

Abbeville Press and Banner

Established 1844. \$2.00 the Year. Tri-Weekly

Abbeville, S. C., Wednesday, June 1, 1921

Single Copies, Five Cents. 77th Year.

GROWERS OF COTTON TALK OF CONDITIONS

WAYS AND MEANS OF RESTORING INDUSTRY TO PRE-WAR BASIS DISCUSSED AT MEETING IN NEW YORK OF PLANTERS, MANUFACTURERS AND OTHERS.

New York, May 31.—Ways and means of rehabilitating the cotton industry and putting it on a pre-war basis, were discussed today at the opening of a national consultation of American cotton growers, manufacturers and affiliated interests.

Leading cotton growers and governmental officials warned that the country faced the shortest cotton crop in the last 25 years, and that unless immediate steps were taken to create a market and restore the staple to a profitable price, a greater shortage would result in the next few years.

Figures presented by the various speakers showed that the reduction in cotton acreage this year ranged from 30 to 35 per cent. due to the acreage reduction campaign for the National Cotton association, the ravages of the boll weevil and unfavorable weather conditions.

The government recognizes that the industry faces a critical situation, President Harding declared in a telephone message to the conference, and he assured the cotton growers that the administration desired in every possible way to cooperate with those seeking to improve conditions.

Two three year old daughters of cotton men replied to the president's message thanking him on behalf of the North and the South.

United Effort Necessary.

United effort by government and business is necessary if the cotton industry is to regain its feet, declared J. S. Wannamaker of St. Matthews, S. C., president of the American Cotton association. Artificial inflation in values must be overcome, he said, and the channels of commerce opened and exports of raw cotton stimulated. He defended the acreage reduction campaign, declaring it would have been "nothing short of suicidal to produce more than half a crop of cotton in 1921."

Senator Joseph E. Ransdell of Louisiana, a cotton planter, estimated that cotton producers had lost approximately \$2,000,000,000 in 1920, due to adverse market conditions.

Senator E. D. Smith of South Carolina aside that with a group of senators from the agricultural states of the South and West, he believed they had a solution of the situation in view. He explained that it was proposed to modify the federal reserve act so that the farmer would have some fixed and dependable financial arrangements. He added that it was proposed to make it mandatory upon the home banks and the regional banks to accept the farmers' paper at fixed discount rates, and that this paper should be good as long as the bank's assets permitted. Cotton at no time, he said, should sell below 30 cents.

The American cotton crop is the most wastefully handled staple farm product in the world, Harvie Jordan, secretary of the association, declared.

"Uneconomic losses due to waste and primitive practices in baling and handling the cotton crop," he said, "wipe out the full annual value of a crop every ten years, according to figures prepared by the United States bureau of markets. These losses aggregate nearly \$200,000,000 per annum."

Mr. Wannamaker, in his address, declared that until cotton was recognized as one of the nation's greatest assets and until it brought a profitable price to the grower, every Southern industry would be retarded.

Still Without Market.

"We produced in 1920 only 13, (Continued on Page Four)

WINTHROP CLOSES SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Diplomas Awarded to a Large Class.
—Governor Cooper in Address
Calls on Young Women to Render
Service to Justify Training—
Certificates Awarded to 250.

Rock Hill, May 31.—With the presentation of diplomas to the graduates and certificates to the young women completing special courses, numbering 250 students, and the announcement of distinctions, scholarship awards, the Winthrop college commencement for 1921 came to an end tonight.

The exercises began in the main auditorium at 8 o'clock and every available seat was taken long before the organ sounded for the entrance of the officials and graduates. Reversing the long followed custom, the entire faculty had seats on the stage, while the graduates were seated in the central section of the auditorium. From the auditorium the seniors and certificate students in turn later marched across the front of the stage to receive from the hands of President Johnson the scroll on which was emblazoned the fact that they had completed the prescribed course of study at the South Carolina college for young women. Seated on the rostrum, in addition to President Johnson, Governor Cooper and members of the board of trustees, were a number of the ministers of the city.

Appealing that they go forth with the definite purpose to make this a greater state and that they seek to impart the advantages accruing from completion of their course of study that others may be prepared to grasp the opportunity to serve, Governor Cooper tonight made an eloquent address before the graduates.

Praises Work Being Done.

