

AMERICAN NOTE



COL. WILLIAM H. CROOK

Col. William H. Crook, disbursing officer of the White House, celebrated recently the completion of his fiftieth year as an employee in the offices of presidents.

TRADE GOES ON AS USUAL

THE AMERICAN VESSEL, CARES, COTTON LADEN, GOES DOWN IN NORTH SEA.

Warring Nations Are Not Affected Much by New War Zones.—All Crews Are Saved.

London.—Another American steamer, the Carib, has been destroyed by a mine off the German coast, while a third Norwegian, the Regin, has been torpedoed or destroyed by a mine off Dover. All the Regin's crew were saved and although not stated in the dispatches from Berlin, it is believed the crew of the Carib also escaped.

MANY BIG SUPPLY BILLS PASSED.

Congress Speeding Up to Be Ready for Adjournment. Washington.—Congress worked steadily on its task of passing up supply bills which were out of the way before adjournment on March 4. The Senate passed the naval bill, \$123,000,000, the fortification bill, \$6,000,000, and the diplomatic bill, \$4,000,000 while the House spent the day debating the general efficiency measure, with interruptions now and then to dispose of conference reports.

THREE BURN TO DEATH.

Big Fire in Birmingham Causes \$200,000 Damage And 3 Lives. Birmingham, Ala.—Three unidentified persons, probably more were burned to death, and eight others were injured, in a \$200,000 fire which swept the business section of Birmingham, destroying several commercial buildings and the Winsor hotel, a small old structure. The ruins of the hotel are being searched. Four of the injured were firemen.

Speaker Wooten's Condition Serious.

Raleigh.—Speaker Emmett R. Wooten of the house of representatives has been sinking steadily at Rex Hospital when he had a chill and other alarming symptoms appeared. Doctor Barrett of Kingston, his family physician, arrived and is in consultation with Dr. H. A. Boyster with a probability that he has a last chance to save the life of the speaker the wound will be reopened. There is considered at this time the very slightest sort of chance for the patient to rally.

Bill Effects Common Carriers.

Washington.—Senator Newlands introduced a bill in the senate to empower the interstate commerce commission to examine all papers of a carrier, including correspondence. It would amend the law to meet the supreme court's decision that the commission did not have power to inspect the correspondence of the Louisville & Nashville Railway. Mr. Newlands submitted communications from Acting Chairman Clements of the commission and Attorney General Gregory, urging that the bill be passed.

Special Tax on Foreigners Revoked.

Mexico City.—The French minister was advised officially that the portion of the special tax of 20,000,000 pesos levied by general Obregon which applies to all foreigners, will be revoked. General Obregon's decree stated that money was to be used for the relief of the poor. Americans in Mexico City at a meeting contributed a considerable amount of money for the assistance of the poor. Foreign banks have signified their intention of re-opening.

Vienna Statement.

Vienna, via London.—The official communication issued by the Austrian war office follows: "Violent artillery engagements are proceeding in the sections East of Przemow in Russian front. Along the front of the Vistula...

AGRICULTURAL BILL PASSED BY SENATE

ONE MORE BILL CARRYING APPROXIMATELY \$23,000,000 PUT THROUGH.

DEBATE NAVAL BILL NEXT

Seven of the Fourteen Appropriation Bills Have Been Passed.—Continue Free Seeds.

Washington.—The senate added the agricultural bill, carrying approximately \$23,000,000, to the rapidly growing list of supply measures passed and debate on the naval bill began. Seven of the appropriation bills have been disposed of, and seven are still awaiting action.

After considerable argument the senate declined to support the action of the agricultural committee in striking out an appropriation of \$235,000 for the free distribution of seeds. One of the principal new provisions in the bill is the \$2,500 appropriation for combating the food and mouth disease among cattle.

Debate on the naval bill centers upon committee amendments adding several missions to the house bill including provisions for five sea-going submarines instead of one and 16 coast defense submarines instead of 11.

The house began work on the list of the supply measures for consideration in that body, the general deficiency bill. It also adopted the conference report on the seamen's bill. The senate now must act on it. Conference on other measures which have passed both houses are progressing favorably.

That there is some hope of passing the bill providing Philippine self-government and ultimate independence at this session became apparent. President Wilson told several administration leaders he wished the measure could have the right-of-way over any other general legislation and be passed in the midst of appropriation legislation if necessary.

Senator Simmons conferred with Chairman Hitchcock of the Philippine committee and later Mr. Hitchcock said he believed the bill would pass.

FOOD EXPORTS INCREASE.

Vast Increase of Food Stuffs While Cotton Has Decreased.

