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SPINNERS THEMSELVES WANT HIGH PRICES NOW

Harvie Jordan's Enthusiastic Reception by Wake Cotton Growers

METROPOLITAN HALL WAS PACKED AT NOON

President A. C. Green of the Wake Division Presided and Mayor Johnson Introduced the Speaker of the Day—Mr. Jordan Spoke for Warehouse System as Solution of Problem of Marketing—Spinners Will Lose Money if Prices Go Down Now—Farmers Urged Not to Weaken.

The cotton spinners themselves, Harvie Jordan told the Wake county growers at noon today, actually want high prices now. It seemed a strange statement, he admitted, but it was true none the less, for many of them had told him so.

The reason of it he explained. They had sold the bulk of their coming product in the expectation of high prices, and all their contracts were based on the recent goods market. If prices should tumble any time soon, those contracts would be cancelled, and they would lose money.

He made a powerful exhortation to his hearers not to weaken from the position they had taken. When a man made all sorts of explanations to him, he said, why he had to sell below the limit agreed on, he just would ask him to let him make a little examination. He would run his hand up and down his back and at the end of the examination say:

"My friend, I see what is your trouble. I find there is no backbone there. There is just a piece of tenderloin steak where the backbone ought to be."

With all the rain, mud, wind and weather of this morning, the Metropolitan Hall was packed to hear President Harvie Jordan of the Southern Cotton Association at 11 o'clock today. He was the guest of the Wake county division of the state association of cotton growers.

Not only farmers, but many business and professional men were present, as well as a large delegation from the A. and M. College. A box was occupied by Mrs. P. P. Tucker of this city and party. Mrs. Tucker is an extensive cotton planter just west of the city.

On the platform were, besides Mr. Jordan and President C. C. Moore of the state association, Chairman H. C. Dockery of the state executive committee, Commissioner of Agriculture S. L. Patterson, President Geo. T. Winston of the A. and M. College, Mr. Ashley Horne of Clayton, executive president of the North Carolina Agricultural Society, Editor Clarence H. Poe of the Progressive Farmer, Col. R. H. Jones, County Organizer F. A. Whitaker, Dr. N. M. Blalock, T. J. Johns of Auburn, Dr. R. H. Speight of Edgecombe.

President A. C. Green of the Wake county division presided. Rev. Dr. W. C. Tyree of the First Baptist church offered prayer, and Mayor James I. Johnson of the city of Raleigh briefly and appropriately introduced Mr. Jordan.

The speaker of the day began by saying that when he got ready to start his campaign he made up his mind to begin in the state of North Carolina, because it was the extreme eastern state of the cotton belt, and because of the enthusiasm and success with which this state had carried on the work of bringing up the price of cotton.

The south, he said, had solved the problem of production of cotton, but of the marketing of it, they had not yet learned the first principles. We were ignorant of the details of the consumption of the staple and of its value upon the markets.

Take the cotton handkerchief. With cotton at ten cents a bale it takes twenty-five bales of raw cotton to pay for one bale of the manufactured goods. The bale you sell at \$50 becomes worth \$1.25 when converted into pocket handkerchiefs.

A similar illustration was drawn from the manufacture of spool thread. When the farmer takes his cotton to market it is expert knowledge against ignorance. The dealer samples, weighs, grades and does the whole thing. The producer says nothing ex-

cept, perhaps, to beg for one-fourth or one-sixteenth of a cent more. The cotton producer had reached a stage where he had hardly the confidence or respect of the world. And yet our cotton crop was what made us a creditor nation in the world instead of a debtor nation.

He took the whole responsibility of the prologation of the fifteen cent limit. The spinners by a combination at that time had taken advantage of the necessities of the cotton goods and forced the price down to 95c, when by the laws of supply and demand it could easily have been 11c. He then made up his mind that since the spinners had taken advantage of the farmers at the beginning of the season it was but right that the producers should at the tail end of the season, when they could get back every dollar that they had been done out of.

There could be no possibility of an American panic so long as the price of cotton is protected. The cotton crop ought to be moved through twelve months instead of four months. The way to accomplish that was to build the facilities for it, the warehouse, and let the warehouse receipts be negotiable as money. Then the price of cotton might be regulated by the laws of supply and demand.

If all the eggs of Wake county were to be crushed on the market within a few weeks or months of the year, the price would go tumbling down and the very hens of Wake county would get disgusted and go out of business. There are too many middle men getting rich between the farmer and consumer.

In this connection Mr. Jordan spoke of the fact that the reward of the work of a man's brain was success and money, and that our duty was to educate our boys to the farm and not away from it.

Mr. Jordan was heartily applauded all the way through his speech. Following him Dr. Geo. T. Winston made a talk emphasizing some of the points Mr. Jordan had brought out, notably the one on the education of the boys to the farm.

