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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

AS A VISITOR SEES UNION.

NOTED NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENT WRITES OF VISIT HERE.

Mr. Bion H. Butler, Who Is Studying All Sections of North Carolina Finds Monroe and Union County Right Up in the Front—Elements of Progress That Cannot Be Downed.

Bion H. Butler in News and Observer.

Monroe, Sept. 12.—I have been looking over Monroe with a curious interest, for it has many things to attract the attention of a visitor.

Perhaps the first thing you think of is that Waxhaw, in the county, was the birthplace of Andrew Jackson, one of the most remarkable characters in the story of the country, and that at Waxhaw the soldiers of the revolutionary war had some words. Those things always get the attention of the visitor.

Another thing that is impressed on him quickly is that Union is one of the foremost cotton counties of the State, occupying fourth place last year with nearly 32,000 bales.

Two other distinctive features that the people of Monroe see that you discover are the good roads and the good schools.

One more to clap the climax and bind all these things together is that Union county has been paying for the needed improvements as they are made instead of providing conveniences for the present generation to use and the next generation to pay for.

NEARLY EIGHTY SPECIAL TAX DISTRICTS.

Monroe is not exactly Union county, and Union county is not exactly Monroe. Nevertheless one is the country and the other is the town, each the complement of the other. Union county has a population of about 35,000. The county makes not quite a bale of cotton for each inhabitant. It has one rural library for every thousand inhabitants. Nearly eighty districts in the county have voted a special school tax for the betterment of the public schools, and two of the special tax districts are colored.

Union was one of the first counties of the State to take kindly to the special tax school district. It has been one of the earnest advocates of good roads. It is one of the progressive counties in the adoption of improved farm methods.

Monroe is a thrifty town. It has grown rapidly, and established varied industries on a big scale. Two large factories manufacture vehicles of various kinds. Two others make sash and building supplies. Union has also several good cotton mills. The county is well equipped, well established and progressive.

NO BONDED DEBT.

Union has no bonded debt. The people in Monroe say the county is education crazy. Not only are the country districts voting special school taxes, but here in the county where the farm demonstration had its beginning, as well as the special school tax, Union claiming to have the first district to vote special tax under the law. In addition to having long term schools for all the children practically every man in the county is going to school in the farmer's institutes and in the study of new and improved methods of production.

Union claims to have no benighted sections where education and civilization fail to reach. The banks say that the chattel mortgage is not found a third as plentiful now as it was a few years ago. The farms are small, and the small ones cultivated by their owners. The colored population outside of the towns is not very large, and its quality is good. Over three-fourths of all the farms are less than a hundred acres each. Fully half of them are not above fifty acres.

In this little county the value of the farm property is almost nine million dollars, and it has been soaring in the last twelve of fifteen years. Land was worth six dollars an acre in 1900. It has gone up to twenty now.

And there is a story.

The man who visits Monroe is likely to fall in with R. F. Beasley. At the Journal office, in a well-appointed printing establishment, this live wire is found, and he does not go far until he tells you something.

"My office," he said, "is not on the best location that I could have found vacant in our town."

That is a fact. It might have been on one of the unoccupied sites facing the court house or the more public business squares of the town. It was not necessary to ask why.

But Mr. Beasley answered without asking. "I had to take a lot that was within my price. Our town has grown rapidly, and with it the prices have grown. Those of us who want to put up buildings or to find locations for our business ventures must pay the price that competitive desire for good locations creates. When it is possible to make locations fever by holding some of the best of them out of the market the result is that the man who wants a location must pay more for an inferior place."

That is a note I heard several times here, and it is one of more importance than a good many of our people are ready to realize yet, but it came out from several sources in Monroe and it will have to be faced

here and in the rest of the State pretty soon.

Union is a good cotton county. It is also good for a wide variety of other crops. The county makes annually a quarter of a million dollars' worth of dairy and poultry products. Grain and hay and meat products will exceed a million in value. Corn yields of fifty to a hundred bushels an acre are not rare. Cattle raising is making such headway that the farmers are encouraged to embark in raising mules for the market.

FINE STOCK CHANCES. The mule seems adapted to Union county farming methods. Here is good grazing, and cheap winter food to bring the stock through. Grazing and water, and short winters are ideal for stock. Union county farmers are sanguine of reaching out into that direction extensively, and with reasonable grounds.

Already some progressive farmers have gathered up herds of cattle with gratifying results. The pressing beef question has inclined these folks to put a value on a bunch of steers, and the sight of grazing herds is becoming common.

"Union county has a big future ahead of it," I ventured the remark to G. B. Caldwell, who is in touch with nearly every business and farm project that is set on foot.

