

**RUCKER AND COMPANY
HOPEFUL FOR FUTURE**

Cotton Letter States That Business Generally is Slowly Improving.

Rucker and company's cotton letter, giving the cotton outlook for March, states that conditions in general are slowly improving. The letter deplores the fact that the textile branch is the hardest hit of all businesses, with the possible exception of the fertilizer trade.

The cotton letter hopes that a more conciliatory spirit will prevail in the important conference in London, between the allies and Germany, declaring that the results will be of a far-reaching nature for the entire world's economic structure.

The letter reads in full as follows: "When we said in our last circular that this country could not possibly escape the reflection of a continuation or aggravation of adverse political and economic conditions in Europe, we anticipated exactly what has happened during the month under review. While conditions in general are slowly improving in this country it is exceedingly deplorable that our very textile industry is the hardest hit among all lines of business, with the exception of the fertilizer trade in the eastern portion of the belt, which might be described as still worse.

There can be no more reference to deflation, as far as cotton prices are concerned. Overdeflation would be the right term, if such a word existed. The price for raw cotton has not only declined below the face value of pre-war times, but in reality is very much lower than before the war, when the post-war exchange value is considered. It is not so much the renewed depression among our own mills and in the dry goods business here that is responsible for the unwarranted low prices for cotton, as is the situation and outlook in Europe which, during the month of February has become darker and darker. Making due allowance for exaggerated reports from interested sources in Manchester, conditions abroad are certainly in a chaotic, if not alarming state. Present conditions in Europe are merely the logical result of the failure on the part of the insincere politicians and arrogant dogmatists to establish real peace all over the world, which they should have done at the Paris convention. But the voices and advices from sensible people among the allied na-

tions and in our own country were drowned amidst the flood of propaganda that was lavished upon the mind of the unaware and unsophisticated among us. It was bad taste, to express mildly, to even intimate the thought that measures resembling imperialism and oppression were contemplated in Paris that were much more tyrannical in nature than the worst delinquencies of which the supposed enemies of civilization were ever accused. What few wise men did foresee then, what the intellectual people have been apprehending for quite some time, and what in the course of time, the whole world will condemn, is that those who were delegated and called upon to build an entirely new structure of world contentment and real peace have utterly failed in their mission.

"The spirit of justice and good will has been supplanted by an attitude of greed and greed and by oppression, practiced upon the people of victors and vanquished alike. This is what has brought about the present adverse conditions in Europe, where very little if any, confidence in buying, not to speak of investing, exists. Everybody wants to sell; even mills in England have been selling their cotton of late. It is only natural and logical that such conditions should reflect on the business in our country, and unfortunately our textile industry is worse off in this respect than any other.

"It is to be hoped that a more conciliatory spirit will prevail in the important conference in London, the result of which will be far-reaching for the whole world's economic structure. All arguments expounded to justify the drastic decline in cotton on statistical grounds are negligible in comparison with the fundamental necessity of putting the world back to a peace basis. Peace and prosperity in Europe are the keynote to a return to normal and prosperous conditions in the cotton and dry goods business in our country. There is no such thing as a burdensome oversupply of cotton or cotton goods, when the destitute shelves and the enormous potential demand in Europe and all over the world are taken into consideration. Moreover, a very drastic cut in acreage for next season's crop is a foregone conclusion.

"Let us hope that conditions in a month hence will be such as to enable us to draw the other side of the picture in the otherwise sound and happy country of our own."

**NOTICE — OFFERING \$30,000.00
NO. 9 TOWNSHIP CLEVELAND
COUNTY ROAD BONDS.**

The County Commissioners of Cleveland county, N. C., will receive sealed bids for \$50,000.00 Road Bonds, second instalment of the \$75,000.00 issue of road bonds of No. 9 township Cleveland county, N. C., up to 2 o'clock p. m., on the 11th day of April 1921, at which time said sealed bids will be open by the Commissioners of Cleveland county at their office at the court house in Shelby, N. C.

Said bonds will bear date July 1st 1918, and be numbered from 51 to 150 inclusive, each of said bonds being in denominations of \$500.00, and being payable at the Chase National Bank, New York city, bearing six per cent interest and payable semi-annually on the first days of July and January of each year and said bonds to mature serially, \$2,500.00 thereof maturing on the first day of July, 1938, and a like amount on the first day of July in each year thereafter until 1957 inclusive. All matured coupons will be detached. Bids must be accompanied by a \$1,000.00 certified check properly vouched for by a local bank. No bids for less than par received and commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

This March 7th, 1921.
R. L. WEATHERS, Clerk to Board of Commissioners, Shelby, N. C.

ADVICE TO FARMERS

A Farmer Calls upon Farmers To Plant Less Cotton.

(By Billy Bonehead)
Mr. Editor.

Perhaps your readers will think that a bonehead is not competent of giving advice, but a fool's advice, if it is good, is just as good as any. And if this article contains anything that is not true now it will be true when it comes true, so that will make it all right. To start with will say that I think it is time that we farmers get upon a new plan for we have miserably failed upon the old. We have been taxed to pay men to tell us how to produce big crops, our government seems to be very much interested and willing to aid us in producing bumper crops, but it doesn't make any effort to help us get the worth of these crops after they have been produced. So I think we have been sufficiently educated in producing crops (mostly the thing we need to know now is how to get the worth of our crops after we have produced them.

