

### BOTH GODWIN AND OVERMAN DECLARE THEY ARE WORKING

Write Chamber of Commerce That City's Interests Are Being Looked After

### COGNIZANCE TAKEN OF CRITICISM MADE

The City Lost Camp Because Wood Thought Number Should Go to Georgia and South Carolina

That North Carolina representatives in Washington are looking after the interests of this city and port and expect to continue to do so is shown by letters received by the Chamber of Commerce from Senator Overman and Congressman Godwin. The letters addressed to Mr. C. C. Jacob, president of the Chamber, follow:

Washington, D. C., Feb. 4, 1918.  
Mr. C. C. Jacob,  
Wilmington, N. C.  
Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your esteemed letter enclosing petition, signed by some 400 citizens of Wilmington, expressing the sentiment of your community in regard to securing some Government enterprises.

I trust you know that I have been interested in this regard. I am still in hopes of getting a hospital established there. I have been to see Secretary McAdoo in the interest of Wilmington, and he assured me Wilmington would be recognized and not diverted there. He says he is going to send a man to investigate Wilmington with a view of making it an important port, etc. anything I can do, of course, will be gladly done.

With best wishes, I am,  
Very truly yours,  
"LEE S. OVERMAN."  
Washington, D. C., Feb. 4, 1918.  
Mr. C. C. Jacob, President,  
Chamber of Commerce,  
Wilmington, N. C.

Dear Mr. Jacob:  
I am in receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst., enclosing petition signed by some 400 citizens of Wilmington, including many prominent merchants and manufacturers, the same bearing the endorsement of the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Wilmington. I have read the petition with much interest and your letter has received my careful consideration.

In reply I beg to assure you, and through you the Chamber of Commerce of Wilmington, and the signers of the petition, that the interest of Wilmington has been and is now being guarded by your Representatives and Senators in Congress to the full extent of their ability.

Both Senators Simmons and Overman have constantly and unhesitatingly assisted me in bringing to the attention of the Government the splendid waterway, warehouse facilities and climatic conditions of Wilmington. They have joined me in every possible effort to influence the Government to look favorably upon the advantages offered by Wilmington in the establishing of camps, shipbuilding plants, diverting freight from Northern to Southern cities, and other Governmental projects for which Wilmington, North Carolina's chief seaport city, is preeminently fitted.

It is true that North Carolina did not receive a large number of camps, but this was because General Wood, when first placed in charge of the Southeastern division, wanted to establish all of the camps in South Carolina and Georgia, and before being transferred he came near realizing his wishes.

The Secretary of War's attention has been urged to the importance of the port of Wilmington and on the 2nd inst., the date the State press carried a criticism for Senator Simmons from Wilmington, Secretary McAdoo sent a letter to Senator Simmons assuring him that special inquiry was being made as to the suitability and fitness of Wilmington with the view to using that port for the purpose of building ships, diverting freight and relieving the general congested condition caused by the war.

The war, as everyone knows, has caused abnormal conditions to exist in every section of the country and patriotic citizens must necessarily yield to propositions intended to benefit the service.

The exportation of cotton from South Carolina and Georgia a few days ago, under an order of the Secretary of the Treasury, to New England cotton mills was no reflection upon North Carolina and its chief seaport city. Upon investigation it was found that the cotton had to be rushed from the storage warehouses through ports where ships were immediately available, to the cotton mills holding Governmental contracts in France.

I wish to extend my unqualified approval for the action taken by you and your petitioners in urging these matters of importance to our attention and you may feel satisfied that it will be our pleasure to give them the utmost favorable consideration.

With esteem and high regards, I remain,  
Yours very truly,  
"H. L. GODWIN."

