

NEW ENGLAND EDITOR GIVES HIGHEST PRAISE TO NORTH CAROLINA

Impressed With Vast Natural Resources, His Letters to Own Paper Show

(Special to The Star) RALEIGH, Dec. 21.—Edwin Gordon Lawrence, editor of the Athol, Massachusetts, Chronicle, who has been traveling in North Carolina during the past two months has sent a number of interesting articles to his paper which tell of the industrial and agricultural growth of the state. Editor Lawrence is putting the Old North State before the people of his New England community in a very favorable light, and it is very gratifying to find that the state is being so favorably regarded in every way.

"It may surprise many of the readers of the Chronicle," he says in a recent issue, "to learn that North Carolina gives evidence of being the fourth largest farm state of the union, and cannot possibly fall below one of the five. It is established as one of the leading sections of the country as a producer of such staples as cotton and tobacco. While cotton and tobacco are the two major staples, many varieties of vegetables and fruits are produced.

North Carolina is coming forward rapidly as a fruit section, fruit equal to that produced in any other portion of the union being grown in the Carolinas. The state is famous for its apples, and justly so, and yet they are growing right here in North Carolina apples equal to the best that are raised in the Old Bay states. In the vicinity of Southern Pines farm lands are selling as high as \$1,000 an acre for the simple reason that fruits flourish there. In fact, the greater part of Moore county is now a vast field of apples and other fruit and is producing the most favored sections of their former homes.

While cotton is not the main product of North Carolina, it is one of the largest staple items, as the state annually produces in the neighborhood of a million bales. What is better still, this cotton is not shipped out of the state as formerly, but is manufactured into yarns and woven goods. In past years, North Carolina raised cotton, shipped it into New England, where it was turned into textile goods and then purchased it back at a greatly increased cost. Now the cotton is spun within the borders of the state and little goes out until the needs of its own people are satisfied. It can be readily seen how this enhances the wealth of the state and increases the prosperity of its citizens.

Tobacco Towns North Carolina produces annually a tobacco crop that has exceeded in quantity by only one state in the nation. This immense crop is now worked up into the finished product within the state instead of being shipped away in the raw material as formerly. This has led to the upbuilding of several large and prosperous cities such as Durham and Winston-Salem, the last named having grown from two small towns into the biggest city in North Carolina.

Besides the cotton and tobacco crops, little of which goes out of the state until its own factories have been built up, a considerable grain crop is raised, which is used either on the farm for feeding purposes or else hauled to the mills and converted into flour. To raise the material on the farm the farmer and for the running of factories and mills is certainly one of the most profitable and sensible forms of farming. It would seem as though the farmers of Massachusetts might profit by this example.

In addition to cotton, tobacco and grain, many fruits, especially apples, peaches, blackberries and strawberries as well as melons and minor fruits are grown in abundance and shipped north where the fame of North Carolina is constantly increasing as a producer of the best kind of garden stuffs and fruits.

What It Lacks What North Carolina lacks to make it the foremost farming state in the union is farm workers. The state is, as a rule, sparsely populated, miles upon miles of fertile, virgin soil being untouched by plough, spade or hoe. Many of the counties are given over to the straggling farms and waste stretches over which the northern workmen tramp in search of quail. Some farmers derive more profit and do much less work by taking these hangers as boarders instead of cultivating their farms.

A remarkable how productive a sandy soil of the Tar Heel state can be made by proper cultivation and fertilization. A few New England farmers, accustomed to grabbing among the roots and stones of their bleak farms, would soon turn the now barren waste of many sections of North Carolina into garden spots and make them blossom as a rose. The climate of the greater portion of the state is excellent, not being bleak and stormy like our own New England. Here is offered a land in abundance, which is capable of producing crops and which can be worked with much less labor than other sections.

POST SEASON SERIES FOR TEXAS-SOUTHERN The Southern association of the new series is today of their annual meeting is being held on a 154-game playing season for 1921 to open April 13, deferred action is proposed revision of the salary and playing limits until the spring meeting to be held in Little Rock, Ark., January 14, voted to attend the meeting of the National Association of Minor League Clubs in Chicago January 10, in a body and per- next year between the pennant winners of the Southern and Texas leagues.