A WEAK SPOT.

"Just one weak spot in our line of development," Mr. Caldwell replied.

"I can't see it," I protested. "I will show you," and he brought out that thing Mr. Beasley mentioned.

"There is a tendency for lands to get too high to attract settlers," Mr. Caldwell continued. "We have been enjoying quite a growth here, and Union has come along at a flattering rate. We have increased in population, have been building good roads, good schools, good business houses in town, and all the conveniences that come with increasing population. But what happens? Land goes up as prosperity comes. Then what? The people who by coming into this county to help stimulate things turn to one side. For a time they were settling down into Moore and Lee and that section. But they meet that same rising land value, and do you know what they are doing now? Well, sir, they are heading for Florida. You will be surprised to know how many people have looked over Union county, then taken a look at the sand hill country and then set out for Florida."

"Is the country pretty well filled up?" I asked.

"Filled nothing! It is not filling up the county that is making high prices, but the prospect that settlers will buy the unused land where the county is not filled up. That is the trouble. If we had a county full of people it would make no difference what prices were put on land, for it would be cultivated and made to produce. What hurts is that the prices are put up and the prospective buyers are frightened away, and we are held back to no good purpose."

A PREVALENT OPINION.

This seemed to be a rather prevalent opinion. A few years ago Union commenced to catch the favorable attention of people in other sections, and considerable of an immigration movement started. The home people put in some good lies for progress, and it was thought that the manifold resources of the county were to see speedy development. A gratifying movement of newcomers was inaugurated, and there are plenty of inquiries now for farms and homes, but the advancing prices of land rather tend to encourage people to look elsewhere.

A THING THAT THREATENS.

Incidentally I might mention that this same thing is at work in other sections of the State, and it is one thing that threatens to make more or less trouble for the ambition of settling the State and developing its resources. For five or six years I have been hearing that warning note—people are putting their lands too high, and they will keep settlers out.

Two prominent cases come to mind that show Union county is not alone. No county is making more rapid progress than Hoke. The traveler on the Aberdeen and Rockfish road coming over to Aberdeen from Fayetteville notices all along the line to Raeford and from Raeford to within eight miles of Aberdeen the continual successions of new clearings and building farms. But just after he passes the Montrose Sanatorium he comes into a tract of forest, and the road runs through a block of five thousand acres with not an acre of clearing in sight in the four miles. That is a tract of land bought a few years ago for about ten thousand dollars. It is held for a raise, but the owner refuses to allow anything to be done with it. Efforts have been made to get it open for settlement, but the last price heard from was about seventy-five thousand dollars. The owners live in New York. In the few years he has owned the land the development of the country by the working farmers has brought the price of the land up many thousand dollars, and the men who brought it up profit nothing. The man who profits has done absolutely nothing to the land. It is a blockade in the way of the prosperity and growth of the county.

Down at Wilmington a few weeks ago I was out with Hugh McKee looking over the colonies he is building

(Continued on page eight.)

TO ASK CONGRESS FOR AID.

Raleigh Meeting in Behalf of Farmers Adopted Plans and Appointed A Committee to Ask Congress to Furnish Money.

Raleigh, Sept. 11.—Governor Craig, Attorney General Bickett and President Alexander of the Farmers' Union were this afternoon appointed by the State Farmers' Union Convention as members of a committee to go to Washington at once to insist that Congress pass an act authorizing the National Government to lend to any State money to take care of cotton at 10 cents a pound, that State to purchase the cotton and to issue bonds to secure the money advanced by the Federal Government. The cooperation of the other Cotton States is to be secured and the Legislature to be called at the proper time to authorize the State bonds, if it is found that Congress will act favorably.

The convention also passed resolution calling for a tax of one cent a pound on all 1915 cotton in excess of 75 per cent of this year's acreage. Another resolution called for a basis or fair exchange of cotton seed for cottonseed meal.

Governor Craig outlined a plan for a big North Carolina Corporation for warehousing cotton and loaning seven cents on it, with a division of profits over 10 cents a pound when sold. This was endorsed by the convention.

OVER 200 IN ATTENDANCE.

The convention of 200 and more cotton growers and others, mostly members of the North Carolina Farmers' Union, called to meet here by President H. Q. Alexander, spent morning and afternoon sessions discussing the cotton situation and finally adopted resolutions that had, in a preliminary conference of the officers of the Union, been adopted as the policy of the Union for the State and at large.

