

GENERAL BUSINESS
GROWS STRONGERReports Received From 12
Reserve Districts.

FARMERS ARE BETTER OFF

Morale of Growers of Crops Is De-
clared to Be Returning; Price
Rises Help Out.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—General strengthening of the economic machinery of the nation was reported today to Controller of the Currency Crisinger by the 12 chief national bank examiners representing the federal reserve districts of the country at their annual meeting in Washington.

In the main, the examiners said, there had been a notable improvement in business conditions throughout the country, together with restored confidence and a favorable outlook for the future.

The belief was expressed, however, that progress towards normal conditions would be gradual and not an overnight accomplishment.

New England Trade Better.
Marked improvement in New England business conditions was reported by Herbert W. Scott of the Boston district. Although material prices have been reduced, he said, they are still much higher than those of previous times.

"In the New York district business generally shows a wholesome trend, although still depressed in all lines," according to D. C. Borden.

"This depressed condition," he said, "is believed to be still due to our western and southern agricultural situation, to taxation, to the still too high living costs and to labor costs."

"In the New York district," he continued, "it is hoped that the Geneva conference will be the first step toward future beneficial conferences which will prove more economical than political. The proposed soldier bonus legislation, while strongly condemned, is not having much effect because of firm faith in President Harding."

Philadelphia Is Recovering.
Philadelphia is well on the way to recovery, Stephen L. Newman reported. "With a strong tendency toward increase in manufacturing production, increased building operations, reduction of unemployment, and inventory losses overcome, all lines of industry operating on a sounder basis, there are good crop prospects in most sections," he said. "It seems a safe prediction from all appearances that the business depression of the third district has passed the crisis and is well on its way toward a full recovery."

Continued improvement is expected in Cleveland, according to T. C. Thomas. "Business," he said, "shows a decided upward trend and there appears to be a general feeling that conditions will continue to improve, notwithstanding the fact that the present coal strike and disorders in other lines of industry have to some extent halted activity. The most reliable barometer of business activity is the continued demand for iron and steel."

Reports Less Favorable.
Less favorable reports from the Richmond district were presented by W. J. Schuchter. "Industrially, conditions are fair," he said. "There is probably less unemployment than is found in the large cities. The agricultural situation is serious. Financially conditions are probably poor, but not so much due to cotton as to bad loans in years gone by."

Florida conditions are better than any state in the union, according to L. W. Foote of the Atlanta district. "There is little reason to doubt but what real prosperity in this district as well as the entire country," he said, "depends largely on a restoration of a satisfactory demand, but even under the most favorable conditions several years of thrift and hard work will be necessary before this section can hope for complete recovery."

"The citrus and truck crop in Florida have been splendid with satisfactory prices."

Grain on Hand Decreases.
Considerable decrease in the grain on hand in the Chicago district was reported from Fred Brown as well as heavier exports. Stock and bond prices are advancing he declared, automotive, steel, machinery and allied lines expanding and belief in the revival of the spring trade is expressed.

"The morale of the farmer is showing returning," John S. Wood, of the St. Louis district declared. The increase in prices of grain and livestock have renewed his hope. It is true that the grain reserves on farms are relatively small and that the farmer has not received the full benefit of enhanced values. The increase, however, is giving him courage. With present prices for farm products and the present prospect for crops it would seem that the purchasing power of the farmer is in a fair way to be restored. When this is accomplished great momentum will be given the upward movement of business that is already beginning."

Purchasing Power Renewed.
Reviving purchasing power of the farmers was reported by Howard M. Sims of the Minneapolis district. From a commercial standpoint, he said, "business in the St. Paul district has been considerably impaired by reason of the lessened purchasing power of the farmers. Since March 1, there is, however, an increase noted in the sales of merchandise, which is particularly marked in the sale of farm implements and machinery. Commercially speaking, further improved conditions are now directly dependent upon crop results of the present year." according to Luther K. Roberts. Enhanced prices for cattle, he declared, have raised the value of farmers' securities and rising values of hogs and corn are helping conditions measurably. Cotton crop conditions are good, he added, and the outlook generally most encouraging.

Improvement Is Slow.
"There cannot be an improvement under a year," according to Richard H. Collier of the Dallas district, "and no great improvement under two or three years. Two or three crops have to be made before improvement can be made. The perpetuity of small banks depends on this." Pacific coast banks look to international effort to bring about world restoration, according to Harry L. Machen of the San Francisco district. "Without doubt," he said, "conditions have materially improved during the last six months throughout the whole 12th district. However, a great many country banks are still in an extended and unliquidated condition and any forecast to future developments or the final outcome is necessarily predicated upon the results of the 1932 operations." "Well-informed bankers are of the opinion that America and other world

powers must get together and work out plans for the world's restoration, and that the process of healing the world will undoubtedly be slow. Slightly better times are at hand, but the well-informed banker expresses the opinion that genuine prosperity is still around the corner."

