that any internal financial arrangement can exert more the a moral influence on the value of the franc abroad, and this may be said to be the object of the greatest anxiety in official circles.

## GERMANS CROWD TO COLLEGE

Universities' Enrollment This Year Is 41,000 Greater Than in 1914.

German newspapers say 41,000 more students enrolled in the universities is now studying a complete renovation of Germany than in 1914. In the year of the financial policy with a view to of the beginning of the war there were making such provisions to meet obli- 50,000 students enrolled, while in 1919 gations as will give greatest stability, there are approximately 91,000. This both at home and abroad. Details of represents an increase of nearly 2.000 the new financial policy are as yet not each for each of the 23 national unidisclosed, but it is understood that it versities. In 11 technical schools more comprises a large interior loan to take than 16,500 have enrolled as compared

# Meet Ethyl and Methyl Alcohol

Two Most Prominent and Interesting Members of the

MANY OFFSPRINGS ARE KNOWN

Difference Between Grain and Wood Alcohol Clearly Described-Fatalities Due to Amateur Attempts to Make Grain Alcohol.

Chicago.-While there are seventeen or more alcoholic products known in chemistry, there are two of general commercial use in the country-ethyl alcohol, or ordinary alcohol, the kind we used to be able to buy "for mediciances will induce the wage earners to | nal purposes," and methylated spirit, or industria! alcohol, which is popular-Decentralization of capital and in- ly cailed "wood alcohol," and which

Ethyl or ordinary alcohol is formed by the spirituous or alcoholic fermendestroyed by the war. This movement | tation of saccharine juices. The ferhas been greatly extended by develop- mentation must be completed before it the Alps and the center and south of either corn, wheat, or barley. This is

AMERICAN TROOPSHIP DEKALB ON FIRE

A striking photograph of the United States troopship DeKato, formerly

the German raider Prince Eitel Friedrich, on fire in the Hudson river near

also known as grain alcohol. The formula is C, H, OH.

Source of Wood Alcohol.

Wood alcohol is obtained by the dry distillation of wood. The common method of obtaining this is to take cordwood which has been seasoned for about two years-beech, maple, and birch are best-place it in iron or steel retorts over a slow fire. The intensity of the fire is gradually increased as the distillation progresses, until at the end of from twelve to eighteen hours nothing remains in the retort but charcoal.

condenser, and the liquid thus gathered is allowed to set in tanks until ir it has subsided. The lighter part is then drawn off and saturated with distillate sent to the refinerles as wood alcohol. Sawdust or any woody fiber or cellulose can be used in place of

or as an ingredient of industrial alcohol, is a poison, and has a selective action upon the optic nerve, in which it often induces a condition of permanent atrophy which results in total

## Denatured Alcohol.

industrial alcohol a little benzine or it offensive. Denatured alcohol may be made more cheaply than ordinary alcohol by using cheaper materials, such as any starchy vegetable subpoorest grade of molasses or the waste of a canning factory.

"It is probable that a good deal of a chemist.

Methylated spirit, or industrial alcohol, is made of ninety parts of ordinary alcohol and ten parts of wood alcohol-methyl alcohol.

The distillate is passed through a the greater part of the tarry matter slaked lime to fix the acetic acid. It is then distilled a second time and the

Wood alcohol, either in its pure form

For some purposes "completely denatured alcohol" is made by adding to pyridine to spoil the taste and render stance, or a waste byproduct, as the

the wood alcohol that is being distributed as a beverage is the result of the attempts of amateurs to make ordinary alcohol. In their ignorance they use vegetable substances such as potato prelings, and, by using too intense a are and making the distillation without having first allowed fermentation to take place, produce methyl or wood Spuyten Duyvil. All of the members of the skeleton crew of 300 escaped alcohol instead," said J. H. Nusbaum,

Limousine Was Seized for General While Owner Was Touring

Chleago, Ill.-Gen. Ludendorff's general headquarters motor car, with the same black body and sloping duck nose, that carried the military head of the German armies over Belgian and seeking to annihilate the allies, can be C. B. Willey. seen almost any day on Chicago's

Bullet-scarred and battered after traveling more than 60,000 miles as the equipage of the German commander, the limousine has returned to peaceful

In the summer of 1914 C. L. Willey, brain, killing the boy instantly,

a Chicago lumber merchant, with his wife, was touring Germany in the motor car. The war flamed up and the automobile was seized by German officials, despite its owner's protests, becoming the official property of Gen. Ludendorff.

