

# GOOD TIMES AHEAD AND ALL AROUND US

### New York Manufacturers Secure Encouraging Information—Bankers to Meet at Los Angeles—Pacific Coast Pleases—Banner Colorado County.

By Preston C. Adams.  
New York, Dec. 21.—"Good times are ahead and all around us; and, best of all, they have come to stay a good, long time," was the way a big financier of this city put it the other day when I asked him what are the business prospects.

"We are busier than we have been for years, and we expect to have more to do within the next six months than we ever had. Banking business is good, manufacturing business is better, and I am sure labor ought to be happy. Money is easy and property is substantial. The only thing that the country is now suffering from is the boom in prices of breadstuffs—the necessities of life. I am opposed to the combination of capital for the purpose of putting up the prices of food, clothing and the like; in fact, I think, it is some of our big corporations the billiardists we hear about were wise, they would see to it that such corporations did not get a corner on the necessities of life. I tell you, their own salvation depends upon their showing the public that they can better afford to retail a first class milk at 7 cents a quart than the small dealer can serve for 10 cents. They ought to reverse conditions and not get the hog as they are doing now. Give the people the necessities of life at a cheap price, reserving only a reasonable profit, and trusts controlling commodities will be popular."

**Letters Show Condition.**  
Recently the National Association of Manufacturers sent out a lot of letters and from 3000 firms that answered surprising conditions were discovered. To reach the members of the association even asked:  
"What are present conditions in your trade?"  
"What is the percentage of increase in business, if any, over the latter part of 1908?"  
"What are the trade probabilities in your particular industry?"  
One of the members of this association told me every industry and trade but one reported the conditions at present are good, and most of them said they were excellent, while many others reported conditions for 1909-10 as exceptionally bright.

**Let Lawmakers Keep Out.**  
A gentleman who keeps in very close touch with industrial conditions here and in Europe, was much impressed with the results obtained by the manufacturer's association inquiry, and was very emphatic in declaring that "all the manufacturer now wants, is to be left alone by the lawmakers and 'leave well alone' and give a peaceful opportunity to work and give work to others. This adverse railroad and class legislation, labor agitation and tariff tinkering is enough to stop everything. Every good American is only too glad to work. Just give him the opportunity to do so. We scarcely give a new law time enough to be decently tried out before two or more pertaining to the same subject are passed and neither workman or employer knows where he is at. I believe in a fair and equitable system of taxation applicable to all classes of citizens, but give some plan at least a fair trial. We have too many laws and naturally the people are constantly too much worried with delicate and uncalled for conditions. We are becoming more complex. The simpler the better is everything."

**Farmers Are Happy.**  
Farmers are equally as happy as the manufacturer and the cotton grower as well as the fruit grower finds not only a sale but actually a demand at splendid prices for his produce. This is the condition I find wherever I go. In Wall street the brokers are no longer complaining, while in the banking districts there is positive evidence of a great avalanche of business. The importer and exporter, the fish dealer and the beef packers, the furniture manufacturer, and indeed everyone, but the pawnshop, seems to be busy getting out his orders and taking care of the business that comes to him. Drummers have more orders than they can fill, and many a Christmas present will come late this year because of the tremendous rush of prosperity which comes from everywhere.

**Bankers to Meet at Los Angeles.**  
New York bankers are looking forward with much anticipation to the next meeting of the American Bankers' association, which will be held at Los Angeles, Cal. They say this will enable them to combine business with pleasure, because many of them go to the Pacific coast every winter anyway. Although the date has not been fixed for the convention, it was in all probability held early in October, 1910. I had a talk with a Chicago banker today, and he said the Windy City bankers are delighted to know they will be able to go to the coast again. "A friend of mine from St. Louis told me," he said, "he would sooner go to the Pacific coast or to New York than any other section of the United States. Both ends of the country are more interesting to us than any other. I always thought a new city would be most desirable, but the fact that we met in San Francisco in 1905 shows how we like California."