EMPLOYMENT GAIN SHOWN

40 Out of 65 Cities Record Rise
In Number of Jobs Found.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—Improved industrial conditions which are gradually translating unemployment into employment were noted today in the monthly report of the labor department's employment service. Out of 65 cities where studies have been made, the month of April showed 40 in which more workers were given places on pay rolls and only 25 in which employment decreased.

"Despite a few disquieting industrial features," Director General Jones said, "America is surely righting herself. April recorded an upward movement with industrial lines broadening out, which will show increased activity in May."

Iron and steel, automobile manufacturers, lumber, stone, clay and glass industries were among those which took on more men during April, as did building construction. Textile and leather, tobacco and paper manufacturers showed a lessened activity.

In all, the increase over the previous month in the number of men employed by 1438 firms which report to the department was 74-100 of 1 per cent.

MEDIATORS HELD UNFIT

KLAMATH TIMBER OPERATORS
CRITICISE STATE BOARD.Conciliators Declared Ignorant of
Lumber Business and Not Able
to Adjust Strike.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., May 5.—(Special.)—Reasons for rejecting the findings of the state board of conciliation in the timber workers' strike were published today by timber operators. Their statement declares that the board came here at the request of the mayor and timber workers' union and without any desire of the employers, who therefore do not feel bound to accept its findings.

Chairman Woodward and Commissioner Flynn led operators to believe, they declare, that competitive conditions created by the ten-hour day in California plants would be taken into consideration by the board and be a basis for their conclusions. The board showed ignorance of the lumber business and were unable to give evidence valuable to operators through lack of knowledge, it is charged.

"They (the board) cannot question that the evidence was absolutely conclusive as regards the fact that our competitors run ten hours and pay less wages, and we believe this is the only basis upon which a finding should be made," says the statement.

'ADVERSHOW' GETS CROWD

UNIQUE ENTERTAINMENT PRO-
NOUNCED SUCCESS.Picture Is Followed by Comedy and
This by Gifts to Audience of
All Manner of Things.

Eddie Lamontagne's "Advershow" opened its two-day engagement at the municipal auditorium last evening to a crowded house. This unique entertainment is given under the auspices of the Greater Portland association. A prodigious amount of merchandise was given away to the audience, gifts ranging from a bottle of pop to a motorcycle. Tonight even an automobile will be given away.

The entertainment opened with a feature picture, followed by a comedy. Then Eddie got into action. For vaudeville entertainment he selected his talent—the term is used charitably in some respects—from members of the audience. The first gift was a bottle of pop to a youngster. His "talent" consisted of a healthy "thank you, sir."

Following in quick succession gifts of flour, macaroni, syrup, flour and shoes were given away. Then followed gifts from cleaners, tailors, a floral shop, a drug company, a milk company, a creamery, a meat market, a brewing company, a milling company and a candy store.

Excitement was keen among the women when the gifts of a millinery company, consisting of hats, furs and umbrellas, were distributed. And there was some class to those hats! Then the youngsters gave way to an emotional outburst when some dogs were given away. Had the auditorium stage been draped with dogs there would not have been enough, judging from the clamor.

The motorcycle gift created another near-riot among the younger element. Loaves of bread from a baking company were stacked high, but the pile was reduced with startling rapidity. The men got an inning from an outfitting company, but the gentler sex, who previously had won all the hats and furs, was not forgotten. Some fine women's suits were also distributed.

This evening the carnival of gifts will be repeated and will include an automobile.

The photoplay last evening was "Lonesome Corner." It was a good feature. The film attraction for this evening will be "Don't Doubt Your Wife."

MISS HANDSICKIE LEADS

Standard Oil Candidate for Queen
Has 7369 Votes.

First official count of votes for queen of the Elks' spring festival were announced late last night by Monroe Goldstein, manager. They showed that Beatrice Handsickie of the Standard Oil company, with 7369, is far ahead in the contest to date.

The count, which will be completed after the contest closes at noon, May 15, last night stood as follows:

Beatrice Handsickie, Standard Oil

company, 7369; Mabel Aune, Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway company, 4235; Rita Boynton, Southern Pacific club, 4213; Laura M. O'Brien, Union Pacific system, 2900; Louella Clark, Proctor's millinery, 1884; Celia Murringer, Jensen & Von Herberg, 1224. Votes for Erna Holmes, Lipman, Wolfe & Co.; Irene Ware, J. K. Gill company; Ruth Kelley, the Wonder Millinery; Lillian Catching, Ben Sellig company; Edna A. White, Arthur Leonard company, and Alys May Brown not yet counted.

