

THE MONROE JOURNAL

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MONROE, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1917.

\$1.50 PER YEAR CASH.

GREATEST SLUMP IN COTTON MARKET EVER KNOWN

LOST \$28 BALE IN 24 HOURS

Some of the Future Months Dropped Over 300 Points on the Publication of the German Note Announcing That the Central Powers Would Resume Their Submarine Warfare February 1.

Wall Street experienced a riot if one may judge indications there by what occurred among the Monroe cotton buyers when they learned that cotton had dropped nearly \$28 a bale overnight on the publication of the German note, stating that the Central Powers would resume their submarine warfare Feb. 1. Some of the buyers, who have a large number of bales on hand, bought when the market was around the 20 cent mark, were even panicky. One buyer, however, stated that "he'd have his fun as long as it lasted."

Mr. J. E. Stack, who is the oldest cotton buyer in Monroe, stated to The Journal that yesterday's drop was the biggest he had ever known. The biggest drop in his recollection, previous to yesterday's slump, was the Sully drop, when cotton broke for 3 1-2 cents a pound.

The market dropped wide open on the call in the New York future market under a tremendous wave of selling. March contracts dropped 372 points. This break amounted to more than \$25 a bale and the market was absolutely demoralized.

Many contracts broke to 12.50 within ten minutes, 516 points under last night's closing figures, making the biggest break in such a short time in the history of the market. Reports of conditions in the stock market increased the excitement, but after the most violent liquidation had somewhat subsided May contracts rallied to 14 cents on covering.

Before the end of the first half hour May contracts had rallied to 17 cents or 4 1-2 cents from the lowest and within 16 points of last night's closing figures. The sensational break brought in fresh buying as well as covering by shorts but the shock of the unprecedented rapidity of the decline was still evident in the confusion and excitement.

The recovery, however, was almost as sensational as the decline. The first sharp recovery was followed by a second big break on selling orders from the south. May sold out from 17.00 to 15.30. Trade interest became good buyers on this decline and there was another quick rally to the 16-cent level for that position, comparing with last night's closing quotation at 17.65. These wild fluctuations were followed by continued irregularities and frequently there were 25 or 36 points between transactions.

Greatest Over-Night Loss Known in New Orleans Market.

New Orleans, Feb. 1.—The cotton market here was thrown into demoralization at the opening today by Germany's announcement of unrestricted naval warfare. Prices fell from \$18.50 to \$21.50 a bale, the widest overnight fluctuations ever witnessed on the market in any period of panicky trading. Owners of cotton contracts scrambled to get to cover before unrestricted naval warfare bear results. They threw their cotton overboard and found no buyers. Fifteen minutes after the opening action, the market was down 375 to 435 points below yesterday's close.

Fluctuations between trades were marked in cents instead of in fractions of cents. May closed last night at 17.24 cents a pound; the first trade today was at 14 cents and the third at 13 cents, a loss of almost 4 1-4 cents a pound. Such fluctuations never before were recorded on any cotton quotation boards in the world, it was declared. After the first rush of selling price made a strong recovery, mounting 295 to 532 points from the lowest levels, old crop months being less than \$6 a bale under yesterday's close.

Consider Closing Exchange.

Augusta, Ga., Feb. 1.—The Augusta cotton exchange members today adopted a resolution providing that all exchanges be requested to close during the uncertainties caused by the German note.

Corinth Items.

Corinth, Feb. 1, 1917.—Mr. Floyd McCord, who has been spending some time in Newport News, has returned home.

Mr. Tommy Griffin asked the writer to express his appreciation and thankfulness to his friends for the many acts of kindness during his recent illness.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. James Williams, a daughter, Jan. 29.

Mr. Bunyan and Miss Bedie Richardson spent Monday night with Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Melton of Sandy Ridge. Mrs. Melton is right sick with the grip.

Mr. Otis Alexander was a visitor at Mr. G. J. Richardson's Sunday.

Mr. Robert Irby of Moanrock spent Sunday with relatives here.

The measles have almost been captured here. We are now ready for something else.—Farm Boy.

First Baptist Church.

Services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 3 p. m.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend all these services.

Can a girl live on \$4.00 a week? See "The Little Girl Next Door", at the Pastime Theatre next Thursday.

Bad Roads, Grippe and Measles.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Monroe, Rt. 6, Feb. 1.—Mrs. J. E. Garrison was called to Waxhaw Sunday to attend the funeral of her nephew, Little Charles Harris. The little child died Saturday night in a hospital in Charlotte.

Mr. George Horn has moved to his new home near Bakers. We welcome these good people into our midst.