These resolutions set out endorsement of the Henry bill now pending in Congress for having the general Government come to the relief of the Southern cotton farmer with a bonded Government warehousing scheme that contemplates setting a standard price of 12 cents the pound on cotton with advances to the farmers in cooperation with the general financial plan of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo. This warehousing system to be evolved by October 1 in order to assure the conservation of the "distress" cotton of the crop now being gathered.

POLICY OF THE STATE.

As to the policy in this State the resolutions presented and adopted set out the following:

Whereas, we have had many plans published and many resolutions adopted to save the cotton crop, but nothing has been done to work these plans; no organized agencies with ample funds have been put to work to operate them, therefore be it resolved by the State Council of North Carolina Farmers' Union that we hereby appropriate \$1,000 and urgently request the North Carolina State Department of Agriculture to appropriate \$5,000 to establish a \$10,000 fund to be administered by a marketing committee to carry on a State-wide campaign to save North Carolina's cotton crop in this great emergency.

We urge first that a thorough canvass be made of all our cotton territory to secure petitions to Congress for needed legislation and to secure signatures from every farmer who will agree to hold any specific number of bales until it brings either 10 cents or 12 cents as they may direct.

Second, we urge that marketing institute parties, like framers, institute parties be sent to every cotton county with competent men to advise about the construction of warehouses, operation, insurance, rules, blank forms and other matters.

Third, that under the same direction, co-operating with local committees, a thorough canvass of local banks shall be made to ascertain what funds are available for lending on cotton and on what terms.

Fourth, that in the same manner a thorough canvass shall be made of all merchants and lists published of all merchants who will agree to pay 10 cents a pound on store accounts.

Fifth, that in the same way a canvass shall be made of all business and professional men to enlist them in the "Buy-a-Bale-of-Cotton" movement.

FERTILIZER DEALS.

Sixth, that in the same way guano manufacturers shall be approached and the best possible terms made for extension of credit, acceptance of warehouse certificates, etc.

Seventh, and in the same manner a campaign shall be instituted in each county to increase to the maximum the State's acreage of all grain and legume crops, the surest way to reduce acreage and to avoid buying high-priced foods and feed next Spring.

Resolved, that we send urgent requests to all Southern Governors and Commissioners of Agriculture to hold a conference and, in the meantime, to line up every Southern State with similar appropriations in behalf of similar campaigns in order that this whole movement may be made South-wide.

The above resolutions were first adopted in the council this morning before the convention opened and then were submitted to the convention through President Alexander. The council that formulated the resolutions consists of Dr. H. Q. Alex-

GOV. CRAIG'S COTTON PLAN.

Making Efforts to Organize a Million Dollar Corporation to Buy Staple and Hold It Off the Market.

Raleigh News and Observer, 13th. There is being shown much interest in the plan proposed by Governor Locke Craig for taking care of distressed cotton in North Carolina, by means of a trust company financed by the people of the State, who will do this because of the need of patriotism. At the conference of farmers and other business men held in Raleigh on Friday the plan of Governor Craig was given hearty endorsement, and he was made the chairman of a committee to put the plan into operation.

Governor Craig stated yesterday that he had not yet appointed the committee which he was authorized to name, but that all who wished to subscribe to stock in the company could communicate with Col. J. Bryson Grimes of Raleigh, stating the amount they would subscribe. He stated that no one would be solicited for a subscription, that it must be voluntary, that if a sufficient number of men in the State are willing to cooperate by lending their money for taking care of the cotton crop, this can be done. The money of all subscribers, he stated, would be perfectly safe, and would draw six per cent interest.

The statement which Governor Craig made to a conference of a few of the leading business men in his office, and in substance the same thing to the meeting to the farmers on Friday, was as follows:

"I make the following suggestions for your consideration as a means by which the cotton crop may be protected, at least to some extent:

"1. Organize a trust company with an authorized capital of \$1,000,000, to begin business when stock has been subscribed and paid for to the amount of \$250,000.

"2. The sole purpose of this corporation shall be to loan money on cotton to the amount of seven cents a pound.

"3. Each person proposing to borrow money shall subscribe and pay into the capital stock of the company one-tenth of the amount that he proposes to borrow.

"4. When the cotton shall be sold, if it shall bring exceeding ten cents a pound, one-half of all above that amount shall belong to the company, and one-half to the original owner.

"5. If at any time any holder of the stock desire that his stock shall be retired, he can exchange this stock for cotton at its market value, provided he allow in such exchange at least ten cents a pound for the cotton. Arrangements can be made by which the company holding cotton in trust can apply it to the retirement of such stock.

"6. The notes secured by the cotton, and held by the company to run six months, bearing six per cent interest.

