

SUBMARINE SITUATION BETTER.

Loss of Merchant Craft Reduced, Through Convoys and Other Means, Below Half of One Per Cent.

Washington, Sept. 22.—Unless some new outbreak of submarine activity develops, many officials are satisfied that the situation is fairly well under control. Encouraging results have been obtained through convoying of fleets of merchant craft, the loss having been reduced to less than one-half of one per cent.

The employment of smoke screens, kite balloons and other detection devices has shown good results and progress is being made with the reduction of smoke from merchantmen and by painting ships to make them almost invisible at a distance through a periscope.

In discussing submarine conditions today, Admiral Benson, chief of naval operations and acting secretary in the absence of Secretary Daniels, indicated the department's purpose to make known more of its accomplishments hereafter than in the past. No formal announcement was made, however.

Admiral Benson said the department had been unable to find any support for reports that German submarines either had begun operations off the American coast or were preparing to do so. The department is ready for any emergency. Amusing results have sometimes followed investigation of these reports, most of which apparently have been founded on sounds of gunfire from merchantmen and warships at target practice off the coast.

The "smoke box," a device to be thrown overboard from a vessel when a submarine appears, has proved highly successful in some cases. A great smoke rises instantly when the chemicals in the box come in contact with the water and under the screen created the vessel has opportunity to change her course and elude the U-boat.

The Country Parsonage.

1. It indicates life. Dead churches and communities don't believe in, much less build, parsonages.
2. It helps the church. The parsonage with pastor hard by the church helps in all phases of the church work.
3. It increases the pastor's sphere of service. Living in the community makes it easy for him to visit the sick and bury the dead. This is the pastor's greatest missionary opportunity.
4. It helps to purify the social life in the community. Our young people are social beings and a good parsonage and a live and wise pastor will see to it that the social energies of the young people are directed along the right channel.
5. It makes it comparatively easy for the church to enter upon a larger task. That is, it makes it easier for the church to go from once-a-month preaching services to half or full time; to build up a standard Sunday school; increase the efficiency of the auxiliaries and double its offerings to the Kingdom enterprise.
6. It contributes to the unity of the church and community life. It cultivates brotherly love and Christian fellowship and settles differences without resorting to the church conferences and State courts.
7. It wins the unsaved to the Lord Jesus Christ and sets straight again "trunk" members who have wandered far from the paths of the Lord God of hosts and deepens and develops the Christian graces that fit and prepare God's people for taking the world for Him whom we crown as Saviour, King and Lord.
8. The country parsonage is the only solution to the ever increasing problem facing the country churches in the South.—G. C. Hedgepeth, in the Biblical Recorder.

ADVISES FARMERS TO HOLD COTTON FOR 25 CENTS.

Washington, Sept. 22.—Cotton growers of the South were urged by Senator Ransdell, of Louisiana, in a speech today in the Senate, to hold out for "fair and legitimate" prices and not to sell for less than 25 cents a pound. Present prices, he declared, are absolutely unwarranted, caused largely by a rush of offerings because of the embargo.

Statistics were presented by the Louisiana Senator in support of the contention that the actual purchasing power of cotton is much lower than of other products which have advanced in price. He also declared the South was never in better position to hold its cotton for a fair price.

"My advice," he said, "is for the cotton growers, the commission merchants and dealers in cotton, and the bankers in the southern States to cooperate and work together in order to secure a fair and legitimate price for cotton. They should make up their minds that, to sell cotton at the pres-

ent time for less than 25 cents per pound would be an unnecessary sacrifice. They should, without excitement, or flare of trumpets, or unlawful combinations to restrain trade, each and everyone in his own way, do his bit towards seeing that the South is not robbed of at least \$25 per bale on its cotton by selling at 20 cents—a colossal sum amounting in the aggregate to \$312,500,000.

Davis To The Quakers.

Dixie Davis was a popular athlete in the baseball draft yesterday in Cincinnati. Five clubs put in claims for the gentleman from the South and the Philadelphia Nationals grabbed him. Braves were the other clubs to draft Dixie. He goes to the Phillies, however, along with Fillingim, of the Indians.

Thusly, at one fell swoop, as one might say, the Phillies copped the two best twirling bats in the A. A. Neither used a "rasp and a file" to win games during the semester just closed. Fillingim is guilty of using the spitball at times, but he has other stuff in stock.

