

EAST STAGING A 'COMEBACK'

BABSON PARK, Fla. (Special)—Roger W. Babson today made public the first section of his annual survey of business conditions. His findings are unusually interesting because they are based on recent first-hand analysis plus the unbiased reports of trained correspondents. A summary of the first section of this annual survey covering New England, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia is as follows:

"Although these northern thirteen states are not the exact original thirteen which made up the first United States of America," says the statistician, "yet they might be classified as the '13 original industrial states.' They are oldest in business experience, habits and traditions. This is, of course, a distinct asset. Other sections may have greater material wealth, and larger populations; never should other sections exceed these thirteen states in the wealth of experience and judgment. Such assets only time can develop. As these states were the first to start they always can maintain their lead in these qualities if they have the will to do so. When considering the real assets of these North Atlantic states, I do not stress the natural resources or material wealth generally considered, but rather emphasize those fundamental qualities of integrity, thrift and judgment which are fully as valuable. These qualities provided the capital which built the railroads toward the Pacific; reseeded the cities of the west; and developed the farms, mines and forests of America.

"Owing first to water power and later to coal, iron and other natural resources, these states are primarily industrial. Four-fifths of the merchandise manufactured in the forty-eight states is made in these thirteen. New England leads in shoes and textiles; New York state in machinery and clothing; Pennsylvania in steel and iron; the other states in other lines. This fact, however, makes these states very sensitive to general business conditions throughout the country. They make more money in good times than the agricultural states of the west and south; but they suffer much more in bad times. Owing to the gen-

Pleads Cause



Rajah Mahendro Pratap, exiled by the British for attempting to ferment a revolt in India during the war, will tour America preaching the "word of life," which he figures in time will free India from British rule.

eral depression of the past two or three years these thirteen states—especially the New England group—have had poor years. Fundamental conditions now indicate, however, that these states have seen their worst. Better conditions are ahead. A brief summary of the present situation follows:

Maine.—"Little change in industrial conditions has thus far occurred. Part-time schedules still prevail in the textile and shoe plants and there is a surplus of these workers apparent. In certain sections some of the woolen mills are working on overtime schedules; but paper and pulp mills are operating on reduced schedules. Building operations and highway construction continue active and afford employment to a large number of men. Farm labor situation is reported as satisfactory.

New Hampshire.—"Conditions remain about the same although there has been a slight slackening in the shoe industry and in some sections of the state part-time still prevails in the textile, printing, woolen, and wire-cable industries, however, now working on overtime schedules. The cigar industry is described as excellent. Hosiery mills and machine shops are operating with reduced forces. Building operations afford employment to a large number of men. Supply of farm labor reported as about equal to the demand.

Vermont.—"Practically all plants are operating, but several textile mills, machine shops, and woodworking plants are still on part-time schedules. Woolen mills in some sections of the state are operating overtime. Railroad repair shops are still on a five-day-a-week schedule, and a slight seasonal decline is noted in the granite industry. Building activities keep resident craftsmen busy so that labor continues to leave the farms for the trades.

Massachusetts.—"Industrial employment conditions show some improvement. The textile mills have increased operating time and added to their forces in certain sections of the state. Recent wage reductions of 10 per cent have helped the situation. The jewelry and granite industries are operating on normal basis. Metal plants have increased their working forces and this class of labor is well employed. Building activities and highway construction continue to give employment to a large number of craftsmen.

Rhode Island.—"Employment shows a slight improvement. Practically all industries are operating, but the textile mills and metal trades are still on part-time schedules, and there is a surplus of these workers. Building construction is active throughout the state, providing employment for many tradesmen.

Connecticut.—"General business shows a slight improvement. All plants are operating and in many cases the textile and silk industries are working full time schedules. In certain sections the silverware industry has been working overtime. Building construction is active throughout the state, providing employment for a large number of craftsmen.

New York.—"An improvement in industrial employment is clearly evident in New York, particularly in the iron and steel mills, foundries, machinery plants, and several branches of the textile industry. Despite the large number of workers that have been absorbed in manufacturing plants and factories, there still remains a considerable amount of unemployment, chiefly unskilled labor. Employment in the railroads, transportation lines, car repair and machine shops is moving upward, new orders having stimulated employment in the locomotive and boiler works and railroad equipment industries. Silk and woolen mills, tobacco and electrical equipment plants, chemicals, and some metal trades show slight gains. The completion of a considerable amount of road building, also numerous construction jobs, is causing the release of a large number of unskilled workers but general building is still active. The demand for agricultural labor has decidedly fallen off and the supply of this class of help is becoming more plentiful.

