

Boom Subscription to New Express Company.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 18.—Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern Railway System, said today "The books for subscription of the million dollars of capital stock offered to the people of the South by the Southeastern Company were opened yesterday morning and were closed at night. The stock was allotted proportionately to all the fourteen states served by the lines of the Southern Railway System and Mobile and Ohio Railroad. The reports received this morning show over subscription in every state.

"The stock list will be made of the names of at least twenty-five hundred widely distributed southern business men holding on the average about four shares apiece. No single subscription in excess of one hundred shares was received and no officer or employe of the railroad was permitted to participate, although many of them, especially the employes, offered to subscribe. This result of a test of practical business democracy and individualism in the South at a time of business depression is, of course, gratifying to us, but has perhaps a larger significance. Certainly it fully justifies our confidence that the people of the South desire competition and express service and are willing to back their desire with their money and their support in other respects.

"The Southeastern Express Company will proceed under the able management of its president, Mr. John B. Hockaday, to purchase its necessary equipment and will begin service at the earliest practicable moment, of which the announcement will be made."

Crisis Passed, Says Harding.

Spartanburg, Feb. 18.—"The federal reserve board no longer looks with apprehension on the financial conditions in this country because the crisis has been passed and the condition of the federal reserve banks show strength in all regions," said Gov. W. P. G. Harding, of the federal reserve board, speaking before the annual dinner of the Spartanburg chamber of commerce here tonight. "The thing needed now is a bolder front, horse sense, and a spread of the conservative optimism that is found over the country." His position was that the federal reserve board did not restrict credits and bring on the slump in prices but absorbed that shock when the breaks came, through natural reaction from conditions of inflation following the end of the war. There will always be good times and bad times, he said, and we still have our problems in taxation and foreign trade relations, but they will be worked out. There are always just two places where the sun is always shining—Death Valley, Cal., and the Desert of Sahara, he said. In connection with the charge that the federal reserve board has withheld loans from agricultural interests he said the board has recently answered the question from a congressional committee showing that agricultural loans in 1919 were \$721,000,000 while in 1920 they were \$1,980,000,000. The governor said the farmers of the country should dispose of their products in an orderly fashion and follow some orderly plan of production in the year ahead.

Greenville, Feb. 18.—The danger point of the present readjustment period has been safely passed and every development since January 1 has been favorable to a revival of business, W. P. G. Harding, governor of the federal reserve board declared this afternoon in an address before the Kiwanis Club. Regarding the future Mr. Harding said: "Knowing what I do of the resources of the federal reserve system, I have never felt any real danger of a money panic in this country. We passed one danger in October and another in December. Every development since January has been favorable to a revival of business."

For the Liver and Bowels.
When your liver and bowels become torpid get a bottle of Chamberlain's Tablets. They will tone up your liver and cause a gentle movement of the bowels. They also improve the digestion.

New Prices.
Flat Dutch, Wakefield, Drumhead cabbage plants by parcel post or express collect, five hundred for 1.00; one thousand for 1.50; Nancy Hall and Porta Rica potato plants by parcel post or express collect, five hundred for \$1.25; one thousand for \$2.25. Prompt shipments. Good plants. Satisfaction guaranteed.

WATSON PLANT CO.,
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Would Add Weight to a War Tax.

We are in the midst of a period of declining wages and salaries.

Is this the time to talk about adding a state income tax to the federal income tax?
The thing can be overdone. State income taxes have sometimes driven the drawers of large salaries out of one state into another.

Some of the larger salaries paid by corporations having their plants in South Carolina are now paid to citizens of other states. A citizen of Seattle may reside in South Carolina and pay his personal taxes in the state of Washington.

For the present, the field of income taxation should be left to the federal government. The taxes are now collected from a class—the class having net incomes of more than \$2,000, if having no dependents, or \$1,000 if without dependents. An income tax enacted in South Carolina, with similar exemptions, would be in effect no more than an increase of the taxes paid by this class, to be collected with the indirect assistance of the federal revenue officers.

We hear torrents of nonsense about "home rule" and, on the heels of it, a proposal to transfer tax-collecting, in some degree, to the government of the United States, a government in three weeks to pass into the hands of the Republican party.

Manifestly, no state income tax will be generally and equitably administered to long as tax collectors are chosen by primary.

Apparently, the enactment of a state income tax law would be simply that, after having had one some 20 year and having failed to enforce it, having miserably "laid down" on the task of dealing squarely with ourselves, we are ready to try it again, in the hope that the United States will make it impossible for us not to enforce it with a measure of uniformity and square dealing.

After a few years, if the country remains at peace, the federal income tax law will be repealed or the rate of it greatly reduced. It is now an excessive tax—because it is a war tax. Shall South Carolina, while this excessive burden is at the peak, deliberately enlarge it?

Moreover, a state income tax should not, if enacted, provide exemptions of \$2,000 and \$1,000. There is no reason, in equity or justice, that anyone should be wholly exempted. It should be graduated, that is a sound principle, and it should fall lightly on persons of small income, but no one should be allowed to feel that he is entirely free of obligation to bear a part of the burden of the state out of his earnings, if part of the burden is to be placed on earnings.

It may be a good law but it is not good morals for legislatures to divide the people into classes of taxpayers and non-taxpayers.

