

THE LANCASTER NEWS

68TH YEAR. NO. 75. SEMI-WEEKLY.

LANCASTER, S. C., TUESDAY, JULY 15, 1919.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.00 A YEAR

FARMERS HURT BY AMERICAN POTASH

Such is Declaration of Dr. A. C. Summers, Who is Investigating.

HIT DARLINGTON COUNTY

"I Found a Calamitous Condition in a Large Section," Dr. Summers Says—Loss Many Thousands.

"I found a calamitous condition in a large section of Darlington county which I visited," says Dr. A. C. Summers upon his return from a trip of inspection which he made as state chemist at the request of Commissioner Harris. It had been reported to the state department of agriculture that a large number of farmers in Darlington county had suffered because of the purchase and use of the so-called American potash, and the department was urged by Bright Williamson to make some investigation.

Mr. Williamson, who is a banker and plants extensively himself, and made a preliminary investigation to see if there were any cause for so many different fields of tobacco and cotton dying and withering. In his letter informing the department, Mr. Williamson said, "The result of the use of domestic potash on tobacco and cotton showing up now is most alarming. Where 75 pounds per acre of K20 was used on tobacco there is practically none, and the effect is serious on cotton. Where 40 to 50 pounds of K20 was used there is generally about one-half stand of tobacco. Where smaller quantities of K20 were used, the effect is not noticeable."

Dr. Summers state that Mr. Williamson presented the matter conservatively. The loss in Darlington county alone will run up into the hundreds of thousands. Other counties in the state have not reported and they may not be affected as seriously, but in Darlington, through the activity of J. M. Napier and Mr. Williamson, an effort has been made to locate all of the fields affected. There have been individual cases reported from other counties.

Dr. Summers endorsed the statement of Mr. Williamson that "the evidence of the poisonous and disastrous results of the use of potash is positive, overwhelming and spectacular." It can not be alleged that the widespread destruction of plant life is due to too much moisture, for by a process of elimination it was shown that one part of a field where the potash had been spread has suffered greatly while in another part where German kainit or other forms of potash were used the plant life was healthy and the amount of moisture over the entire community was the same.

"I never witnessed such ruin in the fields from causes other than the most destructive hail storms," said Dr. Summers. "One farmer had lost all of his tobacco planting on one piece of land and he then plowed it and planted cotton. The cotton germinated and grew very well until the roots came in contact with the potash in the soil and then the plants died. This farmer is trying cowpeas to see if that crop will produce.

"I think that the poison will be eradicated from the soil in the course of a year. I observed that where there had been heavy rains since the putting down of the potash that the poison seemed to have leached out to some extent. We are making experiments in our laboratories and will know by Monday more of the chemical nature of this American potash.

"At a meeting of the cotton farmers in New Orleans about two months ago an effort was made to get the government not to put a heavy tariff upon German potash. This effort was killed by the agency of the men interested in American potash. A meeting of Southern commissioners of agriculture will be held in Washington at an early date to protest against a heavy duty upon German potash. Our farmers must have potash, and if the domestic brand is poison to the soil we must find a corrective or be permitted to buy the German potash (which we can not do at the prohibitive prices proposed.)"

Dr. Summers declared that the appearance of some of the fields in Darlington county was really pitiful

SOME DEALERS NOT IN NEED OF FLOUR LICENSE

Four Classes of Dealers or Users Will Not Be Required to Obtain Licenses.

Washington, July 14.—Four classes of dealers or users of wheat flour will not be required for the present to obtain licenses from the United States wheat director under regulations issued by the license division of the director's office. These classes were defined as follows:

Hotels and other establishments, serving food for consumption on the premises, who manufacture bread or other bakery products exclusively for such consumption, whether or not using more than 50 barrels of flour per month.

Dealers in damaged wheat unfit for human consumption.

Dealers selling wheat or wheat flour to purchasers for use and consumption exclusively on ships owned, operated or controlled by such purchasers.

Manufacturers of alimentary paste who neither sell, manufacture nor store wheat and wheat flour.

Both manufacturers and distributors of pancake and other mixed or specially prepared flours, however, are required to obtain a license from the wheat director if such pancake or other specially prepared or mixed flour contains a substantial amount, for example, 10 per cent or more, of wheat. Dealers in wheat for seed purposes are also required to obtain a license regardless of the amount of seed wheat handled or of the class to whom the seed wheat is sold.

FIERCE ATTACK MADE ON JOHN S. WILLIAMS

Counsel for Riggs Bank Declares Comptroller of Currency is Adept at Falsification.

