

THE MORNING STAR

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FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE MORNING STAR, the oldest daily newspaper in North Carolina, is published daily except Monday, at 25 cents per year, \$3 for six months, \$1.50 for three months, 50 cents for one month, served by carriers in the city, or by mail.

THE SUNDAY STAR, by mail, one year, \$1; six months, 50 cents; three months, 25 cents.

ADVERTISING RATES may be had on application, and advertisers may feel assured that through the columns of this paper they may reach all Wilmington, Eastern Carolina and contiguous territory in South Carolina.

Obituary sketches, cards of thanks, communications espousing the cause of a political enterprise or a political candidate, and like matters, will be charged at the rate of 10 cents per line, or if paid cash in advance, a half rate will be allowed.

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COMMUNICATIONS, unless they contain important news, or discuss briefly and properly subjects of real interest, are not wanted; and if acceptable in every other way, they will invariably be rejected unless the real name of the author accompanies the name, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Friday, May 26, 1911.

When a suggestion from any source is made concerning an opportunity for an industry, investigate it, consider its possibilities and go into it. That is the way we can increase the manufacturing and industrial plants of Wilmington.

New York's water supply is getting dangerously low on account of the long continued drought which has extended all along the Atlantic from Maine to Florida. If relief is not soon forthcoming, the water wagon will cease to be a joke.

While in New York a few days ago, President Taft shook hands with the monkeys in the Bronx park. No doubt it reminded him of shaking hands with men who make monkeys of themselves in their efforts to get on the government's payroll.

What is known as a Happy Consolation Club has been organized among the men of Sioux Falls, North Dakota. It will be obligatory upon each member to smile at each other as they meet. The wives of the duffers would think more of it if they would agree not to indulge in a "smile" when they meet.

The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce met on Wednesday night and began work on a campaign to secure industries for Wilmington. The Raleigh Chamber of Commerce met last night to start a greater organization campaign and begin a programme to promote the progress of Raleigh. This shows that we have gone to work in earnest, but do we know the boosters' game so we won't lose our time and money?

The New England preacher who got up a fake confession of immoral conduct, so he could find out whether there were any charity in his church, was not long in ascertaining what he wanted to know about it. He was promptly bounced and is denouncing Christianity as a fake. The fact is, the preacher proved himself to be a falsifier to trap his congregation, and in denouncing his church members he showed just as great lack of charity as they. He also takes the illogical and absurd position of blaming on Christianity what is inherent in humanity. Neither the preacher nor the members of his congregation followed the teachings of Christianity, but their failure to do so is no more to be attributed to Christianity than can the treachery of Judas, the untruthful denials of Peter, or the doubting of Thomas.

Says the Salisbury Post: "Americans from the Middle West are flocking to Winnipeg by thousands. Some 45,000 with \$30,000,000 worth of personal property, it is said, are now on their way. Better come South—to North Carolina—good people, where better opportunities and a warm Southern welcome awaits you. The South has every advantage over the North and West." That is absolutely true and it is well known where the Post circulates, but concerning these facts the people who are emigrating are in blissful ignorance. Common sense ought to dictate to us that we should circulate the complete information in that part of the country from which the home-seekers are emigrating. They don't know what we know and since we take no steps to let them know, they are not coming this way. It is also certain that a "write up" in a paper a thousand miles from them won't reach them either, especially if it has to be searched out from among several hundred pages of similar matter in which no definite propositions are made. When we advertise let us advertise right.

COTTON MILL DEPRESSION.

What is the matter with the cotton milling industry? In view of the fact that the manufacturers are again to shut down the mills, it is timely to remark that they ought to quit stopping the spindles and the looms for the purpose of forcing down the price of raw cotton, but rather base the shut-down on a proposition to force up the price of manufactured cottons. The depression in the cotton milling industries indeed is serious, but it is to be hoped the extremity is not so serious as to afford the opportunity for organizing a cotton milling trust. The organization of Southern cotton mill syndicates with millions of dollars capital to consolidate large numbers of mills, means that, but that a good remedy for the confessedly bad condition of the cotton goods trade? The real trouble of the mills is that the price of manufactured cotton goods has not advanced in proportion to the increased price of raw cotton.