Somewhere in its war activity the limousine was the target of well-aimed machine-gun fire from the ullied airmen and its roof was perforated in

Through an American consul Willey brought about the return of the automobile. C. L. Willey died in 1916 and French roads while its occupant was the car is now used daily by his son,

Fall Into Hydrangea Bush Fatal.

New York.-Phoenix Miller, eleven years old, fell into a hydrangea bush. A broken stem of the plant went through a nostril and penetrated the

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

## OF INTEREST TO ALL READERS

North Platte was stirred by a most Chief of Police C. Mecomber and Patrolman G. W. Rogers were shot and almost instantly killed by two Mexienus whom they attempted to arrest. The tragedy occurred in Nick Chires traced by the officers whom they resisted and opened fire on before other occupants of the place were aware of forbidden by the court. any trouble. One of the murderers was captured.

Jobbers, retailers and consumers in sugar rations by the Great Western the following pledge: To purchase Segar Company, City customers are limited to 50 cents worth at a time and a careful budget of household exrural patrons to \$1.00 worth, Jobbers penses. To buy only when necessary are limited to the amount they pur- for service and economy. To ald other chased last year. Shipment of sack women in setting standards for caresugar by people in the district to ful conservation and economical buyfriends and relatives in the eastern ing. end of the state is believed to have precipitated the action.

Allen V. Grammer and Alson B. Cole, who were sentenced to be elecfrocuted at the state penitentlary at Lincoln January 16 for the murder of Mrs. Lady Vogt in Howard county in 1917, were granted a stay until January 30, following the granting of an appeal to the circuit court by Federal Judge Munger. Attorneys for the condemned men expressed the belief that many months would elapse before they would be executed, if at all,

Ray A. Lower, former cashier of the State bank at Valparaiso, which was pany, closed recently by the State Banking Board, pleaded not guilty when he was arraigned at Wahoo on a charge of making fraudulent returns on the condition of the bank to the state banking department.

Members of the newly formed organization for the abolishment of capital punishment in Nebraska stated made to obtain clemency for Grammer and Cole, under death sentence at the state prison for the murder of Mrs. Vogt in Howard county in 1917.

John M. Matzen, Fremont, newly appointed state superintendent of schools, has filed his \$50,000 bond and assumed office. Matzen, for fourteen years superintendent of Dodge county, was appointed by Governor McKelvie to fill the vacancy caused by the death of W. H. Clemmons,

The big drop in the eastern hay market has reached the shipping point markets of Holt and Rock counties, the big hay producers of the state. The best hay only is bringing \$16 on the and \$12 a ton.

Constitutional prohibition which went into effect throughout the United States January 17, had little effect in Nebraska because this state had been preparing for It since May 1, 1917 when Nebraska went into the "dry column."

Custer county claims the oldest living white man in this country. He is Thomas Morris and lives with Charles W. Mytton, eight miles northeasts of Ansley. Mr. Morris was 126 years old January 15.

The Oklahoma Oll syndicate now engaged in leasing the oil privileges on lands around Erina at the head of the Cedar, in Garfield county, will begin prospecting in March according to re-Frank Dovel, a Stella buyer, shipped

three cars of horses and mules from the district to Kansas City, representing a destribution of at least \$10,000 to farmers for their surplus stock.

Rumors in financial circles at Lincoln have it that prospects for construction of an interurban railway between Omaha and Lincoln are brighter than ever before.

A contract for the erection of a \$25,-000 nurses' home to be erected by the Mennonite hospital association at Beatrice, has been awarded to local contractors.

Between fifty and one hundred children were suddenly taken sick in an Omaha public school with a malady said by physicians to resemble influenza.

The week of February 23 to 28 has been designated as Merchants Market Week at Omaha. A most elaborate p ogram has been arranged.

Elgat blocks in the business section of O'Neill will be paved this spring.

Expenditure of more than \$200,000 for a new municipal light plant and extension of the muny water plant, a sewer system and paved streets is planned for Spencer this year.

The board efseducation at Beatrice has raised the salaries of school teachers 20 to 25 per cent for the remainder of the school year.

The educational committee of the Lincoln Commercial club asked the board of education to incur a \$100,000 deficit to give a \$300 bonus to each of the 360 teachers in the Lincoln public schools.

