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CASH ADVANCE SYSTEM

MERCHANTS AND CONSUMER TO REAP BENEFIT

It is Argued That on a Cash Basis the Merchants Are Enabled to Turn Their Money Over Several Times During the Year and Sell Their Goods Much Cheaper.

There is a growing feeling among the merchants in Oxford in favor of an organization for the purpose of improvement of business conditions, in addition to the larger organization that of the Commercial Club, operating for the advertising and development of our natural resources and advantages. This is a healthy sign, and we trust the sentiment will crystallize into action at an early date. Co-operation is the keynote of success. Where there is no hearty spirit of co-operation, progress and advancement staggers along under a heavy load, and frequently succumbs to the multitude of hands pulling on the reins in every which way. If we undertake to drive a willing horse we never permit more than one pair of hands to hold the reins. Co-operation takes the place of capital in a great many instances, and frequently secures results that capital, without the spirit of co-operation, fails to acquire. Oxford has long passed the stage when any old kind of merchandise, or any old method of purchasing or selling, will meet the requirements of our splendid citizenship. There are problems facing us now that ought to be met and solved without delay if we are to meet the changing conditions, and we heartily and sincerely hope that the present undercurrent of desire on the part of the business men of the town will result in organized and therefore, effective co-operation. It is understood that quite a number of the Oxford merchants desire to put their business upon a cash basis, which they admit would be beneficial to themselves and the consumer. It is argued in re of the movement that much credit is responsible for the report that Oxford is noted for its high prices. Our own personal observation is that the prices in Oxford are no higher than in town elsewhere of the same size; yet the theory is advanced that those who pay cash are charged a higher rate to indemnify the merchants against the loss of those who have been extended credit and fail to meet their obligations. Be that as it is, the fact remains that the merchants and the consumers throughout the country who have done a cash business are in better circumstances today than those who have not availed themselves of the cash system.

PREDICT PROSPEROUS YEAR

Outlook far Brighter for 1916 Than at the Beginning of the Old Year

That business conditions have made remarkable improvement during the past year, especially the last few months; that the factors now prevalent are such as to render the prospects for the new year 1916 far brighter than was the outlook a year ago, and that there is good ground to expect a very prosperous year, is the consensus of opinions expressed by representative business men of Oxford.

The depression during the first few months of 1915 was almost completely reversed by the revival of business last fall, and a prosperous year and good times are in prospect at the beginning of the New Year according to the view of a number of those who were asked for their opinion on the outlook. However, there is a note of caution in the expressions of some against extravagance, speculation and a return to a big tobacco acreage.

"Good times are here in my opinion," says Col. H. G. Cooper, banker, while Mr. W. H. Hunt, banker, believes "the year 1916 will prove the most prosperous one," and Major Will Landis, one of the leading dry goods dealers in this section, says "we look forward to 1916 going far ahead of 1915." Mr. Ira Howard, of the Oxford Buggy Company looks on the bright side. That company had sixteen more men at work at the beginning of the new year than was at work a year ago.

The Fertilizer Situation

There seems to be more depression in the country over the fertilizer situation than any one thing, but a talk with local dealers convinces us that the outlook along that line is not as gloomy as it would appear. We are inclined to believe that good rich tobacco has been grown year after year in this section with 2 per cent potash and we are confident that this ingredient can be had in any quantity. It will, of course, require good farming judgment and energy, but it is worth the effort to do the very best possible under the prevailing circumstances. It is estimated that 2 per cent potash will be the greatest quantity that will be furnished for the 1916 crop. The fact that it can supplement this and other profitable crops. Success will be the result of an honest effort.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET

Jurors Drawn for February Term of Granville Superior Court

The honorable Board of County Commissioners met on Monday, January 3, with the following members present: Messrs. B. I. Breedlove, Chairman; R. S. Hart, H. C. Floyd J. L. Peed.

The road leading from the Wake county line to the road running by Fellowship, a distance of about two hundred yards, was declared a public road.

S. G. Cannady was awarded a contract to build a bridge across Pole Branch in Dutchville Township, he to furnish everything and the work to cost \$20.00.

Chairman Breedlove was appointed a committee to investigate the advisability of opening a road from Lewis station to the Mountain Creek road.

On account of a physicians certificate W. W. Wood was exempt from road duty for the year 1916 on account of physical disability.

The motion to donate \$175.00 toward continuing demonstration work in the county was unanimously carried.

There was a petition before the Board asking for an election to ascertain the wishes of the voters as to a special school tax district in Brassfield township to be known as district No. 1. The boundaries are on file and will appear on the posters calling for the election.

Harvey Bridges was elected janitor at a salary of \$25.00 per month, this to include all duties performed by his predecessor.

