

France Hopeful for New Year

Benins 1920 With Greater Confidence Than It Did the Last.

DUE TO DEFEAT OF RADICALS

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

Paris.—France began the new year with far greater confidence than the last. This is in spite of formidable handicaps, 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 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 short-term 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 franc loan to provide immediate resources for indemnifying victims of the invasion was oversubscribed before the official opening of the subscriptions. Important banks and industrial companies have lately increased their capital to an aggregate of nearly 500,000,000,000 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 entered largely into the totals. The upward movement of all industrial 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 recovery.

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 a tendency against frivolous strikes and an indication that only real grievances will induce the wage earners to quit work hereafter.

Decentralization of capital and industry is seen in the establishing in Normandy of textile industries to replace those in the occupied territory destroyed by the war. This movement has been greatly extended by development of water power in the region of the Alps and the center and south of

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 equitable recovery of all parts of the country.

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 tone to the situation.

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 is now studying a complete renovation of the financial policy with a view to making such provisions to meet obligations as will give greatest stability, both at home and abroad. Details of the new financial policy are as yet not disclosed, but it is understood that it comprises a large interior loan to take up all short-term bonds and floating

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 valuable setters taken by the German crown prince and a prize pointer taken by General Von Kluck.

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 than 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 of Germany than in 1914. In the year of the beginning of the war there were 50,000 students enrolled, while in 1919 there are approximately 91,000. This represents an increase of nearly 2,000 each for each of the 23 national universities. In 11 technical schools more than 16,500 have enrolled as compared to 10,000 in 1914.

Meet Ethyl and Methyl Alcohol

Two Most Prominent and Interesting Members of the Family.

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 medicinal purposes," and methylated spirit, or industrial alcohol, which is popularly called "wood alcohol," and which does contain an amount of that fluid.

Ethyl or ordinary alcohol is formed by the spirituous or alcoholic fermentation of saccharine juices. The fermentation must be completed before it is distilled. It is made from grain, either corn, wheat, or barley. This is

also known as grain alcohol. The formula is C₂H₅OH.

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

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.

The distillate is passed through a condenser, and the liquid thus gathered is allowed to set in tanks until the greater part of the tarry matter in it has subsided. The lighter part is then drawn off and saturated with slaked lime to fix the acetic acid. It is then distilled a second time and the distillate sent to the refineries as wood alcohol. Sawdust or any woody fiber or cellulose can be used in place of cordwood.

Wood alcohol, either in its pure form 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 blindness.

Denatured Alcohol.

For some purposes "completely denatured alcohol" is made by adding to industrial alcohol a little benzine or pyridine to spoil the taste and render it offensive. Denatured alcohol may be made more cheaply than ordinary alcohol by using cheaper materials, such as any starchy vegetable substance, or a waste byproduct, as the poorest grade of molasses or the waste of a canning factory.

"It is probable that a good deal of 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 peelings, and, by using too intense a fire and making the distillation without having first allowed fermentation to take place, produce methyl or wood alcohol instead," said J. H. Nusbaum, a chemist.

HEARD and SEEN at the CAPITAL

Make Your Entry Now for the "Who's Who in Trees"

WASHINGTON.—A "hall of fame for trees" has been inaugurated by the American Forestry association for the recognition of famous trees and the location of the largest shade tree in the United States. Charles Lathrop Park, president of the association, says: "There are many famous trees. For example, there is Liberty tree on the campus of St. John's college at Annapolis under which a treaty with the Indians was signed in 1652. The experts tell us this tree is close to 800 years old. We all know of the William Penn Treaty tree, beneath which Washington took command of the continental army. At Oberlin is the elm on the corner of the campus under which was the first log house in which Oberlin college was founded. We want a complete list."



An elm at Huntington, Ind., long has been regarded as the largest shade tree in the country. Now comes Dumont Kennedy of Crawfordsville, Ind., with a picture of a tree on his property and the suggestion that it is larger than the tree at Huntington. This tree has a spread of 99 feet, while the Huntington elm has a spread of only 75 feet.

The list of entries is growing rapidly. The "Wye Mills Oak," near Easton, Ind., covers a third of an acre of ground and has a spread of 140 1/2 feet. The circumference 1 foot from the ground is 51 1/2 feet.

From Lisbon, comes the nomination of the tree under which the Indians and white settlers came to an agreement regarding iron ore to be used in making kettles. Ralph G. Smith of Circleville, enters the Logan elm in that city.

C. C. Royce nominates the Sir Joseph Hooker oak at Chico, Cal.; General Sherman estimates that 7,000 men could stand in the shade of this tree.

A. D. Dart nominates the "largest live oak" in the South, at Brunswick, Ga., known to be a veteran in 1763. It has a circumference of 26 feet.

