

PROGRESS SLOW DURING THE YEAR

Heavy Taxes, Chaotic Financial Conditions and Minor Wars Hamper Recovery in 1921.

HOPE COMES NEAR ITS END

Washington Conference on Armament Limitation The Most Important Event—What President Harding's Administration and the Congress Have Accomplished.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD Back to Normalcy was the slogan of 1921, not only in America but in all the civilized nations of the world.

When the year opened the peoples were groaning under the burden of taxation and depression resulting from the World War.

Efforts to enforce the terms of the treaty of Versailles resulted in conflicts among some of the new nations created by that pact, and several of the older nations were involved in warfare.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The League of Nations, though functioning without the co-operation of the United States, accomplished much during the year, chiefly through its council, which met in Paris on February 21 and immediately referred proposed amendments to the covenant to a committee.

The council of ambassadors in January gave Germany more time to disarm, appointed a commission to pass on Austria's economic status, decided that Latvia and Estonia should be recognized as sovereign states, and then fixed the German reparations at 223,000,000 gold marks.

During the first six months of the year the guerrilla warfare between the British forces in Ireland and the Irish "republicans" continued unabated.

she showed signs of yielding to the general view. Division of Upper Silesia between Germany and Poland caused a lot of trouble.

All through the year the Greeks fought the Turkish nationalists in Anatolia, with varying fortune, while the allied powers held aloof, though offering mediation which Greece refused.

The United States formally made peace with the central powers, the treaty with Austria being signed August 24, that with Germany August 25, and the pact with Hungary August 29.

President Harding on July 10 issued informal invitations to Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan to send representatives to Washington for a conference on limitation of armament and Far East questions.

On August 11 the formal invitations went out, China, Belgium, Holland and Portugal being asked to participate in discussions involving the Far East.

Of almost equal importance was the four-power pact accepted by the conference on December 13. This was cast in the form of a treaty by which the United States, Great Britain, France and Japan agreed to maintain peace in the Pacific, the Anglo-Japanese treaty being abrogated.

China offered some very difficult problems to the conference and all the demands of her delegates were not satisfied. The conferees, however, did enter into an agreement to remove many of the foreign restrictions on China and to respect the territorial and administrative integrity of the oriental republic and preserve the open door for trade and industry of all nations.

It was evident from the first that the conference could do much in the matter of limitation of land armaments so long as the situation in central Europe remained so unsettled.

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Irish Free State. A treaty to this effect was ratified by the British parliament and submitted to "dail eireann. Ulster was not consulted, but was given the option of becoming a part of the Irish Free state or retaining her status. Angriily she chose the latter.

Charles, ex-emperor of Austria-Hungary, made two futile efforts to regain the Hungarian throne. On March 27 he appeared in Hungary without forces and claimed the crown, but Regent Horthy refused to step aside.

Russia's year was one of fighting, famine and efforts to resume relations with other nations. The soviet government held its own against repeated revolts, which included risings of the workmen of Moscow, of peasants under Antonov, and an invasion of the Ukraine by Petura, which for a time threatened to be successful.

Old King Peter of Serbia died in Belgrade on August 17, and four days later his son Alexander was proclaimed king of Yugo-Slavia. He was reluctant to leave Paris, however, and it was not until November 6 that he went to Belgrade and assumed his crown.

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DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

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On the first day of the year General Crowder was sent by President Wilson to Cuba to see what could be done to restore financial and economic con-

ditions there, upset by the collapse of the sugar boom. He remained on the island for a long time and succeeded in his mission to a considerable extent.

The United States Supreme court rendered several notable decisions, on January 31 it held that Judge Landis had no lawful right or power to preside over the trial of Victor Berger and other Socialists.

The unemployment situation became so bad during the summer that President Harding called a conference of experts on the subject. It began its sessions on September 26 and, after a long study, established a central bureau and started local employment movements throughout the country.

One of the worst race riots in the history of the country broke out in Tulsa, Okla., on May 31. Before it was quelled the negro quarter of the city had been burned and 35 persons had been killed and many wounded.

The American Legion, in session at Kansas City, elected Lieut. Col. Harford MacNider of Iowa its national commander on November 1. The Legion had as guests Marshal Foch of France, General Diaz of Italy, Admiral Beatty of England and other distinguished warriors.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Not a great deal of legislation was passed by the Republican congress during the last two months of President Wilson's administration.

