

SATURDAY EVENING REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S EVENTS HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE

IN COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Happenings That Throw Light on Present and Prospective Business Conditions.

Of paramount importance in the commercial and financial news of the week are the preliminary steps toward a \$100,000,000 gold pool for the relief of the foreign exchange situation, the successful placing of the \$100,000,000 loan of the city of New York and the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission to reopen the 5 per cent. freight rate case. These favorable omens in the business world were further augmented by the lifting of the ban on trading in New York, Boston, Baltimore and Philadelphia, providing that salesmen may be sent out to solicit business for listed and unlisted stocks and bonds.

Following the sanction of the Federal Reserve Board of the plan that the \$100,000,000 be raised to place the foreign exchange market on a firm basis, banks throughout the country came forward with the announcement that they stood ready to advance whatever amount it was considered they should. This amount, it is believed, will only total about \$25,000,000, which will be placed in the Bank of England's Ottawa branch. The \$100,000,000 loan in New York and the facility with which it was placed is one of the best indications of a gradual return to normal conditions. The loan was more than five times oversubscribed, and it is understood that foreigners, particularly British investors, are bidding for as large allotments as they could get.

Referring to the threat made by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo that he would publish the names of banks holding emergency currency and would withdraw Government deposits from any banks found to be doing so, the New York World asserts that Secretary McAdoo is unwilling to nationalize banks against the extortionate use of emergency currency as a warranted interference by the Government in their practice.

Monday Estimator General Burleson announced that he had under consideration a plan to make the 2-cent rate for letter postage effective through the Western Hemisphere. This announcement is hailed with satisfaction among business men, who are now working to build up a South American trade. It is a step that should be made to become operative. The plan, of course, would result in smaller revenue for the Government, but it undoubtedly would increase our trade with the entire South America.

The New York Times says on this subject: "Postal treaties and conventions looking to the establishment of an efficient money order system with all Central and South American countries, including the British, Danish, French and Dutch West Indies, should follow the same plan, already adopted by the banking facilities to merchants of this country in South American cities."

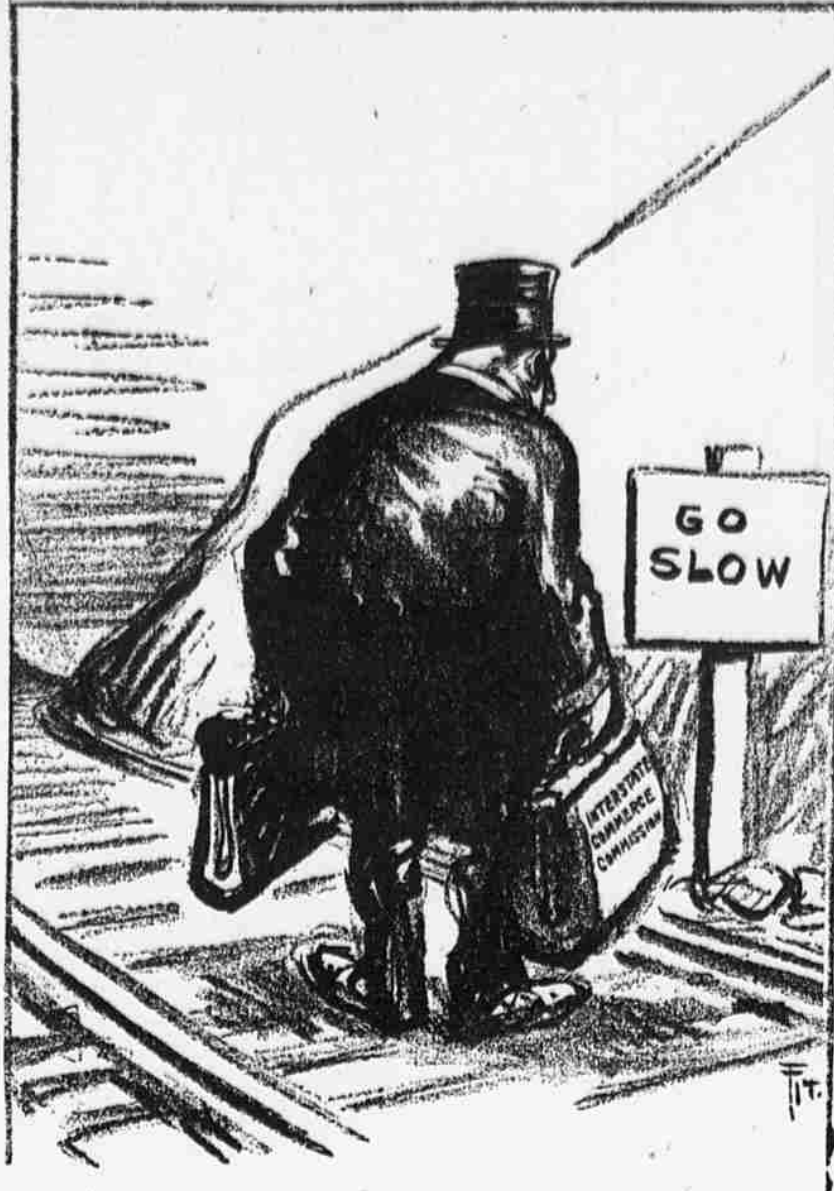
Further to increase the trade of the United States with the Americas, the plan is being taken in Chicago for the organization of a \$5,000,000 banking and trading corporation. Trade experts during the week took a trip on a special train to the Lehigh Valley, studying the needs and advantages of Latin America. The New York Sun holds that Americans at the present time are not adapted to trade relations with the Americas, because the Germans and the French are, because of the fact that the latter "become in language, manners, etiquette, both social and commercial, often in law by naturalization, the Americans of the continent."

