

FARMERS WAREHOUSE ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Stockholders Held Annual Meeting Here Last Friday—A Ten Per Cent Dividend Was Declared and Ordered Distributed Among the Stockholders—J. W. Stephenson Resigned As President and Was Succeeded By E. F. Boyett Who Will Also Be One of the Managers.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers Warehouse, Incorporated, was held in the court house here last Friday. The following directors for the fiscal year, 1920, were elected:

J. W. Stephenson, C. M. Strickland, J. B. Hardee, E. F. Boyett, A. G. Johnson, A. B. Atkinson, W. E. Barbour, E. C. McLamb, G. D. Keen, R. E. Lee, W. H. Brown, H. V. Faulkner, W. N. Barden, J. F. Wellons, Zero Parker, J. Lib Lee, J. H. Lassiter, M. C. Barbour, J. F. Smith, Walter Batten, M. C. Hooks, Joe E. Creech, G. M. Hinton, S. T. Liles and J. S. Boyett.

Mr. J. W. Stephenson, a well-known business man of Smithfield, who has been president of the company since its organization, resigned and was succeeded by Mr. E. F. Boyett. Mr. Boyett will also be one of the managers of the warehouse. Mr. A. G. Johnson was also elected as a manager. Mr. Boyett, who lives in Smithfield, is one of the best warehousemen in this section of the State and will continue to serve the best interests of the company and the farmers. Mr. Johnson who served very acceptably as one of the managers of the company for the past year has made many friends here who will be glad to have him serve again in the same position.

Mr. N. L. Perkins was again elected auctioneer and will continue to give his best services to the company. He is known as the original "Farmers Friend" and he will strive for the coming year to live up to his reputation.

Mr. J. C. Weeks, who has served as assistant secretary and treasurer for the past year, was promoted and made secretary and treasurer. Mr. Weeks is an accountant and has several years experience in the warehouse and banking business. He is a hard worker and as in the past he will give his best services to the company.

With Messrs. Boyett, Johnson, Weeks and Perkins in charge the Farmers Warehouse is in good hands and will do an even greater business this year than ever before.

Mr. Weeks informs us that the front end of the warehouse will remain as it is for this year. The company has purchased the Will Futrell lot on the south side of the warehouse and will build a three story brick building fronting on Market street. This will be used for a grading room and prize-house. This will be fully equipped to take care of all the warehouse tobacco and scrap.

A ten per cent dividend was declared and ordered distributed among the stockholders this week. This company has done a fine business the past season and plans are now being made to do an even larger business for the coming season. The Farmers Warehouse is really true to its name—it has hundreds of stockholders scattered over the county.

Will Pay Nearly Billion Income Tax.

American farmers this year will pay income taxes totalling nearly \$1,000,000,000, it is estimated on the basis of earnings calculated by the department of agriculture.

This is roughly one-fifth of the present annual expense of operating the Federal government. The bulk of it will come from the owners, managers and tenants of 6,000,000 farms who comprise slightly more than one-twentieth of the nation's population.

The farmers will pay 4 per cent. on the first \$4,000 of income above exemptions of \$1,000 for single persons and \$2,000 for those who are married.

The estimate represents 4 per cent. of \$24,982,000,000, the value of all crops, animals and animal products of 1919 as estimated by the agricultural department. In growing crops and stock of this value, American farmers experienced the best business year in their history, reports show. It is \$2,500,000,000 greater than the value of the 1918 crop.

Test your seed—it costs too much to take a chance.

TO INVADE ISLAND OF CANNIBALS IN PACIFIC

New York, 26.—Mustard gas and machine guns are to be used by Capt. Harry de Windt, an English explorer, against the poisoned arrows of a tribe described as "white cannibals" on Tiburon island, on the Pacific coast he announced here today. Captain de Windt said he would leave New York in a few days to lead an expedition of six civilians and three score Mexican soldiers to the island. Tiburon is said to have rich deposits of pitchblende from which radium is made.

