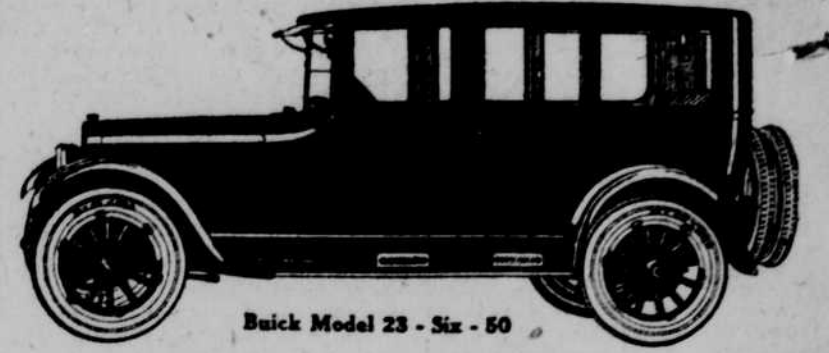


'France Doubling Stakes'--Ex-Premier

Buick Business Booming



Buick Model 23 - Six - 50

H. Pelton, local Buick dealer, states that the Buick business for spring delivery is shaping itself rapidly and, judging from indications now, he will do a large business this spring. "We have 25 closed cars in storage now," said Mr. Pelton, "and have a full line of cars on our floor at our sales rooms. Every day more people are becoming convinced of the sterling worth of Buick cars." Mr. Pelton will be represented at the automobile show and will share the exhibit with the Nebraska Buick Auto company.

America Must Look to Car Market in Scandinavia

"American automobile manufacturer's will have to look out for their market in Scandinavia and north Europe," says Axel Ackerman, special commissioner of the international automobile exhibition in Gothenburg, Sweden, May 9 to July 9, 1923. The show is part of the Gothenburg jubilee exposition, which is planned to be the greatest fair ever held in Scandinavia.

"There is a big market in Sweden for medium and low priced American cars," Mr. Ackerman says. "They are generally preferred to the heavy European types. During the latter part of 1922, however, the European makers have pushed their cars systematically, and are gaining in favor because their new cars are better suited to the Swedish roads than formerly."

In Sweden low gasoline consumption is of great importance, and many of the leading European manufacturers have come far in this respect.

Near Motor Car Accident Turns Woman's Hair White

To what extent are automobiles responsible for prematurely white hair? Paris has just been hearing of an authenticated case of a lady who narrowly escaped being run over by a car and was so frightened that she fell in a faint. On being revived and taken to her home, several locks of her hair had turned quite white.

A total of 25,733 immigrants from the United States entered Canada last year, with cash and effects valued at \$9,544,027.

Latest Picture of Ex-Premier and Wife



The former premier made a brilliant speech in the house of commons Monday and appealed for American aid in settling the difficulties between France and Germany. The government was sustained, however. The picture, which is the most recent one of the former premier and his wife to reach the United States, shows them upon their arrival in Paddington, London, England, after their holiday in Spain.

Invaders of Ruhr Adopt New Policy

Lloyd George Protests Wisdom of Attempt to Starve Germany Into Surrender

by Siegel.

Sees Disaster in Result

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London, February 24.—The French government, having conspicuously failed to win its anticipated coup, is doubling the stakes each time it loses. When will it end and where will it end? It is still gambling with human passions. They are all engaged in this wild venture—on both sides of the table. Pride, greed, vanity, obstinacy, temper, combativeness, racial antagonisms; but also patriotism, love of wrong and high courage. Each side draws from the same treasury of fiery human emotions. Unless someone steps in to induce a halt I fear the result will be devastating.

France has now abandoned all hope of being able to run the mines, railways and workshops of the Ruhr by military agencies. In these days you cannot shoot every worker who fails to excavate so many hundredweights of coal per diem, or who refuses to fill a wagon or drive a locomotive when and by whomsoever he is told to do so. She cannot provide the necessary complement of miners and railwaymen from outside to fill the vacancies created by sulky workers. And even if she could it would take many months ere they become sufficiently accustomed to their new conditions to work without peril to themselves.

New Policy.

So a new policy has been improvised. It is nothing less than a siege of Germany. Sixty millions of Germans are to be starved into surrender. That's a long business, as everyone knows who has been engaged on the difficult operations of strike breaking. We have often witnessed workers, with little support or sympathy from the rest of the community, hold out for weeks after their funds have been exhausted. In Germany all classes are united in resistance. The national pride fortifies endurance and incites to sacrifice, and the ports are still open. Meanwhile incidents may happen, developments may occur which will create a situation that will baffle all the resources the invaders can command.