### COMMITTEE SELECTED TO LOOK AFTER WORK

Volunteers to Be Enrolled During Present Week for Shipyard Work

Messrs. James C. Stewart, chief engineer at the Champion Compress; Harry F. Farrow, superintendent of the compress, and Louis J. Poisson, Esq., were named as a committee on enrollment at yesterday afternoon's meeting of the county council in defense, looking toward observance of the week set apart for enrollment of United States shipyard volunteers of the public service reserve and this work will be pushed in Wilmington with the object of equaling or surpassing accomplishments in other cities. Mr. Stewart is chairman of the committee and those desiring to enroll are requested to call at the Champion Compress any day during the week between 12 and 1 o'clock or at the office of Mr. Poisson in the Murchison National Bank building at any hour during the day. Urgent appeals have already been made by the four minute speakers in the theatres and by the press and response is expected to be gratifying, as many have already signified their intention of enrolling.

Mr. Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the United States shipping board, has written Mr. J. G. McCormick, chairman of the New Hanover council of defense, pointing out the urgent need for men. Six million tons of shipping is the task assigned the United States to construct during the present war. At the present time ships are being built in a far less proportion. There is plenty of money, plenty of material, plenty of shipyards and the only thing lacking is skilled men to do the work.

Enrollment agents have been urged to emphasize the fact that it is not sought to put men immediately to work in the shipyards, but that a reserve is being enrolled. As the building of ships progresses the need of men develops, new type of men are wanted to carry on the latter stages of work. In order to avoid hopeless confusion, it is especially urged that men should stick to their present jobs until the department of labor tells them that a place for greater service is open. The needs of the shipyards are for skilled men.

### PROCLAMATION ISSUED.

Anniversary Week Will Be Celebrated by Knights of Pythias.

Following is a copy of the proclamation of Mr. John J. Brown, supreme chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, concerning observance of the fifty-fourth anniversary of the organization, celebration of which will be held Monday of next week. It was received locally by Capt. Thomas D. Meares, supreme master of the exchequer, K. of P., and is as follows:

"At no time in the history of the order of Knights of Pythias has it been more imperative that a proper observance and celebration be had of the anniversary of our order's institution than on the 54th anniversary which occurs February 19, 1918. Our members are on the battle front fighting for their country, civilization and fraternity. Our members are helping their country to finance the war, aiding the Red Cross, creating a fund with which to lend aid to our brothers who go to the battle front and to help the loved ones who are dependent upon them for support.

"Now, therefore, I, John Joseph Brown, chancellor of the order of Knights of Pythias, do hereby designate the week of February 18th to 23rd, 1918, anniversary week in the order of Knights of Pythias. My most earnest wish is that every subordinate lodge in the supreme domain celebrate by appropriate ceremony the founding of our order."

### BAPTIST CONFERENCE.

Rev. J. A. Sullivan Elected President. No Treasurer Needed.

The following concerning organization of a Baptist Pastors' Conference is "lifted" from "Go Forward," the interesting publication of the First Baptist church in Wilmington: "On Monday morning the Baptist pastors of Wilmington and vicinity met in the First church and organized a Baptist Pastors' Conference. This conference will meet for the present at 11:15 every Monday morning at the First Baptist church.

The officers elected were Rev. J. A. Sullivan, president, and Rev. A. L. Goodrich, secretary. It was thought they would have no need for a treasurer. The conference will discuss from time to time the life and work of the Baptist churches in this section, and will devise plans for a closer co-operation in promoting the common cause."

### GOVERNMENT CLERKS NEEDED.

Hold Open Competitive Examinations March Second.

Open competitive examination to secure eligibles to fill existing vacancies and vacancies that may occur in first grade clerical positions in first and second class postoffices of the State is announced by the United States Civil Service Commission and will be held on March 2. Application blanks may be secured from the secretary of the civil service board at the Wilmington postoffice. Forms No. 1,371 and 1,372 should be asked for.

Applications will be received until March 6 for library assistants, open to both sex, and paying from \$900 to \$1,200 per annum and for electrician, men only, paying from \$900 to \$1,000 per year. Inspector of military trucks also in demand, the compensation being from \$1,800 to \$2,400 per year. Applications will be received at any time.

