

THE Citizens National Bank OF GASTONIA

Capital \$50,000.00

Table with 2 columns: OFFICERS and DIRECTORS. Lists names like R. P. Rankin, C. N. Evans, A. G. Myers, R. P. Rankin, C. N. Evans, Edgar Lavo, J. A. Glenn, Dr. J. M. Sloan, R. R. Haynes, Robert A. Lovo.

We wish to express our grateful appreciation to our friends who have given us their business since we opened. We extend a cordial invitation to the public to do business with us, and promise liberal treatment. Will make loans at the legal rate of interest, and pay interest on time deposits. We want your business and will extend every courtesy and accommodation consistent with sound banking. Call to see us or write us.

A. G. MYERS, Cashier

TO THE COTTON GROWERS OF GASTON COUNTY ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT ABERNETHY.

Farmers are Urged to Attend the Meeting at Dallas Next Tuesday—The Fight Almost Won—Cotton Worth \$15 a Bale More Than When the Farmers Began to Hold—The South is \$67,500,000 Better off Than by—Farmers Urged to Stand by Their Organization and Attend the Dallas Meeting.

To the Editor of the Gazette: Mt. Holly, N. C., Feb. 21—Will you please be so kind as to publish the following article in your valuable paper, provided you can do so this week. Fellow Farmers of Gaston County:

I feel it my duty to address you once more in this way, before our County meeting in Dallas next Tuesday, the 28th. I do so that I may be able to show you that we have as cotton growers of the South accomplished more in the last eight weeks than ever could have been reasonably expected. Hitherto it has been said that the farmers could not be got together and the Shoppers of Wall Street were taking advantage of this and the benefits of our having raised a large crop last year. They were sending out estimates and photographs of cotton fields and great piles of cotton, almost everywhere and in every way they were trying to deceive the farmer and make him believe that it would be almost an impossibility to get rid of the cotton that they had on hand. They told us that there was a crop of something like thirteen and a half million bales made last year and that the price would go down to something like five cents per pound, which would have been the ruination of the South. They had not stopped to figure out that they were kicking us too hard and too fast. They had not stopped to think our people would scorn their kicks if they came too heavy, they had not stopped to think of the panic we have just recovered from, and that by it we were forced to be economical and wise, and by that we had tried in a very substantial way to better ourselves by living at home instead of in somebody else's smoke-house or corn-crib. Ah, but they found our Southern people almost a unit and ready to declare their independence of Wall Street and the gamblers that had been shifting the cards to their benefit and our ruin for so long a time. They had sat up there and said how much land we would plant this year, in cotton, and had made the price on our staple that we had at home. They had gone on and sold it ahead for future delivery, and expected you and me to bring it in at their calling and at the price they made.