The island is about 40 miles from Guaymas, Mexico, which in turn, is only about 48 hours by rail from Coronado Beach, Cal. The inhabitants are said to be descendants of Dutch, Swedish and German prisoners who escaped from Mexican prisons several centuries ago. Of sixteen persons known to have visited the island in the past few years, in parties of two and three, only nine are said to have returned alive, the others falling victims to the flaxon-haired, blue-eyed, "white Indians" as the Mexican peons call them.

"Four miles from the Mexican coast," said Mr. de Windt, "Tiburon is easily accessible. Yaqui Indians, who live on the mainland, call Tiburon the 'Island of Death' for the reason that any person who lands on it is shot by poisoned darts and then eaten by the natives. The cannibals, in addition to bows and arrows, use an ancient blunderbuss. They are supposed to number from 500 to 2,000 persons.

"Besides myself, the expedition I will lead will consist of Mackenzie Grieve, the companion of Harry Hawker when he fell during his attempted transatlantic flight; an expert radium mining engineer; Anton Gibbon, nephew of President Carranza of Mexico, in whose name the concession permitting the exploration of the island was issued; a man servant and sixty Mexican soldiers, assigned to the party by the Mexican government. I imagine the searchings on the island will consume about three or four months." —Greensboro News.

Hogs in the Corn Belt.

There are this year in the seven corn belt states about 7 per cent fewer hogs than a year ago. Outside of the corn belt, there seems to have been an actual increase. The only corn belt states to show an increase are Indiana and Ohio, both of which states show an increase of about 2 per cent over a year ago. The biggest decreases have been in Kansas, with 30 per cent; Missouri, with 13 per cent, and Nebraska, with 12 per cent. Iowa has had a 4 per cent decrease and Illinois a 7 per cent decrease. The western corn belt states are to be congratulated on the wisdom they have shown in decreasing their hog production in anticipation of a year of losses, or at least very low profits.

All of the corn belt states except Kansas show a great increase in hog production over the year 1914. The increase in Iowa has been 49 per cent; in Illinois, 23 per cent; Indiana, 20 per cent; Ohio, 20 per cent; Nebraska, 5 per cent; Missouri, 2 per cent, and Kansas a decrease of 28 per cent.

Of course there should be more hogs in the corn belt today than there were in 1914, in order to accommodate the increased population. Nevertheless, there has probably been more of an increase in hog production than is warranted by the increase in population, and once the European demand dies down, there is prospect of there being more hogs in the corn belt than can be marketed at a price equal to cost of production. In fact, at the present time there seems to be too many hogs in the corn belt, in spite of the foreign demand.—Wallaces' Farmer.

Reports Indicate More Early Potatoes

Reports from South Carolina indicate a larger increase in the early potato acreage this year than there was last year. Transportation lines advise that the amount of seed stock handled to date is three to four times that handled last year. Much of the seed, however, is arriving more or less damaged from frost. The effect of this on the final acreage and the ultimate yield is somewhat uncertain, but it is estimated that the Beaufort section will have between 3,000 and 4,500 acres.—Extension Farm News.

MAN DIES FROM DRINKING WHISKEY

We have learned of the death of Mr. Preston Faulkner which occurred at a house at the Ethel Cotton Mills at Selma Saturday. The circumstances surrounding his death, as we have been able to learn them, are about as follows: On Friday night, February 27, Mr. Faulkner and Mr. John R. Johnson of near Selma went to a blockader's and bought one and a half gallons of whiskey. They drank freely Friday night. Saturday morning about four o'clock Mr. Faulkner seemed sleepy and was placed on a bed at the home of a man named Lynn at the Ethel Cotton Mill. Later, about noon, he was found to be dead.

Mr. J. H. Kirkman, the county coroner, was summoned and found some liquor still in the jug which was taken to Raleigh to be analyzed.

Mr. Kirkman empanelled a jury but no decision has been rendered. The matter is awaiting the analysis of the State Chemist.

