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## BEARSKIN MILL TO START NOT LATER THAN APRIL FIRST

**Machinery All on the Floor and is Being Rapidly Assembled—A Modern Mill Village With All Conveniences For Its One Hundred and Fifty Employees.**

The Bearskin cotton mill, in the northeast part of town, will begin operation not later than April first, Mr. E. C. Carpenter announced Wednesday. The machinery is already on the floor and is rapidly being assembled by a force of 15 experts and helpers. It is only a matter of a short time until the five thousand spindles of the mill will be singing a song of industry, watched over by 150 employees.

The mill is located in the three-story building, with basement, which formerly housed the Piedmont Buggy Company. It has been remodeled and re-inforced throughout and is now of standard mill construction. In the basement is the dust room and machine shop. On the first floor is located the picking and card room. On the second floor is found the spinning room.

The mill will manufacture No. 30's hosiery yarn. The Johnston Manufacturing Company of New York and Philadelphia will act as selling agents for the company.

In securing the building in which the mill is located the management had an eye to the future. They planned to begin operation with 5000 spindles and later to increase the number to 10,000. There is ample floor space in the building to accommodate this number of spindles, and as soon as conditions warrant they will be installed. Ample fire protection is secured by the 50,000 gallon capacity tank which towers above the building.

A few hundred yards north of the building the company has laid out a modern mill village and is erecting bungalows for its employees. Thirty such houses will be erected. Sixteen have already been completed and the remaining fourteen will be finished by the time the mill is ready to begin operations. The houses are supplied with every modern convenience, water, electric lights and sewerage. The streets of the village will also be lighted with electricity furnished by the mill.

The houses are commodious and sufficient ground is allowed with each home to permit a good sized garden. In order that the village may be kept sanitary in every respect the mill management plans to erect a "community cow shed" in this shed will be provided an individual stall and feed box, where every employee of the mill, who so desires, will be permitted to keep a cow. The mill will place a fine meadow which it owns at the disposal of its employees for pasturage. In thus manifesting an interest in its employees the mill will secure the best class of help.

A road has been cut through the property of the mill company, and joins the Concord road near the Benton Heights school. Children of the mill employees will use this school. The road had long been needed and a number are beginning to avail themselves of it. The chain gang was several weeks in putting it in correct order.

When the capacity of the mill is doubled it is planned to double the size of the mill village. There would then be sixty houses used by the three hundred employees of the mill and their families.

In the rear of the mill building a warehouse 50 x 110 feet is in course of construction. The warehouse was so planned that when completed the platform leading to it will approach within three feet of the company's railroad track. Thus cotton can be loaded direct from the cars on the track to the platform, avoiding unnecessary hauling. The warehouse will be completed in a few weeks.

Electricity for the operation of the mill and for the lighting of the mill village is secured direct from the Southern Power Company. An individual line to convey the current has been erected from the power company's sub-station at the Icemorlee mill to the Bearskin. For more than a month Mr. M. C. Howie and his helpers have been engaged in the work of wiring the mill and village for electricity. Much of the work has already been finished.

Water is furnished the homes of the mill village from the company's well to the north of the mill building.

Mr. E. L. Lashley of Spray has been elected superintendent of the mill and has moved his family to Monroe. Mr. and Mrs. Lashley are residing on Church street for the present. Mr. Lashley is an experienced cotton mill man. The Bearskin mill was incorporated last summer and the stock disposed of to local business men. The officers of the mill are as follows: Mr. M. K. Lee, president; Mr. J. C. Sikes, vice-president; and Mr. E. C. Carpenter, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Carpenter for some time past has been devoting his entire time to directing the work, securing machinery, and erecting the houses in the village, and looking after the interest of the company generally. At one time it appeared as though the securing of the machinery for the mill was going to be delayed because of war conditions. The good work of Mr. Carpenter, however, prevented this and the machinery reached Monroe on record time.

