

# OXFORD PUBLIC LEDGER

VOLUME XXXIV.

PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY—TOWN AND COUNTY OFFER BRILLIANT OPPORTUNITIES—ALL HOME PRINT.

OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JULY 25, 1919.

NUMBER 59

## THE PRICE OF TOBACCO

### IS THE ALL-ABSORBING TOPIC HERE AND ELSEWHERE

Mass Meeting of Farmers Called at Florence — Governor of South Carolina Comes to the Rescue of the Tobacco Growers Who Face Ruination.

Charging that disaster threatens the tobacco growers of that State, and that the "trust is beating down the price of tobacco," a big mass meeting of the farmers of the South Carolina tobacco belt has been called for Friday, July 25th to be held at Florence to consider what steps may be taken to remedy the situation and to bolster up prices. Governor Cooper, of South Carolina, called the meeting at the request of the growers, banks and other business institutions of his State.

The Columbia State, of Columbia, prints a summary of the situation, together with an announcement of the meeting, and also gives space to an article by a writer who signs himself as "Observer," and living at Hemingway, charging that the trust is beating down the price of tobacco.

Prevailing Prices Ruinous. The State's article on the meeting to be held at Florence Friday follows:

Upon the request of tobacco growers and business men and bankers of the Pee Dee section, Governor Cooper yesterday called a conference in Florence next Friday, July 25, to discuss measures to bolster tobacco prices. Throughout the tobacco district great depression of the market is reported. Prevailing prices are said to be ruinous.

South Carolina last year produced 62,173,631 pounds which sold at an average figure of 31.06 cents a pound. The total revenue derived from last year's crop was \$19,311,497.86, or one-fifth the value of the cotton crop of the State.

#### At Hemingway.

Governor Cooper yesterday received the following telegrams summarizing the disastrous conditions facing the tobacco growers:

W. C. Hemingway of Hemingway, said: "Prices of production have fallen off. Buyers are off the market. Conditions very much depressed. Suggest you call convention of tobacco growers, merchants, bankers at Florence Friday, July 25, at 11 o'clock for the purpose of effecting plans to relieve state of affairs."

The Bank of Hemingway wired: "As a result of the tremendous slump of tobacco prices, suggest you call meeting of bankers, merchants and tobacco growers at Florence, July 25, to work out plans to relieve situation."

#### Other Markets.

F. Rhems & Sons of Rhems, telegraphed: "Owing to the demoralized condition of the tobacco industry, we beg you to call a meeting of farmers, bankers, merchants and others in sympathy for July 25 at Florence, S. C."

Farmers and Merchants Bank of Andrews, said: "During the past four days which our tobacco market has been open tobacco has been selling at extremely low prices that are very unfair to the farmers. Finding it necessary to make some steps towards obtaining a living price for tobacco that is grown in this section, we have decided in behalf of the people of this section to ask you to call a meeting of those who are interested at Florence on July 25 to take some steps toward remedying conditions."

The following wire was received from the Bank of Georgetown: "We respectfully urge you to call a meeting of all tobacco planters, merchants, bankers and others interested at Columbia or Florence, July 25, to consider conditions of the market and prescribe a remedy, as prevailing prices are ruinous."

Newspaper Comment. The Columbia State says: "The South Carolina market opened with a lot of tobacco on the first day and it brought with the enthusiastic help of the warehousemen a fairly good price, but every day since the price has gone lower and lower until if the present prices prevail, the whole tobacco section faces what is little short of ruin. The price received for many grades will not pay for gathering and curing, let alone the cost of fertilizer and labor. Substantial men are seriously speaking of cutting down what is left growing in the field and burning that already cured."

Advanced Styles Arrive. The ladies are highly interested in the arrival and display of advanced styles of fashionable tricolette, georgette crepes and serge dresses by the Long Company. These are in beautiful shades and are well made, and the display embrace the charming styles in coat suits.

## GENTLEMEN OF THE

### GRAND JURY REPORT

To His Honor, W. P. Stacy, Judge Presiding:

We, the grand jury of the July term of Granville County Superior Court, 1919, beg leave to report as follows:

1. We have passed on all bills presented for our consideration to the best of our ability.

The County Home.

