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U. S. CROP REPORT.

Unfavorable Conditions East of Rockies.

Late Corn Improving—Cotton Improving in Central and Eastern Portion of Belt—Destructive Freshets in the Carolinas.

Washington, August 13.—The Agricultural Department today issued its weekly summary of crop conditions. It follows:

"The week ending August 12 has been of very favorable temperature conditions in the districts east of the Rocky Mountains, with beneficial rains over a large part of the drought area. Drought, however, continues in the Ohio Valley and in portions of Tennessee and the upper lake region, while excessive rains have caused destructive freshets in the Carolinas and proved injurious in portions of Georgia, Florida and Alabama. Extremely hot weather in the interior of California caused rapid ripening of fruit and serious injury to grapes in some places.

"Late corn has experienced material improvement in the States of Mississippi and Missouri and in Kentucky and Tennessee, and with favorable temperature conditions in September the yield in the Missouri Valley will be larger than indicated by previous reports. In Ohio, Indiana and central and southern Illinois the condition of the crop has further deteriorated, especially in southwestern Ohio. In the Atlantic coast district corn has made excellent progress.

"Rains have interrupted the spring wheat harvest, which, however, is nearly finished over the southern portion of the spring wheat region, and caused lodging in portions of North Dakota, where the grain is reported as shrunken and heads not well filled, as a result of late excessive heat. The wheat harvest on the north Pacific coast is in active progress, with yields exceeding expectations.

"Further improvement in the condition of cotton is generally reported from the central and eastern portions of cotton belt, although rust and shedding are more or less indicated, especially in Georgia, Florida and portions of Alabama, where too much rain has fallen in localities. Over much of the western part of the cotton belt and in portions of the central districts cotton is suffering for rain, and the drought region of Texas is falling rapidly. Picking is in general progress in Texas except in the northern counties. In the middle Atlantic States and New England tobacco has made favorable progress except in portions of Maryland, where the crop on lowlands has been injured by too much rain. In Kentucky and in portions of Tennessee the crop is greatly improved, but in southwestern Ohio it has been seriously damaged by drought.

"All reports from districts east of the Rocky Mountains indicate an extremely light and inferior apple crop, although the outlook is slightly improved in Kansas and Missouri.

"Plowing for fall seeding has made very favorable progress except in the Ohio Valley, where the soil is too dry."

CAROLINA CROP CONDITIONS.

The Past Week Has Shown Considerable Improvement.

The weekly crop bulletin for the week ending Monday, August 12th, says:

"The past week was characterized by very heavy rains from Monday to Wednesday, inclusive, which were followed by fair, warm and very favorable weather. The rainfall averaged nearly 3.00 above the normal, but was very beneficial in nearly all the counties of the eastern district, along the northern border of the State, and in the extreme west, where the drought was generally broken and crops materially improved; in the southern portion,

however, the heavy rains washed cotton and corn lands badly in some localities, and resulted in heavy freshets with overflow of lowlands and some damage to stacked hay and other crops. The floods in the larger rivers culminated on the 9th. The temperature average about 2 degrees above the normal for the week. On the whole the reports of correspondents were generally favorable and indicate improved prospects as far as may now be after a season so uniformly bad as the present one.

"Cotton improved generally during the week; late cotton was revived, is vigorous and will reach sufficient size to give a good yield with a late autumn; old cotton seems to be holding its fruit well, and very few reports of shedding have been received, but the bolls are still scattering on the plants. It may be said that in some sections where the crop was well worked cotton will be good, in most others fair to very poor.

"Corn has come out better than expected; a great deal of corn was planted very late, and it now looks very well, except on bottom lands, where crops are practically non-existent; fodder is ripening. Some improvement in the growth of late tobacco occurred; cutting and curing continued during the week. Field peas and sweet potato vines are fine. Peanuts promise a full crop, will be ready for digging soon. Turning land for wheat is progressing slowly; turnips are being sown and these are sprouting nicely. Special reports on the apple crop indicate a poor yield almost everywhere; apples are knotty and not well formed, are rotting or falling before maturity, and the need of spraying was manifest this season. The early hay crop was saved in good condition, but rains and freshets injured some of the late crop; a large amount of peavine hay will be made later in the season."

His Crop 225,000 Bushels.

