

### ECHOES FROM CLUBDOM

BY MRS. GORDON FINGER.

#### Citizenship Class to Have Governor-Elect Wednesday.

The class in citizenship, being conducted by the civic department for the women of Mecklenburg county, will meet this week on Wednesday night instead of the usual time, and the meeting place will be the Alexander Graham high school auditorium at 8:30 o'clock.

The public, and especially, the residents of the county outside of Charlotte are invited; the folk who most usually have the honor to be called "people of the county, Mecklenburgers."

All these changes in plan and urgency of invitation are occasioned by an event unprecedented in the annals of the county. The enfranchised women of the county are to study "county government" making literal application to this county and the first governor ever elected from this county, Cameron Morrison, will be guest of honor and address the meeting at the conclusion of the citizenship program.

Miss Corrie Fore has the first topic to be presented, "County Government in North Carolina." Officials of the county and their duties and county institutions are other topics everybody will be interested in.

Mrs. W. T. Shore, civic chairman, invites every officer of the county to come and help the people learn the extent and the limitation of each man's authority. It often happens that men in public positions are upbraided for failure to do things, they personally would be very glad to do but the laws governing their office will not permit.

With the approaching holidays the inauguration of Mr. Morrison will make him not less Mecklenburg's own but more a representative of the state as a whole and the spaciousness of the auditorium will permit the people of the city to utilize the occasion as a sort of public gala farewell. The occasion will be enlivened by music and the presence of many of Governor Morrison's personal friends, the full membership of the club and the citizenship class.

#### Sewing Bee Week.

The past week has been sewing bee week with the members of the club house committee and the board of directors. There have been morning meetings and cuttings and afternoon meetings and sewings, getting the curtains and linens ready for hanging for the proposed opening of the new Woman's club at holiday time.

Moving going to housekeeping for a big institution with family Christmas and a big shopping list is a

test for efficiency and loyalty but under the leadership of Mrs. Eugene Reilly and Mrs. I. W. Faison the work goes on apace, with the royal assistance of such workers as Mrs. C. C. Hook and Mrs. Minnie Wriston Smith, all women who appreciate the worth of a dollar and have good, excellent taste in the spending.

The club women feel that Charlotte has expressed great appreciation and confidence in the work and in the integrity of the club as an organization and they are making every effort to plan and operate a club worthy of the real Charlotte brand of things, the best with faith in the future, a progressing success.

#### The Health Seals, Double Red Cross.

When you know that something like \$35,000 is being expended by organizations in the city for the succor, prevention, cure of human suffering through the medium of nursing and that the germ from which this great work for Charlotte grew was the sale of the Red Cross seal which put on the very first nurse through the Associated Charities years ago brings realization of what can grow from a good work faithfully followed up.

The double Red Cross is now a world wide insignia of the fight against disease in the form of tuberculosis; the fight for a living chance for every child not armored with a full share of natural strength by healthy parentage and wholesome living conditions; a helping hand to the adult inoculated with the germ that wastes.

Now that the annual sales in Charlotte have become dependably of an appreciable size, the club has failed to lead the smaller cities in amount of sales, a tuberculosis clinic has been opened for free consultation and treatment for white or black. It is located next door to Tryon Street Methodist church and is open Tuesday afternoons and Friday afternoons from 2 to 4.

There is a nurse on the staff Miss Katharine Ardagh, who devotes all of her time to visiting the afflicted in their homes and helping and instructing them in how to care for themselves and protect others from infection.

Last month 17 cases were discharged but new ones discovered made a total of reported and located cases to reach 300.

Every Charlotte person who buys a seal is putting money and interest to work at home, keeping up what is begun and extending the work depends on exactly how many seals we buy.

#### STATE FEDERATION NOTES.

Mrs. Henry White of High Point, chairman of the membership com-

mittee, writes that 15 clubs, representing a total membership of 618 new members, have been admitted to the federation since the Charlotte convention, April 27-30. The new clubs admitted are as follows:

Council of Jewish women, Raleigh, 28 members; president, Mrs. Maurice Rosenthal.

Mothers' club, Mount Gilead, 15 members; president, Mrs. P. H. Rankin.

Women's club, Rockingham, 48 members; president, Mrs. John L. Everett.

Fortnightly club, Brevard, 10 members; president, Mrs. C. R. Crabb.

Community club, Kinston, 140 members; president, Mrs. S. C. Satterson.

Council of Jewish women, Charlotte, 41 members; president, Mrs. Ralph Malver.

Civic league, Waynesville, 18 members; president, Mrs. Rufus L. Allen.

