

THE OBSERVER

PUBLISHED BY THE FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER COMPANY S. J. HALL, PRESIDENT.

OBSERVER FOUNDED 1817.

Phones.

Business office.....103 Editorial office.....301

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

One year (payable in advance), \$6.00 Six months (payable in advance), \$3.00 Three months (payable in advance), \$1.50 Collected by carrier by the week, .15 The Weekly Observer 1 year..... 1.50

Entered at the postoffice in Fayetteville, N. C., as second class mail matter.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1919

NEW YEAR GREETING.

In sending New Year greetings to its patrons and readers, The Observer sincerely wishes for each prosperity, happiness and usefulness during 1919. There should exist between writer and reader a mutual interest and a mutual understanding, and we trust that in the past, we have advanced some thought or championed some ideal which has struck a responsive chord and led to mutual benefit.

Where sorrow has laid its hand, we extend sympathy; where happiness has shed its light, we catch the reflection of its rays. And in the language of Dickens' 'Tiny Tim' in 'Christmas Carols' we say, 'God bless us every one.'

Would we be happy and contented during the coming days, we should seek to be useful; we should catch the inspiration of service. Material success may crown our efforts, fame may be won, ambition may be gratified, but after all, in these things, only self is ministered to, and self, feeding on self, brings the ashes of discontent.

Dear readers, we wish you well, and we trust that we can prove the sincerity of the wish by serving you faithfully and acceptably during the year 1919.

1918-1919.

Into the year 1918, now closing, world affairs of vast moment have been crowded, and the fruition of efforts for the advancement of mankind to higher and better things apparently has been realized. A great victory of Right against Might has been won, so far as the fighting is concerned. And now remain the battle of brain, the repression of selfishness, the effort to so think and act that Justice may prevail and Right may be the guiding star at the peace conferences and in the reconstruction councils.

We shall not attempt to review the chronicle of 1918 events. That were too great a task in our short space, while the smoke of battle has not yet cleared away sufficiently to get a comprehensive view of the situation. We only know up to this time that the menace of a great world calamity has been removed, and that over fertile fields laid waste, cities razed and ruined, homes made desolate, valleys and hills dotted with graves, the sun of Peace is shining once more. God grant that the clouds of war and hatred and injustice and barbarism may no more gather. The world wants lasting peace. The world needs lasting peace.

In the year 1918 a great victory at arms was won by the Allied Powers over the Central Powers. But in the year 1919 a greater victory yet must be won if the world is to be safe for the future. A world-wide peace must be a service to others must prevail, lying hypocrisy and self-seeking must be set aside. If these things come to pass, then the pouring out of the blood of an treasure will not have been in vain. If these things do not come to pass, then the battle will have been fought and won in vain.

A year—the short span of twelve months: Within that brief time (in which America was at war) thousands of brave men in the flower of youth have been cut down—and yet on those same bloody fields of Flanders, France and Italy war and rapine have been stalking, at intervals, for centuries. Doughty warriors have fought and bled and had their triumphs or suffered their defeats only to pass from the stage after a brief span. All have gone to mix forever with the elements, to be but brothers to the fens and the sloughs of the mud swamps which the rude swain turns with his share and treads upon.

Yesterday the soldiers of Britain, Belgium, France, Italy and America fell in battle. Today they are with the hosts of Caesar and Charlemagne.

A year, a decade, a century, a thousand years of war, pestilence, famine, barbarism, feeble struggling, suffering, sorrow, joy, pleasure, enlightenment,

culture—all snuffed out as the light of a candle. For a thousand years in His sight are but as yesterday, as a watch in the night.

In 1918, when wars and rumors of wars shall be no more and peace shall reign, is it to be a lasting peace? Who can tell? Men flushed with victory and puffed up by the acclaim of their fellows may forget the straight path, and from arrogance go to self-seeking, and from self-seeking to desire for conquest, and so by stages back to war. It would be well for the rulers, statesmen, leaders and diplomats, when they go into the peace conference, to have ever in their thoughts the words of Paul: 'It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. For when I am weak, then am I strong.'

MR. WILSON AT MANCHESTER.