It is very little use jobbing backward. But there are many who are disposed to say that invasion of the Ruhr was bound to come and the sooner the safer. The Ruhr coal

mines were the wild oats of reparation. Get it over quickly. The headache will bring repentance and France will then settle down to quiet life. That's the argument.

French Opinion Changes.

I must enter emphatic protest against this view. If this ill judged enterprise had been put off for a few more months I do not believe any French government would have embarked upon it. There is no French statesman of any standing who in his heart believes in its wisdom. Now that the credit of France is involved in its success they will all support it. But French opinion as a whole was moving with startling rapidity from this policy. The Parisian pulse was still feverish, but the provinces had completely calmed down. Vacancies occurring in the senate and the chamber of deputies during several months have afforded an opportunity for testing real French opinion, and the results have been sensational.

Shrink From Bloodshed.

Driving through the villages in agricultural France you find yourself asking "where are the young men?" The answer invariably comes "This village suffered severely in the war." You will receive the same answer in the next village and the next. We cannot wonder, therefore, that by-elections in rural as well as in urban France display unmistakable weakness of plans which involve the marching of armed Frenchmen into hostile territory. The sorrowing people of France have good reason to shrink from any course of action that leads to further shedding of blood.

That is why I have steadily favored every scheme that had the effect of postponing a decision as to the Ruhr. Delay meant ultimate defeat for the Chauvinists. That is why they strove so hard to rush their government into this precipitate action. The abrupt termination of the Paris conference

was their opportunity and they seized it with tingling fingers. Until then there had never been a clean break on which violence could be founded. Friends of moderation both here and on the continent had seen to that. There had been references of questions for the scrutiny of experts and calming adjournments to await their report. When it arrived there were endless suggestions and counter-suggestions to meet difficulties. In the end Europe was saved from the catastrophe of once more handing its destinies to the guidance of blind force.

Proposal Rejected.

Unhappily, weariness or impatience induced the Paris negotiators in a few hours to drop the reins which had for the last four years held the furies from dashing along their career of destruction. There were many alternative plans that might have been discussed. There was a proposal to refer the whole question to the league of nations. It is true that when I suggested it in August last M. Poincare summarily rejected it. But the allies also rejected Poincare's one at that conference.

That did not prevent his repeating them in January—and this time he succeeded in winning over a majority to his view. A little more persistence and less pessimism might have persuaded Belgium, Italy and Japan to aid our appeals to France to trust rather to the league of nations than to the uncertainties of war. What is still more inexplicable is the failure of the conference to take any note of Mr. Secretary Hughes' New Haven speech.

Neglected opportunities litter the path of this troublesome question. There were the Cannes conversations broken off just as they were reaching fruition. Had they been continued another week they would have ended in a helpful settlement which would

have brought reparations to France, confidence to Germany and peace to Europe. They struck on one of many sunken reefs which bestrew French political seas, and it will not surprise me to find that the whole cargo of reparations disappeared than beyond salvage into the deep with these shipwrecked negotiations.

Opportunity Thrown Away.

Again Germany threw away a great opportunity at Genoa when all the nations of Europe came together for the first time to discuss their troubles in a spirit of equality and amity. It is true reparations were excluded at the instance of France from the program of the conference. But the spirit engendered by a friendly settlement of all other outstanding questions would have rendered a reasonable and temperate consideration of reparations inevitable. Germany, by the foolish staging of its Russian agreement, made all that impossible.

Resentment and suspicion were once more equipped with a lash, and they used it relentlessly to drive out all good will for Germany from the purview of that great congress. Another lost opportunity.

Then there was the bankers' committee appointed to consider the question of raising an international loan to help France finance the repair of her devastated area, and also to assist Germany restore her demoralized currency. I remember how eager poor Rathenau was to float that loan, and how sanguine he was it would succeed. He was confident that German nationals who have invested their gold in other lands could be induced to subscribe heavily to the loan. The bankers concerned—all were

of the highest reputation in the financial world—were confident that if German reparations were fixed at a reasonable sum, investors throughout the world would gladly put their money into a great international loan which would help to restore Europe. The French government testily declined to consider the essential conditions indicated by the bankers.

Hughes' Offer Overlooked.

Another lost opportunity, and Europe once more lumbered along its dreary way to seek another. It came with Mr. Hughes' famous speech. It was made four days before the Paris conference, and was obviously intended to be discussed by the allies there. An endeavor has been made to minimize the importance of this American approach to Europe. But it is incomprehensible to me how so momentous a pronouncement has been treated as if it were merely the casual utterance of a politician who is not in every land always moves slowly. But there can be no doubt that the French peasant has had enough of military adventures. His sons were never numbered amongst the "exempt" and the losses in the peasant homes of France were appalling. Another opportunity lost—perhaps the greatest—perhaps the last. Never has luck striven so hard to save stupidity. But luck loses its temper easily, and then it is apt to hit hard.

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