

U.S. Army Appropriation Bill Reduced by \$16,000,000.

Lake Navigation Opens --- Fire, Floods, Windstorms and Avalanches Take Toll of Lives and Property---French Foreign Postage Rates Increased Fifty Per Cent.

U.S. ARMY APPROPRIATION.

WASHINGTON, March 30. The army appropriation bill carrying \$22,000,000 was passed Saturday by the House and sent to the Senate. The total is \$16,000,000 less than last year and \$3,500,000 less than the budget estimate.

PARIS, March 30.

Notice has been given of a fifty per cent. increase in postage on letters from France to foreign countries, effective on April 1.

FLOODS IN MARYLAND.

CUMBERLAND, Md., March 30. Six persons, comprising an entire family, were reported to-day as having lost their lives at McCoolie, in Maryland, twenty miles west of here, when their home was swept from its foundations and carried down the Potomac River. All wires in the town were broken by the flood and the report could not be confirmed.

PITTSBURG FLOODED.

PITTSBURG, March 30. A score of city blocks in the lower sections were flooded and sections for several miles upstream laid waste, when the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers meeting here to form the Ohio, left their banks in Pittsburgh's greatest flood in years. No loss of life was reported.

WINDSTORM DESTROYS HOMES.

CAROLINA, March 29. Three little towns in McCracken County, Kentucky, have been wiped out by a windstorm which is sweeping down from the northwest, according to meagre reports, reaching here over a telephone wire into that county, which is still intact. The towns named as destroyed are Heath, Maxon and Lamotte, whose total population is less than 100.

MINE EXPLOSION.

CLARKSBURG, W. Va., March 29. Three men were wounded to-day when an explosion of gas wrecked a section of Peshaw mine, No. 1 on Bigamon Creek near Shinnston, West Virginia. Other miners may be trapped in the workings.

MISSOURI WINDSTORM.

CHARLESTON, March 29. Three persons were killed, fifteen injured and many miles of telephone wires and other property damaged, in a windstorm that swept through Southeastern Missouri, at 2 a.m.

AVALANCHE IN UTAH.

PROVO, Utah, March 29. Two men are believed to have perished to-day when fifty were caught in a snow slide near Bridal Veil in Provo Canyon, near here. All but two were rescued. They were at work clearing away the debris from a slide yesterday, when the second avalanche came down.

THE AMALFI LANDSLIDE.

SALERNO, Italy, March 30. Late returns show the actual loss of life from the landslide in Amalfi District to be less than was first calculated. The railway has been cleared as far as Amalfi, making systematic assistance easier; and four ships have arrived there with clothing, mattresses, milk, bread and preserved meat. Carabiniers and soldiers are still working indefatigably and encouraging the population to evacuate their buried houses and seek those whose fate is uncertain.

LIGHTSHIP RAMMED.

NEW YORK, March 30. Rammied by the British freighter Castellan, in a fog this afternoon, the Fire Island lightship, with a gaping hole in her port quarter, was then proceeding to Tompkinsville, Staten Island, accompanied by the steamer Dorothy Gresham and the lighthouse tender Spruce, all summoned by S. O. S. call. Damage to Castellan was not known.

CANADIAN GRATUITY CLAIMS.

OTTAWA, March 29. Monday is the day on which applications for war service gratuities will be received at the Department of National Defence. An order in Council passed recently limited the time in which claims for gratuity, or for adjustment of war service gratuities, could be made, and the period in which claims can be submitted.

LAKE NAVIGATION OPENS.

TORONTO, March 29. With the arrival of the steamer Dalhousie City from St. Catherine's in Toronto harbor, this a.m., naviga-

tion on the Lakes to Toronto, opened for the season. Captain Marigold, commanding the steamer, was met by civic officials and presented with a "stovepipe hat," which is awarded annually to the first navigator bringing his steamer to port.

COMPOSER PASSES.

LONDON, March 29. Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, the noted Irish composer, died to-day at his home here.

FIRE IN SASKATCHEWAN TOWN.
SASKATCHEWAN, March 30. Damage close to \$100,000 was caused by a fire that destroyed almost an entire block of buildings in the town of Vaville on Saturday.

The Fall of the Franc and the way to Deal With It

THE NEW TAXATION AND PROSPECTIVE CHANGE OF POLICY SHOW THAT FRANCE REALIZES THE TRUE POSITION OF AFFAIRS.

The demand for foreign money is increasing on the home market. Huge purchases of pounds and dollars have been made by the importing houses, especially at Havre, in the industrial north and east, and generally in the ports. Therefore (and we cannot insist on this too strongly) it is Paris itself that is pulling the franc down. London and New York are only following passively the tendency of Paris.

Under the painful impression made by the debates in the Chamber and under the influence of an imprudent campaign of pessimism, manufacturers and traders have lost confidence. Having waited in vain so far for a remedy, they are taking fright and are covering themselves precipitately at no matter what price, and beyond their needs. This non-trading public, seized, too, with pessimism, is more or less following. The banks, which indulged in large purchases of foreign bonds and money at the beginning of January, look on indifferently while the cord is being tightened.

