

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 and mailed to subscribers outside the county at \$6 per year; \$4 for six months; \$1.50 for three months or served by carrier in the city and suburbs at 80c per month, or, when paid in advance, \$7.00 per year; \$3.50 for six months; \$1.75 for three months.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1916.

TOP OF THE MORNING.

To become strong, the soul must needs fight something, overcome something. It cannot gain strength on a bed of elder-down. —ANNA ROBERTSON BROWN.

Boston, beans, booze and bumpitiousness.

Both our stockings were filled to the limit—with feet.

Business always keeps up because somebody keeps it up.

Where were Tom and Jerry during all this imaginary yuletide merriness?

When people get all the war they want, they will want peace and be mighty glad to get it.

Begin the new year by taking steps in the right direction. Don't overlook the stepping stones to success.

Have we got that team work mapped out for Wilmington so the work will commence after next Monday?

A New England man wants \$15,000 for a rose. If we had the fifteen thousand, what would we want with only one rose?

With a skip and a hop, Leap Year will take its last leap next Sunday. "The better the day the better the deed."

Yes, the bankers' all these years have urged people to keep a savings account for that "rainy day." Well, that rainy day surely came, didn't it?

Russia has decided not to coerce Persia but to take things easy till the time comes when the oil fields can be made to replenish the war losses of the czar.

When you buckle on the sword and go to war, don't brag about where you will take your Christmas dinner. Always get where you are going and then you'll know that you have arrived in time to get a snack.

Mr. Hillis, former chairman of the Republican National committee, declares that what the Republican party needs is leaders. Tut! Tut! What it needs is a divorce from old man Sys Tem.

This country is now endeavoring to pattern its army establishment after that of a South American country that has never been famous for its military genius. Why don't the politicians leave the army organization to those who get their military education at West Point?

The Charlotte Observer says the Legislature at its approaching session will have to face the woman suffrage question. Well, if this Legislature is like all others, it will face that and other questions and then give them the dodge like an ostrich works the trick.

Christmas just past was much brighter and happier to many a family because of the Christmas savings funds than it otherwise would have been. The number of members of these clubs ought to be doubled for the coming year.

An old friend says his living does not cost him a cent more than it did ten years ago. He says he regulates it by refraining from high living. His plan is to buy that he needs instead of buying what he wants. Of course, he means that cheap living is what saves his mutton.

Some of that peace talk sounds too much like piecemeal. Russia insists on fighting with the hope that the Entente can recover Poland for her and carry out its agreement to give Constantinople to her in fulfillment of her dream of commercial grandeur. Seems to us that what the world needs is free seas and less free seas. The Woodrow Wilson doctrine of free seas is the panacea for the commercial jealousies between nations matching their greed for commerce and territorial aggrandizement.

COLUMBIA GETS THE FARM LOAN BANK.

Columbia has been chosen as the center for the farm loan bank for the district composed of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. The strictly South Atlantic district. Our State relationship with Charlotte and Raleigh impelled us to hope that either the Queen City or the Capital City would be chosen as the banking center of this agricultural empire. But geography as well as other advantages resolved themselves in favor of the capital of South Carolina.

Columbia is entitled to hearty congratulations upon her good fortune in getting the bank, but the whole farm loan district will be the real beneficiary of the new banking system that soon will be available for the promotion and extension of agriculture in the most versatile productive region in America. As the crop files, Columbia and Charlotte are about the same distance from the great port of Wilmington and the matchless Cape Fear region with all its marvelous resources for an ideally diversified agriculture. As the crop files, the two interior cities are about 175 geographic miles from Wilmington, though the rail distance is greater, with Columbia having the closer connection with Wilmington as the train runs. Columbia and Wilmington are within the same parallel of latitude and it seems rather strange that we go almost directly west from Wilmington to Columbia.

The fact is, Wilmington and Columbia have the luck of being on the map together in the notable particular that Wilmington is the natural ocean gateway to the farm loan district while Columbia was selected by the Farm Loan Board as the logical banking center of the marvelous South Atlantic portion of the Nation's Garden Spot. Indeed, Columbia is specially fortunate in being a close regional neighbor of the Cape Fear Metropolis.

