

# The Roanoke-Chowan Times.

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"CAROLINA, CAROLINA, HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS ATTEND HER."

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## WHAT FREE-TRADE DID TO FARMING.

**It Compelled Great Britain to Pay Out Four Billions for Imported Farm Products.**

Northwestern Agriculturist.

When Free-Trade was inaugurated in Great Britain in 1846, the openly avowed purpose was to sacrifice the farmers in the interest of cheap food for the factory wage-earners, so that the latter could live on reduced wages, and thereby enhance the profits of manufacturers. At that time, English manufacturers were able to defy competition of the world in most lines of production, and England was mistress of the seas, controlling the exports of all. The greedy manufacturers determined to hold the world by the horns in manufacturing, and were ready to destroy all English, Irish, Scotch and Welsh agriculture and import food from "the cheapest markets of the world." They would thereby force farmers to become hands in their factories, increasing the supply of factory labor, and thereby lowering wages. This part of the dastardly conspiracy of the manufacturers has proved woefully successful, and, today, Great Britain has a decadent agriculture, her farms, which were wonders of intensive and prosperous cultivation before 1846, have largely become abandoned and gone to "permanent pasture," i. e., weeds, and English farming is so neglected that one of the important items of export from there, now, is millions of pounds sterling of stable manure, sent away every year, for it is useless to fertilize land when its harvests are ever and forever unprofitable.

Today, English labor is a "drug on the market," at three shillings (75c) a day. Skilled machinists—experts such as earn \$4 to \$6 a day in the United States—earn in England five or six shillings a day (\$1.25 to \$1.50) and common labor earns not enough to keep the laborer himself from hunger—his family receives charity or starves. All over Free-Trade England starvation faces hundreds of thousands.

The manufacturers are depressed by the results of their own suicidal folly. They deliberately destroyed home products of food, and now are forced to pay to foreign nations four billion dollars a year for food supplies which could have been produced upon their own land, by its now idle acres and idle laborers. This is a constant drain upon Great Britain's wealth, and distress is increasing year after year. The poor ex-farmers, driven to starvation in factory work, are not a profitable home market for the products of the factories, and so the bulk of what the factories produce must go abroad, for lack of a prosperous home market, while the foreign markets in all other nations are closing more and more each year against importations of English goods through their own Protective policies encouraging their own home productions.

All of this tendency is naturally making the food producers of Germany, France, Austria-Hungary, Italy, Russia, Holland and Belgium, and other civilized nations more independent, for farmers of each Protected nation are finding a demand at home for their foods, and so they no longer have to sell food to Great Britain without an advanced price. The result is discouraging in both directions for the victims of

Great Britain's Free-Trade folly—the cost of imported food is rising, while the world market for her manufactures is becoming more and more restricted.

This is not by any means an overdrawn picture of the results of Free-Trade and it is but the mirror of what must result if the present insane policies of our Government cannot be checked.

Great Britain is the only Free-Trade nation in the world. Until it became such, in 1846, it was the most prosperous, just as the United States is now, and in both cases the prosperity was due to protecting all branches of productive industry, chief of which always and everywhere is farming. Today the only Free-Trade nation is the most distressed nation, and it is looking eagerly, hopefully, fiendishly for America to join its misery, destroy our agriculture, embarrass our manufactures and put ourselves at the mercy of industrial competition of the foreign nations.

Let us not flatter and deceive ourselves, by saying we fear nothing. It is the fool-hardiness of ignorant self-conceit to declare that we can maintain American wage standards and produce so much better than others can, that our cost of production with skilled labor getting \$5 a day in competition with skilled labor in Europe working for \$1.25 to \$1.50 a day, will enable us to out-compete all rivals. That is rank folly and self-conceit.

We can meet that competition only by meeting its scale of wages, but it is the height of egotistic nonsense for us to say that a machinist earning \$4.50 a day in the United States, can accomplish more than three machinists in Europe earning \$1.50 each. As a matter of fact, the skilled labor of Europe is often better trained than it is in this country.