But for one time we have banded ourselves together, and are making them sing another song. The mill men are running short, and will soon have to force the speculators to deliver the goods. It is then that you will hear them squall, 'prices will go up if we will only hold out and resent any offers they make. I have had the opportunity of meeting many mill men of late, each of whom has advised me that we had the key to the situation, and that it was but necessary for us to hold on, as we had been, to win the fight. In spite of their great estimate of our last crop, and predicting that the price would go down, you have seen it go up almost every day since we began to organize. If you will now take out your pencil and figure with me a little you will see what we have accomplished by uniting. We were told by them that cotton was bound to go down, and that it could not be expected that it would be far from the figure of 5 cents per pound. Now taking their estimate for it, and theirs alone, you will see that on the four and a half million bales that they now concede to be in the hands of the farmers, if sold today, there has been a gain in value over they said it would be, of sixty-seven and a half million dollars. Giving them the benefits of all this, and taking it for granted that they were mistaken, and that the price would not go as low as they said, yet it can be reasonably relied on that the price would not have advanced any under customary circumstances. Notwithstanding the enormous crop, by your uniting you have advanced the value of your cotton on hand to the tune of over thirty-three million dollars above what it was when you began organizing. Taking those figures as a basis in favor of your organizing, you will see that there are great things in store for the farmers if they will only effect a permanent organization and there-by stand together. You see the effect of other professions organizing. This should be conclusive evidence to you that it is your duty to do the same. We are not antagonistic to any one, nor do we want to hurt any man in an honorable profession. Our object is to protect ourselves, and to insure to the farmer a reasonable price for his products. We should not legislate nor combine against any men or set of men nor their occupations. Just simply hold on to that which you have and look out for your protection and let the other fellow go. To illustrate this, let me say that if perchance you have a merchant in your town, if you live in one, and he is not doing an honorable business, you need not fight him nor try to drive him out, but get your people to resolve not to patronize him nor his business and he will soon go. We are not so much fighting Wall Street speculators, as we are trying to protect ourselves. When by organization, and holding off from the market our produce, and curtailing expenses, and making the supply equal to the demand, when this is done my fellow farmers, you and I will be in position to name the price of our product as other professions do theirs. It is our duty to come together as a unit, and confer one with another so we will understand each other better. By doing this we can link our ideas together and make our country more prosperous. I know that none of us are perfect, hence it will be impossible for us to get our organization perfect, at least it will be for awhile. But we must not lay down our courage, but stand firm; by so doing we will be able to build up ourselves till we can become a power in the land by being able to protect ourselves. We should not be dependent but independent. We are the mud and sills of the universe and no institutions can exist without us while we can exist without many other institutions and occupations. Hence it is, that instead of us having to take a back seat we should be on the front. We give way too much, largely because we think our ability will not cope with that of other professions. This is not the case. In our profession can be found men of brains and with as broad ideas as men of any other occupations. It is true that our book learning may not be equal to that of others, but our common sense is equal and that is the foundation for all things to come. We can and should come to the front. The opportunity is before us. In our rounds we find some that have not the faith in us that they should have. To them I wish to say be of good cheer, our cause is your cause. Some say they will not join because others have joined that ought not be permitted in it. This may be true, and I concede that they are right. But let me tell you, my friend, come in and help us fight the battle. Your staying at home and talking at the cross roads and county stores will not keep them out. Come to the convention and show your manhood. You are needed there to help keep out the men that ought not to be in. We want you to come to our rescue now and aid us all you can. You can do us as well as yourselves good by coming. Come, my friends, and see how hard your friends are working to help you out and keep out those that don't belong in. Again, I want to say attend the meetings. Don't sit at home and cuss because things are not carried out to your notion. We don't know what you want, and therefore we want you there to tell us. Yes, be there and be as big a man as anybody. Speak out openly and express your sentiments. But don't get mad because everybody don't see things as you do. Try on till maybe by and by you can convince them that you are right. Yes, get in line, the good effects are plainly visible, and show that we can accomplish much. Your association is all that the men in it have been able to make it, and may

