

URGES UNCLE SAM TO HELP FARMERS

NORTH CAROLINA'S VIEW PRESENTED TO SOUTHERN COTTON CONGRESS.

DISPATCHES FROM RALEIGH

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of North Carolina People Gathered Around the State Capitol.

Raleigh.

J. Bryan Grimes, as Secretary of State, addressed a letter to President Watson of the Southern Cotton Congress in special session in Washington declaring that in the opinion of Governor Craig and his Council of State, the National Government should lend its aid in financing the present cotton and tobacco crop, furnishing money sufficient for the cotton owner to borrow on his cotton stored in bonded warehouses at the rate of 10 cents a pound, middling. The letter says:

"In the present crisis it would be sound business and patriotic cooperation for the banker and the farmer to work in union. The bankers should organize a system of warehousing and advancing on warehouse receipts, thus preventing heavy financial losses that will injure the banking and other business of the country.

"Immediately provision should be made by the Government for the transportation of cotton, grain, and other products to the open markets of the world, so that we should not have to rely now or hereafter on foreign ships.

"The farmers should hold as much cotton and tobacco as possible and warehouse where they can until normal trade conditions are resumed. To put much cotton on the market under present disorganized conditions means very much lower prices with no stable value. The growers will be at the mercy of the spinners and the spinners would have no certain standard of values, which would mean a further depression of the market for raw material."

North Carolina Crops Are Fine.

North Carolina crops on August 1, according to the government report, were in a satisfactory condition, the principal ones being some above and some slightly below the five and ten-year averages.

Corn, rye, hay, apples, peaches, watermelons and cantaloupes were above the average, while oats, buckwheat, potatoes, both Irish and sweet, tobacco, cabbages, sorghum and peanuts, were a little below the average.

At present prices the indications are for a

\$41,000,000 crop of corn.
\$20,000,000 crop of tobacco.
\$6,000,000 crop of wheat.
\$1,500,000 crop of oats.
\$1,200,000 crop of Irish potatoes.
\$5,000,000 crop of sweet potatoes.
\$7,000,000 crop of hay.

The condition as to other crops is given as follows: Cabbages, 68; apples, 76; peaches, 77; watermelons, 80; cantaloupes, 79; sorghum, 80; peanuts, 83. No figures are given on these as to yield. With the exception of cabbages, these averages are higher than for the United States as a whole.

Chief Justice Clark Returns.

Chief Justice Clark returned from East Tennessee. On his way back he crossed the North Carolina mountains where there are no railroads, his route being by the Yonaloosa pike. He left again, on the invitation of Dr. Joel D. Whitaker, on an automobile trip from Raleigh to the mountains of Pennsylvania, going by way of Richmond and the Valley of Virginia.

Adjutant General Returns.

Adjutant General Laurence Young returned from Fort Caswell, where he has been at the encampment of the North Carolina Coast Artillery reserves. The practice work of the reserves, the general said, was very satisfactory.

New Bern Avenue Paving Held Up.

Paving work on New Bern Avenue has been held up for the time being. This was done for the reason that the asphalt dressing will make a better union if the concrete base is left to stand for a bit and for the additional reason that the city engineering department wishes to concentrate all its available force on the grading work now in progress on Hillsboro street. An additional force was placed on the scene recently. In the meantime the city asphalt plant is not in operation.

State Prison Board Reports.

The State's Prison Board, H. B. Varner, chairman, at a meeting just held, received the report from Governor Craig of his recent inspection of the convict camp at Whitney at which there are 208 convicts held out at \$150 a day to the company making the vast developments there. The chairman stated that the report of the Governor was such as to make it unnecessary to make any changes in the management of the camp, which is in the charge of S. J. Busbee, of Raleigh.

Rate Commission Faithful to Duty.

