# **PROGRESS SLOW DURING THE YEAR**

Heavy Taxes, Chaotic Financial Conditions and Minor Wars Hamper Recovery in 1921.

## HOPE COMES NEAR ITS END

Washington Conference on Armament Limitation the Most Important Event-What President Harding's Administration and the Congress Have Accomplished.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

Back to Normalcy was the slogan of 1921, not only in America but in all the civilized nations of the world. But minor wars, internal economic disturbances, chaotic financial conditions in Europe, widespread unemployment, famine in Russia and other hindrances made progress in the right direction slow, excepting, perhaps, in the United

When the year opened the peoples were groaning under the burden of taxation and depression resulting from the World war. As it drew to a close they were still groaning but had hopefully turned their eyes toward Washington, where the representatives of great powers were negotiating international agreements that would eliminate some of the causes of war, especially in the Far East, and limit the means of making war. In the success of this conference and of others that might grow out of it lay for the time being the hope of humanity.

Efforts to enforce the terms of the treaty of Versailles resulted in conflicts among some of the new nations created by that pact, and several of the older nations were involved in warfare. Germany, working fast to recover her old position in the world of commerce, was hampered by the disastrous decline in the value of the mark, and her leaders protested continually that she could not possibly pay the war indemnity. Peace negotiations between the British government , grams, descruction of vessels to a carations between the brought to a suc- tala point and the talan and Sinn Fein were brought to a suc- tala point and the talan and tala Free State was constituted.

#### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The League of Nations, though functioning without the co-operation of the United States, accomplished much during the year, chiefly through its council, which met in Paris on February 21 and immediately referred proposed amendments to the covenant to a committee. President Wilson, who during January had withdrawn the American representatives from the council of ambassadors and the reparations commission, on February 23 sent to the league council a strong; protest against the inclusion of the island of Yap in territories subjected to the mandate of Japan, and also formally demanded for America a voice in the disposal of the form German colonies. The council ha reply said it was not concerned with the allocation of Yap to Japan and invited the United States to cake part in discussions concerning the Turkish and African mandates. A month after the Republican administration took office Secretary of State Hughes relterated Mr. Wilson's fand concerning Yap and mandates in general, and later France and I caly indorsed America's position in the controversy over the island, tho agh Japan formally refused to give up her mandate. Thereafter that d'spute was the subject of long drawn out negotiations between the United States and Japan which led to a creaty by which the United States was assured equal rights in Yap and other islands mandated to

The council of ambassadors in Janu-

ary gave Germany more time to disarm, appointed a commission to pass on Austria's economic status, decided that Latvia and Esthonia should be recognized as sovereign states, and then fixed the German reparations at 226,000,000,000 gold marks, payable in annual installments, and 12 per cent tax on exports during the period of This reparations decision created consternation in Germany and Berlin at once began elforts to persuade the United States to Intervene in her behalf. The Wilson administration made no response, but on April 2 Secretary Hughes Imformed Germany the United States would not countenance her escaping full responsibility for the war or getting out of paying to the limit of her ability. A few days earlier, Berlin having failed to make the first payments. French troops occupied Duesseldorf, Dulsburg and Ruhrert. The British objected strongly to this independent action and France withdrew. It would be tedlous to detail the negotiations over the reparations bill. Suffice it to say that Germany, with Doctor Wirth as chancellor, was compelled to 1 cmarks finally decided on by the supreme council, made the payments due during the year but, on December 14. announced that the in major part of the sums due in the early part of 1922 could not be raised. And since many economists agreed that to drive her into absolute bankruptcy would Le disastrous to the rest of the world. toward the close of the year there was increasing talk of arranging a moratorium of two to three years for her. France was the chief objector to such delay, as she relied on the money due her from Germany, but

she showed signs of yielding to the general view. Division of Upper Silesia between Germany and Poland caused a lot of trouble. A plebiscite was held there in March, but both sides asserted it was unfair and early in May the region was invaded by Polish irregulars. Thinly veiled support was given them by the Warsaw zov ernment and also by the French and there succeeded a long series of tights between them and German volunteer forces. The entente cordiale of the allies was near to rupture, but in June British troops entered the territory and began clearing out the Poles. The dispute was referred to the league council which in October announced the boundary lines. Neither Germany nor Poland was satisfied but both accented the decision.