Army Is to Play Polo, the Next Thing to Real War

IT APPEARS that the army is going in for polo. Polo is quite a game; it is about the nearest thing to war obtainable in times of peace. The war department authorizes publication of an announcement by the office of the chief of staff, which says among other things:

It is the desire of the war department that polo should be one of the games to be encouraged and developed throughout the army. To accomplish the aims for which this game is fostered in the service, namely, the development of horsemanship, skill and daring on the part of officers and enlisted men, commanding officers will utilize all means at their command to further the interests of this sport.

It is especially desired that teams be developed and maintained at the several division camps and at training centers and regimental posts.

A central polo committee has been established in the war department. This committee will co-ordinate all matters pertaining to polo activities throughout the army. It will secure every assistance possible for the furtherance of the game, and will co-ordinate relations between polo in the service and the American Polo association.



Organizations desiring to take up polo are empowered to use regulation mounts of their authorized quota for this purpose. Regulation mounts of the necessary speed and hardiness will be furnished such organization as part of their quota on requisition made to appropriate remount officer.

To units developing teams will be issued on requisition the necessary polo equipment, including saddles, sticks, balls, etc.

Instructions governing participation in match and tournament play, the training and use of horses and the requisition and care of equipment will issue from the war department.

"Wired Wireless"—and Everybody Talking at Once

PERFECTION of a method of "wired wireless," by means of which at least ten and possibly 50 conversations may be carried on simultaneously by means of a single wire by persons thousands of miles apart, will soon be announced by Maj. Gen. George O. Squier, chief signal officer of the army.

The method, it was said, makes long-distance telephone communication virtually limitless. Conversations from Argentina to Alaska will be a matter of course, provided single wires are strung between the points mentioned. The new method will save telephone and telegraph companies large sums of money, as by its use one wire will do the work now done by ten or more.

"Wired wireless" is a system of guiding radio currents by means of a wire. The currents travel through the air alongside the wire, which guides them to their destination, it was explained. The method eliminates one fault of the ordinary radio which sends the messages broadcast in all directions. Under the Squier method the wave currents stay close to the wire, thus insuring reliability and secrecy.

The high frequency current travels along the wire, but not in it, passing through the ether as do radio waves, with the difference that instead of being diffused it travels in a path of which the wire serves as core.

Cold-Storage Junk Vs. Cooking of the Countryside

OCCASIONALLY some carping critic ventures the opinion that a good deal of "bunk" is perpetrated on the floors of congress. Maybe these critics do not know the difference between "bunk" and oratory for home consumption. For instance, Representative Thomas of Kentucky, in speaking of a proposed adjournment of congress, is quoted by the Congressional Record, in part as follows:

Mr. Thomas. And that would bring a change of living conditions from cold-storage junk and indifferent cooking to the fresh, pure food and good cooking of the countryside. Congress could there mingle with the thrifty sons and fair daughters of the soil and breathe the inspiration of nobler thoughts and loftier ideals. The frost is now on the pumpkin, the ripened corn is in the crib, the golden wheat is in the bin, the yellow yams are mellowing and sweetening in the cellar, the succulent persimmon and the toothsome "possum" are now ripened under the cool temperature of frosty, freezing moonlight nights, and all nature is redolent with the perfume of dying flowers and aglow with the varicolored beauty of autumnal forests and the glory and splendor of autumnal sunsets.

And then to contemplate the epicurean richness of a country dinner consisting of country-cured ham; and hog and lye hominy, made only as they know how to make it in Kentucky; accompanied by light, hot biscuits and country-made blackberry jam and other like delicacies; and to crown all, as a final course, a big, juicy, "possum."

Such a dinner is a real and glorious feast, fit not only for a congressman but for the gods; and after it is over, how pleasant to go to the old log stable and crawl up into the loft as in by-gone days and be a boy again, and repose on the new-mown hay as of yore, and be lulled into peaceful sleep by the patter of the rain on the old board roof, and drift away into dreamland untroubled by the pomp and circumstance and vainglory of the world.



BULLY!

If Bilious, Constipated or Headachy, take "Cascarets"

Feel grand! Clean up inside! Your system is filled with liver and bowel poison which keeps your skin sallow, your stomach upset, your head foggy and aching. Your meals are turning into poison and you can't feel right. Don't stay bilious or constipated. Feel splendidly always by taking Cascarets occasionally. They act without griping or inconvenience. They never sicken you like Calomel, Salts, Oil or nasty, harsh Pills. They cost no little too—Cascarets work while you sleep. Adv.

How'd He Know?

I was buying a pair of shoes one day, and while waiting on me the clerk wanted to know if I would like to try the left shoe on. I told him it was not necessary, whereupon he exclaimed, "O, you have a hole in your stocking; is that it?" All the eyes of the customers were set upon me.—Exchange.

A Feeling of Security

You naturally feel secure when you know that the medicine you are about to take is absolutely pure and contains no harmful or habit producing drugs.

Such a medicine is Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, kidney, liver and bladder remedy. The same standard of purity, strength and excellence is maintained in every bottle of Swamp-Root.

It is scientifically compounded from vegetable herbs. It is not a stimulant and is taken in teaspoonful doses. It is not recommended for everything.

It is nature's great helper in relieving and overcoming kidney, liver and bladder troubles.

