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THOUSANDS HAVE LEFT GEORGIA

MORE THAN 11,000 FARMS HAVE BEEN ABANDONED SINCE LAST JANUARY.

FIGURES BY COUNTY AGENTS

Most of Those Who Have Deserted the Farms Have Left the State.

Athens, Ga.—One hundred thousand persons have left farms in Georgia since last January 1, according to figures compiled by county agents throughout Georgia, grouped at the state college of agriculture and made public by Dr. Andrew M. Soule, president of the institution. The figures include both white and colored farmers, who according to the figures, have abandoned more than 11,000 farms.

Most of those who have deserted the farms have left the state, it was said. Placing the average value of products of the abandoned farms at less than \$200 each, it was pointed out, the estimated loss in production in less than five months has been approximately \$6,000,000. The actual number of negroes who have left Georgia within the five months is estimated to be 68,960, and attributing to each of these the ability to make one dollar a day, the productive value of the population that has left Georgia in five months would in the course of a year amount to more than \$28,000,000, Dr. Soule stated.

In obtaining the figures made public, Dr. Soule stated that agents in 60 counties made actual surveys, and with these as a basis the complete estimates for the entire 160 counties in the state were obtained. In the 60 counties it was found that 25,893 negroes and 6,871 white persons had left the farms, and that 4,410 farms had been deserted.

Revokes Ruling Exempting Income. Washington.—The Treasury revoked its decision of two weeks ago, declaring exempt from income taxation corporation dividends distributed out of profits or earnings accrued prior to March 1, 1913. The ruling, officials said, would have resulted in the refunding of many millions of dollars in taxes.

No reason was given for rescinding in the previous action, although at the office of Solicitor Hartson, of the revenue bureau, it was indicated that some explanation might be made later.

There were reports that the original decision amending the revenue regulations had resulted from a ruling on one particular case and that a review of that case had convinced revenue officials that no general application of the determination should have been made.

The amended regulation, now revoked, would have made it possible for many large corporations to present claims for tax refunds which they have been forced to pay since the income tax law became effective. It would have applied largely to corporations which drew income accrued by their subsidiaries prior to March 1, 1913, and which they in turn had distributed to stockholders of the parent corporation.

Increase Shown in Grain Exports. Washington.—Grain exports from the United States last week was 6,516,000 bushels as compared to 6,120,000 for the week previous.

The totals of grain exports for the week as compared with the week previous were made public by the commerce department as follows:

Barley 10,000 bushels against 468,000; corn 924,000 against 1,769,000; oats 189,000 against 410,000; rye 633,000 against 876,000; wheat 4,760,000 against 2,597,000; flour 181,500 barrels against 269,300 barrels.

French Chief to Attend U. S. Meet.

Paris.—"I want to see the place where your wonderful soldiers were bred," said General Couraud in announcing his acceptance of the invitation of the Forty-second division to attend its annual reunion in Indiana in July. He expects to sail for America about the end of June.

In talking of his forthcoming visit, he exhibited the enthusiasm of a school boy preparing for a holiday.

"I have heard and read how much of America; and now I am going to see it," he declared. "Ah, it will be delightful."

THREE ARE LOST IN CLOUD BURST.

Sayre, Oklahoma.—Three persons are missing after a cloudburst which participated six inches of rain in 45 minutes. Short Creek left its banks and spread into a stream five blocks wide through the middle of the city.

Nearly 300 farm laborers, oil field workers and their families were rescued from tops of their tents, houses and trees.

The water began receding at midnight after causing damage here estimated at \$60,000. The railway station at Doxey, four miles east of Sayre, stood in water seven feet deep.

Hail stones larger than walnuts fell immediately preceding the rain and added to the confusion.

73 PERSONS KILLED IN FIRE

RAGING FLAMES AND RUSH FOR NARROW STAIRS DESCRIBED BY INJURED.

Cleveland School House, Eight Miles From Camden Burned, During School Entertainment.