be the reason that it is not what you want it, is because you have not all been there. Some have not joined on account of the alliance having been a failure. To those I want to say, you know it was caused by the political aspirations of some of the leading members. Again, my friends, it was a national institution. It covered the country and had but one platform, which was 'not suitable to all sections. Our Government stands because we have laws regulating our nation, states and counties. Each governed them, and a law that would suit us here would likely be undesirable in Maine or Mexico. Our cotton Association covers only 17 states and territories, which includes the area in which cotton is produced. Those sections cover about 620 counties, and what is beneficial to one cotton growing county is beneficial to another. Our organizations are non-political and therefore we can afford to work in accord with one another. Hence I ask that none refuse to join us on account of the failure of the Alliance. But be at the meetings and express your views on those matters; you may be the one that can wake the people up to that which may help you and them. Our meeting Tuesday may be the last of its kind as a mass meeting of the farmers for awhile. It seems that our farmers have organized so well in each township that hereafter each of them is likely to send delegates to carry out your wishes at said county meetings. It is partly on this account that we want a great meeting Tuesday. I want you to all be there whether you are a member of the association or not. Come and see what we are trying to do for you and ourselves. Quit your work for one day. It will pay you. Show to the world that you as Gaston county citizens are ready to join in with those that are trying to save the South. I am already assured that there will be a large attendance, but I want it to be larger than is expected. The good people of Dallas will greet you with open hands and be glad to see you. If you have good horses and buggies and good clothes to put on come; if not put on that which you have and come anyhow. You will not be judged by your clothes nor conveniences; there is as good blood under brown jeans and slouch hats as there is under broadcloth and silk beavers. Hence get ready, tell your wives and daughters that you are going to take a day off and go to Dallas and for them to take care of the chickens and feed the calves and babies till you come back. Tell your people that it has been circulated abroad that no man shall be deprived of his views at Dallas next Tuesday on account of his poverty, and that you are going. Tell them that it has been sounded abroad that the farmers are combining in order to get good prices for cotton, that the 'old women and the gals' helped make and that you are going to join 'em and help fight that great battle. Tell them that old Theodore Price, of Wall Street, the arch-enemy of the cotton industry of the South, told the people that cotton would sell for five cents per pound before Feb. 15th, and that the farmers jumped in and organized and now the bales you have around your home are worth \$15.00 each more than those enemies predicted they would be worth. Tell them that the farmers have brought all those things about by organization and that you are benefited by it as much as they, and that you are going to help them now and that you are going to make the start by going to Dallas. Tell them that you can do as much as anybody else in this movement, and that you are going to do it. If you don't want to pay the hotels for your dinner, and the stables for your horse feed, tell your folks to kill a chicken and fry it soon Tuesday morning so you can get a soon start, and take a little horse or mule feed along so you can be independent instead of dependent. Wishing you all well and hoping that I will have the pleasure of meeting you all at Dallas early next Tuesday morning, I beg to be as ever your humble servant. Row. L. ABERNETHY, Chairman Gaston County Cotton Growers Association.

The forty-fifth State Fair will be held in Raleigh this fall, October 18-21, having just been announced as the date.

WHITE AND NEGRO LABOR. Mr. Carnegie, some months ago, in discussing the negro, said that he was entitled to consideration, as he gave the United States about 11,000,000 bales of cotton annually. In that statement he missed the mark by about 75 per cent. The negro is simply a stumbling block in the way of the prosperity of the South, and all men here recognize that fact. There is a new condition here. In twenty years the negro will be crowded out by a good class of white immigrants—men who can buy and work our vacant lands. When that is done, then the South will prosper as no other land has ever prospered. The blot on the prosperity of the South is the negro, and we are making efforts to remove that blot. WILLIAM P. CALHOUN, Edgefield, S. C., Jan. 29. Extinguishing Hatred. News leaked into this office of a thrilling matrimonial occurrence that took place in Gaston county. A young man went to Dallas and got his license to marry a certain young lady. When he reached the domicile of his betrothed, her father held her under the key. Whereupon the prospective groom was about to bombard the castle in which his lady was locked. To avoid trouble the old gentleman gave a bystander \$15.00 to buy the young man's license. He sold his license, but did not drop his quest. Going to Lincoln, he purchased him another license for \$3.00, thereby clearing \$12. The next day found him before a magistrate with the lady of his heart.

THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE CONDITION OF THE SOUTHERN WHITE FARMER IS DUE TO HIMSELF. For some years past it was the custom of Southern young men to quit the farm and seek employment in the cities and towns, leaving the farming to the negroes. The reverse is now the case. The young white men are leaving the cities and towns for the farms, and the negroes are leaving the farms as fast they can. The negro prefers to make a precarious living in the cities and towns by doing hard work on the farms. The consequence is that negro labor is becoming very scarce; and in some sections of this country farmers have been almost abandoned where negro labor was depended on. It is even a hard matter in the town to procure cooks and house servants, the negro women and girls preferring to lead immoral lives to working. The result has been that Southern white people have become more self-reliant and are learning to do their own work. If the farming interests were left to the negro the South would not produce 400,000 bales of cotton. The large crops that are now being made are made by the land owners and their children; and from that fact the South was never in a better condition. By their rush to the towns and cities some years back the young men overcrowded the stores and all lines of business, and necessity has forced them back to the farm. As negroes are leaving the farms for the cities, our effort now is to secure a good class of immigrants. That is a necessity under the existing conditions here. We have thousands upon thousands of acres of land lying idle and we want to build up our waste places and substitute white ownership for the worthless negro labor that we have. Year by year the negro is becoming a less and less important factor in every line of industry, and we are now willing to see

