

BUSINESS IS ON UPGRADE, SAYS WHITING

Expresses His Faith in Sound Structure and Future Expansion.

By Joseph H. Baird
United Press Staff Correspondent
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WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—William F. Whiting, secretary of commerce, today expressed confidence in "the fundamental soundness of the business structure" of America which, if maintained, "would indicate for the immediate future a gratifying business progress."

His optimistic statement, made exclusively to United Press, was coincident with a drop in the stock market and an increase to 10 per cent in the call money rates. It followed, too, a warning by the federal reserve board against further loans for speculative purposes.

Secretary Whiting, a big business man as well as head of the commerce department despite these considerations expressed confidence in the present financial and industrial structure.

Production Maintained

He cited the fact that production and distribution by manufacturers are being maintained at steady and generally rising levels as an indication of fundamental solidity.

"The administration policies have made for a substantial and uniformly increasing stability in business for several years," Whiting said.

"This has aided in large measure to relieve the fluctuations in business of previous years. All important business indices show that broadly speaking production and distribution by manufacturers generally are being maintained at steady and gradually rising levels.

"This points to the fundamental soundness of the business structure which, if maintained, would indicate for the immediate future a gratifying business progress."

Few Are Without Work

"If these conservative, constructive policies of the government and business are maintained, then there would seem to be no reason why the present economic situation should not continue."

Secretary Whiting's view was supported by the survey of the United States employment service today.

Relatively few persons in the United States were without work in January.

Further Brake on Stocks

By United Press
WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Unexpected action of the federal advisory council in announcing its endorsement of the federal reserve board's speculation warning offered a further check today on the "bull market" of recent months.

Already hard hit by the board's drastic warning statement of Feb. 7, Wall Street faced the prospect today of further action to restrict use of reserve bank credit for speculative purposes, going beyond its endorsement of the board, the advisory council suggested.

"That all member banks in each district be asked directly by the federal reserve bank of the district to co-operate in order to attain the end desired." The council added it thought beneficial results could be attained in this manner.

BOYS UNDER ARREST HELP INJURED POLICE

Two Released at Wabash Due to Chauffeur-Nurse Services.

By United Press
WABASH, Ind., Feb. 16.—After serving as chauffeur-nurses for police who arrested them, Harold Butler and Carl Whisman, each 15, have been spared from punishment on charges of burglary.

After warrants had been issued for the two boys, they fled to Chattanooga, Tenn. Police Chief Charles D. Bolte and Donald Munson, a special officer, went to that city by motor to return them.

En route home, the automobile carrying officers and prisoners was wrecked, Bolte and Munson being severely injured, while the boys were unhurt.

The car was repaired and the boys took turns driving it back to Wabash with their captors as passengers. Officials refuse to press the case against them.

Ten Feet From Death

By Times Special
PLEMOUTH, Ind., Feb. 16.—A narrow margin between death and life was experienced by Lester Machlin when a freight car loaded with lumber fell 25 feet from a viaduct 10 feet ahead of the automobile he was driving.

Aids Inauguration Plans



One of the leaders in the younger set in Washington, preparing for the social festivities attendant upon the inauguration of President-Elect Hoover, is Miss Mary Ann Harrison, daughter of Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi. Miss Harrison bears an unusual resemblance to her father. (Senator Harrison owes us a cigar for that one.)

TEXT-BOOK CHANGE OPPOSED IN HOUSE

Dangers to Standardized Course Are Seen in Two Menaces.

School book salesmen will scamper from trustee to trustee throughout Indiana instead of centering their visits on the state board of education if two bills now in the education committee of the house of representatives win passage.

Danger to standardized courses of education in the state and probable increase in text book prices were seen in the measures by legislators who will oppose them on the floor.

The bills were introduced Thursday by Representatives James H. Lowry of Indianapolis and Bertha A. Zimmerman of Terre Haute. One would increase the number of series of grade school text books chosen by the state board of education from one to four. The other would make a corresponding increase in text books chosen by the board for high schools.