Mrs. C. E. Bowen has returned from a visit to Norfolk, Va.

## Has the Day Come?

A day will come when the only battlefield will be the market open to commerce and the mind opening to new ideas. A day will come when bullets and bombshells will be replaced by votes, by the universal suffrage of nations, by the venerable arbitration of a great sovereign senate, which will be to Europe what parliament is to England, what the diet is to Germany, what the legislative assembly is to France.

A day will come when a cannon will be exhibited in public museums, just as an instrument of torture is now, and people will be astonished how such a thing could have been.

A day will come when these two immense groups, the United States of America and the United States of Europe, shall be seen placed in the presence of each other extending the hand of fellowship across the ocean. —Victor Hugo, 1852.

## BILL TO MAKE POSSIBLE ERECTION HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

After it Has Been Presented to People at Mass Meeting Will Be Introduced in Legislature—Would Take School Management Out of City's Hands.

A bill, which would make possible the erection of a modern high school building for Monroe is now being drafted by Mayor J. C. Sikes. When the bill is completed a mass meeting of the citizens will be held and the bill as drawn will be presented to them. Hon. R. B. Redwine will be invited to attend the meeting. If after the bill has been presented for the consideration of the citizens and meets with their approbation, it will be turned over to Mr. Redwine for introduction to the House.

As explained to a Journal reporter, the bill will provide that a school district be created from the city of Monroe and territory within one-half or a mile of the corporate limits of the city. This would of necessity take the management of the city's public schools out of the hands of a board of trustees appointed by the city authorities and place them under the direction of a specially created board. This would make possible the issuing of bonds for the erection of a building. Bonds, for any purpose, cannot now be issued by the city.

It is understood that children would continue to attend the school most convenient to them in the district created until they had completed the seventh grade. They would then enter the high school erected by the issuing of bonds.

At present children whose parents reside outside the corporate limits of the city must pay tuition to attend either the Graded or High School. With the creation of a school district as proposed by Mayor Sikes the payment of tuition by children whose parents reside in the district created would be eliminated. Thus the High school would serve a much larger area, and an increased attendance should be expected.

Mayor Sikes states that as he understands it the creation of a district from the town of Monroe and the surrounding country within one-half or a mile can be allowed. He has written a firm of New York attorneys, who make a specialty of knowing what is allowable and what is not under the law, for their opinion on the subject.

The need for a new high school has engaged the attention of the citizens for some time past. Meetings were held to discuss means by which money could be raised to erect a new building, but no solution of the problem presented itself. Mayor Sikes seems to have hit upon a plan which will make possible the securing of the necessary money.

At one time Rev. John A. Wray one Sunday afternoon called the attention of a large audience gathered in the Chautauqua tent to the dire necessity of a new high school building. He invited the citizens to make an inspection of the building after leaving the tent, which was located upon the high school grounds. Quite a number did this and were surprised at what they found. At another time a meeting of the school faculty, principal business men, and women of the city was held in the so called chapel of the building. While the meeting was in progress it began to rain and those attending enjoyed the diversion of seeking seats over which the roof did not leak.

Mayor Sikes states that he would desire that sufficient bonds, if the bill is allowed, be voted to build a high school modern in every respect, a building which would be sufficient to accommodate the increased attendance at the school in later years. "Build for the ages," he expresses it.

Education is the foundation of civilization. Schools are the manufactory in which future citizens are made. A city whose schools are famed for the high class of students it turns out cannot be hid but will be known through the length and breadth of the land. But you would not send workmen to erect a house without providing them with building material.

When Mr. Sikes was elected Mayor he declared that he had no platform but stood for good roads, good schools and a hospital. Since he became Mayor eight miles of paved streets have been laid, and he states that some more paving will be done. Money has been pledged for a hospital. With the erection of a modern high school building the things for which he stood will have been accomplished.

## UNION COUNTY WOULD GET A HALF MILLION DOLLARS

For Good Roads Under Bill Introduced in Legislature—Bill Will Be Considered This Week or Next.