Why haven't the prices of manufactured cottons kept pace with the price of raw cotton? Who fixes the price of manufactured cottons? Naturally it would be presumed that each manufacturer would figure the price of his own product on what it costs him to make the goods, with a reasonable profit added, but we rather suspect that the ever present middleman has the mills at his mercy. There are several classes of middlemen who handle the mill products on commission, and we understand some of these commission handlers are really syndicates backed by millions of dollars. In that event, the middlemen fix prices and a close investigation might disclose who it is that keeps the price of cotton goods from advancing in relative proportion to the price of raw cotton.

For some reason or other, the cotton milling business seems to lack the flexibility of other industries. It doesn't seem to respond to the increase or decrease of the price of raw material and the cost of production. When the wheat crop is short and the price of wheat goes up, the price of flour responds with a like increase. We do not find the flour mills shutting down to force down the price of wheat or waiting till they can get cheaper wheat. They run right along and so flour mills products are regulated largely by the law of supply and demand.

Not so with the cotton milling industry. It doesn't seem to recognize the law of supply and demand, or, at any rate, doesn't respond to it. There is no effect without a cause, and so there is a cause for the depression in the cotton milling industry. What is it? It is hardly possible to attribute it to over production, for Europe is alarmed lest cotton production will not meet the needs of the world. In fact, European spinners now assert that all the world's cotton supply is less than the demand and they are encouraging the production of cotton in Africa or wherever it will grow. They want the South to produce more cotton to ease up their apprehensions of a cotton shortage, so, unless they are mistaken, we have to eliminate the question of over production as a reason for the depression in the American cotton milling industry.

Well, then what is the cause of the disastrous effect that is being experienced by our Southern cotton mills? We know the reason why their raw cotton comes higher. It is principally because of the great world demand and short cotton crops. Of course, speculation has its share in making an unsteady market for cotton, but, after all, doesn't speculative prices also depend on the law of supply and demand, since it follows that a large acreage and a good crop lowers prices to suit the bears, while curtailed acreage or poor crops is where the bulls get on the rampage.

Speak of speculation as we will, it appears to us, under all the circumstances, that even speculative prices are even controlled by the law of supply and demand. As a matter of fact 15 cents raw cotton today is on account of successive short crops, poor crop prospects and the increased cost of growing cotton. The cotton growers curtailed acreage because they couldn't produce cotton at ruinous prices, with the result, probably, that the price of their product went up. When, however, the mills curtail production by closing down, why is it that the price of their manufactured products does not advance? This is the mystery of the industrial era in the South. Who will solve it? What is the remedy?

In his address at the recent meeting of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association at Richmond, President Cooper indicated that relief could come from Southern cotton growers who would increase their production, thus lower the price and hold the South's supremacy for cotton production. Otherwise, he warned the growers that cotton production would spring up in other parts of the world and rob the South of its supremacy now represented in the production of about two-thirds of the cotton grown in the world. He argued that curtailment of production and resultant high prices would stimulate cotton growing in other countries, but that would hardly induce farmers to grow cotton at a loss to keep other countries from growing cotton. We think we know the cotton growing business and the

farmers, and we don't think they would fancy or foster any kind of supremacy that would mortgage their farms or bankrupt them. If they should be induced to do that, we don't think their advisers would come around and lift their mortgages and help them in their days of bankruptcy.

Some people overlook the fact that it requires capital and labor to produce cotton. The grower's capital is invested in his land and in paying for labor, and he reasonably expects returns sufficient to pay him for his operations and pay a percentage on his capital besides. We have seen the day when it would have paid the cotton grower, to turn out his land or give it away, because of low priced cotton, but by organization, business-like methods and favorable circumstances, the cotton grower is making a reasonable profit and his land has increased in value because he is producing something on his investment. However, at so-called high prices, the cost of producing cotton has so vastly increased that the average farmer is not making enough money to burn. If he lives well, is able to educate his children and can have a telephone and piano in his house he is doing fairly well, but the average farmer doesn't get that far along and to be content with less makes serfdom of farming. That is the reason the farms were deserted, and there will be no back to the farm movement unless there is profit instead of sentiment.