At present the board selects and approves one series in each subject for grade schools, and one text book in each subject for high schools. The proposed change to four will permit trustees and school boards to select series or books from among the four approved.

Provisions in the high school text book bill to restrict the state board to changing two of four previously selected books in any one subject, when it meets to consider books on that subject at five-year intervals.

Lowry said the bills were sponsored by the state board of education, teachers and parent-teacher associations, trustees and educational associations throughout the state. He said he had made an investigation of the situation before introducing the bills and was satisfied they were not partial to any particular text book publisher or publishers.

COLD LULLS NIAGARA

Ice Cones 20 Feet High, Now Hang on Cataract Walls.

By United Press
NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Feb. 16.—The cold spell of the last few weeks has helped to lull the mighty roar of the Horseshoe and American Falls here.

Due to intense cold, huge ice cakes forming in the Niagara river have caused the rushing water to become a placid stream.

Ice cones, some estimated at twenty feet in length, hang majestically along the wall of the cataract. Between cracks in the ice near the edge of the precipice, thin lines of water pour down and pound on the jagged rocks below in a feeble effort to emulate the thunderous roar of Niagara in its full strength.

PERIL OF COLD TIGHTENS GRIP OVER EUROPE

No Hope for Relief Room; Meanwhile, Greenland Complains of Heat.

By United Press
LONDON, Feb. 16.—Suffering grew more intense today as the European cold wave, almost unprecedented in history, tightened its grasp on the continent and the British Isles.

Coal riots were reported in Breslau, Silesia, and food shortages were admitted officially in Berlin with predictions of rationing.

The death toll mounted to approximately 200 today.

Eight aged people died in Sandwich, England, from the cold, and seven other deaths were reported in the British Isles.

A bride was frozen to death near Petrikov, Poland, while she was riding with her husband in a farm wagon, while going to celebrate their wedding.

Approximately fifty people collapsed on London's streets during Friday night because of the cold.

Meteorologists gave no encouragement to Europeans for warmer weather.

Meanwhile, Greenland, Iceland, and northern Norway complained of the heat. Eskimos said snows were melting and they could not use their hunting sledges.

Temperatures were so low in Switzerland Friday that all ice sport meets were abandoned for the present.

Emergency food measures have been introduced in the Netherlands where, for the first time within the memory of the living, people could walk from Enkhuizen across the Zuider Zee to the island of Urk, a distance of fifteen miles.

NEW BOOK ON JESUS

De Pauw Professor Writes Work on Bible.

"Our Recovery of Jesus," the new book by Dr. Walter E. Bundy, De Pauw university professor, will be released to book stores Feb. 21, the Bobbs-Merrill Company, local publishers, announced today.

Dr. Bundy's new study of Jesus will be a companion book to "The Religion of Jesus," published several months ago by E. B. Merrill.

As professor of English Bible at the Methodist institution, Dr. Bundy is widely known as a thorough student of the Bible.

"Sir, we would see Jesus," taken from John 12:21 is the key to the book. The author seeks to picture "Jesus as he was" and has written for the minister, layman, student or teacher.

"Christianity must be more than a Christ-cult, more than a powerful and efficient organization. A Christianity that is in any appreciable measure true to the Galilean genius that gave it birth must be a spiritual movement that claims and commands the hearts of men, that supplies men as individuals and as groups with those inner resources that are necessary for the living of human life religiously," declares the author in the introduction.

Y. M. C. A. OPENS DRIVE

Dinner Starts Campaign for More Members.

The Y. M. C. A. opened a membership drive Friday night with a dinner and meeting of 130 members who were organized into teams, Charles F. Coffin, vice-president of the State Life Insurance Company, was the principal speaker. James M. Ogden, attorney-general, presided.

C. C. Isaac, membership secretary, spoke for the campaign. W. F. Hendon, R. J. Duke, William E. Hart and Leo T. Brown, divisional leaders, held conferences with team members. William S. Springer of the Security Auto Insurance Company, was made leader of a team in the drive for the fourth consecutive year.

