

ADVANCE SHOWING SPRING MERCHANDISE, 1909

In order not to have a let-up in our always busy store, we arranged to have here, by the close of our "Mill-End" Sale, some of the fads and fashions for Spring 1909. Monday morning we begin taking stock only in Tryon Street Dry Goods Store, but the Clothing room and the Trade Street Store will both be open for business. In our Trade Street Store will be shown the latest productions in Silk and Woolen Fabrics, Ladies' Furnishings, Mattings, Rugs, Carpets, Curtains and Sample Coat Suits for Spring 1909.

Great Special Sale Monday

Monday the most remarkable bargain of the great Corset Sale. Think of it, Corsets 3 cents an inch—size 18 for 36c, size 19 for 38c, and so on up to size 30 for 60c. Never before has opportunity brought you such exceptionally good Corsets so cheap. They're maker's lots, bunched with broken lines of our regular stock—a most extraordinary variety—and we've named this price for a speedy clearing Monday. Many styles, many kinds, all sizes—many new models included; long, short and medium Corsets, in Coutil and Batiste. The best will sell first, so come early for yours. Remember Monday, 3 cents an inch. NONE C. O. D. OR EXCHANGED.

Spring Dress Goods

44-inch Imported Henrietta, entirely new shades, the leading fabric for early Spring wear. Price the yard.....\$1.00

Novelty Wash Goods

New, crisp Printed Balais and Mulls, all the latest 1909 styles, designs and colorings. Price the yard.....12 1-2c. up

Fancy Dress Gingham

Greatest variety of Dress Gingham that we have ever shown, all new Spring styles. Monday will be the first showing. Price the yard.....12 1-2c.

Silks

36-inch Chiffon Messaline, best quality, Black and all Colors. Price the yard.....\$1.25
36-inch Plain Messaline, good, substantial quality, all colors. Price the yard.....\$1.00
45-inch Printed Messaline Foulard, new colorings and new designs. Price the yard.....\$2.00

New Spring Suits and Skirt Samples

We closed out from some of the best manufacturers at one-third off their new Spring Samples of Suits and Skirts. These all newest models, colors and materials and are divided into three lots of each Suits and Skirts and this is your opportunity to secure a new Spring Suit or Skirt at a big saving, as there are garments in each lot which if bought regular would cost from \$2.50 to \$10.00 more than same will cost you on Monday. These go on sale at 9 o'clock and Suits are arranged in three lots—\$20.00, \$25.00 and \$30.00. Skirts are in three lots—\$5.00, \$7.50 and \$10.00 for choice. Each will be fitted by our expert fitters without charge.

Satin Foulards

An exquisite line of Satin Foulards, all new and attractive patterns. Price the yard.....59c. to \$1.00

Laces

Big line Val and Round Thread Laces with insertions to match, all this season's patterns. Price the yard.....5c. up

Embroideries

Grand showing of new Embroideries, consisting of 45-inch Flouncing, All-Overs, Edge and Insertions to match. Price the yard.....10c. to \$1.00

White Goods

Beautiful array of Snowy White Goods, consisting of Batiste, Mull, Linen Lawns, etc. All grades and all widths. Price the yard.....10c. and up

New Rugs

Sanford Axminsters, 9x12, for.....\$25.00
Sanford Axminsters, 8x10.6, for.....\$30.00
Sanford Axminsters, 6x9, for.....\$15.00
Sanford Axminsters, 3x6, for.....\$4.00
Still smaller sizes, all to match.

New Mattings

Big assortment of Colors and White in perfect China Matting, from 20c. to 35c.
Also a nice Jap Matting from 20c. to 65c. per yard
Corke and Iniald Linoleums, all 2 yards wide. Prices per running yard \$1.75 to \$2.75
Window Shades made to order for any size window or door.

SOLE AGENTS FOR LADIES' HIGGINS JOURNAL PATTERNS AND GORGEOUS SHOES

The Little-Long Co.

SOLE AGENTS FOR GENTLEMEN'S AND ADLER'S HND GLOVES

We Pay Railroad Fare on Purchases Amounting to \$40.00 to Patrons Within 50 Miles of Charlotte, and Deliver Free of Charge Purchases Amounting to \$5.00.

