

THE DATE ON THE LABEL IS THE DATE YOUR PAPER WILL BE STOPPED.

THE ROBESONIAN

WATCH LABEL ON YOUR PAPER AND DON'T LET SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRE.

ESTABLISHED 1870. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

COUNTRY, GOD AND TRUTH.

\$3.00 A YEAR. DUE IN ADVANCE.

VOLUME LI

LUMBERTON, N. C. MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1920.

NUMBER 83

Business Out- Look Better

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury McLean Thinks Re-Adjustment To Pre-War Basis Is About Complete and That Business Gradually Will Start Up Again on New Basis—Cotton Acreage Reduction Important Price Factor.

SECURITY FOR EXTENSION OF CREDIT OF PRIME IMPORTANCE

A representative of The Robesonian asked Mr. A. W. McLean, assistant Secretary of the Treasury, who is here today, what he thought of the business outlook. He replied:

"The shrink in prices may continue for a short while in some lines, and particularly retail prices, but I believe that the prices generally of farm products and manufactured commodities have about reached the bottom. I believe the re-adjustment to a pre-war basis is about complete and that after a month or two business will gradually start up again on a new basis.

"The worst conditions exist in the cattle, sheep and wool sections of the West and Southwest, with the cotton sections of the South coming next.

"The fundamental cause of the big slump in cotton is the failure to ratify the peace treaty with Germany and Austria thus preventing normal exportation of cotton, and particularly low grade cotton. Of course Europe is unable to buy except on twelve months or two years credit.

"Cotton would necessarily have been lower this year, anyway, due to the large crop and general lack of demand in this country and in foreign countries. It may go a little lower yet, but I believe the price will be higher in the spring especially if a way can be found to export it. It must be remembered that about two-thirds of our cotton is sold abroad in normal times.

"The most important factor, however, that will contribute to a rise in price this year will be a determination to reduce next year's crop. If the cotton farmers show next spring that they are going to cut the total acreage, say one-half, I look for a big rise. If they plant another big crop, the price may range around ten cents.

"It may as well be understood that there is a big surplus of cotton on hand, including a large amount of low grades, and that the surplus is increasing, due to closing of mills here and abroad.

"General financial conditions are improving. The losses to the cotton farmers are great; but everything will come out all right if every one who owes debts will put cotton or other collateral and ask for reasonable extensions until prices improve.

"People ought not to expect to have their debts carried unless they are willing to give good security. The man who gives security and gets his finally come out all right. Those who creditors to extend his debts will hold back or refuse to give cotton or other good collateral or who fail to gather and save their crops will lose everything."

Mr. McLean, who is director of the War Finance Corporation, which may be revived by act of Congress today, and was appointed assistant Secretary of the Treasury a week ago, has been looking after business interests here since Saturday. He will leave for Washington tonight.

56,582 Bales Ginned in Robeson

Only 194 Fewer Bales of Cotton Ginned in Robeson to December 1 This Year Than to Same Date Last Year. There were 56,582 bales of cotton, counting round as half bales ginned in Robeson county from the crop of 1920, prior to December 1, as compared with 56,776 bales ginned to December 1, 1919, according to the reports of Mr. Jno. A. McLeod, special agent, to the census Bureau.

Cooper Announces Candidacy.

W. B. Cooper of Wilmington, Lieutenant-Governor elect, announced to newspaper correspondents in Washington Saturday that he will be a candidate for Governor of North Carolina four years hence. Hon. A. W. McLean of Lumberton and Washington, assistant Secretary of the Treasury, who is in Lumberton today, has made no announcement as to his plans, but it is generally understood among his friends that he will be a candidate for this office.

Many Farmers of Robeson Prepared to Live at Home.

The farmers of Robeson generally are prepared to live at home regardless of the price of cotton. The corn crop was a bumper and then the potato crop was fine, as were most of the other crops, which go to make up the pantry supply. It is well to think of the fact that while times are not what you would have them be, conditions could be much worse in many respects.

