

THE UNION TIMES

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LEWIS M. RICE Editor

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1914.

THE DARKEST HOUR.

It is an old saying: "The darkest hour is just before the dawn." And there is comfort in the old saying. There are many people face to face with a condition that is anything but encouraging, a condition that appears to be drawing to a culmination. With the coming of the New Year it is going to take a stout heart and a firm hand to meet the issues. The past year has been one of sore trial for farmer, for merchant and for the salaried man. With the depression brought on by the great European war, the political upheaval and the low priced cotton, the South has suffered more than her share in the hard conditions. All over the South the depression has been severe. In January there must be a new start, a new gathering together of one's resources and an adjustment in many lines. For it cannot be that the conditions now prevailing will go on forever. There will come better times; slowly and through many reverses, but surely we will come into more tolerable conditions. Slowly but surely there will come a restoration of prosperity to our Southern country. And every strong-hearted, true man, rich and poor, owes it to himself and his country to contribute his just share to the upbuilding of the community in which he lives. Every man can contribute something to the good work. The stringency of money is the prime manifestation of the hard conditions now prevailing. There are very few people owing money who could not pay somebody something. Such a movement, should it be made general would help wonderfully. From the butcher to the banker the results would immediately be felt if there was an honest effort made along the line of "pay as far as you can."

We can illustrate this in our own experience. Well nigh every subscriber on our list now in arrears could pay us one dollar for a year's renewal. It would be a mere bagatelle for the individual subscriber. The aggregate would wipe out all our financial woes. There are merchants, small and large, in Union and Union county who would at once be placed upon a firm basis, if all their debtors, small and great, would make honest effort to pay as far as possible. The truth is, confidence, the one great need, would be immediately strengthened, and that would lead to better conditions. One dollar paid would start out on its debt-paying mission and there is no telling how much good it would do. The movement would help all lines of business.

On the other hand, there never was a time when there was greater need for the creditor to be patient and merciful. It is no time for harsh and severe demands. By the exercise of mercy he will not only help others—he will thus best protect his own interests, and will thus contribute his full share towards the restoration of confidence.

First of all, let there be a strengthening of confidence. Let debtor and creditor get closer to gether. Let each do all that is possible to show that integrity, honesty, fair play and a square deal are to be the rule, and half the troubles that now face us will vanish into thin air.

Let us remember: "The darkest hour is just before the dawn." Remembering this, let each one honestly try to hasten the rising sun.

OAKLAND.

Oakland, Dec. 15.—Now that all the plans and worlds of free advice that have come to the farmer through the farm journals and newspapers concerning the most important solution for them to follow in disposing of this year's cotton have failed to produce the desired results as mapped out by them, they have almost abandoned this theme and now have jumped upon the grain subject with all four of their feet, pouring out their gorgeous volumes of slush to the farmer as how they must manage their farm affairs, and how to get the most out of the grain that is raised in the South. They tell us to raise more hogs, cattle and sheep on the farm so that this grain can be utilized on the farm by them and then market our hogs and cattle and realize a handsome profit for them, etc. etc. Now this is good common sense advice if only a few farmers in every county would follow it, but let every farmer begin this stock, cattle and hog raising on their farms and see what the outcome would be, that is, if they depended on it as being their money crop. It would mean as great a calamity to the Southern farmer as the downfall in the price of cotton has been. Hog and hominy is all right and the very thing for the farmer to have at home, but our market will not permit us to raise such to any excess. If all the larger populated counties in this State open up an exchange that would afford the farmer a ready market for cattle and hogs then the matter will be entirely different for we would be in touch with the large cities where the consumption of such is run on a very extensive scale. For instance, if the Union county farmers had ready for the market now, one thousand fattened beef cattle what would they do with them? They couldn't sell them in Union because the town is too small to consume them, but if there was an exchange there they could be bought and shipped elsewhere. Those demonstrating agents and men of big salaries who represent our agricultural department who probably never pulled a hoe across a cotton row or ever pulled a bell cord from morning till night and never had any actual manual labor experience in the work in their lives and wouldn't have the occupation at any old price, are the ones who point out these goals that are just a little ahead and with a very small effort it can be reached. One of the gentlemen who was with Commissioner Watson in Union some time ago said that all the old poor land along the roadside in this county could be used very profitably by raising turnips. For heavens sake! what will they say for the farmer to raise next, as a side line money crop. Why, I can take a one-horse wagon bed of turnips to Union and if I could dispose of them the people of Union wouldn't want to see another turnip for the next three months. This gentleman undoubtedly runs a goat farm and winters his goats by feeding them turnips. They also tell us to set out more fruit trees and can more fruit and vegetables for the market. This canned fruit and vegetable business in an extensive manner all over the South would bring the price for the product so low that it wouldn't pay packing expenses. Our slow and tedious process of canning these goods are not sufficient to cope with the competition we have in the large packing houses. I have canned fruit for the market and find very little profit in it.