Elkton, Md., Aug. 10.—Captain Andrew Woodall, the grain king of the Eastern shore of Maryland, who owns 30 of the best farms in Cecil and Kent counties, aggregating probably 15,000 to 18,000 acres of the finest lands in the two counties, estimates the wheat crops on these farms this year at 100,000 bushels. His corn crop is estimated at 125,000 bushels, making the total of 225,000 bushels of grain grown in one year.

If shipped by rail this grain, with the usual average of about 750 bushels to the car, would require 300 cars, or 200 trains of 15 cars each, to convey it to market. Captain Woodall is 82 years old and resides at Georgetown, on the Sassafras River. Notwithstanding his advanced age he gives every detail of his varied business his personal attention. On his farms are about 200 head of horses and 400 head of fine cattle. Captain Woodall when a young man was employed as a farm hand. He is now a millionaire.

A Few Figures.

An effect of Germany's trade collapse is disclosed by our export statistics for June. In June, 1900, the shipments to that country were valued at \$12,681,910, and month before last they amounted only to \$10,911,837. On the other hand, our imports from Germany increased from \$6,625,181 to \$7,769,849. The imports did not increase from May to June, but the exports decreased from \$16,106,775. Of the loss, only a third was represented by the inevitable shrinkage in the value of the cotton shipments.—Asheville Citizen.

Sunday night near Jackson, Miss., Fredrick Westbrook and Robert Groin, two young men who had been paying attention to a young lady, met on the public road while Westbrook was taking the young lady to church. A duel followed in which Westbrook was killed. Groin afterward committed suicide.

STATE NEWS.

Short Items of Interest Culled From our State Exchanges.

It is reported that ex-Senator Butler will build a cotton mill at his home at Elliot, in Sampson county.

Three covered bridges have been swept away in Chatham county by the high waters of Rocky River.

This week in Pitt county Turner Sugg shot and instantly killed Ernest Williams. Both are colored. Sugg was captured and lodged in jail.

Horses are dying by scores in Hyde county from a disease called "staggers." They live from six to 24 hours after the disease manifests itself.

The 13 months' old child of A. A. Nichols, of near Tarboro, was drowned Sunday by falling head foremost into a bucket of water, while alone in the house.

On August 1, every negro magistrate in the State went out of office. They were appointed by the fusion Legislature of 1895, and their terms expired August 1.

Ten prisoners broke out of jail at New Berne Sunday, leaving 11 more in prison. Court convenes there next week but the absence of so many prisoners will make it rather uninteresting.

Charles B. Aycock, Jr., eldest son of Governor Aycock, died at the Wilson Sanitarium last Saturday after a two weeks' illness. He was in his eighteenth year. He was buried at Wilson Sunday afternoon.

C. Davis, a young white man, was killed by lightning while he slept Saturday night at his home five miles from Shelby. His mother was shocked also but not seriously. The lightning set his bed on fire, and the house was saved by throwing the bed in the yard.

As a mark of respect to the memory of their late captain, Wm. H. Overman, the members of the Salisbury military company have applied to the Adjutant General to change the name of the company from the "Rowan Rifles" to the "Overman Light Infantry."

Dunn Banner: One day last week in Upper Little River township, near Antioch church, a young man named George Parker, came across a large sting snake and proceeded to kill it, which he succeeded in doing. He found with her 64 little snakes, all of which he killed.

Louis Council, the condemned negro rapist, was not hanged last Monday. Justice Douglas of the Supreme Court, has issued an order granting a rehearing of Council's case, and the Governor relieved the condemned man until November 1, in order that the court may again hear the case.

The Masonic picnic at Mocksville last week netted \$600 for the Oxford Orphanage. Chief Justice Furches delivered an interesting and valuable historical address, his subject being Davie county. Gov. Aycock, who was to have spoken, could not be present on account of the illness of his son.

Three ice companies in Asheville combined and sold their product through one man at an agreed price, thus destroying competition. Now the grand jury of Buncombe Superior Court has presented the three companies for forming a trust and the case against them will be tried in November.

Raleigh News and Observer: The investigation of the books now being made by expert accountants shows the condition of the penitentiary worse even than it was at first believed to be. Though the examination will not be completed for another month, already the indebtedness of the penitentiary has risen from the \$17,000 claimed by Capt. Day, to \$22,000. It is believed that it will go to \$25,000.