Washington, July 14.—Renewing his attack upon the fitness of John Skelton Williams to succeed himself as comptroller of currency, Frank J. Hogan, of counsel for the Riggs National bank, of Washington, asserted before the senate banking and currency committee that Mr. Williams was "an adept in the most dangerous form of falsification, the telling of half truths."

Hogan said he would show that the comptroller had carried his personal animosity against officials of the bank to the extent of issuing an official statement charging them with having borrowed more than \$5,000,000 of its funds for their personal use during a period of 18 years. The fact that this total was reached by adding up renewed notes, he said, was carried in the comptroller's statement only in an "inconspicuous" admission that some items might have been renewals.

PRESIDENT WILSON ACCEPTS RESIGNATION OF MR. HURLEY

Washington, July 14.—President Wilson has accepted the resignation of Edward N. Hurley as chairman of the shipping board, effective August 1. It is understood that Mr. Hurley will be succeeded by John Barton Payne, of Chicago, general counsel of the railroad administration, whose nomination as a member of the shipping board was sent to the senate today.

DR. PESSOA IS PROCLAIMED THE PRESIDENT OF BRAZIL

Rio Janeiro, July 14.—Congress has proclaimed Dr. Epitacio Pessoa president of the republic for the term ending 1922.

Dr. Pessoa, after a lengthy visit to Europe, is now on his way to Rio Janeiro, having sailed from New York July 6.

Two Divisions Coming Home.

Washington, July 14.—Definite assignment of the fourth and fifth divisions, less the 39th infantry regiment, to early return home was announced by the war department. The exception of the 39th infantry led to reports here that this unit would form part of the force to be left on the Rhine when all other organizations have been released.

Sells Patent for \$1,250,000.

Knoxville, July 14.—Robert S. Arfants, of Kingsport, Tenn., an automobile expert, has sold to the General Motors company the patent rights to a boring and milling machine for \$1,250,000.

MOST GERMANS ARE MENTALLY TWISTED

Swiss Observer Finds Ninety Per Cent Are Unbalanced on Account of War.

THEIR EFFICIENCY GONE

Everything Said to Be in Disorder and No Straight Thinking is Possible Among the People.

A Berne Special to the New York Times says: A number of Swiss merchants, who for years past have regularly attended the famous Leipzig Fair, have been unable to express their amazement at what they saw there. It was not that there was nothing to interest them at the fair, but that while they were in Germany they could hardly believe that they were not in some other country, they did not quite know which. The merchants, manufacturers and, others at the fair, with whom they had to deal, seemed to be mentally unbalanced.

"Ninety per cent of the people with whom I had to deal," said one merchant "really did not know what they were about. In visiting the various exhibits in Leipzig I would give an order for something. I would tell the man in charge that I would take say 500 gross of a certain number down myself, and then, of course, I expected him to write it down, too. Then I would order something else, and by the time I had finished giving my orders I would ask to compare my notes with his. Then, to my great astonishment, I would find he had either not written down the orders at all or had written them down all wrong.

"At first I thought I had merely to do with a careless individual, but afterwards I found that nine out of ten persons were in just the same state of mental confusion. I then talked to some of the other Swiss who were visiting the fair and found that they had had similar experiences. Once I lost patience and spoke very sharply to one man, whereupon he simply broke down, and said he was sorry, but he had been four years in the trenches, and that he was no longer capable of doing his work as he did it before the war."

Judging by all that these Swiss merchants observed in Germany, this mental weakness and incapacity is affecting not only men who have been a long time in the trenches, but also civilians—women who were at home and men who, for one reason or another, were never at the front. Some Germans known to these merchants before the war as shrewd, energetic, capable business men, now, they say, talk like children, as if they knew nothing whatever of the outside world, or what has been taking place during the last four or five years.

Thus not even now do some of them seem to realize that the value of German paper money abroad has fallen. When told that the German mark is only worth 35 cents in Switzerland today, instead of 1 franc 25 centimes, they asked, "Why?" As if they had never heard of such things as international exchange or a country's credit being good or bad.

The exhibits at the Leipzig fair were fairly numerous, but there was nothing new. The large firms insisted either upon payment being made in francs or upon 170 to 200 per cent being added to the prices for Germany, owing to the German exchange in Switzerland being so low. So confused were the minds of the representatives of the smaller firms, however, that they asked the same prices from a Swiss merchant as from their German customers. Even in the case of the large firms, however, the Swiss merchant simply told his agent to buy up such and such quantities, pay for them, and export them.

