

# Abbeville Press and Banner

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## ENGLISHMEN ASTONISHED AT WILSON'S LATEST NOTE

Some Charge Bernstorff's Propaganda in United States as the Main Cause.

London, Dec. 23.—The general public had their first news of President Wilson's note from the morning papers and the matter was the one topic of conversation on incoming suburban trains and throughout the country. The people, like the press, were rather taken aback, as they had about arrived at the conclusion that Premier Lloyd George's speech had put an end to all peace talk unless the central powers in their reply to the premier were prepared to join their terms. That the president of any other neutral ruler would take any action was farthest from their mind.

The evening papers, which did not print editorials, came out with big headlines which expressed their views in the Evening News, which is the afternoon edition of the Daily Mail, reads a reprint with the one word "No" in large black type and under "Our answer to President Wilson," and again "No, No, No," that is the answer Great Britain gives today without a moment's hesitation to the surprising note from President Wilson.

Headlines in other papers such as President Wilson's Strange Peace Message, "President Wilson's Peace Feeler," "Amazing Note," indicate a slight measure the astonishment caused by the communication.

Much speculation is indulged in as to the motives or causes which inspired the president to send such a note after his assumption of the attitude that he would not mediate unless invited by both groups of belligerents.

One section of the press, utterly rejecting any idea of the possibility of peace negotiations as the outcome of the recent German note, flatly attributes the president's action to the success of propaganda conducted by Count von Bernstorff in America and that they describe as the masterly activity of the late British government. The more general impression is that the agitation in America for an embargo on food exports had much to do with Mr. Wilson's action.

It is also suggested that the president may have received special information from the German government and is aware of the extent to which Germany is prepared to go toward reparation, restitution and guarantees. This is the view expressed by the Daily Chronicle. Some discussion is also devoted to the chances of congress passing food export measures and possibly an embargo on cotton and war materials.

The Daily News, which is the nearest to pacifist among London news papers, says today regarding President Wilson's note:

"No one can fail to appreciate the spirit in which the proposal is made and approve the cautious terms in which it is couched. The history of the great struggle in his own country is too recent and too memorable for President Wilson to be unaware of the perils of too hasty intervention. From our side it was the specter of European intervention that haunted Lincoln especially in these days when the cause of the north was passing through its darkest phase.

"Mr. Wilson is far too wise to add that trouble to the enormous burdens of the nations engaged in the struggle for liberty not less vital and far greater."

The newspaper says there is no suffering in America comparable with that in Lascashire during the cotton famine brought about by Lincoln's blockade and says it does not believe the American people will put the disability they are suffering in the scale against victory of human liberty over despotism.

The Daily Chronicle recounts a list of alleged German outrages in Belgium and elsewhere on which it says President Wilson remained silent. It adds that he protested against the Lusitania, Ancona and Sussex massacres, not because they were inhumane, but because they were Americans perished by their inhumanity.

"With this line—that humanity did not warrant intervention but American interests did—we have never quarreled, but since he omitted to intervene to stop crime, is it consistent he should intervene now to find others from punishing the criminals?"

The newspaper considers President Wilson's statement that the objects of both belligerents are virtually the same is most painful for European liberals.

## NEXT SUNDAY AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

Services in the Methodist church next Sabbath morning and evening at the usual hours.

At the morning hour the pastor will preach an appropriate New Year sermon. At the evening hour he will begin a series of sermons on "The Christian in the World" and "The World in the Christian."

Every one is invited to attend these services. A cordial welcome awaits all.

## PRESIDENT SAYS NOTE IS MORE THAN A "FEELER"

### McCaslan Home Total Loss By Fire Saturday

The friends of Mr. Pat H. McCaslan will regret to know that he had the misfortune to lose his home on last Saturday morning, when it was totally destroyed by fire. One end of the building was in flames when a tenant on the place discovered the fire. He hurried to the house and found the room of Mr. McCaslan full of smoke and its occupant sound asleep. With a good deal of difficulty he succeeded in getting Mr. McCaslan out before the building fell in.

The entire house and its contents are a complete loss. Mr. McCaslan did not have time to save even a suit of clothes. He borrowed a suit from his friend, Jno. Boggs Kennedy and came to town in the morning and bought a full wardrobe. He lost in addition all his Christmas money, which was in his purse in his pants' pockets. It is not known just how the fire originated.

### Negroes Had Systematic Plan for Big Stealing

The Dargan-King Company has been doing a big business as a retail dealer in hardware, cutlery, silverware, aluminum ware and Christmas goods, but the money did not come in in this way fast enough for Horace McKnight, the colored gentleman who has been cleaning up the store, he preferring a wholesale business and in that capacity supplied such eminent gentlemen as Ed Guillard, Robert E. Wilson, the blind tiger, whom we told the authorities some weeks ago should be put on the rock pile, George Pressley, Wheeler Thomson, who made an address before the colored Methodist Conference on the subject, "The Carpenter May Die But His Work Goes On," Mary Watt and Jim Belcher. Horace was able to sell much cheaper than Mr. Dargan because Mr. Dargan not only paid for what he sold himself but for what Horace was selling also.