The following jurors were drawn for the February term of Granville Superior Court:

First Week

A. F. Harris, John Beal, W. E. Dement, J. W. McGhee, E. M. Evans, W. S. Suit, J. R. Sanders, C. N. Floyd, Alex. Duke, S. T. Barnett, E. B. Howard, J. D. Penn, E. C. Clayton, J. C. Hayes, W. S. Cozart, H. C. Davis, G. S. Frazier, L. L. Gresham, A. C. Mellichamp, H. W. Daniel, John D. Williams, R. A. Daniel, Joe A. Watkins, N. G. Covington, H. G. Aiken, T. C. Harris, R. C. Ellington, G. T. Pittard, O. W. Jones, Z. W. Wheelous, Jno. Webb, Rufus Algood, G. L. Clayton, W. N. Bobbitt, Lee Ball, L. W. Oakley.

Second Week

J. W. Renn, D. C. Frazier, John McGhee, M. F. Hill, J. W. Mangum, R. S. Usry, W. H. Fleming, W. L. Haskins, W. C. Breedlove, F. M. Timberlake, Emil Elliott, Richard W. Harris, P. H. Harris, N. G. Longmire, W. C. Brooks, J. B. Bailey, C. E. Earl, E. N. Clement.

THE OLD BACHELORS

There Are a Large Number of Them in This Section.

Owing to the fact that this is leap year and that it is hoped the Bachelors Club will see its finish at the end of the twelve months, the following essay by the humorist, George Fitch, will be interesting:

"When a man has arrived at the age of thirty without evincing the slightest interest in the cost of living, at the increasing outrageousness of millinery, he may properly be called a bachelor. Bachelors are of two kinds—self-made and girl-made. The first kind is a man who is too foolish to marry. The second kind is produced by women who are too wise to marry.

"Bachelors live alone as a rule, but are kept in a passable state of repair by the landladies. They are very hearty and will eat almost anything. If you are in doubt as to whether a man is a bachelor or not, invite him to dinner. If he eats without remark and grabs his coffee cup about the waist instead of by the handle, you can safely bet that he is a bachelor from the lightning lunch belt.

"Bachelors are most attractive between the ages of thirty and forty, during which time they are in an excellent state of preservation and are able to dodge heiresses and chorus girls, matrimonially speaking, with ease and skill. Between forty and fifty the bachelor becomes more pensive and cannot imagine why young girls of eighteen are so unanimously elsewhere when he calls. From fifty onward bachelors are objects of pity who live alone, pursued by many terrors. It is a sad sight to see a trembling old bachelor holding a ferocious baby which has been loaned to him by some heartless father for the amusement of a large room full of company. At this age too many bachelors who have successfully avoided dozens of happy marriages earlier in life are caught helpless and feeble by some designing widow and meet a terrible fate.

"Bachelors are useful when young for wearing down ballroom floors, supporting theatres and candy stores and florists and seating guests at weddings. Later on they become useful for paying taxes and as horrible examples. Bachelors have done some good in the world, but as forefathers and ancestors they are a dismal failure."

THE WAR

EVENTS MUST NECESSARILY RUSH QUICKLY TO A DECISION

The War is to Be Decided on the Historic Battlefields of Northern Europe When Germany Shall Have Wasted Her Manhood in Futile Attacks Against an Enemy Growing in Strength as She Declines.

Now that the "Christmas calm" has vanished from the trenches, what are the outstanding features of the war and what is the real situation of the contending powers at the beginning of this momentous New Year.

Broadly viewed, the most impressive aspect of the war today is the sustained offensive of the Germans. Most of us realized, when hostilities began, that it would take the Allies months to bring their organization to the German standard. It was the calm forethought of deliberate preparation against the hasty makeshifts of sudden need. A year at least had to pass before the allies could cope on even terms with a nation that had planned the last detail of aggression and defense. The year has passed, and almost five months besides, yet Germany and her allies are today pressing their attack with the same vigor, if not with the same confidence, displayed in the first thrust of the duel. Outwardly, at least, the Serbian campaign was as carefully conceived and as accurately prosecuted as that against Belgium.

All of this bespeaks a united country and capable leadership and forecasts a war to be decided by outward force and not by inward stress. Unless there is an early and decisive change of heart in Germany, there will be no revolution to lessen the task of the allies. The only way to beat the Germans is to overwhelm them with artillery and overpower them with numbers.

Well informed men, especially military writers, assert that if the energy of the German war machine is greater than it has ever been, its potential energy is steadily growing less.

And this is not due to any of the causes that wrecked a beleaguered country like the Southern Confederacy nor, indeed, is the situation thus far the direct result of the British blockade. In some manner Germany is still able to feed herself and may be able to pass the next harvest without serious bread-riots, though this is by no means certain. She is, too, able to cope with the allies in the output of war-munitions and, since she overran Serbia, she can get from Turkey all the cotton and some of the copper she needs. Never was a nation, so cut off from the outside world, better able to sustain herself on her own resources.

