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 States.

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 and Sinn Fein were brought to a successful conclusion by which the Irish 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 President Wilson, who during January had withdrawn the American representatives from the council of ambassadors and the reparations commission, on February 23 sent to the league council a strong protest against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 former German colonies. The council in reply said it was not concerned with the allocation of Yap to Japan and invited the United States to take part in discussions concerning the Turkish and African mandates. A month after the Republican administration took office Secretary of State Hughes reiterated Mr. Wilson's stand concerning Yap and mandates in general, and later France and Italy indorsed America's position in the controversy over the island, though Japan formally refused to give up her mandate. Thereafter that dispute was the subject of long drawn-out negotiations between the United States and Japan which led to a treaty by which the United States was assured equal rights in Yap and other islands mandated to Japan.

The council of ambassadors in January 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 payment. This reparations decision created consternation in Germany and Berlin at once began efforts to persuade the United States to intervene in her behalf. The Wilson administration made no response, but on April 2 Secretary Hughes informed 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, Duisburg and Ruhrort. The British objected strongly to this independent action and France withdrew. It would be tedious to detail the negotiations over the reparations bill. Suffice it to say that Germany, with Doctor Wirth as chancellor, was compelled to accept the figures of 135,000,000,000 gold marks 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 be 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 government and also by the French and there succeeded a long series of fights 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 accepted the decision.

All through the year the Greeks fought the Turkish nationalists in Anatolia, with varying fortune, while the allied powers held aloof, though 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 negotiations.

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 treaties America reserved all that was given her by the treaty of Versailles which the senate had refused to ratify.

President Harding on July 10 issued informal invitations to Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan to send representatives to Washington for a conference on limitation of armament and Far East questions. Acceptance from all was already assured by a process of "feeling out," and on August 11 the formal invitations 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, including a naval holiday for ten years, the scrapping of all shipbuilding programs, destruction of vessels to a certain point and the maintenance of the navies of America, Great Britain and Japan on a 5-5-3 basis. The plan was formally accepted by the delegates of those nations on December 15, and to the agreement were added clauses for the preservation of the status quo of naval bases and fortification in the western Pacific.

Of almost equal importance was the four-power pact accepted by the conference on December 13. This was cast in the form of a treaty by which the United States, Great Britain, France and Japan agreed to maintain peace in the Pacific, the Anglo-Japanese treaty being abrogated.

China offered some very difficult problems to the conference and all the demands of her delegates were not satisfied. The conferees, however, did enter into an agreement to remove many of the foreign restrictions on China and to respect the territorial and administrative integrity of the oriental republic and preserve the open 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 feared.

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 put 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 Germany.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

During the first six months of the year the guerrilla warfare between the British forces in Ireland and the Irish "republicans" continued unabated. Murders by the Sinn Feiners 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 lord lieutenant of Ireland, failed of its effect. On May 25 the Sinn Feiners burned the Dublin custom house, and on June 30 they re-elected Eamonn de Valera president of the "Irish republic." 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 within the empire, to be known as the Irish Free State. A treaty to this effect was ratified by the British parliament and submitted to dail 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 latter.

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 Horthy refused to step aside. Czechoslovakia, Jugo-Slavia and Rumania mobilized to frustrate the coup and the allied council of ambassadors warned Hungary that the restoration of the Hapsburg 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 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 exiled, and in November he and Zita 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 peasants under Antonov, and an invasion of the Ukraine by Petlura, which for a time threatened to be successful. Failure of the crops brought a terrible famine in the Volga region. Many thousands starved to death and even the American relief administration, which took charge of the situation, could only partially check the disaster. In seeking to break through the ring of isolation surrounding it, the Moscow government gradually receded from its communistic principles. It sought the aid of foreign capital, and on August 9 it abandoned 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 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 Belgrade on August 17, and four days later his son Alexander was proclaimed king of Jugo-Slavia. He was reluctant to leave Paris, however, and it was not until November 6 that he went to Belgrade and assumed his crown. Portugal was upset by several revolutionary movements toward the close of the year. On August 19 the ministry was overthrown by a military coup and several cabinet members, including Premier Granjo, were assassinated. A few days later a plot of the royalists was uncovered, and in November Carvalho Mesquita led a revolt. Because of these disorders and of the spread of bolshevism the powers began consideration of a plan for intervention. Spain had rebels, also—the tribesmen of Morocco. Against them she maintained a wearying and expensive warfare for months. And while on the subject of rebellion, mention must be made of the revolt of the Moplahs on the Malabar coast 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 riots 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 agriculture, Henry C. Wallace; secretary of commerce, Herbert C. Hoover; secretary of labor, James J. Davis. Mr. Harding was inaugurated on March 4 with simple, dignified ceremony, and President Wilson, despite his continued illness, was able to be present. The senate, in extra session, confirmed the cabinet and a number of other appointments, and adjourned on March 15.