The Women's Missionary Society met at Shiloh Wednesday afternoon. The society expected to observe the week of prayer, but this was called off on account of sickness and bad weather.

Mr. Clarence Helms has recently built a new house about two miles from Bakers and has moved to it.

Janie Bixins, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Z. Secrest, is right sick at this writing.

Miss Mary Hamilton has la grippe. After being confined to his home for two weeks with measles Mr. L. C. Polk is able to be out again and is spending today in Charlotte.

The Monroe Insurance and Investment Company is laying down lumber to build two new houses on their land near here. We are glad to have this addition to our little village.

Our public roads are getting rough, especially for automobiles. The writer has had the displeasure of hearing the harsh roar of three machines that had stuck up in the mud, but by hard work succeeded in pulling out. However, we hope that the bad roads, measles and la grippe will soon be with us as the Indian Trail correspondent said the measles were with them, viz. a back number.—Busy Bee.

GRAND JURY FINDS BILL AGAINST MR. J. D. S. PLYLER

Three Men Will Face Same Charge at Next Term of Court—Grand Jury Recommends That Court House Walls be Repaired—Bedding at Stockade Insufficient.

J. D. S. Plyler, who has been buying cotton here several seasons, was indicted by the grand jury Wednesday afternoon, charged with complicity in the alleged cotton theft, for which a true bill had been previously returned against Horace Williams and Randolph McLarty. He had been summoned as a witness to appear against Horace Williams at this term of court, but failed to be present when the case was called. Judge Webb then ordered that ad testificam papers be issued against him, and that he be placed under a two hundred dollar bond to appear at the March term of court.

Sheriff Griffith had hardly served the capias ad testificam when the Grand Jury returned an indictment against Mr. Plyler, charging him with connection with the offense for which he had been summoned as a witness. He was placed under a \$500 bond.

In its report, the Grand Jury made recommendation that the court house walls be repaired, that the closets be removed from the second story to the basement, and that the heating conditions at the County Home be improved. Their report follows:

"We examined in a body the county jail. We found everything in good condition and prisoners report that they are well cared for.

"We visited, by committee, the County Home, office of the Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Register of Deeds, and Superintendent of Public Instruction. We found all these places well cared for, and in good order with the following exceptions: The heating plant at the County Home is in bad shape, and we recommend that the County Commissioners at once make such changes as necessary to heat the building before any more cold weather. The means for heating the building is inadequate. We also recommend that a covering be built over the stairway to the basement in order to keep the water from running into the basement.

"The bedding at the stockade we find not to be in a sanitary condition, on account of the bad weather for the past two weeks, and there is not enough bedding for the Superintendent to make the necessary changes.

"We recommend that the walls of the court room and ceiling overhead be put in better condition. We recommend that the closets be taken from the second story of the court house and removed to the basement."

The following composed the Grand Jury: D. W. Austin, foreman; Walter F. Benton, W. C. Cuthbertson, A. F. Baucum, C. D. Benton, James F. Smith, S. P. McBride, C. T. Winchester, Lee Cook, J. R. Shute, J. S. Braswell, John T. Marsh, Martin Privett, I. L. Russell, R. L. Howie, J. S. Harkey, C. M. Rogers, and G. A. Long. T. M. Green was officer to the Grand Jury.

—Mrs. L. T. Marsh of Gilboa vicinity, sold eleven hundred and thirty-one pounds of butter last year for a total of something over three hundred dollars. Mrs. Marsh belongs to the parcel post butter shipping association that was organized by the Farmers' Union, and her butter goes "direct from farm to table" by parcel post.—Marshville Home.

—Over 100 English thoroughbred horses were unloaded at New York recently to be kept in this country for racing and breeding purposes. This is said to be the largest number sent to America from England since the war began.

—Don't be a prude about vice exposure. See "The Little Girl Next Door" at Pastime Theatre.

FULL TEXT OF THE GERMAN SUBMARINE NOTE

Washington, Feb. 1.—The official text of the German note addressed to Secretary Lansing and signed by Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, is as follows:

"Mr. Secretary of State:

"Your Excellency was good enough to transmit to the Imperial government a copy of the message which the President of the United States of America addressed to the senate on the twenty-second instant. The Imperial government has given it the earnest consideration which the President's statements deserve, inspired as they are by a deep sentiment of responsibility. It is highly gratifying to the Imperial government to ascertain that the main tendencies of this important statement corresponds largely to the desires and principles professed by Germany. These principles especially include self-governments and equality of rights for all nations. Germany would be sincerely glad if, in recognition of this principle countries like Ireland and India, which do not enjoy the benefits of political independence, should now obtain their freedom. The German people also repudiate all alliances which serve to force the countries into a competition for might and to involve them in a net of selfish intrigues. On the other hand, Germany will gladly co-operate in all efforts to prevent future wars.

