

Hall L. Tracy

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### WILSON AT HIS BEST.

#### Especially Striking in His Columbus Speech of Friday.

President Wilson is always at his best when he speaks off-hand, in every day language, stripped of the technical verbiage of state papers. No man in America is his match in an impromptu speech. His words go straight to the heart and the understanding of his hearers and speakers.

In a speech last Friday in Columbus, Ohio, to the chamber of commerce, he electrified the assembly with his brilliant sallies and his centre shots at business and politics.

The following are a few quotations: "When the present great conflict in Europe is over the world is going to wear a different aspect." Mr. Wilson declared. "I don't believe there is going to be any patched-up peace. I believe that thoughtful men of every country and of every sort will insist that when we get peace again we shall have guaranteed that it will remain, and that the instrumentalities of justice shall be exalted above the instrumentalities of force."

"Gentlemen, am a democrat, as you probably have heard, and I am a militant democrat, but it is because I believe that the principles of democracy will be of more service to the country than any other principles. I find that I am one of the few men of my acquaintance who absolutely believe every word, for example, of the Virginia bill of rights. This says that when a government grows unsuitable to the life of the people under it (I am not quoting the language but the meaning) they have a right to alter or abolish it in any way that they please. When things were perhaps more debatable than they are now about our immediate neighbor to the south of us, I don't know how many men came to me and suggested that the government of Mexico should be altered as we thought that it ought to be altered, but being a subscriber to the doctrine of the Virginia bill of rights, I could not agree with him. The Mexicans may not know what to do with their government but that is none of our business; and so long as I have the power to prevent it, nobody shall 'butt in' to alter it for them.

"That is what I mean by being a democrat built on the original plan of the bill of rights. Now those bills of rights say some things that are very pertinent to business. They assert the absolute equality of right on the part of individuals to access to opportunity. That is the reason I am opposed to monopoly, not because monopoly does not produce some excellent results of a kind, but because it is intended to shut out a lot of people who ought not to be shut out; and I believe that democracy is the only thing that vitalizes a whole people instead of vitalizing only some of the people of the country. I am not fit to be the trustee of prosperity for this country, neither are you; neither is any group of men fit to be the trustees for the economical guidance of this country. I believe in the common man. The country consists of him. He is the backbone of the country. The man who is above the average uses him, and ought to respect his tool, ought to respect his instruments, ought to respect the veins through which the very life blood of the country flows."

"So I want you to share with me this vision of the future of American business—a of a cosmopolitan spirit, of a spirit of enterprise out of which the old timidity has gone. For you will have to admit, gentlemen that American business men have been timid. They have constantly run to Washington and said: 'It looks like rain; for God's sake give us shelter.' You don't need Washington. There is genius enough in this country to master the enterprise of the world, and it ought not to ask odds of anybody. I would like to have the thrilling pride of realizing that there was nobody in America who was afraid to match wits with the world. When I move about this country I feel as you do, the vitality of the thing that is going on in it, the quick origination of ideas when they meet new circumstances, the readiness with which Americans adapt themselves to circumstances—that is the spirit of conquest."

Miss Novella Leonard of Catawba was among the shoppers in town Saturday.

### Powder Town Goes Up In Flames

Hopewell, Va., Dec. 9.—This mushroom town of 25,000 people, grown up since summer with the great new gun cotton plant of the du Pont Powder company, was completely destroyed today by a fire which started in a restaurant and did property damage estimated at from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000. The du Pont works outside of the settlement, was undamaged, but was once seriously threatened. Villages A. and B., near Hopewell, built to house the families of married employees of the factory, also escaped.

Scenes of wild disorder accompanied the fire and citizens lynched a negro for looting. There was no loss of life otherwise and only a few minor injuries were reported. Martial law was proclaimed tonight with the arrival of six militia companies, rushed from Richmond by order of Governor Stuart. The thousands of homeless men, women and children had been sent to Petersburg and Richmond, but many men remained to guard what little property they had been able to save.

The fire started in a Greek boarding house, on Caw 2n street, in the rear of the Victoria hotel which faced on Broadway. It was caused when an oil stove was accidentally turned over. Several times sparks set fire to mule sheds of the explosive factory, but the flames which followed were quickly extinguished.

When it was seen that the town was doomed and the great gun cotton plant endangered, orders were issued suspending all operations and the factory closed. The employees were set to work protecting the buildings from flying sparks. The gravest danger was from woods nearby which caught fire and were still burning late tonight.