The result is that Horace is facing a good many charges of larceny, while the other culprits have been convicted in the Mayor's court of receiving stolen goods. As stated in another column, Guillard contributed \$75.00 to the city treasury. This morning the mayor assessed Robert E. Wilson \$75.00 and George Pressley \$50.00, they having demanded a jury trial and having been convicted. Wheeler Thomson, of carpenter fame, took his straight from the Mayor and received a permit to make a contribution of \$25.00, which was also satisfactory to Mary Watt and Jim Belcher, all of which goes to show that "the way of the transgressor is hard."

### Annual Trustees Election Held in the Court House

The annual election of Trustees for the Abbeville School District, was held in the court house last night at eight o'clock, pursuant to advertising notice published in the city papers. The terms of Dr. C. C. Gambrell, Joel S. Morse and William P. Greene having expired, the election was for the purpose of filling the vacancies. The old trustees were nominated for re-election. The following other gentlemen were nominated: Messrs. M. T. Coleman, Meadows Langley, Wm. Blanchett, Earle Harrelson, and W. P. Wham. Mr. Langley declined the nomination stating that he did not wish his name to go before the meeting.

About forty-five citizens of the town participated in the election and the vote for the several candidates was as follows:

W. P. Wham, 17; M. T. Coleman, 13; W. M. Blanchett, 8; Earle Harrelson, 10; J. S. Morse, 33; C. C. Gambrell, 24; William P. Greene, 31.

The old trustees having received a majority of the votes cast were declared re-elected for a term of three years.

After the election, Mr. A. B. Morse made a motion that the delegation in the General Assembly be requested to have the time for the election of the trustees changed from the Christmas Holidays to the last Tuesday in June. Mr. Morse thought that a better attendance of the citizens would be secured at such time, and after discussion the motion was carried and the Secretary was instructed to lay the matter before the delegation.

Mr. Robert S. Link presided as Chairman of the meeting and Mr. R. L. Dargan as Secretary.

### Washington Watches for News as to How Wilson's Note is Received Abroad.

Washington, Dec. 23.—With the purposes of President Wilson's note to belligerents clarified by official statements on the subject, the attention of the United States as turned to the reception of the note in the foreign capitals.

Diplomats here are eagerly watching for indications of whether the European neutrals will follow the lead of the United States and make a similar appeal the warring powers.

There is growing feeling that the United States hopes to become the clearing house for views and possibly for terms of the belligerents. Several of the diplomats have advised their governments to that effect in order to guide them in their replies.

### No Mere Feeler.

Surprise at the fast growing significance of the president's move was expressed on all sides, where it was pointed out that at first the opinion prevailed that the note itself was merely a "feeler" and that the most immediately in issuing it was the receipt of some sort of definition from the warring nations.

That the president should let it be known indirectly to the diplomats, for their guidance, that he went even farther than that and counted on an absolutely frank reply from the belligerents, which would lead to an actual opportunity for negotiations, proved only less surprising than the note itself.

Gradual clarification among the entente diplomats were of the president's purpose and indications that they would advise their governments to reply in a friendly spirit proved a source of deep gratification today as it was pointed out both in the note itself and by Secretary Lansing that one of the dangers was that the allies would consider the step as a pro-German move.

Early London press comment that the note was painful because it said the objects of the belligerents were practically the same was not unexpected here, where attention already had been drawn to the fact that President Wilson specifically declared that the published views of the opposing statesmen left that impression.

It is stated officially that the president would not presume to say that two groups were fighting for the same object, but merely that their official spokesman had outlined much the same general program without going into the actual details which he now seeks.

## Will Erect Monument in Long Cane to Famous Physician

Dr. G. A. Neuffer and Dr. C. C. Gambrell are members of a committee recently appointed by the South Carolina Medical Association to erect a monument in Long Cane cemetery to the memory of W. C. Norwood, M. D., who died in Abbeville county July 15, 1884.

Dr. Norwood, world-famed for his discovery of Veratrum Viride, was very wealthy at the time of his death, having derived large royalties from the sale of his discovery. According to a news item appearing in The Press and Banner of July 16, 1884, it appears that the famous doctor spent most of his professional life in Abbeville county, dying at his home near Hodges in his 78th year. He was a graduate of Castleton University, Castleton, Vt.

