

COTTON PRICES ARE WEAKER.

React Sharply After Further Upturn. February Consumption Large.

When the extent of the recent rise is considered, it is not strange that cotton has developed reactionary tendencies. Since the month opened, there has been an extreme advance in the options of from about \$5 to \$8, the latter on the March delivery, and the spot quotation has gained fully \$6 a bale, or from 17 cents to 18.35 cents. Mainly in response to strength at Liverpool, continued buying trade interests and adverse weather advices, the best figures of the current movement were reached on Monday, when March touched 18.40 cents, May 18.10 cents and October went within a point of the 17-cent level. Yet yielding quickly followed the initial upturn, as successful traders found profits tempting, and, around mid-week sharp reaction was caused by selling that was not all liquidation by speculative holders. Pressure against the list at that time was largely explained by apprehensions regarding overseas shipping conditions, intensified by the sinking of the Algonquin, and the break in wheat was also an influence. But after a rise of 100 to 150 points and more within less than a fortnight the decline, which carried March back below 18 cents, May to about 17.50 cents and October to 16.75 cents, was not surprising, and in the later sessions the downward movement met with more resistance.

Instead of being bearish, as some people expected, Thursday's report on domestic consumption was quite the opposite. It showed that American mills last month used 547,200 bales, exclusive of linters, against 603,700 in January and 540,700 bales in February, 1916. Allowing for the shorter month, the figures were bullish, and at 33,117,000 active spindles set a new precedent and compared with less than 32,000,000 a year ago. Yet the exports were disappointing, being little more than half those of February, 1916, and reflect the difficulties in overseas shipping.—Dun's Review.

Rice to the Rescue.

There are several reasons which make rice, in its connection with present agricultural and economic conditions, of unusual importance. Agriculturally, rice is of chief importance to the South. Economically, it has great significance for the whole country now suffering from the most critical food situation of its history. Before considering some of the more important features of these two separate but closely allied questions, some of the more pertinent general facts should be fixed in mind.

Rice has never been a popular general article of food in our country. Yet it forms the chief standby in the regular diet of more people throughout the world than any other single food. More people depend upon their daily rice for sustenance than depend upon their daily bread. The fact that the chief consumers of rice, as a whole are less advanced than those depending upon bread as the staff of life has no direct bearing on the relative merits of the two foods. Rice eaters are not improved in efficiency or character by change to bread, and bread eaters lose no power by substitution of rice.

In ante-bellum days, the American rice crop was grown almost exclusively along a few rivers near the coast in South Carolina and Georgia. The remains of many single old plantations, larger than the present total area of rice in these two States, are still extant. Of late years, the production has developed almost exclusively in Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas and California.

In 1915 the crop of these States was as follows:

State	Acres	Bushels
South Carolina	3,700	90,000
Georgia	900	20,000
Louisiana	401,000	13,714,000
Texas	260,000	7,930,000
Arkansas	100,000	4,840,000
California	34,000	2,268,000

The total acreage for the whole country was 802,600 acres, with a yield of 28,947,000 bushels.

In connection with this total production for the country it is quite significant that during the same year we imported 5,931,173 bushels. It is, therefore, clear that even though we are not a nation of rice eaters, we produce only about 82 per cent of the rice we actually consume. Even on the present basis of consumption our production could be increased nearly one-fifth without supplying present home demand.

Although the rice of commerce, and, until quite recently, most of the American crop, is grown where surface irrigation has been possible, the development of the Arkansas rice section opened up a new phase of the industry. Artesian water is now relied on for irrigation so extensively as to have become an important factor in the production. There are millions of acres of land in the artesian basins

of South Georgia and the Gulf States admirably adapted to successful rice growing.

It is important to bear in mind that rice is not really an aquatic plant. It merely has great power of water resistance. Water is used not as an essential to the development of the crop, but as the most economical means for giving the plants a good start when transplanted, and for killing the grass, otherwise so serious a pest to the young rice. American rice is today almost exclusively grown by machine cultural methods similar to those followed with other cereal grains. Upland rice is adapted to enormous areas of the more level and heavy Southern soils with no greater efforts than needed for other grains. Rice, therefore, may be made a satisfactory food grain crop in sections where other grains are not feasible because of lack of suitable climatic and soil conditions.

To the Southern farmer rice possesses one advantage in which it is wholly different from other grains. It is distinctly a spring crop, while success with most of our grains makes fall sowing almost imperative. This gives the rice grower a chance to break his land in the fall, then to harrow and sow in the spring, thus dividing the labor.

