

# Abbeville Press and Banner

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## MAKING PROGRESS AGAINST WEEVIL

### FURTHER AND INTENSIVE TESTS TO BE MADE DURING YEAR TO COMBAT PEST. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OPTIMISTIC.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Steps taken by the department of agriculture to combat the cotton boll weevil have brought about a situation "more favorable than ever before," Secretary Wallace informed Senator Harris of Georgia in a letter made public today by the senator.

Mr. Wallace declared his department had found effective the dusting method and the new method developed in Florida and had requested the cooperation of the war department in the further testing of the possibility of airplane dusting.

"With these two major and highly promising developments of the past year to thoroughly test out the coming season" the secretary wrote "the scientific forces of the department will be fully occupied and those who have been studying the problem feel very confident that out of these methods and the ones now in use will be found a satisfactory combination for practically all conditions."

The agriculture secretary's letter was in reply to one from Senator Harris, inclosing a communication from a constituent who expressed the belief that "half had not been done by the department which should have been done."

"The damage from the cotton boll weevil varies considerably from year to year and this letter coming as it does just at the close of one of the most seriously injurious seasons experienced in recent years," Mr. Wallace wrote, "no doubt truly represents the state of mind of a great many people in the South. Those, however, who have been closest to the problem realize the difficulties with which the scientific workers have had to contend in the development of control measures for this insect and consider rather that the advancements have been more than could be expected."

"In fact, just at the present time the situation is more favorable than ever before. The dusting method has in the face of heavy infestation of this year proved itself capable of satisfactory protecting the production of cotton in large areas of the South. This method seems to be especially adapted for the more productive areas and where the staple cottons have been developed and in those regions where the yield per acre is half a bale or more the method has been proven satisfactory."

"Just recently, as you no doubt know, Dr. Newell and Mr. George Smith of the Florida experiment station have published a bulletin giving a complete and detailed account of a long series of experiments in the use of another method control, which appears to be peculiarly adapted to meet the conditions in the Florida region and in other regions of the South in which the cotton production practically to that before the weevil invasion seems to warrant the conclusion that this will prove to be a cheap and efficient method over a large area in the South. The department is just at this time requesting cooperation of the war department in the further testing of the possibility of aeroplane dusting."

"The remarkably successful results obtained elsewhere by this method seemed to abundantly justify the additional expense that will be incurred in a much more extensive test to be carried on this year, which should determine conclusively whether these machines can be

## WINTER WHEAT IN SOUTHERN STATES

### South Carolina Has 179,000 Acres Sown—Condition Above Average

Washington, Dec. 19.—Winter wheat sowings this fall, estimated by the Department of Agriculture today at 46,069,000 acres, are the third largest ever planted by the farmers of the country but the condition of the crop is somewhat low, being 8.4 points below the ten-year December 1 average condition.

The crop reporting board made no forecast of the probable production but in an official statement based on average abandonment during this winter and average condition prevailed until harvest, places production at from 575,000,000 to 600,000,000 bushels. The first forecast of winter wheat production will be made by the crop reporting board next May when its estimates of acreage abandoned during the winter will be announced.

The plantings this fall of winter wheat are about one and one-half million acres less than the revised estimate of the plantings a year ago and about 540,000 acres less than those of the fall of 1918 when the record area was sown. They exceed the average sowings of the last ten years, which is 42,420,000 acres by almost 4,500,000 acres. The average area harvested in the last ten years is 38,416,200 acres, the average abandonment has been 9.57 per cent and the range from 1.1 per cent during the winter of 1918-19 to 31.0 per cent during the winter 1916-17.

The area sown to rye this fall is 5,508,000 acres, or 11.3 per cent less than the revised estimated area sown in the fall of 1921 which was 6,210,000 acres. The condition of the crop on December 1, was 84.3 of a normal, compared with 92.2 a year ago, 90.5 in 1920 and 90.8 the ten-year December 1 average.