## J. E. Lomax Sustains Severe Injuries in Fall From Tree

Mr. J. E. Lomax, who lives at Kinards, S. C., was injured last Thursday morning by falling from a high tree. A negro man had attempted several days before to trim up this tree and fell to the ground, breaking his leg. Then Mr. Lomax attempted to finish up the work and climbed up and the limb broke. and he fell to the ground, breaking a rib and receiving several other severe bruises and for several days afterwards has been dangerously ill.

John and Victor Lomax of our city, were called home immediately and at the present time he is somewhat better. A speedy recovery is being entertained for him by many friends in and around the county.

## Whiskey Trade Brisk; Many Orders Delayed

Hundreds of patrons of the gallon-a-month system were disappointed, when their gallon failed to arrive in time to make the usual Christmas nogg. Many of the orders had been placed as long as two weeks ago, while most all of them were placed in "plenty of time."

## Guillard Found Guilty by Mayor

Ed. Guillard, a negro tailor of the city, was convicted in the Mayor's court on Tuesday morning of receiving stolen goods. The property alleged to have been stolen was a lot of chinaware taken from the store of the Dargan-King Co.

## SOUTHERN NEGROES SUFFER HARDSHIPS IN THE NORTH

### Colored Minister of Pittsburg Writes Richard Carroll of the Sad Plight.

In connection with the negro migration to the North, a well known colored Baptist minister of Pittsburg, has written to the Rev. Richard Carroll, one of the leaders of the race in South Carolina, giving a distressing account of the plight of its members who have left the South.

Richard Carroll, who is well known in Greenville and well thought of here had addressed a communication to the News in which he says that since most of his race in South Carolina have an "emancipation celebration" on January 1, he suggests that the time be taken to discuss the migration of the negroes to the North.

He goes on to say, "The unrest among our people throughout the South, especially in Alabama and in Georgia, is terrible and South Carolina is now catching the fever. I do not blame the colored people from moving from sections where life and property are not safe, but they could move to other places in the South where they could get justice and protection and remain in the south. The colored preachers who are the proper leaders of the race, should take this matter up and face it and advise our people to remain in the Southland."

The letter below is written by the pastor of one of the largest colored churches in Pittsburg.

EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH  
Cor. Wylie and Devillers Sts.  
Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 16, 1916.  
Rev. J. C. Austin, B. D., D. D.  
2316 Wylie Ave.,  
Columbia, S. C.,  
My dear Co-worker:—

Your letter to hand this very hour and as to the great exodus of our people, I am ready to answer you in definite words relative to its benefits: I am positive that it's not the best thing for our people to do, especially this season of the year. We have here now hundreds who are suffering intensely, many of whom have money, but cannot get accommodations. The good ones from the South are made to suffer with the bad, because of many unreasonable things committed by the thoughtless. I know this will eventually work against all of us in the North, thus I am sparing no time in trying to meet this issue. I appreciate your voice being lifted openly against this exodus, unless the people know where they are going before they leave there.

Yours for every good work,  
(Signed) J. C. AUSTIN.

## Patent Device to Double Capacity of the Cotton Gin

Mr. S. J. Wakefield is progressing with the patent he expects to obtain on his new cotton gin device, by which the capacity of all cotton gins will be doubled. He has been making extensive investigations and experiments with the patent and each day he becomes more convinced of the great value of his patent. He believes that he will be able to further develop the idea which he has so as to further develop the capacity of cotton gins.

One of the principal advantages of the device is that it can be made to be attached to any cotton gin now in use so that it will not be necessary to buy new outfits. He will put the device on the market just as soon as the patent is obtained, and he can make the necessary models.

## Congressman Aiken Home for Holidays

Hon. Wyatt Aiken returned from Washington on Friday and is spending the holidays with Mrs. Aiken and the children at home. He had quite an interview with Santa Claus Sabbath night when his old friend was caught delivering presents before midnight. Being a strict observer of the Sabbath himself he severely rebuked Santa for his non-observance of the day. The matter was finally settled, however, when Santa agreed to take good care of the boys in this district, and to give them a little more than he had at first intended, and when he made the plea that he could not get around unless he commenced early in the night. Mr. Aiken warned him not to go to Due West until early in the morning, however, as the people up there think a good deal as he does on the subject.

Mr. Aiken advises us that he heard in Washington that his friend, Col. C. J. Lyon, United States Marshal for this district, had made a recent visit to the President in the interest of our old and valued citizen, Col. Patrick Roche, whom the Marshal is urging as a suitable man for Postmaster General or Secretary of War.

## WELL KNOWN TEACHER DIES AT HORRELL HILL

Benjamin F. Bailey Passed Away After Short Illness.

Benjamin F. Bailey, well known educator, died early yesterday at Horrell Hill, in Richland County. He was 63 years old.