A case of scarlet fever has been reported to the county board of health from St. Pauls.

SUPERIOR COURT Hearing Tomorrow in Complaints From Rowland and Alfordville Townships.

The second week of the December term of Robeson Superior court for the trial of civil cases convened this morning at 10 o'clock with Judge J. Lloyd Horton presiding.

The hearing in re the injunction proceedings restraining Sheriff R. E. Lewis from collecting taxes in Rowland and Alfordville townships will take place tomorrow. No doubt a large number of interested tax-payers will witness the hearing.

December 15 Last Day

Fourth Installment of Income and Excess Profits Taxes Must be in Offices of Collectors of Internal Revenue by Midnight Wednesday.

December 15th is the last day for the payment of the fourth installment of the income and excess profits taxes due this year. To avoid penalty, tax must be in the offices of collectors of internal revenue or branch offices by midnight of that date.

Inquiries reaching the commissioner of internal revenue indicate a belief that taxpayers have ten days grace on this installment. Such a provision was contained in the 1917 Revenue act, but was removed by the Revenue act of 1918.

Payment of the fourth installment may be made in cash or by money order or check. The Bureau of Internal Revenue urges that whenever possible payment be made by check or money order. This method helps the taxpayer by saving him a trip to the collector's office and avoids congestion at the cashier's window. Check or money order should be made payable to "Collector of Internal Revenue."

Bills will be sent to taxpayers but failure to receive a bill does not relieve the taxpayer of his obligation to pay on time.

THE RECORD OF DEATHS.

Murdoch Malone of Tolarsville. Mr. Murdoch Malone of the Tolarsville section died Friday at 2:30 a. m. at the Thompson hospital following an extended illness. Deceased was 35 years old and is survived by his widow and three children. The funeral was conducted Saturday at 11 a. m. by Rev. Frank Hare, pastor of the Baptist church at St. Pauls, and interment was made in the family burying plot at Ten Mile church.

Wilton, 13-months-old son of Mr. Wilton, 13-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Wilson of East Lumberton died Thursday night of colitis. Interment was made in the family burying ground at Long Branch church, Friday at 2 p. m.

Mrs. E. Z. Lamb of Britts. Mrs. E. Z. Lamb, aged 54 years, died yesterday at her home in Britts township of paralysis. Deceased is survived by her husband and one child. Interment was made in the family burying ground at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Recital at Laurinburg.

Laurinburg, Dec. 10.—Under the auspices of the Laurinburg Alumnae association by representatives of the Flora Macdonald college faculty and student body, a recital was given to-night at the residence of Dr. J. M. Gibson. The soloists were: Dean Charles G. Vardell, pianist; Miss Jane Dickson Vardell, violinist; Miss Fannie Fey, 21 soprano. Miss Helen Sayles of the expression department was heard in reading from Booth Tarkington and Martha Gielow. Officers of the Laurinburg Alumnae association are: Miss Mary Fairley, president; Mrs. A. F. McGuire, vice-president; Mrs. Eugene Morgan, Secretary.

Carolina College Defeats Lumberton High School in Basketball.

In a game of basketball between Carolina College and the Lumberton high school on the college grounds at Maxton Friday afternoon the score was 11 to 4 in favor of Carolina. The game was refereed by Miss Clara Worth of the faculty of the College.

The condition of Mrs. W. L. Dougherty, who two weeks ago underwent an operation at the Thompson hospital, is very much improved. Mrs. Dougherty is able to sit up.

Farm Demonstrator Will Give Pruning Demonstrations.

Mr. O. O. Dukes, county farm demonstrator, is arranging to give a pruning demonstration in each of the twenty-five townships in the county. The dates and places will be announced as soon as the itinerary has been completed.

Glen Boney was before Recorder David H. Fuller this morning on the charge of exceeding the speed limit. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$10 and cost.