### WILL RENEW WORK ON RIVER WITHIN A VERY FEW DAYS

Dredges Will Resume Operations Immediately Mr. Merritt Says

### RECENT BAD WEATHER MADE WORK IMPOSSIBLE

Matter is Being Handled By Chamber of Commerce Through Shipping and Pilotage Committee

The importance of continuing the dredging operations of the Cape Fear river has been brought to the attention of the United States Engineers' office through the Harbor, Shipping and Pilotage Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, Dr. James Sprunt, chairman. The committee has been assured by Mr. R. C. Merritt, the engineer in charge, that work on the river will be renewed within the next few days. The recent severe weather has made operations on the river difficult, but now that the weather has moderated it will be taken up with renewed vigor. The channel depth is 26 feet all the way from Wilmington to the sea with the exception of one point, which will receive special attention at this time. The width of the channel is 280 feet at the narrowest point. The mean rise of tide is 4-1/2 feet at Wilmington. The efforts being made by the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce in the matter of continuing the dredging work is of unusual importance and is receiving special consideration by the United States Engineers' Office.

### RELIEF MONEY NEEDED.

Red-Cross Endeavoring to Alleviate Suffering in Atlantic.

Call has been made upon all Red Cross chapters in the State by the mother organization in behalf of the little town of Atlantic that was recently visited by storm and from the effects of which it has not rallied as yet. An effort is to be made to raise an additional \$2,000 for relief work there and Archdeacon Thomas P. Noe, who recently investigated conditions there, has been made chairman of the committee that has the raising of this money in charge. All contributions should be sent him in care of the Red Cross, Beaufort. This city is asked to contribute \$200 and contributions will be received by Mrs. Cuthbert Martin, president of the local chapter. It is urged that contributions be made as early in the week as possible. The following appeal has been made upon all chapters in the State by Mr. W. L. Peel, manager of the Southern Division of the Red Cross, with headquarters in Atlanta:

"About two weeks ago a severe storm occurred at Atlantic, near Beaufort, in your State, causing much suffering which the local committee is unable to adequately relieve and much damage to property.

"Rev. Thomas P. Noe, of your Wilmington chapter, has visited Atlantic, and reports that the community of 750 people are wholly dependent upon boats and fishing, and that a hard winter had severely taxed its resources. Following that situation, the storm partially destroyed homes, completely wrecked a church and put out of commission practically all boats and fishing smacks, with the result that the fishing and canning industries of the community have been paralyzed. Workers, including women employed in many oyster canneries, have had their source of income suspended. Repair of homes and reconstruction of boats is vital to remuneration labor.

"Twenty-seven hundred dollars has been donated for relief from local and State sources, and I have appropriated \$1,000 additional from the contingent fund of the Red Cross. Five thousand dollars more will be needed for reasonable restoration and relief.

"North Carolina chapters will please issue an appeal in their respective communities for donations to such fund, and forward amounts as received therefor to Rev. Thos. P. Noe, Cross, Beaufort, N. C."

### MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION

Scott's Hill School Trouble Finally Adjusted Satisfactorily.

Report of satisfactory adjustment of difficulties growing out of the naming of a teacher for the Scott's Hill school featured yesterday afternoon's regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education, held in the office of the board at the Court House. The school was closed just prior to Christmas because of the poor attendance, resulting, it is said, from dissatisfaction felt of the teacher in charge. Miss Leonora Womack, of Warsaw, has been appointed as teacher there now and the attendance is reported up to normal again. Mr. B. Solomon, member of the board, stated that he had visited the school and advised that it would be necessary to close the school unless the attendance warranted it remaining open. Other matters of routine nature and void of interest.

The January report of Mr. J. J. Blair, superintendent of the city school system, showed that the attendance for that month was very good, with the Sunset Park school leading.