DREAMS OF SPRINGTIME! Notwithstanding the ice and snow, each passing day ushers us nearer and nearer to the days of spring flowers and sunshine. The longer the winter holds on, the shorter the time for spring preparation. Let your thoughts turn now to our store and our stocks, remembering that we carry everything that's pretty in the line of ladies' furnishings. To-day we mention only our Ribbons at 10 to 50c. New Neckwear. Gingham. Neat designs, Renfrow fast colors, 10c. Zephyr Stripe 10c. Plain Chambrays 10c. Our line of White Goods cannot be surpassed 5 to 25c. Watch for further interesting announcements. JAMES F. YEAGER

HEALTH is the Most Important The manufacture of Royal Baking Powder have had 40 years of scientific experience. Every method of brand-and-cake raising has been exhaustively studied in this country and abroad. The result is a perfect product in Royal Baking Powder. There is no substitute for it. The purity and efficiency of Royal Baking Powder have been commended by the highest authorities of the world. These facts mean two important things to all householders: First: that Royal Baking Powder is healthful and makes wholesome food. Second: that Royal Baking Powder makes good bread. ROYAL BAKING POWDER ABSOLUTELY PURE. Subscribe to The Gazette.

CHARTER OF THE CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK OF GASTONIA, N. C. No. 7336. TREASURY DEPARTMENT. Office of Comptroller of the Currency. WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER 30, 1904. Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that The Citizens National Bank of Gastonia, located in the town of Gastonia, in the county of Gaston and State of North Carolina, has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of Banking; Now therefore I, Thomas P. Kane, Deputy and Acting Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that the Citizens National Bank of Gastonia, located in the town of Gastonia, in the county of Gaston and State of North Carolina, is authorized to commence the business of Banking as provided in Section fifty-one hundred and sixty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States. In testimony whereof witness my hand and Seal of office this Thirtieth day of December, 1904. T. P. KANE, Deputy and Acting Comptroller of the Currency.

Will Springtime Ever Come? Washington Post. A correspondent of 'The Post,' evidently oppressed with the weight of winter, writes to ask us if springtime will ever come again. The question is a reasonable one. The answer must be in the affirmative, because spring has succeeded winter ever since the world began. At the same time, even though nature never slipped a cog before, we can well imagine that the time has come when things might go awry. It seems a lifetime since the sun was in the summer solstice. There was a season once, as we now most dimly recall, when the air was warm and balmy, when the flowers bloomed, and when the perspiration deluged our superheated brows. We remember, long ago, that luscious watermelons grew and ice-cold cantaloupes brought comfort to our sultry mornings. There was a time, so it is said, when strawberries were vended through the streets and when the blissing sun parched all the earth. This was so long ago that children, though have since become adults. It is a period which taxes the memory of the oldest inhabitant as he shivers beside the fire. For weeks and months—or years—the sun has been without a particle of warmth. The air has been as cold as the north pole. The ground is hid beneath the hammocks of accumulated ice and snow. The wind howls bleakly, the clouds obscure the sky, and winter reigns supreme. There is, alas, no hope nor help for us. Perhaps, when springtime finally arrives, we will sigh for the nipping and the eager air of these dear winter months. Perhaps in summer time we will yearn for just one breath of the wind that comes out of the northwest. It may be so. At present, however, we would rather be stricken by the sun than frozen stiff. The Senate on Friday accepted from the State of Illinois a statue of Frances E. Willard which has been placed in Statuary Hall at Washington. It is the first statue of a woman to be placed in the hall.