Mr. C. W. McArthur of R. 2, Rowland, is a Lumberton visitor today.

Millions Are Starving In China

President Wilson Appoints National Committee and Issues Appeal for Relief—In Some Districts Entire Families Are Taking Their Lives and Parents Are Selling and Drowning Their Children.

The Chinese famine for the relief of which President Wilson Thursday announced the appointment of a national committee, affects five provinces, according to a cable message from the director general of the Chinese Red Cross made public in New York Dec. 9. The total population of the affected district is estimated at 87,000,000 persons, of whom between 45,000,000 and 50,000,000 are in want. Of these, 20,000,000, the Chinese Red Cross official reported, actually are starving or dying of hunger and cold.

The famine followed a year of virtually complete drought after three or four years of gradually failing crops. In large areas the crops this year did not run more than one per cent of normal, failing to return the seed planted. In a few districts they were about one-third normal. All of the people of some districts are living on weeds and leaves. Entire families have taken their own lives while parents are selling and drowning their children.

The American people were asked Thursday by President Wilson to "respond as they can" to the "appealing cry for help" from famine-stricken China.

At the same time Mr. Wilson announced the appointment of a committee of 150 men and women in all parts of the country to collect the funds contributed.

"Our diplomatic and consular agencies in China inform us," said the President "that the loss resulting from death in distressing form may run into millions of souls."

Mr. Wilson added that he realized that the task of giving today would not be a light one, but that he ventured to make the appeal "not only in that name of humanity but that in the name of friendship which we feel for a great people in distress."

The President said that in order to assure an early collection of contributions he had invited "a nation-wide committee" to lend their aid. Thomas W. Lamont, of New York, is named chairman of the committee, and Acting Secretary Davis, of the State Department, treasurer.

"A famine, alarming in its proportions, today holds in its grip several important provinces of China," said the President's appeal.

"The crop failure is complete and the present distress which is great, is likely, before winter has run its course, to become appalling. In fact, our diplomatic and consular agents in China inform me that the loss resulting from death in distressing form may run into millions of souls. It is certain that the local government and established agencies of relief are unable to cope with the magnitude of the disaster which faces them."

"Under the circumstances, relief to be effective should be granted quickly. Once more an opportunity is offered to the American people to show that prompt and generous response with which they have invariably met the call of their brother nations in distress. To an unusually large degree, the Chinese people look to us for counsel and for effective friendship. Our churches, through their religious and medical missionaries, their schools and colleges, and our philanthropic foundations have rendered China incalculable benefits, which her people recognize with gratitude and devotion to the United States. Therefore, not only in the name of humanity, but in that of the friendship which we feel for a great people in distress, I venture to ask that our citizens shall through the task of giving in not today a light one respond as they can to this distant, but appealing cry for help.

"In order to be assured of the orderly collection of such donations, large or small, as may be offered, I have invited a nation-wide committee, whose names are attached hereto, to lend their aid to this matter. I have designated Mr. Thomas W. Lamont, of New York City to act as chairman of this committee, and Mr. Norman Davis, under secretary of state, to act as treasurer."

"I realize that this call, added to those for the underfed children of eastern Europe and the afflicted people of the Near East and to the needs of our own country, makes heavy the demand upon the bounty of the nation. I am confident, however, that all these plans will be answered in generous spirit."

Cotton Crop Large and Practically Gathered.

The cotton crop in Robeson is practically harvested. It might be added that the crop was a record one. Perhaps not since 1911 has the crop been so large as the one produced this year. Very little of the crop has been marketed.

Tobacco and Cotton Acreage Will Be Reduced.

Judging from the talk one hears, the tobacco and cotton acreage will be reduced considerably next year. That probably means less cotton and tobacco and more money.

Woman Wins Suit Against Husband

Supreme Court Upholds Lower Court In Award of \$10,000 Damages to Wife—There is No Statute Declaring That Husband and Wife Are One and He That One.