### M'CORMICK'S OPINION DIFFERENT FROM PAGE'S

Is Shared By South Carolina Food Administration; Concerning Meal-Wheat

That the position taken by County Fuel Administrator J. G. McCormick as regards usage of flour, meal and cereals is the proper one and that State Fuel Administrator Page has not interpreted the ruling of Administrator Hoover as regards the use of flour and cereals as it has been interpreted in other States, is borne out by Washington correspondence and activities in South Carolina, where observance is being had in much the same manner that Mr. McCormick has contended is proper and in harmony with instructions from Mr. Hoover.

Writing from the National capital on the question, J. A. Holloman has the following to say:

"Local food administrators in some sections of Georgia are causing a great deal of unnecessary trouble and inconvenience to corn-producing farmers by refusing to permit them to purchase flour without an equal weight of meal or other cereals. The act specifically provides that no person is to be required to buy a corresponding cereal with flour when the person in question is a producer of a cereal other than wheat and is a large consumer of it and has the said cereal in quantities on hand. Such statements made to the merchants when properly taken are legal exemptions from the requirements of an equal cereal with an equal flour purchase.

"If the meal producers and consumers of Georgia will understand this and make it clear to their merchants, further trouble can be avoided. As it is now, every Congressman from Georgia is being overwhelmed with letters and wires telling of the evident misconstruction of the Federal Food Administration's specific rulings on the subject."

The following from the Columbia State, Columbia, S. C., is of interest: "The National Food Administration has given authority for a modification of the pound for pound law in order to give relief to the farmer in South Carolina who has his own corn ground locally. Much dissatisfaction has been caused among farmers, who felt that it was unreasonable to ask them to buy Northern and Western meal when they had their own home ground meal which they could use. There was no protest concerning reduction of the consumption of flour, but simply that the farmer did not wish to buy meal from his store when he had better meal or grits at home.

"Under the new rule the farmer can have his corn ground by a miller, who will give him a certificate. This certificate must be filed with the grocer by the farmer, whereupon he can buy an equal amount of flour—not in excess of half a barrel.

"This plan was recommended by practically the unanimous vote of the county food administrators at their meeting in Columbia on the 4th instant, and has been advocated by a large number of prominent people having knowledge of conditions in South Carolina.

"The National administration was by wire immediately consulted about it, and on Saturday gave its consent to the plan.

"The farmer takes his corn to the mill and has it ground. He signs a certificate which the miller will have, stating number in his family or 'en ants for which he buys, the amount of flour he has on hand, and agreeing to use in his household equal weights of flour and substitutes. Thereupon the miller signs a certificate as to the number of pounds of meal ground. This certificate is then the farmer can buy an equal weight of flour, but in no case in excess of one-half barrel.

"This relieves the only difficulty that has been encountered in South Carolina.

"There has been no objection whatsoever to the reduction in consumption of flour, and the farmer has been patriotically ready to reduce his consumption of flour, but he very naturally did not desire to buy more of what he already had an abundance in his home.

"Blanks are being mailed to the county food administrators for distribution to millers. They were mailed yesterday afternoon. Millers should apply to the county food administrator of his county for the blanks."

### MR. CARDWELL NAMED.

Will Represent North Carolina Forestry Association at Meeting.

Mr. Guy A. Cardwell, immigration and agricultural agent for the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company, has been named as a delegate to represent the North Carolina Forestry Association at the Congress of National Service, to be held in Chicago, February 21 to 23, inclusive. The meeting will be held under the auspices of the National Security League, with the object of arousing the morale of the American people in order that every effort toward winning the war may meet with unqualified approval.

### BITTEN BY DOG.

Inch Long Gash Torn in Calf of Little Boy's Leg Yesterday.

Earl Walton, small son of Mr. A. F. Walton, an employe in the offices of the Tidewater Power Company, was severely bitten by a dog belonging to Mr. Frank Harrill, No. 209 Chestnut street, late yesterday afternoon at Front and Princess streets. A gash about an inch long was torn in the calf of the little fellow's leg.

## W. S. S.


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