Governor Craig in accepting and making public the report of Judge M. H. Justice and Messrs. A. A. Thompson and W. L. Poteat, composing the Rate Commission authorized by the Legislature to investigate the practicability and justice of the intrastate freight rates of the Justice act said: "The report of the commission has been made after long, diligent, patient and exhaustive work. The commission has had the benefit of counsel of the ablest lawyers and experts that could be employed. The issues involved are of the highest interest to the people of North Carolina, affecting not only the charges that they shall pay for transportation of products from one part of the state to another, but what is of far greater importance, they affect the development of our commerce and industry.

"The committee, appointed by me, is composed of three of the leading men of North Carolina. They have no superiors. The ability and character of each of the commissioners commands the highest respect and absolute confidence of all. I believe that the people of the state with practical unanimity will accept the judgment rendered by the Freight Rate Commission will accept it as a reasonable solution and settlement of a difficult question that had for many years vexed the people of North Carolina. Those who differ with the commission will readily concede that the report has been made in the spirit of justice and of the best service to the people.

"The schedule adopted will make a substantial reduction in intrastate freight rates. It does not make as much as was made by the Justice bill, but it does give relief in those places where the relief is most needed. It gives relief to the lumbermen of North Carolina, as well as to farmers and other industries, and it will enable the eastern part of the state to trade with the western part of the state.

"In fact it changes the situation that has heretofore existed and enables our people to trade with each other for their mutual welfare. It will operate, in my opinion, to the tremendous advantage of all the people of the state. Our industries will feel the effect of it, and it will manifest itself in the development of enterprise.

"The commission has performed its labor faithfully, efficiently and for the best interests of the state."

Have Their Share, Says Lacy.

State Treasurer Lacy was shocked while reading a dispatch from Fayetteville about the meeting of the Association of County Commissioners of the state, in which it was stated that Guilford county was the only county in the state that had been able to collect any part of the automobile tax for 1913 from the state.

Every county in the state has got the share due it for this tax for 1913 and the amounts for 1914 will be sent out just as soon as the pro rata list is made out, the Treasurer said. He lost no time in making the wires to Fayetteville hot to set the matter straight. He sent the following telegram to Mr. W. M. Long and Mr. B. C. Beckwith:

"Surprised to see misleading statement about automobile license taxes in morning's New and Observer. Each county has been paid its part for the year 1913 and I have the cancelled checks. Amounts for 1914 now in my hands, but the pro rata list is being made out by the Secretary of State. Payments to the counties will be made during August. See letter."

Amounts Allotted State Militia.

Washington. — Announcement was made by the war department that out of the total of \$2,000,000 annually appropriated by congress for apportionment among the states for the purchase of supplies and ammunition under the militia law, \$1,599,362 has been set aside by the secretary of war for that purchase during the fiscal year 1915. The remainder, amounting to \$400,637, has been reserved for special allotment from time to time at the discretion of the secretary.

Florida \$13,781.50; Georgia, \$35,517.69; North Carolina, \$30,344.94; South Carolina, \$30,922.24; Virginia, \$37,004.81.

All Instrument For Band Arrive.

The Third Regiment Band now has all of its new instruments. The last to arrive was a giant bass horn which went astray in shipment. This is the first time that the band has been equipped throughout with new instruments.

