

THE LEDGER.

THURLOW S. CARTER,
EDITOR AND MANAGER.

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Col. Springs on the Ten Hour Labor Bill.

Lancaster cor. The News and Courier: Just before Col. Leroy Springs, president of the Lancaster Cotton Mills, left here Saturday evening for New Orleans, to attend the big cotton Convention, to which he is a delegate, your correspondent asked him for his views on the ten-hour labor bill pending before the Legislature.

The Colonel promptly replied: "Why, the passage of that bill would certainly result in disaster to the mills of the State. I am sure the measure is being agitated by Northern people through some of the labor agitators around Augusta and Aiken, where all this labor agitation arises.

"Those people are working in the interest of the New England mills, as the hope of the New England mills competing with South Carolina mills depends upon their getting all the labor agitation in our midst that they can promote.

"Yes, the enactment of such a bill into law would, beyond doubt, greatly cripple the textile industry of South Carolina, which is now in its infancy. While it is true that we have made rapid strides toward the building of textile industries in the State, if we can but keep down labor agitation, this work has only commenced. Nothing should be thrown in the way of getting all the capital we can in the State.

"You know what the mills have done for the town of Lancaster and vicinity—well, mills will do the same thing for every little town in South Carolina that may build them in the future, if the mills are not crippled by adverse legislation.

"Before we commence labor agitation of this nature we should wait until we get somewhat on a par with Massachusetts and other New England States, which have prospered so materially since the war on account of having a monopoly of the textile industry.

"The cotton mills have all had a hard time for the past eighteen months, owing to the unsettled condition of the cotton market and cotton goods trade generally, and they can ill afford to have further agitation at present.

"What the mills need more than anything else—especially since the passage of the child labor law—is a system of compulsory education, to force the children into the schools that the taxpayers are being made to support, in order to give to the State an intelligent citizenship."

"I have given much thought to this question and I am very sure that the only justification for free schools is compulsory education, and I am also doubly sure that that is the only hope of our country."

—B. E. Wilson, educator and then president of Converse college.

The thing is for each individual farmer who gives his allegiance to this tremendous effort in behalf of his temporal salvation, to do his full duty, and not trouble himself about the unfair people who would seek selfish advantage. It is the people who go into the organization and who live most honestly up to their obligations who are going to get the most profit. —Yorkville Enquirer.

Five Hundred Russians Captured by Japanese.

Tokio, Jan. 29, 8 p. m.—Telegraphic advices received here today from the Japanese Manchurian headquarters says:

"Our detachment occupied Liutako yesterday (Saturday) and was twice counter attacked by a superior force of the enemy last night. We entirely repulsed the enemy.

"Our other detachment at dawn today (Sunday) attacked the enemy in the neighborhood of Feitsahotszu, about two miles north of Heikoutai, and occupied the position. The enemy fiercely counter attacked our force which assailed Heikoutai last night, but was repulsed entirely. Today our force occupied the neighborhood of Heikoutai.

"The enemy in the direction of Liutako and Heikoutai has entirely retreated to the right bank of the Hun river. Our force is now pursuing them.

"We captured 500 officers and men.

"The casualties on both sides are under investigation."

Russian Defeat.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 29, 12.30 a. m.—Instead of confirmation of Saturday night's report that Gen. Kuropatkin broke through the Japanese left, there came Lieut. Gen. Sakharoff's official admission that the Russians had been compelled to retire from Sandespas on account of their inability to carry a redoubt.

—Spartanburg special in the News and Courier: The cotton condition is most anomalous. It has surprised experts as well as farmers. Hundreds of bales are unsold in the country, but no one seems to be pressed for money. Even the farmers who have sold no cotton are getting on all right. A cotton mill president reports that he bought cotton for February or March delivery at 8½ cents. That trade was made when the drop in price began. He thought it was cheap enough. The factor who was to furnish the cotton has written to him, begging off, for he cannot buy a bale, even at that price. The cotton factors here are not booking orders for immediate or future delivery, just because they have no cotton in sight. It is one of the most interesting business problems that has come up for solution in the south. Bankers, cotton factors, mill presidents and farmers are all working for the same object. They wish to eliminate the gambling element from the problem, so that the price will be uniform, or as nearly so as possible. It is a remarkable business condition when a mill president insists on the delivery of cotton at 8½ cents when the local price is only 6.75, and the seller is unable to deliver the cotton, when the margin is about \$8 to \$10 a bale in his favor. It begins to look as if the stand which the farmers have taken will revolutionize the methods of the cotton exchange. The farmers of this country seem in earnest about holding what is on hand. Occasionally one carries his cotton to a mill and has the option of naming the day for payment, the price being the market price of that day. This correspondent saw six or eight bales on the way to a mill this morning on that condition. That is safe for the farmer, but it tends to keep the price down.

