

# Wilmington Morning Star

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MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 1923

## Co-Op City Builders.

The most that any citizen of Wilmington can do for his city on the threshold of the new year is to join the chamber of commerce. When the men of a city unite in an ably earnest endeavor they can do things collectively that the most constructive of men can not do individually. More achievements have been accomplished by co-operative organizations than by any other means, as we ought to be able to observe by what has been done for our cotton and tobacco growing industries within one year through the means of co-operative marketing organizations.

A chamber of commerce is nothing more or less than a co-operative organization composed of public spirited men banded together to promote the development of their city. The development of industries and payrolls, the promotion of our ocean playground possibilities, the expansion of the commercial opportunities of the port, the extension of the agricultural and livestock industries, the promotion of land settlement enterprises, and the numerous other definite undertakings that can be carried out by co-operation would make Wilmington a vastly more important city.

What strong collective effort have we made to promote the development of Wilmington? We ought not to begrudge the share we could take in a united constructive movement to develop Wilmington on not less than a dozen lines. Every man in Wilmington can become a city builder by contributing his share of genius and support to the Wilmington chamber of commerce.

We have got to mobilize it, we expect to get anywhere or go over the top. With only one-third the business and professional men of Wilmington connected in any way with the chamber of commerce, it is idle to claim that this is one of North Carolina's progressive cities. We have made Wilmington a beautiful home city, "a city fit to live in," and it is up to all Wilmingtonians to unite in making Wilmington the great city for which we surely have laid the foundations.

During the next three days the chamber of commerce ought to receive 100 recruits each day. It would give Wilmington a big new year's send-off. At least 300 Wilmingtonians now outside their city's commercial organization can do that. That many new members would give the Wilmington chamber of commerce a pull that would demonstrate the power in collective constructively. In a material sense, the chamber of commerce during the year now gone, did more for Wilmington than all the balance of us put together. Every living soul in Wilmington will share in the benefits of the 1922 work of the chamber of commerce, and yet that constructive work has devolved upon a minority of the live men of this city of magnificent prospects.

### Happy New Year!

Within the next sixty-odd days, the new congress will be functioning at Washington. The reconstruction-congress will have to go home and stay. That old blunderbus was a big joke on constructivity.

Cheer up! Bion H. Butler once said that North Carolina is sloppy with opportunities. That was several years ago. Since then North Carolina's progress has cleared a deep water channel to an ocean of opportunities.

## War Talk at Lausanne.

The year end closed with talk of war at the near east peace conference at Lausanne. It is not worth while to take such reports seriously for the reason, that if there is to be any more war it would have to be between the Entente allies on one side and the Turks and Russia on the other. Nationalist Turkey is not in a position to seriously resist the allies without the assistance of Russia and that country continues to make known its needs of an international loan. A country with no stable financial system is liable to undertake any serious war move under such circumstances.

The Russians favor freedom of the Constantinople straits but object to the passage of war ships into the Black sea, and since it seems that the allies have about closed the deal so far as the straits are concerned, the soviet delegates seem to have contented themselves with the issuance of a note to the seacoast of Black sea countries, gressions from the allies. The soviets do not threaten war but they do declare that entrance of war ships into the Black set will be such a menace to the seacoast of Black set countries, that it will compel Russia to go to the expense of fortifying her Black sea front against possible attack. That is quite likely but certainly if Russia were to declare war she would invite attack through the Black sea and her coast would be defenseless. She is not likely to enter upon such a foolish war venture in view of her defenseless Black sea front.

The Turks continue to resist Britain's claim to the Mosul oil fields in Mesopotamia but in that respect, the Russians are not apt to enter into a war to protect Turkish sovereignty. Britain has taken a firm position about the oil regions, and the Turks are powerless to resist her. However, Great Britain has made many concessions and it is more than probable that she will make more. None of the countries concerned want any more war, for the reason they can not afford it. When the Russians and the Turks find that the allied program will finally be adopted in spite of threats and war talk, the soviets and the Kemalists will surrender to the inevitable. Great Britain has ordered her war ships to return to the straits and no doubt that will intimidate to the soviets and the Turks that the argument at Lausanne has been about ended. Great Britain wants a rest, as well as all other nations, and the other countries involved, and as to that matter, the New York Times quite logically concludes:

It may be, however, that many Turks want a rest. The Turkish Army has done no fighting since the beginning of September. It has attained almost everything it was fighting for, and most of its soldiers must have slackened somewhat in their warlike determination. To get them warmed up again on short notice might not be easy. There have probably been numerous assertions, while the British land forces hold their strong position at Chanak and the British naval forces in the Straits are being reinforced.