SOILS OF MECKLENBURG

THREE LEADING TYPES PREVAIL

Map of the County to Be Made by United States Government, With the Different Grades of Soils Shown in Colors—Preliminary Survey Shows That Cecil Clay is Predominant Type—Cecil Sandy Loam and Ireddell Clay Loam Also Found—Great Rooms For Improvements in Agriculture in the County, Especially in Crop Rotation and Use of Fertilizers—Home Supplies Can All Be Raised.

Correspondence of The Observer.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The soil survey work in Mecklenburg county will begin about the middle of the summer, following the completion of Gaston and Scotland counties. The work in Pitt county, which is suspended during the winter months, will be resumed about the 1st of March, and upon the completion of this county Scotland and Gaston will be taken up.

Mr. W. E. Hearn has charge of the work in North Carolina and will be furnished two assistants from the bureau, and Mr. Frank P. Drane, of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, division of chemistry, will be connected with the work. Mr. Drane's experience as chemist with the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company at Richmond admirably fits him for soil investigations.

MECKLENBURG MAP.

The map of Mecklenburg county will be made on a scale of one inch to the mile, which is very convenient for general use. The map will show all the public roads, many of the private roads, all the streams, railroads, cities, towns, postoffices, houses, churches, school houses and township boundary lines. Upon this accurate base map of the county will be shown in different colors all the different grades or types of soil and the exact location and extent of each type. Several samples of soil and sub-soil from each type will be collected and forwarded to the laboratories of the United States bureau of soils and the division of chemistry of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture at Raleigh, where a complete mechanical and chemical analysis will be made. Accompanying the map will be a very complete write-up of the county, describing the location and boundaries, the general surface features, drainage conditions, settlement, population of the county, transportation facilities, markets, etc. A statement will be given of the climate, showing the monthly rainfall and temperature for that region. The character of the county, embracing all the crops and farm products, size of the farms, labor conditions, value of land and the methods of cultivation, will also be given. There will be a general chapter on the surface geology and soils. This will be followed by a detailed description of each soil type, dealing with the surface soil, its color, texture and depth, and also the sub-soil to a depth of 15 inches. The location and distribution of each of the soil types, their origin, drainage, surface features, crops, grain yields and crops to which adapted and the price of the land will be described. An analysis of each

sample of both soil and sub-soil will be published in the report.

CECIL CLAY PREDOMINATES.

As the result of a preliminary examination of a portion of the county by Messrs. Hearn and H. H. Bennett, the predominating soil type was found to be the Cecil clay, Cecil sandy loam and Ireddell clay loam. The Cecil clay, which derived its name from Cecil county, Maryland, where it was first mapped, is the heavy red clay soil found throughout the piedmont region of the South, and probably is the most extensive soil type in Mecklenburg. When handled properly this soil is capable of producing from 25 to 40 bushels of wheat, 40 to 75 bushels of corn and heavy yields of oats, cowpeas, sorghum, vetch and Bermuda grass. When the soil is thoroughly broken, pulverized and limed there is a number of grasses and grain mixtures that can be successfully grown for hay and pasture and made to fit into crop rotations which are very remedial to the soil. Orchard grass, red top, bluegrass, red clover, etc., are some of the crops that do well there. On this exceptionally strong soil there is no reason why an acreage yield of from one to two bales of cotton could not be maintained. In view of the fact that plants generally are slow to mature on clay soils, because of the cold nature of this class of land, early maturing varieties of cotton should be secured or bred up at home. Certain late truck crops, such as cabbage, would succeed, but as a rule the early maturing truck crops cannot be successfully grown.

CECIL SANDY LOAM.

The next soil in point of areal extent is the Cecil sandy loam, which consists of from 6 to 15 inches of gray sandy loam overlying red clay. This type, while not as strong a soil as the Cecil clay, is particularly well drained and on that account adapted to early vegetables and medium maturing varieties of cotton. Butter beans, snap beans, garden peas, lettuce, asparagus, cucumbers, Irish potatoes, radishes and a number of other vegetables can be grown very satisfactorily on the Cecil sandy loam. There seems to be an especially good opportunity for the production of butter beans, lettuce and Irish potatoes. In the production of truck crops on this land liberal applications of suitable fertilizers are necessary. The general farm crops—corn, cotton, oats, etc.—can be grown upon a profitable basis, particularly with deep plowing, proper rotation and the incorporation of organic manures, either barnyard manure or half-matured or green leguminous crops. A variety of grasses, such as timothy, clover, vetch and alfalfa, will thrive in the bottoms, swales and other depressions where a favorable supply of moisture is maintained.