President Harding called congress in extra session on April 11 and nearly all the rest of the year it was busy with the task of redeeming the pledges of the Republican party, with what success must be left to individual judgment.

Among other important measures passed were a bill to exempt American coastwise shipping from payment of Panama canal tolls; a bill for government regulation of the packing industry; the \$48,500,000 shipping bond deficiency bill; the billion-dollar farm exports credit bill; and various measures relating to enforcement of the prohibition amendment, including one forbidding the manufacture and sale of beer as medicine.

LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL

Two strong tendencies in the world of labor marked the year in the United States. One was toward a reduction of wages, as a part of the "return to normalcy," and the other was toward the establishment of the open shop.

lowers. In January the national conference of state manufacturers' associations pledged support for the open shop movement. On the last day of that month the railway executives asked that the national working agreements be abrogated; the railroad brotherhoods appealed to President Wilson to prevent wage reductions but he refused to interfere.

The packing industry there was a wage reduction in March and a strike was narrowly averted. In September the large packing plants installed the shop representation system and in November, under this plan, the employees consented to a further reduction of 10 per cent.

Great Britain's coal miners went on strike on March 1 and for nearly four months the nation's industries were near collapse. The rail and transport workers refused to go out and the government would not yield to the demands that the mines be nationalized, so the miners returned to work on June 28 without having gained much.

SPORTS

It was a great year for sports. In all lines there was activity and prosperity, and international contests were numerous.

Organized baseball, which had suffered from the White Sox scandal, rehabilitated itself by the appointment of Judge Landis as supreme arbiter. The New York Giants and the New York Yankees won the National and American league pennants, respectively, and in the series for the world championship the Giants were victorious.

Jack Hutchinson of America won the British open golf championship in June. In this country the titles went as follows: Western amateur, Charles Evans, Jr.; national open, James M. Barnes; western open, Walter Hagen; national amateur, Jesse Guliford.

The University of Illinois won the Western Conference track and field meet and the National Collegiate athletic meet in June. Yale defeated Harvard in their annual boat race on June 24. The University of Iowa won the Western Conference football championship, and Harvard beat Yale on November 19. The East was given two jolts in football, for the University of Chicago defeated Princeton and Centre college of Kentucky beat Harvard.

NECROLOGY

Just the names of the well-known men and women who passed away in 1921 would fill much space. Among the shining marks found by Death were these: Jan. 1, Dr. Theobald von Bethmann-Hollweg, former German imperial chancellor; Jan. 3, Ferdinand Schiesinger, Wisconsin capitalist; Jan. 7, James G. Scripps, publisher of many newspapers; Jan. 13, Henry Reinhardt, famous American art collector and dealer; Jan. 19, Daniel Barto, professor of agriculture in the University of Illinois; Jan. 21, Congressman Charles Booher of Missouri, and Mary M. Whitney, famous astronomer at Vassar; Jan. 22, "Cap" Streeter, the noted Chicago lake front squatter; Jan. 30, John Francis Murphy, American landscape painter; Jan. 31, Gov. F. H. Parkhurst of Maine.

Feb. 2, Cardinal Ferrari, archbishop of Milan, and Luigi Manicelli, noted composer; Feb. 8, Prince Kropotkin, nihilist leader, and Prof. Barrett Wendell of Harvard; Feb. 9, James Gibbons Huneker, music critic and author; Feb. 22, W. F. McCombs, former Democratic national chairman; Feb. 24, Dr. E. J. V. Skiff, director of the Field Museum of Chicago.

cago; March 17, Dr. M. W. Gumbel, educator, lecturer and preacher, of Chicago; March 19, Bert Leston Taylor of the Chicago Tribune, most famous "column conductor"; March 24, James Cardinal Gibbons, archbishop of Baltimore; March 28, Mrs. George M. Pullman, widow of the car builder, and Charles Haddon Chambers, Australian playwright; March 29, John Burroughs, beloved American naturalist.

April 3, Annie Louise Cary, once famous prima donna; April 8, Julie Opp, actress, and B. E. Wallace, pioneer circus man; April 9, Archbishop Walsh of Dublin, Sydney Fisher, Canadian statesman, and Ernesto Nathan, former mayor of Rome; April 11, Augusta Victoria, former empress of Germany; April 30, John Robinson, noted circus owner.