The Turks at Lausanne seem to be weighing quite calmly the advantages and disadvantages of a war in which they could probably occupy the Mosul district without much trouble, but might easily be driven out of Thrace and the Straits region. Both sides are probably too optimistic in their calculations. The Balkan States would fight to defend themselves against the Turks, but they would hardly go to war to save Mosul for England. On the other hand, Russia would be slow to fight England over Constantinople just now, and Turkish hopes of American support on the Straits issue is rather forlorn. Our moral element would hardly tolerate outspoken support of the Turks in a quarrel with England, and as to the more practical element, has not Curzon offered us our share of the oil?

The more experienced Turkish leaders cannot think of entering lightly into a war with England, particularly those who at Lausanne have had a chance to see something of the workings of European politics. But the delegates are controlled by the National Assembly at Angora, and in that Assembly are many inland Deputies who never saw a warship in their lives. They may regard a war with England as something no more serious than a war with Greece. Ever Anatolia has its Burboome counties.

As a matter of fact, much of that war talk at Lausanne is buncombe, and about all it amounts to is that it furnishes newspaper stuff. The soviet statement on Saturday was made to the newspaper correspondents more than to the Lausanne peace conference. The signs are that enough concessions will be made at Lausanne to make war rather improbable.

### Where do we go from here?

Let's go! Not single file but all together.

"On again, gone again, Flanagan." All aboard the 1923 special.

Governor Morrison will get his new year's cheer in Lumberton today.

We can all lay hold and take a fresh start on this first day of 1923.

Don't start the new year with a long face. That's no way to face a new year.

## American Corn to be Looked After.

Europeans seem to prefer Argentine corn to American corn, hence the United States department of agriculture is going to engage in research work in order to ascertain the relative differences between American and Argentine corn as to quality. The Argentine corn imported into Wilmington during the World war had a very inconsequential appearance compared with American corn, and it sold here at a price below the American product. The Argentine cereal brought here was a small grain with a yellowish cast, and it is described as a "flint corn," preferable in the European market.

Our agricultural department proposes to determine by chemical analysis whether the European buyers of corn just have an idea that Argentine corn is better in quality than the corn exported from America, or whether the food and feed value of the South American product is superior to the bulk corn product grown in the west, and commonly known as "dent corn." In view of the fact that the Bureau of Chemistry at Washington is going to carry on an extensive chemical investigation of American food and feed products, this interesting statement comes from Washington:

According to W. G. Campbell, acting chief chemist, the investigation will be conducted through a laboratory on crop chemistry, recently established which will determine if there are any fundamental differences in the composition of flint, or hard corn, and the dent corn largely produced in the United States.

The laboratory will undertake studies on the composition of agricultural crops in a fundamental way. Additional work will be carried on concerning the influence of environment on the chemical composition of crops, including certain features of fertilization, such as the relation of chemical composition and food value of crops to the time of fertilization. Previous work has been directed toward the quantity viewpoint. The new work will be directed to quality.

It is known for instance, says Mr. Campbell, "that the application of certain fertilizers to a crop will increase the yield quantitatively. However, practically nothing is known about quality relations; that is, whether the proteins, vitamins, or mineral components of the corn fertilized in such a way are better suited to animal and human nutrition than those of unfertilized corn. Varietal differences will be studied from a chemical standpoint. One of the most important researches now under way is that upon vegetable proteins. Inasmuch as nitrogen is an essential part of animal tissues, and the animal can obtain this necessary nitrogen only in the form of protein in its food; it is obvious that this class of feeds is of prime importance. This research involves the very existence of all animals and is inseparably connected with the field of nutrition."

The probability is that Dr. Campbell will find that the main constituent differences between Argentine and American corns is due chiefly to the varieties of the corn family. Soils, fertilizers and methods of production may have something to do with it, but the farmers of the old south can remember very well that both soft and hard corn varieties were grown on same soil in the Carolinas. Indeed, it was only recently that the Country Gentleman contained a very illuminating article on corn growing by the Indians of the cold northwest, long before the advent of the white man of what is now known as the "corn belt"—chiefly Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, and other states of the middle west. The fact is, northwest the Indians were great corn growers 200 years ago and the corn they grew was a "flint corn." Evidently it was a different variety of corn from that now grown in the "corn belt."

Of course, there is quite a difference between the food qualities of corn varieties, but probably much of the American corn exported to Europe was the "kiln dried" article that sometimes has caused complaint by millers and feeders in the south, which to its shame, got into the habit of depending on the west for corn. Much of the western corn imported into the south by cotton growers has been found of inferior quality because of its suffering from heating in cars while in transit.

