

# The Smithfield Herald

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## PRICE DECLINE DURING DECEMBER

### Most Marked in Agricultural Products—Coal Unaffected—Idleness

Washington, Jan. 2.—Further decline in prices coupled with increased unemployment accompanied the country's continued progress in business readjustment during December, according to the monthly review of general business and financial conditions issued to-night by the federal reserve board.

The price decline during the month was placed at 8 1-2 per cent by the board which added the observation that the decrease in prices was mainly confined to commodities which had shown a decline previously rather than an extension of price cutting to other industries.

The decline was reported as most marked in agricultural products, textiles, hides, leather and iron and steel products, while coal, petroleum, gasoline, paper, brick and cement remained largely unaffected. Some reductions were reported in the open market in the latter group of commodities the board said, but contract prices appeared to be at the same level as in earlier months.

Reduced business activity, the board stated, cut operations in many lines from 40 per cent to 75 per cent of normal and brought accompanying unemployment. The shrinkage of demand, the board reported, also was responsible for wage cuts running as high as 25 per cent in some lines.

Business in wholesale and manufacturing lines was reported inactive at a minimum, and unemployment prevalent, but signs of improvement are noted.

Most of the cotton crop has been invested in the Atlanta district, but being largely held, while farmers generally feel the effect of low prices. Other markets in the district are quiet and coal production has increased, and lower prices of pig iron have not produced any great amount of business.

Throughout the cotton belt rains have delayed picking to some extent, while in some sections farmers are reported to be abandoning cotton because of the decline in price and the relative scarcity of pickers, together with the high wages demanded. There has been considerable deterioration in the quality of the lint, due to the wet weather, and the bulk of the ginning is reported to be grading below middling.

### Burning Corn

A Western Nebraska subscriber, referring to an article on burning corn which appeared in Wallace's Farmer of October 22, says that in that country they believe it is cheaper to burn corn than to buy coal.

We can see that this might be quite true in a country where freight on both corn and coal is high. As indicated in the previous article, however, the only experiments of which we have any knowledge seem to show that a ton of coal is worth almost two tons of corn as fuel. These experiments were conducted by the Nebraska experiment station, the method being to burn the coal and corn in a boiler and note the amount of water evaporated by each.

Possibly under farm conditions corn might be relatively more valuable for fuel. There is no reason why farmers living in localities where coal is very high and corn very cheap should not make some experiments on their own account under farm conditions, and use corn for fuel in case they find it to be cheaper.—Wallace's Farmer.

### Quiet New Year at White House

Because of the President's illness there was no White House reception on New Year Day. Members of the cabinet, however, held open house.

Secretary and Mrs. Daniels gave one of the largest receptions incidental to the ushering in of the New Year. A number of North Carolinians, including the sons of the Secretary and Mrs. Daniels, who are spending the holidays at home, were in attendance.

A section of the Marine band played throughout the afternoon.

## J. D. PARKER SLATED FOR JOB

### Picked to Succeed United States Marshall George H. Bellamy; Still Some Doubt

Washington, Jan. 1.—Based upon information furnished by leading Republicans who have been in Washington the past two weeks and others who have been interviewed in the State during the holidays, this correspondent is enabled to present exclusively the following slate of appointees to Federal positions in North Carolina under the next administration with the assurance that "the powers that be" have agreed on the list except where otherwise stated:

Gilliam Grissom, of Greensboro, secretary of the Republican State executive committee, will be recommended to succeed J. W. Bailey as Collector of Internal Revenue.

Irvin B. Tucker, of Whiteville, will be recommended to succeed E. F. Aydtlett, of Elizabeth City, as United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Frank A. Linney, of Boone, will be recommended to succeed Stonewall Jackson Durham as United States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina.

J. D. Parker, of Smithfield, will be recommended for United States Marshal, Eastern District to succeed Col. George H. Bellamy, of Wilmington.

Brownlow Jackson, of Hendersonville, will be recommended for United States Marshal, Western District, to succeed Charles A. Webb, of Asheville.