These leading German firms have a combine, and are supposed to control prices for export, but as a matter of fact, so I am assured, they do nothing of the kind. In short, the German merchants seem completely dazed, bewildered and confused at present, and do not know what they are doing.

What particularly struck all these Swiss merchants, who have known Germany for many years past, was the lack of orderliness everywhere,

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HOLD SHORT COURSE HERE JULY 16, 17, 18

Home Demonstration Agents to Give Instruction in Economics This Week.

AN ATTRACTIVE PROGRAM

Home Gardening, Canning, Etc., to Be Chief Themes at Meeting Beginning Next Wednesday.

Following is the program of the home demonstration short course to be given at the Central school building in Lancaster Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, July 16, 17 and 18. It will be in charge of Miss Juanita H. Neely, county home demonstration agent, and Miss El Freida Poag, assistant emergency home demonstration agent. The ladies of Lancaster are especially invited:

Wednesday, July 16.

10:45-11:45—Opening exercises. Devotional, Rev. W. S. Patterson. Welcome address, Mayor R. S. Stewart.

Response, Hon. Frank C. Clyburn. Address, Mr. T. W. Moseley. Announcements.

11:45-1:00 — Steam Pressure Cookery and Canning, Mrs. Dora Dee Walker, Miss Minnie Garrison.

1:00-2:30—Dinner.

2:30-3:30—Vinegar Making and Gardening, Mrs. Dora Dee Walker.

3:30-5:00—Uses of Milk and Table Service, Miss Marie White.

Program for Canning Club Girls, Wednesday, July 16.

Section A.

10:45-11:45—Opening exercises.

11:45-12:00—Announcements.

12:00-1:00—Canning in Tin and Glass, Tomatoes and Soup Mixture, Misses Edwards and Parrish.

1:00-2:30—Dinner.

2:30-3:30—Salad making, (Boiled Dressing Demonstrated) and Table Service, Miss Marie White.

3:30-4:30—Sewing, Miss Minnie Garrison.

4:30-5:30—Gardening, Mrs. Dora Dee Walker.

Section B.

10:45-11:45—Opening exercises.

11:45-12:00—Announcements.

12:00-1:00 — Salad making (Boiled Dressing Demonstrated) and Table Service, Miss Marie White.

1:00-2:30—Dinner.

2:30-3:30—Sewing, Miss Minnie Garrison.

3:30-4:30—Canning in Tin and Glass Tomatoes and soup mixture, Misses Edwards and Parrish.

4:30-5:30—Gardening, Mrs. Dora Dee Walker.

Section A.

9:00-10:00—Opening exercises.

Devotional, Rev. H. R. Marchison. Club songs.

Talk, Supt. A. C. Rowell. Announcements.

10:00-11:30 — Making Tomato Puree and Ketchup. Saving seed from Wilt-Resistant Tomatoes, Misses Edwards and Parrish.

11:30-1:00—Sewing, Miss Minnie Garrison.

1:00-3:00—Dinner.

3:00-4:30—Spraying and Making Bordeaux Mixture, Mr. A. A. McKeown.

4:30-5:30—Marketing Club Products, Mr. F. L. Harkey, Clemson College.

Section B.

9:00-10:00—Opening exercises.

Devotional, Rev. E. R. Mason. Club songs.

Talk. Announcements.

10:00-11:30 — Making Tomato

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HENRY H. WATKINS IS CHOSEN FOR JUDGE

Anderson Lawyer Named to Fill Vacancy in Western District South Carolina.

Washington, July 14.—The long fight of the vacancy on the bench of the federal court for the Western district of South Carolina was settled here today by the nomination of Henry H. Watkins, a well known lawyer of Anderson.

From the beginning of the fight Mr. Watkins' friends have left nothing undone that would make his nomination certain and as intimated in this correspondence several times, Mr. Watkins comes off the winner.

A week ago the crisis in the situation was reached. It then became apparent that the nomination lay between Mr. Watkins and Judge Thomas S. Sease of Spartanburg, but a day or two ago it was announced as almost certain that Mr. Watkins would be selected.

Today Senator Dial said: "I am satisfied that we have made an excellent recommendation. Mr. Watkins is a lawyer of splendid ability, a gentleman of highest standing and one who will do full credit to the federal bench. I know of no man whom we could have selected who would more worthily fill the place. I am sorry that other good men could not get it but there was only one place to give and that has gone to Mr. Watkins."

The senate judiciary committee now takes this matter under advisement and Mr. Watkins probably will be confirmed within the next week or ten days.