One of the most popular corns ever grown in the Carolinas was known as "pearl corn" because it was extremely hard and pearl-like in color. It made the finest kind of grits, and it was chiefly known as a hominy corn. A dozen different varieties of corn used to be grown in North Carolina, but our farmers may have adopted the western "dent" variety in their latter day corn growing.

However, the late Dr. Knapp, of the United States agricultural department pronounced the south "nature's own corn belt," and he declared that any kind of corn grown in the south was better in quality than western grown corn because of the longer growing seasons in the south. He found that corn fully matured in the fields of North Carolina, and that although it was allowed to remain on the stalk till midwinter its quality suffered no deterioration. Because corn matures naturally in North Carolina, Dr. Knapp pronounced it superior to corn

which frequently is prematurely pulled in the west because fear of early frost damage. "Down Home" corn is matured in the fields long before frost falls, hence corn here is never frost damaged nor kiln-dried.

The fact is, the long growing seasons in the coastal region of North Carolina, in the black lands, make it possible to grow two crops of corn on the same land in one season. Two silo crops of corn can be easily grown in one season in North Carolina, so that filling silos in North Carolina is a mere matter of moonshine. When the late Secretary Lane visited the drained lands of the Waccamaw Lumber company at Bolton, near Wilmington, he was astonished to find unpulped corn in Manager F. L. Finkenstaedt's fields along about December 28, 1918.

While Dr. Campbell is analyzing corn he should analyze the "dent" variety grown in the south, in comparison with the western "dent" product. Perhaps, after all, North Carolina might be depended on to grow all the flint corn needed by Europe.

## The New Year Outlook.

The symposium of views continued in the Star Sunday review of the local business outlook were heartening because of the optimistic tone of business expression in Wilmington. Recovery from depression existing for practically two years was quite manifest during 1921. Crop values all over the country increased \$2,000,000,000 over crops values in 1920, and much of that increased farm production value was in the south. Indeed, North Carolina very largely shared in it because of the value of her cotton and tobacco crops.

American industries also had a prosperous year, and we all know how singularly prosperous have been North Carolina's great textile and tobacco industries. So far as North Carolina is concerned, the industrial outlook has nothing in it to cause uneasiness. So far as agriculture is concerned, that challenges our closest attention. With that one branch of North Carolina industry to be safeguarded, we know that our chief object this new year is to give most of our constructive attention to farm industry. In that there are great possibilities, and fortunately a \$3,000,000 packing industry centered at Wilmington gives us a basic industry for farm extension along lines that will bring prosperity to eastern North Carolina, while immensely increasing the industrial importance of Wilmington.



## CONTEMPORARY VIEWS.

### RAILWAY CONSOLIDATIONS

Announcement from Cleveland that the so-called Van Sweringen lines of railroads are to be consolidated into a single system serves to draw attention once more to the much discussed question of railroad consolidation in general. This particular amalgamation is stated to have been planned for the purpose of reducing costs and improving the competitive advantages of the several smaller lines thus combined. If it actually succeeds in accomplishing these purposes the transaction will, of course, be in the public interest.

That there are other instances in which similar action would, if properly executed, result in economy and efficiency, few will doubt. It is equally

beyond question that the advantages to be obtained in this manner have been grossly exaggerated in certain quarters. Consolidation of our railroads into a few great systems has in fact become almost a fetish in some minds.

All feasible methods should be employed to reduce transportation costs. The greatest burden of them all is labor expense. No amount of effort will enable us to avoid the necessity of readjusting this item of cost if our railroads are to serve the public as they should. Consolidations of one sort or another are all too frequently suggested merely with the idea of drawing attention away from needed labor reform.—New York Journal of Commerce.

All work and no play shows Jack a blame fool.

## Mayor Issues Orders Regarding Parking

The parking of motor cars or any class of vehicles is prohibited on the west side of Water street, between Market and Dock streets and between the hours of 6 p. m. and 6 a. m., according to traffic regulations announced yesterday by Mayor James H. Cowan.

Mayor Cowan, in instructing Police Chief Claude C. Cashwell with reference to the new regulations, said that this restriction was found necessary so as not to prevent or impede the movement of railroad cars on the "dummy line."



HAVING enjoyed the best year's business in our history, we wish at this time to thank our friends and the public generally for their loyal support and confidence and extend our greetings to all for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We wish to remind you that

Tuesday, January 2nd, is the beginning of our 91st Regular Interest Period and all deposits made with us on or before Wednesday, January 3rd, will draw interest from January 1st, receiving credit for a full quarter's interest on April 1st.

This is an excellent time to open an account or add to the one you already have.

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