Prof. Baileys life has been one of activity in the schools of the State, especially so in Richland county, where he had been affiliated with Prof. G. V. Neuffer in the University School for Boys of Columbia. After the closing of that institution he accepted the principalship of the Horrell Hill school, in which capacity he was serving at the time of his death. He was at one time superintendent of the Abbeville city schools, but resigned that position to accept the presidency of the Abbeville cotton mills, and after leaving there came to Columbia.

Prof. Bailey is survived by his widow, a son, G. Wallace Bailey, a daughter, Mrs. H. V. Knight, wife of Prof. H. V. Knight, of Chester; a stepson, R. F. Gilliam, and a sister, Mrs. J. D. Davis, of St. Louis.—The State.

## RESIGNS AS LOCAL COUNSEL.

William P. Greene, of the local bar, who has represented the Seaboard Air Line Railway Company at Abbeville as Local Counsel for a number of years, has severed his relations with the company and will no longer represent it. Some other lawyer of the Abbeville bar will likely be appointed to the position within the next few days.

## THE CLOSING OF SCHOOL.

The city schools closed for the holidays last Thursday and the teachers went to their different homes the afternoon or on Friday. Most of the grades had some Christmas exercise for the entertainment of the children and there were several Christmas trees. Miss Bess Allen, one of the first grade teachers, entertained the parents of her pupils and served tea and cake to her guests. At the High School special exercises were held in the two societies and Christmas carols were sung.

## Negroes Who Migrated to Within Shadow Chicago Tribune Building Can't Find Work.

Columbia, Dec. 26.—"Take me back to de land corn and cotton," is the cry of one South Carolina negro who was lured to the inhospitable clime of Chicago where Republicans rule and where those who are always talking about the "poor negro not being given a chance," hold sway. A Columbia negro migrated to Illinois, whether to help swell the vote for Hughes and the other G. O. P. nominees or whether to be accorded those privileges which "they say" he is not allowed in the Palmetto State is not known. Just how alluring the offer which got him to leave Dixie for the land of the North was he did not say but suffice it to state that he lifted up his voice in the State of "Uncle Joe" Cannon and Lawrence Y. Sherman, not to mention the Chicago Tribune, and wrote, yes, actually wrote, for money to get a ticket to come back to Columbia, South Carolina, on. And to make it worse this negro is stationed right under the nose of the Chicago Tribune, and can't get work!

Think of it! The State of Abraham Lincoln, the home of the Chicago Tribune, is letting a brother in black nearly starve and won't even give him work. So he sits down and pens a request to Governor Manning to arrange to get him back to Columbia Shades of the Abolitionists! William Lloyd Garrison, Seward, and the other spirits of the late sixties bend your ears while the governor of South Carolina, the State which first seceded in 1860, the State which was looted by the carpetbaggers, and the State which does not believe in negro voting, reads this letter which came from a State which professes great love for the colored race and believes in giving him the vote:

"Oak Forest,  
"Near Chicago, Ill.  
"Ward L. S., Dec. 15, 1916  
"To the Hon. Governor Manning,  
"South Carolina.  
"Hon. Sir:

"My name is Sam Moravin. I am a colored man and native of your State. I am here at present but cannot work on account of the cold and would be very grateful to you if you could arrange to get me back to Columbia.

"Yours with great respect,  
(Signed) "SAM MORAVIN."

It was suggested by newspaper men at the State house this morning that Sam's letter should be referred to the Republican National Executive committee or at least to United States Senator Boise Penrose of Pennsylvania, who is at present much exercised because the negroes did not get to vote in the South to any great extent in the recent election.

## Sad Death of Little Rose Ellen Hughes Sunday

Rose Ellen, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe T. Hughes, died Sunday morning, December 24th, 1916, a few minutes of twelve o'clock. The little girl was taken sick on Friday with membranous croup and despite the loving and watchful care of her family and of their friends the little soul went back to the Father who gave it. The little girl would have been twenty months old on Christmas day and all this time was the idol of her parents' hearts and the bright and sweet pet of the neighborhood.

Funeral services were conducted Christmas morning at 12 o'clock, by Rev. H. Waddell Pratt, and the interment was at Long Cane cemetery, services being held at the grave on account of the illness of Mrs. Hughes. The hearts of our people go out in loving sympathy to the grief stricken mother and father. May they take comfort in the knowledge that it is well with the child.

## A. W. Bowden Leaves Soon for Place on Road

Mr. A. W. Bowden, who has been in Abbeville for the past several months, left this week, having accepted a position as traveling representative of a Northern firm. Mr. Bowden proved himself a capable business man, while here. The young people of the city give him up with sorrow.

## REV. KENNEDY VISITOR.

Rev. E. B. Kennedy came down from Due West Wednesday and is visiting in the city for a day or two. He has many friends here who are always glad to see him.