R. W. Ward, of Raleigh, will be named Postmaster for the Capital City to succeed Bart M. Gatling, Democratic incumbent.

The appointment of J. D. Parker, of Smithfield, as United States Marshal, Eastern District, has not been finally settled up, and the same thing is true about the selection of R. W. Ward, of Raleigh for the post office. There are contingencies and here they are and how they came about.

Tucker's announcement that he would take the District Attorneyship in the East eliminated J. D. Parker, late opponent of Congressman E. W. Pou, from consideration for this place and made him a contender with Ward for the Marshalship. Ward agreed to step down and out for his friend Parker provided Mrs. E. Carl Duncan, of Raleigh, wife of the former National Committeeman, did not want the place of postmaster at Raleigh. It is understood that she does not and if this is true Parker will be Marshal and Ward postmaster. If Mrs. Duncan wants the postmastership, Ward and Parker will have to fight it out with the chances favoring Parker.

Barring these eventualities, the slate stands confirmed as it will be presented to President-elect Harding soon after he takes office.—R. E. P. in News and Observer.

## Mrs. MacSwiney Sails for Home

New York, Jan. 1.—Mrs. Muriel MacSwiney, widow of the late Lord Mayor of Cork, sailed away from America today carrying to Eamonn de Valera, "president of the Irish republic," a message that "all is well" among the sympathizers with his cause in this country.

This message to the Sinn Fein leader was sent by his secretary, Harry Boland, who announced yesterday that his "chief" had landed in Erin to direct the Irish fight for independence, after spending 15 months in this country.

Several hundred Irish sympathizers surrounded Mrs. MacSwiney as she entered the pier to go on board the steamship Panhandle State, bearing aloft the three striped banners of the Irish "republic."

New York's fighting 69th regiment band serenaded her, and the crowd sang Irish airs.

## California Canning Record

San Francisco, California—Wit a production of canned fruit and vegetables last year valued at \$108,096,675, California's canning industry overtops that of any other state in the Union, and her total pack equals if not exceeds, the packs of all other states combined. Only petroleum, with a production of \$133,000,000 in 1919, brings more wealth to California than the canning industry.—The Christian Science Monitor.

## MR. W. R. LONG DIES AFTER DAY'S ILLNESS

### Succumbs Sunday Evening To Heart Trouble—An Effect of Influenza

The community was inexpressibly shocked and grieved Sunday night, when it learned that Mr. W. R. Long, one of the town's most prominent citizens had suddenly expired. For some months Mr. Long had been aware that his heart had been left in a weakened state, by a severe attack of Influenza. But he had apparently improved considerably, and arose Sunday morning, feeling well, and in particularly cheerful spirits.

Attending to the customary duties about the home, he went into the kitchen where Mrs. Long was arranging for breakfast and told her that he felt bad. His condition rapidly grew worse, and at times during the day his suffering was intense. Every means that medical science could suggest was used by the attending physicians to afford relief, and to prolong his life. But nothing availed. His hour of release had come, and as the shadows of night were falling, his spirit quietly passed away.

William Ransom Long was born in this county 59 years ago. His father was a leading business man of Caswell county, and his mother was Miss Laura Sanders, of Johnston.

He was left an orphan in early childhood, and was reared in the home of his paternal grandfather in Yanceyville.

In early manhood, Mr. Long came to this county and engaged exclusively in farming on the famous White Oak farm. But about 20 years ago he moved here, where he has since been in the mercantile business. He was an incorporator of the Austin-Stephenson company, a partner of the Austin-Long Mule company, and a business man of the highest integrity.

He was modest and retiring in disposition, gentle, courteous and sympathetic in all his dealings with his fellowmen. He was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church. He was married to Miss Kittie Sanders, daughter of the late Mr. Lucien Sanders of this county, in February 1885 and his home life was ideal in its mutual devotion and happiness.

Besides his wife, Mr. Long is survived by an only sister, Mrs. W. M. Sanders, of Smithfield.

The funeral service will take place this morning at 11 o'clock at the residence on Second street, Rev. Mr. McGeachy, of Oakland Presbyterian church and Rev. Mr. Tuttle of Centenary Methodist church officiating. The interment will be in the old Smithfield cemetery.