That the minimum salary for Nebraska school teachers should be \$1,000 was the conclusion drawn from the data tabulated by Lulu E. Wirt, dean of women of the normal school at Kearney, following an extensive investigation of living conditions in 10 counties in Nebraska

During the last month feeder cattle have gained in price from \$1.50 to \$2 per hundred at the South Omaha Market. During the early part of December quotations on choice prime feeders were \$10.50 and \$12.50, as compared with \$12 to \$13.50 now.

It is reported in Lincoln that a test the constitutionality of the school district consolidation law will be made and that it will probably come up to the supreme court from Nemaba county. The farmers of that county recently held an indignation meeting at Auburn at which funds were

pledged to test the validity of this law. The First Presbyterian schurch at Hastings surprised the pastor, the Rev. George E. Newell, by presenting him

and his family a new Reo touring car. Busines was virtually suspended at Alliance during the two days prellmifearful tragedy last Thursday when pary trial of Lawrence Lackay, charged with causing the death of his eight year old daughter by giving her poisoned candy. The trial was one of the most sensational in the history of Alliance and people from miles around pool hall, where the men had been attended. Lackey will remain in the Alliance Jail until the next term of district court, May 4, bail having been

Mrs. Charles G. Ryan of Grand Island, state d'rector of the Nebraska economic campaign, plans to ask 250,western Nebraska have been placed on | 000 housewives in this state to sign nothing at excessive prices. To keep

Plans for the new \$5,000,000 Nebraska capitol building to be directed at Lincoln, designing of which has been left in the hands of ten competing architects, must be submitted to the state capitol commission by the middle of June, according to Governor McKelvie, member of the commission.

Big Bear White, wif : of Leo White, Winebago Indian, was awarded full judgment by the state supreme court in her suit for \$14,362.65 against Pender hankers, which, she claims, she was defrauded out of in securing oneeighth interest in a lightning-rod com-

On account of lack of interest in a meeting scheduled to be held at Lincoln a few days ago for the purpose of reorganizing the State League of Base Ball Clubs, former President Miles postponed the meeting until some time late in February.

The Nebraska supreme court has ruled that precinct or county assessor at Lincoln that no effort would be may raise a personal assessment, that it is not either's duty to so notify the taxpayer, who must gain such knowledge from the county clerk.

The Internal Revenue department at Washington notified the college of agriculture at Lincoln that farmers' inventories at market value less cost of marketing will be accepted hereafter in determining income tax. Eleven acres of ground in the south

part of Lincoln have been purchased by the State Department of Public Works to be used as storage space for state road equipment which can be left in the open.

McCook is making preparations to hold an automobile show in the spring. department. He urged the principle cars and much of it is selling for \$10 Tractors, trucks and all forms of motor equipment will be exhibited in a buge

Attorney General Davis has ruled that women may vote in the primaries only for such officers as they will be entitled to vote for in the general elec-

Stockholders of the Nebraska State Farmers' exchange in convention at Omaha voted to establish a \$2,000,000 co-operative sugar factory at Minatare, Victor Rosewater, for many years editor of the Omaha Bee, has sold his

interest in the paper to Nelson B. Updike, prominent grain man of Omcha. Members of Nebraska boys' and girls' clubs, about 200 in all, will be entertained by the conege of agricul-

ture at Lincoln, May 31 to June 5. The third Nebraska road institute will be held during the first week of March on the city campus of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Steps have been taken to erect a memorial hall at Fremont in honor of Dodge county men who entered the service during the war.

Automobile tourists passing through McCook are to be provided with camping and park facilities along the Republican river. A contract has been awarded for a

new water system at Chadron, the

price being 894,800. It was given to a local contractor. The Uchling Good Roads Club passed a resolution favoring a bond issue of \$1,200,000 for Dodge county

Preliminary moves are being made at Alimnee to construct a new \$100,000 senior high school building the coming

summer. The week beginning April 3 will be spring vacation week for students of the state university.

The Great Western Sugar Co. announced at Gering it would pay bonus of \$1 a ton on all beets delivered to its factories this year. This means over \$500,000 more for beet growers in western Nebraska.

That Nebraska's code bill is an attack on the initiative and referendum passed by the people of the state is the charge made in a brief filed in the supreme court in Lincoln profesting the action of Secretary of State Ainsberry, in refusing to place on the ballot a referendum on the bill after the petition was filed.

The First Presbyterian church of Madison will celebrate its golden anniversary February 1-2 with a jubilee and homecoming.

The Commercial club of Hebron is back of a project to establish a sorghum mill near the city. It has also promised to support the band and a lecture course for next winter.