Washington.—What vast increases have been made in the export of foodstuffs since the European war began was disclosed by the department of commerce in a detailed statement. Foodstuffs exports for the seven months ending with January totalled \$377,400,000, an increase of \$138,000,000 over the same month of the last fiscal year.

One hundred million bushels more wheat were exported than last year; 38,000,000 bushels more oats; 10,000,000 bushels more corn; 40,000,000 pounds more fresh beef; 34,500,000 pounds more canned beef; 1,500,000 barrels more flour; 1,000,000 pounds more pickled beef; 22,000,000 gallons more gasoline, naphtha, etc., and 11,000,000 gallons more residuum, fuel oil, etc., were sent abroad.

At the same time there was a great decrease in the export of cotton, because of the war, the total for the seven months being 4,105,525 bales or 2,500,000 bales less than last year.

WAR NEWS IN BRIEF.

London.—One sailor lost his life when the small British steamer Deptford, 230 feet long and 1,208 tons, was sent to the bottom in 20 minutes either by a German torpedo from a submarine or by coming in contact with a mine in the North sea at a point off Scarborough. The 15 other members of the steamer's crew were saved and were landed at South Shields.

Turks Report Victory.

Berlin, via London.—Reports from Constantinople say that a Russian attack in the territory east of Artzin, Trans-Caucasia, has been beaten off by the Turks with heavy losses to the enemy.

The Western Coast Goes Down.

London.—The small coasting steamer Western Coast has been sunk by a mine or torpedo in the English Channel at a point off Beachy Head. The crew were landed at Portsmouth.

The Royperana Goes Down.

East Bourne, England.—The steamer Royperana was sunk off this port. It is believed that she was torpedoed. The crew of 31 men was saved.

Also the Harpallion.

Newhaven, via London.—The British steamer Harpallion, from London for Newport News, without cargo, has been torpedoed off Beachy Head.

Senate May Have Extra Session.

Washington.—Possibilities of an extra session of the senate alone after March 4th for consideration of treaties and nominations were being discussed among administration leaders. White house officials refused to talk on the subject, but it was known President Wilson was giving it consideration. Treaties with Columbia to pay \$25,000,000 for the partition of Panama, and with Nicaragua to pay \$3,000,000 for inter-oceanic canal rights, an naval bases, undoubtedly will fall of ratification at this session.

SINGS IN THE FRENCH CAMPS

Minstrel Employed by the Ministry of War to Encourage the Soldiers at the Front.

The role that the minstrel Taillefer played at Hastings, that Roland took at Roncevaux and Blondel filled when he found the imprisoned Count de Lion in an Austrian castle, is being played in the present war by a French minstrel in the front lines, who has been seen in the ranks of the French minister of war, to sing and recite patriotic and warlike chansons to the French soldiers, to inspire them to mighty deeds.



PRINCESS MARIE JOSE Princess Marie Jose, the pretty little daughter of the king and queen of Belgium, in with her two brothers in England.

MR. TAFT FORSEES CRISIS

GRAVE DANGER TO THE UNITED STATES IN NEW ISSUES OF EUROPEAN SITUATION.

Fully Sustains President Wilson in the Course He Has Taken in International Situations.

Morristown, N. J.—The United States is threatened by a serious invasion of its rights as a neutral by the warring factions of Europe and in protecting its commerce with those nations is face to face with a crisis, in the opinion of former President William Howard Taft.

In the solution of that crisis should it arise, no flag spirit must be allowed to prevail, Mr. Taft advised; neither pride nor momentary passion should influence judgment.

"And when the President shall act," Mr. Taft declared, "we must stand by him to the end. In this determination we may be sure that all will join, no matter what their European origin. All will forget their differences in self-sacrificing loyalty to our common flag and our common country."

Mr. Taft's reference to the situation confronting the United States was made at the conclusion of an address before the Washington Association of New Jersey. Quoting a reservation in the treaty of Algiers, proclaimed in 1807, and entered into by the United States and 11 European Nations, Mr. Taft said:

"Our interest in the present war, under the conditions that exist, should be limited as set forth in this reservation, to wit:

"To preserving and increasing the commerce of the United States with the belligerents; to the protection as to life, liberty and property of our citizens residing or traveling in their countries, and to the aiding by our friendly offices and efforts in bringing those countries to peace."

"Our efforts for peace," he continued, "have been made as complete as possible.

"In preserving the commerce of the United States with the belligerents, however, we are face to face with a crisis. The planting of mines in the open sea and the use of submarines to send neutral vessels to the bottom without inquiry as to their neutrality when found in a so-called war zone of the open sea, are all of them a violation of the rules of international law governing the action of belligerents towards neutral trade.