Aged and Infirm and found everything in good condition, there being twenty-two inmates—6 whites and 16 colored. Some repairs on the building should be made at once.

County Officers.

3. We find the officers in the court house properly kept and in good condition.

The County Jail.

4. We visited the county jail and found it in good condition with one inmate.

Justices of the Peace.

Five justices of the peace have made their report.

SAM WEBB, Foreman.

### THE EQUITABLE ENFORCEMENT OF THE TAX LAW

Mistaken Idea That Old Practices In Tax Assessment Will Work This Time.

The officials who are getting information for the realty assessment under the full value law have found in the main, as stated, a most commendable attitude on the part of the citizenship to cooperate in the assessment of their property at its full market value, as the law requires. In some cases it has been found, however, that after a citizen has placed a fair value on his property he has been advised by others that he should have "held it down;" that's what they did, "held down the value." Consequently the citizen who has done right is disturbed. He fears that he will suffer as a result of his honesty, and in some cases he has gone to the tax assessor to reduce his estimate.

All this is a result of the teachings and practices of the old tax law, which penalized honesty and put a premium on dishonesty. But the new law is different, as the tax dodger is going to find. He may depreciate the value of his property, but his is not the last word. The "holding down" process has made our tax system infamous and that is the root of the evil that must be eliminated. Let the conscientious citizen stand firm. The fellow who is "holding down" is going to be "held up." His estimate will not only be revised but he is in a fair way to get some publicity that will make him embarrassingly conspicuous, if not uncomfortable.

Let every citizen who favors the square deal lend his aid to the equitable enforcement of the law. You can't compete with the professional tax dodger if you would. In a dodging contest the unscrupulous will always dodge so large a portion of the public burdens that the fair-minded citizen will have to bear more than his share. Live up to the square deal plan, not only because it is right but because it is the only way in which the shirkers can be compelled to do their share.

### TAR RIVER REACHES HIGH-WATER MARK

People In the Lowlands Were Driven From Home.

Tar River was a very much swollen stream Sunday and Monday on account of the exceedingly large rainfall over this section of the State for the past several days. In fact, all the streams hereabouts were swollen, but as all of them are tributaries of Tar river, it was unusually high.

It was a mighty stream at Providence and higher up, but when it reached the Franklin county line it was a mighty sea. Many people from Franklin and Kittrell drove down to the river, eager to see the mad, dashing waters rushing on toward the Atlantic, wreaking havoc in its path. Persons familiar with the river said that it was above any previous high-water mark.

Great Investment.

The Carolina Power & Light Co., for the first time in its history, is offering for sale a limited number of shares of 7 per cent cumulative preferred stock.

Mr. C. Thayer, the special representative, states that these shares are in great demand and since Monday, July 21, a great part of these have been sold.

—There is difference of opinion as to whether Henry needs cranking or is a selfstarter.

## WEATHER MAN PLAYS LIKE

### ATHLETICS AGAINST SWITHIN

According to tradition, if it rains on July 15, St. Swithin's day, it will rain for forty days following. So far the tradition has held true. The standing:

	Won	Lost	Pct.
St. Swithin	10	0	1.000
Weather	0	10	.000

### ORANGE HOLLOWAY WAS KILLED BY GRAHAM HARRIS

The Tragedy Occurred At Mr. J. F. Veasey's Saw Mill Tuesday.

As a result of ungovernable temper, Orange Holloway, a colored boy, is dead and his slayer, Graham Harris, also colored, is in hiding. The tragedy occurred Tuesday afternoon at the saw mill of Mr. J. F. Veasey, situated on Mr. Mat Nelson's place nine miles north of Oxford.

From the testimony adduced at the coroner's inquest, it would seem that several colored men were eyewitnesses to the killing. It is not plain as to what brought on the trouble, but one of the witnesses testified that Orange Holloway, the dead man, picked up a rock. This seemed to have angered Graham Harris, who ran into the house and took the shot-gun from beneath a table and walked deliberately to the door, took dead aim at Holloway and fired, the contents taking effect in his face, from the effects of which he died one hour later.