GIRL ON STREET BEATEN

Miss Etta O'Brien, 19, Reports At-
tack by Unidentified Man.

Miss Etta O'Brien, 19, was brutally beaten at her home, 670 East Main street, about 9:45 last night by an unidentified assailant, according to a report filed with inspectors more than an hour later. Miss O'Brien's lips were cut and she may lose several teeth.

Miss O'Brien said she got off a street car at East Twentieth street and Hawthorne avenue and started to walk home. She said that she observed a man following two other girls, but paid little attention to him. When she had reached the sidewalk in front of her own home, she declared, he seized her and exclaimed: "Don't cry out or I'll kill you!" She screamed. The man struck her on the chin, she thought with some instrument such as a blackjack, and as she fell he ran. Her cries brought two brothers and her mother from the house. Her assailant fled directly across the street and through a vacant lot.

JUDGE STONE ACCEPTED

Disqualification Stipulation Waived
In Labaree Will Case.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., May 5.—(Special.)—Stipulation waiving disqualification of Circuit Court Judge Stone in the Labaree will contest was filed today. The case is appealed to the circuit court from the county court, which decided in favor of Anita Whitney Labaree, second wife of Oscar G. Labaree, widely known and one wealthy railway contractor, who died here about three years ago, leaving her his entire fortune, which had dwindled to \$100,000.

The contest is being conducted by Benjamin R. Labaree and Mrs. Gladys Kelly, children of the testator's first wife, who claims Anita Whitney used undue influence to estrange Labaree from his family and that he was incompetent when he made the will.

German Riot Victim Better.
COBLENZ, May 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—Sergeant Kaplan, who was wounded at Mayence in the May day disturbance, when his automobile ran afoul of a celebrating crowd, is recovering. Fifty-two arrests have been made by the French and German police as a result of the incident, which caused a considerable stir in military quarters.

Best grades on coal well screened. Diamond Coal Co. Bldg., 3027—Adv.



STARTING TODAY

BILLBOARD said: "Wesley Barry as 'Speck' offers more entertainment than the combined efforts of a dozen male stars. Break whatever engagement you may have, take the little folks, the young folks and the old folks and go and see 'School Days.' It will repay you by making you feel younger and better and happier. This screen classic rides faster than an aeroplane, straight to success. Entertainment value 100%. It should be shown to all the world."



SCHOOL DAYS

Every mother who has boys, every man who remembers his boyhood, every human being who can thrill to the joys, the disappointments, the pranks and the glory of boyhood, will more than relish the many human and humorous touches of "when we were a couple of kids."

Indeed, it will bring back to you in the most vivid manner the irresponsible, untamable heart of boyhood. And we feel that you should not miss this wholesome and highly entertaining screen comedy.

THE LIBERTY MANAGEMENT.

De Luxe
Prologue

There is hardly a living, breathing soul, who hasn't seen or heard of the famous Gus Edwards' musical classic, for it has toured throughout the breadth and scope of America for years as one of the most popular productions that have ever been staged.

DON'T
MISS ME
IN
GUS EDWARDS'
SCHOOL
DAYS
WESLEY BARRY

(By SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH MARSHALL NEILAN)

De Luxe Presentations Include
(1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30)

1. Liberty International News.
2. Keates Playing "Love-Letter Days."
3. "Light Showers," a knockout comedy.
4. MUSICAL PROLOGUE
5. Wesley Barry in Gus Edwards' "SCHOOL DAYS"



NOVELTY CONCERT

HENRI A. KEATES AT OUR GIANT ORGAN

Virginia Reel, Country Dances.....Arranged by Keates
Selection, "High Jinks".....Friml
The Liberty Presents Gus Edwards' "School Days"
Prologue.

"The Love Nest" from "Mary".....Hirsch
"Down on the Farm," Fantasia.....Arranged by Keates

Sunday at 12:30



This is a great show for the
kiddies as well as the
grownups.

WATCH YOUR STEP

"Watch Your Step" has Comedy, Pathos, Romance and Tense Drama mixed in just the right proportion to make a really 100% entertainment.

SPECIAL COMEDY
SNOOKY—The Inimitable Humaneez in "HIS TWIN TROUBLES"

SALVATORE SANTAELLA
and His Famous Rivali Concert Orchestra.
SUNDAY CONCERT AT 12:40 NOON
Madame Butterfly (Fantasia).....G. Puccini
Serenata.....Mario Tarenghi
Apple Blossoms (Selection).....Frita Kreisler-Victor Jacobi
Egyptia.....J. S. Zamecnik
Sobre Las Olas (Over the Waves), Waltz.....J. Rosas
Raymond, Overture (Request).....Amb. Thomas
WEEKDAY CONCERT
Raymond, Overture.....Amb. Thomas

Watch Your Step

RIVOLI
Independently operated by Gus A. Metzger