The address was designed to reveal some of the opportunities for service and to stress the responsibilities resting upon the young women. The governor praised the work being done by Winthrop college and declared that the state is greatly indebted to the institution for the thousands of well trained teachers who have gone forth and are now engaged in instructing the youth of the land. The support of this institution from the public treasury is justified only on the single ground of the public welfare. The young women who are trained here will justify the state's expenditure in a contribution to the commonwealth. It is through the right kind of education that may be realized the highest aim of government, an enduring civilization, a condition in society in which every person may enjoy not only the equal protection of the law, but equal privilege as a citizen, said the governor. He urged that on entering the college of life the students find themselves, that they go unafraid to learn, to know and proclaim the truth and that they so labor that their state shall be their debtor.

The address by Governor Cooper was followed by the presentation of the scholarship awards, the announcement of winners of scholarships and the reading of the list of distinctions.

JUDGE BENET RETURNS.

After spending a few days in Abbeville with his friends, Judge Benet left this morning. During his stay here he renewed many old acquaintances, and visited many places which he had not seen in a long time. Among other places visited was Cokesbury, where he was at one time the head of the Cokesbury Classical School and of the college for young women. He visited again the Sulphur Springs, spending a pleasant half hour talking over the old days with friends there.

Judge Benet promises that he will not be so long in coming to us again, and his friends parted with him on condition that his parole is not to be more than a half-year.

Miss Helen Walker is in Atlanta visiting relatives and friends.

COUNTY TREASURER COMMITTS SUICIDE

J. E. JONES SHOOTS SELF THIS AFTERNOON WITH PISTOL.—

BULLET IN LEFT TEMPLE CAUSES ALMOST INSTANT
DEATH.—PHYSICAL AFFLICTIONS BELIEVED TO
BE CAUSE OF HIS ACT.

The people of Abbeville County will be shocked, as were the people of this city, by the announcement that Joseph E. Jones, Treasurer of Abbeville County is dead as a result of a self-inflicted wound. Mr. Jones was in his office this morning and until the hour when he usually goes to dinner. When that hour arrived he went up to dinner with Mr. Roy Gilleland, as is his custom. Mr. Gilleland expected Mr. Jones to return to the business section with him, but when he called on the return, a member of Mr. Jones' family announced that Mr. Jones was not feeling well and would not return to the office this afternoon.

Shortly afterwards, Mr. Jones went to the residence of Mr. Gilleland, his next door neighbor, and there borrowed a pistol. It was thought that he intended to use the pistol for the purpose of killing a cat which had been giving trouble about his premises. There was no intimation, and nothing to suggest, that he contemplated the taking of his own life.

Shortly afterwards Mr. Jones was found in his barn. From what can be learned he went into the barn, took a seat on a partition wall between the hallway and one of the stalls, and there fired the shot into his left temple. This was about 1:30 o'clock. Immediately the alarm was given and physicians were hurried to his residence but death came in a little while.

Mr. Jones has been almost a physical wreck for several years. He suffered tortures from something in the nature of inflammatory rheumatism. For many years he has been crippled with the disease, and for sometime past the disease has been progressive. Of late he has been unable to dress himself, and unable to lift his feet so as to put on his own shoes. Though always seemingly free from pain, always pleasant and agreeable to friends and strangers alike, even this morning greeting and talking with his fellow county officers as usual, he must have grown despondent under his terrible physical sufferings, and this caused him no doubt to seek relief in death.

Joseph E. Jones was the youngest of the children of the late Robert Jones and of his wife Mary, of Fort Pickens, this city. He was about 52 years of age. All his life had been spent in Abbeville. He was an expert book-keeper and a capable business man. He gave his attention very largely to public matters, never seeking private employment. At one time he was County Dispenser for the county. Later he served a term as mayor of the city, and for several years he has filled the position of treasurer of the county, having been first appointed to succeed the late James Chalmers and later for a full term. He was a member for many years of the Methodist Church in Abbeville. One of his last acts was to subscribe to the educational movement in his church.

Mr. Jones was married some twenty years ago to Miss Ida Johnson, of the Greenwood section of the county. She survives him as do the following children: Wm. F. Jones, World War veteran, Miss Rebecca Jones, George Jones, now at the University, Misses Mary and Anna Jones and Joseph E. Jones, Jr. A. W. Jones, of the State Tax Commission is a brother.

Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock and will be followed by the burial at Long Cane.