The average of winter wheat sown in Southern States and the condition on December 1, were as follows:

Virginia, 860,000 acres; condition, 81 per cent.  
North Carolina, 615,000 acres, and 83 per cent.  
South Carolina, 179,000 and 84.  
Georgia, 219,000 and 89.  
Tennessee, 453,000 and 83.  
Alabama, 23,000 and 90.  
Mississippi, 4,000, and 84.  
Arkansas, 85,000 and 83.

## WINTHROP GIRLS

The Winthrop girls will arrive at home Thursday and will live up things in the city. Misses Ada Faulkner, Annie and Margaret Wilson, Mildred Wilson, Hilda Syfan, Lydia Owens, Mary Reed Moore, Mary Stevenson, Margaret Dawson, Celia Chalmers, Ophelia and Cornelia Clinkscales, Virginia Leslie, Janie Vance Bowie, Carrie Hawthorne, Addie Bowen, Janie Milford and Ruth Coleman are among those who will spend the happy season at home.

## A LANDSCAPE GARDENER

Mr. H. B. Burley, who has been in Abbeville for some time, went to Charlotte for Sunday and spent the day. Mr. Burley is landscape gardener and has been at work for some time beautifying the grounds around the Community House.

## A FAMILY HOUSE PARTY

During the Christmas holidays Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Hagen will entertain a family house party having as their guests Miss Stella Brown of Greenville, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Hagen, of Columbia and Mr. and Mrs. Reid Ashley of Level Land.

depended upon to materially assist in the control of this pest."

## TRYING TO PUSH SHIP BILL ASIDE

### BOTH SIDES STRUGGLE FOR DOMINANCE IN SENATE. JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS SAYS HE WILL NOT VOTE FOR EITHER MEASURE

Washington, Dec. 19.—Supporters of the administration shipping bill and members of an alliance between opponents of the measure and proponents of the Norris agricultural financing bill struggled for dominance in the Senate today without definite result.

The issue, which was before the Senate throughout a six-hour session, was embodied in the motion of Senator Norris of Nebraska, chairman of the agriculture committee, and a leader in the new progressive bloc, to lay aside the ship bill and to take up the Senator's own measure to create a government capitalized agency to buy and sell farm products. The question was the subject of numerous conferences, and several speeches, including the maiden address of Senator Brookhart, Republican, Iowa.

An attempt was made soon after the session began to obtain unanimous consent for a vote on the motion late tomorrow and appeared on the point of success, but a wrangle over the detail blocked the way. Renewed efforts are to be made tomorrow with prospects favoring a vote before adjournment.

Demand that the shipping bill be laid aside was made during the session by Senator Brookhart, Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho and Senator Fletcher of Florida, leader of the Democratic opposition to the measure. Senator Ransdell, Democrat, Louisiana, in a four-hour speech, urged prompt passage of the legislation while Senator Jones, Republican, Washington, in charge of it, stood firmly on his determination to keep the bill before the Senate until rural credits legislation could be reported to the Senate by the banking and currency committee. Chairman McLean of the committee, announced during the day that such action might be expected early next week.

One Senator—John Sharp Williams, Democrat, Mississippi—announced he would not vote either way on the question because he said he would feel himself "disgraced either way." He said he had not thought "it was within the realm of human ingenuity to frame a bill worse than the ship subsidy bill "but that Senator Norris by his measure, "had accomplished the impossible."

## CHRISTMAS AT SCHOOL

The schools closed today and both teachers and children were made happy by the closing. In most of the rooms Christmas trees were given and the pupils trudged home through the rain with an arm full of gifts. Major Fulp received several pleasant tokens of esteem as did the whole corps of teachers.

## BIGHAM IS TRANSFERRED

### From Death House to Main Cell Building

Columbia, Dec. 19.—Edmund D. Bigham, of Pamplico, who has been confined in the death house at the State penitentiary here for twenty months, pending his appeal from sentence to death for the killing of his brother, Smiley Bigham, early in 1920, was transferred today to the main cell building upon orders of Col. A. K. Sanders superintendent of the penitentiary who has announced that hereafter no prisoners under death sentence except those whose execution date has been definitely fixed will be kept in the death house.