The present chief importance of rice is not its agricultural adaptation to Southern conditions. Its food value far outweighs all other considerations. We have not in mind merely supplying with Southern grown rice the demand now met by the 18 per cent of imported rice. We urge the very great importance and economical advantage of the increased use of this great article of food.

Few foods are capable of use in so many appetizing ways, and always with hunger-satisfying results. It is bread, vegetable and dessert. Cooked with a few beans, as the Japanese use it, rice is both meat and bread. Had the people in New York who recently rioted for bread and clamored for potatoes, only accepted rice as a substitute, the purchasing power of their money would have been surprisingly increased and their hunger satisfied.

Rice is wholesome, nutritious, palatable, satisfying, and above all, most economical. There has hardly been a day in thirty years when rice has not been a part of our own personal food ration. We are not discussing a theory but actual practice. We are justified in advocating "Rice to the Rescue."—Southern Ruralist.

SHARP REACTION IN WHEAT. May Option 15 Cents Below Recent High Level. Railroad Situation a Factor.

At a time when some interests were predicting \$2 for the May option in Chicago, wheat turned sharply downward. Reaction was not surprising, in view of the recent rapid upturn, but it was carried further than expected, May falling below \$1.76 a bushel on Wednesday. This represents a loss of fully 15 cents from last week's high level, and the decline has done much to shake confidence on the part of the bullish contingent. Speculative holders were active sellers of the nearest delivery and fears of a transportation tie-up largely explained the liquidating movement, with talk of a possible restriction of exports a contributing influence. In the latter connection, Liverpool advices intimated that rigid economies in England have reduced import requirement materially, and there were also renewed reports of arrangements being made for the shipment of wheat there from Australia and India. Meanwhile, recent crop news from the winter wheat belt has been less pessimistic, and the more favorable turn in prospects induced some early selling. Yet there were subsequent complaints of deterioration through drought in the Southwest and, as the break of 15 cents in prices obviously strengthened the technical position of the market, there was quite a sharp recovery in the later sessions.

With wheat receding sharply, lower quotations for flour were logical, though mills were rather slow about making reductions. No conspicuous sales were noted, but in the aggregate quite a fair business has been effected of late, principally in spring patents. Production has not maintained its recent increase, falling during the latest week to 416,000 barrels against 424,000 in the previous week and 427,000 barrels a year ago, according to the North Western Miller.—Dun's Review.

Baseball in Fayetteville.

The Boston "Braves" of the National League, and the New York "Yankees" of the American League, will play a game of baseball at the Fayetteville fair grounds on Monday afternoon, April 2, starting at 2:30 o'clock. The Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce is responsible for the coming of these big teams to this section.

United States Super-Dreadnought Utah

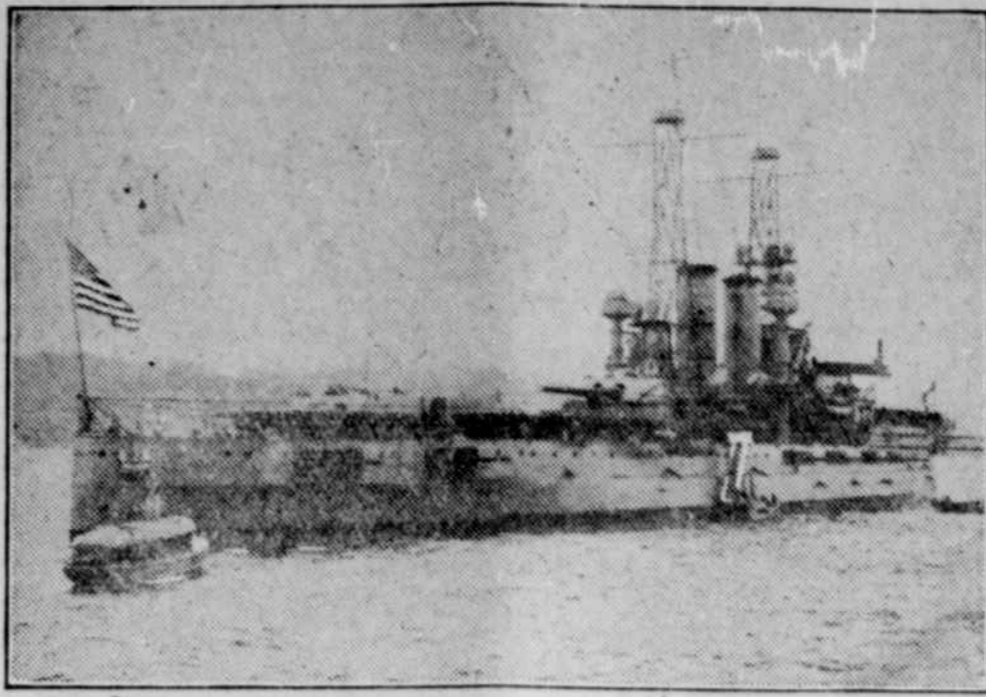


Photo by American Press Association. The Utah is a 21,825 ton warship, 521.5 feet long. Her main batteries consist of ten twelve-inch guns, and she has a crew of 1,014 officers and men.