It does not yet seem to be known whether the quantity of whiskey drunk by Faulkner caused his death or whether it was due to some ingredient in the whiskey. It is said that Johnson got rid of his whiskey by vomiting.

Double Wedding in Benson.

A quiet double wedding took place in the Baptist church here last Sunday afternoon February 22nd, the contracting parties being Mr. Ralph Whittington and Miss Lettie Surles; Mr. Rom Morgan and Miss Pearl Barbour. The vows were taken before Rev. C. C. Wheeler, pastor of the Baptist church, one ceremony being used for the two couples.

Mr. Whittington is a son of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Whittington, who lives near town. He is a splendid young man and now holds a position with the Farmers Commercial Bank. His bride is the attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Surles and has taught in the schools of the county for the past two years.

Mr. Morgan, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Junie Morgan of near town, returned a few months ago from service with Uncle Sam and has since held a position in the clothing store of Mr. C. T. Johnson. His bride, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Barbour, also holds a position with Mr. C. T. Johnson. They have scores of friends who wish them much happiness through life.

Each couple for the present will make their home with the parents of the grooms.—Benson Review.

A Million A Day.

Sometime ago a man from "off" essayed to speak for the farmers of North Carolina before certain congressmen, upon the subject of continued control of the railroads. When he said the farmers of this state wanted the government to keep right along running the roads, a good many men who know their North Carolina were vastly amused. What do the farmers of this state or any other state want with public control or ownership of transportation, in view of Senator Pomerene's statistics of Saturday night, when he said that an estimate put the loss of the government at one million dollars for every day the government had been in control of the railroads? And that in the face of a 50 per cent increase in passenger rates and about 25 per cent increase in freight rates? North Carolina farmers want public control or ownership? Not on your life! No farmer and no other citizen who helps to pay the bills wants the government to control the railroads a minute longer than March 1, when, praise be, the roads will go back, and may they swiftly recover from the evils of government control and speedily give us service and plenty of it at whatever may be a "fair return," minus the immense burden upon the public which has been piling up at the rate of a million dollars a day for every day the government has been in control.—Greensboro Daily News.

Governor Coolidge, of Massachusetts, has wired President Wilson that the fuel shortage in New England is serious.

Estimates place the annual loss to the South on sweet potatoes stored in earth banks at \$25,000,000.

GOING FROM TOYS TO DEADLY WEAPON

The other day I saw a man arraigned before the bar for "toting" a pistol. The judge fined him fifty dollars and costs. I saw a man on another day who was in jail. Some day that poor helpless man will be taken out of jail and tried for his life. His guard said the man was of good report and had never been in trouble before in his life. But one day he drank something hot and then got mad with one of his friends. Just then he felt in his pocket and there happened to be a pistol handy. Out he whipped it and shot his friend dead at his own feet.

Now, the reports come from various parts of the county that there is a certain type of toy-pistol that can, by a slight alteration with a file, be changed from a toy to a ball-carrying, deadly weapon. Mischief is being done right along by these little toys that have been so changed. Sporting with these toys has become such a practise with school boys that the attendance and general well-being of the schools have been affected. Air-rifles too among school boys have become great nuisances. There is a boy somewhere in this county today who has but one eye. An air-rifle got the other.

It is too bad for men to carry about full fledged pistols in their pockets; the law says it is. And it is too bad for our boys to make deadly weapons out of play-things and go about aping the wild-West man, shooting up things.

Now is the time for parents and teachers and everybody who has a care for the welfare of children to promptly put an end to children using any such play-things as toy-pistols that are capable of shooting a .22 caliber bullet and air-rifles that can carry a BB shot.

H. V. ROSE,
Co. Supt. Welfare.

MANY DEATHS REPORTED FROM INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

Two Hundred Cases of Malady In and Around Village in the Last Three Weeks.

Middlesex, Feb. 29.—There has been over two hundred cases of influenza in and around this little town for the past 20 days, and several deaths as follows:

Mr. Harry Stille, age 21 years. Mrs. Gilford Lewis, who was formerly Miss Dallis Stille, who is survived by her husband and three small children, a mother, two brothers and four sisters. She was a sister of Mr. Harry Stille.