Denmark, S. C.—The death list in the Cleveland, S. C., school house fire was placed at 73, in a report received here. A telephone message, quoting a policeman who said he was at the scene, said the school building was completely destroyed and that not less than sixty men, women and children were burned or crushed to death in the panic.

Camden, S. C.—According to a report received here 73 lost their lives in a fire that destroyed the Cleveland school house while an entertainment was in progress. Cleveland is only eight miles from Camden, but owing to apparent confusion in the former town efforts to obtain accurate information as to the reported disaster were fruitless.

The telephone operator confirmed the report of a heavy loss of life but could give few details. She informed questioners she was "exhausted from putting up calls."

The Cleveland operator previously had said the disaster had resulted from the overturning of an oil lamp on the stage. The flames spread quickly and in a few minutes the interior of the frame building was a scene of horror. The narrow stairway leading to the second floor where the entertainment was being held was quickly jammed, the operator said, and scores jumped from the windows. This accounts for many of the injured.

The phone operator said calls for doctors and nurses had been sent to Columbia and other places.

It is reported from the hospital here where several of the victims have been taken that the loss of life will not be less than thirty.

According to Dr. West, at the hospital here, only five injured have been brought here but it is certain that among the dead are S. J. West, 38, Mrs. W. B. Rhoden, 32, and Mrs. C. M. Humphries, Miller McLeod, and two members of his family.

Jess Pierce, Thelma and Rebecca West, daughters of L. M. West, and Jack Rush, S. J. West and Mrs. W. B. Rhoden, reported killed, are brother and sister of Dr. West, who gave the information.

Columbia, S. C.—According to reports received here seventy-three persons were either burned to death or killed in jumping from the second story of the Cleveland school house, eight miles south of Camden. The fire is reported to have started from the overturning of a lamp on the stage of the school house where an entertainment was being held.

Camden is 32 miles northeast of Columbia and the Cleveland school house is in a rather out-of-the-way section, about eight miles from Camden. Nothing was known here of any entertainment or commencement exercises planned at the school and no definite verification of the number killed has yet been known. Newspaper men from Columbia have just left by automobile for the scene.

Big Furniture Plant Burned.

High Point.—Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the plant of the Giant Furniture company, one of High Point's largest furniture manufacturing establishments.

J. E. Kirkman, president of the company, declined to make an estimate of the loss before an investigation, but persons acquainted with the circumstances estimated it at \$150,000.

BUSINESS GOOD DURING WEEK

SPECULATIVE MARKETS ARE DISPLAYING MUCH FIRMER TONE.

COPPER MARKET BRACES UP

Production Maintained at Level Which Approximated Best Rate of Year.

New York.—A steadier sentiment was apparent in financial and business quarters during the past week. For one thing it was evident that the principal speculative markets were displaying a firmer tone, liquidation of a pressing character having ceased and short selling having considerably improved technical conditions. Although extreme quietness prevailed during the greater part of the week, total sales on the New York stock exchange amounting to only about half a million shares Friday, this condition was considered a natural result of recent weakness and some signs of a rallying tendency were noted.

For example the copper market, which has been quiet for some time, and has been sagging in sympathy with prices at London, stopped in its decline and strengthened appreciably. Some quarters maintained this market is now in good position to respond to a resumption of buying as old contracts run out. According to this view, the general reaction in prices is an entirely normal reflection of a halt between buying movements. Such observers expect commodity prices again to stiffen as preparations are made for the fall trade. In general, however, the feeling is that it is still too early to judge whether the recent has quite run its course.

That the effect on the general level of the falling prices which have been holding the attention of the business community will be less than might be expected is argued on the basis of the behavior of the index published by the department of labor. The department's index for all commodities during April is unchanged as compared with March. Aside from a reaction in coal prices and those of farm products, all of the individual groups of the index were higher. It was pointed out that the increases have taken place in those commodities in which labor costs play a large part and it was assumed on this basis that recent wage advances will be a sustaining factor.

Chinese Troops Killed in Battle.