When farming becomes profitable it becomes attractive and if it beats what we are all doing in town, back to the land will be all the go. Of course, it is getting that way in North Carolina now, but it is because the farmers quit growing all cotton, and have diversified their crops. So far as increasing the acreage is concerned, we doubt whether that can be done, for labor is a scarce article in the South, though production might be increased by intensive methods of farming, but each progressive farmer is already trying to do that in order to produce all he can with his labor. Machinery might cheapen production, but that means more capital invested, for it takes money to buy power machinery, and labor saving implements for farming. So there we are.

It is possible that our cotton mills are over-producing in a pent in home market and have no foreign trade to take their surplus. Therefore, there may be a great deal in what the New York Journal of Commerce says in disagreeing with President Cooper's view that the remedy for the cotton milling depression is in producing more cotton. In suggesting a cause and pointing to a remedy the able editor of the Journal of Commerce takes this view:

"Mr. Cooper had little to say about the corresponding duty of manufacturers, but he dwelt with some emphasis on the need of foreign markets for their product. The American manufacturer has also been too much 'at ease' and 'contented with the domestic trade, and has done little to encourage a foreign demand for his product'; but the need which he seemed to discern was that of 'seeking trade that is of slow growth, the essential features being friendship, absolute confidence and longer credits than the American manufacturer is accustomed to give.' Other efforts to promote access to foreign markets are referred to, but the most essential of all is ignored. Why is it that while the manufacturing world abroad is so dependent upon American cotton, its manufacturers are busy and supplying the wants of the consuming world as distant from them as the cotton fields, while American mills run on short time and have difficulty in disposing of a surplus product at home or abroad? It is not a question of friendship, confidence or credit, but of cost of the goods they have to offer. They are suffering from an industrial and commercial system devised to protect the home market, which in the long run becomes equivalent to excluding the foreign market. In foreign markets there is no escape from competition, and a policy of protection against competition affords a poor training for availing of those markets."

DEMOCRATS NOT SO BRASH.

Preaching a theory and facing a problem are two different things, and since we Democrats got where we have to shoulder the responsibility we are finding that out. "Free wool" has been the popular theory and there has been lots of favorable talk about it, but when it comes to hitting the raw wool producer and not the woolen trust, which has both the producers and consumers at its mercy, the advocates of free wool had another thing coming to them. We always believed in the fairness of the Democracy and were satisfied that the majority in the House would look into the question before it acted. So it has, it seems, and that will be about the same way it will do when it comes to considering free raw materials, a subject in which the South is vitally interested.

Now the "free wool" proposition has petered out, and in lieu thereof we are told that there is a proposed compromise by which the tariff taxes on wool are to be reduced at once and then gradually removed altogether. Investigation revealed the wisdom of not using the knife on the patient at one sitting, but that the operation would be more successful when done with care.

The Springfield Republican (Independent) says the plan agreed upon by the Democrats is "a good one, and may well be adopted as a part of the

Democratic policy of tariff reform." The Republican also ventures the prediction that it will make more votes for the Democratic party ten times over that it will cost in votes.

The fact is, the Democrats found out that free wool would help the manufacturers and injure the wool producers, while not relieving the consumers from the extortions of the highly protected wool trust. It is now seen, just as The Star has always contended, that relief can only come from reducing the tax on manufactured products in the same proportion as the tax is taken off the raw material. If one is to be free the other should be free, and if the one is to be reduced, so also should the other be equally reduced.

Speaking about free wool, very few of us buy wool, but the bunch buys what's manufactured from wool. The manufacturers are the fellows who want free wool and we are the fellows who want the tariff lowered on the woolen products which we are compelled to buy. In order to reach the consumer, give us the same reduction in clothing as you give the manufacturers on their raw wool and we'll then be a free woolite. Speaking entirely from the standpoint of those who wear what the wool factory turns out, we don't want it left to the woolen trust to see its way clear to give us the same reduction on clothing that the trust will save on getting wool free of duty.