It is estimated that the total wheat production in the European war zone this year will be about 2,500,000,000 bushels, or 25 per cent. of last year's crop. This should be encouraging to the American grain man, considering that this country will have a large surplus of wheat over her needs this year.

The cotton situation assumed a brighter aspect this week. Five Cotton Exchanges in the South American States, including New Orleans and Savannah, have opened. This should lead to considerable buying of cotton throughout the country. The cotton situation is now being held in check by the fact that there is a demand for it. The Southern Cotton Association will meet in New Orleans next Tuesday, and it will probably name a minimum price at which cotton can be sold. The price now being held is 16 cents a pound.

WATERWAYS AND PORK
On Monday evening, after a week of continuous fighting, the allied billiard advocates of the rivers and harbors bill and forced them to an unconditional surrender. The motion of Senator Bankhead, which had removed the bill from the bill to the Commerce Committee with instructions to report a new bill carrying a total appropriation not exceeding \$20,000,000, was defeated by a vote of 27 to 22, exactly a quorum. Sixteen Democrats and eleven Republicans voted to recommit the bill to the Senate. The bill, which was introduced in support of the Wilson administration, joined with the New York Sun, the Buffalo Commercial and other papers in declaring that the filibusters had done a real and lasting service to the country. There seems to be what approaches unanimity of opinion on the ethics of "pork bills." The new maximum of \$20,000,000 was set by President Wilson, but, says the World, "It is greatly to be regretted that he did not take earlier a definite stand on this outrageous measure. The Springfield Union backs up the Democratic opposition platform in these words: 'It must seem to all fair-minded critics that the record of the Senate Democrats is a flagrant abandonment of the party's professed devotion to economy.'"

The compromise plan for the remaining of the bill calls for the reduction of the total appropriation from \$31,000,000 after it had been cut from an original \$20,000,000, and authorizes expenditures only for projects that have already received the approval of Congress. The Washington Times comments: "The best authorized clause makes it possible that pork hereafter be apportioned may continue to be used for the new appropriation. Nobody knows just what the new laws are needed and righteous. * * * A stop has been taken in the right direction, but a longer one is needed. There should be a general and sweeping overhauling of the whole system" of apportioning money for purposes that come under the head of rivers and harbors improvements. The reduced sum, by the terms of the compromise, is to be spent "on existing waterway projects in the discretion of the Secretary of War and the Board of Army Engineers."



St. Louis Post Dispatch.

"WHO, ME?"

It is not a time for reckless squandering of money, when that money must be raised by extraordinary means, but it is not a time to abandon all its improvement work. Besides, there are millions of men out of work, in times of depression, who can be made self-supporting if they can find employment in these public works.

At the traveling convention of the Atlantic Deepwaterways Association, the rivers and harbors bill was discussed. Mayor Mitchell, of New York, as well as the speakers who followed him, deplored the successful filibuster and declared that it would work against the best interests of the country, especially at the time when the United States was reaching out for her share of the world's trade. While favoring economy in municipal and national government, he decried this movement to kill new waterway projects, and termed it unwise economy. Continuous inland waterway routes connecting Philadelphia, New York, Cape Cod Canal and Southern points by the means of a ship canal across the State of New Jersey were advocated.

EMERGENCY TAXATION
The war tax revenue bill, agreed upon by the Democrats of the Ways and Means Committee and framed in accordance with the President's suggestion that "such sources of revenue be chosen as will bring to yield at once and yield with a certain and constant flow," was introduced into the House of Representatives Monday. On the following day the committee presented its report, saying that "the necessity for this legislation grows out of the reduction of revenues derived from customs receipts, caused by the disturbed conditions resulting from the war in Europe."