An example of European competition occurred recently when American and English builders of paper-mill machinery bid for the order for two machines for a new paper mill at Toronto, Canada, and the English bid was \$80,000 lower than that of the American. This was due to the fact that the Canadian Tariff gave England the advantage of \$35,000 differential on these two machines, over all other nations, but the balance, \$45,000, was entirely due to the lower cost of labor in England for skilled machinists. This shows what it will mean to America when we open our home markets to share them with world-competition here, while we rely upon competing with the world in outside markets. The dog drops its juicy meat to dive for the elusive reflection in the stream below. We cannot compete without lowering our wages to the European and Asiatic scales, and our wage-earners must adjust their food expenses to what can support a family on an income of \$8 to \$9 a week. We have already shown, in previous issues, the immediate shrinkage of all grain prices to the export basis; upon perishable vegetables the loss will be still greater.

There is no theory about this, it is only an indisputable condition, and a repetition of all history of Free-Trade, every time it has been tried, either in the United States or anywhere. The nation that surrenders its home market, sacrifices its own efficiency in production, and invites distress to agriculture and all industrial effort.

Subscribe to the Times.

## LASKER NEWS.

**Sunday School and Epworth League Rally—To Speak at M. E. Church**  
—General News.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Bridgers of Conway were callers in town Monday.

Mr. J. S. Bryant went over to Newsoms, Va., Sunday on his new automobile and took with him Mrs. Bryant and their son, Master Perry, and Miss Olive Gould and Mr. J. E. Lassiter.

Misses Josie Lassiter, Maggie Lassiter, Mary Cowan, Ruby Cowan and Mr. George Gilliam of Rich Square were callers in town Monday. They dined in the pleasant home of Mr. J. J. Parker.

Mr. Ellis Warren, who has been seriously ill at his home south of town for several days, is somewhat better at this writing.

Miss Lota Lee Draper and Stanley C. Draper spent a few hours in Jackson Sunday afternoon.

Mr. W. S. Deloatch and Miss Clara Vaughan are attending the Teachers' Institute at Jackson this week.

Lasker and Conway baseball teams will cross bats on the home diamond next Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock. A swift game is expected. Admission to see the game free.

Quite a large concourse of people attended the sale of property of the late Nancy F. Draper here last Saturday.

Mr. Ralph Parker joined a party from Rich Square Tuesday who went over to the State Farm and enjoyed a pleasant day.

Mr. Edwin Earnhardt, a ministerial student of Trinity College, will preach at the Methodist church here Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. Mr. Earnhardt is a member of North Carolina Conference and is among our most promising young ministers. He is a forceful speaker and will bring a good message to our people. Public cordially invited.

Mr. J. J. Parker visited Norfolk, Rocky Mount, High Point and Greensboro last week on business. While in Norfolk Mr. Parker purchased a nice lot of mules and horses. In High Point he purchased two carloads of fine furniture which will be on exhibition on the 3rd floor of his big brick store in a few days. We were in error last week when we stated that Mr. Parker was in Raleigh.

Miss Olive Gould, who has had charge of J. J. Parker's successful millinery business during the past season, left Tuesday for Roxobel where she will visit before returning to her home in Baltimore. Miss Gould is very popular here and her many friends will miss her. She will work with E. S. Bowers & Co., Jackson, next season.

Mr. A. J. Draper of Boykins, Va., was here Saturday on business.

The newly elected officers of Vance Council No. 162 Jr. O. U. A. M., were installed during their regular session last Saturday evening. Hon. G. E. Midyette of Jackson, who is a member, was present.

The local Farmer's Union will meet next Saturday afternoon at 8 o'clock. A good attendance is desired. Ice cream will be served during the session.

Miss Lina Mae Gray, who has been teaching music in the home of Mr. C. W. Draper since January, closed her work and returned to her home in Boykins last

Friday. Miss Gray began work here with quite a large number of pupils and the class grew from time to time. An excellent attendance was maintained throughout the term. A prize was awarded to Miss Eva Draper by Stanley C. Draper for having done the best work in the class. The prize was a large volume of music. As a music teacher Miss Gray proved herself to be thoroughly capable. She is unusually popular among our people and her many friends here will keenly regret her absence. Our best wishes follow her.

An Epworth League and Sunday School Rally will be conducted in the Methodist church here on Thursday of next week. This will be the biggest occasion of the kind ever held in this county. Strong speakers have been secured, and no pains will be spared to make it a day of profit as well as pleasure. The program in detail appears elsewhere in these columns.

## Severn News.

Mr. R. B. Flythe, formerly a citizen of this place but now of Blackstone, Va., was a guest of Dr. T. O. Joyner last Monday.

Mr. Gordon Pruden spent Saturday in Norfolk, Va.

Mr. W. H. Pruden is visiting relatives in Portsmouth Va.