Then President C. C. Moore made some practical remarks on organization. Following the general mass meeting there was held in the same hall a meeting of the legislative body of the county division. This is composed of delegates, two each from the township clubs. County Organizer F. A. Whitaker presided and President Moore addressed the body.

Reports from the various townships showed that the dues and the ten cent levy were being paid and that meetings were being held. The reports being pressed home now are reduction in acreage and the raising of home supplies.

This afternoon the state executive committee is meeting.

TOLD OF THE MASSACRE

Girl's Horrible Story of Butchery by Russians

Was Last of a Family of Twelve, Father, Mother and Others Being Put to Death by Soldiers—Heard Cries for Mercy as the Helpless Were Slaughtered.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, March 3.—Stories of escapes from the Russian frontier of rafts and of massacres alleged to have occurred in the cellars of Moscow homes during the recent outbreak there were told here today by Russian refugees. These stories came from some of the 2,000 Russians and Russian Jews who arrived here on the steamer Pennsylvania from Hamburg and who passed the immigration inspection today.

Tobecca Isaacs, fifteen years old, one of the refugees from Moscow, said that she was the last of a family of twelve and that her father, mother, brothers and sisters were killed by soldiers. She said for two days she was hidden in a dark corner of the cellar in her home which soldiers entered at intervals in search of the occupants. The other members of the family, she said, was found and killed, some of them so near her that she heard their unavailing cries for mercy. She is now on her way to West Virginia.

Michael Slavovitch, who lived near the Austrian frontier in Russia, escaped with his entire family by crossing the river Visula to Austrian territory on a raft under cover of darkness. A patrol of soldiers, which was on the lookout for parties attempting to escape in this manner, heard the noise made by his raft and fired in the direction of the sounds, without, however, hitting any one. Many other Jews, he said, took the same method of getting out of Russia.

NUMBER DEAD NOT YET KNOWN

New Orleans Gets Wild Report from Meridian

TORNADO WAS SERIOUS

Governor Vardaman Leaves on Special Relief Train, but is Unable to Get Definite Details of the Disaster—Victims Various Estimated from Thirteen to One Hundred.

(By the Associated Press.) New Orleans, La., March 3.—A special train from Meridian, Miss., estimates the loss of life at one hundred with about two hundred injured. The dispatch which was received in New Orleans at 11 a. m. (noon eastern time), says much confusion prevails in Meridian, and detailed lists of the casualties are still unavailable.

Memphis, Tenn., March 3.—A dispatch received from Meridian at noon states that a conservative estimate places the number of people killed in last night's tornado at from twenty-five to fifty, while those injured probably will exceed one hundred.

Vardaman On the Scene. Birmingham, Ala., March 3.—A special to the News from Jackson, Miss., says: A special train left Jackson shortly after 11 o'clock with Governor Vardaman, one hundred members of the legislature and many physicians, who go to do relief work at Meridian. The disaster grows larger with additional reports. Word received in Jackson this morning was that thirty are known to be dead, and twice that number injured. An appeal has been issued for assistance and cities of the state are asked to raise relief funds. Hundreds of families are homeless, as the houses of many were completely demolished.

Secretary Beakstee of the Jackson board of trade, left today for the stricken city and wired Mayor Wharton to issue an immediate appeal for relief. The streets of Meridian are reported piled high with debris and it may be several days before the full number of the dead can be secured. Many pedestrians were en route to their homes when the tornado took place. Many persons are also reported missing and are believed to be dead under the wreckage in the business district.

A staff correspondent of the News wired his paper this afternoon from Meridian that the total list of dead from last night's tornado numbers nineteen with one missing and perhaps several bodies under the debris. The number of injured is about fifty.

The militia is keeping the crowds back, while the search of the ruins progresses. The citizens held a meeting today and organized for relief work. Governor Vardaman was informed of the need of help and he replied that the state would aid. He is on his way to Meridian.

The entire south side of Front street and the east and west sides of Twenty-Second avenue from Front to Railroad streets suffered severely, many buildings being demolished. Many persons are also reported missing and are believed to be dead under the wreckage in the business district.

Jackson, Miss., March 3.—Judge T. W. Brame of Mason, Miss., who was in Meridian last night and reached Jackson today, says that up to 3 o'clock this morning 12 dead had been recovered from the wreckage of the storm and that the property loss is estimated at several million dollars. The wholesale district suffered worse. Rescue parties were unable to make much headway during the night owing to the total darkness, the city gas plant having been destroyed. Many of the principal buildings and manufacturing plants were destroyed.