Dixie Davis won twenty-four games and lost eleven with the Colonels and allowed 2.40 runs per game. He was the work horse of the Colonels, participating in forty-three games and pitching 284 innings. For a small fellow like Davis, this is a lot of work and reflects a great deal to his credit.

Davis has a lot of speed, a good fast ball, a fine curve and has the heart of a winning pitcher. He has the courage, is game under fire, knows how to pitch and is always willing to take pointers from any of his brother athletes. If he is not drafted for the army before next year, he ought to make a good pitcher for the Phillies.

Dixie has had two brief trials in the majors and each time they said that his size was all against him. He graduated from the Appalachian League to the Reds and was shipped to Columbus after a brief trial. Two years ago he received a fall tryout with the White Sox.

The season of 1917 was Dixie's best year in the American Association and he goes up after working hard for the opportunity. The fans of this burg are certainly hoping that he makes good under the main tent.—Taken from the Sporting Page of the Louisville Herald.

Note.—The Dixie Davis mentioned above is none other than Frank Davis, of Wilson's Mills. He has many friends in Smithfield and Johnston County who will be glad to hear of his success in the baseball world.

Its Quota Filled.

Along with many other business enterprises, the Smithfield Garage and Machine Works was hit hard by the war by the loss of men who have been called to the front. They employ three expert mechanics and one helper and lost two of their mechanics, only leaving them with one mechanic and one helper. However, they have now filled the vacancies with two additional expert mechanics who are not subject to draft, and Mr. Kirkman, general manager, announces that his firm has a staff that will give the automobile owners of Smithfield and Johnston County the sort of service they are looking for with the very best of expert mechanic and equipment he had in the State.

This firm is known by all to be one of the largest, oldest and best equipped in the State, having been established here since the first two or three automobiles were brought to the county.

In addition to doing high class automobile and machine work they have recently employed an expert storage battery and magneto and electric starter man and are now well prepared to do all kinds of expert electrical work connected with any make of automobile.

They now have three different and distinct departments in their establishment, and an experienced man for each department—An Electrical Department, Vulcanizing Department, Machine Works and Repair Department.

Sudden Death In Smithfield.

Mrs. J. R. Hales died suddenly in Smithfield last Saturday morning at her home on North Second Street. The funeral was preached Sunday afternoon, after which she was buried at Hopevell Free Will Baptist church near her old home. The family had been here only a short time, having moved from the Fremont section recently. Her husband has been connected with Mr. W. T. Corbin in the lumber business for several years. She was a sister of Mr. David A. Thompson who lives near here. She leaves a husband and five children, the smallest being about seven months old.

NEW BOOKS RECEIVED AT THE Herald Office. The leading new novels together with a large lot of the popular sellers of the past years now in stock. Come in and see them.

DEATH NOT SELF-INFLICTED.

Testimony Begins in Hearing of Gaston B. Means Charged With the Murder of Mrs. Maude A. King, Wife of Chicago Millionaire.

Concord, N. C., Sept. 24.—The State of North Carolina today established to its own satisfaction that Mrs. Maude A. King, wife of the millionaire lumberman did not meet death at Blackwelder Spring, near this place, on the night of August 29th by an accidental or intentional self-inflicted wound. Equally confident is the State that they have proven that Gaston B. Means, who is charged with her murder, was the only person near Mrs. King when the fatal shot was fired.

The Ox Who won the Forfeit.

Long ago a man owned a very strong ox. The owner was so proud of his ox, that he boasted to every man he met about how strong his ox was.

One day the owner went into a village, and said to the men there: "I will pay a forfeit of 1000 pieces of silver, if my strong ox cannot draw a line of 100 wagons."

The men laughed, and said: "Very well; bring your ox, and we will tie 100 wagons in a line and see your ox draw them along."

So the man brought his ox into the village. A crowd gathered to see the sight, we may read in "Jataka Tales," retold by Ellen C. Babbitt. The 100 carts were in line, and the strong ox was yoked to the first wagon.

Then the owner whipped his ox, and said: "Get up, you wretch! Get along, you rascal!"

But the ox had never been talked to in that way, and he stood still. Neither the blows nor the hard names could make him move.

