

WAVE OF PROSPERITY

Scandinavian Countries Are Fairly Rolling in Wealth Due to the War.

PAY OFF STATE DEBTS

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)
Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 15.—Now that the wave of war-time prosperity sweeping over Scandinavia has reached its crest, in the case of Sweden, with the greatest crops the country has ever known, these northern peoples are forgetting some of the vicissitudes of the small neutral in the midst of the European conflagration, even the rigors of the blockade itself. So great has been the prosperity of the last two years that it is reported the governments of Denmark, Norway and Sweden already have paid off, or have sufficient funds in the state coffers to pay off, all outstanding foreign indebtedness. So in a brief space of time the three small neutrals lying here in the very lap of war, but not of the war, have been transformed from the borrowing to the lending class.

The process of paying off foreign obligations has been materially facilitated by a loss in value of foreign exchange. The German mark has led the international moneys downward with the loss of more than 30 per cent. The English pound, the American dollar, the Russian ruble, the continental franc all have been quoted on the Scandinavian bourses at a loss of 10 per cent and upward, so that the foreign buying power of the Scandinavian crowns, when buying has been permitted, has greatly advanced. Sweden had borrowed much money from Germany. War-time trade with the blockaded Germans has brought enormous profits. This fact, combined with the cheapness of the German mark, has enabled the Swedish debtors to wipe out many million crowns of Teutonic obligations.

Golden Horn For All.

When prosperity first came to Scandinavia it was distinctly a prosperity of the moneyed classes. People with money were quick to take advantage of the war opportunities and not a few of them have made fortunes by merely dealing in foreign money. There were stock booms that made the manipulators of American "war brides" appear as amateurs. But gradually the inflow of money affected all industries. Unemployment became unknown and the skilled laborers received high wages. The farmers participated in the prosperity from the beginning, and their share has been steadily increasing until this year they will divide a crop yield estimated at more than \$400,000,000 against the normal of less than half that amount. This remarkable yield is due both to the bountiful crops and the increased values of foodstuffs. The middle classes of the cities, the salaried employes, have as usual been caught between the millstones of high prices and big profits, the salaries having in no case kept pace with the increased cost of living.

Savings banks and commercial banks show deposits far in excess of any expectation. Luxuries are in great demand and of course fabulous prices. The summer resorts report a record season. People with home products to sell are naturally not worried by the British blockade for they have discovered it has served the double purpose of lowering the value of foreign exchange and increasing the value of materials and foodstuffs now in the Scandinavian countries. There are plenty of complaints naturally among the importers who appreciate the wonderful opportunities of prosperity, but are not able to bring in foreign goods in sufficient quantities to get what they claim is their due share of the good times.

Crops Benefit Germany.

The bountiful Swedish crops mean much to the Germans, for they will get their share of the much-needed foodstuffs in compensation for the German coal, chemicals and other exports sent to this country. Coal always has been the chief import of Sweden and great stores of German coal are being piled up here in Stockholm and at other depots throughout the country. There is a long winter coming and English coal has so increased in cost as to be almost prohibitive. Part of the "compensation" for German coal has been paid in Swedish horses, the export of 10,000 having been approved by the government this year. But the only horses allowed to go to Germany are those considered unfit for Swedish military service. For these somewhat aged animals the price has averaged over \$400, thus giving the horse-owner a share of the prevailing prosperity.

Swedish manufacturers have shown a wonderful increase since the war began. Russia has become a great purchaser of manufactured goods, especially since Russian factories have been turned to munition-making. The Swedish manufacturers have complained the most bitterly against the British blockade regulations, not having been able to get all the raw materials they needed.

The governments of the three Scandinavian countries were quick to see the trend of the times and by special taxes and heavy income levies have filled the national treasuries to overflowing. One American concern doing business here in Stockholm paid last year a tax of 28 per cent on its net profits. The stamp taxes on tobacco and liquors have steadily increased. On cigarette packages, selling ordinarily at 75 cents for fifty, a 30-cent stamp has been placed. Part of their enormously increased national revenue has been devoted to the maintenance of armed neutrality, the naval and military expenses having been very heavy ever since the war began.