It is estimated that the new taxes will bring \$100,000,000 into the Treasury in a year. In general, the measure follows the lines of the internal revenue laws of the Civil and Spanish Wars, but while it imposes many of the old and some new stamp taxes, it omits altogether bank checks, some other kinds of commercial paper, also medicines and perfumes. In place of these are taxes upon gasoline, parlor car sleeping car tickets and various kinds of wine. Beer pays less than heretofore, whiskey is ignored and tobacco's burden is not much changed. Bankers, brokers and amusement promoters are levied upon, and insurance policies and telegraph and telephone messages are included among sources of revenue.

Republican opposition to the bill has been manifest in Congress and in the press since it was first proposed. The Boston Herald calls attention to the fact that Canada, which is a participant in the European struggle, is imposing a war tax no larger in proportion to its own. The Chicago Herald objects strenuously to the provision concerning insurance policies: "A tax on life and casualty insurance policies is a tax on small savings. Why don't the lawmakers put a tax on savings bank deposits and be done with it? They are doing about the same thing." Limited praise for the bill is given in the New York World, in the remark that it does not increase the excitation upon incomes and quite wholly the mischievous idea of taxing domestic freight bills. Support and opposition, both in Congress and out of it, is divided on strictly partisan lines.

The principal criticism of the war tax measure is that it is wholly unnecessary. "The new tax is not a war tax," says the Brooklyn Citizen. "It is a tribute to Democratic incompetence and extravagance." The Albany Journal calls it "a war tax in time of peace," and declares that Congress framed it in the hope of concealing the fact that its free-trade legislative revenue, for then such laws will be based upon principle and not upon selfishness, which characterizes the field today.

Yesterday the war tax bill came up under a rule limiting debate to seven hours. This rule, reported from committee on Thursday, was denounced by the opposition as a "tag" rule. The bill passed the House by a vote of 233 to 136.

THE CASE OF COLORADO

At the end of the first year of the Colorado coal and iron strike, September 22, the conference of operators virtually rejected the terms of truce drawn up by Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Labor, with the aid of a mine operator and a miner, submitted by the President. Instead, in conflict, and accepted by the strikers. Mr. Wilson, representative of the mine owners, gave President Wilson an acceptance of only a portion of the terms. The companies refused to

PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS

The way Wilson maintains peace suggests that he would have been a holy terror on the firing line.—Columbia State.

Mrs. Young wants peace taught in the public schools. Incidentally, the school board might note that Chicago wants the public schools taught in peace.—Chicago Herald.

The German Emperor has conferred 16 iron crosses on his soldiers, and no telling how many of the other kind on the help-less natives at home. It is the way of war.—Nashville Banner.

And Colonel Cyrtach, of Cyrtachville, strolling forth to gaze upon "the finest mint-bred in Virginia, ahh," slowly shakes his head, too sad for utterance.—New York World.

The problems of politicians may be

FOREIGN RELATIONS

The steamship Robert Dollar sailing from Rio de Janeiro, Wednesday, flying the British colors. Two weeks ago the Robert Dollar made application at Rio for a transfer of Canadian registry to American, under the registry law of August 18. The British Consul protested and the transfer was refused. The incident derives its importance from its expression of the British attitude toward President Wilson's plan for the purchase of foreign steamers to be operated by a government-controlled corporation. The President, on Thursday, said that the ship purchase bill would not be taken from the Administration's legislative calendar.

It was announced in Washington that President Wilson had determined to tolerate no longer the offensive public comments of foreign diplomatic representatives concerning matters of domestic concern. This announcement relates particularly to the alleged statements of Sir Lionel Carden, former British Minister to Mexico, criticizing our Government's Mexican policy; of Baron Wilhelm von Schoen, of the German diplomatic service, who is said to have declared that Japan wants war with this country; and of A. Rustom Bey, the Turkish Ambassador to the United States, whose references to lynchings in the Southern States and "water cures" in the Philippines were not kindly received at the White House. It is believed that the American Government has asked for Rustom Bey's recall, or will do so, and that it will take official action with reference to the von Schoen and Carden interviews.

Russia and Sweden this week informed Washington of their intention to sign peace commission treaties with the United States. These treaties will be like those which have been negotiated with Great Britain, France, Spain, China and 23 other nations of the world, and which provide that all disputes which cannot be settled through the ordinary diplomatic channels shall be referred to a permanent commission, and that hostilities shall not begin within a year after such reference of the questions at issue.

THE MEXICAN UNREST

Mexico's restlessness is manifest again, and indications point to another revolution, unless it is prevented through President Wilson's moral intervention. The causes of the breach between Carranza and Villa date back to the latter days of the revolt which gave Carranza control of the Government and have to do principally with conflicting ambitions, perhaps not entirely personal and with divergent conceptions of what form and character should be given to the new governmental system. According to accounts yesterday, Villa has massed from 40,000 to 50,000 seasoned troops in Chihuahua and Sonora, many of them ex-Federalists.