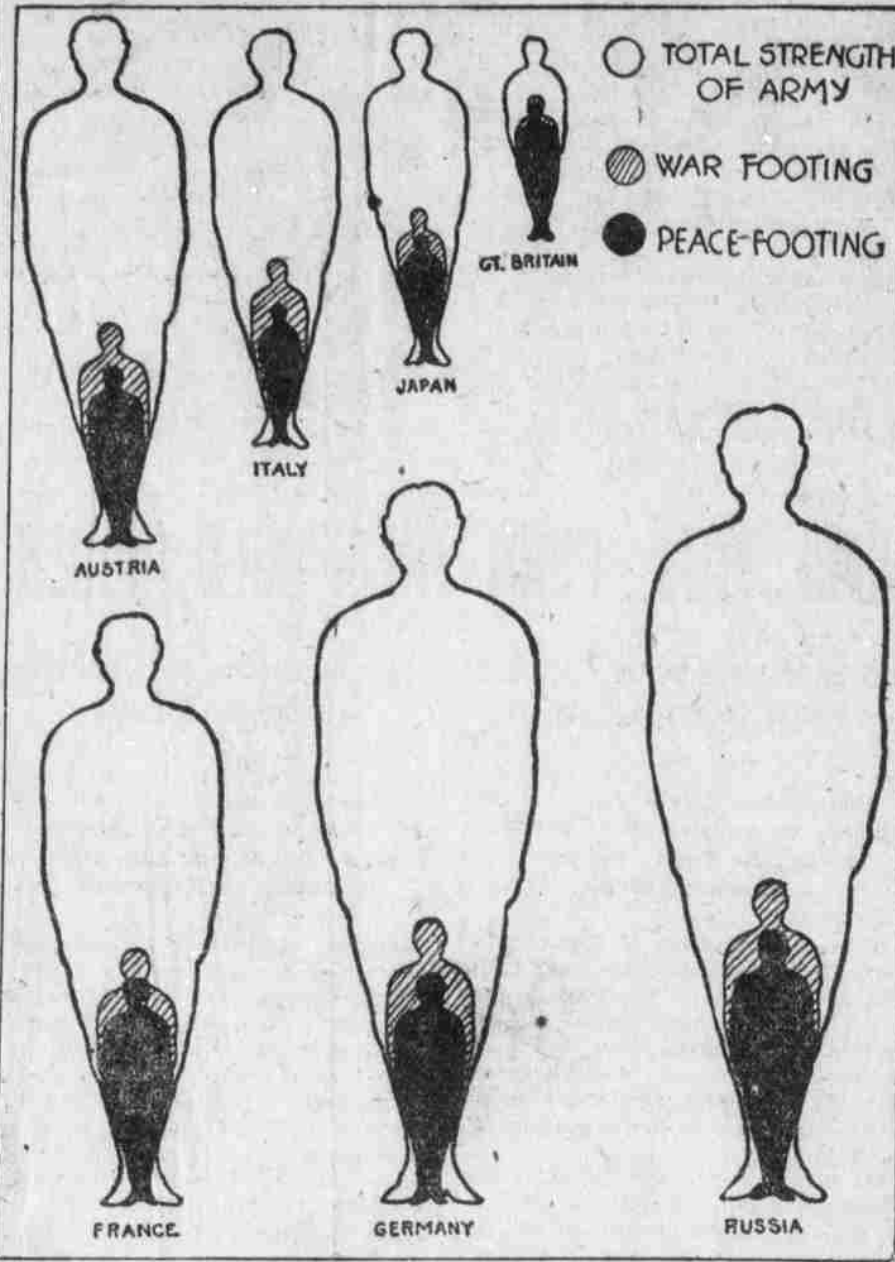
Heat Up State Capitol.

Notwithstanding it was a real hot day recently the heating plant at the capitol had on a good head of steam and the radiators in the various offices were sending out heat like that which would be needed on a cold and frosty day. Now the heat in this instance was not turned on for the purpose of adding to the comfort of the governor or the other state officials, for on the contrary it added to his discomfort. It was for the purpose of testing the new heating arrangement.

Working on National Highway.

D. H. Winslow, government road engineer devoting his time just now to the advancement of the work on the National highway through this state and Virginia, says that there is steady improvement in the condition of the road. Ten miles of standard road have been added in Dinwiddie County Va., six miles in Brunswick County, Va., and 17 miles in Granville County, this state. Mr. Winslow finds that as the road is improved all along the line there are marked saving in traveling costs.

ARMIES OF POWERS COMPARED



STATE CREAMERY MEN MEET

Creameries Represented Have Monthly Output of 150,000 of Butter which Can Be Doubled by Jan. 1.

Hickory. — The North Carolina Association met here and elected the following officers: President, Curtis Bynum, Asheville; vice president, Marvin Blanton, Shelby; secretary and treasurer, W. J. Shuford, Hickory.