A bill has been introduced in the Legislature by Senators Scales and Stevens providing for increased tax upon automobiles and trucks to create a fund to meet the proposed Federal aid in the construction of highways, which if passed will make available more than half a million dollars for work on Union county roads within the next ten years.

The following relative to the bill has been received here:

The bill for the construction of State highways and for establishing a fund to meet the Federal Aid allotment proposed under the Bankhead bill has been worked out by Senator Scales of Guilford county and Senator Stevens of Buncombe. It is expected that the Federal Aid allotment of North Carolina will be \$2,280,000 a year for ten years, which is to be met on the dollar for dollar basis by the State, and to be spent on State highways connecting county seat with county seat and with other principal towns. Under this arrangement your county would receive \$293,000 of Federal funds and \$293,000 of State funds during a ten-year period, to be spent on hard surfaced roads connecting your county seat with the county seats of adjoining counties, making a total of \$586,000 during the ten-year period, to be spent by the State and Federal governments on inter-county roads or State highways.

The Scales-Stevens Bill calls for an increased license fee on automobiles, trucks, etc., this fund to be supplemented by an appropriation from the State Treasury (if there are any surplus funds available) or a bond issue as needed to meet the Federal Aid allotment. As the motor-driven vehicles are the ones which will use the State highways mainly, this tax is undoubtedly an acceptable provision to the automobilist and owner of trucks. In fact, the automobile industry is dependent on through roads for its prosperity. By having a concrete or other hard surfaced system of roads, the automobilist would more than save his tax in the expense of one tire, and such roads would undoubtedly save him the equivalent of many tires, much gasoline and repairs during the year.

This bill will be considered by the Legislature either this week or next. Its passage means everything to the future of North Carolina, as well as to those who own automobiles, motor trucks, and other vehicles of like nature.

This bill is of even more value to the rural counties and smaller counties than it is to the larger and richer counties which are able to build their own roads. I consider it a very vital matter to your county to be able to secure the State and Federal fund. None of the Federal Fund will be collected from your county and you will undoubtedly get more from the State Fund than your county would be responsible for paying.

## A Rainy Day Pastime.

Written for The Journal. If Adam had created six thousand years ago, and had worked three hundred and thirteen days each year, and had earned five dollars above expenses each day and had dropped the five dollars in a strong box for a rainy day emergency, he would now be worth nine million, three hundred and ninety thousand dollars.

If on the other hand he had worked only the first day after his creation and had earned one dollar and had deposited it in the First National Bank of the city of Paradise at two per cent interest, compounding once each fifty years (whence it would double at simple interest) he would at the end of two thousand years have been worth one trillion, five hundred and nineteen billion, eight hundred and one million, four hundred thousand, five hundred and seventy-six dollars. (\$1,519,801,400,576.00.)

My paper has given out and there are four thousand years, or eighty doubling periods to figure yet. Can you tell me what he would be worth now?

Is this an argument in favor of interest or against it? Novus Homo.

## UNITED STATES TREASURY OFFERS LONG TERM SECURITIES

War Savings Stamps to be Made Permanent and Issued in Larger Denominations.

The Treasury Department at Washington is to issue long term securities into which War Savings Certificates may be converted, according to a recent announcement made by Louis B. Franklin of the Treasury Department, Director of the War Loan Organization. This decision of the Treasury Department is the result of a conference held recently of District War Savings Directors, who recommended this course.

Other recommendations submitted by the conference are that the War Savings system be continued in 1920 and succeeding years, and that certificates of \$100 and \$1000 denominations be issued for purchasers of large amounts.

The Department is now at work on the recommendations made by the War Savings Conference. The first will be to issue long term securities which will run more than the five year term of the present War Savings Certificates, but whether they are to bear more than 4% compounded interest has not yet been determined.