## Will Make Liberty Bonds Legal Tender

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 1.—Thomas E. Watson, United States senator-elect from Georgia, announces in a copyrighted statement to be published in The Atlanta Constitution Sunday, that at the extra session of the 67th Congress he will introduce a bill to make liberty and Victory bonds and other government war paper legal tender.

Mr. Watson has announced plans for introducing bills to force the federal reserve and farm loan banks to lend money directly to individuals and to require the secretary of the treasury to issue the greenbacks authorized by a bill signed by President Lincoln. The total of these authorized but unused greenbacks, according to the senator-elect, is \$102,000,000.—Charlotte Observer.

## Honeymoon in Chinese Wilderness

Constance Cleveland Robertson, prominent New York society girl, who in February, will become the bride of Hayward Cutting, of New York, aviator and war hero, and is planning to spend her honeymoon in the wilds of China. She will accompany her husband, who is a member of the exploration expedition headed by Roy C. Andrews, of the Museum of Natural History, into the depths of the Manchurian desert in search of skulls and bones of the ever-sought missing link. The expeditions plans to spend five years in China.—Greensboro News.

## JOHNSTON COTTON ASSOCIATION MEETING

### The Annual Meeting Will Be Held Next Saturday Will Elect Officers

The Johnston County branch of the American Cotton Association will hold its annual meeting at the court house at Smithfield, Saturday, January 8th, at 12 m.

The object of the meeting is to elect officers for the year and to elect delegates to the state convention at Raleigh, January 13th, at which meeting there are important issues to be voted on by these county delegates.

The things to be considered at the State Convention are: acreage reduction by signing pledges; an export corporation to sell cotton direct to Europe. This work is to be done in time to sell the remainder of last year's crop and to get ready for this year's production.

It is urgent that every cotton association member be present, also those who are interested in this work, at the county meeting. Now is the time to act and the farmers themselves are the ones to do the acting.

S. T. LILES, President.  
A. M. JOHNSON, Sec.-treas.

## Public Expenditures

Members of congress and of the various state legislatures are in for an uncomfortable time this winter. On the one hand there will be the insistent demand from the taxpayers that expenses of government, state and national, must be reduced. On the other hand will come the showing from the various state and national institutions that appropriations must be considerably increased, if these institutions are to be maintained.

So far as the national government is concerned there is plenty of room for a reduction in expenditures. There are still in Washington some forty or fifty thousand clerks and government employees of one sort and another who are hang-overs from war conditions. A good many millions of dollars can be saved by sending these folks back into productive enterprises. A good many millions can be saved by cutting down appropriations for government activities which are no longer needed.

But when we come to consider state matters there will be a different story. State expenditures were not disproportionately increased during the war. In fact, in the various state institutions, and especially in our educational institutions, salaries and other expenses were kept altogether too low. Since the war there has been a great increase in the number of students at these various institutions and they have been hard put to it to know how to take care of them, especially when the faculty was being depleted, steadily by the withdrawal of highly competent teachers, who could no longer afford to work for the salaries paid and were driven to accept attractive offers from commercial concerns, even where they would much prefer to remain in educational work.

Members of the various state legislatures should not wait until the sessions open before beginning to inform themselves as to the condition of the state finances and the state needs. They should get in touch with the proper people and begin to study this matter at once. They can not hope to do the right thing by the people of the state unless they inform themselves. We have no doubt that a careful study of the various state enterprises would disclose the fact that some of them might very properly be eliminated, but that others must have considerable additional money in order to render the service we expect of them. The people of the state have the right to expect that the men whom they have honored by election to the legislature shall put in their time informing themselves on state affairs and thus be able to legislate from actual knowledge.—Wallace's Farmer.

## Hospital at Biltmore Burned

Clarence Barker Memorial Hospital at Biltmore was partially destroyed by fire Sunday morning. The origin of the fire is undetermined. The nurses worked heroically to save the patients.

