

### FEDERAL BANKS ON BUSINESS OUTLOOK

Reports of Reserve Agents on Commercial and Manufacturing Favorable in Main.

#### BOSTON IS LEAST OPTIMISTIC

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 2.—Reports of business conditions throughout the country from federal reserve agents are, in the main, favorable and show improvement for November, according to information from these sources published today by the Reserve board.

Boston, one of the least optimistic of the twelve reserve districts, says that their business has improved "but slightly, if at all," but that the economies of the past months are not now being so rigidly observed and that the public generally is spending money more freely than in the past, due, presumably, among other things, to the fact that labor is more generally employed.

#### New York Business Better.

Activity and improvement in trade and industry continued during the month, New York reports. Retail and department stores have found business very much better with an increasing demand for higher grade goods. Steel orders are reported as very heavy notwithstanding heavily advancing prices.

Philadelphia says that conditions throughout that district are gradually becoming better and substantial improvement is reported in nearly all lines, mills and factories of all kinds working at nearer normal capacity than for some time, with voluntary wage increases by some concerns, and reduced working hours and larger payrolls than ever before.

#### Big Demand for Steel.

A tremendous demand for steel products and unprecedented activity in the steel and allied businesses continue through the Cleveland district with prices the highest since 1908. Output from automobile and rubber manufacturers is at capacity and there is a scarcity of labor.

Further development of "the very satisfactory general conditions heretofore reported," features the Richmond district. This is said to be strongly in evidence and general business is described as in excellent position both immediate and prospective.

Atlanta reports conditions generally there as representing more of a continuation of the favorable situation and outlook for the previous month than as possessed of new features.

#### Chicago Factories Enlarging.

Business development in the Chicago district is reported as favorable and confirms former reports of general recovery with accumulated orders for future delivery in steel equipment, cars and heavy structural forms exceeding all previous experience. Confidence in the future is held to be indicated by the large expectations being undertaken to enlarge output.

St. Louis says there is indication of a considerable increase in business activity in all parts of that district, with business men optimistic as to the future and generally confident. The improvement is noted in almost all lines and the manifest improvement in the last two months is said to have gone far toward wiping out the losses of the early months of the year.

Industrial conditions are reported good in the Minneapolis district, with fully employed. Bank deposits have increased, with increase in loans and discounts over September.

#### Farmers Holding Wheat.

Although farmers in the Kansas City district are reported as showing a decided inclination to hold wheat for higher prices, a considerable amount is now moving to this market. With cold weather approaching, improvement is looked for in commercial, industrial and business conditions, and the district is said to be facing the next few months with optimistic complacency.

Reports from Texas, southern Oklahoma, northern Louisiana, southern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona are said to show a gratifying recovery from conditions existing at this period a year ago.

#### San Francisco is Hoping for Reasonable Stability in its Commerce, its Report Declares, with a Perceptible Betterment in Lumbering, with Important Inquiries and Considerable Buying, which has Strengthened the "Deteriorated Prices."

### FORD PASSPORTS ARE GOOD ONLY IN NEUTRAL STATES

(Continued from Page One.)

that there was not the slightest ground for such an intimation.

Each application for a passport will be subjected to the closest scrutiny, it being feared, as one official said, that "a wolf in sheep's clothing" might get aboard the ship and while playing the part of an advocate of peace be in reality a spy.

The State department does not contemplate that it could stop wireless messages being sent out from a neutral European country calling the soldiers from the trenches, but the belief was expressed today that such messages would necessarily be received in belligerent countries by official government stations and would be easily suppressed.

Peace Promoters Might Be Arrested. Legal authorities in the State department expressed the opinion today that if the peace party went to any belligerent country and attempted to stop the war they might be considered by the country involved as promoters of sedition and treason.

The number of applications for passports received so far is small and Mr. Ford himself has sent no application. Only two more days remain before the peace ship is scheduled to sail, and it is considered doubtful that a great number of passports can be issued by Saturday unless the department receives a large number today and before noon tomorrow.