SAY "MURRAY"

When you've got a bad cough just say "MURRAY'S." If a druggist gives you anything but Murray's Hore getting the best and sweetest cough remedy. Make him give you Murray's. Acts quicker and you get a 50c size bottle for 25c. Every druggist has it.

Convention of Colored Farmers.

The farmers of Lancaster county are earnestly requested to meet in annual session Feb. 9th, 1905, at school building.

Much business of importance to come before us. Let the farmers, colored and white, get close together.

To what extent can the colored farmer assist in bettering his condition?

What can we do to more fully convince the negro that it is better to stay in the South, and stop floating about? Farmers need good labor and will pay for it.

Does not the colored man have a better opportunity to make money and get honors here than in the North?

Do the negroes discourage crime and vagrancy among the people?

To what extent is the negro trying to educate himself?

To what extent can the colored farmer help reduce the cotton acreage for the good of the country?

Is the storage of cotton bales advisable? Will the poor man be benefited by it?

Will the colored man be furnished money to advantage?

This meeting of colored farmers will convene at 10 o'clock. There will be a morning and night session.

A barbecue dinner will be served farmers on that day.

Come one, come all.

Every farmer in the county ought to be present.

M. D. LEE, President.

Representative Foster spoke last Friday against Josh Ashley's bill to abolish the state bureau of immigration and agriculture. Of his speech the News and Courier's Columbia Correspondent says:

Mr. Foster, of Lancaster, came here instructed to favor any law favorable to immigration. He thought immigration was a necessity in this State. The negro is not going to stay in this country and remain in the field. The educated negro leaves here. This bureau protects the State against "scum" immigration. The cotton mills have depleted the farm help and more farm help has to be brought here. This country had many recent substantial immigrants. He wanted to say that his people wanted this bureau maintained, and those who opposed the department were left at home.

This is the question: Will those who protest against compulsory education, on the plea that it is undemocratic and paternalistic, advocate the suspension of taxes for free schools? Inveighing against compulsion for education they cannot defend compulsory taxation for free school education. —The State.

Hepburn-Dolliver Bill

Raleigh, N. C. Jan. 28.—The general assembly of North Carolina today adopted a joint resolution asking the representatives of the State in congress to vote for the passage of the Hepburn-Dolliver bill prohibiting interstate shipping of whiskey into prohibition territory.

A CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.

Bennettsville, Jan. 25.—The two-year-old child of George Crosland, a wealthy farmer and large real estate owner, was burned to death last night.

Mrs. Crosland was in the kitchen and Mr. Crosland left the room for a few moments to investigate a noise in the barn. The child pulled a lamp from the table saturating its head and clothing with oil. When the parents reached the child it was enveloped in flames and still holding the lamp. After three hours of intense suffering it died at 9 o'clock.

ATTENTION

BARGAIN SEEKERS!

THE HEATH-JONES COMPANY,

Successors to HEATH BANKING & MERCANTILE CO., which has been liquidated in order to settle with the estate of JAS. M. HEATH, deceased.

We are here for business and intend getting our share of the trade if low prices and fair dealings will induce the public to stick to us. Having renovated the stores of the Heath Banking & Mercantile Co., gives us more room and makes our place more convenient for business. We have divided our stock into department, groceries first, on the corner; gent's furnishing department second; dry goods third, and millinery in the fourth room.

We would call your attention to the fact that we have many great inducements to offer

For The Next Thirty Days

as we want to make a clean sweep before purchasing our Spring Goods.

In moving our Shoes, a great many of the boxes were broken, and we have decided to place them on a bargain counter, and let them go at first cost. Now these shoes are not old goods but right new and some of the best we have, such as DREW-SELBY, GODMAN and other makes.

CLOTHING WE HAVE IN ABUNDANCE.

And if prices will move the goods, it is up to you to take advantage of this great reduction sale. You can have any suit of clothes in our establishment for actual cost for the spot cash, so don't delay but come and let us dress you up.

We would like to tell you more about what we have in the way of bargains but being so rushed prevents our doing so. All we ask is an inspection and you will readily see we are

IN SHAPE FOR BUSINESS,

and can make you prices that will give you perfect satisfaction. Wishing everyone a prosperous New Year and hoping for more of your patronage, we are,

THE HEATH-JONES COMPANY.
LANCASTER S. C.