

# THE DUNN DISPATCH

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## RETAIL TRADE IN NATION IMPROVES

General Business Conditions Continue Satisfactory; Huge Car Loadings

New York, Dec. 3.—Indices of industrial trade activity continued satisfactory during the past week. If a tendency toward a slight slowing down in production has been apparent, this is regarded as a natural thing at this season and is compensated for by the improvement in retail trade which comes with cold weather and the holidays.

As a matter of fact industrial activity is holding up remarkably well. Car loadings for the week ended November 18 totaled 989,000 cars, which is close to the high record for the year and well above anything previously accomplished at this season. Taking everything into consideration, it would appear that the fall movement of traffic has been the largest and best sustained in the country's history.

Steel production also continues to maintain a better rate than has been expected. Various authorities place the output at close to eighty per cent of capacity, which means that no diminution has taken place in the year's best rate. Pig iron prices are still showing a tendency to work lower in company with those of coal, and the prices of finished steel products, which have been remarkably steady for a number of weeks, are being shaded slightly. The hub of the situation seems to be that while the United States Steel Corporation and some of the independents have accumulated a good backlog of work, other independents are not so favorably situated. No large reductions in steel prices are expected, however.

### Railroad Earnings

One of the developments which caused satisfaction in financial circles was the publication of a large proportion of the October railroad earning statements. Bearing in mind the series after effect of the strike, the carriers' efforts to put their

returns which gave only 2.9 per cent of valuation, most observers had anticipated poor earnings in October. At first glance the actual reports might be taken as indicating that expectations were fulfilled, as the comparisons with October a year ago disclosed a general falling off in net. October, 1921, was, however, an unusually good month, 5.4 per cent of valuation being earned. Meanwhile, the comparison with September is encouraging. Thus, 54 class one railroads earned net of \$71,000,000 in October as compared with \$45,000,000 in the previous month. As a heavy traffic movement continued in November, it is apparent that the carriers' purchasing power is likely to be considerably better than recently had been supposed.

Possibly the better railroad statements had their effect on stock prices. In any event, the latter rallied vigorously during the week, active short covering being in evidence over the entire list. Monetary conditions continue comfortable and there is little expectation of any considerable disturbance in the money market during the rest of the year.

The commodity markets have lapsed back into a relatively stagnant condition. Cotton continues to be bought by trade interests when it falls to the 25-cent level and to be sold when it moves up close to 26 and the market is awaiting the government ginning report which will be made public next Friday.

Wheat prices rallied after the reaction of a week ago, strength being most marked in December contracts, on which the first deliveries have been light. Export demand and the car situation are still considered the dominating factors in this commodity.

### STEPHENSON NOT GUILTY

#### OF ELECTION FRAUDS

Smithfield, Dec. 4.—The trial of Claude Stephenson, election registrar for Pleasant Grove township in the recent election, was brought to a hearing in the Recorder's Court on Tuesday of last week. The state had the defendant charged with making fraudulent entries on the registration books of his township. The questions of corrupting the election returns was involved and the prosecution was forwarded by some of the Republican leaders.

The prosecution failed to produce enough evidence to bind the defendant over to the Superior Court and he was discharged.

## GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST IN SHRINE MEET IN JUNE

Large Appropriation Asked To Provide For Visitors Expected June Third

Washington, Dec. 5.—The Imperial Council Session of the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America, which will occur in Washington in June, 1923, is expected to bring to the Capital City the largest crowd of sight seers which has ever invaded it. It is predicted, from requests for parking space for railroad cars, and reservations made in hotels, that more than three hundred thousand visitors will crowd Washington during Shrine week.

Provision for the comfort and safety is made in a joint resolution introduced in the Senate by Chairman Ball, of the Senate District Committee. This resolution appropriates \$25,000, or so much of that sum as may be necessary for the maintenance of public order, the safety of the public, etc., during the annual session of the Imperial Council of the Mystic Shrine.

The convention will be held from June 3 to June 7, inclusive, but the appropriation covers the period from May 25 to June 10.

The resolution also appropriates funds for the erection of temporary public convenience stations, information booths, etc. The commissioners are to be authorized to make special regulations for the occasion, to fix passenger fares, and otherwise control the public utilities.

The public utilities that would be called into service.