The Supreme Court yesterday found no error in the trial of a case in Mecklenburg Superior court in which a jury awarded a verdict of \$10,000 to Mrs. Lucy Crowell against her husband, W. J. Crowell, for damages received in the communication of venereal disease to her by her husband.

The court divided three to two on the issue. Associate Justices Walker and Hoke, while condemning the conduct of the defendant and conceding that he had laid himself liable for prosecution under the criminal law, could not find authority in law to dissolve that unity of the marital relations which would permit the wife to sue the husband. Chief Justice Walter Clark wrote the majority opinion of the court.

The lower court overruled the demurrer of the defendant on the ground that the parties were man and wife prior to and during the time complained of that the complaint does not contain facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action, that his action is without law to warrant the maintenance thereof, and is also against the public policy of the State.

The defendant, it appeared in the court procedure, was divorced from his first wife, committed adultery while living with the second and furnished her evidence of his misconduct with which to secure a divorce. He confessed to trouble in Gastonia with a woman, was convicted in Virginia of white slavery for which he was sentenced to two years in prison and was sentenced in that State for abduction of a girl under sixteen years of age.

Old Laws Obsolete.

Old laws have become obsolete, declared Chief Justice Clark in the court's majority opinion, "even when not changed by statute, and no principle of justice can make the proposition in law, in morals, that a debauchee, as the defendant admitted himself to be, can marry a virtuous girl, and continuing his round of dissipation, keep up his intercourse with lewd women, contracting, as he admitted, venereal disease, communicate it to his wife, as the jury finds subjecting her to humiliation and ruining her physically for life and seeking to run off with his property, abandoning her to utter indigence; yet be excepted from all liability by the assertion that he and his wife are one, and that he being that one he owes no duty to her of making reparation to her for the gross wrong which he has done her."

"It must be remembered," the opinion continued, "that there is not and never has been any statute in England or in this State declaring that the husband and wife are one and he is that one." It was an inference drawn by courts in a barbarous age based on the wife being a chattel and therefore without any rights to property or person. It has always been disregarded by courts of equity and public opinion and the sentiments of the age as expressed by all laws and constitutional provisions which have been against it. The anomalous instances of that conception which still survives are due to courts construing away the changes made by corrective legislation or restricting their application."

Dissenting Opinion.

In the dissenting opinion Associate Justices Walker and Hoke said: "There is not a word of condemnation too severe to be applied to the conduct of the defendant. He has subjected himself to the penalties of criminal law, but not to prosecution by his wife and simply because that unity of person, which has been always attributed to the marital relations still exists notwithstanding that married women have been endowed with so many property rights as they should have been; which appear to furnish the only argument for the destruction of that unity so important in the preservation of peace and happiness of the home.—Raleigh News and Observer, Dec. 9th.

AUTOS FOR HIRE MUST BE BONDED IN SUM OF \$500

This Ordinance Goes Into Effect Dec. 15th—15th is Last Day for Paying Light and Water Bills.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Wednesday the 15th is the last day for paying light and water bills. All accounts not paid at the close of the 15th will be cut off Thursday.

Beginning Wednesday, the 15th all automobiles for hire must be bonded in the sum of \$500 each. This bond covers damages to persons or property in accidents for which the driver of the auto for hire is adjudged responsible, also for breaking the ordinance against the automobile being used for immoral purposes or aiding or abetting the same, and for transporting alcoholic beverages or liquor. In addition to forfeiting the bond for such car the owner or driver of the same will be fined \$50 for each infringement of this ordinance. License for said car is also forfeited.

J. P. RUSSELL, Clerk and Treasurer.

Students Visit Court House

Business Class of Lumberton High School Visits Court House Offices and Its Members Give Interesting Account of Their Observations.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. The business class of the Lumberton high school wanted to know something about the business of Robeson county, who looked after it, how it was looked after, and where it was carried on. So on Friday, December 2nd, we all brushed up our shoes, put an extra kink in our hair and immediately after lunch said a last goodbye to Mr. Cale, for some of the timid were not sure the sheriff might not nab us before we saw our kind superintendent again, and we started bravely out into the world in search of Practical Business Training.