The stand to be taken by the Southern association in regard to the new agreement between the major and minor leagues will be determined at a caucus of the league directors in Chicago.

SEVEN SENTENCE SERMONS If you would lift men you must be on higher ground.—Emerson. To love and win is the best thing; to lose and loose the next best.—Thackeray. I feel my immortality o'er sweep all pains, all fears, all time, all fears, and peel into my ears this truth—thou livest forever.—Byron.

Quits United States Because of Charges

Kinston Man, After War Vicissitudes, Goes to Canada For Rest Spell

(Special to The Star) KINSTON, Dec. 21.—Apparently having left Kinston the third time to escape charges in local section with alleged misappropriation of money, S. J. Smith, paroled prisoner from the Lenoir county road, is out of the United States and "hopes to forever remain away." He has a wife and several little ones here. Smith, who during the last few years reads like a continuous tragedy, he located here and entered the insurance business. He won the esteem of many persons, and seemed to prosper. After a time charges of embezzlement were lodged against him. The sheriff of Lenoir county had to go to Georgia to apprehend him. He was found in a remote little Georgia village. Bail was made for the accused man. Simultaneously he was indicted in Cumberland county on similar charges.

Things did not run smoothly for him during the ensuing few months. Last December found him a fugitive again. In January he wrote at least two newspapers with all the details of what they should receive his letters he would be a corpse, via the suicide route. He wrote from McRae, Ga., that he would be a corpse, via the suicide route. He wrote from McRae, Ga., that he would be a corpse, via the suicide route. He wrote from McRae, Ga., that he would be a corpse, via the suicide route.

Today a local newspaper received the following letter from Smith, postmarked Toronto, Canada, and written on stationery of the Mossop hotel 55 and 57 Yonge street, that city: "Please correct an error regarding myself in your paper of Monday, December 13, whereby you said I had forged orders for some paint concern. This is absolutely untrue. I have not forged any orders at all, but I protected myself from the U. S. A. and hope to forever remain away. Thanking you to please correct, I am yours truly, S. J. Smith."

The high cost of speeding is giving the traffic squad here less to do. The authorities believe there will be a steady reduction in violations of the automobile laws from now on as a result of the promptness and apparent avidity with which the police court imposes the "first offense" tax of \$21.45. The schedule ranges upward.

The "only sprig of holly in the country" was a popular story of childhood deals was hardly more valuable than a single sprig of mistletoe which by now has reached a little northern town where it was calculated to be a holiday sensation. Experts on such matters declared it was the finest bit of the Christmas plant ever seen here: it was the "bunchiest" and fullest of berries, and had the largest stem. A young woman who carried the sprig for her northern friends would not trust to send it in a package, but set out with the grim determination to carry it 50 or 60 miles on a journey marked by six changes of cars. Its market value here was about 50 cents, against all the way from five to 25 cents for less attractive sprigs, but it was concluded that in a big city market it could easily bring \$50.

Even the Christmas dinner is to be cheaper than local consumers expected. Turkeys are now being sold at 30 cents a pound, against 35 cents a week or two ago. Corned hams had dropped from 35 to 30 cents a pound. Fruit dealers are expected to reduce prices slightly, while Christmas candies were sold at 40 cents and upward.

Nominal reductions in the prices of fuel and wood are being announced by local dealers, on the verge of the "two coldest months." Cheaper labor is probably partly responsible. Cuts in prices have come in spite of a shortage of "mill ends."

INSURANCE HOW WILL NOT CAUSE SPECIAL SESSION JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 21.—No special session of the legislature will be called to consider the situation arising from the decision of 135 fire insurance companies to suspend business in this state. Governor Russell indicated tonight in a statement. The statement was issued after he had conferred with the state revenue agent who seeks to collect penalties of two billion dollars from the companies on charges of creating a combine in restraint of trade. The governor declared the matter was one which should be settled by the courts.