President Wilson visited Manchester, England, Monday and he was given the freedom of the city and more specially made to feel at home than at any place in Europe he has yet visited. This is accounted for by the fact that Manchester, which is in the heart of England, is the most democratic city in the kingdom. The general atmosphere of all the proceedings was intimate and friendly, and often the people got near enough to shake his hand.

An Associated Press correspondent says in regard to the Manchester visit: 'No other audience during his European appearance has absorbed the President's utterances so eagerly, so understandingly, and so quickly responded to his every important point. No other audience has resembled so noticeably the character and types of people to whom the President has been accustomed to speak at home. Perhaps this was because Lancashire has contributed so many citizens to the United States and has such close connections and follows American affairs with keener interest than most European countries.'

The most important pronouncement of the President's Manchester speech and the Associated Press says, the most important he has made in England, was that the United States would make no covenant with any powers except one with all the powers. This was not lost upon his hearers. In other words Mr. Wilson showed at Manchester that he and the government he represents have no thought other than to keep the faith and deal justly and squarely with all the countries that are parties to the peace compact to be made. There have been carping critics and enemies who have indirectly charged that Mr. Wilson was going to Europe with something up his sleeve, and that he could not be trusted.

One thing has been very noticeable in the great gatherings in Europe which have seen and heard Mr. Wilson: The PEOPLE have shown marked enthusiasm and seemed deeply impressed with him. Again we are led to say that Mr. Wilson's enemies have taken occasion to express regret and forebodings because the people of Europe were enthusiastic over the President's visit. It is natural that they should be because he has been proclaimed the people's friend and the champion of their rights. He has stood consistently for world-wide democracy, and the war against Germany was a war to break down autocracy and establish world-wide democracy. Certainly there can be no cause for reproach to Mr. Wilson in the fact that 'the common people heard him gladly,' because the doctrine he preaches is a doctrine suited to the needs of the people. In Manchester the audience responded more eagerly and understandingly to his every important point than any European audience to which he has spoken. The President could not have been seeking to promulgate any 'dangerous,' 'socialistic' or 'pro-German' doctrine because his Manchester audience, made up of the highly intelligent people of England, closely resembled the character and types of people to whom he has been accustomed to speak at home, and in America the intelligent representative audiences will not stand for anything but pure democracy.

Mr. Wilson is making a fine impression in Europe, and it is being made especially on the class of people who are the safest, sanest and most reliable class for the cause of democracy—the bourgeois or middle class.

THE SOUTHERN PORTS.

Announcement has been made that the initial voyage of a commerce-laden ship, under the direction of the South Atlantic Maritime Association, will be made from Wilmington to Cuba on February 15. Simultaneously ships will sail from Charleston, Brunswick, Savannah and Jacksonville for Cuba.

Senator Simmons has done much toward placing the advantages of the Southern ports, in connection with the Cuban and South American trade, before Director General of Railroads McAdoo, and it has been fortunate

for the Southern ports that the railroads have been under government control, for otherwise it is doubtful if these ports would have had a 'look in.'

S. R. Winters, writing to the Raleigh News and Observer from Washington, says:

The railroad administration has promised to furnish the freight for these cargoes that will journey to Wilmington and the other four seaport towns on February 15 to Cuba. The trips to foreign ports will be periodical events from these five seaport centers. Ships will convey American manufacturers to other countries and import to this country the products needed in the course of mutual trading. The congestion of traffic at inland cities will be thus relieved.

It is understood that the cargoes on the initial trip to Cuba will consist of products diverted from railroad traffic commonly tied-up in the Middle West. Whether meat or corn, the story will be the same. In other words, the railroads will share with inland waterways the overtaxed burdens of freight. The development of Southern ports is self-evident, if the plans measure up to the program.

Right here we see the great advantage to be derived from the plan of shipping from the nearest port and the determination to have the freight moved speedily. There is much encouragement to be gotten also for the friends of inland waterway utilization in the action of the Railroad Administration to take steps that will really move things promptly and do away with congested freight conditions. The inland waterways have had but little showing in the past, but it seems as if the shackles are being removed and the way made open for these natural channels of transportation.