All through the year the Greeks fought the Turkish nationalists in Anatolia, with varying fortune, while the allifed powers held aloof, thou; offering mediation which Greece refused. In November France made a treaty with the Kemalist government which aroused protests from Great Britain and led to diplomatic negotia-

The United States formally made peace with the central powers, the treaty with Austria being signed August 24, that with Germany August 25. and the pact with Hungary August 29. In these trenties America reserved all that was given her by the treaty of Versailles which the senate had refused to ratify.

President Bardus on sued Informal invitations to Great Britz in, France, Italy and Japan to senci representatives to Washington for a conference on limitation of at manient and Far East questions. Acceptance from all was already as sured by a process of "feeling on and on August 11 the formal nyitations went out, China, Belgium, Holland and Portugal being asked to participate in discussions involving the Far East. The foremost statesmen of these nine powers were named as delegates and on November 12 the momentous conference opened with imposing ceremony. Almost immediately Secretary Hughes put forward America's plan for reduction and limitation of naval armament, includscrapping of all shipbuilding proof those rations on December 15, and

western, Pacific. the United States. Great Britain, Sence in the Pacific, the Angly-Japanese treaty being abrogated.

demands of her delegates were not satisfied. The conferees, however, did intervention. Spain had rebels, also door for trade and industry of all nations. Direct negotiations between the Chinese and Japanese delegates resulted in Japan's agreeing to restore Shantung province to China upon receiving payment for the railway.

It was evident from the first that the conference could not do much in the matter of limitation of land armaments so long as the situation in central Europe remained so unsettled. Premier Briand was present to give voice to France's needs of protection and fears of aggression by Germany and possibly by Russia. His eloquent speech so far convinced the conference that the other powers gave assurance that France would never be left in the "moral isolation" which she

President Harding has clung to his idea that an association of nations can be formed which would do what the League of Nations cannot do, and on November 25 he puy forward the suggestion of a continuing series of conferences like that in Washington, which presumably might result in the formation of the association. The idea was received with favor everywhere, except that the French demurred at the proposed inclusion of Germap.y.

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

During the first six months of the year the guerrilla warfare between the British forces in Ireland and the Irish continued unabated. Minders by the Sinn Felners and reprisals by the British were of almost daily occurrence. The Irish were especially exasperated by the execution of | a number of prisoners convicted of complicity in the killing of soldiers. The appointment of Lord Talbot, leading British Roman Catholic, as Nord lieutenant of Ireland, failed of its esfect On May 25 the Sinn Felners burned the Dublin custom house, and on June 30 they re-elected Eamonn de Valera president of the "Irish repub-Hc." Meanwhile the new government of northern Ireland was organized, with Sir James Craig as premier, and on June 22 King George went across to open the Ulster parliament. De Valera on July 9 accepted the invitation of Premier Lloyd George to a conference in London, and truce was announced. Then began the series of negotiations that lasted through the remainder of the year. Offers and counter-offers were made, and finally Britain proffered Ireland full status as a dominion to restore fivencial and economic con- in both movements, but had many folwithin the empire, to be known as the was a second

feet was ratified by the British parament and submitted to dall eireann. Ulster was not consulted, but was given the option of becoming a part of the Irish Free state or retaining her status. Angrily she chose the

Charles, ex-emperor of Austria-Hungary, made two futile efforts to regain the Hungarian throne. On March 27 he appeared in Hungary without forces and claimed the crown, but Regent had no lawful right or power to pre-Horthy refused to step aside. Czechoslovakia, Jugo-Sla and Rumania mobilized to frustrate the coup and the allied council of ambassadors warned Hungary that the restoration of the Hapshurg regime would not be tolerated. So Charles returned to his place of refuge in Switzerland. But he was not through, for on October 21 he and his wife, Zita, went by airplane to Hungary and rallied a considerable number of supporters who proclaimed | act bang held vold. On June 30 Wil-Charles king. Again the "little entente" prepared for action, but Regent Horthy led his army out of Budapest and defeated the Carlists in a real battle. The former emperor and empress were taken prisoner, as were a number of prominent Hungarian nobles. The allies decreed that Charles must be long study, established a central bu-exiled, and in November he and Zits reau and started local employment were taken to Funchal, Madeira.

Russia's year was one of fighting. famine and efforts to resume relations with other nations. The soviet government held its own against repeated revolts, which included risings of the workingmen of Moscow, of peasnts under Antonov, and an invasion of the Ukraine by Petlura, which for time threatened to be successful. Fallure of the crops brought a terrible an line in the Volga region. Many housands starved to death and even merican relief administration, took charge of the situation, could only partially check the disaster. In seeking to break through the ring of isolation surrounding it, the Moscow governmen't gradually receded from its communistic principles. It sought the ald of foreign capital, and on August 9 it abandon ed state ownership of all but a few of the largest industries. Treaties were made with the Baltic states and with Turkey, and tempting offers of concessions were held ing a naval holiday for ten years, the out to other nations. In a notable pronouncement on October 21 Premier Lenin admitted the economic defeat of communism.