NECESSITY OF ACREAGE REDUCTION IS PRESENTED

Cotton Association Official Addresses Farmers

By A. W. SWAIN (Secretary-Treasurer N. C. Division of American Cotton Association)

Every farmer in the southland, whether he be landlord or tenant will definitely plan his farming operations during the next two months. Many special articles of advice to the cotton grower as to what he should do in 1921 will appear from time to time. Many of these writers and advisors have no interest whatever in the material welfare of the farmer, their main object being clouded with a more definite and specific selfish interest. Cotton growers are being advised already that it will be short of "crimes" to reduce their cotton acreage for 1921 very materially, if any. The following of such advice by cotton growers has for the last fifty years kept them in agricultural slavery, and will continue to keep them there just so long as they allow themselves to be guided by such uninformed advisers.

The first definite plan for every cotton grower in the southland to determine is, to provide for the planting enough of his land in food and feed crops to guarantee to himself and family and livestock a full barn and smokehouse next fall. Not until the imperative safeguard against the future is provided for should any farmer determine upon the number of acres he can safely plant in cotton. If he can make more profit as a farmer growing grain, hay, livestock, or other crops, than he can cotton, then he should not plant a single acre in cotton on his farm. No farmer is obligated from a worldwide humanitarian standpoint to produce cotton at a loss profit than he can other crops.

The wide-mouthed, lusty-voiced humanitarians so glibly advising the cotton farmer to plant as many acres of cotton as they please for 1921 should carry with their message some guarantee as to price for next year. What cotton farmer can be found who uses any of his grey matter at all who will plant heavily in cotton next year when by looking at the board market quotations for the crop he is to plant he sees the price considerably below the cost of production. The time has passed when farmers in the south will grow cotton and sell it at less than the cost of production. If the world wants a large production of American cotton let the buyers and spinners impress the fact upon the farmers in a more practical fashion than talks about "crimes against humanity."

The American Cotton association, speaking for the cotton growers of the south at this time will demand something more definite. In the meantime, every cotton grower is urged to plant an abundance of "hog and hominy" that he may go in the markets of the world next fall, 1921, as an independent, self-respecting citizen, having no fears as to what will happen to him because of the price of cotton.

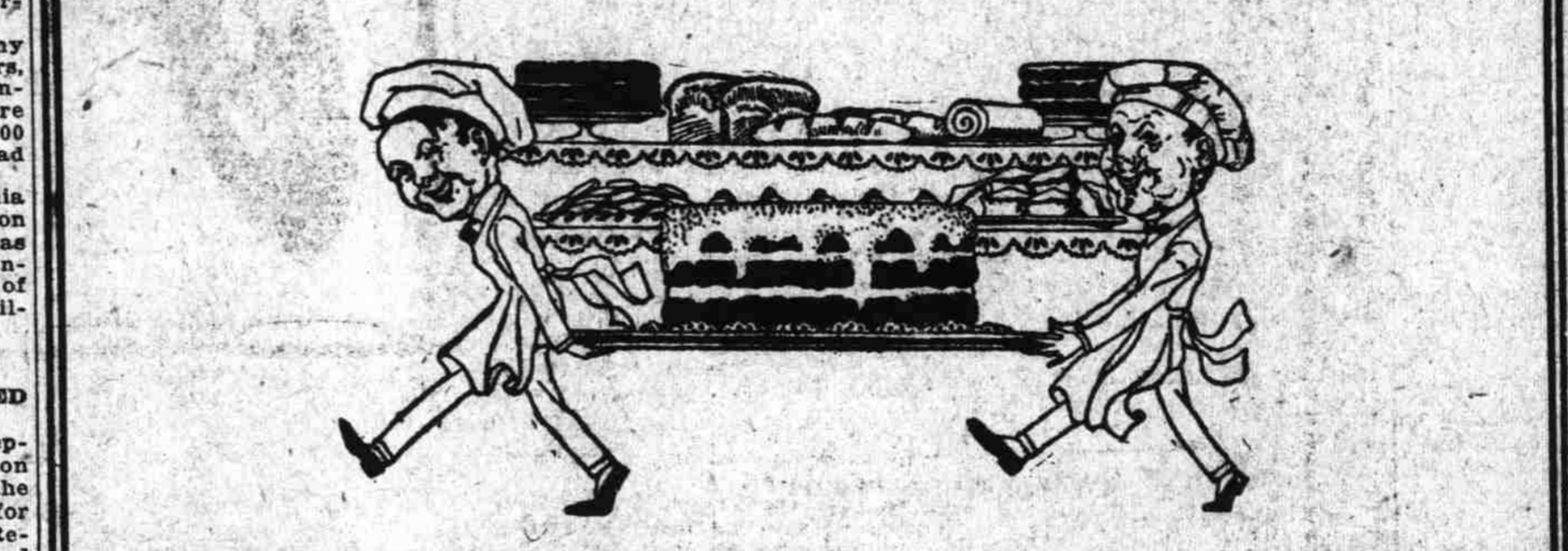
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 21.—A meeting of officers and representatives of the employees of the Pennsylvania railroad system, designed to set up machinery to handle promptly all controversial questions affecting men in the train service of the company was held here today at the call of W. W. Murray, vice-president in charge of operation. It was announced by the company that vice-presidents, general managers, general superintendents and superintendents of the entire system and more than 300 representatives of the 50,000 members of the four principal railroad brotherhoods attended the meeting. It was explained by Pennsylvania railroad authorities that the question of "closed shops" is involved insofar as the national boards of adjustment generally favored by national leaders of the brotherhoods tend to make railroads "closed shops."