The Shelby creamery was represented by Marvin Blanton of Shelby; White Pine Creamery, Asheville, by Curtis Bynum; Mooresville Co-Operative Creamery, Mooresville, John Arey; Guilford Creamery, Greensboro, A. J. Reed, state dairyman; Catawba Co-Operative Creamery, Hickory, W. J. Shuford. In addition to these gentlemen, Howard Peoples, market agent of the freight department Southern Railway with headquarters at Washington, and J. H. McLain, representing the United States Dairy Division at Washington, were also present.

The object of the meeting aside from that of electing officers was to sell the butter output of the creameries of the state co-operatively and to discuss plans for advertising the butter. The creameries represented have a combined monthly production of 150,000 pounds and it is hoped to increase this by the first of January to 300,000 pounds.

Mr. Peoples stated that the Southern Railway expected to put on dairy cars over their lines at an early date. These will make weekly trips and stop at all the creameries.

Mr. Shuford stated that many people do not think North Carolina butter is good and that advertising propaganda would be furnished to prove to the most skeptical that our butter is of the finest quality. All present were decidedly optimistic of the future. The creamery business of the state is taking on wonderful growth and the outlook is very encouraging.

The Hickory creamery recently received an order for two cars of butter to be packed in tubs. This saves a lot of work in packing and the butter will still retain its fine flavor.

Suggests Loans of Money.

Wilmington. — Through the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce letters were sent to over 200 Chamber of Commerce and Commercial organizations throughout the Southern States, outlining the details of a plan suggested by Mr. Hugh MacRae of this city for dealing with the critical situation which has arisen in connection with the problem of marketing the present crop of cotton in the face of the demoralization of the markets of the world by the European war. Mr. MacRae's plan, in brief, suggests the elimination of one-half of the present crop, which is not needed in this country, in such a manner that it will not throw a burden upon that farmer and will keep the crop of 1915 down to such small proportions that the one-half of this year's crop carried over can be marketed at a higher price than its collateral value.

K. of P. Re-Elect Meares.

Wilmington. — Captain Thomas D. Meares, city clerk and treasurer of Wilmington, was re-elected at the biennial meeting of the Supreme Lodge of Knights of Pythias, in session at Winnipeg, Manitoba, as supreme master of exchequer, which office he has held for the past 18 years. For 34 years he has been a Pythian and since 1892 has been a member of the supreme lodge. His Pythian friends throughout the state will be interested in his re-election to the high office, especially as Captain Meares is the only supreme lodge officer North Carolina has ever had.

Long Trip by Autos.

Black Mountain. — Mr. Howard Banks, private secretary to the Hon. Josephus Daniels, secretary of the navy, is spending a few days in Black Mountain with Mr. D. A. Tompkins. Prof. Jerome Dowd and wife are traveling in an automobile from Norman, Okla., to Black Mountain. The professor has rigged up an extension arrangement by which the automobile becomes a sort of a Pullman sleeper. The entire trip will be made in the automobile.

Raleigh Sells Bonds.

Raleigh. — The Raleigh city commission sold to the Security Trust Company of Spartanburg, S. C., \$75,000 bonds for additional water plant extension the bid having been 419 above par.

Fire at Troy.

Troy. — Lightning struck the Smithsonian Cotton Mills recently and set fire to the lint rooms. The fire signal brought out the fire department attached to the mills which, with the aid of the sprinkler system in the building, succeeded in extinguishing the flames in a very few minutes. The walls of the rooms were blackened and the contents badly damaged but the loss is not heavy. The fire department of the mills are well trained and do rapid work.

Patent a Subsoiler.

Statesville. — Having just secured a patent on a subsoil attachment for plows which promises to prove a great success, D. D. Littlejohn of Statesville is endeavoring to organize a company to manufacture the attachments here in Statesville and place them on the market. He has letters from plow manufacturers stating that his attachment should prove a success, and if he fails to organize a company here he will probably have the attachments manufactured by a plow company.