The body of the dead man was brought to Oxford late Tuesday evening and taken to an undertaking establishment, where it was viewed by Dr. W. N. Thomas, county coroner, and a jury of six men. The inquest was held in the court house Tuesday night, at which time Dr. Thomas examined four or five witnesses, all testifying that Harris fired the fatal shot.

Mr. Veasey says that Holloway, the dead man, had been in his employ for several years and that he was honest and faithful. The slayer was a young black buck fresh from Virginia and no one seems to have known much about him. He left the scene of the tragedy and his whereabouts are unknown.

The coroner's jury was composed of the following men: B. P. Thorp, Jr., Fred L. Peed, James T. Walters, J. J. Parham, J. T. Sizemore, J. H. Nelms, who rendered a verdict to the effect that Orange Holloway came to his death as a result of a shot gun fired by Graham Harris, the shot taking effect in the left side of his face.

### VANCE COUNTY FARM LANDS AVERAGE \$175 ACRE

The Henderson Daily Dispatch says that farming land brought almost an unprecedented price Tuesday in the sale of the Wiggins and Buchanan properties in the northeastern section of the county, lying between Drewry and Middleburg. The average for some 400 or more acres sold at public auctions was \$175, being the largest figure paid anywhere hereabouts for land situated as far from a city and not being residential property.

The old Wiggins home place, consisting of 156 acres, was bought by Walter Bullock, of Middleburg, for \$30,000, while the Buchanan home place was bid in for approximately \$84 per acre by Mr. Walston of Drewry.

### MORE INDUSTRIES FOR OXFORD IS THE WATCH-WORD

That Is the Advice of Col. John T. Britt.

Col. John T. Britt, founder and for many years editor of the Public Ledger, now residing in Washington, has a pleasant word for the people "down home." The following paragraph is contained in a letter to the editor:

"I have just finished perusal of Tuesday's issue of Public Ledger, with much interest as well as pleasure and allow me to congratulate you upon its well-gotten up and varied contents, mostly of a local character, which to my mind, is the mission of a country paper, and may you continue the work in advocating any and everything that tends to the up-building of Oxford and Granville county. There are no better people that inhabit the globe than those who make up the population of both town and county. I am exceedingly proud to note that both town and county remains in the front rank of real prosperity and more enterprises are the watchword."

### Brain Drowns Trees.

Two of the fine apricot trees in Judge D. C. Hunt's garden died as a result of the recent wet spell. They were fruit-bearing trees when the rain came and saturated the roots and caused them to wither and die.

## RACE RIOTS CAUSED

### PRESIDENT TO TAKE MILITARY MEASURES

Situation in Washington Is Fought With Great Public Excitement.

Washington, July 24.—Order has been restored in Washington by troops under command of Major General William G. Haan. The situation today was regarded as much better than at any time since the rioting between whites and blacks began last Saturday night.

### The Casualties To Date.

In the riots so far five persons have been killed, one is near death and eight are seriously wounded. Nearly 100 persons have been taken to hospitals with wounds of a minor character.

Squadrons of cavalry made several dashes through the streets where crowds were congregating and scattered them.

Every policeman who walked his beat was escorted by two armed soldiers.

In addition, troops were posted at every point in the city where there was danger of a clash between white men and negroes.

Army motor trucks were ready to quickly transport soldiers and three tanks were nearby waiting to be called into action.

Isaac B. Halbfinger, member of the home defense guard, was killed and Benjamin Belmont, also of the home defense, seriously injured by a negro whom they tried to search for weapons. After this shooting troops surrounded the block where the negro was supposed to be hiding and searched that but without success. The officers who were shot were armed only with night sticks.

The sight of so many soldiers, fully equipped and ready for business appeared to have suppressed the boldness and insolence of the negro race which had been growing here for some time and which broke out afresh when the Republican Congress assembled and which became unendurable and led to riot and bloodshed.

### Negroes Heavily Armed.

The palpable neglect on the part of the police department has allowed hundreds of negroes to purchase fire arms and automobiles filled with blacks armed to the teeth, and looking for trouble, have been in evidence because of the failure to put a stop to the sale of firearms.