## SOCIETY OF NATIONS IS A RATHER KNOTTY PROBLEM

Smaller Nations Ask for Equal Rights With "Big Five"—Very Likely This Will Not be Settled Before President Wilson Returns.

Wednesday's Associated Press dispatch from Paris gives the following in regard to the forming of the League of Nations:

Although the great five allied and associated powers which are directing the peace conference have turned over much of the work to commissions, the society of nations question, especially with reference to the smaller nations, is becoming rather a knotty problem.

The smaller nations, it is declared, want full equality in a society of nations and also greater powers than the plans already outlined give to them. The great powers, on the other hand, are faced with a situation that if each state is given one member on a supreme court of nations they might find themselves in the minority although their interests might be much greater and probably would be.

It is not believed the great powers would consent to an arrangement of this sort and a situation similar to that at the second Hague peace conference appears to be in the making. The experts on the society of nations question are hopeful of finding a way to get the smaller states to agree to the plan so that it will not fail, as Elihu Root's scheme for a supreme court of nations failed of approval at the second conference at The Hague.

The directing force of the peace conference, which resides in what now are generally called the "Big Five" allied and associated powers, is finding great relief from the study of the details of complicated secondary questions through the commissions which have been created for these special problems. In this category falls the subject of the conflicting claims of the smaller nations of the entente to territory which is likely to be taken from enemy countries. This question takes a great deal of time to study.

It is the design of the supreme council, or "Big Five" that such questions as these be ultimately adjusted in harmony with the principles of the society of nations, it is explained, but pending the completion of the organization of that society it has been found expedient to arrange for a full hearing of all these claims.

Thus complex issues raised by the claims of Greece, not only to enemy territory, but to sections also claimed by other friendly States, after being stated by Premier Venizelos, were referred to a committee of experts for further examination, leaving the supreme council free to take up other questions. The report of this committee probably will not be acted upon until a society of nations is in being and the principle established on which all such claims will be decided.

It is expected the same course will be followed with the claims of Italy to territory beyond the Italian Irredenta proper, which are to be heard next by the supreme council.

This method of work gives the members of the society of nations committee a better opportunity to hasten their work. Indications are that this system will make it possible to get the society of nations plan out of committee and before the plenary conference within the ten days remaining of President Wilson's stay in France.

The smaller nations are beginning to show a disposition to revolt against any plan that does not recognize their full equality in a society of nations with greater powers. Thus, a situation similar to that at the second peace conference at the Hague at which the plans of Elihu Root, an American delegate for a supreme court of nations, was frustrated threatens to develop.

The greater powers, it is supposed, would not consent to the admission of the court of its member for each state regardless of its size and importance, fearing they might be found in the minority notwithstanding their greater interests in every great issue. It is hoped the experts, profiting from the experience at the Hague conference will find a way to secure the adhesion of the smaller nations to the plan which is being perfected rapidly.

## Youngest Member of Bickett Battery at Home.

(Wadesboro Ansonian.) Private Horace Courtney spent a few days in Wadesboro last week, returning from France. He went from here to Florence to visit his parents. Horace was the youngest member of the famous Bickett Battery and did his first drilling on the familiar streets of Wadesboro. He looks the part of a soldier now, every inch of his tall, stalwart body. He liked the life but is not anxious to go back unless a great need develops. When he joined the Battery, Horace was not quite seventeen years of age and was the butt of not a few jokes, for he was then a big, awkward, overgrown boy. Today he stands erect, talks intelligently but not boastful of what he has seen and been through. He saw and was in the heavy fighting in the Argonne Forest and St. Mihiel. Went through rain and wet for days and days for the sake of Old Glory and came out without a wound but three days after the armistice he was accidentally shot in the foot. This wound causes him no inconvenience now.

Mr. W. J. Holloway is spending a few days in Buford and Lawrenceville, Ga.