Mr. Walter Narron, who is survived by his wife and several small children.

Mrs. Ira Johnson and her 13-year old daughter. Mrs. Johnson was formerly Miss Sallie Godwin. She is survived by her husband and four small children, mother and several brothers and sisters.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Bissett lost a child.

Mr. Ed Strickland and Mr. Harrington. Mr. Harrington is survived by his wife and two small children. His wife was in a hospital at the time he died and just had undergone an operation and is very ill.

These deaths are all reported for the past week with influenza-pneumonia, but there are not very many new cases reported at this writing and it seems that most families are improving some.—News and Observer.

Meets an Old Friend Miles from Home

He was 2,000 miles away from home and didn't know any one. He had walked miles hunting for a room in a crowded city and knew the meaning of loneliness. Finally, all tired out, he was shown into a parlor while a little girl went to find her mother.

On the table was an old newspaper that had, somehow, a familiar look. Idly he picked it up. When mother came into the room he didn't see or hear her, he was too busy reading his Home Paper. The Exile did not know her—but he found a room and a friend, and life was happier, all because of a copy of the Home Paper.—Extension Farm News.

North Carolina now has 73 government accredited tuberculosis-free herds. Only seven states have a larger number, and Virginia is the only one of the seven in the South.

WORLD'S DIAMONDS IN BULK NOT IMPRESSIVE

Chicago, Feb. 26.—If all the diamonds mined in history and existing today as cut and polished gems were gathered from the ends of the earth, they would form a pile about as large as a wagon load of coal dumped on the sidewalk, says a Chicago statistical expert. The pile would contain 46,355,474 carats and the gems would weigh 10 1-2 tons. If the pile were in the form of a cone, it would have a base diameter of eight feet and a height of five feet. Reckoning the diamonds at \$300 a carat, it would have a value of \$13,906,642,200. It would contain 710 1-3 gallons worth \$5,539,023 a gallon; or 76 1-3 bushels valued at \$51,570,729 a bushel. All the world's diamonds could be packed in an ordinary clothes closet or a kitchen pantry.

This estimate is based on an approximation of the total output of rough diamonds in the world's entire history. India, it is estimated, has produced, all told, 50,000,000 carats; Brazil, 15,000,000; South Africa, 170,574,000; Borneo, 1,000,000; British Guinea, 50,000; Australia, 150,000; China, 2,000; Siberia, 500; United States, 500. This is a total rough output of 236,777,374 carats, or 55 3-5 tons avoirdupois.

Only about 50 per cent. of rough diamonds are cut into gems and lose about 60 per cent. of their weight in being cut and polished. Diamonds are practically indestructible and the first diamond ever mined may possibly still be in existence. But the estimate allows for the loss of at least 1,000,000 carats by flood, fire, shipwreck and other disasters. These reductions and losses leave a total of cut and polished diamonds at 46,355,474 carats.

The estimate of \$300 a carat is the minimum price at which diamonds can be bought today. The popular demand for diamonds was never so great and they have become the gem of working people as well as the wealthy classes. They are worth three times as much now as before the war and sell at from \$300 to \$1,000 a carat.—Greensboro News.

STATE NEWS.

Wilson reports a probable case of sleeping sickness the patient being Miss Sybil Brown, a school teacher.

The News and Observer says that six blockade stills have been captured in one section of Wake by the revenue officers in one week.

Dr. Parrott of Kinston says that city is emerging from the influenza epidemic with fewer "scars" because the non-closing policy was pursued.

The youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Pickle, of Washington, was in a critical condition Sunday due to an unintentional dose of carbolic acid.

James M. Gudger, Jr., a prominent political figure in Western North Carolina died at his home in Asheville Sunday, his death being due to heart failure.

"Granny" Craig, of Cherokee county, although 74 years of age, is still able to pick an average of 50 pounds of cotton per day after the crop has been picked over four times.

