

GASTONIA COTTON 40 CENTS TODAY

GASTONIA DAILY GAZETTE

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MEREDITH SPEAKS BEFORE SOUTH CAROLINA FARMERS

Secretary of Agriculture Addresses South Carolina Branch of American Cotton Association at Columbia - Discusses Boll Weevil.

(By The Associated Press) COLUMBIA, S. C., March 25—An increased production of calcium arsenate will make it possible for farmers to wage war against the boll weevil this year on a greatly enlarged scale, Secretary of Agriculture Meredith told the members of the South Carolina branch of the American Cotton Association in an address here today.

Regarding efforts the department of agriculture is making to confine the pink boll weevil to the infested areas in Louisiana and Texas, he asserted the department's willingness to place a federal quarantine. "Everybody interested in cotton ought to realize, however," he said, "that the thing must be done now or not at all. Extermination is possible only at the beginning of infestation, when the insect occupies only very restricted areas. Unless the pink boll worm is exterminated now—and it cannot be exterminated except by absolute co-operation of the states concerned—it will sweep over the entire cotton belt and will inevitably inflict much greater damage than the boll weevil has done."

Mr. Meredith said the test of calcium arsenate as a poison that would eliminate the ordinary boll weevil was tried last year on an abandoned farm. "The department divided the field into three strips," he said. "The unpoisoned strip on one side produced 48 pounds of cotton, the strip on the other side produced 90 pounds and the strip down the middle where the drinking water was poisoned produced 480 pounds of cotton."

More than 9,000 acres of cotton land in western Texas were cleared of cotton plants and even the bolls and leaves, the secretary told the members of the association, in order to check the spread of the pink boll weevil. "Since then the same tactics were used in the Pecos valley and the Great Bend district, and non-cotton and regulated zones established in the infested areas and buffer strips beyond them and also along certain portions of the Mexican border to prevent infestation from Mexico."

"Fumigation houses were established at points of entry all along the Rio Grande," Mr. Meredith said, "and every carrier that crosses the line, from a freight car that may be fouled with cotton to a Mexican tramp with a possible handful of cottonseed in his pocket or wrapped up in his bundle, is cleaned or disinfected before being allowed to enter the United States."

Quoting from a preliminary report, the secretary gave some of the figures on the cost of cotton production. "Nobody has known just how much it has cost to produce cotton," he said. "The department of agriculture undertook to find out. The office of farm management began a series of studies in the cost of producing cotton under varying conditions. The work has just been completed and the preliminary report shows that for the 1918 crop the cost varied from \$9.08 to \$11.63 per pound. It is interesting to note that 85 per cent of the cotton on the farms studied, representing 88 per cent of the production, was grown at a cost of 28 cents per pound, or less. The average cost of production was 23 cents a pound. The average selling price was 29 cents and even at this price one fourth of the farmers produced their cotton at a loss. Owing to reduced yields and increased wages the cost of producing the 1919 crop has been considerably larger."

PROFIT AT COST OF 24c PER POUND. WASHINGTON, March 25—The department of agriculture announced today that investigation just completed by the office of farm management of the department shows that at a price based on a "bulk line" cost of 28 cents per pound plus 85 per cent of the cotton grown in 1918 on 842 farms from which cost figures were obtained would have produced a profit. Sixty six per cent of the farms concerned would have made money, the department said. At a price based on the average cost of production, which the department figured at 23 cents per pound, only 351 of the 842 farmers, or 41.7 per cent, would have made a profit, it was stated.

The "bulk line," it was explained, marks the point on a scale of costs, about which the price of a commodity must hang if an adequate number of producers are to be kept in the business. In the case of the 1918 crop, the price actually obtained coincided with the bulk line, the farmers receiving about 23 cents for

TEN MILES OF TERRACE COMPLETED THIS YEAR

County Agent Gowan Engaged in Extensive Program of Terracing in County—Has Completed Great Amount.