Owing to that fact, we cannot begrudge Columbia all the luck that is coming to her, and since we expect to place a lot of farm loans in the city on the Congaree, there will be a constantly growing familiarity between us henceforth. The farm loan bank will increase Columbia's banking resources by three-quarters of a million dollars, since the available funds for the twelve farm loan banks will be \$750,000 each—to start with. After that the possibilities will develop just as rapidly as we can develop the great South Atlantic region with its double-track north and south railways. This is the double-track portion of the Nation's Garden Spot, and if there were anything else to add to our happiness and magnify our opportunities it was easier money for the development of the potential resources of this whole section. The Columbia State appreciates all that, too. Owing to Columbia's luck in becoming the banking center of this incomparable rural loan district, that paper says this for its city:

"Columbia was chosen for the home of one of the rural credits banks because, in the opinion of the board in whom the choice lay, it has among the cities of the district the superior advantages for the work of country development that the banking system is designed to promote. Of this there can be no doubt. Columbia has received its due. It is Columbia's good fortune to be situated near the center of the district composed of Florida, Georgia and the two Carolinas and not near the edge of it and it is its further good fortune to have quick communication with all parts of the four states not equally by any other city of them. Moreover, it is located in the heart of a region that needs not less than any other the help that a rural credits bank will extend. South Carolina has, to the square mile, not a small population and yet it has a great proportion of territory not developed agriculturally. In a word, a rural credits bank will be instrumental in immensely increasing the number of land owning farmers in the territory within some hundreds of miles of Columbia, if it will achieve that object anywhere in the United States and that is what the rural credits system is expected to do. The State some days ago said that the rural credits board should be governed by such considerations and there is abundant reason to suppose that it has performed its duty with wisdom, with care and unbiased regard for the interests of the country."

That is all—very well said, and it is manifest that Columbia had an advantage that has proved to be a real asset to her. Columbia's success in getting the bank illustrates the value of co-operation among the people, declares The State. Even Charleston pulled for Columbia, and it all goes to show that our South Atlantic cities are much closer when we begin to have some real scope to us. The broad opportunities for development in the South Atlantic states are bound to knit us closer together in the work of converting an empire of rich resources into the Nation's greatest asset—a region which grows cotton and tobacco to perfection and where all other known crops of commercial value grow to equal advantage.

THE COST OF DELIVERY.

For every dollar's worth of goods we order over the telephone, or purchase and have delivered by the merchants, we pay 8 cents. At least the Census Bureau at Washington so announces after an investigation in several cities. A preliminary survey of the subject, recently published, shows that in the city of Washington the delivery of merchandise from the stores to homes costs about 8 per cent of the retail price. It is said that in other cities the cost is much higher, considering the street conditions, the distances and other conditions in no wise anywhere equal to a magnificently paved

and compact center, such as the National Capital.

It is estimated that in New York and Chicago the cost of delivering goods is greater. A large New York department store states that its average expense of delivery, even in the busiest season, is seven cents per package, while the selling price of the average purchase is less than a dollar.

The Census Bureau naturally concludes that much of the high cost of living is due to our habit of enjoying the convenience of having all our purchases delivered. A regular delivery system costs the merchants a big lot of money, and, of course, they recoup themselves by making their customers pay for the convenience. People are being urged to carry all their light packages with them after they do their shopping, and many stores in the West are even offering a cash discount to purchasers who relieve them of the expense of delivering their purchases—often representing a few cents in value, to be sent at great distances and at great inconvenience to the merchants.

Of course, the government is not endeavoring to show that the high cost of delivering goods accounts for the high cost of living. It is only one of the elements entering into prices paid by consumers. The final cost of any article depends on all the elements entering into its manufacture, transportation, sale and delivery.

BUSINESS PROSPECTS FOR COMING YEAR.

Wilmington merchants declare that the business prospects for the coming year are better than during the past three years. The holiday trade has been the largest in the history of the city, a good indication that the people have money and that the community and the country are thrifty. The prospects for both the city and the country are good, and the same can be said as to all portions of the State and the Union as well. The Charlotte News thus reports a similar condition there:

"The merchants of Charlotte can look the new year squarely and boldly in the face. Trade has never been more brisk at any similar season of the year than during this Christmas. It has been a matter of considerable comment that the people not only bought more than their usual custom, but they bought better and more expensive things. Charlotte merchants have found during this busy period that they have made many new friends during the past year, those coming from a distance to do their Christmas shopping being unprecedentedly large. They have a right to turn their faces toward another year with a hope and an expectation they have not customarily possessed for, verily, it appears they are just now coming into their kingdom."

All our exchanges without exception bring such cheering reports as the foregoing, so there is good reason for courage in entering upon another business year, with the chances and the prospects all better than for several seasons past.

DESTROYING PIGS IN ENGLAND.

A London dispatch states that a Government is dismayed over the fact that the farmers have been destroying whole litters of pigs because of the high cost of feeding stuffs. The farmers, however, declare that they are compelled to pursue that course, owing to the food problem that they are experiencing on account of the war.