"I believe that in the State there is sufficient money in the hands of public spirited men to protect the cotton crop, provided these men and this money can be made effective by a proper organization. We can subscribe for stock according to our ability. Much might be subscribed in small shares by thousands who would help in this emergency.

"The plan above suggested can be effected only by men who are willing to co-operate for their own good, and for the general welfare, and to do something substantial not for personal gain, but to relieve this crisis and save us from distress. Patriotism would be the impelling motive. The great staple of the South is threatened with sacrifice. Disaster is imminent. It is time that we should act, not in a spirit of selfishness, but for the public good.

"This plan will interfere with no other plan that has been suggested. It can be put into operation in ten days or less time. The market would be toned up, and the price begin to rise at once. When the people realize that the substantial business men of the State are behind cotton with their money, confidence in cotton will be restored."

At the end the conference of business men unanimously endorsed the suggestion of the Governor as a good one. Mr. W. A. Erwin said that he would subscribe \$5,000; Governor Craig said that he would subscribe \$1,000.

Little Girl Followed Brother Off and Was Drowned.

The two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Shearin, who live four miles from Louisburg, was found about ten o'clock Saturday morning drowned on a raft in Cedar creek, a mile and a half below Four Bridges. The nearest point to the creek from the Shearin home is three-quarters of a mile.

The little girl strayed away from home about three o'clock, following her little brother, who is deaf and dumb, and who was not conscious that she was following him, and she was soon lost in the woods. Searching parties in the neighborhood hunted for her all night.

ander, Matthews; Dr. J. M. Templeton, Cary; E. C. Faires, Aberdeen; J. Z. Green, Marshville; W. B. Gibson, Statesville; Clarence Poe, Raleigh; W. H. Moore, Bruce; C. C. Wright, Hunting Creek; S. H. Hobbs, Clinton.

Mrs. A. B. Helms returned Sunday after spending a week with relatives in Anson and Stanly counties.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH

CONTINUE TO DRIVE BACK THE GERMANS.

RETREAT IS IN DANGER OF BECOMING A ROUT.

French Territory May Soon Be Cleared of Germans—Russians Continue to Beat Austrians—France is Jubilant and There Are Hopes that the War May Not Last So Long as Was Expected—The German Campaign Has Been a Failure, Notwithstanding the Marvelous Rush They Made Toward Paris.

The Germans are trying to get out of France as fast as they got in, but this is impossible. Their assault has been frustrated and all but one of the German armies are in full retreat with the French and English following and fiercely attacking them and hindering their march as much as possible. While the French general hopes to turn the defeat into a rout, this has not been accomplished. While the Germans are exhausted and no doubt dispirited, they are contesting every inch of the ground and the Allies are continually asking prisoners and supplies. At one time a German general and his complete staff were captured.

It was reported that two sons of the German Emperor had died in hospitals, one of them the heir to the throne, but this has not been confirmed and is probably an error.

Prominent German citizens of the United States have gotten up an effort to secure peace, and have gotten Mr. Wilson to send an informal message to Emperor William asking him if he is ready to consider terms. No reply has been received.

The British War Office issued a long statement yesterday from Field Marshal Sir John French, covering more completely than previous summaries the seven days fighting from September 4 to September 10, inclusive. According to this report the German swerve to the Southeast of Paris is accounted for by General von Kluck's decision that the British who had so heavily engaged in the retreat from the Belgian frontier, could be ignored and that he could proceed with his plan of enveloping the main French army. The new army which came out from Paris, however, upset this calculation and, with his flank threatened, the German general had to withdraw—a movement which has been continued up to the present.

RETREATING ALL ALONG THE LINE.

Except for the army which has been attacking Verdun, the German forces in France have fallen back all along the line, according to the French official report issued yesterday afternoon.

From Nancy to the Vosges they have withdrawn from French territory while on the extreme right General von Kluck and General von Buelow continue to retreat to the northeast before the French and British, even giving up their defensive position on the river Aisne between Compiègne and Soissons.

Further west the German detachments that held Andenau have moved northward to try to rejoin the German army of the right at St. Quentin. It is possible all the Germans in Northwest France have come in danger of being cut off in the center.

Another defensive position, behind Rheims, has been given up and in the Argonne region a general retreat is taking place toward the forest of Belnoe and Triancourt.

The Allies are pushing their advantage and doing their utmost to turn the retreat into a disaster by a stern pursuit on perhaps the broadest scale yet known in war. On the right, they are in good position to continue the offensive, if the men and horses are not too tired for further effort. They are based on a strong line running from the Marne to the fortresses through the hilly country south of Agronne.

BELGIANS ATTACK.