A sworn statement of purity is with every bottle of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root.

If you need a medicine, you should have the best. On sale at all drug stores in bottles of two sizes, medium and large. However, if you wish first to try this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Adv.

A Hard Alternative.

"Bings is in something of a predicament."

"What is that?"

"He must either swallow his wrath or eat his words."

YOUR COLD IS EASED AFTER THE FIRST DOSE

"Pape's Cold Compound" then breaks up a cold in a few hours

Relief comes instantly. A dose taken every two hours until three doses are taken usually breaks up a severe cold and ends all the gripe misery.

The very first dose opens your clogged-up nostrils and the air passages in the head, stops nose running, relieves the headache, dullness, feverishness, sneezing, soreness and stiffness.

Don't stay stuffed-up! Quit blowing and snuffling! Clear your congested head! Nothing else in the world gives such prompt relief as "Pape's Cold Compound," which costs only a few cents at any drug store. It acts without assistance, tastes nice, contains no quinine—Insist upon Pape's!—Adv.

The Difference.

"The bliss of life comes with the rapture of the honeymoon."
"But the real thing comes with the alimony of the harvest moon."

SEE SHABBY, FADED GARMENTS TURN NEW

"Diamond Dyes" Make Old Apparel Fresh and Stylish.

Don't worry about perfect results. Use "Diamond Dyes," guaranteed to give a new, rich, fadeless color to any fabric, whether it be wool, silk, linen, cotton or mixed goods,—dresses, blouses, stockings, skirts, children's coats, feathers, draperies, coverings—everything!

The Direction Book with each package tells how to diamond dye over any color.

To match any material, have dealer show you "Diamond Dye" Color Card.—Adv.

Three Comrades.

Sentry—Halt! Who goes there? Weary Voice—One friend and two mites.—London Answers.

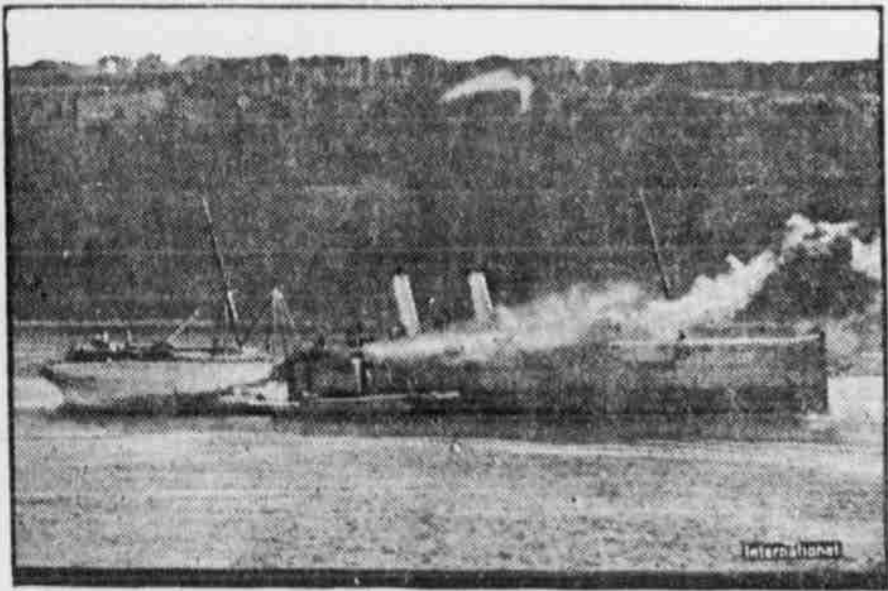
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If we always prepare ourselves for the worst that may happen, we will never be disappointed.

It is better to give a Christmas box than to receive one from a pugilist.

When lovers form a combination an engagement ring is the result.

AMERICAN TROOPSHIP DEKALB ON FIRE



A striking photograph of the United States troopship DeKalb, formerly the German raider Prince Eitel Friedrich, on fire in the Hudson river near Spuyten Duyvil. All of the members of the skeleton crew of 300 escaped uninjured.

Owl, Protected by Law, Disturbs Law

Chelsea, Mass.—Residents in the vicinity of Chelsea have been disturbed nights by an active but elusive screech owl. The little manniker 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, sixty-five, of this city, was struck and instantly killed by a fast train.

Has Ludendorff's War Car

Chicago Man Now Has Machine in Daily Use.

Limousine Was Seized for General While Owner Was Touring Germany.

Chicago, 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 French roads while its occupant was seeking to annihilate the allies, can be seen almost any day on Chicago's streets and boulevards.

Bullet-scoured and battered after traveling more than 60,000 miles as the equipage of the German commander, the limousine has returned to peaceful pursuits and civilian service.

In the summer of 1914 C. L. Willey,

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 allied airmen and its roof was perforated in many places.

Through an American consul Willey brought about the return of the automobile. C. L. Willey died in 1916 and the car is now used daily by his son, C. B. Willey.

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 brain, killing the boy instantly.