DRY GOODS PRICES STRONGER.

Buying in Primary Markets Develops Scarcity of Some Merchandise.

On the whole, dry goods prices are either held steady to firm, or are gradually rising again, particularly on gray cottons for printing, converting or manufacturing. In several directions the curious condition has been shown that where there is any pressure to sell buyers become indifferent, yet when goods are wanted it is not easy to find them in the quantities or quantities sought for immediate use. Many mills have been accumulating orders, while others are gradually catching up with business that has been in hand for some time.

Irregular transportation conditions make it difficult to rely upon the prompt arrival of merchandise due, yet the number of cancellations heard of for non-delivery is very small, many of the goods having been purchased at prices that cannot now be duplicated. A great deal of inconvenience in distribution is resulting from the changing of many set prices, instances being numerous where other goods are substituted because of advances forced by higher costs of production. Retailers who purchased for advance delivery last fall are now receiving many goods whose replacement costs on today's markets at first hands are as high as the prices jobbers asked for five months ago, and the process of passing the higher prices along to consumers has been interfered with by the very high costs of food.

Hopes of improved shipping opportunities are entertained as a result of the new attitude of the government, yet foreign trade is irregular on textiles, due in part to unsettled conditions in markets like Cuba, Peru, and elsewhere. While business has been in good volume in many directions, merchants are constantly alternating between confidence and doubt when future plans are under consideration.—Dun's Review.

Southern Literature.

Charlotte Observer.

A writer in The New York Post comes forward with the opinion that "the old Southern complaint that Southern literature is unjustly neglected has lost its force since Cable, Page, O. Henry, James Lane Allen, Sidney Lanier, Joel Chandler Harris and Charles Egbert Craddock have sold as many copies of their works as Northern contemporaries of equal ability." The Post's contributor thinks it possible that some of the older writers of the South "have been forgotten in undue time," and he sets forth that William Gilmore Simms and John Esten Cooke "are still read in the South; and visitors to any Southern bookstore will find inexpensive reprints of the novels and histories of the latter for sale. They are unknown even to college students of American literature in the North, though "The Yemassee" is as good as some of Cooper's novels that survive, and "The Virginia Comedians" is an interesting and faithful picture of Virginia society before the Revolution, though a crudely executed narrative." We are told of a small volume of selections illustrating "Southern Life in Southern Literature," indicating some writers of essays of humorous observations who might be studied by historians, as well as by those interested in literature. We quote: "A. B. Long-Street's 'Georgia Scenes' is probably all but unobtainable, but it has life and vivacity; William Tappan Thompson's 'Major Jones' Letters,' is another book of Georgia life of the same quality." Joseph G. Baldwin's "Flush Times in Alabama and Mississippi," is also quoted as one of the better of the old-time Southern productions. A very high estimate is placed on David Crockett's "Life by Himself," and it is the opinion of the contributor to The Post that "such men as these are better worth the trouble of resurrecting than the weak

poets that the South forty years ago used to think would have, if given their deserts, a place beside Whittier and Lowell," a point not worth discussing in this connection. It is significant, however—this late recognition coming into manifestation of the work of Southern writers of the past. It is quite true that most of their works are out of print, but nevertheless they have enriched the libraries of the land. Where can there be found a finer standard of literature than that left by the civil and military writers of the Confederate war period? The works of Semmes and of Maury and of Maffit have enriched the world's store of knowledge of the geography of the seas and of peoples and countries, and while strictly historical in character yet deserve to be included with the most classical of the literature of the States are all good, many of them prepared by masters of the English language. And of modern writers there is much more to be said than is covered by The Post's writer. The books by Corra Harris are developing a popularity which is astonishing the country—astonishing it, perhaps, because of the fact that a book by a Southern writer could possibly gain an instant and an immense amount of public popularity. We should argue that Southern writers, by mere force of talent and ability, are breaking down the barriers of prejudice which has so long operated against their productions and which has made it hitherto impossible that the works of Southern authors could become as popular sellers as "the works of Northern contemporaries of equal ability." The signs of the times indicate that Southern literature, old and new, is coming into its own by reason of its very merit which is being forced into the recognition of the literary world.