Birmingham, Ala., March 3.—Communication with Meridian, Miss., was partly restored by both telegraph companies from this point about 11 o'clock this morning, but as yet it has been impossible to secure an accurate estimate on the loss of life last night. It is said the greatest loss of life was in the factory districts where search parties are still at work.

Meridian, Miss., March 3.—Thirteen bodies have been recovered from the wreckage of buildings (Continued on Page Two.)

GHASTLY EVIDENCE IN MATHEWS TRIAL

Witness Tells How Prisoner Tried to Kill Himself Years Ago

TO SAVE THE FORESTS

Successful Meeting Held in Charlotte Today

Many Delegates Attend and Discuss Plans for the Protection of Valuable Properties—Governor Glenn and Governor Terrell, of Georgia, Were Present.

(Special to The Evening Times.) Charlotte, March 3.—The interstate forestry convention was held this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. A large delegation of distinguished guests was present from several northern and southern states. This morning an informal reception was held at the Manufacturers' club from 11 to 1 o'clock. Mayor McNeill introduced the visitors and extended his hospitality to the city.

Following is a list of those in attendance: Governor Glenn of North Carolina, Governor J. M. Terrell of Georgia, James L. Carter, American Forestry association; Clifford Pinchot, chief forester of the United States; Alfred Guskill, United States forestry department; C. A. Spencer, former Virginia estate; Prof. J. A. Holmes, Raleigh; Alfred Atkinson, state forester, Massachusetts; J. Hyde Pratt and Charles C. Clark, University North Carolina, and other prominent men.

The meeting of the Academy was attended by a great crowd from the city and many farmers who were invited by Mayor McNeill. The conference is held for the purpose of arousing public sentiment in favor of the passage of such legislation as will result in the establishment of national forest preserves and state forestry associations. It is believed that the meeting today will do much toward getting the desired results, as much enthusiasm was shown by speakers and all present.

WILL ABANDON GRAND CENTRAL. (By the Associated Press.) New York, March 3.—The World reports: A prominent official of the Pennsylvania railroad announced yesterday that the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad would abandon the Grand Central station as soon as practicable and unload its passenger and mail trains thereafter at the new terminal of the Pennsylvania railroad.

For some time the New Haven road has been dissatisfied with its accommodations at the Grand Central station, where it shares the cramped quarters with the New York Central, just as soon as the terminal can be completed and the tunnel dug the Pennsylvania will take the New Haven road under its wing.

KING EDWARD DUE IN PARIS TONIGHT

(By the Associated Press.) Paris, March 3.—The arrival of King Edward in Paris this evening for a three-days' visit attracts comment in connection with the Algeciras conference as being a timely reaffirmation of the Anglo-French agreement. Premier Rouvier will meet the King at the depot. While here his Majesty will be the guest of the British Embassy, maintaining his incognito as Duke of Lancaster. President Fallieres and King Edward will exchange visits tomorrow and there will be a gala dinner at the embassy on Sunday at which the king, the president and the premier will be guests, also Baron DeCourcel, recently head of the French mission at the funeral of King Christian, who was approached by Emperor William for the purpose of ameliorating Franco-German relations.

NEGRO FISHERMAN DROWNED AT SEA.

(Special to The Evening Times.) Wilmington, N. C., March 3.—William Brown, a negro shal fisherman, aged sixty years, was drowned in the Cape Fear river last night as a result of his boat being struck by the steamer Wilmington. Brown, with one companion, was fishing opposite Fort Fisher. As the Wilmington neared the small boat her engines were reversed, but too late to prevent her stern from striking and smashing one side of the fisherman's craft. Brown jumped and was drowned. His companion remained in the boat and was rescued.

EX-GOV. HOGG DIED TODAY.

(By the Associated Press.) Houston, Tex., March 3.—Former Governor Jas. H. Hogg died here today.

WILKES COUNTY BOND STATEMENT.

Salisbury, N. C., March 3.—Burton Craigie today went to Greensboro and as receiver in the Wilkes county bond suit, filed his final statement with the

COMMISSION WANTS NO MORE SECOND CLASS FARE

Change Urged in Railroad Law by North Carolina Legislature

WOULD IMPROVE PASSENGER SERVICE

Annual Report Filed Today Deals With Many Important Subjects, Better Law to Handle Telephone Companies Being Recommended—Railroad Statistics Show Earnings and Wages Paid—How the Banks Prospered Last Year—Other Facts.

The annual report of the North Carolina corporation commission was completed and sent to the executive office of Governor Glenn today. It is for 1905 and is the seventh the commission has made. It treats in detail of their supervision of railroads and quasi-public corporations, banks and their work as a state tax commission.