"The freedom of the seas, being a preliminary condition of the free existence of nations and the peaceful intercourse between them as well as the open door for the commerce of all nations, has always formed part of the leading principles of Germany's program. All the more the Imperial government regrets that the attitude of her enemies who are so entirely opposed to peace makes it impossible for the world at present to bring about the realization of these lofty ideals. Germany and her allies were ready to enter now into a discussion of peace and had set down as a basis the guaranty of existence, honor and free development of their peoples. Their aims, as has been expressly stated in the note of December 12, 1916, were not directed towards the destruction or annihilation of their enemies and were according to their conviction perfectly compatible with the rights of the other nations. As to Belgium for which such warm and cordial sympathy is felt in the United States, the Chancellor had declared only a few weeks previously that its annexation had never formed part of Germany's intentions.

"The peace to be signed with Belgium was to provide for such conditions in that country, with which Germany desires to maintain friendly and neighborly relations, that Belgium should not be used again by Germany's enemies for the purpose of instigating continuous hostile intrigues. Such precautionary measures are all the more necessary, as Germany's enemies have repeatedly stated not only in speeches delivered by their leading men, but also in the statutes of the economical conference in Paris, that it is their intention not to treat Germany as an equal, even after peace has been restored but to continue their hostile attitude and especially to wage a systematical commercial war against her.

"The attempt of the four allied powers to bring about peace has failed owing to the lust of conquest of their enemies, who desired to dictate the conditions of peace. Under the pretense of following the principles of nationality our enemies have disclosed their real aims in this war, namely, to dismember and dishonor Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria. To the wish of reconciliation they oppose the will of destruction. They desire a fight to the bitter end.

"A new situation has thus been created which forces Germany to new decisions. Since two years and a half England is using her naval power for a criminal attempt to force Germany into submission by starvation. In brutal contempt of international law the group of powers led by England does not only curtail the legitimate trade of their opponents, but they also by ruthless pressure to compel neutral countries either altogether to forego every trade not agreeable to the entente powers or to limit it according to their arbitrary decrees. The American government knows the steps which have been taken to cause England and her allies to return to the rules of international law and to respect the freedom of the seas. The English government, however, insists upon continuing its war of starvation, which does not at all affect the military powers of its opponents, but compels women and children, the sick and the aged to suffer for their country, pains and privations which endanger the vitality of the nation. Thus British tyranny mercilessly increases the suffering of the world in different to the laws of humanity, in different to the protests of the neutrals whom they severely harm, in different even to the silent longing for peace among England's own allies. Each day of the terrible struggle causes new destruction, new sufferings. Each day shortening the war, will, on both sides, preserve the life of thousands of brave soldiers and be a benefit to mankind.

"The Imperial government could not justify before its own conscience, before the German people and before history the neglect of any means destined to bring about the end of the war. Like the President of the United States, the Imperial government

EVERYTHING RESTS WITH PRESIDENT WILSON

Washington, Feb. 1.—Whatever course of action President Wilson has chosen to meet Germany's declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare is known only to three or four members of his official family. Neither the Cabinet as a whole nor the Foreign Affairs Committee of Congress has been taken into his confidence.

One high official close to the President declared tonight that no communication had been sent to Berlin or to Count von Bernstorff, who outwardly was expecting a severance of diplomatic relations.

There was every indication in official quarters that a note had been determined upon, but the indications as to whether it actually had been dispatched were about evenly divided, with a few high officials as authority that it had not, and some others who gave intimations of a belief that it had.

From under the curtain of official silence, drawn closely over every move today came various indications taken everywhere as index fingers pointing toward the probable course of the United States. It was undisputed that the United States would not permit Germany's announcement to stand without challenge.

But whether President Wilson's answer will be a solemn warning of a break in diplomatic relations if Germany's campaign of ruthlessness is carried into execution, or actually a severance of relations without further waiting remained undisclosed.

White House officials and Secretary Lansing followed the same course adopted on previous occasions when a communication had been dispatched to Berlin, and they were awaiting its receipt in the German Capital before making any announcement in this country.

Secretary Lansing began by denying himself to all callers. Notwithstanding it was the regular day for receiving representatives of foreign governments at the State Department, he declined to receive such persons as the British and Japanese Ambassadors and they were turned over to subordinate officials.

It became known then that Mr. Lansing was engaged at work "on something for the President."

Shortly before noon, the Secretary went to the White House, taking with him some documents, and he and the President conferred for more than an hour.