#### Ford Announces His Plans.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Henry Ford returned to New York from Detroit today and made his first announcement of definite plans for his peace expedition which will sail for Europe Saturday on the steamship American liner Oscar II.

Mr. Ford declared that he had an intimation of investigating a strike among the soldiers in the trenches. He said that during the voyage members of his party

### SEVEN REASONS FOR BOOSTING FOR RURAL SCHOOLS—W. H. Campbell of Clarks, chairman of the rural schools committee of Nebraska Farm congress, who is an enthusiast on the matter.



### BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR RURAL SCHOOLS

W. H. Campbell of Clarks Gives Farmers' Congress Benefit of His Studies.

#### WOULD HAVE WINTER TERM

W. H. Campbell of Clarks, chairman of the education committee of the farmers' congress, made his report on rural schools during the afternoon session. Campbell is himself the father of seven boys and girls, and he says these are the seven reasons why he is interested in good rural schools.

In concluding a long and exhaustive report he said:

"In regard to the prospects for the future, there is one matter of general interest to all dwellers of the country relative to the division of the year into school periods. As arranged at the present time is divided into two terms, which usually break in January or February. This as a rule shuts out the larger boys and girls, who find it necessary to work in the field during most of the season, but who wish to enter school during December, January and February. The state superintendent of public instruction has as a part of his program for next year the arrangement of a course of study adapted to the rural conditions and divided into terms in such a manner that new classes may be formed at the opportune time and reviews carried such as the larger boys and girls of the country districts may wish to pursue.

"Yesterday all the forces seemed to be working against us. Today confusion is turned to gladness. We have the cooperation offered of all public-spirited institutions and individuals. The powers of the press are at our service shedding the great reformatory light of publicity. The Teachers' association sees a new light, and the great state university is doing much to forest country needs and conditions. The board has made favorable rulings and provisions.

"Among these is the ruling that a student will be accepted who has finished in an accredited high school, even though he took the ninth and tenth grades in the rural or any other school. They also have arranged with the state superintendent that a student may omit the foreign languages from the ninth and tenth grades and substitute mathematics. Thus the schools are coming to meet the needs and the demands of the people.

#### Wants Winter Term.

"Finally we recommend a winter term in rural schools for those who cannot take the full year's work.

"It can be done. It must be done. The teacher may be secured from among the normal trained students of the School of Agriculture. Three months of teaching will be good for them and will serve the people of a community.

"If we would educate the youth of the country, we must educate them where they are. This winter term will come, as has the night school of the cities, as supplementary and citizen-making instruction.

"In conclusion, we believe that the greatest advancement comes through publicity, and we thank the press for their generous effort. Our future progress will depend upon whom we elect to legislate and administer. Let us do our duty. Let us approve every effort to conserve soil and stock, but our great burden is to conserve our youth for the present and the future of our splendid land."

### Chemicals in Coal Start Fires on Big Ocean Steamships

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Acting on suspicion that the fires which have started in coal bunkers of several steamships leaving here with munitions of war for the entente allies were caused by chemicals mixed with the coal, federal and city detectives are working as coal trimmers in the bunkers of some of the steamships now loading here. One of the steamships, whose coal supply was carefully inspected by detectives, is the French liner Rochambeau, which caught fire on its last eastbound voyage and which leaves here Saturday for Bordeaux.

The investigators are said to have received information from an authoritative source that a new chemical compound is being tested by persons seeking to improve the movement of war munitions, and that coal impregnated with this compound will take fire spontaneously.

### Arrangements Made to Give Up Monastir

PARIS, Dec. 2.—Dispatches from Saloniki and Florina, Greece, forwarded by way of Athens and Rome, say arrangements have been made for the surrender of Monastir.