In their report on railroads the commission declares that North Carolina is one of the exceptions in the requirement of railroads to furnish first and second class rates, and that this, coupled with the requirement that the roads shall provide separate accommodations for white and colored passengers, necessitates too many cars, making an unwieldy and much more expensive train. They urge that if the roads were required to furnish one fare they could give better service at less cost, and that the passenger fare should be reduced.

The report shows that during the past year 5,589,500 passengers were carried by the various roads in the state. Of these the Atlantic Coast Line carried 1,315,721, the Seaboard Air Line 650,009, the Southern 2,338,700, miscellaneous roads 684,977. The passenger earnings were: Atlantic Coast Line, \$1,432,794; Seaboard Air Line, \$878,867; Southern, \$6,722,442.

Mileage and Valuation. The report shows that there are in the state 3,530 miles of road, an increase of fifty-nine miles over last year. The total valuation is \$69,573,334. Atlantic Coast Line, 947.83 miles, \$24,454,014; Seaboard Air Line, 612.12 miles, \$12,500,000; Southern, 279.56 miles, \$26,310,589; miscellaneous roads, 1,065.58 miles, \$6,208,731. The gross earnings of all roads were \$22,441,705 and the net earnings, not including taxes and interest, \$8,470,482, a gain of \$93,472 over the year previous. The total capital stock is \$64,588,405, and the total indebtedness \$68,111,253. The miscellaneous roads other than Atlantic Coast Line, Southern and Seaboard Air Line, show \$9,407,600 capital and \$9,823,616 indebtedness. The railroads pay to the state \$641,746 taxes.

Employees and Wages. The railroads have 15,877 employees, their wages aggregating \$6,758,167. The average daily wages paid are: Atlantic Coast Line, engineers, \$4.37; conductors, \$2.90; mechanics, \$2.80; Seaboard Air Line, engineers, \$4; conductors, \$3; mechanics, \$2.60; Southern, engineers, \$4.92; conductors, \$4.01; mechanics, \$2.17.

During the year there were 111 persons killed and 787 injured in accidents. Atlantic Coast Line, 20 killed, 95 injured; Seaboard Air Line, 18 killed, 165 injured; Southern, 61 killed, 456 injured; miscellaneous roads, 15 killed, 51 injured. These figures include passengers, employees and trespassers. There were really 35 employees killed and 192 injured; 5 passengers killed and 142 injured, and 74 other persons killed and 152 injured.

The killed and injured. During the year 357 complaints were filed with the commission against railroads, covering a great variety of grievances, most of which have been disposed of. Some were for failure to keep passenger schedules, bulletin arrival of trains, furnish cars for shipment of freight and delivery after arrival at destination.

Complaints Investigated. The commission makes special mention in their letter of transmission to the governor of their course in the matter of the complaints from furniture manufacturers of High Point in the matter of inadequate furniture cars for shipments; the complaints from truckers in the Mt. Olive and Faison sections, that by the board of trade of Winston-Salem as to failure of the railroad company to deliver freight promptly. And adds that, feeling that several places in our state were discriminated against in interstate freight from western and northwestern points, we took the matter up with the Southern Railway and Norfolk & Western railway, with the result that the Southern Railway agreed to reduce and did reduce materially certain rates to Asheville. The question of reduced rates hard for the Pacific coast laid.

Back from the Trucking Section. Mr. T. K. Bruner, secretary of the state board of agriculture, returned to the city today from his trip through the northeastern section of the state on his mission of gathering photographs and data relative to the trucking and other agricultural interest of the state. Curator H. H. Brimley of the state museum is still in the southeastern section on a similar mission.

The data and photographs are to be used in advertising the state for the attraction of immigrants, and in the event the exhibits are sent to the circuit of New England fairs next fall in accordance with the plans of Governor Glenn and the state board, they will come in admirably for that purpose.

Intimidated Witness Told He Had Better Not Testify Against Blind Tiger. Lexington Court Week—Suit Involving Ownership of a Large Part of the Land on Which Lexington Stands—Inherited to Living Person's Heirs.

(Special to The Evening Times.) Lexington, N. C., March 3.—The superior court here this week under Judge W. E. Combs has proved uneventful. In the case of David Garner, charged with intimidating witnesses, the defendant was found guilty and sentenced to the reformatory for one year. This action grew out of circumstances attending a trial in the last criminal court, wherein Garner and others were indicted for selling whiskey. A witness in this case was informed that he had better not testify against the defendants.

Perhaps the most important case of the court is one involving the ownership of a large part of the land on which Lexington stands. In this case R. G. Campbell and others are suing Molly Everett and others for possession of real estate whereupon certain number of residences have been built, and where the owners of these have lived for some time. The trouble begins with an old deed by which this property was decided to the heirs of a living person. This deed was sold to various parties, and now the heirs come in and claim that it was never valid to their ancestor but to them, and there is a prospect of a score or more of people losing their property.