When he left the President, Mr. Lansing refused absolutely to discuss the situation or answer any inquiries. Later in the day, when he met the newspaper correspondents, he said:

"Gentlemen, I have nothing to tell you; neither will I answer any questions."

He modified his latter statement only to say he had no communication throughout the day with the German Ambassador, adding that there was no prospect of any announcement during the night.

The commissioners of Carthage ordered a \$6,500 fire truck and thereupon there was much kicking. The commissioners reconsidered and cancelled the order; the fire chief resigned and the company disbanded. The sellers of the truck disregarded the order to cancel and sent the truck to Carthage. However, it was refused and was shipped back.

According to a representative of Bradstreet there were 253 failures reported to the company from the State in 1916, the total assets being \$1,269,676 and liabilities \$2,245,862. Of the failures 117 were attributed to incompetence; 29 to inexperience; 53 to undertaking too much business for capital employed and 17 to unfavorable circumstances.

The Citizen says that P. F. Roberts of Buncombe county was shot and killed recently while resisting arrest in Centralia, Wash. Roberts was wanted in Asheville for disposing of mortgaged property and embezzlement. It is also reported that he toady with him a woman from Buncombe county, deserting his wife and children.

Not Romance but facts in the story of "The Little Girl Next Door", at Pastime Theatre next Thursday.

Geo. G. Mc. Connaughey, aged 79 years, died recently at the Rowan county home. He was a bachelor and when a youth his family was one of wealth and influence.

Are you a real fan? If so, see "The Little Girl Next Door", at Pastime Theatre next Thursday.

has hoped to reach this goal by negotiations. After the attempts to come to an understanding with the Entente powers have been answered by the latter with the announcement of an intensified continuation of the war, the Imperial government—in order to serve the welfare of mankind in a higher sense and not to wrong its own people—is now compelled to continue the fight for existence, again forced upon it, with the full employment of all the weapons which are at its disposal.

"Sincerely trusting that the people and government of the United States will understand the motives for this decision and its necessity, the Imperial government hopes that the United States may view the new situation from the lofty heights of impartiality and assist, on their part, to prevent further misery and unavoidable sacrifice of human life."

Mr. Carmel Items.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Mt. Carmel, Feb. 1.—Our school opened Monday, the 29th. It has been stopped several days on account of measles. There has been about forty-five cases around here, but all are improving.

Miss Faye Helms returned to her school at Hartsville, S. C. Monday.

Miss Mildred Broom, teacher of Snider school, returned Monday and Miss Edna Helms also returned to her school at Hebron Monday. They have been at home with measles.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey McManus and Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Parker visited the home of Mr. S. W. Helms Sunday.

Mr. Ernest Broom is at home from Trinity College for a few days on account of measles. He will return to school Monday.

Mr. Jesse Parker and Mr. Warren Helms are at home from Badin for a while.

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Richardson visited Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Helms Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Penegar spent Tuesday at Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Fincher's.

A thief went to Mr. S. F. Broom's cotton house some time ago and carried off a sheet full of cotton and has not brought it back yet.—Gray Fox.

SOCIAL

The Woman's Club held an interesting meeting Wednesday afternoon at the City Hall. Mrs. J. F. Laney opened the meeting by reading the New Year's message of the President of the General Federation, urging the club women to persevere in their good work and not to be discouraged. Two new names were added to the roll. The Secretary reported that a note had been sent to the members of the Jackson Club, thanking them for the use of their rooms for the past sixteen months. The Club will meet hereafter, in the Reading room at the City Hall. A letter from Mrs. E. F. Reid was read, urging the Club to join the State Federation. It was decided to do this and the application will be sent at once. In the February number of the Ladies' Home Journal, "Uncle Sam" advises the club women to make a study of conditions in their own community and offers to furnish programs and outlines for a social survey. A committee was appointed to make this survey and to collect dues, and another committee was appointed to confer with the city physician about the quarantine laws. Contagious diseases are in many homes where no signs are put up and people are allowed to visit the patients and then go out and spread the disease. Such a state of affairs should not be allowed to exist. A letter from Mrs. T. W. Lingle, State President, was read, stating her acceptance of the invitation to address a mass meeting here in the near future. Mesdames F. B. Ashcraft, J. F. Laney and D. B. Snyder were appointed to organize a Civic League among the colored people. It was decided to begin the anti-fly campaign early in the spring and try to rid the town of this nuisance. The co-operation of city officials, merchants and the entire citizenship will be solicited. Mrs. F. B. Ashcraft gave the Club a suggestion which she gathered from "Oklahoma Kate" in Raleigh a few days ago. It was that the Club organize a "Boys Labor Bureau", whereby boys could find employment and employment could find the boys. The details will be worked out and put into operation in a short time. Mrs. W. W. Horne reported \$14.50 spent on the Empty Stocking Fund and a box of clothing sent to a girl in school at Mars Hill. Mrs. D. B. Snyder gave an account of a needy family assisted by the Social Service department and a small amount in the treasury.