In the meantime it will be interesting to note the opposition that will come from the North and East, now that Southern ports are going to be utilized. These sections are jealous of the South's even having a few military camps, though the South is the proper location for them, but when it comes to utilizing to the fullest Southern ports and Southern inland waterways (that do not connect with Northern or Eastern waterways) what a racket will be raised!

LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE AHEAD

The indications are that Germany has not been whipped thoroughly enough. If the news from Poland be true, there is still some work for the Allied forces to do. Two stories come from Poland of rioting and murder, which should be cleared up, and after being cleared up, a remedy should be applied.

On Sunday last, killing and plundering were done in Posen, Poland. One story is that Germans raided Jewish houses killing 30 persons and wounding many. It is reported that the Jewish synagogue was destroyed. The Berlin newspapers, however, print accounts of the affair as trouble between the Jews and Poles, not Germans. They have it that the Jews fired on the Poles from the synagogue, whereupon the Poles directed artillery fire against the building, destroying it. The German papers print long stories of this Jewish-Polish trouble and add that Germans, in the mix-up, were attacked and robbed in the streets.

A story comes from Warsaw, however, that German soldiers started the trouble in Posen. This version of the affair is that German soldiers recruited in Poland, angered at the reception given Padrewski by the Poles, formed a counter parade shouting, 'Posen is a German town.' They tore down flags of the Allies and sang 'Die Wacht am Rhein' and 'Deutschland uber Alles.' This action, it is said, the Poles naturally resented, and fighting followed.

We are inclined to think that the Polish story is the true one. It is exactly in accord with the German character and with the past course of the Germans to start trouble and put the blame for the starting on other shoulders. The Germans have proved themselves traitors and liars and entitled to little consideration. In the first place, how is it that armed German soldiers are in Poland? An armistice was signed, and by the terms of that armistice the Germans were to lay down their arms and keep the peace. But here comes a story that German soldiers kill and wound Jews and destroy their synagogues in Poland. We thought that the time had come when the butchering of Jews, Armenians and Syrians was to cease—that one of the issues of the war between the Allies and the Central Powers was the barbarism of slaughtering defenseless men, women and children. It has been made plain that the Germans are responsible for much of the atrocities of the Turks, while they (the Germans) have against them a black catalogue of murder, rape and pillage in Belgium and France; so it is easy to believe that they were the aggressors in the Posen trouble. At any rate, the matter should be investigated by the Allies, and if Jews were killed and their synagogues destroyed, the guilty ones, whether

Germans or Poles, should be summarily dealt with. The Allies have constituted themselves the champions and protectors of the down-trodden and defenseless, and they should be 'on to their jobs.'

There arises here the question, 'Was the war ended too soon? Have the Germans been beaten thoroughly enough?' It looks as if the work has not been finished. We are hearing something now of active participation of Germans with the Bolsheviks and of German militarists preparing to start a counter revolution in Germany. If the Allied forces had invaded Germany behind a fleeing German army and set up military rule in Berlin, we would have heard nothing of German aggressiveness, of 'victorious-defeated.' Germany, of returned German troops marching through the streets of German towns with hands playing 'Deutschland uber Alles.' Is it going to be necessary for the Allies to finish the uncompleted defeat of Germany, to literally crush these people to earth so that they can do no more devilment, not only in the way of active aggression against their defenseless neighbors, but in underhanded methods and intrigue with such countries as Russia? The Allies may count on one thing—if they do not keep a very tight rein on Germany, Germany is yet going to do a vast amount of harm through the Bolsheviks of Russia.

THE SOLDIERS AS FARMERS

As all of our readers doubtless are aware, a plan has been launched for the government of the United States to place many of the soldiers returned from Europe on lands now lying waste, in order that these soldiers may not only become independent citizens, but may help to build up the country and develop agriculture. It is not for us to criticize the plan, for wise and experienced heads have been at work on it, and they doubtless know what they are about. But great care should be taken, that no element of graft or exploiting shall enter into the business—not graft or exploiting on the part of the Government, but on the part of land owners and land agents to make a nice speck by the sale of land which has heretofore been a drug on the market. It may be contended that surely no individual or combine would seek to graft on so worthy an undertaking as one to furnish homes for soldiers who have fought for their country, but experience proves that such things were done during the progress of the war and it is natural to presume that they will be attempted in the carrying out of the present plan.