Chris Keuch was burned to death and two other men were injured at Norfolk, when fire, which followed the explosion of an oil tank, destroyed the city gas plant, cutting off the gas supply in the city

## CONSTITUTIONAL **CONVENTION NOTES**

Lincoln.-Many school principals and teachers, headed by Superintendent Jesse Newton of Lincoln, appeared before the convention last Friday and urged the enactment of a provision for a state board of education of seven members, appointed by the governor, the board to elect a state commissioner of education with jurisdiction over all public grade and high schools. Patrons of the rural schools opposed the appointive board.

At a mass meeting held Thursday, January 15, an organization was perfected to abolish capital punishment in Nebraska, Mrs. George H. Holden was made chairman and she will pick a temporary committee, composed of nine members, to assist her. It is the intention of the organization to use its efforts in the constitutional convention for the abolishment of the death penalty. The work of the organization will be state-wide. Delegate Flansburg of Lancaster county has submitted a proposal in the convention to abolish capital punishment by constitutional

Delegate W. H. Pitzer of Otoe county has presented a proposal designed to withhold the ballot from native born children of parents who themselves are not eligible to citizenship under the laws of the United States, and to withhold the ballot from persons convicted of felony or treason, or convicted under such laws of the crime or offense of membership in or conspiracy with any society or organization engaged in advocating or attempting to effect the destruction or overthrow by force of the government of the state or United States.

Several proposals affecting the legislature were introduced in the convention during the past week. They would reduce the number of house members from 100 to eighty, the numher of state senators from thirtythree to twenty-seven, repeal the sixty-day limit on the length of legislative sessions and permit two-thirds of either house to dispense with the reading of a measure on three separate days.

A delegation of women conferred with the suffrage committee last week and urged that it report a suffrage amendment which will not contain the word "male" but will state that "all citizens of the United States, 21 years of age and upward, who have resided in the state for six months, shall be

Governor McKelvie explained the workings of his administrative code bill to the committee on the executive of the code bill be made a part of the new constitution, with the governor the center of the state government.

The convention in committee of the whole, rejected a resolution that would practically have instructed its committee to provide for election of state and county officials in years other than those in which a presidential election is held.

The convention, by a vote of 66 to 28, rejected an amendment providing trial by jury for persons charged with constructive contempt of court or violation of city ordinances when the offense is held to be a crime under state or federal statutes.

Although he knew in advance that it would have no chance of adoption, Delegate Norton, of Polk county, thrust into the hopper of the convention a proposal providing that the legislature shall in the future consist of only one house.

for changes in the constitution are before the convention. No more proposals can be introduced, except by permission of fifty-one of the 100 dele-The committee on industrial rela-

tions is apparently deadlocked on the

proposal to have the constitution rec-

Three hundred and eight proposals

ognize labor's right to collective bargaining. Five-sixths of a jury may return a verdict in civil cases, the convention has decided. The amendment was rec-

Delegate Epperson, of Clay county, author of a proposal to abolish the state railway commission, told the committee on public service corporations that the commission had not given the public a square deal in the way of telephone rates. The committee took no action.

ommended for adoption.

A proposal introduced by delegate Epperson of Clay county, will, if adopted, declare all exchanges such as the South Omaha Live Stock exchange, the Omaha Grain exchange and simflar concerns to be "public markets."

Flansburg of Lancaster has offered proposal which would prohibit an appeal from district court to the supreme court in civil cases where judgment does not exceed \$500.

Up to the end of last week the convention had been in session twentyfour days, most of which has been consumed in submitting proposals and preliminary organization. The fact that the time limit for introducing amendments expired last Friday should act as an incentive to speed up the making of a new constitution.

## Law, Disturbs Law Chelsea, Mass.-Residents in

Owl, Protected by

the vicinity of Chelsen have been disturbed nights by an active but elusive screech owl. The little marauder starts in his disturbance between 9 and 10 o'clock. The police have been asked to capture the bird. During the day the owl flits from one chimney to another in an effort to escape capture. The police have given an alibi that it is against the game laws to shoot the owl.

Foot Caught in Rail, Woman Dies. Pittsburgh.-Her foot wedged tightly between the rail and a plank, at a railroad crossing, Mrs. John Forbes, sixtyfive, of this city, was struck and instantly killed by a fast train.

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## Has Ludendorff's War Car

Chicago Man Now Has Machine in Daily Use.

Germany.

streets and boulevards. pursuits and civilian service.

many places.