GIANT ZEPPELIN IS DESTROYED

Airship Falls 11,000 Feet in Compaigne While Great Crowd Cheers. Several Sighted in Raid Over France.

Paris, March 17.—From 11,000 feet in the sky, French expert anti-aircraft gunners at Compaigne to-day brought down in blazing fury a giant German Zeppelin, one of a number apparently returning from a raid on England.

It fell in one of the main streets of the city, a charred mass, those of its crew who remained aboard burned into unrecognizable masses. Two or three of the crew, mad with pain of the flames and certain of death, preferred to meet it otherwise than in a mass of fire and jumped thousands of feet to the earth.

The great Zeppelin broke in two just before it landed, a blazing, almost molten mass. The wreckage was still smoldering late to-day.

OLD BEULAH NEWS.

Misses Sadie Peedin and Clara Thompson, of near Pine Level, spent Saturday night at Mrs. Emma Starlings'.

Mr. Barney Edgerton and Miss Martha Pittman and Mr. Luther Pittman and Miss Clyde Smith attended church at Niagara Sunday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Luther Watson visited Mrs. Watson's parents in the Sanders Chapel section last Saturday night.

Mrs. Jane Aycock, of near Kenly, is visiting her brothers, Messrs. Rufe and Tom Parker. March 17, 1917.

Two-Page Paris Papers Appear.

Paris morning papers have appeared for the first time with only two pages. The Martin publishes an ironical drawing, with a note asking the readers to look for further information to page 4. Morning papers will publish two pages only on Mondays and Thursdays.—London Globe.

British Columbia Paper Shipments.

During 1915 British Columbia exported to the United States 47,319,178 pounds of news print paper, valued at \$4,002,527; in 1916, 57,055,778 pounds, value \$1,209,466. (The values include freight and other charges).

The invoice values per pound for the different grades of news print exported were: White—rolls 1.92 cents, sheets 2.02 cents; Pink—rolls 2.07 cents, sheets 2.17 cents; canary, 2.07 cents.—U. S. Commerce Reports.

AFTER GRIPPE

Mrs. Findley Made Strong By Vinol
Severy, Kans.—"The Grippe left me in a weak, nervous, run-down condition. I was too weak to do my housework and could not sleep. After trying different medicines without benefit Vinol restored my health, strength and appetite. Vinol is a grand medicine and every weak, nervous, run-down woman should take it."—Mrs. GEO. FINDLEY.
Vinol sharpens the appetite, aids digestion, enriches the blood, and builds up natural strength and energy. Try it on our guarantee.

HOOD BROS., Druggists, Smithfield, N. C.

I Want to Hear From You

The Spring is here and the Spring sewing will be on hand shortly, and I want to sell you a New Home Sewing Machine to do your work. If you want to buy a machine I want to hear from you telling me just where you live and who you live nearest to, so that I can find you easily. State also how much you can pay on a machine. I want to sell you.

J. M. BEATY

Smithfield, N. C., March 1, 1917.

ED. A. HOLT

Dealer in High Grade Coffins, Caskets and Burial Robes, Princeton, - North Carolina

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Administratrix on the estate of S. T. Barham, deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 16th day of March, 1918, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 16th day of March, 1917.
SUSIE J. BARHAM, Administratrix.

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Executor on the estate of Abram Cole, deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 27th day of February, 1918, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 24th day of February, 1917.
W. H. COLE, Executor.
Bentonville, N. C., Route No. 2.

NOTICE.

North Carolina, Johnston County, In the Superior Court. S. S. Pate, vs. Milford Mitchell and Pernecie Campbell.

The defendant, Milford Mitchell, above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Johnston County to obtain judgment for damages for breach of contract relating to real estate situate in said County; and, the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the term of the Superior Court of said County to be held on the 7th Monday after the 1st Monday in March, it being the 23rd day of April, 1917, at the Court House of said County, in Smithfield, North Carolina, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This 10th day of February, 1917.
W. S. STEVENS, Clerk Superior Court.

ABELL & WARD, Attorneys.

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For Man and Beast
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NOTICE.

North Carolina, Johnston County, In the Superior Court, February Term, 1917.

J. J. Godwin vs. J. T. Colyer and wife, Eula M. Colyer.

Under and by virtue of the authority of an order signed at the February Term of the Superior Court of Johnston County, directing the Commissioner heretofore appointed in this action to resell the herein-after described premises, the undersigned commissioner will offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, at the Court House door in the town of Smithfield, at 11 o'clock M., on Monday, April 9th, 1917, the following described tracts or parcels of land, lying and being in Oneals township, Johnston County, N. C., and described as follows, to-wit:

LOT NO. 3: Beginning at a stake in Worley Creech's line and runs with said line S. 39 1/2 E. 27 poles to a persimmon tree; thence S. 70 W. 174 poles to two hickories on the bank of Little River; thence up the run of Little River to a hickory, to a corner of Lot No. 2, in the division of the lands of Elwood Colyer, deceased; thence with said line N. 70 E. 169.8 poles to the beginning, containing 28 acres.