At last the poor man paid his forfeit, and went sadly home. There he threw himself on his bed and cried: "Why did that strong ox act so? Many a time he has moved heavier loads easily. Why did he shame me before all those people?"

At last he got up and went about his work. When he went to feed the ox that night, the ox turned to him and said: "Why did you whip me today? You never whipped me before. Why did you call me 'wretch' and 'rascal'? You never called me hard names before."

Then the man said: "I will never treat you badly again. I am sorry I whipped you and called you names. I will never do so any more. Forgive me."

"Very well," said the ox. "Tomorrow I will go into the village and draw the 100 carts for you. You have always been a kind master until today. Tomorrow you shall gain what you lost."

The next morning the owner fed the ox well, and hung a garland of flowers about his neck. When they went into the village, the men laughed at the man again.

They said: "Did you come back to lose more money?"

"Today I will pay a forfeit of 2000 pieces of silver if my ox is not strong enough to pull the 100 carts," said the owner.

So again the carts were placed in a line, and the ox was yoked to the first. A crowd came to watch again. The owner said: "Good ox, show how strong you are! You fine, fine creature!" And he patted his neck and stroked his sides.

At once the ox pulled with all his strength. The carts moved on until the last cart stood where the first had been.

Then the crowd shouted, and they paid back the forfeit the man had lost, saying: "Your ox is the strongest ox we ever saw."

And so the ox and the man went home happily.

Leading Tobacco Markets.

Our leading tobacco markets in 1916-17 were as follows:

Cities	Pounds
1 Wilson	27,263,230
2 Winston-Salem	17,700,985
3 Rocky Mount	17,048,690
4 Kinston	16,705,092
5 Greenville	16,316,439
6 Henderson	7,303,947
7 Oxford	7,022,752
8 Farmville	6,526,065
9 Durham	5,186,399
10 Fairmont	4,277,834
11 Roxboro	4,091,834
12 Reidsville	3,610,790
13 Smithfield	3,061,409

The crop sold in North Carolina last season amounted to 194,439,000 pounds. The crop this year is estimated at 210,000,000 pounds by the authorities in Washington. Six million pounds or more were sold in Kinston within the first fifteen days of the new season.

When the farmers have a larger crop to sell than buyers have money to buy, of course the prices decline.—University News Letter.

"SELMA'S DOLLAR DAY" THURSDAY, October 11th.

Quality Higher Than Price Where the Crowds Go

W. L. Woodall & Sons

Smithfield's Shopping Center

Same Goods For Less Money	Where Your Dollars Count Most	More Goods For Same Money
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Are U one of the many hundred satisfied customers who have been buying at Woodall's this Fall? If not come to our store and be convinced of the

Great Saving

It Means To You

Below we Quote You a Few of Our Prices which are Less than Wholesale Cost]To-Day:

Checked Homespun	Yard Wide Sheeting
15-Cent Value..... 12½c	17½-Cent Value 14½c
17½-Cent Value..... 14½c	15-Cent Value 12½c
	14-Cent Value 10½c
Serges	Dress Gingham
40-inch All Wool Serges, \$1.50 Value \$1.19	30-Cent Value 24½c
40-inch All Wool Serges, \$1.25 Value98	25-Cent Value 19½c
40-inch All Wool Serges, \$1.00 Value 79½c	20-Cent Value 17½c
36-inch Woolen Serge, 75c value 49½c	17½-Cent Value 14½c
	15-Cent Value 11½c
Hosiery	Poplins
\$1.50 Value \$1.35	27-inch Poplins, 40c Value 33½c
\$1.35 Value 1.15	27-inch Poplins, 30c Value..... 24½c
75-Cent Value 65c	
35-Cent Value 25c	Underwear
25-Cent Value 20c	75-Cent Value 69c
	65-Cent Value 50c

Shoes

From 59c to \$9.98 the Pair

Trunks, Bags and Suit Cases at Lowest Prices	Ladies' Coats, Suits and Dresses in All Shades, Styles and Prices
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Waists

From 98c to \$6.98---Extra Values

One lot Ladies Shoes, \$2.00 to \$4.00 Values \$1.98 the Pair

Heaviest Grade Outing - 14 1-2c the Yard

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