The real reason Germany must prepare herself for disaster is the sure and irreparable loss of fighting men. On this point there has been much speculation and there is still some doubt. But the known experience of other armies and the unyielding limit of Germany's male population enable us to fix within bounds the reserve strength she has left to fill the gaps. All are agreed that by the opening of the spring campaign of 1917, the kaiser will be unable to recruit to full strength and must face a steady decline in his effective strength.

In the meantime the allies, France alone excepted, are certain to gain in strength. Great Britain has enlisted 4,000,000 men since the outbreak of hostilities and her colonies have put 500,000 more in training. She can certainly place 2,000,000 on the firing line by May, 1916, and can maintain that figure for at least two years. Russia's supply of men is, of course, almost unlimited and her effective fighting strength will increase just as rapidly as her allies can supplement her own limited output of arms and munitions. France may be able to hold her own for the next year, but she cannot increase the size of her army. If Turkey and Bulgaria be reckoned at their full military strength on the side of the central powers, the campaign of 1916 will be fought with the odds against Germany about 4.5 to 4. This will not be decisive, for Germany has the line of the Rhine behind her in the west and the line of the Vistula to her rear in the east.

Turning to the immediate situation in the various theatres of war, we find nothing that suggests an early decision of anything. In the west, it is useless to dwell on the deadlock. Yet it is worth while pointing out that the deadlock is due to the fact that the lesser numbers of the Germans are offset by the lesser munitions of the allies. The best authorities agree that Germany has from 1,400,000 to 1,900,000 either on the western front or in reserve. To op-

THE SOCIAL SEASON

Culminating in a Delightful Leap Year Dance

Oxford has been socially very gay this Xmas season, a series of dances being given, culminating in a delightful leap year dance given by the young ladies of the town at the Armory Hall Monday evening. The Italian band of Henderson furnished the music. Punch was served during intermission by Mrs. Arthur Landis, Miss Marie Burwell and Miss Margaret Capehart.

It was amusing to see the usual order of things reversed; the young ladies begging the favor of a dance from the young men, and "breaking" in on the other girls.

Those dancing were: Mrs. Dickerson with Mr. William Gregory of Stovall, Miss Dickerson with Mr. Perry Rose, of Henderson, Miss Stevens with Mr. Paul Venable, Mrs. Arthur Landis with Mr. Bert Taylor and Mr. Roy Royster, Miss Marie Burwell with Mr. Outlaw Hunt, Miss Ethel Hancock with Mr. Wilber Smith and Mr. Elliott Cooper, Miss Margaret Capehart with Mr. Shephard Booth, Miss Lucy Landis with Mr. Bev. Royster, Miss Helen Royster with Mr. James White, Miss Roper of Petersburg, with Mr. Harry Lee, Miss Harris of Petersburg, with Mr. Dare Cooper of Henderson, Miss Aline Hicks with Mr. Edison Hicks, of Henderson, Miss Sallie Webb with Mr. Marsh Ray, Miss Estelle White with Mr. Ben Parham, Miss Mary F. Hunt with Mr. John Graham Webb, Miss Sophronia Cooper with Mr. Hamlin Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Glasgow. Stags: Dr. Nick Cannady, Mr. William Corbett, of Henderson, Mr. Dare Cooper, Mr. James Cooper and Mr. Hunt of Henderson. Chaperones: Mrs. Capehart, Mrs. Robards, Mr. and Mrs. Burwell.

"THE BROKEN COIN"

Francis Ford and Grace Cunard to Appear at the Orpheum

It's the kind of a story the public has wanted to know and see for years. First time in pictures. Magnificently wrought, wonderfully photographed. Scene after scene just crammed with exciting incidents that will move you to the utmost. Arrange to take your family or best girl to the opening episode of this magnificent photoplay serial Saturday night, January 8th. It is the finest, most romantic, most absorbing tale of love and adventure ever conceived, featuring Francis Ford and Grace Cunard.

To call Grace Cunard "the most wonderful girl on the screen" is merely to give an extra shade of color to the Lily. Whether for her beauty, clever acting, splendid costumes, diversity of talent or any of a hundred other qualifications, she stands alone on a pinnacle of her own greatness. Miss Cunard plays the leading woman in the "Broken Coin".

Francis Ford is the most versatile member of the great moving picture world today.

