

ROCKINGHAM POST-DISPATCH

Published every Thursday afternoon at Rockingham, Richmond County, N. C.

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Office on Courthouse Square

Entered as second-class mail matter at the postoffice at Rockingham, N. C.

DEMOCRATIC IN POLITICS

Correspondence from every section of the county invited. Phone 182 your items.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One year.....\$2.00
Six months.....\$1.25
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JOB WORK A SPECIALTY

1921 - FEBRUARY - 1921

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The folly of planting even a normal acreage of cotton this spring is apparent to the duller mind. The world's available supply of cotton the past year was 25,624,000 bales; the world's total consumption was 13,457,250 bales, this giving a carry-over of over twelve million bales. Granting that the South reduced its crop 25 per cent, at least ten million bales would be raised; this added to the twelve million carry-over would give the world practically as much cotton as it had the past year. However, to offset this, the consumption due to reviving business would naturally be larger, but not nearly sufficient to take care of the huge surplus of cotton. The law of supply and demand will rule.

These are facts that our Richmond county farmers must face. Are they going to buck the inevitable and put in a large acreage regardless. Or are they going to plant a smaller acreage in cotton, prepare it better, and go in stronger for bread, meat and a real garden?

Propaganda is being scattered throughout the country in aid of German resistance to payment of the indemnity levied against her on account of the war she started and lost. But even if she pays every cent of the indemnity asked, she will be getting off tremendously light.

The circumstances of this present German indemnity should carry the minds of the people back to the days of 1870-71. As a result of that war, Germany levied against France what it considered a ruinous indemnity. But France, in contrast to the present whining attitude of the Germans made no protest. Instead the French went to work and in three years had paid every cent of the debt. The following from the New York Tribune recalls those days:

"In 1871 Germany exacted from France a war indemnity of \$1,000,000,000. Not until the total sum was paid did the invaders retire. The Germans assumed that the right to compel payment was undiscoverable.

"How," asks the Tribune does the bill of \$1,000,000,000 which Germany presented to France compare with the tentative \$21,000,000,000 bill which the Allies have submitted to Germany. And it proceeds—

"A great change has occurred in the purchasing power of the gold

mark in the 50 years. Gold has depreciated more than one-half. So on the basis of 1871 gold values the bill is not more than \$10,000,000,000.

"Second, the present population of Germany is about double that of France in 1871. Measured per capita, then, what is now asked of Germany must be halved again to make a true comparison. The reparation bill, when judged relatively, thus falls to \$5,000,000,000.

"Third, individual wealth per capita in Germany is something like four times what it was in France in 1871. Allowing that half of this is due to gold depreciation, the other half may be ascribed to a positive increase in wealth accumulation, and another cutting in two is needed to arrive at a true comparison. This brings the reparation total down to \$2,500,000,000.

"Finally, the German bill in 1871 was not to repair damage (Germany was not invaded or a German brick disturbed), but solely for war expenditures. On the contrary, France is to get nothing for her war expenditures—only about one-half enough to repair her ravaged territories. She is the poorer in actual property by many billions though Germany pay her bill in full, and longer than 42 years her thrifty taxpayers will be burdened to meet the cost of expelling the Germans.

"It is high time to recognize exactly what the new German propaganda implies. It means not only that Germany is to pay relatively little more than did France in 1871, but that an intact Germany, having wantonly begun a war, is to emerge from the conflict in a condition to distance France in economic competition."

Hard Surface Roads.

A bill is now being considered by the Legislature for a \$50,000,000 bond issue for building something like 5,500 miles of hard surfaced roads throughout the State, connecting the county seats and principal points.

Of especial interest to our people locally is the fact that the highway would not stop at the town limits, but go on through the town just as if were a part of the county roads. Section 15 of the proposed bill provides "that when any portion of the State Highway System shall run through any town of more than 3000 and less than 5000 inhabitants, according to the last U. S. census, the cost of construction of said road through the same shall be borne, one-half by the State Highway Commission and one-half by the town. In all cities over 5000 population the entire cost of construction shall be borne by said city or town."

Inasmuch as the population of the town of Rockingham is less than 3000 (being 2509 to be exact) the passage of this bill would permit the hard surface road to be constructed through the town at no additional cost to the town (other than its proportionate part of the taxes.) With Hamlet the case is different; the last census gives that town a population of 3659, and so that town is in the class that would have to pay one-half of the road cost.

However a strong effort is being made by Representative Everett and Senator Nash to have the town population limit increased to something beyond 3500 so as to enable the town of Hamlet to come under the "free" clause.

The average tax-payer need not be frightened by this bill. The cost of the huge project should fall upon those best able to bear it. No ad valorem tax will be levied. The interest on the bonds will be paid with the automobile tax, and this tax will be supplemented by income, excess profits, and franchise taxes. The inheritance tax will also be increased.

The town of Sanford is to have a whole-time Mayor. That official is to be paid a living salary and will look entirely after the business of the town.

Bear In Wolf Pit.

Is there a real sure-enough bear in Wolf Pit? The colored folks around Ed. Harrington's home say there is. Ed. says he saw the bear in his yard Wednesday night and tried to shoot the Bruin but his gun snapped. Ed. stoutly affirms that it was not a dog or heifer. And as proof of his contention, he has one of the animal's tracks covered with a bucket.