Senator Dial has requested Chairman Nelson of the judiciary committee to expedite action upon the nomination of Captain Watkins of Western district of South Carolina. Ordinarily, the nomination with others received today from the White House would lie over until the next regular meeting of the committee and then be referred to a subcommittee.

Regarding various reports that have been current concerning the judgeship, Senator Dial today said: "Every man whose claims were presented to me had a fair showing before the department of justice. I filed all names that were submitted to me, together with all recommendations received. Some names and papers reached me earlier than others and the friends of some candidates made independent representations directly to the department. All names were carefully considered after all had been filed."

Senator Dial said that the matter had never reached a stage at which it became necessary for him to declare whether or not he would oppose the confirmation of any candidate.

SUBMITS TO FORDNEY TRONA POTASH PROBE

Lever Lays Before Committee Chairman Results of Clemson Investigation in Darlington.

Washington, July 14.—Representative Lever has laid before Representative Fordney, chairman of the house ways and means committee, which is handling the potash legislation, a copy of the news letter issued by Clemson college in which it appears that an investigation has been conducted in Darlington county on the effect of trona potash upon cotton, corn and tobacco. The investigation seems to demonstrate that the potash of this character is disastrous to these crops. Mr. Lever feels that these findings should be of interest to Mr. Fordney and his committee and that they may have a decided influence upon the character of legislation that may be finally determined upon and for this reason he was quick to lay the matter before the proper committee.

GERMANS MAKE REQUEST FOR LIFTING OF BLOCKADE

Paris, July 14.—The official text of the German national assembly's ratification of the peace treaty will arrive here shortly by a special courier from Weimar, Baron Kurt von Lersner, head of the German peace mission, announced in a note to Premier Clemenceau, president of the peace conference. Baron von Lersner, therefore, asked that the blockade against Germany be raised

REQUEST GOVERNOR TO CALL MEETING

American Cotton Association Wants Big Gathering in Columbia

TO EXPLAIN PURPOSES

Resolution Requests That Similar Conventions Be Held in All States in the Cotton Growing Belt.

Governor Cooper has been asked by the American Cotton association to call a meeting in Columbia at which the objects and purposes of the American Cotton association and the South Carolina Cotton association may be explained to the people of South Carolina. This request has been made in compliance with a resolution adopted by the directors of the American Cotton association at a meeting held recently.

B. Harris, commissioner of agriculture; J. H. Claffey, president of the State Farmers union; A. E. Padgett, president of the South Carolina Bankers' association; Dr. W. M. Riggs, president of all of the chambers of commerce of the state and all other organizations interested in the development of the agricultural interests of the state have been asked to join in the call. It is planned to make the meeting the biggest ever held in the state.

While the exact date of the big gathering has not been determined, it is hoped to hold it just before the big membership campaign to be conducted by the South Carolina Cotton association next month. Plans for this campaign are now being made at the headquarters of the association in Columbia by B. F. McLeod of Charleston, state manager, and A. A. Protzman, organization director.

J. Skottowe Wannamaker of St. Matthews, president of the American Cotton association, and also of the South Carolina Cotton association, stated that a similar mass meeting will be held in every state of the cotton belt. These meetings are being called in order that the objects and purposes of the cotton associations may be explained to the people. The objects and purposes as given by Mr. Wannamaker, are:

Purposes of Meetings.
To protect the interests of the cotton producer and to improve his condition.

To promote economic regulation of cotton production to the end that supply shall be so adjusted to demand that the producer shall at no time be required to sell his product at less than a fair and reasonable profit.

To promote intelligent diversification of crops, and to develop markets for such crops, other than cotton, as may be profitably raised.

To improve and enlarge presently existing warehousing facilities and to secure additional facilities to the end that the producer may carry his crop, or such part as he may desire, at the minimum of expense and physical damage and at the maximum of security and financial stability.

To broaden the markets for raw cotton and to enlarge the uses for cotton and cotton goods.

To improve and increase transportation and distribution facilities.

To collect information as to both domestic and foreign consumption of cotton, the state of trade, the extent of acreage, supply and condition of crop, and all other information of practical interest to the cotton industry, and to disseminate the results through the several suborganizations to every member of every community, together with directions as to the course to be pursued in order to secure the best results in view of the facts disclosed.

To do all and singular whatsoever may be conducive to the stability and profitability of the cotton producing industry.

The resolution adopted by the directors of the American Cotton association asking the governors of the various states in the belt to call one meeting in each state follows:

Resolution Adopted.

"Whereas, it is of the utmost importance that the vast importance of the American Cotton association should be presented to the entire citizenry.

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