THE WEEK IN THE WAR

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New York Sun.

BORED

The shifting lines of battle-torn armies have advanced and been repulsed, first one and then the other, with tremendous losses on the whole 120-mile front. On rain-soaked fields they have fought, each day being marked by carnage probably unparalleled in history. Neither the German forces nor the Allies have gained a decided advantage.

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POLITICS IN PENNSYLVANIA

In politics the week brought about a start in the investigation of the primary campaign "slush fund" of Senator Penrose by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, a stronger organization of the opposition to the Flinn-Van Valkenburg machine in the Washington party as the result of the Washington-Democratic fusion on the Governorship, and the announcement that Philander C. Knox will come to the aid of Senator Penrose in the campaign and that he is planning to be a candidate to succeed Senator Oliver in 1916.

The Senate Committee, meeting in Washington yesterday to decide whether the Senate shall investigate Senator Penrose's campaign fund, called before it several Philadelphiaans, among them the officials of the Pennsylvania Protective Union and the heads of the brewers and liquor dealers' associations.

Talk of fusion on the Senatorship was stopped on Tuesday when Gifford Pinchot, Washington party nominee for United States Senator, and A. Mitchell Palmer, Democratic nominee, each announced that he would not withdraw to combine the Democratic and Washington party fights against Penrose.

Washington party leaders in Philadelphia and several western counties, including Washington and Fayette, on Tuesday and Wednesday assured R. R. Quay, of Pittsburgh, who led the revolt against the Flinn-Van Valkenburg leadership following the completion of fusion with the Democrats on the Governorship, that opposition to the Flinn element is being well organized, and that Colonel Roosevelt will be appealed to in an effort to overthrow the present party leadership.

All during the week men of the standing of Louis H. Cloutier flocked to the standard of Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, Republican nominee for Governor, in every county in the State. Dr. Brumbaugh continued his campaign through the central counties of the State. He called upon the people to "stand up for Pennsylvania," and urged the upholding of moral standards in politics as well as a business administration.

Philander C. Knox, it was announced on Wednesday, will enter the campaign on behalf of Senator Penrose by speaking at a Manufacturers' Club dinner on October 17, on the eve of Colonel Roosevelt's entry into the campaign. It became known that the Flinn element, former Secretary of State will soon go to Pittsburgh to live. Political leaders in Philadelphia took this action to mean that Mr. Knox is preparing to be the Republican candidate to succeed Senator Oliver.

Representative Palmer carried his fight against Penrose and Penroseism into the anthracite regions. Starting on Tuesday, he made a tour of the anthracite region, "appointment" against Penrose, and on Wednesday drew from Penrose a reply in which Penrose called his attacks "unjustified, insincere and intentionally misleading."

POLITICAL BREVITIES

The voters of Virginia this week decided to put the State with nine others in the "dry" column. State prohibition, which will go into effect November 1, 1915, won by a majority of 52,000. The issue was decided by the country districts, though cities of important cities voted in opposition to the constitutional amendment on which it hinged.

In the New Jersey primaries nearly all of the present congressional delegation of Wilson men were re-nominated. There were few contests on any ticket. The Progressive vote was very light. Hardly one-third of the voters registered voters in Massachusetts went to the polls on primary day. Ex-Senator Samuel W. McCall was nominated for Governor by the Republicans. Governor David L. Walsh was re-nominated by the Democrats and Joseph Walker, formerly Republican speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, was the choice of the Progressives. A contest was held in the Sixth District, was re-nominated by a narrow margin over A. Platt Andrews.

IN PHILADELPHIA

A significant event was the beginning of work on the new shipways at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, which Secretary of the Navy Daniels broke ground early in the week. The work is now going forward.



Chicago News.

IT'S GOING TO BE AN INTERESTING WINTER

Grouped under two general heads: How to get money into the public treasury and how to get it out.—Life.

Cutting the pork out of the rivers and harbors bill seems almost like cutting a pound of flesh from next to the heart of many a statesman.—Indianapolis News.

There is one consolation. New York will not have any worry about ticket speculation at the world's championship series.—New York Sun.

Senator Burton won his great fight against the rivers and harbors bill without making a single humorous speech and should guide his future conduct accordingly.—Ohio Journal.

It is a somewhat different view that is taken by the New York World: "The President is to be commended for his refusal to change his Mexican policy as a result of the reported quarrel between Carranza and Villa. So far as the United States is concerned these men represent the same idea. It is the principle of self-rule. If they must fight in order to settle the personal issue, the fact is to be regretted, but the principle remains the same."

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