"If his sort of thing is prolonged it will overthrow our whole economic system."—Journal Industrielle de Paris.

The above quotation from a leading French journal and many others could be quoted to show that even France herself realizes why the franc is falling. This decline in credit is the European event of the moment, but there are signs of wiser counsel prevailing.

The French Government has approved its twenty per cent. increase in taxation and the franc has steadily improved this week, largely on account of this and the disposition to keep the European situation.

"It is no more use being angry with the fall of the franc," says the Times. "It is a thunderstorm. But, whereas a thunderstorm cannot be revealed, the fall of the franc might have been prevented if the obvious precautions had been taken long ago."

"The prolonged and heated sittings of the Chamber, where, among other things, the twenty per cent. increase of taxation has at length been carried by a majority of sixty-one, are an indication that the urgent need of financial reforms is at length coming."

Slave With Cuticura Soap The New Way Without Mug

to be recognized by Deputies and others who have hitherto been unwilling to face the unpleasant truth. "There is no mystery about the fall in the franc, though some Frenchmen, in their very natural perturbation, have sought to make one. It is simply due to the fact that the French budgets show constant deficits, and that borrowing, being the easier and more popular course, has been resorted to instead of taxation," observes the Sunday Times.

"France since the Armistice has somewhat got into the way of living on expectations that are hardly likely to be realized. But with it all she remains the most stable and secure country in the world, with inexhaustible reserves. She has only to mobilize some of these reserves and to cut down expenditure in order to re-establish her currency in something resembling its old position."

The Falling Francs and Ruhr Evacuation.

"If the franc falls a little further—and it is impossible for us not to hope that it will—we shall not have to buy the French out of the Ruhr," says the New Statesman. "Mr. MacDonald will only have to wait and they will come out. For the fall can be checked only by reducing expenditure and increasing taxation. For the last year or two France has been increasing her military expenditure, allowing her people to pay far less in taxes than the people of any other belligerent country in Europe, failing to balance her Budget, and more or less openly repudiating her foreign indebtedness."

"No wonder her international credit has fallen, and at last even her internal credit. If she means to avoid a financial catastrophe, France must now recognize her financial obligations to America and Great Britain and make prompt arrangements to balance her Budget. The Poincaré era of bluff and sentiment has come to an end."

"France has now to face the facts and to realize that military ambitions lead inevitably to financial disaster, and that a solid understanding with Great Britain upon the vital question of the economic reconstruction of Europe is the first and more imperative of her necessities. A comprehensive Franco-British understanding is now far more urgent for her than us. At last time is on our side."

"The British Government has only to wait and it can make its own terms about Reparations and the Ruhr. There is no longer any need to make concessions to Poincaréism, for M. Poincaré has reached the end of his tether; and invariably France will have to pay—and should pay—for a good deal, if not all, of the damage which he has done to Europe."

The French People Paying.

"Though there has been no extra tax laid upon them, hotels, which were paying well, have raised the prices of their rooms (without food) from 30 to 40 per cent. Recently at the Central markets potatoes, sold at 45 centimes, were retailed at 250 per

cent. profit at 1.40 franc. A bunch of carrots costing 75 centimes was sold two hours later at 2 francs—360 per cent. A bunch of turnips, bought at 40 centimes by the dealers, was distributed to the public at 2 francs and more all over Paris—250 to 450 per cent. The cost of a humble 'pot au feu' at once rose for the housekeeper to what a whole meal ought to cost," writes the Paris correspondent of the Evening Standard.

"It would be easy to fill columns with examples of how the French, whilst accusing foreigners of a campaign against the franc, are themselves the architects of its depreciation by reckless profiteering. Unless this is stopped by legislation it can scarcely be long before the Government will be forced to inflation, which would be the beginning of the end for French credit."—Public Opinion.

"Hello there! Where are you going?" "I came home and found my favorite bread was not on the table and I am just going to buy what I like best 'WALSH'S MILK BREAD,' made only by The Central Bakery." mar27,131,th.s.m

37 1/2 Millions to be Saved

Cuts in Civil Services and Revenue Departments — Pensions economy — More for British Museum and Public Art Galleries.

First results of the Socialist Government's economy show a reduction of £37,338,145 for the coming year in the Estimates for the Civil Services and the Revenue Departments.

Notable prunings are two millions at the Ministry of Agriculture, seven millions on Colonial services, and three millions on the Middle East. Liabilities for shipping liquidation and compensation for damage due to enemy action in the war are practically wiped out, and the Pensions Ministry is budgeting for seven millions less.

Extra demands include another million for old age pensions and about £2,000,000 each for war graves and payment of compensation in Ireland. One curious fact is that the cost of the British Museum and the art galleries is increasing.