### Average Acre Value of N. C. Crops \$20.18

The last News Letter of the University has a table giving the average acre value of the 1914 crops for the states. North Carolina stands 20th in the list with \$20.18. But this is the highest rating of any of the southern cotton states. In 1909 North Carolina was 9th. The decline in the column of southern states in 1914 was due to the low price of cotton last year. When the table for 1915 is worked out, we feel sure that North Carolina will go back to her former place. Connecticut heads the list with \$41.50. All the New England central states stand well up on the list on account of the trucking profits, except Vermont which is just above North Carolina. The states immediately following North Carolina are Oregon, Ohio, Colorado, Michigan and other grain states of the central west. Then come in the cotton states, followed at the bottom by the north western states, with South Dakota at the bottom with \$10.79 per acre. The average for the United States was \$1.34.

### REVIEW OF WORLD EVENTS

#### Wide Survey of General News Given in Paragraphs for Quick Reading.

The German papers advise Henry Ford to quietly take his excursion party back home. An explosion in the Bethlehem Pa. steel plant last Friday killed one man and injured fifteen others. This is the place where Mr. Jesse Hunicutt of Newton, has a clerical position.

There was the first hanging in Arizona, last Friday, since Arizona became a state. The man was a Mexican and had been convicted of killing a deputy sheriff.

The Minister of the Treasury of the Italian government fixes June 1917 for the close of the war. He asks the Italian parliament to make financial plans with this date in view.

Emperor William of Germany has announced the date of the marriage of his youngest son in February. The date was changed from Christmas because the Emperor says the war will be over by February.

Ernest Isenhour, whose trial in York, S. C., on the charge of being one of a crowd who had shot down a sheriff, deputy sheriff and a negro prisoner, guilty of assault on a white woman, we noted last week, was found not guilty by the jury.

Last Friday, the last day in which Englishmen could volunteer for the army, found the streets in front of all the recruiting stations packed with youths and middle aged men who enlisted in order to avoid the disgrace of being conscripted.

### Can't Get Both Salary and Commissions.

The suit from Izardell county to determine whether, under the law putting officers on salaries, the sheriff could also claim commission allowed under the old law for collecting taxes, was decided against the sheriff by the state supreme court last week.

The facts in the case, are thus given by the Landmark: Sheriff Deaton retained the commissions on the ground that they were a part of the fees due him prior to the beginning of the salary law. The contention of the plaintiff was that as the sheriff was paid a salary, beginning with the first Monday in December, 1914, all commissions on taxes collected after that date should go into the public treasury.

An agreed case was made up and at a hearing before Judge Lane, in chambers at Concord, the decision was in favor of Sheriff Deaton. The supreme court having reversed that decision, it is assumed to mean that the sheriff must turn over to the county the commissions in controversy. However, no digest of the opinion was published and its full meaning is not yet positively known.

### SOCIETY AND PERSONAL NEWS

#### Students and the people of Startown high school community enjoyed a very pleasant session Friday evening when the community club met and the students gave recitations, musical numbers and a play.

About 20 new members were enrolled in the club. Refreshments were served. Principal Seckinger made a fine address on the subject of cooperation.

Mrs. F. M. Williams visited Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Aderholdt of Catawba Saturday.

D. A. Finger of Maiden called yesterday. His daughter, Miss Pearl, left Friday for Milledale, Ga., to visit her brother, George A. Finger, and will visit friends in Atlanta.

Robert M. Warlick, who has been with Ashcraft & Lockhart at Hickory, has taken a position with Shuford & Ransom, department store, in Lenoir; and may later move to Lenoir to live.

Dr. Henry Nes of Philadelphia arrived Saturday to take his annual bird hunt in Catawba. He is stopping at St. Hubert Inn, and as usual, will be here until after Christmas. Friends made through the years he has visited Newton are glad to see him.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bishop of Asheville came down Saturday and spent Sunday with Miss Pinkie Shuford, Mr. Bishop, who is a Southern railway engineer, was badly hurt in a wreck at Nebo two months ago and is not quite sufficiently recovered to resume his work in the engine.

### Cotton

Census Agent E. D. Hewitt reports 4,907 bales of cotton ginned to December 1, as compared with 6,687 bales this time last year, when the total crop measured nearly 10,000 bales. Going by last year's figures, there ought to be quite a bit more to report for this year, even if the crop is short.

December 1 last year about two-thirds of the crop had been ginned. If two-thirds has been ginned this year, there will be something like 1,500 bales yet to come, which would make the entire 1915 crop equal to about what was ginned last year's crop up to December last year—or about two-thirds of normal. The government's estimate of Saturday is that the 1915 crop will be 11,161,000 bales. For the state the estimate is 708,000 against 930,000 in 1915.