May 3, Dr. W. R. Brooks, astronomer; May 5, J. A. Slescher, editor Leslie's Weekly; May 14, Alf Hyman, theatrical manager; May 15, Former Senator T. B. Catron of New Mexico; May 18, Former Secretary of the Interior Franklin B. Lane; May 19, Edward D. White, chief justice of the United States Supreme court; May 29, Gen. Horace Porter, war veteran and diplomat.

June 5, W. T. Crooks, noted British labor leader; June 7, Alvin T. Hart, Republican leader of Kentucky; June 8, Col. F. W. Galbraith, Jr., national commander of the American Legion; June 13, Gen. Jose Gomez, former president of Cuba, and H. C. Ide, former governor general of the Philippines; June 15, Judge W. A. Blount of Florida, president of the American Bar association; June 16, William E. Mason, congressman-at-large from Illinois; June 22, Dr. Morris Jastrow, authority on Semitic literature, and Gen. C. H. Taylor, editor of the Boston Globe; June 28, Charles J. Bonaparte of Baltimore; June 29, Lady Randolph Churchill.

July 3, John F. Wallace, eminent engineer; July 10, Douglas Story, author and journalist; July 12, Harry Hawker, famous British aviator; July 15, Dr. W. E. Stone, president of Purdue university; July 29, Robert E. Burke, prominent Democrat of Chicago, and Charles B. Cory, ornithologist; July 31, Edgar Salus, author.

Aug. 2, Enrico Caruso, the famous operatic tenor; Aug. 6, John G. Jenkins, Wisconsin jurist; Aug. 11, William C. Hook, jurist, of Kansas; Aug. 12, Alexander Block, noted Russian poet; Aug. 13, Samuel P. Colt, leader in rubber industry; Aug. 17, King Peter of Serbia; Aug. 19, Demetrios Rhalyis, Greek statesman; Aug. 23, Sir Sam Hughes of Canada; Aug. 25, Peter Cooper Hewitt, noted American inventor; Aug. 31, Field Marshal Count von Buelow, German war leader.

Sept. 2, Austin Dobson, English poet; Sept. 11, Former Senator George F. Wetmore of Rhode Island; Sept. 15, Peor Strome, American author and journalist; Sept. 21, Sir Ernest Cassel, British financier; Sept. 28, Engelbert Humperdinck, German composer. Oct. 1, Former Federal Judge Peter Grosscup of Chicago; Oct. 2, David Bispham, American baritone, and William H. former king of Wurttemberg; Oct. 12, Philander Case Knox, senator from Pennsylvania; Oct. 18, Ludwig III, former king of Bavaria; Oct. 21, Maj. Gen. W. W. Wotherspoon, U. S. A.; Oct. 25, "Bat" Masterson, writer and former noted westerner; Oct. 26, Henry Oyen, American novelist.

Nov. 3, Dan Hanna, capitalist and publisher, of Cleveland, O.; Nov. 5, Rev. Antoinette Blackwell, first woman ordained as a minister in the United States; Nov. 13, C. H. Prior of St. Paul, railway builder, and Mrs. George J. Gould; Nov. 20, Lawrence C. Earl, American painter; Nov. 22, Christine Nilsson, Countess de Casa Miranda, once famous operatic soprano, and Henry M. Hyndman, British socialist leader; Nov. 27, Lieut. Col. C. W. Whittlesey, hero of the "lost battalion;" Nov. 28, Abdul Baha Abbas, leader of the Bahaists; Nov. 29, Ivan Caryll, composer, and Lord Mount Stephen, creator of the Canadian Pacific railway system.

DISASTERS

Floods, tornadoes and conflagrations cost many lives and vast property losses in 1921. A four-million-dollar fire destroyed the business section of Athens, Ga., on January 24. The Armour grain elevator in Chicago, largest in the world, was wrecked by fire and explosion on March 19, the loss being \$6,000,000. A thousand houses in Tokyo were destroyed by flames in March, and in April fire in Manila rendered 15,000 homeless and 4,000 buildings were burned in Hakodate, Japan. The Southern states were struck by a tornado on April 15, 100 persons being killed. On June 3 came the terrible floods in eastern Colorado in which hundreds lost their lives and immense property damage was done. San Antonio, Tex., experienced a disastrous flood on September 10.

