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HIGH PRICES PREVAIL.

Today's prices are going to continue high as long as the people are willing to continue to pay the high prices. And our people are willing to pay the prices as the following paragraph from Dun's Review will show.

"The present extreme prices apparently do not discourage purchasing where supplies are urgently required, either to fill immediate wants or for replenishment purposes, and consumption of staple articles and luxuries, even in sections where crop indications are disappointing, continues of notable dimensions. The cost of footwear is mounting steadily, but trade continues active, and for some time past it has not been necessary for manufacturers to solicit orders."

If needed, further evidence of the same sort is found in the Commercial and Financial Chronicle, which tells us:

"An active demand prevails for woollens and worsteds, and, according to selling agents, they are unable to fill the enormous inquiry for men's and dress goods. Manufacturers are reported to have sealed down orders and are understood to be preparing to make allotments for spring business, with buyers getting only part of the goods they require."

So the story goes in all lines—it is one of increased prices and little hope ahead of any relief. But there are plenty of people who are willing to buy and buy freely even at the present prevailing prices. In other words there are plenty of people who have plenty of money, who have more money than they have ever had before, and who are able to "live better" as the expression goes, than ever before despite the diminished purchasing power of the dollar. These people are spending their money freely on the things that they desire and the people who sell those things are charging as much for them as the people who want to buy those things are willing to pay. So long as the latter are willing to pay what they are paying now, the prices will not come down.

This is not especially encouraging for the very considerable body of people who have not shared in the flood of gold that has filled so many pockets. They have no more money than they had five or ten years ago, and for them the high prices are in many cases prohibitive. There is no relief in sight for them yet, except in the sense that prosperity for great classes of the nation, such as the farmer and the wage-earners, benefits in the long run the nation as a whole. But in this thought there is more than a grain of comfort.

State Home and School for Feeble-Minded Begins Construction

The Board of Regents which controls the State Home and School for the Feeble Minded recently located at Dover, near Clinton, has contracted with C. L. Rounds Construction Company to erect two dormitories, which are expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000 each. These two dormitories will be of brick, one story high, and about 140 or 150 feet long each. They will constitute the first two units of what will ultimately become quite an extensive village, for the needs of the state in the way of the care of the feeble minded are quite as great as the needs already developed in the case of the insane, there being more feeble minded people in the state than there are insane people, and greater necessity for segregating them.

This great charity upon which the state of South Carolina has embarked will depend in no small degree for its rapid development and its successful management upon the sympathy and enthusiastic support of the people of Clinton and the surrounding country. The Board of Regents and the Finance Committee of the Senate and Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives have already been very much impressed with the enthusiasm which Clinton citizens have shown in putting forward an effort to secure the location of this institution near Clinton, and also an effort to secure an enlarged appropriation for its more rapid development.

Clinton has made a profound impression by her remarkable public spirit and enterprise in seeking the location of this institution, and in undertaking to give it support in the legislature. Much remains to be done in popularizing the ideals and purposes of the institution with the people of the state, so that in the future, ample means will be available for the full development of the institution to the large proportions to which it should aspire, for it is certain that in the course of time, at least a thousand feeble minded children must be taken care of in this institution.

The first two units are proposed to accommodate about 100 children, provided additional general buildings can be had so as not to necessitate using one of the dormitories for dining room, kitchen, etc.

Clinton business men have done great credit to themselves and to the community in their liberal public spirit in raising the \$18,000 which was offered and paid to the Board of Regents to secure the location at Dover. There were only two incidents in that connection which marred the splendid record of public spirit and enterprise displayed

by Clintonians and the people of the community surrounding. One man, after giving an option on his land refused to execute the option because he wished to retain the more valuable corner of his farm, and have the Board of Regents pay the full option price for the remainder which was less valuable. Another man who gave an option declined to execute the option. In both cases these gentlemen knew that the options were being sought in order to secure the establishment of a school for the feeble-minded. They knew that the people of Clinton and surrounding country were giving absolutely free of their means to buy the land for that purpose, yet instead of throwing themselves wholeheartedly into the purposes and spirit of the community these two men held back for their own personal advantage, and after eventually agreeing to sell their land at a certain figure in the options which they gave, and which were transferred to the Board of Regents, they have attempted to back down from their agreement to the great discredit of the community and to the lengthy delay in the beginning of the erection of the buildings for the School for the Feeble-Minded.

This long delay is chargeable largely to these two gentlemen, and the people of Clinton who worked hardest and who gave most liberally to bring this institution to Clinton and to advance its purposes, and whose unselfishness finally secured the institution, will not soon forget the two citizens, who failed them and showed a selfishness which even went the length of disregarding a legal obligation incurred in the options which they gave.

The community has a right to expect of every citizen some degree of unselfishness in the interest of the general profit and benefit of the community, and it will not be able to forget at an early date that two citizens of the community, though not themselves Clintonians failed to measure up to the high standard which other Clintonians have set in local patriotism, public spirit and liberality. Among those who were most liberal and most energetic mention should be made of the Clinton Chronicle which loyally gave of its space, and editorially supported the enterprise from the very beginning, and whose editor gave no small amount of his time in efforts with the legislature and with the Board of Regents. The Chronicle is to be congratulated that its efforts and the efforts of those public-spirited citizens who labored with The Chron-

icle have been crowned with success. The buildings are now about to be built and they will be a credit to the community, and lead to additional construction next year and the year after, and in the future years until the institution has reached to the full capacity required in solving the problem of the feeble-minded in this state.

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