It is said a commission consisting of the Greek consul, the Serbian metropolitan and the mayor of Monastir has been appointed to negotiate terms of surrender with German and Bulgarian representatives.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—The latest reports

### DR. RITTER ACCUSES AUSTRIAN CONSUL

Ernest Ludwig Said to Have Paid for Gun Cotton Affidavits in the Lusitania Case.

#### LAWYER CORROBORATES STORY

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 2.—Charles De Woody, a special investigator employed by the federal government, announced today that he was sending to Washington details of a statement which he said was given to him last night by Dr. E. W. Ritter, who is under arrest here, in which Ritter is alleged to have told of receiving money from Ernest Ludwig, Austrian consul at Cleveland, for affidavits charging that the liner Lusitania carried gun cotton when sunk.

Charles S. Reed, attorney for Ludwig, also gave out a statement. In it he said that Ludwig paid \$60 to Ritter for the Lusitania affidavit. Reed said the money was paid in his office.

Reed added: "Ritter came to Ludwig with a story about gun cotton being aboard the Lusitania. Ludwig consulted me. I did not know what to think of it, but Ritter produced an affidavit. Ludwig believed it and reported it to Baron Zwidemik, the Austrian charge at Washington. The baron came to Cleveland and met Ritter in my office in the presence of Ludwig and myself. This was last June."

Austria Makes Inquiry. WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The State department has received from the Austro-Hungarian government through Ambassador Penfield at Vienna a formal inquiry regarding the statement recently issued at the Department of Justice, which was construed by the Austrian embassy at Washington as being in confirmation of the charges made by Dr. Gorjanc, a former Austrian consul.

Austria's inquiry asked whether the Department of Justice had issued such a statement in regard to the charges made by the former Austrian consul and, if so, upon what grounds it based its assertion, which appeared to be confirmatory in nature.

Gorjanc charged in effect that Austrian consulates in the United States operating under the direction of the German embassy were concerned in conspiracies to cripple munitions plants.

English Diplomat Dies. LONDON, Dec. 2.—Sir Spencer Ponsonby-Fane, who was an attaché of the British embassy at Washington in 1904-7, died yesterday, aged 91 years. He was the sixth son of the Earl of Beaulieu.

Ship Inverkip Hits Submarine Boat Near Gibraltar

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Dec. 2.—Captain Glasen of the British steamer Inverkip, which went into dry dock here for repairs today, says he believes he accidentally rammed a submerged submarine while passing out the Straits of Gibraltar on November 8.

Several holes were torn in the Inverkip's hullast tank, and but for extremely calm weather Captain Glasen believes his ship would have sunk immediately. The steamer returned to Gibraltar, where temporary repairs were made.

### House Committee Has Substitute for the Shipping Bill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Draft of an administration shipping bill to take the place of the measure which failed of passage at last session of congress, is in the hands of the house merchant marine committee today. It was prepared after conference between Secretaries McAdoo and Redfield and would have congress appropriate \$50,000,000 for merchant ships the bill, too, would create a federal board with jurisdiction over deep water traffic, similar to that exercised by the Interstate Commerce commission over the railroads.

The bill will not be introduced in congress until President Wilson has given his approval after its revision by administration leaders in and out of congress.

### Italy May Send Troops to Albania

ROME, Dec. 2.—What is believed to have been an intimation that an Italian expedition soon will be sent to Albania was given by Foreign Minister Sonnino in his address before Parliament when he said that as soon as possible the Italian flag "would wave from the opposite coast of the Adriatic to help the Serbians."

### Don't Forget—BEECHAM'S PILLS

that when constipation, biliousness or indigestion is neglected, it may cause a serious illness. Act upon the first symptom—keep your digestive organs in good order by the timely use of

BECHAM'S PILLS Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World. Sold everywhere. In boxes, 10c, 25c.

### Suits to Measure, \$18.00 Reduced From \$25

\$40.00 Suits reduced to \$30.00 \$35.00 Suits reduced to \$25.00 \$30.00 Suits reduced to \$20.00

A like reduction on all suitings and overcoatings. We use good linings and guarantee perfect fit and style. MacCarthy-Wilson Tailoring Co. 315 South 15th Street.