The market yesterday here went off to 12 cents. In New York there was a bit of excitement over something or other and at one time the market lost 30 points—futures, that is; but it recovered about all it lost by closing time and the end was about what it was Saturday. It is probable that the market here today will be 12 cents—may be more.

### The Newton Markets

(Corrected Every Week)	
Cotton	12c
Cotton seed	60c
Cotton seed meal	1.90
Cotton seed hulls	75c
Wheat	\$1.30
Flour	\$3.00 to \$3.20
Bran	1.85
Corn	75c and 80
Corn meal	1.00
Oats	60
Rye	1.10
Peas	1.25
Irish potatoes	90c-\$1.00
Sweet potatoes	40c
Dried fruit	3c
Chickens	10c
Eggs	25c
Butter	25c
Turkeys	12c
Beeves	3c to 4c
Calves	
Hogs	10c
Sheep	
Dry hides	15c
Green hide	12c

### A BOY HERO—ADAM DRUM

#### Eleven Years Old, With a Catawba County Name, Deserves a Hero Medal.

In the fire at Hopewell, Va., in which the greater part of the mushroom town, built within a few weeks to house the powder-makers, was swept away by fire, Adam Drum, a Richmond boy eleven years old, distinguished himself above all others. He bears a good Catawba county name, and we doubt not that he could be traced to Catawba county lineage, as some of them have gone to Virginia. But regardless of where he hales, the following account of his bravery will be interesting to Catawba readers:

The three-story restaurant which first caught was blazing when Adam Drum, an eleven year old Richmond boy, arrived on the scene. He had left his home in Dupont city to visit the business district and was attracted to the scene by the crowds that lined the streets leading to the burning building. He rushed into the building and up to the second floor.

He heard the screams of a baby and rushed into a front room on that floor. He appeared at the front window a second later with the infant in his arms. He shouted to the men below to hold a blanket, and hardly had they grabbed bed covering from among those thrown from the building before the boy leaped forward and with a cry fell forward with the infant in his arms.

The mother of the infant rushed from the building a second later, her dress on fire. The boy landed squarely on the makeshift net and firm arms helped him to his feet. The flames that enveloped the mother's dress were extinguished. He turned and rushed into a building next door and brought out a second infant, this time from the first floor that had been left to burn by its parents. Bystanders were astounded at his daring conduct. Men with guns strapped to their sides carried the boy away from danger down the dusty street on their shoulders. Mothers and fathers with infants in their arms fled from the frame buildings that were hurriedly thrown together during the summer to accommodate the Dupont employes and several were injured, although no deaths were reported from burning.

### All Clerks of the Court for 50 Years Still Alive.

A few weeks ago Anson county bragged of its living ex-sheriffs, naming six, and doubted if another county could show as many, whereupon The Enterprise counted seven in Catawba and headed the list. Referring to this the other day, Walter Hoyle, carrier on Route 1, called The Enterprise's attention to an interesting fact, one we had never thought of, that all the men who have held the office of clerk of the superior court of Catawba county for the last 50 years are still alive. They are six in number. M. O. Sherrill, state librarian for many years, and living in Raleigh, was elected in 1866 and held the office 16 years; P. A. Hoyle of Newton was elected in 1882 and held eight years; J. F. Herman was elected in 1890 and had four years; J. W. Rockett came in 1894 and served four years; L. H. Phillips served eight years from 1898, and was succeeded by C. M. McCorkle who served eight years, from 1906. Filling county offices in Catawba, therefore, is a very healthy occupation, it would seem.

### Yoder-Clark Co. This Week.

A new visitor to Enterprise columns this week is the Yoder-Clark Clothing company of Hickory. George C. Yoder and Neill W. Clark, clever clothing men, known well and widely. They make assertions about saving you cash, and their word is good. Read their half-page advertisement and consider what it says, and watch for a new advertisement Friday.

### Genuine Old Time Snow Precedes the Holidays

The biggest snow recalled as coming before Christmas, and one of the most pronounced snow storms in recent years, broke over the country Saturday afternoon and Catawba county seems to have been the center of it. Eight inches fell here, although Lincolnton, only 15 miles south, got only three inches; Charlotte on our east got only an inch; Asheville on the west and in the midst of the snow country, had six inches, and Greensboro five. It is remembered that at least one bigger December snow came Christmas day, 1877, if the date is correct, but Saturday's was the biggest before Christmas that is now recalled.