THRESHERMEN PICK NEW OFFICERS, END MEETING

W. H. Newson, Elizabethtown, Is President.

The ninth annual meeting of the Brotherhood of Threshermen closed Friday at the Severin with the election of W. H. Newson, Elizabethtown, as president. A banquet was held at night with about two hundred attending.

Other officers are S. C. Herman of Cowan, vice-president, and E. E. Isenhour of Indianapolis, secretary-treasurer. Directors named are Charles White of Swiss City, first and second districts; Otto Gleitz of Corydon, third and fourth; L. S. Fage of Danville, fifth and sixth; and Charles Schilling of Indianapolis, seventh.

Mrs. W. S. Arnold has elected president of the ladies' auxiliary and Mrs. E. E. Isenhour, was elected secretary-treasurer. Both are of Indianapolis.

TROTSKI TO ANGORA

Exiled Soviet Leader Leaves Constantinople.

By United Press
CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 16.—Leon Trotsky left Constantinople Friday. It was believed he was en route to Broussa and from there by automobile to Karakaya, where the express for Angora passes at mid-night.

Good Oil Well Near Rockport

By Times Special
ROCKPORT, Ind., Feb. 16.—An oil well believed to be of 300 to 500-barrel daily production has been brought in on the farm of Leo Straessel four miles east of here on a lease held by J. Walter Randel and associates.

Five Held for 'Most Brutal Murder'



Tell-tale wagon tracks led from the dank South Georgia swamp in which lay the mutilated body of Ira Byrd, a farmer, back to Byrd's own home. Officers discovered first the "death wagon," then crimson stains on a porch, and later blood spots on an axe. With these as a nucleus they built up a murder case against the slain man's widow, with whom he had quarreled and four neighboring farmers. The quintet of defendants in this "most brutal killing in Georgia crime history," shortly to come to trial, are pictured above, left to right, at top: Powell Brandon, Lawton Dixon and Levy Smith; and at bottom, Dan Tyre and Mrs. Byrd, the widow.

Must Be Dry

Any person who wants to quiz Senator Chester A. Perkins, South Bend, regarding his resolution to memorialize congress for a change in the eighteenth amendment to permit passing of liquor regulation laws must first sign an affidavit that he never has broken any current dry laws. Perkins took this stand in answering a "dry" letter today.

WIRES TO THEATER CUT

Labor Trouble Blamed for Crippling Show at Bloomington.

By Times Special
BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Feb. 16.—Labor trouble during remodeling of the Indiana theater is believed to have been back of cutting electric wires leading into the theater, spoiling its plans for a first showing of talking pictures.

Patrons waited forty minutes while efforts to locate the trouble were made. Several then went to the box office and took refunds. Others remained and saw a belated show.

LENROOT APPOINTMENT DRAWS SENATE FIRE

Fight May Be Made on Nomination to Customs Court.

By Times Special
WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Appointment of former Senator Irvine L. Lenroot of Wisconsin as associate judge of the court of customs appeals provoked criticism among some senators today. Whether a fight will be made on his confirmation has not been determined.

Criticism of Lenroot arose from his employment by the joint committee of national utility associations to appear before a senate committee when the power lobby successfully sought to have a proposed senate investigation diverted to the federal trade commission.

Lenroot served nine years in the senate and after his defeat in 1926 by Senator John J. Blaine established a law office in Washington. According to testimony before the senate, his firm received a fee of \$20,000 from the utilities.

VIOLA DANA DIVORCED; MOTHER FOLLOWS SUIT

Parent of Actress Charges Her Husband Is Cruel.

By United Press
LOS ANGELES, Cal., Feb. 16.—Viola Dana, film actress, and her mother, Mrs. Marie Flugrath, both appeared in the divorce courts here.

Shortly after Miss Dana was divorced from her husband, Maurice (Lefty) Flynn, former Yale football player, Mrs. Flugrath appeared and asked for a divorce from Emil Flugrath.