Old King Peter of Serbia died in and Japan on a 5-5-3 basis. The plan Belgrade on August 17, and four days was formally accepted by the delegates later his son Alexander was proclaimed king of Jugo-Slavia. He was to the agreement were added clauses reluctant to leave Paris, however, and for the preservation of the status quo it was not until November 6 that he of naval bases and fortification in the went to Belgrade and assumed his crown. Portugal was upset by sev-Of almost equal importance was the eral revolutionary movements toward four-power pact accepted by the con- the close of the year. On August 19 ference on December 13. This was the ministry was overthrown by a milicast in the form of a treaty by which tary coup and several carbinet members, including Premier Grunjo, were France and Japan agreed to maintain assassinated. A few days later a plot ence in the Pacific, the Angla-Jap-of the royalists was uncovered, and in November Carvalho Mesquita d a re-volt. Because of these disorders and problems to the conference and all the of the spread of bolshevism the powers began consideration of a plan for enter into an agreement to rem ove the tribesmen of Morocco. Against many of the foreign restrictions on them she maintained a wearying and China and to respect the territor al expensive warfare for months. And and administrative integrity of tite while on the subject of rebellion, men oriental republic and preserve the open tion must be made of the revolt of India, which caused the British government much annoyance and not a few lives.

There were communist outbreaks in Germany in March, and on August 26 Mathias Erzberger, the German statesman who signed the treaty of Versailles, was assassinated. Doctor Wirth, who became chancellor on May 10, resigned with his cabinet on October 22, but was persuaded to remain in office and form a new ministry. In November there were rlots in many German cities due to the high prices of food.

The chauvinistic element in Japan was active, especially after the Washington conference opened, and on November 3 Premier Hara was assassinated. Viscount Takahashi succeeded him. The emperor of Japan suffered a complete mental and physical breakdown some time last year, and Crown Prince Hirohito was made regent on November 25. He had lately returned from a tour of Europe.

## DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

During the early part of the year the country was preparing for the change of administration on March 4. President-elect Harding resigned as senator from Ohio on January 9, and the next day he asked that preparations for an elaborate inauguration be canceled, feeling that it would be inconsistent with the urgent need for economy. On February 19 Mr. Harding announced the appointment of Charles E. Hughes as his secretary of state-a choice that met with general approval-and on succeeding days he completed his cabinet with these names: Secretary of the treasury, Andrew W. Mellon; secretary of war, John W. Weeks; attorney general, Harry M. Daugherty; postmaster general, Will H. Hays; secretary of the navy, Edwin Denby; secretary of the interior, Albert B. Fall; secretary of a griculture, Henry C. Wallace; secreta ty of commerce, Herbert C. Hoover; sec vetary of labor, James J. Davis. Mr. Har Ung was inaugurated on March 4 with simple, dignified ceremony, and President Wilson, despite his continued illi less, was able to be present. The sensue, in extra session, confirmed the cabin et and a number of other appointment t, and adjourned on March

On the first day of the year General Crowder was sent by President Wilson to Cuba to see what could be done

branches are accepted to the contraction

Irish Free State. A treaty to this ditions there, upset by the collapse of the sugar boom. He remained on the island for a long time and succeeded in his mission to a considerable extent. On April 11 telephone communication between the United States and Cuba was opened by an exchange of greetings between Presidents Harding

and Menocal. The United States Supreme court rendered several notable decisions. On January 31 it held that Judge Landis side over the trial of Victor Berger and other socialists. On March 28 it ruled that profits from sale of corporate stocks and bonds and capital assets are tarable as income. On April 11 it refused to review the convictions of Haywood and 79 other I. W. W. memers. The conviction of Senator Newberry of Michigan and others for alleged violation of the corrupt practices ct was set aside on May 2, the liam Howard Taft was appointed chief justile and was sworn in on October 3.