The Oxford patrons know him as a brother and look for his production with an interest born of the knowledge that whatever Francis Ford does is bound to be brilliant. Not only will he play the leading male part in the "Broken Coin" but he will direct every phase of the production of this great serial. A beautiful souvenir will be given away on the opening night, Saturday, January 8. A special matinee at 3 p. m.

pose these the allies have at least 2,000,000 effectives, with an additional 500,000 available within three days' journey. But the allies have not the ammunition with which to cover the offensive of their armies. A general bombardment must be followed by a wait of weeks before the ammunition is replenished. This was clearly demonstrated on Sept. 25 and the days following when the French and British broke through the German lines—only to stop because their ammunition was exhausted. Yet the superior numbers of the allies in the west at least insure France against further invasion. The allies can advance when they have the munitions; the Germans cannot advance without seriously weakening their eastern front.

In Russia, the allied cause is certainly safe for the winter. The marshes are now frozen and the Dvina is covered with ice strong enough to permit the passage of men and light guns, but the extreme cold makes any extended operations almost impossible.

The war is not to be decided in Serbia, at the Dardanelles, in Egypt or in Mesopotamia. It is to be decided on the historic battlefields of northern Europe when Germany shall have wasted her manhood in futile attacks against an enemy growing in strength as she declines. The outcome was never more certain than it is today, and events must necessarily rush quickly to a decision.

BURIAL OF MR. MANGUM

INTERMENT IN FAMILY PLOT NEAR BEREA

The Woodmen of the World Had Charge of the Remains—Profuse Floral Tributes.

The remains of Mr. John W. Mangum, who was killed by a shifting engine of the Southern Railway in Durham early last Monday morning was brought to Oxford Tuesday morning.

The funeral cortege left the Exchange Hotel after the noon hour and wended its way to the home of Mr. Mangum's mother near Berea, where the remains were tenderly laid to rest in the family plot by the Woodmen of the World. General B. S. Royster delivered a beautiful and impressive eulogy at the grave.

Large Gathering

The news of Mr. Mangum's untimely death spread rapidly and nearly every home in the western part of the county and many over the line in Person county were represented at the graveside, gathered there to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of the popular young man who was called hence in the "twinkling of an eye."

The Pallbearers

Honorary—C. H. Timberlake, P. A. Wood, Fred Peed, Lewis Crews, Baldy Williams, Mat Nelson.

Flower bearers—Mrs. Lonnie Smith, Mrs. W. H. Walters and Mrs. D. N. Winslow were in charge of the floral tributes, with the following assistants: Lillie Deen, Allie Deen, Daisy Williford, Angie Brinkley, Hattie Bowling and Lucy Bowling.

The floral tributes were beautiful and profuse.

The Minor Warehouse

On the back page of the Public Ledger today will be found the interesting statement of Mr. I. W. Mangum, proprietor of the Minor Warehouse, to the tobacco growers. The reputation of the Minor for high averages is well known and Mr. Mangum will maintain it the remainder of the season and as long as he is in the business.

THE TOBACCO MARKET

It is Estimated that Seventy-five Per Cent of the Crop Has Been Sold

Some very good tobacco has found its way to the Oxford Market during the week and it would seem that the prices are a little in advance of the holiday closing week. The breaks have been comparatively light during the week, but those in a position to know say that the market will take on its old time appearance the coming week.

Of course it is not definitely known what proportion of the crop remains to be sold, but the farmers and warehousemen estimate that about 70 or 75 per cent of the crop has been sold.

The Remainder of the Crop

Mr. W. Z. Mitchell, proprietor of the Banner Warehouse, carries an interesting statement to the tobacco growers in this paper. It is the opinion of the tobacco folks that the remaining part of the crop will sell well and we may safely add that the Banner is an excellent place to sell.

Daniel's Market

Mr. G. C. Daniels has moved his market business from the store room on Callee street to his old stand on Hillsboro street, which has been renovated and beautified for the occasion. He keeps constantly on hand fresh and cured meats, fish, oysters and game in season. Mr. Daniel guarantees the best of everything in his line. See adv on the fifth page of this paper.

The Old Reliable

Sam Watkins, the popular proprietor of the Johnson Warehouse, is sure to get the highest possible averages on the remainder of the crop placed on the floor of the Old Reliable. Elsewhere in this paper he states that "the prices have advanced and I will get every dollar possible for your tobacco."

MR. WILLIAM KNOTT DEAD

Buried in Petersburg, This Friday Morning.

The sad intelligence reached Oxford Thursday morning that Mr. Will Knott had died of pneumonia at his home near Petersburg Wednesday night.

The deceased was about fifty years of age. He left Granville some fifteen years ago and settled in Dinwiddie county, Virginia. He was a successful farmer and counted one of the best of men.

The deceased was a half brother of West, Lea and Sam Knott, of Enon section, who hastened to Petersburg Thursday morning. The interment will be in the Petersburg city cemetery this Friday morning.