## Wearing Ring Taken From a Dead German.

To see a big German making for you with fixed bayonet and get him before he got you and then take a ring from off his finger, was the experience of Mr. Kernie Williams, son of the late Mr. G. W. Williams of Goose Creek township, in the battle of Chateau-Thierry. Mr. Williams is spending a thirty-day furlough with relatives in the county. A few hours after the above related experience occurred a machine gun bullet struck him in the right shoulder, passing through the shoulder and severing a main artery, as he advanced with his company. Mr. Williams states that the force of the bullet did not knock him down but turned him partly around. As he turned another bullet struck his helmet, knocking it off.

Removing his pack and taking off his blouse he saw that the wound was bleeding profusely. So placing his finger in the hole torn by the bullet he made his way back to the dressing station, five miles to the rear.

Mr. Williams was sent to a hospital for treatment and in the course of a few weeks was started on his way to the states, landing September 18. He was sent to a hospital at Fort McPherson, Ga. The wound in the shoulder affected the right arm and he has as yet not recovered the use of it. Upon the expiration of his furlough he will return to the hospital at Ft. McPherson. Mr. Williams also took part in the battles of the Marne and Cantigny.

## WORLD'S GREATEST TAX BILL SUBMITTED TO LOWER HOUSE

Six Billion Dollar Revenue Bill Presented to House Thursday and Will be Called up Saturday—Was Six Months in Making.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The six billion dollar revenue bill, the greatest tax measure in the history of the world, was formally presented today in the house and will be called up Saturday. It had been six months in the making, had been passed once by the house and had been revised twice to meet the transitions from war to peace and from a "wet" to a "dry" nation.

Representative Kitchin, the democratic leader, expects the house to approve the measure—agreed to by senate and house conferees—before adjournment Saturday night and Senator Simmons, chairman of the senate finance committee, will present it in the senate as soon as the house has acted. Approval of the bill by both houses in the form in which it was reported by the conferees is confidently expected by party leaders. The completed measure will not be sent to France unless the President's departure for home is delayed well beyond the date now set for his sailing. The President is expected to sign the bill soon after his arrival here.

About one-third of this year's estimated federal expenses are provided in the bill which, uniformly following the original house plan and the peace time modifications of the senate provides that the bulk of revenues shall be secured from incomes, corporate and individual, and war-excess profits. Large revenues also are expected from intoxicating beverages until July 1, when prohibition legislation becomes effective.

Estimates of the exact revenue return in prospect vary. Unofficial statements published today placed the yield at about \$5,086,000,000 this year and \$4,150,000,000 in 1920.

The work of remodeling the Fitzgerald building, corner of Main and Jefferson streets, will begin in a few days. Dr. H. Smith has already moved his office from the second floor of the building to a room in the Belk-Bundy building. Mr. T. W. Long has moved his studio to an office over the Sharp Hardware. In a few days Dr. W. B. Houston will move his office to rooms in this building.

## WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES PAYABLE ONLY FIRST OWNERS

Postmasters Directed Not to Pay War Savings Stamps Except to Original Owners—War Stamps Not Transferable.

That war savings certificates are payable only to the first owners and that stamps are not to be offered or accepted in trade, is a recent notice given by Secretary Glass of the Treasury Department.

In pursuance of this notice, postmasters have been directed by the Post Office Department not to cash war savings certificates on which the names of the owners have not been entered or have been erased or changed except in death or disability. Postmasters have been further instructed not to pay war savings certificates presented by persons or firms known to be buying or publicly offering to buy war savings stamps from the owners, unless positive evidence is submitted that the certificates were originally issued to the person or firms presenting them for payment. This is in keeping with the law that makes war savings stamps non-transferable.

The Treasury Department calls the attention of the public to the law that provides for the redemption of war savings certificates on giving a ten days' written notice at the post office. This provides against any loss that may be met in trading war savings stamps and, furthermore, avoids a violation of the law.

## FAILURE OF GERMAN DRIVE IS ACCOURSED FOR

Figures Show That American Intervention Did Trick—Rifle Strength of Hun Took Sudden Drop Following Their Last Great Drive.