Dr. John C. Kilgo, President of Trinity College, sailed from New York this week on the steamer Majestic for a several weeks' trip to Europe. He goes as a delegate from North Carolina to the Ecumenical conference which meets in London next month.

A. Hauser, a Swiss watchmaker, was arrested at Wilmington Monday, charged with setting or having set fire to his jewelry store early Sunday night. Hauser was on Wrightsville Sound when the fire occurred, and denies any knowledge of the origin of the fire. He carried \$1,500 insurance on stock and fixtures. The damage was \$300.

A few days ago in Pitt county, two white men, William Gardner and Mack Dixon, quarreled over some trivial matter. Gardner drew a pistol and shot three balls into Dixon. Dixon then knocked Gardner down, took the pistol from him and shot the remaining two balls into Gardner's body. Both died in a short while.

A boy named Wagoner, son of a prominent citizen of Hickory, was drowned Monday evening in South Fork river, near Shuford Cotton Mill. Wagoner's brother-in-law, Garrison, was also drowned. It is supposed that they were bathing, that the boy began to sink, and that Garrison went to his rescue and was also drowned.

The dog tax is causing some little amusement at Greensboro. The City Fathers have passed an ordinance taxing every dog one dollar. Dog owners do not like this and many are resorting to different schemes of escaping the tax. Warrants are sworn out against every owner of a dog without the regulation tag around its neck.

Thomas M. Dick, of Brooklyn, was Friday elected professor of mechanical engineering in the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh. He graduated No. 1 in his class at the United States Naval Academy. He is now on the retired list. He is a South Carolinian and a graduate of the university of that State. He has had important duties in the navy as Engineer. His testimonials are of the highest character.

GENERAL NEWS.

Statistics prepared by the census bureau show that 59 per cent. of the population of Mississippi is composed of colored people.

The Virginia Democratic Convention met in Norfolk Wednesday and nominated A. J. Montague for Governor by acclamation.

A negro who attempted to criminally assault the wife of a section master near Way's station, Ga., July 26, was burned near the scene of his crime Saturday night.

Five men were burned to death, four were drowned, three or four others suffocated and several injured as the result of a fire which destroyed a temporary water works crib near Cleveland, Ohio, Wednesday.

Gorge E. Bisert, a new York City police wardman, convicted recently of accepting a bribe as protection money from the keeper of a disorderly house, has been sentenced to five and one-half years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of \$1000.

At Medicine Lodge, Kansas, last week David Nation, through his attorney, brought suit for divorce from his wife, Mrs. Carrie Nation, the temperance crusader. Mr. Nation, who is now visiting in Iberia, Ohio, alleges that his wife held him up to public ridicule, neglected her family duties and abandoned his home.

Assistant Postmaster Jno. G. Pole and his family, while attempting to cross a mountain stream near Lexington, Va., were swept down by the waters of a cloud-burst Sunday afternoon and his wife and three daughters, aged from one to eight years, drowned. Mr. Pole and a daughter about three years old escaped. The bodies were recovered.

CONGRESSMAN POU'S WORK.

Gets a Special Agent to Come Here to Establish Rural Free Delivery Routes.

Congressman E. W. Pou, who was here yesterday, returned from Washington, D. C., last week, where he went to use his efforts to secure an extension of the rural free delivery system in this district.

Congressman Pou consulted with the authorities in the Post Office Department, who promised to send a special agent here this week for the purpose of selecting new delivery routes.

The fact presented to the department by Mr. Pou that North Carolina has failed to get her quota of the rural system, and he explained that the people were anxious for a more general extension of the service. The Congressman's talk was not without effect and a special officer from the department will arrive here this week.

Mr. Pou stated yesterday that he had seventeen applications for rural free delivery routes in the district. Four of these are from Wake, two of the routes asked for leading from Raleigh, one from Morrisville and the other from Garner. The special officer from the post-office department, who comes here this week will examine these applications and visit such routes as he thinks practicable and advisable. Congressman Pou is working hard to have the rural free delivery system extended all over the district.