Roads A Mire.

The roads of the county are a veritable quagmire, due to the three-inch rainfall of this week, and the snow and sleet of two weeks ago. But with a bit of sunshine and industrious use of the drag the sand-clay roads should again get into condition.

Traveling over the present roads makes one long for the realization of the proposed \$50,000,000 State bond issue for hard-surface roads.

Health Pictures.

A moving picture outfit, sent out by the State Board of Health, spent last week in this county showing health pictures to the colored people. A total of 2,289 colored persons attended the shows; the outfit was in charge of Dr. E. T. Ransom, who lectured on health subjects during the course of the pictures. The admission was free of course.

The outfit is this week in Anson county, but it is intended to bring them back to show in other parts of the county later in the spring.

Near East Relief.

A campaign will be waged throughout the State beginning Feb. 14th for the relief of the starving Armenian and Syrian children. George H. Bellamy is State Chairman. North Carolina has been asked to take care of 3,334 orphans now at Trebizond, and some relief is necessary to keep them alive. Richmond county has been asked to take care of 33 of these children. Chairman Bellamy is desirous of some one in the county volunteering as chairman for the Drive. Write him at Raleigh.

If you would be happy, just forget the things that make you unhappy. Simple, isn't it.

We note the absence of one unfailing sign of the approach of spring—that dreamy youth with a poem for publication.

The hotel at Sanford that was burned last year, is now being rebuilt by the owner, Dan C. Lawrence, and will be run by Gus Womble. It will be brick-veneered, three stories, have 58 rooms and 18 private baths.

A Chicago paper avers that "given a pickle and a few moments of undisturbed time, a woman can solve any problem on earth." Give 'em a barrel, brother, give 'em a barrel, and elect 'em all to congress. Just now the country is sorely in need of an army of solvers.

A farmer near Sanford last week lost \$300 from his pocket. The money was in bills. He discovered the loss just after he had finished feeding his cow, and he jumped to the conclusion that the animal had swallowed it. He hastily had the cow butchered and the stomach opened, but the money was not found. At any rate, his family lived on beef for a spell.

Charged With Cutting Lad.

Curt Barber will be given a hearing before Squire Steele Friday morning on the charge of cutting Lester, the young son of Vann McDonald, Tuesday. In default of \$200 bond, he went to jail Wednesday to await trial.

Do not fail to see new prices now being shown by W. E. Harrison & Land Co.

GIBSON'S S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS are still winning



My entire flock of breeding birds are unusually fine this season. I have been breeding S. C. White Leghorns for the past 8 years, but never before had such a grand lot of fine birds, to select my breeding stock from as I have this season.

They are bred to win and to produce winners and they do it. They are bred to lay throughout the winter when eggs sell at highest prices and they do it.

My Birds Are Bred to Lay as Well as to Win.

My matings are all headed with blue ribbon winners at such shows as Raleigh, Charlotte and Rockingham.

Fifty per cent of the females in my No. 1 and No. 2 matings are prize winners. My No. 3 mating is also of high exhibition quality.

Stock and hatching eggs for sale. Get my mating list before you buy; it is free for the asking and will give the details and prices.

H. T. GIBSON, Rockingham, N. C.

Garage Prices Reduced.

The price that is charged customers for garage work at this shop is reduced from \$1.25 per hour to \$1.00 per hour. We have five first-class mechanics and give our customers prompt service. We appreciate your patronage and shall do our best to merit all work entrusted to us. Pee Dee Motor Sales Company, M. L. Tucker, proprietor.

Did you know Oliver and Dixie plows had declined?—Everett Hdw. Co.

Reorganization prices on the level at W. E. Harrison & Land Co.

Be sure to watch for annual statement of Atlantic Life Insurance Company, to be published in next Sunday's issue of the Charlotte Observer—truly a remarkable record. "Honestly it's the Best Policy." Advt.

House Wanted.

I must have a house in or near town somewhere soon. If you know of one I can get please let me know. Prefer about six room but five will do.—Burkett Purnell, box 335.

Apples.

I have only a few more of those mountain apples. Get yours before they are gone. I have some damaged, good for hogs, for 50c per barrel. Burkett Purnell.

Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of The Richmond County Savings Bank will be held in their Banking room on WEDNESDAY, March 9th, at ELEVEN o'clock.

W. L. Scales, Cashier.

This, February 9th, 1921.



The money you are careless with to day will look mighty good in Our Bank when you are old and tired out

General pershing began to be a general when he was a small boy. He played soldier.

Then he became lieutenant, captain, and general, by always WORKING to that end.

If you want to be a captain of INDUSTRY, you must be industrious and BANK REGULARLY a part of your earnings and not be tempted to make foolish investments. We invite YOUR Banking Business.

Bank of Pee Dee

Rockingham, N. C.

RICHMOND GARAGE

CHANGES HANDS

Warburton and Poplin Again on the Job

Effective next Monday, Feb. 14th, the Richmond Garage will change hands. The undersigned have bought Mr. J. F. Hicks' interest in same and will conduct it themselves.

Our price for work is \$1.00 per hour. We shall give careful attention to all work entrusted to us, and ask that the public give us their consideration.

Very truly,

Richmond Garage

Phone 15

Monroe Warburton

W. A. Poplin