Walter Clark, Jr., a member of the Charlotte bar, is to represent the National headquarters of the American Legion in the investigation of the state of affairs at Oten.

Dr. Allen W. Holshouser, a Rowan county physician, died in a Salisbury hospital Friday from injuries received Tuesday when the car in which he was riding was struck by a freight train.

Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the noted English suffragist who has been resting in Western North Carolina, has gone to Cleveland, Ohio. From this point she will tour the Middle Western states.

A report from Goldsboro says that the family of F. F. Harrell, a well known farmer of Wayne county, is in a deplorable condition. Mr. Harrell is suffering with small pox while the rest of his family are sick with influenza.

A snake farm is to be a new industry for Wilmington, if a place can be secured. Kinston was considered as a probable location. It is the purpose of the promoters to breed black snakes, king snakes, moccasins and rattlers for the market.

R. R. Clark, former editor and owner of the Statesville Landmark, became postmaster of Statesville Monday.

CARRIERS GO BACK TO OWNERS IN GOOD SHAPE

Government Operation Cost Public Less Than Under Private Control, Director General Asserts. He Believes Deficit Will Fall Below \$700,000,000.

The White House announced at 6:46 o'clock Saturday evening, says an Associated Press dispatch, that President Wilson had signed the Railroad Bill.

The railroads, which have been under Government control since December 28, 1917, will be turned back to their private owners at 12:01 A. M. Monday.

Before signing the Railroad Bill the President issued Executive orders continuing the Fuel Administration, the functions of which have been exercised by the Railroad Administration, until April 30. A commission of four was named to handle the export and bunker trade and Director General Hines will, under the second order, handle domestic distribution. The action was taken because of the present fuel situation.

In ending the uncertainty regarding his attitude toward this measure, President Wilson disregarded the petition of organized labor and certain farm organizations that he veto the bill.

Officials of the Department of Justice on returning the measure to the White House yesterday expressed the opinion that all of the provisions are constitutional, and Director General of Railroads Hines, to whom it was later sent, informed the President that it was probably the best measure of its kind that could be obtained at this time.

Walker D. Hines, Director General of Railroads, in a report transmitted to President Wilson Saturday, emphatically denies the assertion made by various railroad executives that the roads are going back to private control at midnight Sunday in a breakdown condition.

The report covers every phase of Government control from January 1, 1919, when Mr. Hines succeeded William G. McAdoo as Director General, until the properties go back to their private owners.

Outstanding features of the report are assertions by Mr. Hines that:

1. Government control has cost less than operation of the roads under private control.

2. Had it been practicable to increase rates on January 1, 1918, instead of six months later, there would have been no deficit or loss whatever up to and including the end of October, 1919. The actual loss is placed at \$480,200,000.

3. The apparent deficit will be a relatively small amount and will fall far short of the reported deficit of \$700,000,000.

4. Approximately \$1,200,000,000 has been expended in the period of Federal control for improvements to properties.

5. In compliance with contractual obligations the roads will be returned in as good shape as when taken over.

Rev. J. J. Murray at Flora Macdonald.

Rev. J. J. Murray of Smithfield has been the guest of the college during the week of prayer and has been speaking to the faculty and student body at both morning and evening services held in the auditorium. Through all of his addresses has run the strong note of appeal to service whether it be in the foreign or home mission field, in the school room or in community life. Forceful and earnest, emphasizing his talks with timely illustrations, Mr. Murray has greatly helped and benefitted his student audiences.

On Friday afternoon Mr. Murray was the guest of the Seniors of the Domestic Science department at a four course luncheon. Other guests were Miss Cain of the department of Physical Training, Dr. Vardell, Mr. Chas. Vardell of the Conservatory of Music and Mrs. Rice of the department of Publicity and Promotion.

Mr. Murray left for his home on Monday morning.—News Service, Flora Macdonald College, Red Springs

Wireless telephone messages were carried a distance of fifteen hundred miles last week between Ossining, New York and points in Kansas and North Dakota, says a New York dispatch.