LOTS NOS. 4 AND 5: Beginning at a hickory on the bank of Little River, corner of Lot No. 3, and runs with said line N. 70 E. 174 poles to a stake in Worley Creech's line; thence with said line to the run of Isaac Branch; thence up the run of said branch to a stake, Morris Godwin's corner; thence with an old ditch and a line of marked trees to a hickory on Little River; thence up the run of said River to the beginning, containing 56 acres.

This March 9, 1917.
E. J. WELLONS, Commissioner.
WELLONS & WELLONS, Attorneys.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF VALUABLE LAND.

Under and by virtue of authority contained in a decree entered in the February Term, 1917, Superior Court of Johnston County, in a civil action entitled "F. H. Brooks, Trustee, against W. L. Stancil," the undersigned Commissioner appointed in said decree, will offer for sale at public auction at the Court House door in the town of Smithfield, N. C., at 12 M., on Saturday, March 31st, 1917, the following described real estate, situate and being in Wilders township, Johnston County, State of North Carolina, bounded as follows, to-wit:

"FIRST TRACT: Beginning at a stake on the Louisville Road, Joseph H. Stancil's corner, runs with said Joseph H. Stancil's line N. 63 E. 34.70 chains to a stake in said Joseph H. Stancil's corner, in George R. Stancil's line; thence N. 27 W. 7.10 chains to a stake in Hogpen Branch, Sallie Stancil's corner; thence with her line S. 63 W. 36.20 chains to a stake on the Louisville road; thence with said road 7.12 chains to the beginning, containing 25 acres, more or less, being the land conveyed to W. L. Stancil by Joseph H. Stancil, Sallie Stancil, George R. Stancil and wife, Annie V. Stancil, by deed June 1st, 1910, and recorded in Book "W" No. 10, page 157.

"SECOND TRACT: Beginning at a stake in George R. Stancil's line, Joseph H. Stancil's corner, runs as Joseph H. Stancil's line N. 27 W. 14.60 chains to a stake on Hogpen Branch; thence down said branch to a stake, George R. Stancil's corner; thence with his line S. 63 W. 22.50 chains to the beginning, containing 25 acres, more or less, being the land conveyed to W. L. Stancil by George R. Stancil and Annie V. Stancil, by deed September 5th, 1910, and recorded in Book No. 10, page 252."

Terms of sale, Cash.
This 1st day of March, 1917.
GEORGE ROSS POU, Commissioner.

SALE FOR ASSETS TO PAY DEBTS.

North Carolina, Johnston County, In the Superior Court, Before the Clerk. W. W. Stewart, Adm. of Joseph A. Lee, Plaintiff, vs. C. W. Lee, N. E. Lee, Martha Lee, et al.

The undersigned having been appointed Commissioner by the Court in the above entitled matter, on February 24th, 1917, to make sale of the land hereinafter described, after advertising same for 30 days in The Smithfield Herald and three (3) other public places.

THEREFORE, the undersigned Commissioner, pursuant to and by virtue of said decree, will offer for sale at Public Auction, at the Court door, in the town of Smithfield, N. C., for cash, at 12 M., on Saturday, the 24th day of March, 1917, the following described tract or parcel of land in Ingrams township, Johnston County, adjoining the lands of C. W. Lee and Raines Lee and others, and bounded and described as follows:

"Beginning at a stake in the head of a small branch and runs N. 3 E. with Raines Lee's line 137 poles to a stake in said Lee's corner; thence S. 87 E. with Edward Lee's line 97 poles to a stake, said Lee's corner; thence S. 32 W. 33 poles to a stake; thence S. 5 W. 25 poles to a poplar on the Southeast edge of a small branch; thence up said branch as it meanders to the beginning, containing 49 acres, more or less, and being the tract of land conveyed to Joseph A. Lee by A. T. Lee, by deed recorded in Book "U" No. 4, page 314, Registry of Johnston County.

This February 24th, 1917.
F. H. BROOKS, Commissioner.

PRINTED STATIONERY ADDS dignity to one's letters. Every farmer should have his farm named and then have his printed letter heads, note heads and envelopes. The Herald Print-shop is ready to do this class of printing on short notice.