Since the first of January, 1920, more than ten miles of terracing has been completed in Gaston county under the supervision of County Agent C. Lee Gowan. More than three miles of terraces were surveyed by the County Agent and E. O. Bartel, Assistant State Drainage Engineer during the first three days of the week. Monday afternoon 2,500 feet were surveyed at a terracing demonstration on the Pogram Farm for Mr. L. A. Ford, who had invited fifteen of his neighbors in for this demonstration. 2,550 feet were surveyed for T. J. Moss and 2,800 feet for D. A. Craft, four miles above Cherryville. 3,825 feet were surveyed for J. L. Falls in the Pisgah section. 2,500 feet for O. B. Carpenter near Stanley and 1,250 for T. W. Garrison near Alexis, making a total of 16,420 feet, the first three days of the week. 35,770 feet have already been surveyed this season which makes 53,200 feet of terraces that have been surveyed by the department of farm demonstration work in Gaston county this year. If straightened out in a straight line this would be a little more than ten miles.

Mr. Geo. Evans, Sheep Field Agent, is giving a demonstration of sheep shearing at the farm of K. K. Davenport, Thursday.

The Sunnyside community showed their usual good spirit of progressiveness again Wednesday evening by filling the school house to hear the County Agent give an illustrated lecture on "Swine Growing." This community is already planting the seed for another big Community Fair.

Club memberships are pouring into the County Agent's office thick and fast since the announcement of the new prizes to be offered to club members this season.

All boys and girls between the ages of ten and eighteen, living in Gaston county are eligible to compete in these agricultural clubs and to compete for these prizes. Write the County Agent about it.

WANT MINERS TO REMAIN AT WORK

NEW YORK, March 25.—Officers of the United Mine Workers were preparing notices today to be sent to local unions in the three districts comprising the anthracite coal region, notifying them to remain at work after April 1, pending the negotiation of a new wage agreement as the mine operators have agreed to make "any wage award retroactive to that date."

Phillip Murray, international vice president of the United Mine Workers, said there would be no meeting of the general assembly committee today, but that the action of the operators would be brought to the attention of the various locals directly through the official circulars.

Union officials, however, pointed out that April 1 is a holiday in the anthracite region and work for that day will be suspended in accordance with custom. This day, which is the anniversary of the granting of the eight hour day to the hard coal workers, is observed throughout the mining fields.

With the retroactive agreement disposed of, mine workers and operators declare their intention of speeding up the negotiation of a new contract.

The subcommittee handling the negotiations had before them for immediate consideration today the chief demands of the workers—the proposals for a closed shop and the "check off", the six hour day, five day week and a 60 per cent wage increase. All of these clauses have been given preliminary discussion, but no definite action taken.

The operators indicated before going into the meeting that they may submit counter proposals and start presenting their arguments during the day.

CAPTAIN PALMER TESTIFIES.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Captain Leigh C. Palmer, chief of the bureau of navigation of the navy during the war, was prepared to testify regarding the internal arrangements and performance of the navy's war time organization when he took the stand today before the senate committee investigating charges against the naval conduct of the war. It was expected Captain Palmer would testify largely regarding personnel features with possibly some reference to relations between the various bureaus of the department and Secretary Daniels.

There still was a number of officers called by the committee waiting to testify before Secretary Daniels and officers scheduled to defend the department's conduct of the war appeared.

HEARING ON WHEAT GRADES.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Secretary Meredith will conduct a hearing at Chicago, April 2, to determine whether changes in the federal grades for wheat are desirable.

ROTARIANS HEAR OF NEED OF HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

Supt. Wray and Col. C. B. Armstrong Make Strong Plea For City School System Before Rotary Club at Regular Meeting Yesterday.

Gastonia's need of a high school building and how it may be secured were the leading topics of discussion at the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Gastonia Rotary Club at the Armington Hotel yesterday. Supt. Joe S. Wray, superintendent of city schools; Col. C. B. Armstrong, chairman of the board of city school commissioners, and Mr. Ralph C. Patrick, secretary and treasurer of the board were present as guests of the club. Mr. Wray spoke briefly of the city's need of a new high school building, his plea for it being based on facts and figures which he presented to show that present facilities for the high school were entirely inadequate and were becoming more so each year. He was followed by Col. Armstrong who spoke on how to secure this building. He put it as a simple proposition of creating a public sentiment in favor of it, then a bond election to be held under a special act of the legislature which may be secured at the special session of that body to be held in July. Both speakers were heard with undivided attention and the sentiments they expressed met with hearty endorsement by the Rotarians present.