On the first day of the year General Crowder was sent by President Wilson to Cuba to see what could be done to restore financial and economic conditions 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 had no lawful right or power to preside 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 taxable as income. On April 11 it refused to review the convictions of Haywood and 79 other I. W. W. members. The conviction of Senator Newberry of Michigan and others for alleged violation of the corrupt practices act was set aside on May 2, the act being held void. On June 30 William Howard Taft was appointed chief justice and was sworn in on October 3.

The 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 study, established a central bureau and started local employment movements throughout the country. The resulting relief was but partial, for business itself was suffering a general depression.

One of the worst race riots in the history of the country broke out in Tulsa, Okla., on May 31. Before it was quelled the negro quarter of the city had 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, recommending against immediate withdrawal of the United States from the islands. Meantime General Wood was offered and accepted the post of governor general.

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 persons 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 general of the federal budget and he and his aids 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. The President vetoed the bill to revive the War Finance corporation on January 2, and congress promptly repassed it. On January 12, $7,100,000 was appropriated for enforcement of prohibition. The house decided, on January 19, that its membership should not be increased. After much debate congress set the limit of the regular army at 175,000 men. 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 railroads $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 redeeming the pledges of the Republican party, with what success must be left to individual judgment. Among the first bills passed were emergency tariff and immigration acts; a new army bill cutting the army down to 150,000; and the budget bill. On April 30 the senate 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 soldiers' bonus bill came to naught, but a soldiers' relief bureau was created on August 2 and Col. C. R. Forbes was made its director. The house passed both a tax revision bill and a tariff bill, but the senate did not get around to the latter. The tax measure was enacted into law on November 21.

Among other important measures passed were a bill to exempt American coastwise shipping from payment of Panama canal tolls; a bill for government regulation of the packing industry; the $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 forbidding the manufacture and sale of beer as medicine.

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

LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL

Two strong tendencies in the world of labor marked the year in the United States. One was toward a reduction of wages, as a part of the "return to normalcy," and the other was toward the establishment of the open shop. Naturally both were contested by organized labor, not wholly successfully. The railway executives took the lead in both movements, but had many followers. 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 appealed to President Wilson to prevent wage reductions but he refused to interfere. By order of the railway labor board some of the working agreements were terminated on July 1 and a wage cut averaging 12 per cent was put into effect. The railways later announced they would ask further wage cuts. The membership of 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 announcement 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 repudiated 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 much.

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 arbiter. The New York Giants 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 Carpentier of France on July 2. The Frenchman was knocked out in the fourth round. Benny Leonard defended the lightweight title against Richie Mitchell on January 14; Jack Britton, welterweight champion, defeated Ted Lewis of England on February 7, and Pete Herman won the bantamweight 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 19. 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 meet 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 jolts 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 Illinois; 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 Chicago; 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 naturalist.

April 3, Annie Louise Cary, once famous prima donna; April 8, Julie Opp, actress, and B. E. Wallace, pioneer circus man; April 9, Archbishop Walsh 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 diplomat.