Mrs. G. H. Mears entertained the Study Club Wednesday morning. Mrs. Eugene Ashcraft being leader. Each member took part in the program, making the lesson quite interesting. The program was concluded with the singing of "Break Thou the Bread of Life," with Mrs. Rosece Phifer accompanist. Mrs. Phifer also assisted the hostess in serving refreshments in two courses. Mrs. T. J. Payne of Charlotte, a former member, was a welcome guest.

Miss Virginia Lee entertained at luncheon Tuesday, the following guests: Misses Lela Barnes of Maxton, Atlanta Gibson and Julia Tatum of McColl, S. C., Ruth Russell, Lillian Iccan and Mesdames J. F. Laney, Frank E. Wilson of Gaffney, S. C., Frank Sloan and R. L. Payne.

The Tuesday afternoon club was entertained this week by Mrs. N. M. Redfern. Rook was played at eight tables. Out-of-town guests were: Misses Lela Barnes of Maxton, Atlanta Gibson and Julia Tatum of McColl, Esther Parker and Velma Morrow of Albemarle, Sarah Quinerly of Ayden and Mesdames T. J. Payne and J. L. Heyle of Charlotte. Mrs. C. M. Redfern and Miss Velma Horn served a salad course and mints.

Misses Myrtle and Janie Sanders entertained at five tables of rook yesterday morning. After the game a salad course, coffee and candy were served. Those present were: Miss Louise Morrow, Mrs. E. S. Green, Mrs. J. C. Sikes, Mrs. V. D. Sikes, Mrs. A. F. Stevens, Mrs. C. M. Redfern, Mrs. Emsley Fletcher, Mrs. J.

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JURY FAILED TO AGREE IN MASSEY MURDER CASE

COUNT STOOD EIGHT - THREE

One Juror Got Sick on Waxhaw Murder Case, While Remaining Eleven Failed to Come to an Agreement After Being Out For Twenty-four Hours.

Clyde Massey, the Waxhaw darkey who shot Will Patterson on the night of January 1, will stand trial again at the March Criminal term of court, as the jury that heard his case this week failed to agree after being out nearly twenty-four hours. Eight of the jury stood for acquittal, while three stood for conviction. It is said, however, that the first count showed seven for acquittal and four for conviction, but one of the jury was finally won over to the negro's acquittal.

One juror, Jas. C. Broom, fainted in the jury box Wednesday morning, and was so ill that he was excused from further duty. By mutual agreement of both sides, Judge J. L. Webb consented to continue the trial with only eleven men in the box.

Waxhaw darkeys exhibited a great deal of interest in the case, as the court room was thronged with them all day Tuesday and Wednesday. The case was hotly contested by both the State and the defendant. Solicitor Brock was assisted in the prosecution by Attorneys J. J. Parker, William Craig and Vance McNeely. Messrs. Redwine and Sikes appeared for the defendant.

From the evidence submitted, it appeared that a negro woman was the cause of the affair. The shooting occurred on the Providence road, right in the heart of Waxhaw, near the residence of Col. J. L. Rodman. Massey was accompanying Roxie Simonds, a Sandy Ridge negro, from the school house, where the emancipation celebration was held, to the home where she was visiting. It seems that Patterson met the woman, Broxie Simonds, some time ago, and that they had been corresponding regularly. But when she came to Waxhaw, so it seems from the evidence, she jilted Patterson for Massey. Patterson became incensed over her treatment, and is said to have made the remark at the school house that he "was going to square things up that night and leave the next morning." It was also stated that Massey was aware of the threat made by Patterson.

Other witnesses testified that they saw Patterson walking from the school house, following Massey and Simonds, towards town, holding a gun in his hand. But before he approached Massey he had placed the gun back in his pocket, it was said.

When Massey and the girl reached the spot where the shooting occurred, Patterson approached the girl and said, so witnesses claim, "Unless you do what you said you would, don't write me any more of those white lies." The girl replied, so it is alleged: "Well, you stop sending your junk up there." One word brought another, then the shooting took place. There were several witnesses, but nearly all tell different stories.

Massey escaped after the shooting, but gave himself up later to Constable B. J. Winchester. Mr. H. T. Clark, for whom Massey worked prior to the shooting, gave the negro an excellent character, stating that he was one of the best darkeys in the Waxhaw community.

The following