Tientsin.—One officer and five Chinese troops of the regular army were killed in a battle between the soldiers and the bandits who are holding 14 men of foreign countries captive in the Paotuku hills of Shantung, according to official reports issued by the Chinese military authorities here.

The casualties among the bandits is not known.

The military governor of Shantung province has ordered 1,500 additional soldiers toward the hills where the bandits are holding the captives notwithstanding the declaration of the bandits that it is necessary to withdraw the troops for the safety of their captives is to be insured.

The bandits have made the following demands on the Ting mission:

First: Immediate withdrawal of the troops toward Tsinfu and Yenchow; second, food, clothing, arms and ammunition to be sent daily to the bandits; third, recognition of the bandits as a separate and independent army, to be garrisoned in three districts south of Shantung; fourth, Suen Mie-Yao, the bandit chief, to be appointed commander of this army; fifth, Kuo Chet-Sai, another bandit leader to be made chief of staff, sixth, that they must be signed by the countries.

Baptists Name Atlanta Next.

Kansas City, Mo.—The Southern Baptist convention here selected Atlanta, Ga., as the place for the convention next year, endorsed the establishment of a seminary for negroes in Nashville, Tenn., and approved plans for the erection of a \$2,000,000 hospital in New Orleans, La.

Marathon dances were characterized as disgusting exhibitions; mob violence, whether by persons masked or unmasked, was declared to "armpile in the dust every human right."

TWENTY-FOUR RELIGIOUS FANATICS ARE KILLED.

Manila.—Twenty-four Moro religious fanatics on the Island of Pata, near Jolo (Sulu) were killed by a detachment of insular constabulary, according to a dispatch received at the office of Governor General Leonard Wood. The dispatch said that Akabara who styles himself a prophet, and his followers, attacked a constabulary detachment under Lieutenant Angeles at the village of Kiput.

THE SOUTH IS TAKING LEAD

TEXTILE MANUFACTURING GROWS IN SOUTH WHILE NEW ENGLAND IS LOSING.

Southern Plant For Construction of Machinery and Repair Parts Needed.

Richmond, Va.—The south is fast taking the lead in textile manufacturing while New England is losing her position as the textile center of the nation, according to views expressed by leading cotton manufacturers attending the twenty-seventh annual convention of the American Cotton Manufacturers association in session here.

Asserting that probably four-fifths of the textile machinery now being manufactured in the United States is intended for installation in southern plants, C. E. Hutchison, president of the association, Mount Holly, N. C., declared that one of the greatest needs of the industry at the present time is southern plants for the construction of machinery and repair parts. Mr. Hutchison said it had been estimated that replacement demands of southern mills soon would require more than a million spindles annually.

In an address before the convention during a thematic discussion of "A State's Duty to Its Industries," Governor Thomas G. McLeod, of South Carolina, urged the perfection of a system of financing consistent with the economic changes which he said were being made in this country.

"Unless in the great economic changes that are going on in this country," Governor McLeod said, "some system is perfected and properly effected by the financial interests of the country consistent with that system, the country at large is going to pay the price, not only in the crippling of industries but in the loss of its oral stamina and in the future of its government. There is something woefully wrong, there is something that demands your careful study as great economists, in any system that can multiply in exchange any crop or any necessity to the extent that the New York and New Orleans cotton exchanges have multiplied the sales of cotton."

Urging the manufacturers to seek closer co-operation with the cotton farmer, who he termed "a partner in the business," Governor McLeod declared the interests of producer and manufacturer "are indissolubly connected . . . and the future of your enterprise and industry depends upon the degree of prosperity which he entertains."

Gov. Cameron Morrison, of North Carolina, who also addressed the convention, described the two great "weaknesses of the country" as what he termed an "effort at class domination through the establishment of class will over common will" and "the indifference of the successful American to the discharge of his simple duties as a citizen."