New Jersey.—"Industrial employment continues satisfactory and further slight gains are noted in a number of important industries. Part-time operations still obtain in some branches of industry, but a steady if slow increase in operating schedules, with a corresponding rise in employment, is reported in many sections of the state. A fairly good volume of building opera-

tions and construction jobs are under way. The increase of railroad traffic during the past month afforded considerable employment to workers in the railroad, shipping, and other transportation lines. Ship repairs and reconditioning work in the eastern yards has created demands for skilled workmen. Textile industries are showing greater activity. Iron and steel industries are, however, still operating below normal. Metal and machinery plants, silk mills, tobacco and glass factories, refineries, and leather and printing industries are steadily expanding operations. Therefore, the present surplus of common labor, clerical workers, and factory help should gradually become less as 1925 advances.

Pennsylvania.—"Employment gains are reported in the basic industries, principally iron and steel, textiles, metal and machinery, tobacco, mining equipment plants, electrical trades, and transportation lines. A number of idle mills are resuming operations and some of the larger plants are extending their working schedules. Operations on state highway and county road improvements are drawing to a close, with the result that many skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled employees are being released. Part of this labor will be absorbed in the major industries. Increased orders in the structural fabricating plants reflect the huge volume of building and construction projects under way and ready to start. Further evidence of increasing employment in the unprecedented railroad traffic. Repair shops are again on full time and railroad trainmen are being recalled. In other divisions of the transportation lines, such as maintenance of way, roundhouses, and railroad yards, workmen are more fully employed than they have been for some time. Industries manufacturing railroad equipment have sufficient orders on hand to operate at a normal basis with full forces for months ahead.

Maryland.—"A small amount of unemployment is reported in several of the larger cities in this state. However, industrial activity is increasing slightly from month to month. Seasonal curtailment of such work as road construction, and to a certain extent of building programs, has affected a small number of laborers, chiefly unskilled workers.

Virginia.—"Very little change has yet occurred in industrial conditions in this state. Practically all the major industries are operating on satisfactory schedules, with normal quotas of employees engaged. A small amount of unemployment is reported in some cities, but this is more or less expected at this time of year. Building construction continues on a rather large scale.

West Virginia.—"The general industrial situation in this state continues to improve. There is a surplus of unskilled labor in some districts, largely due to the suspension of road building. The demand for unskilled labor in most of the coal mining fields is decreasing and the large surplus of this class of help, which has been so apparent the last few months, is rapidly decreasing. With the increased movement of coal, railroad shops are again operating on full-time schedules. Building continues fairly active, especially in the larger cities.

"The net result of these facts," concluded Mr. Babson, "is that conditions are slowly improving but that the improvement has thus far been slight in most lines. I, however, am optimistic for these states as to the next two years. If the Babsonchart of United States Business Conditions, which now stands at 7 per cent above normal continues to hold up to this figure these industrial states must prosper. This is especially true in view of the improved European situation."

TWO TYPES OF MEN SEEK GOD

"Two classes of men call upon God when they are in deep trouble," O. W. Jones said in his sermon last night at the Christian church, as he spoke of the experiences of Paul and Silas in the Philippian jail. "There is the one who has been a friend to God in his every day troubles and so has full confidence to call upon Him in time of great need, and there is the man who has felt strong enough within himself for all the ordinary difficulties, but when he faces a real danger is the first one to send a hurry call up to God."

Mr. Fairbanks' singing is proving a delight to the audience that are nightly assembling. The solo of last evening, "Why Stand Ye Here Idle," made many review their activity in the Kingdom. Mr. Fairbanks announced that at the service this evening the young people would have full sway in the chorus and that he expected that the platform would be entirely filled with them.

If he advertises it, he knows it's good!

PROMISE NEWS OF THE WEEK

PROMISE. (Special)—Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Carper have returned home after spending several days at Wallowa. Mr. Carper went on to Joseph to see about having a sawmill moved to his place.

Mrs. Stella Paulson went to Wallowa last week for a few days. Roy Carper is sawing wood for S. McDonald. Robert Carper caught a large

PROMISE NEWS OF THE WEEK

lobster in a steel trap recently. J. K. Carper has informed friends here that they have bought a twenty-acre farm near Grants Pass and are well pleased with that part of the State.

Will Carper and wife and two children left Promise last week for a short stay in Portland. They will also visit Geo. Carper at Centralia, Washington.

Robert Carper has been sawing wood for Will Reed. There will be a basket social and program at the Riverside school Saturday evening, February 14. Glenn Owen, of Jewell, is working for Tex Williams. Harold Carper left Tuesday for La Grande, where he will be under the care of an eye specialist.

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Unusual value, 20x42-inch Dresser with 21x30-inch mirror. Insert panel and stippling to harmonize. Ivory finish. Regular value \$59.00..... **\$39.35**

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