## HUGE SUM ASKED FOR SCHOOLS OF CAPITAL

Washington, D. C. To Be Center of Education, Legislative Plan

Washington, Dec. 7.—That the Nation's Capital should be the center of the educational life of the nation, as well as its governmental center, is demanded in a resolution passed at the annual convention of the National Education Association in Boston, and backed by the bold request of the

## 25,000 MEMBERS TO RECEIVE 2ND CHECK

Advances of \$25 Per Bale To Be Made Dec. 15—Have Sold Some Cotton

25 MEMBERS . . . N. . . o: 2Mt—N Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 4.—The headquarters staff of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association faces the big task of sending out Christmas checks to 25,000 members.

Advances of \$25.00 a bale are to be made December 15 on all cotton delivered to the Association up to December 1. It was necessary to limit the date for the second advance in order to make bookkeeping arrangements, which is no inconsiderable item to say nothing of getting three million dollars with which to make the advances.

The Association announces that it cannot honor drafts for more than fifty dollars a bale at time of delivery and that members making deliveries this month will have to wait until after the advances are made on October and November cotton before receiving their \$25.00 advance.

The impression in some quarters that members can now draw for \$75 a bale is without foundation, General Manager Blalock states, and members can draw only for \$50.00 at time of delivery.

The Tar Heel cooperatives have established a record in maintaining a steady flow of cotton into warehouses since October 1. The November deliveries were equal to those in October, it is stated, and it is expected that there will be a large delivery this month.

While the Association has sold some cotton, it is understood, it has adhered to its policy of orderly marketing.

Cotton and tobacco cooperatives are holding a series of joint mass meetings in eastern counties this week, which are being addressed by Dr. Clarence Poe, Dr. B. D. Kilgore and other leaders in the cooperative movement.

## DUKE NEWS

Duke, Dec. 4.—At a recent meeting of the principals and representatives of the county high schools, plans were formulated for an association of the respective towns in the county in a basketball league. The league comprises the following names: Duke High; Lillington High; Peats High; Dunn High and Abbeville High. Along with the program worked out for the boys, a girls' association was perfected. They will play whenever the boys do. Miss Anna Camp, county athletic director, is to have charge of all things, in reality a second "Judge League." She will keep the records and also publish the weekly stand of the teams in the county paper. It was decided to split the school into halves, the winner of each team to play for the championship of the county. The season opens December 18, with the local team playing Chapel Hill, while Dunn tackles Angier. Much interest is being manifested in the coming games. The winner of the championship will receive a handsome grant.

Rev. H. L. Davis, recently appointed Methodist minister here, arrived here last week to assume his duties of the local charge. He preached his initial sermon at Grace's Chapel, which has been recently added to the Duke circuit.

Mrs. S. W. Holmes of Ridgecrest,

is spending several days here with her daughter, Mrs. W. P. Holt.

Miss Mildred Hines of Monroe,

spent the week end here, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Simpson.

Miss Lella Field of Durham, spent several days here last week, the guest of Miss Mamie Washington.

Misses Rose and Gladys Hamilton of the graded school faculty, attended the Teachers Assembly in Raleigh last week.

W. H. Lawrence and E. R. Thomas were wed and visited in Durham.

G. D. Sample of the high school faculty, spent the Thanksgiving holidays at his home in Monroe.

Mrs. E. H. Stover and children spent several days here last week in Durham and Raleigh.

Miss Ruby Jackson of the graded school faculty, is here.

## VALUABLE LESSON FROM GREAT FIRE

Frame Houses With Shingle Roofs And Few Open Spaces Invite Disaster

Statesville, Dec. 4.—"New Bern's great disaster, which has aroused the sympathy and the interest of the entire State, should be a warning to the other towns and cities of the State," declared J. Paul Leonard, executive secretary of the North Carolina Merchants' Association and secretary of the Merchant's Mutual Fire Insurance Company of North Carolina, on the eve of his departure this morning for Hickory, where he speaks tonight before a meeting of Hickory merchants and business men.

Mr. Leonard, in his recent talks to local Merchants' Associations over the State, has urged them to inaugurate movements in their respective towns and cities for the passage of ordinances prohibiting the use of wood and other combustible shingles, and regulating the erection of all buildings, in order that the danger from great conflagration may be minimized.

"Just what happened in New Bern can happen in most of our towns and cities under similar circumstances, because the majority of our houses are of frame construction with shingle roofs, with few vacant spaces at which fires could be checked," said Mr. Leonard.

The fact that a cemetery in New Bern served to change the course of the fire should serve to bring to the attention of residents of our towns now in the making, it was pointed out by Mr. Leonard. The adaptability of setting aside vacant lots here and there for parks and playgrounds, as these serve a double purpose when fire, "the danger that never sleeps," comes to a community.