This soldiers' land project is going to cost the Government millions of dollars, even though it is simply an experiment, and Uncle Sam should be chary lest he fall into the hands of designing men, who, through greed of gain, would unload on him, thereby not only giving a set-back to the project, but placing the soldier-farmers on worthless land which no experienced farmer would touch.

Of course the soldier-farmer plan is praised as a wise movement and one perfectly feasible, but the public is always quick to endorse big projects without stopping to investigate, while the designing ones naturally make it their business to boost where they see something for them. Let Uncle Sam go slow and act on his own hook in this land business, without any assistance from 'purely disinterested' parties, and he will no doubt soon find that he is on the right track.

THE COAL-MINES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.

Herbert C. Hoover, in a report on the condition of affairs in Northern France, says that, added to the general devastation wrought by the Germans, 'the coal mines have been destroyed.' It is hard to conceive of the depth of barbarism to which a people have descended when they deliberately set to work to destroy the works of Nature from which men are to supply their needs to sustain life and conduct business. Mr. Hoover says: 'The entire industrial life of the region has been destroyed by the Germans. There is scarcely a single factory that can be operated without a very large portion of new equipment. The coal mines are totally destroyed, and the net work of railways in this region has been rendered almost hopeless of reconstruction for many months.'

This awful state of desolation has been brought about, it must be remembered, by the Germans, who today have the effrontery to complain that the armistice which they signed on November 11 is too hard on them. Leaving out the murder of old men, women and children, the rape, the brutal treatment, which can never be atoned for, these barbarians should be made to pay to the last farthing for the work of destruction they have wrought in the Allied countries, even heavens fall.

though it may require a century of deprivation on their part. The exigencies of war and military tactics cannot be given as an excuse for the desolation wrought by the Germans. The destruction of bridges, the tearing up of a few miles of railway tracks to prevent transportation of troops may be admissible in the conduct of warfare, but the razing of fine cities, the obliteration of villages, the ruining of the soil of farms, the cutting down of shade trees and fruit trees, the destroying of coal mines—these are acts of barbarism and sins against the whole population of a country which God requires that man, as his agent, shall demand account for from the doers. God made the trees, the land, the coal for the use of His children, and woe be to that nation which, with hatred in their hearts, shall ruthlessly destroy them.

When a bill of damages is to be paid, the first essential is to settle on who is to pay it, and the next is to collect it. Gerald Stanley Lee, writing in the Saturday Evening Post, has the correct idea. He says:

'The main fact about the Germans—the fact out of which all the other facts have to be drawn and used—is that the German people, individually and collectively, are the people to send the bill to for this war; and anything the Germans expect of us or that we expect of them in dealing with them that does not put this fact first is going to prove to be sentimental and reckless—an act of treason to some millions of dead soldiers in their graves and to our children in our homes. After all what real reason is there why we should single out the Kaiser from eighty million Germans and send the bill to him, to try to get a bill paid by a ghost or by a dissolving mist of a Kaiser? Why should forty nations in setting up for this work put off with one Kaiser? The Kaiser is just a typical German. He is what any German would be if he could. There are eighty million Kaisers in Germany, and we should go along the row of them one after the other until the war is settled up for. We may say it sadly and without wrath and we may think of them as being in a pitiable state now, but they got there by being bullies and by bootlicking to bullies. They are not giving us the slightest sign today that they know it; they are not even sorry. It is a scandal for the German people to stand off now in rows from Cologne to Munich, and Hamburg to Leipzig, and wine to a hundred thousand cemeteries in forty nations. Our Kaiser, he did it, and then expect calmly to make treaties on equal terms with the people in other nations, as if the German nation were a great vague beautiful giant-angel nation, appealing to a world in the tragic dignity of a great defeat! Why should the German nation do wrong, heap up self-indulgence and moral cowardice, having all the fun of sowing the wind for a hundred years—and then calmly expect forty nations to step in and reap her whirlwind for her? They deliberately have stood up and encouraged their Kaiser. The tone of the Kaiser's speeches for thirty years is all anybody needs to know about eighty million people. They stood it. The fact that they stood it is the main fact America has to face in arriving at the practical ways of dealing with the Germans.'