IREDELL CLAY LOAM.

Another type of soil, the Ireddell clay loam, is found in small areas throughout the county. This is a dark-colored clay loam, having a stiff, plastic sub-soil. It was encountered first in Ireddell county, and upon it a portion of the North Carolina test farm for the piedmont section has been established. With an occasional application of 15 to 25 bushels of lime to the acre this soil is capable of

producing excellent crops of corn, wheat, oats and grasses.

Other kinds of land may be encountered during the progress of the survey, possibly some that have not previously been found here. It is expected that there will be found some of the deep sandy loam, having a yellowish sub-soil, which is occasionally encountered in the piedmont section and which is highly adapted to sweet potatoes, garden peas, etc.

Mecklenburg, already one of the leading agricultural counties of the State, compares so favorably in the matter of soils and climate with the most highly developed agricultural sections in the piedmont region, which extends from northern New Jersey to Columbus, Ga., should, in view of its excellent road system, be one of the best agricultural counties in the piedmont section, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, long considered the best agricultural county in the United States, is situated largely in the piedmont section, and although the soils are not identical with those of Mecklenburg, they have been derived through the weathering or breaking down of crystalline rocks, just as in the case of the Mecklenburg soil.

SHOULD BE MORE ROTATION.

There is room for agricultural improvement, particularly along the line of better crop rotations and in the use of fertilizers, and increased production of human supplies. With the soils of the county adapted to such a great variety of forage crops and grass mixtures, there is absolutely no necessity for buying either hay, meat or dairy supplies from outside sources. Good crops can be almost year round with green feed. Coincident with an extension of stock-raising and dairying there would be produced more barnyard manure, the fertilizer which in the long run is the best that can be used on the piedmont soils. Not only enough vegetables could be easily grown to suffice the wants of the home markets, but with well-directed effort a surplus for shipping could be grown. Cowpeas, clover, vetch of some leguminous crop should be introduced once every four or five years in rotation with other crops in order to bring the soils back to their maximum fertility. During the survey every crop will be studied in its relation to the several soils of the county and its proper abode worked out; and, further, in the study of the soils of the county in comparison with those of other areas already surveyed it is hoped that the complete agricultural capabilities of each type can be pointed out.

Those maps and reports will be published by the United States bureau of soils and distributed free by Representative Webb to every family in the county. Mr. Webb has made every effort not only to obtain this survey for the people of the county, but to secure everything possible for his district. Many hundreds of these reports will be distributed over parts of North Carolina and the United States, thus advertising Mecklenburg county and showing its true value from the standpoint of experts who are impartial judges. If the county were to have such a map made, it would cost a considerable sum and individuals securing a copy would have to pay from \$2 to \$3 for the same. In order to carry out any experimental work with fertilizers and variety tests which would be beneficial to a large number of farmers and landowners, it is necessary to know the soils and have them mapped. By having a soil map, if an experiment is made, say, on a red clay in one part of the county, then a farmer who has the same character of soil in another part of the county would apply the same results as regards fertilizers and crops and varieties to his land. Dr. B. W. Kilgore, State chemist and director of the State experiment stations, is using these maps in carrying on his work with fertilizers and crop varieties. He can, by knowing the soil types, give out some specific information to all who own or farm that particular soil. Many inquiries are received regarding soils over the country and especially in the South, where there are cheap lands, equable climate, large undeveloped areas and a congenial and hospitable people. The soil survey shows the natural resources of a county and calls the public attention to what can be done towards amelioration of farming conditions.

ENTIRE FORCE LAID OFF.

Southern's Spencer Employees to Work Only Five Days in Week Until Further Notice—Adjustment of Wage Scale Expected to Follow.