FALL RIVER, Mass., Dec. 21.—Representatives of the Fall River cotton manufacturers' association and of the Turkey Hill cotton growers' association met today to discuss the wage question. Recently the manufacturers announced that until a further conference with the employees' representatives the scale of wages in force during the last six months, would remain unchanged. The conference set for tomorrow is regarded as likely to result in final wage action in view of the recent announcement by the manufacturers in other mill centers of a reduction of 22 1-2 per cent.

HOLYOKE, Mass., Dec. 21.—The Lyman Mills corporation, cotton textile manufacturers, today announced a wage reduction of 22-1-2 per cent to take effect January 10. The cut affects 1,150 employees.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Dec. 21.—A wage reduction affecting more than 700 employees, was announced here today by the Parkersburg Iron company. The amount of the cut was not made known. HUNTSVILLE, Ala., Dec. 21.—The Merrimack mills, giving employment to 1,800 persons, which have been closed down, will reopen next Monday on full time, 55 hours a week under a wage reduction of 25 per cent, according to announcement made by the management today. SANFORD, Maine, Dec. 21.—A reduction of 22 1-2 per cent in wages and salaries in the two establishments of the Sanford Mills corporation here will be put into effect on January 3, according to an announcement tonight. The mills employ 3,000 operatives. HEFNER AND YOUNG ARE FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER MORGANTOWN, Dec. 21.—"Guilty of murder in the second degree" was the verdict rendered tonight by the judge in the trial of Dook and Cecil Hefner and Lon Young, charged with the murder of Glenn Lippard. The verdict applies to all three defendants. Judge Shaw announced that he would pronounce sentence tomorrow morning, after denying a motion by A. A. Whitener, counsel for the defendants, for a new trial.

Gifts Men Appreciate
FURNISHINGS, thoughtfully chosen, are the most welcome and useful of gifts for men. DAVID'S name on a gift of furnishings absolutely establishes its quality, correctness and value—makes it worth more!
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For the College Man: English Ribbed Wool Hose, Knit Cravats, White Oxford Attached Collar Shirts, Silk Mufflers, Full Dress and Tuxedo Accessories, Motoring Gauntlets, Bathrobes
For the Man Who Travels: Manhattan and Metric Shirts, Wrinkleless and Pin-proof Cravats, Hose to Harmonize Collar Bags, Initial Linen Handkerchiefs
For the Outdoor Man: Wool Hose, Flannel Shirts, Wool Gloves, Mackinaws, Golf Caps
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