June 5, W. T. Crooks, noted Brit labor leader; June 7, Alvin T. H Republican leader of Kentucky; Jun Col. F. W. Galbraith, Jr., national co mander of the American Legion; Ju 13, Gen. Jose Gomez, former presid of Cuba, and H. C. Ide, former gov nor general of the Philippines; Ju 15, Judge W. A. Blount of Florid president of the American Bar ass ciation; June 16, William E. Mas congressman-at-large from Illinoi June 22, Dr. Morris Jastrow, authori on Semitic literature, and Gen. C. Taylor, editor of the Boston Glob June 28, Charles J. Bonaparte of Ba timore; June 29, Lady Randol Churchill.

July 3, John F. Wallace, eminent e gineer; July 10, Douglas Story, auth and journalist; July 12, Harry Hawke famous British aviator; July 15, D W. E. Stone, president of Purdue u versity; July 29, Robert E. Burk prominent Democrat of Chicago, a Charles B. Cory, ornithologist; July 3 Edgar Saltus, author.

Aug. 2, Enrico Caruso, the famou operatic tenor; Aug. 6, John G. kins, Wisconsin jurist; Aug. 11, W liam C. Hook, jurist, of Kansas; A 12, Alexander Block, noted Rus poet; Aug. 13, Samuel P. Colt, leade rubber industry; Aug. 17, King Pete Serbia; Aug. 19, Demetrios Rha Greek statesman; Aug. 23, Sir S Hughes of Canada; Aug. 25, P Cooper Hewitt, noted American in tor; Aug. 31, Field Marshal Count Buelow, German war leader.

Sept. 2, Austin Dobson, Eng poet; Sept. 11, Former Senator Geo P. Wetmore of Rhode Island; Sept. Peer Stromme, American author journalist; Sept. 21, Sir Ernest sel, British financier; Sept. 28, En bert Humperdinck, German compo

Oct. 1, Former Federal Judge Pe Grosscup of Chicago; Oct. 2, Da Bispham, American baritone, and W liam II, former king of Wurttemb Oct. 12, Philander Case Knox, sen from Pennsylvania; Oct. 18, Lud III, former king of Bavaria; Oct. Maj. Gen. W. W. Wotherspoon, U A.; Oct. 25, "Bat" Masterson, wr and former noted westerner; Oct. Henry Oyen, American novelist.

Nov. 3, Dan Hanna, capitalist publisher, of Cleveland, O.; Nov. Rev. Antoinette Blackwell, first wo ordained as a minister in the U States; Nov. 13, C. H. Prior o Paul, railway builder, and Mrs. Geo J. Gould; Nov. 20, Lawrence C. E American painter; Nov. 22, Christ Nilsson, Countess de Casa Miran once famous operatic soprano, Henry M. Hyndman, British socia leader; Nov. 27, Lieut. Col. C. Whittlesey, hero of the "lost ba ion;" Nov. 28, Abdul Baha Abbas, l er of the Bahaists; Nov. 29, Caryll, composer, and Lord Mount phen, creator of the Canadian Pa railway system.

Dec. 10, Sir Arthur Pearson, fam blind publisher of England; Dec. the earl of Halsbury, former Brit lord high chancellor; Dec. 12, H. C Evans of Tennessee, former comm sioner of pensions; Dec. 15, Congr man J. A. Elston of California, committed suicide; Dec. 16, Cam Saint-Saens, noted French composer

DISASTERS

Floods, tornadoes and conflagratio cost many lives and vast proper losses in 1921. A four-million-doll fire destroyed the business section Athens, Ga., on January 24. The A mour grain elevator in Chicago, la est in the world, was wrecked by and explosion on March 19, the l being $6,000,000. A thousand hou in Tokyo were destroyed by flames March, and in April fire in Ma rendered 15,000 homeless and 4 buildings were burned in Hakod Japan. The Southern states w struck by a tornado on April 15, persons being killed. On June 3 c the terrible floods in eastern Color in which hundreds lost their lives immense property damage was d San Antonio, Tex., experienced a astrous flood on September 10.

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

On September 21 a great nitr plant at Oppau, Germany, blew The town was wiped out, about 1,5 persons were killed and thousan were injured.

(©, 1921, Western Newspaper Union.)

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2929_scm3545-0010.jpg