W. P. Grier presided as chairman of the entertainment committee for the day and the program was a most interesting one throughout. J. H. Henderlite made a snappy and humorous three-minute talk on "Why I am Glad I am a Rotarian." J. H. Separk gave a humorous parody on "Backward, Turn Backward, O Time in Your Flight" and several other humorous selections. W. D. Anderson gave an interesting account of the recent district meeting at Greenville, S. C. George Cocker rendered, in his inimitable way, a solo and the members sang lustily a number of the old-time songs.

In addition to the club's guests mentioned above several members had guests with them, there being nearly forty present in all.

ASKED TO EXPLAIN "CORNER" IN CORN

CHICAGO, March 25.—Upon his arrival here today Julius S. Barnes, head of the United States Grain Corporation, will be asked to explain recent grain sales and movements, according to a statement by Charles F. Clyne, federal district attorney, who is investigating an alleged attempt to "corner" the corn market.

No evidence of illegal market manipulation sufficient to warrant prosecution under the Lever food control act had been found, Mr. Clyne said yesterday after he had interviewed a number of members of the Chicago board of trade and railroad officials. He also received reports from federal agents engaged in a survey of the market.

Reports that the United States Grain Corporation had been used by speculators in an effort to bring about a "corner" in the market will be investigated, Mr. Clyne said.

Market experts and transportation officials told the district attorney present high prices and scarcity of corn were due to natural causes. The rumored "corner" is the result of short selling in anticipation of spring grain movements and inability of the railroads to supply sufficient cars to carry the crop to primary markets, they said.

TO INVESTIGATE REMOVAL OF REAR ADMIRAL FLETCHER.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The naval court of inquiry appointed to investigate the circumstances of Rear Admiral William B. Fletcher's removal by Admiral Sims from command of American naval forces at Brest in October, 1917, convened today with Admiral Fletcher as the first witness. Admiral Sims and a number of witnesses for both sides later will be heard and it is expected the presentation of evidence will require about ten days.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Copy for display advertisements to appear in The Daily Gazette must be in the office before 6 p. m. of the day previous to publication. Shortage of help and mechanical difficulties make it impossible for us to make any exceptions to the above rule. Your co-operation will enable us to give you better service.

GAZETTE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

THE DAILY GAZETTE SOON TO OCCUPY OWN HOME

Plans Announced For Modern Building to House Gazette Publishing Company on Lot Near Armington Hotel - New Press and Other Equipment to Be Added - Will Be Occupied in Early Summer.

PUBLIC HEARINGS IN DELAWARE LEGISLATURE

Both Factions Have Their Supporters - Galleries are Full of Women For and Against - Close Contest Anticipated.

DOVER, Del., March 25.—Public hearings at a joint session of the Delaware legislature were the principal events scheduled today in the contest for ratification of the woman suffrage constitutional amendment by securing this state's vote. The small capitol overflowed with spokesmen and cohorts of the suffragists and "antis", with women in the large majority, some wearing the suffragist colors and others the red roses of the opposition. Hundreds of spectators sought the two-score seats and scanty standing room available.

Elements of both factions were urging a vote tomorrow, but others sought postponement until next week. The legislature plans to adjourn tomorrow night until Monday.

Suffragists had first innings at today's hearings, starting with an allotment of two hours. United States Senators Spencer, of Missouri, and Sterling, South Dakota, republicans, and McKellar, democrat, Tennessee, were asked to present the principal arguments. Others introduced by Mrs. Florence Rayard Hilles, of the Delaware branch of the National Woman's party, represented that organization and the National American Women's Suffrage Association. Among them was Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National Association.

After luncheon the anti-suffragists had two hours, Mrs. Henry D. Thompson, of the Delaware branch of the National organization opposed to equal franchise, introducing the opposition leaders. Each side was given half an hour for rebuttal.

HOUSE COMMITTEE IS CONSIDERING RELIEF MEASURES.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—With hearings on pending soldier relief measures ended, the house ways and means committee expected today to take preliminary steps to decide the future policy of the committee. Appointment of subcommittees to work out various features of a relief measure was favored as the first step toward drafting any bill. Sentiment in the committee is divided. The American Legion's optional plan, including privileged land settlement, home building aid, extension of vocational training or payment of adjusted compensation at \$1.50 for every day of service, which was submitted to the committee yesterday probably will be the first measure discussed.

SAY FORMER EMPEROR IS VERY POOR MAN

THE HAGUE, March 24.—Dutch officials claiming to know the real financial condition of former Emperor William of Germany are greatly amused at various reports emanating from Berlin to the effect that William gave monetary support to the reactionary revolt of March 13.