"When their violation results in the destruction of the lives of American citizens or of American property, a grave issue will arise as to what the duty of this Government is. The responsibility of the President and Congress in meeting the critical issue thus presented in maintaining our National rights and our National honor on the one hand, with due regard to the awful consequences to our 90,000,000 of people of engaging in this horrible world war, on the other, will be very great. It involves on their part a judgment in its consequences that we should earnestly pray that the necessity for it may be averted.

"If, however, the occasion arises we can be confident that those in authority will be actuated by the highest patriotic motives and by the deepest concern for our National welfare. We must not allow our pride or momentary passion to influence our judgment. We must exercise the deliberation that the fateful consequences in the loss of our best blood and enormous waste of treasure would necessarily impose upon us. We must allow no jingo spirit to prevail. We must abide the judgment of those in whom we have entrusted the authority and when the President shall act, we must stand by him to the end."

Alabama Prohibitionists Get Hearing.

Washington.—Alabama's plan to prevent liquor advertisements and solicitation of liquor orders from being sent through the mails to prohibition territory was incorporated in a bill introduced in the national house of representatives by Representative Abercrombie. The bill was drafted by a delegation sent here by the Alabama legislature to confer with President Wilson. Postmaster General Burison and members of the Alabama congressional delegation.

Underwood Leaves House Committee

Washington.—Representative Oscar W. Underwood bade farewell to the house ways and means committee, of which he is chairman, as he will represent Alabama as its junior senator after March 4. He presided over the committee at its final session of this congress and was presented with a resolution of thanks and congratulations by his colleagues. There were speeches by various members. Speaker Clark later yielded the presiding officer's chair to Mr. Underwood.

Both Houses of Congress Busy.

Washington.—Appropriations for national defense occupied the attention of both houses of congress. The senate discussed until late at night the army appropriation bill carrying approximately \$103,000,000, while the house debated the fortifications bill. While progress was being made on both these measures, the senate committee on naval affairs practically completed consideration of the naval appropriations measure and the senate paused for four minutes to pass the pension bill carrying \$164,000,000.

AMERICAN NOTE IS BEING CONSIDERED

BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS IS PRESENTED, IT HAS BEEN LEARNED.

BRITAIN IS VERY RETICENT

But Still Points Out That Wood Has Not Been Declared Absolute Contraband of War.

Berlin, via London.—The American identical note on marine warfare, sent to Great Britain and Germany, is in the hands of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, Imperial German Chancellor, and Gottlieb van Jagow, the German Foreign Minister.

The German Government is not ready to make public the contents of the note, but it is said they may be regarded as the basis for further negotiations. Certain of the proposals, as an example the removal of the mine fields around England, probably will be unacceptable to Germany.

The German Government, it is said, does not expect that Great Britain will accept any proposals permitting the importation of foodstuffs in to Germany.

The Lookal Anzeiger says it learns that the American note presents a basis for further negotiations.

"Washington," the newspaper adds, "now takes up the suggestions outlined in the final passage of Germany's answer and makes proposals which apparently are addressed equally to Germany and Great Britain."

PUTTING UP A GOOD FIGHT.

Fear That Renegade Utes Will Join Old Polk's Band.

Salt Lake City, Utah.—Fear that renegade Utes from the reservation in Colorado will join Old Polk's band of Plute Indians which has been battling United States officers near Bluff is expressed in a dispatch to The Desert News.

Reports from the Colorado reservation say the Indians believe the white men have killed 25 squaws and papooses and they are greatly incensed.

Marshal Nebeker has wired the United States District Attorney at Salt Lake City and also the Department of Justice at Washington that he will use the 20 Navajo Indian police he has requested be sent him to assist in tracking the hostiles.

"My men will take care of all the fighting," he said.

A scouting party found that Old Posey, leading a small band of Indians had crossed the San Juan River to Navajo Reservation on the south side.

Another scouting party followed the trail of Old Polk and about 10 mounted warriors to re-capture Wash, eight or 10 miles east of Bluff, but was unable to determine whether his movement indicated an attempt to escape or an effort to obtain reinforcements.

President Wilson For Mountaineers.

Washington.—Praise for the "simple, straightforward" people of the Southern mountains, and criticism of the "airs that high society gives itself" were voiced by President Wilson here at a meeting held in the interest of Berea College, Kentucky founded to educate the mountaineers. The President declared the college was "going straight to the heart of one of the most interesting problems of American life," and added that "the only thing that is worth while in human intercourse is to wake somebody." Justice Hughes of the Supreme Court presided at the meeting and other speakers were President Frost of Berea College, F. G. Bonser of Columbia University and Hamilton W. Mable of The Outlook magazine.