Asserting his belief in the principle of collective bargaining, Governor Morrison said:

"I believe in according to labor, individually or collectively, every right which is enjoyed of American government, of American constitutional government, respecting every right, but whenever labor loses its head and mistakes class for country, mistakes ambition for principle and wants to transform the right and liberty of his employer, I believe in a government as swift as the lightning, exercising all the organized power of civilization to prevent it."

Governor Morrison discussed at some length the individual rights of states and the operation of state governments.

One Killed, Many Hurt.

Lima, Ohio.—One man was killed and possibly a score of persons injured at Oakland, Ohio, half way between Coldwater and Fort Recovery, when Lake Erie and Western passenger train number 2, collided head-on with a freight train. The dead man is George J. Bassler, 61, of Lima, engineer, on the passenger train.

M'LEOD ISSUES PROCLAMATION

CALLS UPON ALL SOUTH CAROLINIANS TO HELP THE SURVIVORS.

GOVERNOR GOES TO SCENE

Says Money Will Be Needed Despite Fact That Offers of Aid Have Been Declined.

Columbia, S. C.—A proclamation calling upon the people of South Carolina to contribute to the aid of the sufferers from the Cleveland school fire was issued by Governor Thomas M. McLeod.

The governor issued his proclamation after he had talked by telephone to people in Camden and had been told that despite the fact that all efforts of aid had been declined during the day, money would be needed.

His proclamation follows: "Whereas, the terrible disaster caused by the burning of the Cleveland school house in Kershaw county last night is one of the greatest tragedies our state has ever known, and

"Whereas, the cry of sorrow and distress of the relatives and friends of the men, women and children who lost their lives has reached the furthest corners of the state, and

"Whereas, in many cases these people are suffering not only from the unparalleled anguish of such bereavement but they have been deprived of financial support by the loss of the head of their families, and are in need of assistance to give them the necessities of life;

"Now, therefore, I, Thomas G. McLeod, as governor of the state, do call upon the people of South Carolina to do everything within their power to abate as much as possible the anguish of our fellow citizens. In the name of humanity, let those of us who are able send generous contributions of funds to supply physical sustenance to those who need it. Let us also unite in praying to the Divine Healer to soothe their broken spirits with His love and in assuring them of the love of the people throughout the state who sorrow with them."

Governor McLeod went to the funeral of the 73 victims of the Cleveland school fire, near Camden, after having sent his secretary, E. A. McDowell, to do what could be done to aid the suffering citizens of Kershaw county, and after having dispatched a message expressing his grief and sympathy for the stricken community. Addressed to Allen B. Murchison, Kershaw county superintendent of education, Governor McLeod's letter was as follows:

"I am writing to express to you and the people of Kershaw county my sincerest sympathy in the loss of life in the terrible tragedy of last evening.

"Many of these are friends whom I have known for life and appreciate as valuable citizens of our state. Words are inadequate to express the sorrow in such a calamity. Please tender to your people my services for anything that I may be able to do. "With deepest sympathy, I am

"Sincerely yours,
(Signed) "THOS. A. McLEOD,"
"Governor."

Increase Shown in Seed Crushed.

Washington.—Cotton seed crushed during the nine month period, August 1 to April 30, totalled 3,132,666 tons, compared with 2,922,230 tons for the same period a year ago, and cotton seed on hand at mills April 30 totalled 64,752 tons, compared with 46,140 tons a year ago, the Census Bureau announced.

Products manufactured in the period and on hand April 30 include: Refined oil produced 835,584,067 pounds, compared with 790,768,610, and on hand 236,001,125 pounds, compared with 302,079,057.

Cake and meal produced 1,437,229 tons, compared with 1,320,318, and on hand 141,578 tons, compared with 133,810.

Linters produced 580,982 bales, compared with 386,366, and on hand 57,516 bales, compared with 123,927.

Exports of linters for the nine months totalled 30,288 bales, compared with 98,188.

More Captives Taken.

Shanghai.—Chinese bandits attacked Tawenkow, a town 90 miles north of Lincheng, and seized a number of captives, according to a report received here.

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