Mr. Lee writes very plainly, but he writes truthfully and justly. The German people, individually and collectively, should be made to pay for the destruction they have done. Somebody must pay for it—why not the destroyers? Germany has not suffered from the war except in the just slaying of thousands of her brutal soldiers. Let her pay from now on, and if she has to sweat blood in the paying it will be the better for the world and for her own people. A severe measure of suffering is what the German people need. It may bring repentance, something which they have not shown so far.

CAPE FEAR RIVER TO BE DREDGED.

The movement of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce for the dredging of Cape Fear River between Fayetteville and Wilmington, followed by a visit to Washington by Secretary-Manager H. V. D. King in connection with the matter, has brought forth fruit—the river will be dredged. A dispatch from Washington says: 'Washington, Jan. 6.—The House rivers and harbors committee, by an amendment to the appropriation bill, voted an additional \$21,000 for the completion of the work of making an eight-foot channel in upper Cape Fear river from the mouth to Fayetteville, N. C. Engineers said the appropriation of \$20,000 for the work was insufficient, and the committee agreed to the additional \$1,000.'

CHICKEN LIVENS.

An old hen has a much larger liver than you in proportion to weight or food eaten. Then it follows that they get bilious just like you do. They are grouchy, cross, unhappy. Start her liver and make her happy. Then she will lay eggs all winter. Come and get a package of B. A. Thomas' Fowl Liver Powder. Feed it occasionally. See your hens per up—hear them sing—look for eggs. Your money back if it fails. A. B. Huske.—Advt.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF FAYETTEVILLE. STATEMENT CLOSE OF BUSINESS DECEMBER 31st, 1918. Loans and discounts \$1,272,581.15 U. S. Bonds 279,850.71 War Savings Stamps 2,481.37 Real Estate, Furniture and Fixtures 23,670.95 Bonds, Securities Account 3,637.90 Redemption 7,500.00 Stock Federal Reserve Bank 3,400.00 Cash and Due from Banks 631,940.39 \$3,223,401.87 Capital stock 100,000.00 Circulation 50,000.00 Surplus and profits 23,705.99 DEPOSITS 2,045,529.98 Dividend account 4,168.00 \$3,223,401.87 J. H. Culbreth, President; Jno. R. Tolar, Vice-President; A. B. McMillan, Cashier; T. M. Shaw, Asst. Cashier; R. L. Holland, Jr., Assistant Cashier.

H. H. H. We wish to extend to our friends and patrons the season's greetings We hope to make 1919 the biggest year in our history. We are adding from time to time new lines and we will be glad to serve all. We have just put in a large stock of WALL PAPER—ALL KINDS, SHADES AND TYPES. THIS IS THE BIGGEST AND MOST ASSORTED STOCK and your taste can be satisfied and the prices are so reasonable they will surprise you. Also a car load of churns, earthen ware, pickle jars, preserve jars, flower pots, all sizes, and many other useful articles in this line. When in need of anything call phone 40 or 32. We have two phones in order to give better service. HUSKE HARDWARE HOUSE Phones 40 and 32.

Over 600 Mules and Horses Just Arrived. All size mules and a good assortment of horses. SIX CARLOADS OF EXTRA BIG MULES IN THE LOT SUITABLE FOR HEAVY HAULING. C. L. BEVILL Largest Individual Dealer in the South. FAYETTEVILLE, N. C. Washington, Jan. 9.—A storm warning dispatch on the Atlantic coast today were ordered changed to north-west from Cape Hatteras to New York, and northwest storm warnings were ordered from Bridgeport, Conn., to Portland. Wind will shift to the northwest this afternoon and tonight, and will probably reach gale force to-night by snow flurries and much cold wind. Smithers says the folks in his neighborhood are giving very little thought to the freedom of the sea. They are the rather concerned over freedom of new land from stumps.