From the store of Old "Aunt" Jemima's negro philosophy, we get this saying: "Blessed am dem dat specks nuth'n fer dey ain't gwine to be disperimted." If the manufacturers get free wool and do not have any of their tariff protection lopped off, we will expect nothing in the way of reduction on clothing. We know who fixes the price of woolen goods and if we get any reduction on our clothing it would be exactly what the fixers of prices benevolently decide they will grant us. If wool were to be given without cost to the manufacturers and they fix the prices on what they make from gift wool, we wouldn't look to the trust to give to the consumers what they save on the wool. We've been in the suspicion business too long to suspect that kind of benevolence from the trust which manufactures woolen goods and fixes the prices because it has an absolute monopoly under the tariff.

So long as the tariff wall is around the trust and prices are fixed on the inside of the wall, we would have on an average of one fit a day if the trust would give consumers a "hand-out." These observations are submitted as the garnerings of experience, for on several occasions we have been up against people who had a cinch and wouldn't give it away. What consumers want to see is that the woolen trust shall be hit with precisely, and also exactly, the same size stick that is to be laid on the back of the wool-grower's sheep.

The "farmers' free list" bill was passed by a Democratic House and sent over to a Republican Senate where it has been put in Uncle Davy's locker. A standpat Republican is a good friend to the farmer—that is, simply in talk on the stump.

It is said President Taft is counting upon being re-nominated and wants Secretary Stimson to go on the ticket as his running mate for the Vice Presidency. Since Stimson was defeated for Governor in New York, he may decide not to be the kind of Jonah that is willing to be twice thrown to the whale.

Don't get discouraged when some people snub you, because they are sure to hunt you up when they find out you are getting to be important. Consider the malodorous onion, at which everybody used to turn up his nose, yet the onion has lived down prejudice and is strongly growing in favor every day.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell is showing a highly commendable degree of modesty by not claiming that the Supreme Court decision has vindicated at least one of the magazine muckrakers.—Savannah News.

Judging from what Senator Tillman has to say about his appetite and fondness for indulgence in horseback rides and other forms of exercise, he will probably be in the race for the United States Senate again next year, which being the case, a number of budding boomlets will have to be suppressed for a while yet.—Chester Reporter.

The merchants of the town of Clinton have erected handsome and up-to-date mile posts on all the public highways leading from the city for several miles. It is one of the advertising mediums they are using and the people of the county are proud when they are nearing the city and see improvements like this, showing how far they are away and where to go when they get here.—Clinton News-Dispatch.

The Southern Railway's water plant located on South Buffalo gave out last night and the city had to come to the relief of the company. The road pays by meter measurement and it is a good thing for the city, provided the running of sprinklers can be brought within the ruling of the ordinance, to wit: two hours out of 24, but if the water is to be wasted and the Southern has to draw on the city supply, something is go-

Summer Underwear and Hosiery

BALBRIGGAN, LISLE, NAINSOOK, MADRAS, THE BEST SORTS AND THE WANTED SORTS OF LIGHT AND MEDIUM WEIGHT UNDERWEAR ARE HERE FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Table listing various types of underwear and hosiery with prices, such as Men's Nainsook Underwear, Ladies' Underwear, and Balbriggan Underwear.

and the same applies to Hosiery in lisle, silk and cotton, black and colors. The assortments are full and varied.

Special values in white Muslin Underwear, see window display.

Millinery, new shapes, white and black braid, just received the most wanted styles this season, prices very much reduced.

Corsets, most unusual values in high-grade Corsets. The famous Worcester Corsets in many styles, light and medium weight, range of price \$1.00 to \$3.00.

Thompson, Gloving, the Empire, and R. and G. Corsets, sizes 18 to 36.



THE FIRM THAT PAYS YOUR CAR FARE.

ing to happen. The supply is all that is needed and more, but with all this grain, the capacity of the pumps should be doubled.—Greensboro Record.