Montreal's bachelor tax, yielding \$100,000 a year, was voted down. The vote stood 23 to 8 in support of an appeal to the provincial legislature to repeal the law.

Mark Demange, age 20, only son of Ovide Demange, of New Bedford, Mass., one of three claimants to a fortune of \$12,000,000, now in the National Bank of France, is employed as a clerk in a grocery store in this city, and despite the fact that he may soon be rolling in wealth, daily handles his

work as if he were without prospect of being the only son of a multimillionaire.

Young Demange stated that his father told him several months ago in a letter that he had been notified of the fortune by the French embassy and again by Senator Lodge a short time ago, the Massachusetts Senator personally calling on his father and notifying him that he may be relative.

Demange declared that a year ago he heard his father speak of an uncle who died in France, and is positive this is the uncle leaving the fortune. He has not been advised by his father as to whether any steps have been taken to lay legal claims to the wealth, but is confident that the senior Demange will protect his interest with legal representation.

When asked as to whether he planned to return home, the youth replied: "I have two cents."

**IN THE WHEAT CROP**

Turn Under Your Straw Is Advice Of Agricultural Instructor

By W. Lee Cooper, Jr.

Agricultural Instructor Alexander Wilson, High School, Graham.

Last year the wheat fields of Alamance county looked as good as they had in many years. All farmers expected a splendid yield. No one suspected bands of little robbers encamped in the previous year's stubble and straw to issue forth about the first of May and within about ten days eat our wheat yield from one-third to one-half, and thereby rob our farmers of thousands of bushels of wheat. Well, that is exactly what happened last year. Furthermore the same little army has gone into winter quarters and is planning to do the same thing next May.

The enemy I speak of is known as the joint worm and occurs in abundance in all States west of the Mississippi river where wheat is grown. It is a little white grub which is born and reared in the stems of wheat. The egg is laid by the adult insect about the first of May and hatches in fourteen days. Then, for the next fourteen days this little rascal does its damage. It is during this time, that it feeds on the juices of the plant and thereby causes hard wood galls usually in the second or third joint from the ground. These woody places serve to cut off the plant food needed by the kernel and the rest of the stem.

The result is that the wheat does not fill, the straw becomes weak and apparently dies instead of ripening. A wind often blows much of it over, causing a most ragged appearance in the field.

Mr. Farmer, what are you going to do about this? Just one of three things you can do. You can turn under your wheat straw before next spring and thus prevent the adult insect from coming out and laying its eggs, or you can substitute other small grain such as rye, oats and barley since this insect attacks no other kind of plant, or you can do as you have been doing, let the little fellows have what they want and you take that which is left.

**COMMITTEE APPOINTED FOR TURLINGTON MONUMENT**

Smithfield, Dec. 4.—W. H. Austin was chosen to head the drive for funds for the erection of a monument to Prof. Ira T. Turlington, widely known for his educational work in Johnston county, in a meeting held here recently.

Consultation with a sculptor has revealed that the cost of a suitable memorial to Mr. Turlington will be around \$10,000, and every effort will be made to raise this sum.

A blue-winged teal, banded in Lake Serugog, Canada, 16 miles from Lake Ontario, was found in Trinidad, 8,000 miles away, two months and seven days later.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE PLEASES MR. TINKHAM

Mr. Harding's Idea of Law Enforcement in Commanded in Letter By Massachusetts Man

Washington, Dec. 4.—Representative Tinkham, Republican, Massachusetts, made public yesterday a letter to President Harding commanding his reported intention to refer in his message to Congress to "wide-spread disrespect for law as exemplified by defiance of the 18th amendment," and suggesting that all parts of the constitution "be enforced equally and impartially."

"With the greatest respect," Mr. Tinkham wrote, "may I draw your attention to the fact that, whereas the 18th amendment is permissive in its authorization to Congress to pass legislation to enforce it, the second section of the 14th amendment which commands Congress to reduce representation in proportion to disfranchisement is mandatory and imperative and is now scandalously and completely unenforced and nullified."

Mr. Tinkham asserted that "with ignorant and widespread disfranchisement established by indisputable evidence now before Congress and by common knowledge, and the second section of the 14th amendment unenforced, the very tenure of the office you hold and the representation of the lower house of Congress is tainted with unconstitutionality."

Mr. Tinkham suggested that the President call attention of Congress to its present unconstitutional composition."

**GROCERY CLERK MAY BE HEIR TO MILLIONS**

Asheville Youth One of Three Claimants of \$12,000,000 French Estate

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**WANTED: HUSBANDS FOR 150 MEMBERS OF Harem OF THE FORMER SULTAN**</