Mr. P. M. Fleetwood of Jackson spent Sunday with his niece, Mrs. J. L. Long.

Mrs. M. M. Long Jr., returned to her home in Portsmouth Va., last Tuesday. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Lottie Woodard who will spend several weeks with her.

Miss Audrey Pruden returned last Friday from Chapel Hill where she had been attending the summer school for teachers.

Mr. Willie L. Bryant is visiting his aunt, Mrs. Ben Sykes at Garysburg this week.

Miss Mary Pruden of Seaboard is the guest of her cousin, Miss Ila Britte this week.

Mrs. W. H. Howell and daughter, Claire are spending the week with relatives in Norfolk.

Miss Sallie Hoggard returned Saturday from a pleasant visit to Franklin, Va.

Mrs. D. W. Watson, Misses Claude Stephenson, Lois and Bettie Starr Howell, Ida Lou Futrell, Mary Fleetwood, Hilda and Lillie Pruden went to Franklin Friday afternoon to witness a game of baseball between Franklin and Severn. On account of a storm the game was called in the 4th inning. Score 5 to 2 in favor of Franklin.

Mr. Kelly White of Conway, visited his uncle Mr. J. J. White Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Stephenson and children, Randolph and Fannie May of Pendleton, spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Stephenson.

Pastor C. W. Scarborough filled the appointment of Pastor Waff in the Baptist church Sunday afternoon. Pastor Waff is at present a patient in Sarah Leigh Hospital, Norfolk. We trust he may soon be restored to health and strength and may take his place among us again.

Pastor D. L. Earnhardt of Providence M. E. church was a guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Watson Sunday afternoon.

You say she only partially returned your affection?

Clarance—Yes, she returned all the love letters, but retained all the jewelry.—Brooklyn Citizen.

## ROXOBEL NEWS.

**Principal for School Wanted—Crop Prospects—New Bank—Ice Plant**  
—Personals.

Crop prospects have improved greatly since our last letter and it now looks as if the harvest time will find a bountiful yield.

The home for the Roanoke-Chowan Bank is being put in shape and the institution will open for business not later than Sept. first, 1913.

The Roxobel Graded School has failed so far in securing the services of a principal for the coming year, having missed each one elected so far by only a few days. The committee wishes to correspond with a suitable gentleman for the place.

Dr. J. M. Jacobs has purchased a new automobile and received same last week. Roxobel has not invested in many "mobiles" so far, unlike some of our neighbors.

Mr. Jno. C. Tynes and family have returned home from a visit to the seashore.

Mr. Jno. E. Peele and daughter, Foy, left for Norfolk and Baltimore on the 4th., returning home a few days ago. They report a pleasant trip.

Mr. W. V. Brett and family of Winston-Salem arrived here last week to visit relatives. Mr. Britt will go on the road for the American Tobacco Co., and has gone to enter upon his duties, but Mrs. Brett and daughter will remain a while with kins-people here.

Miss Mattie Liverman has gone to Asheville to spend some weeks in the "land of the sky."

Misses Eva and Eunice Watson and Carew Jilcott have returned from Windsor where they have been attending the Teachers' Institute for two weeks.

Messrs. Wimbrow Bros. & Co. are locating one of their saw mills near Aulander, they having recently made some purchases of standing timber in that locality.

Mr. Leroy Capehart is remodeling his old store building into a dwelling house. Roxobel needs a number of dwellings, more than she has to rent to those who would make their home among us.

Misses Hines and Powell of Gates county are visiting Mrs. J. T. Burkett, near town.

Mr. A. T. Liverman has returned home from a trip to Bloomfield, N. J., where he went on business.

Mr. Malcom McKay, Jr., has gone to Wilmington for a while and will probably make that city his home.

Mr. C. T. Harrell is building a larger ginney near the depot, hoping to have it completed by the time the new crop begins to move.

There has been some talk of an ice manufacturing plant here and it is hoped that this factory will yet be a reality, for one is needed on this branch of the S. A. L. R. R.

## ROXY.

The Charlotte Chronicle gives a very distressing comment upon the macadam road situation in its county, and says that the time has come when a new material must be used for building or a better system of repair found. The macadam is fine for two or three years; but the rains and the vehicles soon get the better of it, and its original cost is too great.—The State Journal.

"Are you affected at all by spring fever?"

"No. My trouble is mere laziness."—Chicago Record-Herald.