Th unemployment situation became so bad during the summer that President Harding called a conference of experts on the subject. It began its sessions on September 26 and, after a long gudy, established a central bumovements throughout the country. The resulting relief was but partial, for business itself was suffering a gen-

epression. One of the worst race riots in the history of the country broke out in Okla., on May 31. Before It was quelled the negro quarter of the city lad been burned and 35 persons

had been killed and many wounded. Labor troubles of long standing in West Virginia culminated in an insurrectionary movement by miners which called forth a proclamation by the President ordering them to disperse. Federal troops were sent into the region and the miners soon surrendered. A commission, headed by Gen. Leonard Wood, was sent to the Philippines It reported in November, recommend ing against immediate withdrawal of the United States from the Islands Meantime General Wood was offered and accepted the post of governor gen-

The American Legion, in session at Kansas City, elected Lieut. Col. Hanford MacNider of Iowa its national commander on November 1. The Legion had as guests Marshal Foch of France, General Diaz of Italy, Admiral Beatty of England and other distinguished warriors. These same visitors and many other eminent per sons participated, on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, in the ceremony of the burial of America's unknown soldier in the National cemetery at Arlington. Under the budget law which was passed in May Gen. Charles G. Dawes was appointed director genera of the biern budget and he and his alds made notable progress in the way of cutting down the expenses of the government.

## NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Not a great deal of legislation was passed by the Republican congress during the last two months of President Wilson's administration. President vetoed the bill to revive the 2, and congress promptly repassed it. the Moplahs on the Malabar coast of Can January 12, \$7,100,000 was approproated for enforcement of prohibition. The house decided, on January 19, that its rembership should not be increase l. After much debate congress set the limit of the regular army at 175,000 rnen. Mr. Wilson vetoed the measure, but it was passed over his veto. On February 26 the President signed the Winslow bill, making available to the raylroads \$370,000,000 from the government guarantee fund. President Harding called congress

in extra session on April 11 and nearly all the rest of the year it was busy with the task of redarming the pledges of the Republican party, with what success must be left to individual judgment. Among the thist bills passed were emergency tariff and immigration acts; a new army ININ cutting the army down to 150,000; and the budget On April 30 the servate adopted a resolution declaring the war with Germany and Austria at an end; on June 13 the house adopted a resolution of similar purport, and the measure was finally passed on July 1 and signed the next day by President Harding. Repeated efforts to pass a soldies' bonus bill came to naught, but a soldiers' relief bureau was creaton on August 2 and Col. C. R. Forbes was made its director. The house passel both a tax revision bill and a farin bill, but the senate did not get around to the latter. The tax measure

was enacted into law on Novem-Among other important measures passed were a bill to exempt American coastwise shipping from payment of Panama camal tolls; a bill for government regulation of the packing industhe \$48,500,000 shipping board deficiency bill; the billion-dollar farm exports credit bill; and various measures relating to enforcement of the prohibition amendment, including one forbiding the manufacture and sale of beer as medicine,

The elitra session came to an end on November 23, and on December 5 congress met for the regular session.

## ABOR AND INDUSTRIAL

Two strong tendencies in the world of labor marked the year in the United States. One was toward a reduction of wager , as a part of the "return to normale ." and the other was toward the esta blishment of the open shop. Naturally both were contested by organized labor, not wholly successfully. The rall way executives took the lead

lowers. In January the national conference of state manufacturers' associations pledged support for the open shop movement. On the last day of that month the railway executives asked that the national working agreements be abrogated; the railroad brotherhoods appeared to President Vilson to prevent wage reductions but efused to interfere. By order of rallway labor board some of the king agreements were terminated | ist. n July 1 and a wage cut averaging 12 cent was put into effect. The railrays later announced they would ask further wage cuts. The membership f the brotherhoods decided by vote that a strike should be called on October 30, but nine allied unions refused to support such a strike, and on ansouncement by the board that It would not consider wage cut requests until all working rule questions had been decided the strike order was canceled. On December 1 the board reconstituted the working rules so that the open shop principle was recognized.

In the packing industry there was a wage reduction in March and a strike was narrowly averted. In September the large packing plants installed the shop representation system and in November, under this plan, the employees consented to a further reduction of 10 per cent. The meat cutters repudlated this and called a strike on Dec. 5.

There were many minor strikes, most of them short lived. Samuel Gompers was re-elected president of the American Federation of Labor which held its convention in Denver in June.

Great Britain's coal miners went on strike on March 1 and for nearly four months the nation's industries were near collapse. The rail and transport workers refused to go out and the government would not yield to the demands that the mines be nationalized, so the miners returned to work on June 28 without having gained

#### SPORTS

It was a great year for sports. In all lines there was activity and prosperity, and international contests were numerous.