"In reality the former emperor is virtually a poor man," an official told The Associated Press today. "There is a question whether he has enough money to pay Count Bentinck, owner of the castle at Amerongen, where William has been staying since November, 1918, what he owes him."

According to another official familiar with inside negotiations between William of Hohenzollern and the Dutch government since the former's arrival in Holland, William has throughout displayed anything but a heroic attitude. So anxious has he been to secure Holland's protection he has been glad from the very start to give a pledge not to participate in political intrigues. It is said this pledge has been renewed but whether the renewal was written or oral officials decline to say. It is known, however, that it was originally oral.

FIGHTING RESUMED IN THE RUHR DISTRICT.

THE HAGUE, March 25.—Fighting in the Ruhr district of Germany, where it was understood, a truce had been agreed to, has been resumed, according to the Telegraf. Sporadic forces are wearing Wood, the newspaper says, and a Muenster despatch to the Rotterdam Courant, says the red army's strength is now 120,000.

Plans long cherished by the owners and publishers of The Gazette are about to be realized in the shape of a modern home of their own for the paper, modernly equipped throughout. The first tangible—or rather audible—evidence of this realization is found in the sound of the hammer in the hands of housewreckers now engaged in razing the old residence occupying the lot whereon is to stand the Gazette's new home. The work of tearing down this house was begun Tuesday morning and will be completed within a few days. The house is the property of Mr. W. T. Rankin and Col. C. B. Armstrong and the material will be used in the construction of a house at the Osceola Mill, south of the city.

The site, owned by The Gazette to be occupied by the new building, is on West Airline avenue adjoining the Carolina Auto Service Company and near the Armington Hotel. It is one of the most conspicuous spots in the business section of the city, facing South street at the point where the Interurban and city cars stop, and being near the passenger station, the hotel, postoffice, bank building, etc. In short, The Gazette will be right in the center of things in this new building.

Plans for the new building are about complete and it is the purpose of the owners to push the construction so that it may be occupied early in the summer. The building itself will be two stories and basement, mill construction throughout. The front will be of a handsome red texture brick, trimmed with stone and marble.

A big Duplex press bought last September and which is now being built at the Duplex factory in Battle Creek, Mich., will occupy a conspicuous position at the front of the building with plate glass on two sides. It will thus be so located that the public can see it in operation every day. The other side of the front on the ground floor will be devoted to a business office where the circulation and advertising business will be handled. All of the ground floor will be devoted to business, editorial and reportorial offices, the mailing department and the press room.

With the exception of the press room all of the mechanical department of the paper will be on the second floor. Linotypes, stereotyping outfit, ad cases, imposing stones and all the other mechanical paraphernalia necessary to get out a newspaper will be on the second floor where splendid light will be had from windows on one side and skylights.

In the basement, which will be of waterproof concrete, will be located the heating plant and storage room for a large quantity of roll paper. This will be reached by steps and elevator from the interior and by a sidewalk elevator at the front. In the basement will also be located a fireproof vault where the files of the paper and other valuable records will be preserved for the future.

Installation of the new press, together with the addition of numerous other new facilities, will enable the publishers to issue a larger paper than ever before and, they confidently believe, a better paper. This press will do, in thirty or forty minutes, the press work and folding that requires about nine hours daily of the present equipment. It will print, fold, stack out and count the papers faster, probably, than the mailing department and the carrier system can get them out of the building.

When the building is completed and the paper is actually installed at last in its own home the publishers may have some additional facts to give their readers with reference to future plans for enlargement.

STRIKE STILL ON.

LILLE, FRANCE, March 25.—The strike of textile workers here is still going on and it is expected a general strike will be called for Friday. Railroad men, bakers and employees of victualling establishments, however, will not participate in the movement.

TRADING WILL BE MOVED UP TO NEW YORK TIME.

CHICAGO, March 25.—Trading on the Chicago stock exchange will be advanced one hour beginning next Monday in conformity with the change of hours in the New York stock market under the New York day-light savings law. The board of governors of the Chicago exchange voted yesterday to let the hours of trading from 8 a. m. to 1 p. m. on week days and from 8 a. m. to 10 a. m. on Saturdays until such time as a day-light savings law may be adopted here.