On the Statehood bill passed by the House of Representatives Tuesday 31 Republicans voted with the Democrats. It has been the same way with every other measure which the House Democrats have undertaken to pass at the extraordinary session. Almost half of the Republican members voted for reciprocity. More than half of them voted for direct election of Senators and for the publication before elections of campaign expenditures. Twenty-three of them supported the farmers' free list bill. "It is pretty plain," says Harper's Weekly, "that when the record is brought before the people in the next campaign the Republicans are going to be at a disadvantage. They cannot pitch into a single thing yet done by the majority without hitting some of their own fellows." Nor can they do so, it may be added without advertising yet more widely their opposition to a programme which they know full well has the cordial endorsement of a large majority of the people of nearly every part of the United States.—Charleston News and Courier.

GREAT REBEL MAMMOTH GUNS.

(Communicated.) While reading in the Wilmington Sunday Morning Star, of May 14th, 1911, the reminiscences and exciting experiences of Pilot Craig, while plotting the many Confederate steamers running the blockade into Wilmington, among them I see he safely brought into Wilmington during the war the Confederate steamer Gibraltar, formerly the Privateer Sumter, commanded by Admiral Semmes, which he successfully ran out of New Orleans, passing the Federal blockading fleet, capturing and destroying many United States merchant vessels, before taking command of the famous Confederate Privateer Alabama, which Teddy's uncle paid for, and another uncle Bullock, fired the last shot on board of the Alabama before she sank off the coast of France in the fight between the Alabama and the Kearsarge.

After Admiral Semmes left the Sumter she was named the Gibraltar and was run into Wilmington, N. C., having on board two of the largest cannons then made, called the English Armstrong guns designated for the protection of Charleston harbor. Well do I remember two guns being hauled through the streets of Charleston on two railroad flat cars. They were so heavy that it was necessary to burn railroad tracks through the city to get them down to East Bay Battery, where they mounted one to protect the junction of Ashley and Cooper rivers, while they mounted the other upon the Custom House wharf. While firing the one on the Battery, they cracked the breech and foundryman Fason had a time mending it before another attack upon the city by the Federal iron-clad fleet.

These two guns used solid shot with steel points screwed into the small end. They also had large brass strips screwed on the sides of the shot to fit in the rifle grooves of the gun which made them look like nail kegs with brass hoops which they were so large, they had to wind up to the gun's muzzle by an iron basket. Ends of the chain wound around the axle of the gun carriage when it recoiled after firing, hoisted another shot to the muzzle to be fired. After the war I made a sea trip from Wilmington to Charleston and the first thing I saw on the wharf were the remnants of these two guns being shipped to Governor's Island, New York. A large piece of the breech was marked with white lead in large letters: "The Great Rebel Mammoth Guns," which General Beauregard had ordered us to burst in evacuating Charleston when Sherman captured Savannah and was about to cut off our return to Wilmington, N. C."

Especially Attractive. Bill today at the Grand is a beauty. Come in and cool off.

DAVID'S

FACTS to know and use in buying clothes:



THE A. DAVID COMPANY This store is the home of Hart Schaffner and Marx Clothes.

Just Received

The largest line of Porch Goods ever shown in Wilmington and at prices that will promptly convert them into Money. Porch Rockers, Three-Piece Porch Suits, Porch Swings, Porch Settees, Porch Chairs, Hammocks, Hammock Beds, Porch Screens, Crex Rugs, all sizes. A large line of New Matting and Rugs of all sizes. New lot Bloch Go-Carts and Carriages. Push Carts for Less than \$2.00, with Rubber Tires. See our line before you buy.

The Wilmington Furniture Co. WILMINGTON'S GREAT FURNITURE STORE.

Pale Export Beer

This is to notify our customers that they can secure this popular brand by sending their orders to Petersburg, Va.

4 Doz. Bottles F. O. B. Petersburg \$3.00 10 Doz. Bottles F. O. B. Petersburg \$7.50

Darley Park Brewing Company G. Morgan Knight, Mgr. PETERSBURG, VA.