### BOYD

"SILVER THREAS AMONG THE GOLD." With RICHARD JOE Kiddle's Don't Forget Tomorrow Morning 5c — FUNNY FILMS — 5c Fatty's Flaptye Tangle and Others

### HIPP All Seats 10c DUSTIN FANNUM

"The Gentleman From Indiana" By Booth Washington.

### BELLANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

### THOMPSON-BELDEN & CO.

The Fashion Center of the Middle West. Established 1806.

### New Silver and Gold L-A-C-E-S

Silk net flouncings embroidered in silver and gold, narrow gold and silver braids and beautiful rose trimmings, spangled bandings and flouncings. Main Floor.

### Gifts for Baby That Are Practical

Fine Australian Wool Hose with silk heels and toes, 25c. Silk and Wool Hose, 35c 3 pairs for \$1.00. Jap Silk Hose, heavy weight, 60c a pair Hosiery Section.

### For Gifts

A beautiful line of stamped towels and pillow cases, which, when embroidered make a delightful gift with an air of personality. Art Dept.—Third Floor.

### Dressings for Your Christmas Packages

Cards and seals for the holidays, tinsel cord in colors, silver and gold, cards and labels to use outside and inside parcels, and fine tissue papers in packages. Main Aisle—Main Floor.

### Friday--Hundreds of Remnants

Colored and Black Dress Goods For Christmas Giving

At wonderful savings in price. As fast as short ends accumulate they are added to this collection, and what a variety there is! Dress lengths, skirt lengths, waist patterns, and lengths for misses' and children's dresses.

All at About Half Price Good long after ordinary trinkets are forgotten.



### New Serve-Yourself Lunch Room

AT THE HOTEL ROME "The House of Courtesy" NOW OPEN Cafeteria Prices



OPEN ALL DAY Service for Ladies and Gentlemen

AMUSEMENTS. "OMAHA'S FUN CENTER" Gayety. The Show We Are Glad to Have. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 15-25-50-75c. Babe Baker and Bon Tons Burlesque. Babe LaTour. Lucille Manion, Fessie & Fred Sam Hyams. Suffragette Brass Band and Big Beauty Chorus. Come hear Bert Baker in Ladies' Dime Machine Week Day. Mat. Nite & Wk.: "The Orphan Maids."

AMUSEMENTS. KRUG NORTH BROS. STOCK CO. THE THIRD DEGREE. 10c STANDARD 10c FEATS. A Show at 25c. All Seats Reserved. OMAHA'S BEST SHOW BARGAINS Next Week—THE YANKEE MUSKIE A Kipping Good Comedy.

### BRANDEIS THEATRE

THIRD BIG WEEK 39th Performance Tonight Speaks for Itself! Still Playing to Crowded Houses. D. W. Griffith's World Sensation.

### THE BIRTH OF A NATION

First Church of Christ, Scientist, of Omaha, Announces a Free Public Lecture ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE BY FRANK BELL, C. S., Member of the Board of Lecturers to have the Lecture at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.

AT THE OMBROSE EDIFICE St. Mary's Ave. and 24th St. Thursday and Friday Evenings, Dec. 2d and 3d, 1915, at 8 O'clock. You and your friends are cordially invited to be present.

Grand Opening of the New Omaha Dancing Academy SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 4. Formerly Douglas Auditorium, 1716 Douglas Street. ADMISSION 25c.

33,761 People Saw It the First Two Weeks! DID YOU? You Can't Afford to Miss It!

A man told us last night that he had driven 100 miles to see this picture, and that "BY GUM, IT WAS WORTH IT!" Mat. Daily, 2:15; Evening, 8:15

PRICES Matinees, 25c to \$1 Evenings, 50c to \$2

THE OMAHA BEE—THE HOME PAPER.