## TALES OF HARDSHIP IN ICY COLD NORTH

### TRUDGED FOR THREE DAYS THROUGH BLINDING SNOW STORMS OVER ROUGH COUNTRY IN SEVERE COLD—RELIANCE WRECKED

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Dec. 19.—The tugs Gray and Favorite were expected to reach here today with survivors of the wrecked tug Reliance which was disabled on the rocky shores of the Lizard islands in northern Lake Superior nearly a week ago.

Four persons lost their lives when the small craft founded and a fifth was reported near death today from exposure.

The dead are Captain John McPherson, Fred Regan, Gus Johns and an unidentified man, who were swept from the deck of the Reliance as they were about to lower a life boat with which they hoped to reach the mainland.

Nine of the thirty-six persons aboard the Reliance when she smashed her propeller on a rock last Wednesday, were successful in reaching the shore and after a three day's track over rough country, through blinding snowstorms and in the severe cold, seven reached a railway station and came to this city. Two were left behind at a lumber camp. They were Jack Hartens and Mrs. Hartens, cooks on the Reliance. Mrs. Hartens may not survive the shock and exposure, according to word reaching here.

Others aboard the ill-fated craft were taken off by the Gray and Favorite after five days of suffering from cold and hunger and the fear that rescue boats might not be able to reach them.

The fate of those remaining in the Reliance cabin was not known until a wireless message yesterday from the Gray announced the four deaths and that the others aboard the tug would be brought here today.

Captain McPherson was an old time mariner and a veteran of many Lake Superior storms. His home was in this city. Regan was a member of the forestry department of a paper concern and Johns was a seaman. The fourth victim was believed to have been another employee of the paper concern and a passenger on the tug.

## Theatrical Producer Bankrupt.

New York, Dec. 19.—Alleging liabilities of \$750,000 and assets of \$300,000 three creditors today filed an involuntary petition in bankruptcy against Max Spiegel, theatrical producer of this city.

## HERE FOR THE WEDDING

Miss Louise Long of Charlotte, has arrived in the city and will take part tomorrow in the marriage of her friend Miss Winona Barksdale and Mr. Doyle Hendricks. Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Bundy of Monroe arrived also and coming on Thursday are Miss Vivian Hendricks and Mr. Leon Hendricks of Easley and Mr. and Mrs. B. O. Williams of Clemson College.

## SAM HILL HOME

Sam Hill, who is one of the teachers in the Rock Hill schools, is at home for the holidays and will spend the time with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Hill. Mr. Hill is making his way in his chosen profession.

## FROM KENTUCKY

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Tapp of Madisonville, Ky., will arrive in the city Friday and will spend the holiday season with their daughter, Mrs. Charlie McNeil on Parker street.

## DOES NOT EXPECT AMERICA TO MAKE LOAN

### Newspapers Reject The Idea That a Loan is Now Possible To Germany.

London, Dec. 19.—Those newspapers to which the British public looks for solid and conservative guidance completely reject the idea that an American loan to Germany is probable, or in her present conditions, possible. The journals base their skepticism on long reports from their correspondents in the United States who appear to have probed important sources of information over the week-end.

The possibility of American intervention in Europe's troubles still engrosses attention here. Two or three of the morning papers reiterate with more or less striking embellishment last week's stories concerning an impending loan. The consensus of opinion, however, is that "there is something in the wind and that there is a distinct possibility that America in some way that has not been divulged will take a hand in helping to solve the difficulties which hitherto baffled European statesmen."

The Times, while depreciating exaggerated optimism, says that the rumors of American intervention doubtless have a substratum of fact. The newspaper welcomes indications of "the fresh interest and understanding the United States is showing in European conditions."

The Morning Post, also welcoming the "obviously increasing interest" of the United States thinks America "is beginning to recognize more clearly that sooner or later her own industrial prosperity must be affected by the political and economic conditions in Europe."

