BANK AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, 1921

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BANK AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, 1921



Bank and Public Holidays

Throughout the World

1920

Guaranty Trust Company of New York 140 Broadway

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Preface

THE third annual issue of "Bank and Public Holidays" finds the world still seriously disturbed, but gradually adjusting itself to the profound changes effected by the great war. The names of many new countries appear in this volume, but in several of them the governing authorities have been too much occupied with more urgent affairs to give much attention to the matter of holidays. Every effort has been made to obtain official lists of the holidays in such of the new countries as have enacted any legislation or promulgated any decrees on this subject, while many authorities have been consulted as to the religious and secular holidays formerly observed in those regions that are likely to be perpetuated under the new regime.

As in previous editions much care has been taken to indicate the nature of the government in each instance—whether a republic, a monarchy or a colony—but in the case of some of the new countries the precise form of government has not yet been definitely determined. In a few cases the very names and permanence of the countries themselves—notably within the former Empire of Russia—are still matters of uncertainty. With very few exceptions the birthdays of royal personages have ceased to be public holidays—none of the new republics thus commemorating any of their former rulers. During the year 1919, bills were introduced in various American

State legislatures and in the legislative bodies of several foreign countries providing for a permanent holiday on November 11, the anniversary of the Armistice with Germany, but very few of these have as yet become law. Those actually enacted are noted under the respective States and countries; in many other cases the date was made a holiday in 1919 by proclamation and may be so again in 1920.

The tendency, noted last year, to suppress all minor holidays and give official recognition only to those of national importance has been still further extendedparticularly among the Latin-American republics. Uruguay, for example, Congress passed a law, effective March 1, 1919, which expressly abolished all religious holidays formerly observed and substituted the list set forth in this book. In many other countries the official observance of religious festivals is being greatly curtailed. In this edition, therefore, the religious festivals given in previous issues with an asterisk and the footnote "nonofficial" are omitted entirely from the chronological section and are indicated in the alphabetical section in the footnotes. Those for which no official confirmation could be obtained, and which local banks have reported as not being observed by business houses, have been omitted altogether.

In the following pages the holidays are, as heretofore, arranged in two lists. First comes the chronological list, in the usual calendar form, with the states or countries in which there is a holiday printed under the date on which the actual observance will take place. (See introductory note to the calendar for 1920 on page 9.) Then comes an alphabetical list of the principal countries and

colonies in the world and all of the States of the United States and of Australia with the complete list of holidays observed in each. Various facts of interest regarding local holidays are noted in the footnotes to the alphabetical section. Those for Australia have been greatly amplified and improved through the courtesy of officials of the Commonwealth. Particular pains have been taken to ascertain the facts regarding the observance of Election Day and Primary Day in the United States, and acknowledgment is due to the Secretaries of State of the various States for the courtesy and care with which they have responded to requests for information. Acknowledgment is also due to readers of the earlier volumes in many parts of the world who have kindly pointed out errors or suggested improvements. Similar assistance with respect to the present volume will be welcomed.

In compiling these lists the best available authorities have been consulted—usually three or four for each foreign country or colony. While every effort is made to have the lists accurate no responsibility is assumed as to the correctness of any date. The hearty reception accorded to the 1918 and 1919 editions of "Bank and Public Holidays"—which is now widely recognized as an authority on this subject—encourages the hope that the 1920 volume will be equally acceptable.

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