The Belgians, who have received new big guns and reinforcements from somewhere, by a sortie from Antwerp, have prevented the Germans from sending more of their troops out of Belgium to the South.

It is reported that the Germans had another army corps ready to dispatch to the assistance of their right wing, north of Paris, but quickly stopped its departure when the Belgians showed their strength and ability to cut communication between Brussels and Louvain. Although the Belgians had to retire to the protection of the Antwerp forts when the Germans discovered them, they easily proved themselves capable of at least annoying the army of occupation.

All the news coming in seems to confirm the Russian reports that the Russians have inflicted another terrible defeat on the Austrians who, on the right, were supported by some German divisions. By the capture of Tomaszow, the Russians drove a wedge between the Austrian army, which had invaded Poland as far as Opole, Kransnotay and Zomoso, and

GERMANS IN DEFEAT.

The Austrians, according to latest advices shared in the defeat. They are trying to reach the fortress of Przemysl and the rear guard is endeavoring to keep off the Russian cavalry which is pursuing them.

Austria had in Poland and Galicia an army estimated at 1,000,000 men with 2,500 guns. At Lemberg, Austria lost many thousands of men in killed, wounded and prisoners. It is now stated although not officially, that the total number of prisoners amounted to 180,000 and that 1000 field guns were taken, besides the guns in the captured forts and an immense amount of war material.

PURSUIT WAS VIGOROUS.

Pursuit of the retreating German armies by the British and French forces continued today with vigor, according to the French view.

Despite their great numbers, the German withdrawing movement is carried out with great rapidity and cleverness. The main body appears to be approaching the Belgian frontier while the German left wing seemingly is gaining shelter in German Lozaines.

So far as known the Belgian invaders who, after wonderful forced marches into France, made such a stern attempt to break through the lines of the Allies defending Paris, have abandoned more than 60 cannons of various caliber and 24 machine guns because their exhausted horses were unable to draw them fast enough to keep up with the foot-weary infantry. Enormous amounts of ammunition and war stores also were left on the route of the Germans which is through a difficult marshy country, rendered almost impassable in some places by heavy rains which threaten to continue.

The Allies, it is asserted, display no signs of fatigue. They are represented as stirred by unexpectedly great victories to such a state of elation that they are able to keep close on the heels of the retreating enemy, harassing them day and night, cutting off detachments and attempting to interpose between them and the frontier.

It is generally believed here that the next phase of the gigantic war will take place in German territory. The Allies, according to the military experts, doubtless will endeavor to prevent the German armies, should they succeed in eluding capture, from taking strong defensive positions near the frontier.

Large bodies of fresh troops are understood to have been sent forward to assist in the pursuit and many more are ready to share the chase, it is said. Some portions of the Allied armies, who through the hot and sunny days interspersed with deluges of rain bore the brunt of the fighting, are taking a brief rest in preparation for future movements which may call for equally great efforts.

Effect of War on Exports of Cotton.

Washington, Sept. 14.—The effect of the European war on the American cotton industry was disclosed today in the Census Bureau's August cotton consumption report, showing that during August only 21,210 bales were exported while during August last year 257,172 bales went abroad.

Great Britain took only 6,270 bales this August while last year she took 77,488 bales; Germany took only 52 bales against 72,928 a year ago. France took only five bales against 52,833 a year ago; Italy took 1,546 against 13,568 a year ago, and all other countries took 15,257 against 40,225 a year ago.

The supply of cotton during the year 1914, which ended August 31, was more than 16,000,000 bales. The exports for the year amounted to 8,914,548 bales, the domestic consumption 5,577,874 bales and the quantity on hand August 31 was about 1,524,265 bales.

To Those Interested in the Cotton Market.

There will be a meeting at eight o'clock next Friday night, the 18th, at the court house in the city of Monroe for the purpose of considering the advisability of asking every citizen of the county who has no cotton on hand or who grows none, to buy a bale to assist in raising the price of cotton.

Signed, R. B. Redwine, W. S. Blakemore, M. K. Lee, J. H. Lee, D. A. Houston, Crow Bros., W. H. Bell, F. B. Ashcraft.

North Carolina Boy Writes Book.

Mr. C. B. Riddle, Elon College, N. C., has just brought from the press in New York a very unique volume of 300 pages bearing the title "College Men Without Money." The book is the self-told experiences of about one hundred men and women who worked their way through college and rose from the humblest walks of life to fill a place of usefulness and genuine sedvices. Mr. Riddle is himself a student in Elon College and earning his own way. The book was compiled that young men and women might read it and seek a college education regardless of financial circumstances. The volume sells for \$1.10 post paid.

Journal Penny Ads bring results.