New Orleans Bakers Ask Embargo

New Orleans.—The executive committee of the National Association of Master Bakers forwarded to President Wilson and leaders in Congress a resolution asking that an embargo be placed on the exportation of wheat, rye and flour.

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More Animated.

"So you attended a dinner at a school for deaf mutes?" "Was the service any different from the service in a regular dinner?" "I noticed that the lyric flame that carries simple words and simple thoughts straight to the hearts of the hearers."

GOD SPEED TO RELIEF SHIP

Farewell Services for St. Helena Held At Charleston, Governor Manning Makes Principal Address.

Charleston.—More than a thousand men women and children took advantage of the perfect weather conditions to attend the "farewell ceremonies", in which Gov. Manning, Mayor Grace and representatives of the central Belgian relief committee for the United States, the State committee of South Carolina, Georgia and North Carolina and the local committee bade God speed to the Georgia-Carolina Belgian relief ship, the British steamer St. Helena, now loading many tons of provisions at the foot of Columbus street.

From the deck of the St Helena Gov. Manning delivered his first speech in Charleston as chief executive. The governor took occasion to address a few words to the people of Charleston as citizens of South Carolina. He was enthusiastically received and heartily applauded at frequent intervals during his address. At the conclusion of the morning's exercises, Gov. Manning stood at the foot of the gangway from the wharf to the steamer and shook hands with the members of the departing crew.

Just north of the Swedish steamship Alderbran, the St. Helena, lay alongside the wharf, all work of loading stopped temporarily, mast and rigging decked in holiday attire. Flags of every description fluttered from her in the breeze, notable among them the red and white banner of the Belgian relief committee. About the railing of the upper deck aft, from which vantage point the speakers of the day addressed the crowds below them, was draped in white bunting with red lettering "Commission Belgian Relief."

The speeches delivered were in the following order: Introductory remarks by Mr. Lanneau, Mayor Grace, George W. Williams, chairman of the local relief committee; Bruce W. Ravenel, vice chairman of the South Carolina relief committee; Dr. F. E. May, chairman of the Georgia relief committee; Jefferson Davis, representing the New York central committee, commission Belgian relief; and Gov. Manning.

Cotton Cargo For Germany

Charleston.—The American steamship Greenbrier, Capt. Dalton, cleared at the United States custom house here with 6,400 bales of cotton loaded at the wharf of W. Gordon McCabe & Co. for discharge at Bremen. The Greenbrier, a Gans liner under charter to the Carolina company, local representative of Strachan & Co. is the fourth steamer to leave Charleston for the German port since the outbreak of the present war; her cargo is the first out of Charleston to have been examined with the X-ray for possible contraband shipments, and her destination is the first that has been made public immediately upon clearance by the collector of customs here for the past six months.

PALMETTO NEWS NOTES.

Gen. B. T. Teague has appointed as sponsor for the South Carolina division, U. C. V. Miss Martha A. Bonham of Anderson, who has named as her maids of honor Misses Olive McGowan of Columbia and Carolina Skinker of Charleston. Mrs. R. S. Ligon of Anderson will be their chaperone and matron of honor.

Senator Smith will close his Washington office when the present session of congress ends, but he will not stop work on congressional matters, it having been learned that he will open offices in Florence with his usual force in charge of the clerical work.

Another episode in the race rioting December 20 at Fairplay when three negroes were killed and several severely beaten and otherwise injured was recorded when Sheriff John Davis of Oconee county placed three white men of that section under arrest and carried them to jail at Walhalla, making six men who now face the charges of murder as a result of this trouble.

The meeting of the Tri-State Conference of Orphanage Workers will be held this year in Yorkville and the dates decided upon are April 13 and 14. The states of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia will send their orphanage executives to take part in this conference. It will be held at the Church Home orphanage of the Episcopal church.

In a fire recently the office and main building of the Stone Fuel and Lumber Company at Greenville was completely destroyed. The loss is approximately \$12,000 partially covered by insurance.

Plans have been perfected for a public playground for the children of Lancaster.

Three residences at Clio burned with a loss of several thousand dollars.

Stockholders in the Orangeburg Fair Association held a meeting recently and re-elected old officers and laid plans for a big fair this fall.

The war department has decided to send more troops to Fort Moultrie. Johnny Evers, the great baseball player, who is now in Camden playing golf, etc., says the Camden climate has worked wonders with him.

A contract has been awarded for 40 additional houses for the Dunean mill village of Greenville. These houses, together with those which are now standing, will provide accommodation for the complement of labor required by the mill when it is running to its full capacity and on full time. The work of construction will begin at once.