### TO BESTOW PERMANENT RANK ON GENERAL PERSHING

Permanent ranks of general in the regular army for General Pershing and General March and permanent ranks of admiral in the navy for Rear-Admiral Sims and Admiral Benson, have been asked of Congress by President Wilson.

There have only been four generals in America's history: Washington, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan were so honored. Three men were admirals: David G. Farragut, David Porter and George Dewey. George Washington was the first American general and the last until after the Civil War. Ulysses S. Grant, the next to attain the rank became a general in 1866. When Grant became President in 1869 the rank of general was conferred upon William Tecumseh Sherman, who held it until his retirement in 1884. In May, 1888, the rank was revived for Philip H. Sheridan. Pershing while still holding the rank of Major-General became temporarily a General in October, 1917. Major-General March having received the same temporary rank the preceding May. In the navy the temporary rank of admiral is held by rear-admirals while serving as chief of naval operations or in command of fleets. George Dewey was the last to hold the title permanently in the navy.

### THOSE WHO WEAR THE DISTINGUISHED WAR CROSS

Several of the Granville County Soldiers Were Cited for Bravery

Some time in the near future there should be a unique ceremony held in Oxford, at which time all of the soldiers of the county who have been cited for bravery, whether they have received any distinguished service cross or not, should participate. The general public should provide a "big feed" for the boys and engrave their names on a tablet in living letters.

### GOES TO SOUTH AMERICA.

Major Clinton Whitfield, formerly an instructor in Horner Military School and well known in Oxford, has been appointed consul to Montevideo, Uruguay, South America. He is a close personal friend and will be a companion of Mr. Elliott Cooper who sailed for South America a few days ago.

## FORMER PRESIDENT TAFT

### OFFERS SUGGESTIONS AS TO LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Washington, D. C., July 23.—The two letters to Mr. Hays, copies of which were received here today, do not outline definitely the six interpretations suggested by Mr. Taft, but they are referred to as having been contained in a previous unpublished communication. These six stipulations are understood to be substantially as follows:

1.—That upon two years notice the United States could cease to be a member of the league without having the league pass upon whether she had fulfilled all her obligations under the covenant.

2.—That self governed colonies and dominions could not be represented on the league council at the same time with the mother government, or be included in any of these classes where the parties to the dispute are excluded from its settlement.

3.—That the functioning of the council under Article X shall be advisory only and that each member shall be left free to determine questions of war in its own way, the decision of the United States resting with Congress.

4.—That differences between the nations regarding immigration, the tariff and other domestic questions shall not be left to the league for settlement.

5.—That the Monroe Doctrine is to be reserved for administration by the United States.

6.—That the United States reserve the right to withdraw unconditionally at the end of ten years or at least to terminate their obligations under Article X.

### TO SEE THE BATTLEFIELDS IN BELGIUM AND FRANCE

It Will Cost You Only About \$500 To Make the Trip.

The New York Herald states that some of the steamship lines will announce rates to London at an early date, which it is thought will be about \$200 for the round trip including meals.

### The Battlefields.

The London Times contains the following information. American business men and women now in London are being offered a view of famous battlefields in Belgium and France for \$60, which includes transportation and meals for three days. The tours are under the direction of the Belgium government and are made by automobile. Visitors are taken to Belgium via Dover and Ostend. Zebrugge is visited and a whole day is spent in that vicinity where there are still many interesting if gruesome evidences of the war. The itinerary includes Ypres, the Yser, the "big Bertha" at Leuvenboom, Dixmude, Poelcapelle, Zillebeke, St. Julien, Houtholst Forest, and Furnes, all names familiar to American newspaper readers who followed the war from day to day.

### The World's Playground.

Belgium proposes to make Ostend the world's playground. It is believed that Belgium will see an enormous influx of visitors, who, from various motives, will want to see the famous battlefields. Ostend, being the natural center from which these tours will radiate, will have unique opportunities for relieving visitors of their surplus money and time by means of a great variety of attractions proposed to be erected there.

### THE LAST QUESTIONNAIRE

It Winds Up a Superb Chapter In The History of Granville.