Spencer, Jan. 23.—Upon instructions from Washington, the entire force of employees of the Southern Railway Company at Spencer was laid off to-day and will observe every Saturday, until further notice, as a holiday. It is said that full time will be resumed February 1st. The cause of the Saturday curtailment is unknown here and is understood to be general over the system. The adjustment of a wage scale is expected to follow.

ANOTHER MURDER CONVICTION.

Greenville, S. C., Jury Returns Verdict Against William Britton, With Recommendation to Mercy—Ten More Murder Cases on Docket. Special to The Observer. Greenville, S. C., Jan. 23.—William Britton, a white man, was convicted to-day in the Court of General Sessions of murder with recommendation to mercy. He killed a neighbor, John Burgett, on Christmas Eve night. Two white men were convicted of murder, with a mercy recommendation, this week and one of manslaughter. There are ten more murder cases on the docket.

Limestone Mills Erects New Houses For Operatives.

Special to The Observer. Gaffney, S. C., Jan. 23.—The management of the Limestone Mills has given the contract for the erection of four new houses for its help. The same management has contracted for the building of four additional houses for the Hamrick Mills. The Hamrick Mills is the newest enterprise for Gaffney, but it is making money for its stockholders already and bids fair to become one of the best paying propositions in the State.

ORIGIN OF THE KLU KLUX KLAN

Started in Tennessee as Band of Men Desiring to Amuse Themselves—Circumstances Changed It Into What It Became—Its Growth a Comedy and Its Death a Tragedy.

To the Editor of The Observer: The recent trial of the Tennessee night-riders, with its revelations and attending excitement, has called to mind an article read some time ago giving an interesting account of the origin, growth and disbandment of a remarkable and mysterious order that was born on Tennessee soil over forty years ago, and whose lurid history so strikingly taught the lesson that mob force is a dangerous remedy for real or fancied wrongs. But history will persist in repeating itself so long as philosophy continues to teach by example.

The article referred to appeared in The Century Magazine some twenty-five years ago, was written by a noted Southern Presbyterian minister and is an interesting chapter of the inside history of this remarkable order, written not from personal knowledge, but from authentic private documents.

While many still live who have a personal acquaintance with its mission, and the deeds committed under the auspices of "The Invisible Empire," to some the following account of its trivial origin may be entirely new as well as interesting. The facts, in the main, have been gleaned and condensed from the above-mentioned article.

One evening in June, 1864, a few young men of Pulaski, the capital of Giles, one of the southern tier of counties in middle Tennessee, met in the office of one of the most prominent members of the Pulaski bar. These young men were of the number who, having escaped death on the battlefield, returned home without the means to enter into, or the business habits to conduct, agricultural or mercantile enterprises. This enforced inactivity brought about a reaction from the exciting scars of army life that was intense. During the meeting in the Pulaski lawyer's office, one of the number present said, "Boys, let us get up a club or a society among this number." The suggestion was received with enthusiasm, and inviting a few others to join them, the next evening eight or ten assembled at the same place and duly organized the club by the selection of a chairman and secretary. The evening was spent in discussing the best means by which to attain the purposes of their organization, which were simply for amusement and diversion. A committee was appointed to select a name, another to draft rules and regulations for their government and a ritual for the initiation of new members. At the next meeting the following week the committee to select a name reported that it as yet had been unable to make a selection of a suitable name suggestive of the character and objects of the society. Several names that had been considered were mentioned. Among this number was the name "Kuklois," from the Greek (kuklos meaning a band or circle. At mention of this name one cried out: "Call it Ku Klux!" Here, first fell from human lips this meaningless name ever after

suggestive of mystery, and this the inconspicuous beginning of a movement which soon spread to other States and for awhile convulsed the entire country. Thus it began by accident and in a spirit of merry-making and not conceived in malice, as was popularly supposed. The weird potency of the name "Ku Klux Klan," itself suggestive of ghosts and partitions, wrought its effect not only upon the general public, but upon the members themselves, who yielded to its subtle influence, modified their original plan so as to make everything connected with the order harmonize with the name. Though the end in view was still mere amusement, the methods by which they proposed to win it were shrouded in secrecy and mystery. The stock of fun was derived from exciting public curiosity and then baffling it, and was replenished by the ridiculous stunts and ludicrous situations constituting the initiation of new members. But this harmless device originated by youthful spirits to dispel an enforced ennui became the talk of the town, and soon spread beyond mere local confines. With its growth developed decided modifications. Its membership became less discriminating and select; gradually and very naturally new features were added that were not ever dreamed of by the originators of the order—features which finally transformed the Ku Klux Klan into a band of "regulators."