The Lexington County Rural Mail Carriers have just held their annual meeting.

Levi Turner was shot and seriously wounded a few days ago by Joe and Ernest Humphries near Blacksburg.

Some time during the night the iron safe in the freight and passenger depot of the Piedmont & Northern railway, the interurban, at the town of Piedmont was blown open by a burglar using gun cotton.

Will Buy Much Coal. Greenville.—The coal buying committee of the South Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' Association will meet about March 15, either here or in Spartanburg, when more than 300,000 tons of coal will be purchased for delivery to South Carolina mills within the next 12 months. For weeks the representatives of Virginia and Tennessee coal companies have been calling on the manufacturers. Last year the great bulk of the business is said to have gone to the Virginia Iron, Coal and Coke Company, of Roanoke, Va.

For A "Cleaner Spartanburg." Spartanburg.—Public sentiment for a cleaner city morally that has been running strong in Spartanburg since the close of the Holcomb revival, took definite form at a dinner given at a committee of 100 at the Y. M. C. A. building when the Christian Workers' league was organized for the purpose of carrying forward a campaign for a "cleaner Spartanburg." The organizing officers of the league were: Pres. C. E. Harn...

CAPT. CHAS. PETTY LED USEFUL LIFE

DEAN OF THE NEWSPAPER PROFESSION IN SOUTH CAROLINA IS DEAD.

WAS CONFEDERATE SOLDIER

Spartanburg Editor Occupied the Eighty Years of His Life in Good Work.

Spartanburg.—Capt. Charles Petty, venerable citizen, brave Confederate soldier and the dean of the newspaper profession in South Carolina, who died here at his residence on north Dean street after a brief illness, was a little more than 80 years of age and until within the last ten days had been an active member of the staff of The Journal and Carolina Spartan, the afternoon paper of this city. His death was due to a general physical breakdown.

Charles Petty was born January 15, 1835, on the farm of his father, James Petty, two miles west of Gaffney.

When a young man he began teaching in the Spartanburg Female College and in 1853 married Julia Davis of Wilkesville, then in Union county. Shortly after the Star of the West was fired on a call was made for a certain number of companies.

When Company C. Thirteenth South Carolina Volunteers was organized, Capt. Petty was elected major. D. E. Duncan was promoted to captain and Charles Petty was elected lieutenant. These four officers went through the entire war together, neither being seriously wounded.

Lieut. Petty was with his regiment during the several days around Richmond and was engaged in the battle of Gaines' Mill and Cold Harbor. He was with the Confederate army in its advance up the Rappahannock river and was with Gen. Jackson in his great movement to Manassas Junction in the rear of Gen. Pope's army. He was in all the battles and marches in which his regiment was engaged until his surrender at Appomattox Court House.

After the war Capt. Petty farmed at Wilkesville until 1872, when he became the head of Limestone Female College at Gaffney, then in Spartanburg county.

Subsequently Capt. Petty traveled for the textbook publishing firm of Glenn Heath & Co. and visited schools and colleges for the purpose of introducing the publications of this company. He came to Spartanburg January 1, 1879, and bought the Carolina Spartan from Capt. M. F. Trimmer. He was editor and publisher of the Spartan until about five years ago when The Spartan was merged with the Journal. After that he was connected with the two papers in an editorial capacity until a few months ago.

Capt. Petty possessed an unusually readable style and as a writer on farm topics he combined this with the practical knowledge of agriculture which gave his writings the qualities of both entertaining and information in a high degree. Probably he had no equal as a writer on farm topics in this state.

He held liberal and progressive views to an unusual degree, but he was never intolerant of the views of others. He was a member of Central Methodist church and was a regular attendant on its services.

The funeral services were largely attended and many beautiful floral designs covered the last resting place of the veteran newspaper man.

Organize Stock and Poultry Clubs.

Lancaster.—The Lancaster chamber of commerce, under the efficient management of Luther Ellison, is planning a campaign throughout Lancaster county, to be put into effect as soon as road conditions are sufficiently favorable for quick travel, for the purpose of organizing a stock and poultry club in every community.

Improvement Company Organized.

The Southern Improvement Company of Columbia has been commissioned with a capital of \$3,000.

Vessels For Clinchfield.

Spartanburg.—The Clinchfield Navigation Company has been formed and will have a fleet of vessels plying in and out of Charleston engaged in coastwise trade. This announcement was made here by C. E. Bockus, president of the Clinchfield Fuel Company who has just returned from New York, accompanied by C. M. Barnett, representative of the company at Norfolk. The first boat of the Clinchfield's fleet has just been purchased at Ashtabula, a Lake Erie port, at a cost of \$250,000.

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