Extraordinary Lenten Attraction at The Nickel

3 DAYS ONLY--3 COMMENCING TO-DAY

"THE ETERNAL LIGHT"

The Wonderful Story of the Cross. A Classic Reproduction of "THE PASSION PLAY." "... a beautiful and impressive picture... a far more powerful influence for good, than any Easter sermon that was ever preached."—Harriette Underhill in the New York Tribune.

9—WONDERFUL ACTS—9

ADMISSION Night Performance, 30c. Usual Prices Matinees

SPECIAL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE
SOLO:
"THE PALMS" (Fauve)—Prof. P. J. McCarthy.
DUET:
"O JESU MI DULCISSIMI" (Mametti)—Miss Ida Howlett and Prof. P. J. McCarthy
SOLO:
"THE CROSS OF CALVARY" (Gounod)—Miss Ida Howlett.

Oh Boy! Oh Boy! Look what we have at the CRESCENT THEATRE!

TO-NIGHT—A GOOD JAZZY SISTER ACT, WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR!

The Duncan Sisters

Refined Singing and Dancing Artistes, in a programme of Catchy Songs and descriptive Dances—Pretty Girls and Pretty Costumes.
EXTRA—DAINTY DOLLY DELMAR, Six-year-old Wonder in Songs. Also, DAN DELMAR and P. SMITH will repeat the Sketch that made such a hit Friday night, entitled: "Are You MR. WISHIDID?"

PROGRAMME OF PICTURES: EPISODE NINE OF "THE YELLOW ARM." "A CHILD FOR SALE."

Great Gathering of Daughters of the Empire

TORONTO, Ont., Mar. 20.—(By Canadian Press).—It has been announced that the national gathering for 1924 of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire will take place in Toronto from June 2 to 7. The delegates who will come from all parts of Canada, will represent the approximate 35,000 patriotic women who make up the membership. Toronto is the head office of the order.

The national officers of this body are:—Honorary President, Her Excellency, Lady Byng; President, Mrs. P. E. Doolittle, Toronto; Vice-Presidents in the following order: Miss R. M. Church, Toronto; Mrs. Hamilton Burns, Toronto; Mrs. A. F. Rutter, Toronto; Mrs. A. Woolley Dod, Calgary, Alta.; Mrs. A. U. DeLaurie, Vancouver, B.C.; Mrs. Collin H. Campbell, Winnipeg, Man.; Mrs. H. F. MacLeod, Fredericton, N.B.; Mrs. Geoffrey Morrow, Halifax, N.S.; Mrs. F. Burkholder, Hamilton, Ont.; Mrs. D. M. Balfour, Regina, Sask.; Secretary, Miss A. Stewart Galt, Toronto; Treasurer, Mrs. J. U. Power, Toronto; Organizing Secretary, Mrs. A. H. Malcolmson, St. Catharines, Ont.; Educational Secretary, Mrs. W. Gordon, Kingston, Ont.; "Echoes" secretary, Mrs. W. H. Barker, Toronto; Standard-Bearer, Mrs. R. H. Brotherhood, Elyton, Manitoba.

During the Great War the work of the Order furnished an outstanding memorial to achievement. Empire Annexes to the King George and Queen Mary Leaf Clubs were equipped; the Daughters' X-ray apparatus and operating theatre were furnished to the I.O.D.E. Hospital, London, England; ambulances, motor trucks, machine guns, automobiles and field kitchens were donated; one thousand cots in military hospitals were endowed and equipped; nurses were maintained overseas, large sums were subscribed for prisoners of war, relief was given to the sector especially adopted by the Order in France and in addition enormous quantities of comforts to soldiers both in the field and in the hospitals were given; every campaign was assisted and in all the colossal

sum of \$5,500,000 was raised for war purposes by the Order.

After-War activities upon many of which the members are still at work are War Memorials; Public Health, especially Child Welfare, and secondary education for soldiers' children. This last includes distribution of pictures and libraries to schools, publication of pamphlets and historical contents.

Recognition of the sacrifices made during the war was given expression when at the Annual Meeting of 1919 a resolution was passed pledging the members to raise \$500,000 for the establishment of Bursaries in Canadian Universities for children of deceased soldiers, for annual post-graduate scholarships in British Uni-

versities and for the distribution of collections of historical pictures and libraries to 1,000 schools in which are children of foreign parentage. The carrying out of the above forms part of the present work; travelling fellowship and lecture foundation, also part of the War Memorial Scheme are part of expected future operations.

FOR SALE—Schooner, 70 tons; also a quantity Trap Netting. THE COWAN BROKERAGE CO., LTD.—mar18,14

Eggs are nice when poached in milk and served on whole wheat toast.
Serve a dish of grated cheese with fish soup.

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in the selection of an EXECUTOR

Quite the contrary. As a rule, the less personal interest an Executor has in an Estate, the better its affairs are administered. The selection of an Executor is a matter of business, not of friendship. Friendship should, therefore, give way to sound business judgment.

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