Shippers Reap Harvest.

The Norwegians, with their wealth of shipping and their extensive fisheries, have reaped such a golden harvest that the term "Norwegian millionaire" is a common designation for men who two years ago were possessed of merely modest means. The Norwegians rather "put it over" the Swedes at the beginning of the war by buying up many Swedish ships before the Swedish owners realized the mammoth profits that were to come from neutral tonnage in war times. The Danes were quick to grasp the situation, too, and the result has been that many Norwegian and Danish shipping companies have entirely paid off all their capital stock, have declared huge dividends from the earnings of vessels which no longer represents a dollar of original investment. Despite the many losses inflicted upon Scandinavian

shipping by German submarines and North sea mines the tonnage of the northern neutrals has shown a steady increase. Many of the big shipbuilding orders placed in the United States in the past eighteen months have come from Norway. Shipping shares on the stock exchanges, under these circumstances, have had a boom unparalleled in all history. They have jumped hundreds of points in a day and instead of selling in the thousands, ship values have increased about fourfold.

The Norwegians have also reaped enormous profits from fish, the price of herring and fish oils having shown increases as high as 600 per cent. The biggest profits come from Germans, of course, but now under a trade agreement with Great Britain the English have first option on the Norwegian output at limited prices.

Despite the fortunes already made in Scandinavia there are stories of still greater ones that might be made. If anyone, for instance, could get a cargo of bacon for Germany through on this one deal alone, the English blockade and through the Scandinavian restrictions of export, it is said he could retire as a millionaire.

Chinese Suspect New Jap General

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)
Peking, Sept. 30.—China's appointment of Major General Nobuzumi Aoki as first class military advisor to the Chinese government has provoked much comment in the Chinese press, and came as a great surprise to foreigners living in China. Major General Aoki will receive a salary of \$2,000 Mexican per month, together with an allowance for traveling expenses.

Commenting sarcastically upon the appointment, the Peking Daily News says: "We heartily thank our Japanese neighbor for lending the services of so valuable a general of the Japanese army to China for the reorganization of the Chinese army. The next step is the purchase of at least half of the arms and ammunition required by the Chinese army from Japan, or the establishment of a Sino-Japanese arsenal in this country under Japanese control as demanded by Japan last year, but refused by the late President Yuan Shi-kai, even under the threat of an ultimatum delivered at Peking on May 7, 1915."

When Major General Aoki was assigned to Shanghai as an attache of the Japanese consulate there in the heat of the recent revolutionary trouble, many Chinese papers charged that he was the forerunner of a Japanese military movement designed to control the Yangtze valley, and his employment as an adviser to the Chinese government is regarded with great apprehension by Chinese journals, which demand information as to why China should place itself in Japanese hands by the employment of the distinguished Japanese officer. Major General Aoki was the commandant of Port Arthur in the Russo-Japanese war, and is probably the most famous soldier in Japan. He is 57 years old and has traveled much in Europe. On several occasions he has been attached to the Japanese legation at Peking, and is an expert in Chinese art.

Italian Soldiers Save Much Money

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)
Headquarters of the Italian Army, Oct. 2.—The soldiers each month send home to their families out of their pay \$4,250,000, according to the army postoffice statistics. This fact is attributed to the economic disposition of the individual soldier and also to the abundant army ration which makes it unnecessary for him to buy private supplies of wine, tobacco or food.

"Why, they wake us up in the morning to drink a glass of rum," said one enthusiastic Alpinist.

The total cost of the daily war zone ration is about 75 cents, according to the changes in the wholesale market prices. But the high cost of living felt in the homes never affects the quantity allotted the soldier.