Twentieth Century Mothers' club, 12 members; president Mrs. R. T. Poole.

Adelphian club, Calypso, 29 members; president, Mrs. W. Patton.

Boarder Book club, Spray, 17 members; president, Mrs. Lois W. Clark.

Civic league, Mayville, 26 members; president, Mrs. F. M. Jenkins.

Tuesday Afternoon Book club, Morven, 18 members; president, Mrs. John A. Liles.

The Thursday club, Bladenboro, 15 members; president, Mrs. E. B. Dunn.

Women's club, Lexington, 55 members; president, Mrs. H. M. Ulmer.

Women's club of Flora Macdonald college, Red Springs, 30 members; president, Mrs. M. L. Sander-

son.

Miss Mildred T. Cover, publicity chairman of the Goldsboro Woman's club, has sent in the following list of officers and chairmen of departments and standing committees of the club for the coming year:

President, Mrs. L. D. Giddens; vice president, Mrs. Malcolm Bizzell; treasurer, Mrs. E. G. Thompson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Robert Powell; recording secretary, Mrs. J. A. McLean; chairmen of departments: civics, Miss Gertrude

Well; literature, Miss Mary DeVane; education, Mrs. Lionel Well; music, Mrs. Sam Scott; home economics, Miss Elizabeth Bogie (acting chair-

man); chairmen of committees: house, Miss Mary Emma Giddens; social, Mrs. B. D. Harrison; publicity, Miss Mildred Cover; cafeteria, Mrs. E. M. Land; ways and means, Mrs. J. N. Johnson.

The home economics department of the Rocky Mount Woman's club at a recent meeting instructed a

### TREASURY DEPARTMENT EXPECTS BETTER TIMES

Thinks Conditions Will Improve After the Christmas Holidays. Foreign Demand for Cotton.

BY H. E. C. BRYANT.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Treasury department officials believe that business conditions will improve when the Christmas holidays are over. They see signs of a return to better times now. Reports from abroad promise increased demand for raw cotton, and more satisfactory prices.

Consul General George E. Anderson, at Rotterdam, The Netherlands, October 25, wrote: "There has been a considerable increase in the amount of foreign goods going into Germany and other central powers the past few weeks, this being particularly true of raw cotton from the United States.

There have been less severe fluctuations in the value of the mark, and German manufacturers have been more able to count upon enough stability in the mark's value to enable them to make purchases of cotton and similar supplies from abroad. Practically all of the business has been done on a cash basis, i. e., the German importer has paid cash to the Netherlands middleman or American agent in Holland.

The Netherlands middleman or the agent special committee to draw up resolutions asking the farmers of the county to turn their attention to the dairy industry in order to increase the milk supply of the Rocky Mount markets. An inadequate milk supply is the cause of an acute milk shortage in the town and some of the civic organizations are taking up the matter to see if the situation cannot be remedied and the city's supply increased.

An enthusiastic meeting of the Greensboro Woman's club was recently held at which a fund was started for a new Woman's club house. Seventy new members were taken into the club at this meeting.

Mrs. Roland Taylor is president of the organization with Mrs. W. A. Bivens as secretary. Mrs. Al Fairbrother was present and gave a few of her impressions of California, stressing the cleanliness of the western cities. Mrs. Fairbrother would like to see a boulevard system and better parks for Greens-

boro. American cotton concerns have bought dollars with guilders either on sight or 90 days' sight basis. The purchase of these supplies in Germany, therefore, represents a transaction based upon two variable exchange rates as well as varying prices for cotton or other goods from abroad. Purchase direct from the United States is difficult because of the element of time in the matter of exchange and deliveries. At best the business is difficult, but the need for raw materials in Central Europe is imperative.

"It may be well to again call the attention of American business men to the fact that no improvement in business in Central Europe can be expected until some comprehensive credit system is arranged which will enable central European manufacturers to secure raw materials and fuel. Any aggressive campaigning, it is believed, American products is entirely lost until a workable financing arrangement has been established."

Leonard B. Gary, writing about the state of the cotton trade at Lancashire said: "Manufacturers and merchants in Manchester, England, are more hopeful for improved business conditions, despite the continued depression (which has lasted for three months) and the fact that huge stocks of cloth and yarn are accumulating in warehouses in Manchester and vicinity. Many of them instead of viewing the coal strike with alarm rather welcomed it, believing that it would to some extent relieve the feeling of uncertainty that has pervaded the business community for some time past. Some also have taken plants and thus stop the production of cloth and yarn, thereby easing the situation and probably helping to clear off the glut of goods in the market."