It is entirely proper that Granville pride in her service men should be sustained by an assembly of authentic records. The county commissioners should set aside sufficient funds to obtain the statistics concerning our soldiers, sailors and marines in the war suggests the most systematic way of handling the subject.

The questionnaire habit has been recklessly practiced. Here is an instance, however, when its application will be legitimate. The characteristic modesty of the average American fighting man is a fine thing. But a corporate unit like a county is entitled to accurate information concerning the way its sons have honored it.

More than a thousand Granvillians fought for liberty in the universal conflict. The exultation of the county over their achievements is natural. It is to be hoped that considerable attention will be given to the last questionnaire. "It winds up a superb chapter in the county's history."

—One of the first territories that will have to be pacified by the League of Nations is the District of Columbia.

## TOBACCO CROP IN THIS SECTION BADLY DAMAGED

### Hot Sun Is Feared If Skies Should Clear Off and Intense Heat Follow In the Wake of the Flood.

The damage done to crops in Granville and this entire section as a result of the ten days' rain is alarming. Tobacco in the low lands is practically ruined, but in well drained fields and on hillside the damage was not so great.

Many farmers are disposed to believe that fifty per cent of their tobacco crop is ruined, but the tobacco men who have returned from a tour of inspection estimate that the tobacco growers of the county will sustain a loss of about thirty per cent. They say that the less will be much in excess of fifty per cent if the hot sun gets a good whack at it while there is so much moisture in the roots.

Many farmers of the county have worked night and day since the rain set in to drain their fields and lead the water off, but this was not practical in the low lands where the tobacco was submerged.

### SENATOR CURRIN SPEAKS OF CROPS

Finds That the Tobacco Roots Are Exposed to the Sun.

There is no man in Granville county whose opinion on crops is worth more than Senator Titus Currin. He was in Oxford yesterday and the Public Ledger asked him to give us an estimate of the damage sustained by the tobacco crop during the heavy rains.

Senator Currin is always conservative in his statements and would not venture an estimate at this stage but he realized that the damage is great.

He said, however, that he had made a close examination in many places and found that the roots of the plants have come through the ground and are exposed to the sun. If the sun comes out good and strong, said Senator Currin, the damage will be overwhelming to a large number of farmers whose crops were not subject to thorough drainage.

### ATTEMPT LONGEST AIR FLIGHT EVER PLANNED

Thirty-One States, Including North Carolina, Are to Be Traversed —Pass Over 95 Cities.

The air service announces that it will soon attempt the longest flight ever planned by the army or a distance of 7,805 miles. Thirty-one states, including North Carolina, will be traversed by a Lieut-Col. R. E. Hartz, who will use a Martin bombing plane.

The first lap of the aerial swing around the circle will be from Washington to Miami, Florida. The plane will then go across to San Antonio, thence to San Diego, Seattle, Duluth, Augusta, Me., and back to Washington. It is announced that the flight will be in the interest of recruiting, charting of routes and the locating of landing fields.

A distance of 215 miles will be covered in the state of North Carolina and the tentative routing says that the army officers "will pass over or near the following cities:"

Beaufort, Burgaw, Georgetown, Gates, Kinston, Trenton, Williams-ton and Wilmington.

### MANDAMUS PROCEEDINGS

Alamance People Come To Oxford To See Judge Devin.

The county commissioners and the Board of Education of Alamance county got into some kind of tangle and came to Oxford yesterday and laid their grievance before Judge Devin.

As to whether it was school bonds, taxes or assessments we are not advised but whatever it was, Judge Devin passed upon the case and sent them back home happy and glad that they had seen Oxford.

### MR. W. L. PEACE WILL ASSIST WITH COUNTY FAIR

Offices of the Fair Established In Odd Fellows' Building.

Mr. W. L. Peace has associated himself with Messrs. Ben K. Lassiter and Frank Hancock, Jr., in making the coming fair, October 14, 15, 16, the biggest ever. You will find him busily at work in the office of the Fair Association in the Odd Fellows' building getting up the premium list and contracting for numerous attractions as well as exhibits for the coming county fair.

Many friends will regret to know that Mr. J. E. Jackson, superintendent of county welfare work, has a bad boil on his face which gives him much pain and threatens to close one of his eyes.