The Daily News, although it does not regard American intervention for the present as more than a possibility, says:

"It is highly probable that such intervention would change the whole course of events in Europe." In all the comment there is a clear eagerness to see intervention and there are many indications that this desire is based on a confident belief in the high American ideals.

## NOVEMBER EXPORTS LARGEST FOR YEAR

### Totalled \$383,000,000 or \$12,000,000 Greater Than October Figures

Washington, Dec. 19.—American exports in November reached the highest point of the year according to official overseas trade statistics made public today by the Department of Commerce showing an export business totalling \$383,000,000.

The November total is \$12,000,000 greater than the value of October exports and \$90,000,000 greater than the value of commodities shipped abroad in November last year.

In comparison with November, 1913, the increase was more than \$138,000,000.

A brief statement by the department declared the November returns showed that American agriculture and industry generally benefitted from the increasing export business. Detailed analysis of the trade, however, has not been made by the department.

## DEPUTY SICK

Deputy Dale Ferguson, who has been holding down the sheriff's office during the illness of Mr. McLane, has the flu and is confined to his home near the city. Mrs. Ferguson is sick also.

## IN ANDERSON

Dr. Jack Pressly took Miss Gladys Brazeale to Anderson Monday and the young lady had her tonsils removed.

## ANCIENT LANGUAGE BEING RESTORED

### SECRETS OF INDIAN TRIBE MAY BE REVEALED—DR. WILLIAM GATES, AFTER TWENTY YEARS OF STUDY, TELLS OF RESULTS

Charlottesville, Va., Dec. 19.—Restoration of an almost forgotten language with the aid of an uneducated, nearly illiterate self taught full-blooded Indian from the highlands of Guatemala, has been accomplished by Dr. William Gates of Charlottesville during the past month.

The Indian is a Quiche, and his language, which heretofore never had been thoroughly studied, bears the same name. The race and tongue are offshoots of the ancient Mayas, whose high civilization, the most advanced of any early American people, flourished before the Spanish arrived in South and Central America.

The Mayas built marvelous cities, palaces and temples, the ruins of which dot Yucatan and Guatemala. Their descendants are the Indians and a peon class which inhabit that region today. Only the mountain tribes have escaped the advance of civilization.

Through the application of a new scientific method, which reaches to the root of language, Dr. Gates expect to restore the decadent tongue decipher the hitherto unraveled secrets of the ancient Maya hieroglyphic writings and inscriptions which have baffled archeologists for centuries, compile books for the instruction of the Indians and eventually restore the literature.

In his experiments the scientist has been recording on a smoked paper cylinder the vibrations of the stylus actuated by the Indian's words spoken into a mouthpiece. These records are preserved for study of the intricate variations of pronunciation, and already, working with manuscripts written in the Indian tongues by the earliest Spanish missionaries, Dr. Gates has found a remarkable preservation of the ancient speech. The instrument he used is known as the "kymograph" or wave writer, and was invented by an eminent French ethnologist for language study. Dr. Gates was aided by John P. Harrington, ethnologist of the Smithsonian institution, who has studied practically all North American Indian languages.

Probably the most interesting feature of Dr. Gates' work is the Indian, Cipriano Alvarado, who assisted him. He never had written or read a word until he taught himself at the age of 25. He lives in the almost inaccessible mountains of Central America and is of the purest blood descended from the Maya empire builders.

Dr. Gates, who is director general of the national museum of Guatemala, has been studying the Maya inscriptions and ruins for more than 20 years. As a result of his present studies, he expects shortly to be able to translate the entire writing system and reveal the knowledge and attainments of the Maya civilization. Already, several of the cabalistic symbols have been read, and it is expected that an announcement concerning the deciphering of great importance to ethnologists and archeologists will shortly be made.

## THE SHERIFF BETTER

Sheriff McLane is getting better at his home in the city which will be good news to friends in the city and county. The Sheriff is suffering from some stomach trouble and not from blood poisoning from a tooth as was stated in the Press and Banner on Friday.