"While undoubtedly the strike has had a tendency to help spare the goods, it has increased unemployment in the textile trades, where unemployment was already serious. Just after the strike was called the worst more inquiries from India and China, and some of these inquiries resulted in business. The threatened stoppage of industry, with the consequent scarcity of goods that would result from a stoppage of machinery, has checked the falling prices and in some cases has brought about an advance.

Many causes have contributed to the depression that has prevailed in the Lancashire cotton trade for the past three months. Among these may be mentioned, first, the lack of demand for Lancashire cotton from Great Britain's two largest markets for cotton textiles. The slow-up of orders from these countries was due to the fall in silver and the business depression in Japan, which caused Japanese merchants to dispose of their holdings of cloth and yarn at rates below the cost of production in Japan and much below the prices quoted by Manchester houses; and also to the slackening of the temporary business prosperity, brought to these countries by the war, which had increased the purchasing power of the populace.

"Second, the instability of raw cotton prices. The wide fluctuation in the prices of raw cotton has made it difficult for the Lancashire merchant and manufacturer to quote a firm price. The steadily declining markets and indications of a large crop in the United States and Egypt, with a large carry-over of American cotton, made buyers feel that the market would go much lower, and of course they did not care to stock up on high-priced goods on a falling market. This uneasiness of raw cotton reacted on the prices of yarn and cloth, and confidence in values was destroyed. It goes without saying that this lack of confidence has been one of the most serious deterrents to business.

"Third, general labor unrest in industries closely allied to the cotton-textile industry or industries upon which the cotton trade is dependent for some of its supplies."

Other reasons were given but these are the essential ones.

"There is now (the 1st of November) much unemployment in the textile industries—it is stated that of the 800,000 looms in Lancashire more than 250,000 are idle—and unless trade improves to a great extent in the next few weeks this inevitably means that other workers will be idle and there will be much unrest and discontent. During the war a better feeling had been created between employer and operative than had been known for a quarter of a century. These relations continued for some time, but with rising prices and ever-increasing demands for shorter hours and more wages much of the good will created has been destroyed.

"Before the war a 57-hour week was generally worked throughout the textile industry. This has now been reduced to 48 hours; and in the spring, when the present agreement comes to an end the trade-unions will endeavor to have this reduced to 44 hours. The feeling at present is that there will probably be a strike before this question is settled. Roughly speaking, wages are three times as high in the cotton textile industry as they were before the war. In 1914 weavers earned from 1 to 21 shillings per week while now they are receiving from 65 to 70 shillings; spinners earned from 35 to 40 shillings per week, while the average earning is now between 140 and 160 shillings.

"Despite labor conditions there is a feeling in the trade that between now and spring there will be a great improvement in the textile situation; and manufacturers think that from this time on prices will rise instead of declining. However, it is not believed that prices will approach those prevailing between February and April of this year."

#### YORK FARMERS TO MEET NEXT TUESDAY

Rock Hill, S. C., Dec. 11.—Chairman J. B. Johnson, of the York Cotton association has called meetings of the farmers of York, to be held at York and Rock Hill on next Tuesday morning and afternoon, respectively. The object of the meetings is to discuss reduction of acreage and the financing of the next year.

The merchants of the city have voted to take the usual two-day Christmas holiday this year, the stores being closed on Christmas day and the Monday following. Action was taken Thursday night at a special meeting, at which time the inadequate freight facilities were considered and the secretary instructed to ascertain if the railroad planned to give early relief. The merchants went on record as endorsing the plan to reduce cotton acreage next year.

News was received this morning of the death in McConnelville, of Miss Lillie Ashe, assistant state home demonstration agent, with offices at Winthrop. Miss Ashe was a daughter of J. Frank Ashe and is well known throughout the county. For a time she was assistant county home demonstration agent. The news of her passing will be received with regret throughout the entire county.

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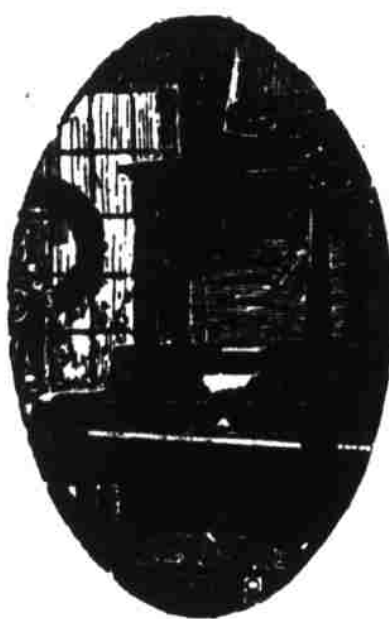
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