SOLDIERS BODY ARRIVE TOMORROW

The body of Private Claude Eugene Hughes, member of Battery B, 317 Field Artillery, 81st Division, who died from broncho-pneumonia in France October 11th, 1918, will arrive in Abbeville Thursday afternoon over the Southern Railway. The body will be taken to the home of the young soldier's mother, where it will rest until Friday when it will be reinterred in Melrose cemetery.

Private Hughes was a son of Mrs. E. V. Hughes, of Abbeville. He has several brothers and sisters in the county. Among the sisters is Mrs. Elbert White of Walnut street. Early in the war Mr. Hughes went overseas, where he maintained the reputation of his people as a soldier and man until death called him. Several weeks ago announcement was made of the expected arrival of his body on this side of the ocean, but it was only today that definite announcement of the time of its arrival was made.

The friends and relatives of the young man and of his mother, brothers and sisters are invited to attend the funeral services at the cemetery Friday morning at 11 o'clock.

SAM HILL GRADUATES.

Sam Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Hill, of Abbeville is one of the graduates from Furman University this year. Mr. Hill has taken the full four year's course at Furman, and has made a creditable record.

NEGRO DIES SUDDENLY

Albert Gilliam, a negro residing in the Sharon section, was found dead this afternoon. Coroner Cox has gone to the scene to hold the inquest.

THE CALHOUN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION TO MEET

A mass meeting of the citizens of Abbeville is hereby called to be held in the city council chamber on Monday June 6th at six o'clock p. m. The purpose is to organize the Abbeville section of this Highway Association. As the entire community is vitally interested every citizen should be present at this meeting. Please remember the time, Monday, June 6th, six o'clock p. m. at the Council Chamber, City Hall.

DEATH OF W. M. BLANCHETT

William M. Blanchett, 55 years of age, died suddenly at his home at Calhoun Falls Monday afternoon, May 30. Mr. Blanchett had been at work during the day in the Calhoun Mills, where he was employed. After six o'clock he went to his home and was in his garden at work when death summoned him.

Funeral services were conducted at Melrose cemetery yesterday afternoon by Rev. Mr. Mason assisted by Rev. Mr. Solomon, pastor of Calhoun Falls Methodist church of which the deceased was a member.

Mr. Blanchett made his home in Abbeville for a number of years. He was for a long time time-keeper at the Abbeville Cotton Mills. He left here several years ago to make his home at Calhoun Falls. He is survived by his wife, who before the marriage was Miss Linder, of Georgia, and by the following children: Mrs. George Beauford and Mr. Jesse Blanchett, of Abbeville; Mrs. Felix Waddell, of Greenwood; Mrs. Vernon Thornton, Misses Lois and Edna Blanchett, of Calhoun Falls and a sister, Mrs. Mamie Grant, of Abbeville. In addition to these the deceased has many other relatives in this county.

SOCIALIST PRESS AGAIN IN FAVOR

Hays Restores Privileges of Leader and Call—Postmaster General Informally Advises Newspapers Concerned of His Position.

Washington, May 31.—Postal prohibitions against the Milwaukee Leader and the New York Call, two Socialist newspapers, were withdrawn today by Postmaster Hays, who restored them to second class mailing privileges. The action was in line with that recently taken in the case of the Liberator, a periodical published in New York city.

Orders canceling the second class mailing privileges of the publications were issued by Postmaster General Burleson late in 1917 after an inquiry which Mr. Burleson had shown that through articles published each had violated provisions of the espionage act. The Liberator—a successor to "The Masses"—ceased publication soon afterward, the publishers announcing they were unable to bear the additional burden imposed by the third class rates.

Both The Leader and The Call carried their fight to the courts. The Milwaukee paper, upon refusal of the supreme court of the District of Columbia to issue a writ of mandamus to compel the postmaster general to restore the canceled privileges appealed to the supreme court of the United States, where the lower court was upheld. The Call won in the lower courts of the District of Columbia, whereupon the postoffice department appealed and the case was adjudged to have been decided by that involving The Leader.

No formal order was issued by Mr. Hays today, the department's action being carried out by an informal notification to the newspapers interested and instructions to the postmasters in the respective cities of publication.

Postmaster General Hays is understood to have proceeded on the theory that the previous administration of the department had erred in withdrawing low rates and yet permitting the papers to be distributed. If barred at all, they should have been barred entirely, he is said to have decided.