A matter in which Congressman Pou is greatly interested is of peculiar concern to Raleigh. This is the construction of an asphalt road from the National cemetery to the city. Mr. Pou stated that he intended to push this matter and he saw no reason why the government should not build a splendid road to the cemetery. Superintendent Smith of the cemetery has recommended that the road be constructed out New Bern avenue, and then by Soldiers' Home to the National cemetery. Congressman Pou is taking an active interest in the matter and with proper support by Raleigh's business citizens he can push it through to success.—Raleigh Post, Tuesday.

A Supposed Imposition.

SILONA, N. C., Aug. 7, 1901.

MR. EDITOR:—If you will allow space in your paper I would be glad to give to the public a little matter which has the appearance, to me at least, of some rascality in it, and I think ought to be investigated by the proper authority.

The school committee of District No. 2 for the colored race, in Elevation township, has been deceived by a man who was soliciting orders for the C. H. James school desk. Mack Sanders the chairman of the above mentioned committee, and Silas McLamb the other committeeman of the same school district, were before me a few days ago to qualify as committeemen for another term, and brought with them their blank order book to get me to assist them in a little matter which they needed assistance in, as neither of them could write; and on examination found that there was a blank stub and the order gone. I asked them if they had given an order and forgot to put the amount and what it was for on the stub? They said no, they had not given any order since the one they gave in settlement with their teacher for teaching their last winter's school. It was the next stub that was left blank.

Mack Sanders then said: "That man who let us have those desks took that order out of the book; he went back to my house after he had gone to see Silas and after I had gone to work, and called for the order book and my folks had no better sense than to let him have it, and they told me when I got back that the desk man had been back there and called for the committee's books and he took a leaf out of the little narrow book."

I then asked if they did not give an order for the pay for the desks? They both answered, no, and added, "we did not have to pay for the desks. That man said the State furnished them free of cost, and that the new school law required that all the school houses should be furnished with those desks, and it was the duty of the committee of all the schools in the State to see to it that this part of the law was carried out, as it costs nothing."

I told them I knew nothing of such law, but I was not a lawyer neither did I claim to be very well posted in the school law, but I thought there was something very thin in the transaction and thought they had been imposed upon or there was some misunderstanding about the matter, and the school fund that you committeemen have for your district, in my opinion, will go to pay for those desks or at least as much of it as is required to settle the bill of those who furnished the desks.

Mack Sanders answered again, "No sir; that man told us it would not cost us nor our school district a cent, not even for the freight, that the State furnished the desks absolutely free, to all of the school houses in the State that did not already have them, and all that the committee had to do about the matter was to say how many desks would be required to supply the school house for comfortably seating the school, allowing two to the desk."

I then asked Mack Sanders and Silas McLamb if they were certain that they did not sign an order or tell some one to sign an order for them for money that was in the hands of the Treasurer to pay for desks? They both answered that they neither had signed such an order nor authorized any one to do so; and further, if there was any such order in existence they knew nothing at all about it; and further still, if there is such an order in existence, it was forged.

Now, Mr. Editor, knowing Mack Sanders and Silas McLamb as I do, I am forced to the conclusion that something should be done to protect the unlettered men of the country from being deceived in such a manner as the above, whether they be white or colored makes no difference. Justice is justice; rascality is rascality; we can't make either anything else than what it is. But those of us who have been fortunate enough to learn to read and write could, if we only would, put a stop to such by giving the helping hand when we see it is needed, to expose the rascality of the country, and in defending weak and innocent citizens of all classes.

J. H. SMITH.

Didn't Advertise.

A bachelor who bought a pair of socks recently found attached to them a slip of paper with these words: "I am a young lady of 20, and would like to correspond with a bachelor with a view to matrimony." Name and address were given. The bachelor wrote and in a few days got this letter: "Mamma married 20 years ago. The merchant you got those socks from evidently did not advertise or he would have sold them long ago. Mamma loved me your letter and said possibly I might suit you. I am 18 years old."

The first bale of Alabama cotton of the new crop was received at Mobile Monday night from Wilcox county.

For the first time since the outbreak of the Spanish war, President McKinley has approved the death sentence in the case of an enlisted man. The case is that of Private Phineas Foutz, Company K, Nineteenth Infantry. This soldier was convicted by general court martial at Cebu, P. I., of the murder of Genoviva Torres, a native Filipino girl, by stabbing her to death with a sword cane, in her home at Mandanae, Cebu, November 15, 1900. The court sentenced the accused to be hanged.