Organized baseball, which had suffered from the White Sox scandal, rehabilitated Itself by the appointment of Judge Landis as supreme ar-The New York Glants and the New York Yankees won the National and American league pennants, respectively, and in the series for the world championship the Giants were victorious. The former members of the Chicago White Sox who were accused of conspiracy to "throw the 1919 world's series" were acquitted by a jury, though not by public opinion.

Jock Hutchinson of America won the British open golf championship in June. In this country the titles went as follows: Western amateur, Charles Evans, Jr.; national open, James M. Barnes; western open, Walter Hagen; national amateur, Jesse Guilford.

The feature in pugilism was the battle for the world's heavyweight title between Jack Dempsey and Georges Carpentler of France on July The Frenchman was knocked out in the fourth round. Benny Leonard defended the lightweight title against Britton, welterweight champion, deruary 7, and Pete Herman won the hantamweight title from Joe Lynch on July 25.

Davis and Johnston, the American tennis team, won the Davis cup in New Zealand on January 1, and Tilden won the international championship in Paris on June 4, and the American championship on September The Americans again won the Davis cup on September 3 by defeating the Japanese team.

The University of Illinois won the Western Conference track and field neet and the National Collegiate athletic meet in June. Yale defeated Harvard in their annual boat race on June 24. The University of Iowa won the Western Conference football championship, and Harvard beat Yale on November 19. The East was given two tolts in football, for the University of Chicago defeated Princeton and Centre college of Kentucky beat Harvard.

On November 23 young Jake Schaefer won the world's balkline championship long held by Willie Hoppe.

## NECROLOGY

Just the names of the well-known men and women who passed away in 1921 would fill much space. Among the shining marks found by Death were these: Jan. 1, Dr. Theobald von Bethmann-Hollwegg, former German imperial chancellor; 'Jan. 3, Ferdinand Schlesinger, Wisconsin capitalist; Jan. 7. James G. Scripps, publisher of many newspapers; Jan. 13, Henry Reinhardt, famous American art collector and dealer; Jan. 19, Daniel Barto, professor of agriculture in the University of Hillnois; Jan. 21, Congressman Charles Booher of Missouri, and Mary M. Whitney, famous astronomer at Vassar; Jan. 22, "Cap" Streeter, the noted Chicago lake front squatter; Jan. 30, John Francis Murphy, American landscape painter; Jan. 31, Gov. F. H. Parkhurst of Maine.

Feb. 2, Cardinal Ferrari, archbishop of Milan, and Luigi Manicelli, noted composer; Feb. 8, Prince Kropotkin. nihilist leader, and Prof. Barrett Wendell of Harvard; Feb. 9, James Gibbons Huneker, music critic and author; Feb. 22. W. F. McCombs, former Democratic national chairman; Feb. 24, Dr. F. J. V. Skiff, director of the Field Museum of Chicago.

March 1, Nicholas I, king of Montenegro; March 2, Congressman Champ Clark of Missouri; March 11, S. W. Burnham, eminent astronomer of Chi-

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cago: March 17, Dr. F. W. Gunsaulus educator, lecturer and preacher, of Chicago; March 19, Bert Leston Taylor of the Chicago Tribune, most famous "column conductor"; March 24, James Cardinal Gibbons, archbishop of Baltimore; March 28, Mrs. George M. Pullman, widow of the car builder, and Charles Haddon Chambers, Australian playwright; March 29, John Burroughs, beloved American natural-

April 3, Annie Louise Cary, once famous prima donna; April 8, Julie Opp, actress, and B. E. Wallace, ploneer circus man; April 9, Archbishop Waish of Dublin, Sydney Fisher, Canadian statesman, and Ernesto Nathan, former mayor of Rome; April 11, Augusta Victoria, former empress of Germany; April 30, John Robinson, noted circus owner.

May 3, Dr. W. R. Brooks, astronomer; May 5, J. A. Sleicher, editor Leslie's Weekly; May 14, Alf Hyman, theatrical manager; May 15, Former Senator T. B. Catron of New Mexico; May 18, Former Secretary of the Interior Franklin B. Lane; May 19, Edward D. White, chief justice of the United States Supreme court; May 29, Gen. Horace Porter, war veteran and diplo-

June 5, W. T. Crooks, noted British labor leader; June 7, Alvin T. Hert, Republican leader of Kentucky; June 8, Col. F. W. Galbraith, Jr., national commauder of the American Legion; June 13, Gen. Jose Gomez, former president of Cuba, and H. C. Ide, former governor general of the Philippines; June Judge W. A. Blount of Florida, president of the American Bar asso-ciation; June 16, William E. Mason, congressman-at-large from Illinois; June 22, Dr. Morris Jastrow, authority on Semitic literature, and Gen. C. H. Taylor, editor of the Boston Globe; June 28, Charles J. Bonaparte of Baltimore; June 29, Lady Randolph Churchill.