Whether the postoffice department will voluntarily refund the excess charges occasioned by the Burleson order was not stated today. In the case of The Liberator, Mr. Hays said a refund would be ordered, the amount due that publication being estimated at more than \$11,000.

CALL IS ACCEPTED BY DR. KIRKPATRICK

Pastor of Atlanta Presbyterian Church Will Assume Pastorate at Anderson in June

Anderson, May 31.—Dr. J. W. Kirkpatrick, pastor of West End Presbyterian church, has accepted the call to the First Presbyterian church of this city, and will be here during the month of July. Dr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick spent several days here last week.

When a committee went to Atlanta some months ago to offer Dr. Kirkpatrick this charge they went to hear him preach. The first thing he did was to tell his congregation that he had decided to refuse a call to a Presbyterian church in Charleston. The demonstration was so great among the people that the committee decided that it would not be an auspicious time to present their call and came away without telling Dr. Kirkpatrick their intention. Later another man was called who could not accept and then they decided to present their call to Dr. Kirkpatrick even if he did not accept.

GOING HOME.

Rev. and Mrs. H. E. Pressly and little Mary leave Friday for a short visit to Winnsboro before returning to their home in Florida. The baby has recovered its health which is pleasant news to the friends of the family.

DECREASE ORDERED IN RAILWAY WAGES

DECREE TO BE HANDED DOWN
WILL CUT \$400,000,000 FROM
BILL—AVERAGE OF TWELVE
PER CENT. AFFECTS MANY
ORGANIZATIONS—COMMON
LABOR PAYS

Chicago, May 31.—An estimated \$400,000,000 will be slashed from the nation's railway wage bill when an order cutting wages an average of 12 per cent to be handed down tomorrow by the United States railroad labor board, becomes effective July 1. The order affects members of 31 labor organizations, employed on 104 railroads.

While the decrease is specifically applied only to the roads whose cases have been heard by the board, the decision says it may later be applied to any other road asking a hearing under the provisions of the Esch-Cummings transportation act. Percentage of reductions computed by members of the board gave the average of 12 per cent., and the same source estimated the annual reduction in wages at approximately \$400,000,000.

The decision grants reductions ranging from 5 to 18 per cent., and in the case of section laborers, completely wipes out the increase granted that class of employees by the \$600,000,000 wage award of July 20, 1920. For section men the reduction was approximately 18 per cent. Switchmen and shop crafts were given a 9 per cent reduction while the train service men were cut approximately 7 per cent. Car repairers were cut about 10 per cent.

Common Labor Pay

Common labor pay, over which the railroads made their hardest fight, is to be reduced 6 to 8 1-2 cents an hour, cutting freight truckers average monthly wages to \$97.10 and track laborers to \$77.11. This new schedule gives section men an average daily wage of \$3.02 for an eight hour day, although considerable testimony offered by the roads, particularly in the South showed common labor wages as low as \$1.50 for a ten hour day.

Shop crafts employees and train and engine service men, except those in passenger service, are reduced eight cents an hour. Construction and section foremen are reduced 10 cents an hour.

Passenger and freight engineers who were given increases of 10 and 13 cents an hour by the 1920 award, are to be cut six and eight cents an hour respectively. Passenger and freight conductors who received increases of 12 1-2 and 13 cents in 1920 are cut 7 1-2 and 8 cents, respectively, by the new schedule.

Train dispatchers and yardmasters whose monthly earnings at present average \$260 to \$270 are cut eight cents an hour.

The smallest reduction will apply to office boys and other employees under 18 years of age, who will receive five cents an hour less after July 1.

Clerks are reclassified so that entering clerks, usually young men and women of 18 to 20 years of age will receive a monthly salary of \$67.50 for the first six months and \$77.50 for the second six months of service. Clerks with less than one year's experience now receives \$120.

A new monthly schedule for floating equipment employees on ferries, tugs and steam lighters gives captains \$200, engineers \$190, firemen and oilers, \$140. On lighters and barges, captains will receive \$120 to \$150; engineers \$140 to \$160, and mates \$100.

Effective Next Month

The attitude of the railway unions toward the decreases ordered remains to be determined. The big brotherhoods are expected to meet here July 1, to consider the board's decision which is effective on that date.

(Continued on page 8)