The government urges that it will produce a pork famine and is endeavoring to prevent the destruction of pigs. The farmers, however, defend their action with the complaint that the government is allowing the export of meat to Holland, when England ought to retain all her own feed and food products during such a crisis as now exists. The farmers contend that the consequence of feedstuffs exports increases the price to such an extent that it makes it impossible for them to feed their pigs till they are matured.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, BUILDINGS AND BOND ISSUES.

To the Editor of The Star: I think we need the enlargement of some of our school houses, and perhaps some of our high schools. If we do not build a new high school I think the Union school house should be replaced with a brick building. If this is done I think we should have a bond issue, that is, if it can be floated at not over four or five per cent, and we should have a law passed that, along with the regular curriculum now taught in the schools, there should be taught carpentering and other wood crafts, smithing and other iron arts, leather work, etc. In short, all kinds of every day trades, either teach these trades in the schools or do like the Germans, whose school age is from six to fourteen, and then apprentice the boys out for four years to learn a trade. While they are learning these trades they have continued school life of two hours daily and thus keep in touch with what they learned between six and fourteen years and when eighteen they go out as journey workers at their trade. Those who do not expect to take up professions are not allowed to study Latin and Greek.

The girls should all be taught domestic science and those boys or girls who expect to take up stenography and typewriting or bookkeeping should be taught those trades in the schools. In short, each child should be equipped at school for some of the trades. They should have installed in them at home and in the schools that it is an honor to work and a disgrace to be idle.

Our school system turns out the pupils June 1st and convenses the schools October 1st, which leaves four long months with nothing for them to do, and a boy with energy will get into mischief if he is not at work during those months. A boy so lazy he would not get into trouble during four months idleness would be counted lazy indeed.

It may be best to build the new High school building. I do not know. Goldsmith said in a poem on Britain: "The fates the land where hastening illa prey, where wealth accumulates and

men decay." We should beware along this line.

Some years ago I read an article on the discontent in India, which said the English government had educated a good many of the people and taught them no trade and they (the educated) were going around trying to work up a rebellion against the government because it did not give them all clerical jobs. They were educated and not willing to labor with their hands in any of the walks of life, too proud to work. Some of our politicians, I fear, think it is unpopular to advocate the people being taught to work, hence they do not do it.

Work is one of the greatest things taught in the Bible; if no one worked we would have a worse war daily in this country than is now raging in Europe. Now is the time to commence every child's education with a trade tomorrow; tomorrow is not ours, today is the only time we have. Let us do all things now to help to make the next generation better, more honorable in their dealings, more temperate, more industrious; in other words, better men on an average than we have been, and commence right now.

The child, as a rule, who never learns to work during childhood will not work after he is grown. He will not take a clerical job or a job on a railroad or something of that kind, but there is not jobs enough to employ all town and city reared children at the railroad; and further, one who was not taught to work in childhood never, as a rule, makes an efficient worker after he is grown.

Ask the captains of industry and they will tell you children should be taught to work.

Respectfully, D. L. GORE. P. S.—Since writing the above article, I find there is to be a meeting at the court house Saturday at 8 p. m. on new legislation. All people interested in vocational schools please attend.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Last week we saw a calf, not over one month old, brought to the butcher's knife. We are told that it is a rare thing in Greenville for a calf to escape the butcher's knife until it is three months old, or a lamb to get old enough to be sheared before butchered. If there is no State law to save the farmer from himself there ought to be a law to save the helpless animal. If it is at least grows large enough to furnish a square meal for a small family.—Oxford Public Ledger.

The coming of the land bank to Columbia meets for this city from at present we realize. It means that this city will be the center of interest of a large section of the Southeastern states in certain transactions in which a large portion of the citizenship will be interested. Columbia's campaign for this bank was made very skillfully, and we wish to commend most warmly the chairman of the committee of the Columbia Clearing House association, as well as the other members, for the winning fight that they made. Congressman Lever's influence at Washington was also demonstrated in this success. Each bank starts with \$750,000, and this will mean a lot of cash on deposit in Columbia through all seasons of the year, and it means the employing of a great many skillful accountants and land appraisers whose headquarters will be in Columbia. The Record immediately after the act of Congress was passed in July urged that steps be taken toward the locating here of a government nitrate plant. The citizens of the Mussel Shoals are very strong on their face, but the question of transportation enters largely into the equation, and Columbia has the facilities, not possessed by other logical contenders. It is known that there is a disposition in some high-up circles to divide the nitrate industry of the government into three branches, one for munitions, which probably would be at Mussel Shoals; one for industrial arts, and one for fertilizer alone. Columbia is a logical shipping point for the latter, as 80 per cent of the commercial fertilizer containing nitrogen is used in Georgia and the two Carolinas. We trust that Columbia will be as successful in this as in the land bank campaign, which was conducted quietly but effectively—and Columbia won on merit. We claim that merit will bring a branch of the nitrate-making industry to Columbia.—Columbia Record.