Under nominal conditions this order would have speedily died a natural death, as the fun, by frequent repetitions, lost its zest. But circumstances became extraordinary. Clouds were enveloping the social and political conditions of the South. The administration of the civil law was not yet fully re-established. Without this wholesome check, the liberty of the unshackled slave became the license of the freedman. This and other exciting causes prompted the suggestion, "Why not use this weapon at hand to right existing wrongs? The unknown has even a power over all classes of men." The concealed weapon, and the occasion for its use, met. But it is not the purpose to lift the veil from this chapter of our dark age, standing if possible, willingly to be expunged from the record, further than to show that by a process most natural this semi-organized band of weird mystery because the self-constituted regulators of the extraordinary and anomalous social and political conditions rapidly developing around them, but fighting the devil with fire" has ever been a losing battle, and soon the "regulators" themselves had to be regulated. Many sanguine and heady outrages committed by rash, impudent and bad men were laid at the door of the Klan. A spirit had been called up from the deep that would not down, so powerless to restrain its members within proper limits. In March, 1869, the order was formally disbanded as an organization by a proclamation of the grand wizard of "The Invisible Empire." Notwithstanding this outrageous command in its name, the odium of which it bore though not directly responsible, and powerless to suppress or control them, unbiased history will accord it a mission the fulfilling of which life was made tolerable to decent people

during a period the line of which had never been experienced in the history of our country.

As the conservative, well-meaning element had to share in the odium cast upon its order by the violent deeds of the bad element, so the political party upon which fell the grave duty of reconstruction was held responsible for the political infamy perpetrated by a few of its adherents. So long, therefore, as active participants in this part of our history and their immediate descendants survive, so long will there be a remnant refusing to affiliate with that party without regard to existing conditions or prospective developments. It is, however, to be deplored that sensational writers, for material gain or from other motives, should rail at the dry bones of the Ku Klux Klan, and strive, by story and drama, to revive and perpetuate the memory of this unique, mysterious Klan whose birth was an accident, whose growth a comedy and whose death was a tragedy.

Morganton, Jan. 18th, 1909

GREENSBORO NEWS ITEMS.

Capt. J. H. Walsh Elected Member of Board of Aldermen—Bids For \$30,000 of School Bonds Advertised For—No Medical Depository For Gato City.

Observer Bureau. The Beville Building, Greensboro, Jan. 23.

The city aldermen last night elected Capt. J. H. Walsh a member of the board from the first ward to succeed Mr. E. A. Brown, who resigned a few weeks ago. The election came wholly unexpectedly, as Captain Walsh's name had not been mentioned in connection with the office. The new member of the board is not without experience as a guardian of the city's welfare, having served as an alderman several years ago.

Mayor Brandt is authorized by the board of aldermen to advertise for bids for the sale of \$30,000 of public school bonds, the bonds to run for 30 years and bear 5 per cent interest. Bids will be opened at a meeting of the board February 12th. The members of the Greensboro Academy of Medicine are considering the question of establishing a free medical dispensary and employing a district nurse for the benefit of the city's needy poor. A committee composed of Dr. W. P. Beall, Dr. A. R. Wilson and Dr. J. R. Williams is investigating the matter and will report at a meeting of the physicians to be held soon. The question of the sale of liquor by a medical depository, which is agitating the people in several towns of the State, has not been mentioned in Greensboro. On one occasion Greensboro had a dispensary where booze was dispensed to the thirsty, and the people of the community were sufficiently amused for all time by the suggestion that followed the establishment of the municipal rum mill. The forty-fifth cousin of a dispensary would be distasteful to this community. Besides, Greensboro voted for prohibition last May, and voted for it good and strong, along with nearly all the rest of the State, and there is a feeling here that prohibition should be given a chance to prohibit.