The weather is fine for saving meat now and a very good supply of it has already been stored in smoke houses for another year. Yesterday was hog killing day in general around here and a number of very fine ones were butchered. I guess we will almost forget the hard times as so many good things are being prepared for Christmas. Everybody seems to be taking up the Christmas spirit and is looking forward for a good time.

Oakland Sunday school is making preparations to have a Christmas tree for the purpose of entertaining the little folks one night during Christmas. I think it a splendid idea for it gets the small ones more interested in Sunday school work.

Mr. W. G. Hancock of Paeoiet spent the week-end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Smith.

Mr. J. L. Taylor of White Plains section, Cherokee county, was a visitor at the home of his brother, Mr. W. H. Taylor for the week-end. Neb.

Notice to Trespassers.

You are hereby forbidden to trespass in any manner whatsoever on that portion of "The Hill Estate" near Carlisle, S. C., now owned by Miss Ann T. Hill, Mrs. Charlotte Hill and Miss Margaret G. Morrow. You must not pasture or allow your cattle or stock to graze on these lands regardless of whether or not you have the lands rented. Violators will be prosecuted.

E. F. KELLY,
Agent for the owners.

Sale of Personal Property.

State of South Carolina—County of Union.

Pursuant to an order of the Court of Probate for said county, the undersigned will, on Monday, the 4th day of January, 1914, before the court house door in Union, sell at public outcry, the following personal property belonging to the estate of J. F. Betsill, deceased, to-wit:

Six mules, one horse, two wagons and gears, one buggy and harness, one saddle and bridle, one gold watch and pair of sleeve buttons.

On Wednesday, following, to-wit: on January 6th, at 11 o'clock, a. m., at the late residence of the said J. F. Betsill, deceased, in Cross Keys township, said county and state, the undersigned will sell at auction the following belonging to said estate, to-wit: Lot of corn, fodder, and cotton seed; cow and calf, one hog, lot of farming tools, and all other personal property belonging to said estate.

Terms of sale Cash.
S. M. RICE,
J. A. BETSILL,
Executors of the will of J. F. Betsill, deceased.

The Last Call!

Christmas is Getting Closer Every Day and You
Are Losing a Great Opportunity by Not
Coming to Our—

DISTRESS
Clothing Sale

—ABOUT THOSE CHRISTMAS GIFTS—

Why not give Father, Brother, Son or "Jack," something useful this Christmas? Those good-for-nothing presents are not appreciated as much as something really useful.

A nice Tie, Bath Robe, Pair of Gloves, Shirts, a Box of Interwoven Stockings, Umbrella, Box of Handkerchiefs, a Suit or Overcoat, would be appreciated far more than those useless gifts. Get in line with the "Sensible Gift Buyers" right now, and see how much more such gifts will be appreciated.

EVERY ARTICLE IN THE STORE
IS MARKED DOWN.