**Oranges Bring Good Prices.**  
This week the highest prices ever realized for California oranges was obtained in this city, when five carloads of Old Mission brand were sold for \$7.50 a box. The oranges were regarded by wholesale fruit men as all the more remarkable in view of the prices which Florida, Porto Rico and other oranges have been bringing in New York markets. The total receipts amounted to 18 cars.

**California Power Plans.**  
The Northern California Power company which is bringing to completion in that section of the state a series of hydro-electric power plants for using all the waterpower that can be developed from the streams of the Sngata section, I understand, is backed by capitalists with large interests in New York, Pittsburg and Los Angeles. This company proposes to utilize the water in a unique manner after it has served its first purpose in furnishing power. A short distance below the second power plant a dam is to be built that will divert the water from South Battle creek, and by canal then be carried upon a tableland for some distance until it is united with the ditch that brings the water from Digger creek, near Manton. From here it is to be sent into the canyon to operate the machines at Inskip. Similar scheme will be used from North Battle creek and South Battle creek, when for the first time all the water that can be collected from Digger creek and springs along the way will be used by the third plant.

**Likes Pacific Coast.**  
W. W. Freeman, vice president and general manager of the Brooklyn Edison company, who returned home from an extended trip to San Francisco, was much impressed with the business outlook on the coast and middle west. He told me he made the trip largely on account of important business of the N. E. L. A., of which he is vice president.

**A Banner Colorado County.**  
"A Washington market wholesale fruit man told me today, more than \$4,000,000 will be paid for 1909 fruit crop produced in Delta county, Colo., this year. This will be divided as follows: Apples, 3500 cars, \$2,250,000; peaches, 1000 cars, \$600,000; sugar beets, 250,000; potatoes, \$75,000; small fruits, \$80,000; fruit for local crop markets, \$40,000; honey, \$40,000. Notwithstanding this splendid showing, Delta county has not yet reached half her limit of production," he went on. "There remains over 25,000 acres of bearing orchard land in the county, 14,000 acres of which are planted in young trees, which will come into bearing at the rate of several thousand acres a year. There are at least 40,000 acres more in the county capable of growing as good fruit."

## PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANGE IN SESSION

State College, Pa., Dec. 21.—The annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State grange opened at the auditorium of the State college today with a record attendance, and there is every prospect that the meeting, which will close on Friday, will be one of the most interesting and successful held in many years. In connection with the convention an exhibition of agricultural machines, appliances and utensils and a horticultural show have been arranged, both of which were opened today.

By the courtesy of President Edwin E. Sparks of the State college, the entire college buildings have been thrown open for the use of the visitors, and the rooms of the new building of the School of Agriculture have been placed at the disposal of the grangers for their general and committee sessions. Virtually the entire four days will be devoted to business, excepting the meeting of welcome which is to be held tomorrow evening. At that meeting Leonard Rhoads, a Center county state master, will deliver the address of welcome, and "Farmer" William T. Greeney of Catawissa, who has just ended his first term as state master, will deliver the response. Dr. Edwin E. Sparks, president of the State college, and J. T. Allman will also deliver addresses.

**Brownlow-Sims Wedding.**  
Washington, Dec. 21.—Official society is greatly interested in the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Virginia Sims, daughter of Representative Thetus W. Sims, from the Eighth Tennessee district, and Louis Brownlow, which will take place tomorrow evening at the home of the bride's parents on Massachusetts avenue. The bride will be attended by her sister, Mrs. William Joyner of Memphis and Denver, as matron of honor, and the best man will be W. L. Beale, Dr. Power of the Vermont Avenue Christian church will perform the ceremony, and a small reception will follow immediately after at the home of the bride. After a stay of several months in Europe the couple will take up their residence in this city.

**Flour Mills at Underwood.**  
Special Dispatch to The Journal.  
Huron, Wash., Dec. 21.—As soon as winter conditions permit work will commence on the section of the big flour mill to be installed at Underwood by the Deenest Brothers of Walla Walla.

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