July 3, John F. Wallace, eminent engineer; July 10, Douglas Story, author and journálist; July 12, Harry Hawker, famous British aviator; July 15, Dr. W. E. Stone, president of Purdue university; July 29, Robert E. Burke, prominent Democrat of Chicago, and Charles B. Cory, ornithologist; July 31, Edgar Saltus, author.

Aug. 2, Enrico Caruso, the famous operatic tenor; Aug. 6, John G. Jenkins, Wisconsin jurist; Aug. 11, William C: Hook, jurist, of Kansas; Aug. 12, Alexander Block, noted Russian poet; Aug. 13, Samuel P. Colt, leader in rubber industry; Aug. 17, King Peter of Serbia; Aug. 19, Demetrios Rhallys, Greek statesman; Aug. 23, Sir Sam Hughes of Canada; Aug. 25, Peter Cooper Hewitt, noted American inventor; Aug. 31, Field Marshal Count von Buelow, German war leader.

Sept. 2, Austin Dobson, English poet; Sept. 11, Former Senator George P. Wetmore of Rhode Island; Sept. 15, Peer Stromme, American author and journalist: Sept. 21. Sir Ernest Cassel, British financier; Sept. 28, Engelbert Humperdinck, German composer.

Oct. 1, Former Federal Judge Peter Grosscup of Chicago; Oct. 2, David Bispham, American baritone, and William II, former king of Wurttemberg; Oct. 12, Philander Case Knox, senator from Pennsylvania; Oct. 18, Ludwig III, former king of Bavaria; Oct. 21, Richie Mitchell on January 14; Jack Maj. Gen. W. W. Wotherspoon, U. S. A.; Oct. 25, "Bat" Masterson, writer feated Ted Lewis of England on Feb. and former noted westerner; Oct. 26, Henry Oyen, American novelist.

Nov. 3, Dan Hanna, capitalist and publisher, of Cleveland, O.; Nov. 5, Rev. Antoinette Blackwell, first woman ordained as a minister in the United States: Nov. 13. C. H. Prior of St. Paul, railway builder, and Mrs. George J. Gould: Nov. 20, Lawrence C. Earl. American painter; Nov. 22, Christine. Nilsson, Countess de Casa Miranda, once famous operatic soprano, and Henry M. Hyndman, British socialist eader; Nov. 27, Lieut. Col. C. W Whittlesey, hero of the "lost battalon;" Nov. 28, Abdul Baha Abbas, leader of the Bahalsts; Nov. 29, Ivan Caryll, composer, and Lord Mount Stee phen, creator of the Canadian Pacific railway system.

Dec. 10, Sir Arthur Pearson, famous blind publisher of England; Dec. 11, the earl of Halsbury, former British lord high chancellor; Dec. 12, H. Clay Evans of Tennessee, former commissioner of pensions; Dec. 15, Congressman J. A. Elston of California, who committed suicide; Dec. 16, Camillo Saint-Saens, noted French composer.

## DISASTERS

Floods, tornadoes and conflagrations cost many lives and vast property losses in 1921. A four-million-dellar fire destroyed the business section of Athens, Ga., on January 24. The Armour grain elevator in Chicago, largest in the world, was wrecked by fire and explosion on March 19, the loss being \$6,000,000. A thousand houses n Tokyo were destroyed by flames in March, and in April fire in Manila rendered 15,000 homeless and 4,000 buildings were burned in Hakodate. Japan. The Southern states were struck by a tornado on April 15, 100 persons being killed. On June 3 came the terrible floods in eastern Colorado in which hundreds lost their lives and immense property damage was done. San Antonio, Tex., experienced a disastrous flood on September 10.

The two most startling disasters occurred abroad. On August 24 the giant dirigible ZR-2, built by the British for the United States, broke in two while over Hull, England, on her last trial trip. Forty-six men were killed, including 15 members of the American crew that was to bring the vessel across the ocean.

On September 21 a great pitrate plant at Oppau, Germany, blew up. The town was wiped out, about 1,500 persons were killed and thousands were injured.

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