The two most startling disasters occurred abroad. On August 24 the giant dirigible ZR-2, built by the British for the United States, broke in two while over Hull, England, on her last trial trip. Forty-six men were killed, including 15 members of the American crew that was to bring the vessel across the ocean. On September 21 a great nitrate plant at Oppau, Germany, blew up. The town was wiped out, about 1,500 persons were killed and thousands were injured.

HAVE NOT "TAMED" LIGHTNING

Expression is Common Since Franklin's Famous Experiment, but It is Not Accurate.

When we wish to speak figuratively of our achievements in electricity we are accustomed to boast that we have "tamed the lightning," or something of the kind. But in reality we have done no such thing. Lightning is a well-known natural electrical phenomenon, but the electricity that we use is drawn from another source—it was "tamed" to start with. To catch a lightning discharge and reduce its voltage so that it may be utilized is a different matter. It may be suggested that the result might not be worth the trouble.

Ever since Franklin's famous kite was sent upon its flight certain optimistic individuals have thought that this pretty experiment was the key to untold power and wealth. The tumult caused by a severe thunder storm has evidently led them to believe that vast quantities of electricity are tumbling about in the upper air, and to render these available to man needs only some method of tapping the invisible reservoir. Now it has been said that the quantity of electricity taking part in a flash of lightning could be collected on a thimble; but the handling and restraining of this thimbleful of electricity present a problem which few electrical engineers would care to undertake. It is a great achievement to use the water at Niagara to drive a dynamo; but most of us would hesitate at the thought of employing a stream of rifle bullets for the same purpose.

TREASURE HIDDEN IN RUSSIA

Fortunes in Gold and Jewels Successfully Concealed From Soviet Officials.

Treasures of gold and jewels are still hidden in Russia, secure from soviet requisitions and robberies, their estimated value mounting into the hundreds of millions of gold rubles. Russian families, especially in jewel collections, were far more wealthy than families of corresponding means in other countries, and it is certain that neither the soviet nor refugees have taken all these gems for sale abroad. On several occasions, families have told the correspondent how they outwitted the soviet agents. In one family, diamond and pearl necklaces were broken up and the parts hidden, at dead of night, in bed posts, in the tubing of electric light conduits, in garbage pails and even in paperweights lying exposed on a table. When soviet agents came to make inspections they tapped the walls, tore up the floors and dug in the gardens, but found nothing. With free trade, many of these hidden treasures are coming out, to be sold in the market, to tide the owners through the winter.

Starlings Renew War.

Following the frost line down from Canada and the Maine mountains, the starlings are beginning to return and droves of them may be seen flying about the suburbs, says the New York Sun. From their posts in the trees and along the telephone wires they whistle to their fellows and hurl defiance to the English sparrow. The starlings, introduced into this country several years ago from northern Europe, have proven popular birds. They are industrious bug catchers and are said to be the only bird that will pick a fight with the sparrow. The latter, learning through bitter experience, give their dark-colored rivals a wide berth. The starling, being a cold weather bird, generally departs for the North land in the spring. With the first cold snap they are back for another season's frolic in New York's snows.

Talking Movies Possible.

Though "speaking films" were first made about 1900, their combination with picture films has just been successfully accomplished for the first time, by two Swedish scientists, and the talking movie seems about to become a reality. The method, says Popular Mechanics Magazine, employs the fundamental method of earlier developments, which makes use of the property of selenium for controlling a telephonic current when actuated by variable illumination. The novelty of this latest work seems to be in the successful combining of picture-bearing and sound-record-bearing films by running them on the same shaft, while taking and reproducing the double record, and in making selenium-controlled electric currents operate a loud-speaking telephone.

Gold Hard to Get.

Alaska prospectors, who were able recently to work, for the first time, Turnagain arm, a branch of the sea, on the government land near Anchorage, report that the body of water is almost literally "paved with gold." For years, until the railroad penetrated the section, the six-foot tides that rush up the arm, swamping small boats, have kept miners out. Now they are going in over the railroad and report several rich finds made in the arm at low tide. Rich gravel, it is said, lies offshore. One vein, near Girdwood, assays \$160 in gold a ton. The vein is covered by high tide.

Disappointed.

Jim—Why did every one cry during the death scene at the theater today? They must have known that the actor wasn't dead.

Jack—That was just the reason.

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