The daughter charged her husband with being habitually drunk. Mrs. Flugrath said her husband was cruel and that he ignored her. Her case was taken under advisement.

Miss Dana and Flynn were married three years ago. They had been termed by Hollywood as the "ideal couple."

Death Driver Sentenced

By United Press
EVANSVILLE, Ind., Feb. 16.—Frank Frick, 32, today is under sentence of a \$100 fine and a 180-day penal farm term, following conviction on a drunk-while-driving charge. A car he was driving crashed into another, causing the death of Louis Wunderlicht, 18.

BOOST FOR STEWART

Standard Oil Employees Back Chairman in Fight.

By United Press
CHICAGO, Feb. 16.—Cautioning against consideration of "political propaganda or personal desire of an individual," employees of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana have asked large stockholders of the company to re-elect all present directors.

The message was from the association formed by the employees and was taken as an indication of their desire to support Colonel Robert W. Stewart, chairman of the board of directors, whose removal is sought by John D. Rockefeller Jr.

35 DIE IN MEXICO

Disorders Continue; Train Is Dynamited.

By United Press
MEXICO CITY, Feb. 16.—Renewed disorders in Mexico were reported Friday night with deaths totaling more than thirty-five.

Incomplete dispatches from Guadalajara said a train was dynamited between Los Reyes and Yuracaro, state of Michoacan, and the engineer, firemen and entire military escort killed. No passengers were among the casualties.

Eight federals and twenty-five rebels were reported killed in a battle near Magdalena, state of Jalisco, and two rebels were killed in an encounter at Nopal.

DEATH SENTENCE TO BE PRONOUNCED MONDAY

Muncie Man Reads "Thrillers" Pending Fateful Words at Ft. Wayne.

By Times Special
FT. WAYNE, Ind., Feb. 16.—Wayne Williams, Muncie, will be sentenced to death in the electric chair here Monday by Judge Sol A. Wood of Allen circuit court for the murder of Clem Foley, during a holdup. At the same time, Williams' partner in crime, Carroll Cooper, will receive a life prison term.

"I'd rather die than spend the rest of my life in prison," Williams remarks. He puts in most of his time reading magazines specializing on stories in which master criminals outwit detectives. "I never killed anyone. I'm not afraid to die. I'm prepared to go," the condemned man continues.

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HOOVER WILL REOPEN DRIVE TO BAN ARMS

Expects to Negotiate With Great Britain Early in Administration.

By Paul R. Mallon
United Press Staff Correspondent
(Copyright, 1929, by United Press)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—President-Elect Herbert Hoover is expected to communicate with Great Britain early in his administration to see if there is a possibility of resuming disarmament negotiations which were broken off at Geneva in 1927. The United Press is informed on reliable authority.

Sis Esme Howard, the British ambassador, at Washington, gave the United Press an interview Friday predicting a new disarmament drive. This is taken as meaning Hoover's offer for resumption of negotiations will be favorably received in London and that there may be a new disarmament conference possibly before this year is over.

The matter is a delicate diplomatic question and authorities in touch with the situation decline generally to make public statements at this time. For one thing the recent senate debate over the American naval cruiser program now adopted has directed international attention to the armament construction program of the United States and Britain.

An appropriation to begin work on the cruisers immediately is pending in the senate.

President Coolidge, whose strong armistice day address severely criticized the British attitude expressed at Geneva, is about to retire along with his secretary of state.

Possibly the most important reason for silence in congressional circles is the fact that Republican adherents of the building program fear Sir Esme's statement may be used by opponents of the American naval program, seeking to hold up the congressional appropriation.

Britain Is Silent

By United Press
LONDON, Feb. 16.—Great Britain probably will be unable to make any further announcement on naval disarmament until she has consulted with her dominions, the foreign office announced today.

Marshal Foch Gets Better

By United Press
PARIS, Feb. 16.—Marshal Ferdinand Foch's slow progress in improvement continues, a bulletin issued today after a thirty-minute consultation by five physicians said.



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