CUMBERLAND NEGRO SPIRITED AWAY TO STATE'S PRISON.

Four Men Get \$300 Reward for Capture of Carl Bryant.

(Special Star Correspondence.) Fayetteville, N. C., Dec. 28.—S. G. Swafford, chief of police of Aberdeen; Ralph Leach, mayor of that town; E. J. Bethune, a conductor on the A. & E. Railroad, and Frank Page, also of Aberdeen, are the men who will divide the \$300 reward for the capture of Carl Bryant, outlawed slayer of Deputy Sheriff Frank Dees, who was captured at Aberdeen yesterday morning, brought here in the afternoon and spirited away to Raleigh last night by Deputies J. McD. Monaghan and Al J. Pate, who acted on what are described as "rumors" of violence. The negro was taken to the State's prison in an automobile, having been brought from Aberdeen in the same way. He went Dick Judge and Ike Monroe, negroes, who have been held for some time as his accomplices in the killing of the deputy.

Bryant was brought to Fayetteville in a motor car by Messrs. Leach, Swafford, Page and Bethune, who were responsible for his capture. They will get the reward of \$150 offered by Cumberland county authorities and \$150 offered by Governor Craig. Divided equally it will mean \$75 to each of them.

GREENSBORO'S "BIG HOTEL" TO BE BUILT WITHIN NEXT YEAR.

Subscription of Stock Now Assures the Long Hoped for Enterprise.

(Special Star Correspondence.) Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 28.—The long hoped for "big hotel" for Greensboro will probably be a fact before Christmas, 1917. When the needed \$75,000 in common stock was all subscribed at a meeting in the chamber of commerce rooms yesterday afternoon a sigh of

PRE-INVENTORY SALE OF Ladies' Coat Suits, Coats and Dresses. Before Taking Inventory We Aim to Reduce all Our Stocks to a Minimum—Hence This 50% Reduction on all Ladies' Ready-to-Wear. \$35.00 value Plush Coats, reduced to \$17.50. \$20.00 value Plush Coats, reduced to \$10.00. \$30.00 value Plush Coats, reduced to \$15.00. \$37.50 value Plush Coats, reduced to \$18.50. Genuine Salts' Astrachan Coats, regular \$18.00 values, reduced to \$9.00. \$10.00 Barclay Cloth Coats, reduced to \$4.75. Colors: Black, Navy, Brown, Grey. \$6.50 and \$8.50 values Sport Coats, assorted colors, reduced to \$4.75. All Coat Suits and Dresses at 1-2 the regular prices: \$10.00 Coat Suits, at \$5.00. \$15.00 Coat Suits, at \$7.50. \$20.00 Coat Suits, at \$10.00. \$30.00 Coat Suits, at \$15.00. J. H. Rehder & Co. THE POPULAR DEPARTMENT STORE. 615-617-619 North Fourth Street. Car Fare Refunded on Purchases of \$2.00 or Over.

OIL HEATING STOVES. We now have our Stock of the Best Goods in This Line Made by Any Manufacturer. Also a Full Line of Coal and Wood Burners, Portable Basket Grates of Many Designs. WM. E. SPRINGER & CO. Purcell Building, Wilmington, N. C.

Greetings. We thank our friends and customers for the liberal patronage given us during 1916, and wish each and every one a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. Yours for business, McNair & Pearsall. WHOLESALE GROCERS. Wilmington, N. C.

NOTICE! The freight warehouses of our companies in Wilmington, N. C., will be closed Monday, December 25th, 1916, and Monday, January 1st, 1917, except between the hours of 9:00 and 10:00 A. M. for the delivery of perishable freight. HENRY WHYTE, Agent, Seaboard Air Line Railway Co. A. J. MOORE, JR., Agent, Atlantic Coast Line Railroad.

REDUCTION IN GASOLINE IN GALVANIZED IRON BARRELS. JOBBERS, 22 CTS. CONSUMERS, 23 CTS. F. O. B. Wilmington. We Paying Return Freight on Empty Barrels. CAPE FEAR OIL CO. DON'T FORGET TO ORDER CARBONLESS AUTOIL.

WE WISH OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Roger Moore's Sons & Co. 206 PRINCESS STREET.