At the present rate of things if we

produce a few more bumper crops we will all be bankrupt. So the only way I see for us to get any relief is to organize, cut out so much cotton and grow hog and hominy and eat it. Every cotton grower should cut his acreage half and all who are situated so they can should cut it all out for two years, and let the speculators and manufacturers get hungry for cotton and then they would pay its worth. Small crops bring us more money than large ones, so what's the use of us killing ourselves making and gathering big crops? Don't get scared that some one will have to go naked; patch up your old shirt and pants and if they give out make you some more out of tow sacks, just anything to cover our old sun-burnt hides. We have the situation in our hands, and we are able to manage it if we will only go about it in the right way.

The world is dependent upon us and not us upon the world, so why let them control and manage us at will? Let's cut our acreage, organize, demand our just rights and stand like a stone wall until we get them. The indications are now that if we make a big crop of cotton this year the price will be around 5 cents this fall. Are you willing to stand for that? Better get wise now and cut it down or out.

**BIG BRICK PLANT OPENS ON
BROAD RIVER NEAR GAFFNEY**

Gaffney, March 4.—The McCraw Brick company, which has a plant on Broad river, commenced the manufacture of brick yesterday. The plant has a capacity of 100,000 brick per day and the quality of the clay has been pronounced by experts to be equal to any clay found in the country. The company will make brick for building purposes and for making roads. C. D. Meadows, general manager and treasurer for the company, said yesterday that the company would also engage in a commercial sand and rock ballast business.

**GROVER MAN BUYS
GAFFNEY DRUG STORE**

Dr. L. L. Bates, who has been the pharmacist at the S. B. Crawley drug store in Gaffney, has returned to Greenville, his former home, and has been succeeded by Dr. H. C. Dover, who is a native of Grover, but who has held positions at Spartanburg, Union and Greenwood. Dr. Dover will bring his family from Greenwood to Gaffney just as soon as he is able to secure a suitable dwelling.

**Report of the Condition of
THE BANK OF GROVER**

At Grover in the State of North Carolina, at the close of business, February 21st, 1921.

Resources.	
Loans and discounts	\$114,392.19
Overdrafts, unsecured	26.57
United States bonds and Liberty bonds	6,700.00
Banking houses, \$1,184.00; Furniture and fixtures, \$2,855.79	4,039.79
Cash in vault and net amounts due from banks, bankers and trust companies	9,584.33
Total	\$134,742.88
Liabilities	
Capital stock paid in	10,000.00
Surplus fund	10,000.00
Undivided profits, less current expenses and taxes paid	352.39
Bills payable	35,000.00
Deposits subject to check	32,672.41
Time certificates of deposit	43,557.94
Cashier's checks outstanding	2,256.76
Insurance reserve	903.38
Total	\$134,742.88

State of North Carolina—County of Cleveland, Feb 28th, 1921.

I, J. B. ELLIS, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

J. B. ELLIS, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28 day of February 1921.

GEORGE OATES, Notary Public.
Correct—Attest:
D. J. KEETER,
C. A. MULLINAX,
J. G. WHITE, Directors.

FARMS FOR SALE—SIXTY

acres two and half miles from Lincoln ton on sand clay road, new cottage, barn, good neighborhood. One hundred and forty-four acres, nine miles from Lincolnton on sand clay road; two dwellings, one eight and one five room. Pastures and running water on each farm. Part cash, balance on terms, also two brand new Ford touring cars, less than list price. A. P. Willis, Lincolnton. 1-11

FOR SALE—WHITE LEGHORN

eggs \$1.25 per 15, English-American strain. From stock with 303 egg record, also prize winners. My birds have free range. Satisfaction guaranteed, J. C. Hoyle, Lawndale N. C. R-4. 3-8p



TREAT THE KIDDIES

with our delicious ice cream as a special favor this Christmas. They certainly enjoy our cream, no matter how cold the weather. Its rare flavor and rich creamy substance appeal to young and old the year round.
LINCOLN CREAMERY AND ICE CREAM CO.
Lincolnton, N. C.

**SEABOARD AIR LINE
RAILWAY CO.**

**Arrival and Departure of
Passenger Trains at
Shelby, N. C.**

No. 34 from Rutherfordton to Monroe Leaves 7:42 a. m.

No. 31 Wilmington-Raleigh and Rutherfordton Lv. 5:54 p. m.

No. 16 from Rutherfordton to Monroe Leaves 5:54 p. m.

All trains daily.

No. 16 connects at Monroe with No. 6 for Norfolk, Richmond, Washington and New York, and with No. 11 for Atlanta and points west.

Schedules published as information and are not guaranteed.

E. W. LONG, D. P. A.
Charlotte, N. C.

or
G. SMART, Local Ticket Agt.

GOOD MULE FOR SALE—HULL Brothers. 2-8

FOR SALE—TWO GOOD MULES See J. E. Hoyle, Lawndale, R-1. 4-8p

FANNING'S

Fashion Show

Tuesday, March 15th—4 p. m. and 8:30 p. m.

Fashions Latest Creations

Shown on real living models. Two Shows
4:00 p. m. and 8:30 p. m. to 10:00 p. m.



To Lovers of Things Beautiful Fanning's Fashion Show is an occasion of Extreme Pleasure.

THE GARMENTS that we will exhibit have been modeled by Master Ladies Tailors in strict accordance with the Season's Styles, who correctly interpret your most exacting requirements as to Style and quality.

LET YOUR DRESS REFLECT YOUR CHARM AND INDIVIDUALITY, SO WE WISH TO EXTEND A MOST CORDIAL INVITATION TO ALL TO ATTEND THIS OUR SEMI-ANNUAL FASHION SHOW.

W. L. FANNING & COMPANY,

SHELBY, N. C.