The hospital was erected by the late George W. Vanderbilt as a memorial to Clarence Barker. It was recently decided over to a board of trustees of which Charles E. Waddell, consulting engineer of this city, is president. Among the group of persons who watched the central section converted rapidly into ashes were Mrs. Vanderbilt and Miss Cornelia Vanderbilt, widow and daughter of the donor, visibly affected by the loss of this gift, in which all Biltmore took keen pride.

"Education begins the gentleman, but reading, good company, and reflection must finish him."—Locke.

"At this day, as much company as I have kept, and as much as I love it, I love reading better."—Pope.

## CLAYTON NEWS

Clayton, Jan. 1.—Mr. Irving Gower left last night for Charlotte after spending the holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Gower.

Rev. and Mrs. A. C. Moore returned yesterday from a visit to Mrs. Moore's parents at Scotland Neck.

Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Wooten, of Warsaw were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gulley during the holidays.

Mrs. Lois Bass and Miss LaRue Williams attended the Fitzgerald-Massey wedding at Princeton Tuesday of last week.

Mrs. H. P. Yelverton and little daughter, Jane Hall, of Wilson are spending some time with Mrs. J. F. Hall near town.

Prof. J. L. Duncan, of Mebane has been spending the holidays here.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Turley and family have been spending the holidays at Oxford.

Miss Theo Wooten of Richmond is spending the holidays here with her sister, Mrs. C. T. Gulley.

Mr. Weisner Farmer, who spent the holidays here has returned to Darlington, S. C. to begin work.

Miss Ruth Andrews, of Benson is the guest of Mrs. Glenn Pope this week-end.

We are glad to learn that in the course of a few weeks we will have another Jewelry Store. Mr. Bryant, of Apex who has been in the business for several years has rented the new store joining the Clayton Banking Co.

Mrs. Willie Boyett, of Wilson is visiting Mr. and Mrs. A. Sam White.

Mr. Leamon Jones has accepted a position with Mr. J. D. Smith for the coming year.

Mrs. Mozelle Huste has gone to Rex Hospital to train for a nurse. She entered upon her new duties today.

## The New President's Problems

This situation is not an easy one. Serious labor troubles have been breaking out in various parts of Mexico, the worst of them in the seaport towns; and the closing down of the silver mines, due to the rapid decline in the price of the metal, is adding to the ranks of the unemployed. It will require a strong and wise man, also, to straighten out the difficulties as to the ownership and operation of the oil-fields in such a manner as to satisfy Mexican nationalists and at the same time to leave the United States and Great Britain content. If President Obregon is anything like the able and high-minded personality portrayed in recent articles by Dr. E. J. Dillon, there is a fair chance that Mexico may emerge from her troubles. Secretary Colby's letter to Mr. Pesquiera, made public in the last week of November, looks hopeful as to a settlement of the vexed question of Article XXVII of the new Constitution of Mexico, dealing with nationalization of oil-fields.

This provision had been interpreted in many quarters as a preparation for the confiscation of existing holdings of citizens of the United States and of Great Britain. Secretary Colby expressed himself as satisfied that there had been misunderstanding and that nothing in the supposedly ominous clause need be interpreted as providing for ex post facto proceedings or for the violation of any property rights attaching to citizens of the United States.—Review of Reviews.

## Big Plans For Lake Junaluska

Bishop James Atkins, Rev. George R. Stuart, Mr. Stockham and Mr. Deitrich of Birmingham, J. R. Pepper of Memphis, Bishop James Cannon of Richmond met at Lake Junaluska Tuesday for the purpose of selecting sites for two new buildings at the Lake to replace the Administration building which was recently burned.

Besides these a large Sunday school building and a large Missionary building will be erected this coming spring. About ten cottages are already under construction and before another summer more than \$250,000 will be spent at the Southern Methodist Assembly grounds there. A new concrete bridge is being built now across the big dam.—Carolina Mountaineer and Weynesville Courier.

## A Low Trick

Just when we are beginning to think we can make both ends meet some gun comes along and mows the ends.—Bible Leaf.

The decline in prices seems to have hit everything but what a person really wants to buy.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.