LOWER RATES SOME

AVERAGE REDUCTION OF NOT MORE THAN 2 PER CENT. ESTIMATED.

MAY POSSIBLY BE SMALLER

Norfolk Southern Road Seems Affected Most by Reduction—Minimum on Single Shipment 25c.

Raleigh. — A further examination of the freight rate situation shows that the intrastate rates fixed by the special legislative commission which go into effect on October 12th, unless contested by the railroads, and there doesn't seem to be much probability in that direction, are not as great reductions as appeared at first glance. Taking the actual commodities which are moved, the reduction amounts to only about two per cent, possibly not that much.

The Standard tariff in use in North Carolina, as was stated, is only about two per cent on the average higher than those fixed by the special commission, possibly not that, except in hauls over 270 miles in length. The commission made good reductions after reaching this limit, but when it is taken into consideration that the hauls of 270 miles and upward in this state are very few, it will be seen that the reductions will prove of very little benefit to the people of the state. The only road in the state affected by these hauls is the Southern.

The over estimate in the average reduction was the hurried consideration of the rates on roads not using the standard tariff. An investigation into the rate on all the systems roads shows that on the average their charges were not so far from the standard tariff.

For instance the rates on the Atlantic Coast Line in some cases are higher and in others lower than the standard tariff, while taking the average the rates are lower than the standard tariff.

The Seaboard Air Line's general average is slightly above the standard tariff.

The Winston-Salem Southbound rates are about the same as the Seaboard's.

The standard tariff applies to all the Southern lines east of Old Fort, west of that point the rates are about 10 to 25 per cent higher, owing to mountain conditions.

The new rates hit the Norfolk Southern hardest of all, perhaps. Their rates east of Raleigh are pretty close to the standard tariff, being just a fraction higher, but west of Raleigh, except the Aberdeen and Ashboro, the rates were higher, the Raleigh and Southport, for instance, being about 15 per cent.

The lumber rate, as was stated, was reduced about 10 per cent. The rate on fertilizer was also reduced about 10 per cent, but the commission increased the minimum car weight from 10 to 12 tons thereby minimizing partly the reduction.

The commission increased the minimum charge on single shipments from 15 to 25 cents.

For Farm School.

Hendersonville. — Some of the more progressive educational workers of Henderson county are launching a campaign for a Henderson county farm life school. A meeting of the teachers, educational leaders and the farmers of the county will be held at Mills River August 28. The educational leaders and teachers of the county are also discussing a county commencement of all the schools to be held next spring. This question will be taken up and freely discussed at the next monthly meeting of the Henderson County Teachers' Association here August 22.

Officers Catawba Fair.

Hickory. — At a meeting of Catawba Fair Association held here and presided over by W. J. Shuford, chairman, the following officers were elected:

President, John W. Robinson; vice president, George E. Bisanar; secretary, A. C. Henderson; treasurer, A. K. Joy; directors, H. T. Williams, W. J. Shuford, K. C. Menzies, H. P. Lutz, Gordon Wilfong and R. Lee Hewitt.

Funeral of Col. J. N. Craig.

Reidsville. — The funeral of the late Col. J. N. Craig was held here and visiting military men to the number of two hundred were here to assist in the services which was attended by one of the largest gatherings ever assembled in Reidsville on a similar occasion. The services were conducted from the First Presbyterian Church by Rev. Mr. Williams, of Greensboro. Military companies from Durham, Burlington, Thomasville, Reidsville and the regimental infirmary acted as an escort.

Insurance on Ships.

Raleigh. — A. E. Thompson, president of the Raleigh Cotton Mill, sent a telegram to Senator Simmons and Overman suggesting that this is the proper time for this country to take advantage of the opportunities. The telegram follows: Arrangement for increasing the currency being provided, ships and insurance must also be secured. If these big problems, pressing for solution, are met in a broad and efficient way, our country this year can be made the dominant nation.