We all knew that the court house was overflowing with wisdom and wit and judgment and experience, of one sort and another, to say nothing of business sagacity, so we made it our first point of attack. We walked down the right side of the hall and read the name over each door, then we came up the left side.

REGISTER OF DEEDS. This name looked good and we decided to begin our search for business ideas right here. Mr. Mark Floyd took us in, and missed his lunch entertaining us. He is register of deeds and Miss Whitfield is his assistant. We know now how carefully business papers must be protected and how to find any document we want to know about. Mr. Floyd showed us the oldest maps of Lumberton and then the very last ones, old marriage certificates and new ones. We thank Mr. Floyd and Miss Whitfield for their kindness and hope they may stay in the register's office for years and years so they can show other business classes about as they did ours.—Miriam Weinstein.

BOARD OF EDUCATION. Mr. Pool, county superintendent was away, but we examined the filing cases, the store closets, and the pictures, and asked questions till we got Mr. Folger, full size, then we put him in as guide. He showed us books with the name of every school in the county, the name of every school child, the name of every teacher and the amount each was paid, the amount of money each school receives from the county, the amount each school receives from the state, and the amount of taxes necessary to provide the money to send us all to school. We saw, after we had looked over all these big books, that Mr. Pool was a right smart man to get out for his dinner when the going was good. He needs more head to run the Robeson county schools and come out all right than is necessary to be captain of a basket ball team.—Marvin Barker.

MR. FOLGER. We found Mr. Folger in the office of the Board of Education and he was a great find for us. He switched us into offices on the right hand and on the left, up stairs and down stairs, till we knew the court house nearly as well as he does. If there is any question he can't answer it must be in Latin, for we questioned him and prodded him for two long hours and he never missed a hit. Mr. Folger will sure enough be President of the United States some day and this class will all work to see him "get there."—Myrtle Britt.

COURT ROOM. The thing that impressed me most was the court room, for here the judicial business of the county is carried on. When court is in session the judge sits in a large chair on a raised platform. On the left of this platform stands a chair for the prisoner on trial and near the prisoner's chair is the stenographer's table. The lawyers for the prisoner sit at a long table in front of the judge's seat and the lawyers against the prisoner have the same kind of a table, on the other side. We saw some good pictures which help to make this room look unique and dignified.—Daniel Britt.

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICE. We were received here kindly by Miss Edwards. As Dr. Hardin was not in, Miss Edwards entertained us for a short visit and showed us some interesting things. We wish for Dr. Hardin, Miss Edwards and all the county health officers, health, happiness and a long and useful life, and we want to thank Miss Edwards for her kindness.—Letha Stone.

GRAND JURY ROOM. We found this interesting room on the left as you go up stairs to the court room. It contains one long table and twelve chairs, six on each side of the table. This room is for the use of the grand jury, whose business it is to look after the inmates of the county institutions and see that they are clothed, fed and properly treated.—Ingram Hedgpeth.

AUDITOR'S OFFICE. When we came to the Auditor's office we found Mr. McCallum, the auditor, and Mr. Wishart busy working on the tax books. We looked over the books and learned how the taxes of each person and corporation are figured up and recorded. We kept them busy explaining things, answering questions and we found out that the auditor is appointed by the board of county commissioners. We hope the commissioners of our county will keep on appointing Mr. McCallum and Mr. Wishart as long as they feel like working an adding machine. We know they are our friends and we are theirs.—

COTTON MARKET.

Middling cotton is selling on the local market today for 13 cents 3/4 pound; strict middling 14 cents.

BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS

—Special communication of St. Alban's Lodge No. 114, A. F. & A. M., Tuesday evening at 7:30. Work in third degree.

—License has been issued for the marriage of Keiver Arnette and Valie Viola Page; Jno. T. McLeod and Viola Baxley; Henry Prevatt and Hanna Allen.

—Chief Yeoman Oscar Rhodes of Columbia, S. C., spent the week-end visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Rhodes near Proctorville. Mr. Rhodes has charge of the navy recruiting office at Columbia.

—The 12-room annex to the Thompson hospital has been completed and is ready for occupancy. Besides the 12 rooms added, there are new wards for accommodating 8 patients, giving the hospital a capacity for forty-five beds.

—Conie Williams and Wade Singletary, both colored, were married at the home of the home of the officiating officer, Justice M. G. McKenzie, Elm street, Saturday at noon. The newly-weds hail from the Barnesville section.

—More than \$200, clear of expenses, was realized by the Woman's Club from the bazaar conducted Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The money will be used in equipping the play grounds at the graded and high school buildings.

—Mr. Sandy McNeill of Wakulla was a Lumberton visitor Friday. Mr. McNeill said he came here looking for a shirt large enough for the president of the Cherry Grove Hunting club. Mr. McNeill is one of the few people one meets who is not wearing a long face as a result of the decline in the price of cotton.

—A near-serious automobile accident occurred on the Elizabethtown road, near Mr. M. A. Geddie's ice plant, Saturday when a Ford car driven by Mr. Rowland Kinlaw struck a telephone pole and turned completely over. Mr. Sam Smith, who was in the car with Mr. Kinlaw, was cut about the face by the windshield and was carried to the Thompson hospital. His wounds were not serious and he left the hospital in a short time. Both Mr. Kinlaw and Mr. Smith live in Howellsville township.

Mary Wetmore.

FARM DEMONSTRATION. We found no one home here but the washing machine. Mr. Folger kindly introduced it and set us to practicing on the electric wringer. Some unusually fine peanut vines and a collection of what looked like seeds and weeds were on exhibition and gave us two bright ideas. They helped us find suitable names for two of our number and our friends will soon learn who is PEANUT and who is LITTLE SEEDS AND WEEDS. A farm demonstration department can be made of us, no matter how or when you take it.—Margaret Nash.

CLERK OF THE COURT. Mr. Skipper is the best clerk ever was and Miss Patterson is his assistant. They were very busy but Mr. Skipper quit his work to show us the interesting things he had stored away in his big steel rooms. He found he oldest will in Robeson county, dated 1775. The paper had turned yellow but the ink was still black and the writing easily read. We were interested in a late will because it had some unusual things about it and in some papers that concerned members of our class and their families. We are all going to vote for Mr. Skipper so he will be on hand to make a record of our wills some day, for we hope he will stay in this same office always and never forget the first business class of the Lumberton high school.—Norma Wilkes.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

The entire class got into the sheriff's office but we want it known that we were not "summoned." We just slipped in to see what a sheriff does in an office and we "caught him out." Mr. McLeod and Mr. Roland Pittman were holding down the tax business and seemed to be doing most of it by passing little stripes of paper through a little window to anxious-looking people on the outside. They showed us the tax books and the adding machine and different persuaders needed to keep Robeson county people good. We know if anybody gets anything wrong past our sheriff he has to do some long, hard thinking.—Margaret Nash.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. This room we found empty but we questioned around till we got some ideas about its use. It is the place where, about once a month, the county commissioners hold their meetings. They are the business managers of the (Continued on page four.)

\$100 Reward For Information Leading to recovery of Ford touring car stolen Sunday night 2 miles from Lumberton on Fayetteville road. Motor No. 4246126, practically new, 1920 model, left rear fender bruised, all new tires. J. A. Jones, Lumberton, R. 1.

DR. WILLIAM W. PARKER
EYE SPECIALIST
Office: National Bank of Lumberton Building.