With the snow, which fell thickly, the flakes being all sizes from pin points to big ones, there was wind enough to make it really a snow storm like those which characterized the winters of long ago. Delighted yells from the kids, as usual, were heard all over town, but the man with a short woodpile had little spirit for festivities.

### With Our Subscribers.

"Do your Christmas subscribing early" was put into practice by a number of friends last week, and the most satisfactory part of it was, don't you know, that practically every one had something good to say for the paper as well as to pay over a bit of cash on subscription. The Enterprise's holiday subscription business is growing. You can send no more pleasing gift to a friend, particularly a Catawba county person away off some where, than the Enterprise for a year. Twice a week for 12 months he or she would bless your soul. All new subscriptions, are being dated January 1, 1917.

J. A. Sherrill of Sherrills Ford was in town Saturday, along with a lot of others, and left a dollar.

J. B. Gabriel, an old friend in the state of Missouri, mails a dollar.

A new subscriber was J. F. Moose. L. M. Robinson left \$2 for The Enterprise and The New York World—five papers a week—the World costing 65 cents, however.

### Christmas Running Riot in all Newton Stores

It was declared yesterday that not in years and perhaps never have Newton markets presented such splendid stocks of holiday goods of so many varieties and of such high class as they are now offering to all Catawba county. Every store is in holiday dress and already the holiday trade is swelling like anything. Saturday morning there was an especially strong run of patronage here.

The Enterprise is but serving its readers when it calls attention to what the merchants are offering and in advising them to read the advertisements in this paper and call on the merchants represented in its columns. You cannot possibly shop for Christmas with more satisfaction, mental and financial, than in Newton stores. Variety of stocks, attractiveness of displays, reasonableness of prices—you get all these in Newton. Add one word more—Do your buying early. A rush at the last is a bad time for customer as well as merchant.

### PROSPERITY NOT DEPENDENT ON WAR

#### Manufacturing Centres Refusing Muni-cipal Orders.

Reports have come from London and Paris recently that American manufacturers would soon be deprived of a large portion of the war orders. The New York World asked its correspondents in some of the large industrial centres what effect the stoppage of war orders would have. Replies show that there is already under way a strong movement on the part of industry to divorce itself from strictly war orders. This is due to a rush of domestic business of a more stable sort. Reports from some of the industrial centres follow.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—War orders are now taking second place to domestic orders at premium prices and with mills operating 15 to 20 per cent above normal. At the offices of the Carnegie Steel company today officials said they would not be surprised if the United States Steel corporation should announce in a few days that it will decline any further war contracts.

Wheeling, W. Va.—Officials of the big mills in the Wheeling district say business outside of that created by the European war has taken such a sudden bound that it would be impossible for them to handle war orders and they are not sought.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Most of the plants in the Harrisburg district are not concerned with war orders.

The Harrisburg Pipe and Pipe Bending company for months has been making tons of shrapnel and other munitions, but David E. Tracy, its president, said today that the concern is devoting more attention to domestic orders of the stable kind, which are coming in encouragingly.

Indianapolis, Ind.—Reports from all of the manufacturing centres in Indiana show that business conditions are improving. War orders have not played a prominent part in this revival, as few factories are filling them.

Cleveland, Ohio.—Manufacturers in Cleveland find so many orders for the domestic trade in their Christmas stockings that they have begun to turn down war munition business. Several Cleveland manufacturers, who last summer made strenuous efforts to book sub-contracts for the making of shrapnel shells and rifle parts, are now content to let such business go elsewhere.

### Annual Estimate Cotton Crop Made.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The 1915 crop amounts to 5,338,588,000 pounds exclusive and is equivalent of 11,161,000 five hundred pound bales, the department of agriculture announced today in its final estimate of the season.

That is 2,300,000,000 pounds less than last years record crop. The value of the lint this year, however, is approximately \$78,000,000 more than last year's great crop. Cotton was being sold by farmers on December 1 at 11.3 cents a pound while last year on that date they were getting 6.8 cents a pound. At the higher price this year the crop is worth \$603,260,000 while last year's lint crop was worth \$525,324,000.

This year's cotton crop will amount to 11,161,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight, exclusive of linters, the department of agriculture announced today in its final cotton report of the season. That compares with 16,134,390 bales last year, 14,156,486 bales in 1913 and 13,036,235 bales, the average total production, exclusive of linters, for five years, 1909-1913.

Mr. F. L. Carr of Wilson is looked upon as a possible candidate for Congress in the second district against Claude Kitchin, and he is described as a very strong and able man.