The total quantity of the ration is 1,860 grams, or slightly over four pounds, with an additional allowance of 300 grams during periods of hard work or fighting. The daily bread of the soldier weighs one and one-half pounds, with two pounds on special occasions. His daily drink consists of a half pint of wine, with a full pint in bad weather or during periods of hard labor.

The other items in his ration are meat, sugar, coffee, lard, potatoes or beans, salt, pepper, cheese, figs, chocolate, dry figs and cake.

Senators to Cuba.

It is said that Clark Griffith is to pass up Charlottesville as a training camp and take his Washington team to Cuba next spring. Charlottesville was all right, except that its name was too long to get into the papers, and the players had to train in fur caps and slippers.

"Gets-It" Never Fails for Corns!

There's Nothing on Earth Like It For Corns and Calluses.

"Whenever you get corns and calluses, don't experiment—just use 'GETS-IT' and nothing else. Easiest and simplest thing I know to use—just a few drops in a few seconds—'GETS-IT' does the rest. The only



way is to bundle up your toes in harnesses and bandages, use salves that make toes raw, cotton rings that make your corns pop, knives and "diggers" that tear your heart out and leave the corn in. No wonder they make you limp and wince. Forget all these—use "GETS-IT," the simplest corn remedy in the world, easiest to use, never fails or sticks, painless. Your corn loosens, then you lift it off. You can wear smaller shoes.

"GETS-IT" is sold and recommended by druggists everywhere. Use a bottle, or send on receipt of price, by E. Lawrence & Co., Chicago, Ill.

Sold in Omaha and recommended as the world's best corn remedy by Sherman & McConnell Drug Co.

Shell Hurls Soldier From Danger to Safety

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)
Berlin, Sept. 23.—There now is on record the case of a shell that rescued a man from an apparently hopeless situation.

The son of the policeman, Fahrbacher in Landslut, on the west front, stumbled into a swamp and sank into

it despite his utmost efforts. After struggling desperately for two hours he gave up all hope except that comrades might come along. Suddenly the section of country where he was placed under French fire. A shell exploded very near him and, instead of injuring him, tore him loose from the swamp and threw him onto solid ground. He lost consciousness

for a time and was slightly hurt on one hand, but recovered rapidly in a hospital.

Filipinos Now Planning Municipal Golf Courses

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)
Manila, P. I., Sept. 28.—The municipal board, consisting of one American and four Filipinos, has

voted to establish a municipal golf course in Manila. The links are to be situated on the bay front on filled-in ground admirably suited to the purpose, and will be thrown open to the public.

The Filipino, since American occupation, has taken wholeheartedly to outdoor exercises, and among the younger set, some excellent tennis, basketball and base ball players have

been developed. These three sports, notably base ball, are played in every nook and corner of the islands. Golf is a new game for the Filipino.

Bello Becomes Pro.

Tom Bello, the Italian bicycle rider who was runner-up in the amateur championships this year, has decided to enter the professional class. Tom opines that pedaling for medals, bric-a-brac, etc., is all right as far as it goes, but it doesn't bring home the spaghetto.

What He Stands For



"YOU ask what road I propose to travel?"

These are the milestones which mark it.

"An Executive responsible to the whole nation.

"A Cabinet chosen from the ablest Americans.

"A foreign policy that stands courteously but firmly for American rights.

"A flag that protects the American in his lawful rights wherever his legitimate business may take him.

"A preparation for trade competition which shall protect all groups of American workmen.

"A government oversight of business which will fearlessly eliminate abuses, but will act on the assumption that the average business man is honest.

"And finally a domestic policy which looks to industrial peace, and to sound and permanent prosperity based upon the development of American trade and the building up of American Industries.

"We Americans are in one boat. You cannot strike a blow at one group without injury to all. Common justice and fair play will settle our difficulties if suspicion and bitterness are let alone. These are the principles by which I propose to be guided."

Vote for Hughes!