Sale prices are cash. For instance, Men's \$20 Suits or Overcoats \$14.98; \$16.50 Suits or Overcoats \$11.98—and so on all the way down the line. Boys Suits One-third off regular price.

Union Clothing Co.

D. W. MULLINAX, Mgr.



SOLD ONLY BY
MILHOUS
DRUG CO.

You can select a **SUITABLE**
PRESENT for young or old from
our line of Christmas Novelties
and Fine Candies.

MILHOUS DRUG CO.

Phone 76

THE REXALL STORE

Slaughter of Ladies
SUITS AND COATS

\$25.00 Suits at only .. \$18.48

\$20.00 Suits at only .. 9.98

Coats at a Like Reduction
Beautiful Ones at

\$2.98, \$3.98, \$4.98, \$5.98

McLure Mercantile Co.

WAITING TO HEAR FROM SANTA

You Can
Depend on Us!

THE EARLIER YOU WILL ENTRUST
YOUR ORDERS TO US THE BETTER
ATTENTION WE CAN GIVE YOU. BUT
NOW AND EVERY DAY RIGHT ON
THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS, WE OFFER
YOU FOR SANTA CLAUS, AND FOR ALL
OTHER USES:

New Crop Naples and California Walnuts for 25c lb.
Choicest New Crop Almonds, Californias for 25c lb.
Pecans for 20c pound, 25c pound, 40c pound, and 60c pound. Don't expect the 60c quality for 20c.

Choicest New Crop Mixed Nuts for 20c pound.

Common Mixed Nuts 15c pound, 2 pounds for 25c.

Best Three Crown new crop Raisins, 12 1-2c pound, \$2.00 per box.

Choicest Cocoanuts, 5c and 10c. Shredded Cocoanut, 5c, 10c and 20c package.

Finest Sweet Florida Oranges, 20c, 25c, 35c and 50c dozen, \$2.50 per box.

Choicest Apples 10 cents and 15 cents dozen.

Don't fail to see our assortment of candies in bulk, box, barrel and pail. For years we have supplied the biggest retail orders ever given in Union county for these items.

See us for Shelled Walnut Meats, Shelled Pecan Meats, Crystallized Ginger, Pineapple and Cherries. Bakers' Chocolates, Cocoas and Peter's Sweet and Milk Chocolates. Pure Sugar Stick and Fine Broken Mixed Candies, fresh crystallized Creams and choicest Chocolates, roast and burnt almonds, marshmallows and common and mixed Candies.

One Sure Way to Make
Christmas Baking
a Success

will be to be sure that a barrel of Pansy Flour is in your kitchen, with it you cannot fail. Remember it is worth \$7.00 barrel, but for every barrel bought between now and Christmas for yourself or for somebody else's Christmas present we will contribute 25c, giving you our profit and making the Flour net you \$6.75.

Christmas cheer and good feeling and fellowship in every pound of our Famous Chase & Sanborn Coffees and Teas. Remember that we sell Good Coffee from 12 1-2c pound to 45c pound, and Tea from 5c package to \$1.00 package. And none superior at any price.

Prunes, Dates, Figs, Cranberries, Celery, Eggs and Butter, Pork Sausage, Hams, Mackerel, Salmon 10c to 35c can. Sardines 5c to 35c can, Olives 10c to \$1 bottle.

Cooking Oil, Olive Oil, Salad Oil. Pickles from 10c bottle up to \$30.00 barrel, bulk or bottle, sweet or sour.

Choicest Rice, Hudnuts Grits, Fresh Vegetables, canned Vegetables, Fruits, Fish and Meats.

YOU EAT TO LIVE—LIVE BETTER,
LIVE LONGER AND AT THE LEAST
EXPENSE BY SELECTING EVERY
ITEM OF FOOD FOR MAN AND
BEAST FROM OUR MAMMOTH STOCK

Union Grocery Co.

Phone 100.

L. L. Wagnon, Manager.