The story of Germany's supreme effort for military victory in the spring of 1918, of American intervention on the western front and of the ultimate crushing defeat of the enemy and the apparent annihilation of nearly half of his fighting force was graphically told in figures made public Thursday by the war department. They deal with the "rifle strength" of the allies and the German forces on the western front in monthly periods from April 1 to November 1, and were prepared by the intelligence division of the general staff of the American army in France.

By rifle strength was meant the "number of men standing in the trench ready to go over with bayonet." When Germany struck its great blow last spring, it had a million and a half men so classified against the allied total of million and a quarter. By June 1, the Germans reached their peak with 1,639,000 rifles, but despite the terrific pressure they were exerting against the allied lines, American aid was overcoming the handicap and made possible the counter blow delivered in July.

The allied strength on June 1, was 1,496,000. Shortly afterwards the allies reached a total of 1,547,000 composed of 778,000 French, 515,000 British and 254,000 Americans. America's contribution had risen from 65,000 in April. On July 1, Germany's power had begun to wane and for the first time it was definitely inferior in rifle strength with 1,412,000 compared to 1,556,000 for the allies.

Up to September 1, the allied strength continued to gain despite the desperate counter-attack which was being driven forward all along the line. In mid-October the American strength had risen to an estimated force of 350,000. On September 1 the allied line was at its greatest strength with 1,682,000, against Germany's 1,339,000.

While the allies had shrunk in rifles to 1,485,000, on November 1, Germany's last hope was gone as she faced that army with only 865,000 bayonets.

The sudden decline of the German forces, beginning in June and again apparent in the swift drop during October, was accounted for by the fact that she had drawn into the lines during the spring every available reserve, expecting to smash her way to victory before winter came. These reserves were used up in the German attack and the allied assaults which followed, while the American force continued to increase.

In a rough way the American rifle strength was represented about 20 per cent of the total American force in France continuously. This accounts for the fact that with a total of more than two million men in France on November 11, the rifle strength in October was estimated at around 250,000 men. A similar situation was shown in staff reports as to the total allied strength, reckoned as "rifle strength," which was continuously greater than that of the German army throughout the spring and summer last year.

## AMERICANS INFLECT HEAVY LOSSES ON BOLSHIEVIKI

Enemy Driven Back From Vistavka in Great Disorder—Chinese and Manchou Troops Preparing to Reinforce Bolsheviki.

Heavy losses were inflicted on the bolsheviki by the American forces Tuesday, and the enemy was driven back in disorder from the village of Vistavka, on the Vaga. The American casualties were five killed and several wounded. Many bolsheviki soldiers were taken prisoner by the Americans.

The enemy early in the morning began a bombardment with field guns and howitzers, and under cover of a shrapnel and pom-pom barrage essayed a frontal attack with infantry in the Arctic twilight at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The American troops, who were rested from their retirement from Shenkursk and were now established in a good condition, poured a heavy fire from artillery and machine guns into the charging bolsheviki, whose ranks broke and fled into the woods.

Captured bolsheviki declared the enemy had planned a flank attack simultaneously with the frontal movement, but this was abandoned when the Vistavka attempt failed.

Chinese and Manchou Troops are now included in the bolsheviki forces opposing the Americans on the Vaga. So far these have been held in reserve, but the Americans are preparing a warm reception for the yellow soldiers if they appear in the fighting line, in view of the stories reaching them of the Manchou treatment of prisoners in the Baltic provinces.

Yesterday's defeat of the enemy on the Vaga, together with his failure on the Dvina, typifies the spirit of the American and other allied troops, who are fighting with the utmost determination to hold their positions until reinforcements can reach them. These defeats have considerably lowered the enemy morale, but the bolsheviki are being constantly reinforced, and while their offensive has been temporarily checked, there are indications that it will be renewed when fresh bolsheviki forces reach the line.