If South Carolina is to have an income tax, every man and woman exercising the rights and enjoying the privileges of citizenship should pay it, though the minimum be no more than a dollar of fifty cents.—The State.

Shows Big Cattle Price Drop.

Washington.—Beef cattle on farms lost in average value per head from January 1, 1919, to January 1, 1921, all that they gained during the participation of the United States in the World War, and more than half as much again, according to the bureau of crop estimates of the department of agriculture.

The loss occurred mostly in 1920. This has been established by the recent annual investigation of prices of farm animals per head made by the bureau. The average price per head, all ages, of cattle other than milch cows, was \$35.92 in 1917; \$44.22 in 1919 and \$31.41 in 1921. January 1 last year the farm price was \$4.51 below that of 1917, several months before this country declared war.

A statement by the bureau says: "In the case of swine the average price per head, all ages, declined in the two years, 1919 and 1920, 88 per cent of the gain in 1917 and 1918 and two-thirds of the decline was in 1920.

"From 1916 to 1919 the average farm value of corn per acre increased from \$21.67 to \$38.54. The corn crop of 1920, taking the average value of the product of one acre, fell to \$20.93, and this drop not only wiped out the gain of the preceding three years, but perceptibly exceeded it. The commonly used percentage of decline since the break in prices began fails to discover this fact because a percentage of decline from a higher number is not comparable with a percentage of gain during the preceding years, which is based on a comparatively low number."

BEAUTY AND BEAST

By MILDRED WHITE.

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Dulcie was the beauty, there could be no doubt about that, but whether Jim Harford or his dog, best answered to the latter description, Dulcie was undecided. Certain it is, that when she first heard of Him Harford, the girl indignantly exclaimed, "The Beast!"

And Aunt Dulcinea was shocked and horrified as usual.

Dulcie as a child had brought into the house various stray cats and shaggy dogs which she called her friends. Returning one day from an errand the girl was accompanied by a hulking mastiff which she pleasantly informed her frowning relative, had joined her in a walk.

"I was going down Lynden avenue," Dulcie said happily, "when this big fellow came running from the road to walk at my side." The mild and loving animal ending his scrutiny of Miss Dulcinea's face, gave a low and threatening growl, exhibiting fiercely his sharp and shining teeth. The elder woman paling suddenly, crept behind the shelter of the door, while Dulcie dropped upon her knees her arm caressing the dog's head.

"Emperor," she admonished, "don't be unreasonable, this is aunt's house, and she has a perfect right to be in it."

"Drive the brute away," snapped Miss Dulcinea behind the door. "Why do you call him that fool name?"

"It's on his collar," Dulcie cheerfully informed her.

"Emperor, property of Jim Harford, 202 Bale street. Bale street is away down in the lower part of the town and poor Emperor is covered with scars of battle. A nice kind of owner he must have to beat him so cruelly. Jim Harford—"

Dulcie's blue eyes rested on a huge welt on the dog's head.

"The beast," she exclaimed, and it was Jim Harford she referred to and not the dog. The animal, his grumblings ended in a loving whine, looked up at her in adoration.

"He's afraid I will take him back to that Harford person to be beaten again," she exclaimed indignantly. He might know that I would not—I am his friend."

"Friend," scoffed the exasperated Miss Dulcinea. She went determinedly to the telephone. It was a gruff voice with a German accent which answered.

"You'd better called up," the voice threatened, "before I gets the police after you. That dog is valuable. He guards our storehouses."

"The girl coaxed him away. I heard her. I was on de wagon. She visted, and Emperor vent. Den I lost dem. I'll come after him, yes—but I'll give that tog such a whipping—"

"Oh, you must not whip him, really," Dulcie heard her aunt's frightened voice saying, and in a whirl the girl had the telephone in her hand.

"I won't give up your dog," she said defiantly, "until I am sure he will have decent treatment hereafter. See if you can make me."

She did not await the expected angry reply, but replaced the receiver, facing her aunt with "rose-flushed cheeks."

"I am going out," Dulcie announced, "to sit on the front steps beside that dog until the man comes."

On the broad stone step sat her niece, the mastiff's head against her shoulder. After an interminable time a car came swinging up the road and its driver descended. He was a young man of pleasing and correct appearance, Miss Dulcinea noted. And as the young man stood hat in hand, Dulcie gave him permission to be seated.

It was evident that an earnest conversation followed. Emperor after a time of speculative interest, shifted his vast bulk so that it rested confidently between the two. Dulcie raised her voice slightly at last, and the listening lady could hear, "Then you will see your dog is taken care of. It is a pity that you trusted him so long to your warehouse manager."

She laughed. "Evidently the man who beat your dog unmercifully was afraid to face one small woman, so he sent you."

And many weeks after this occurrence, Dulcie came, all rosy and shining eyed, to her aunt.

"I am going to marry Jim Harford," she announced. "You see I have become very much attached to Emperor, and as Emperor is a valuable dog, and as I really have no right as you said to harbor another man's property, why—"

"Dulcie, Dulcie," murmured the much-tried aunt, then tenderly she kissed her.

Peat Used as Fuel in Earliest Times.

The use of peat as a source of heat goes back beyond the historical period into the ancient history of the early tribes in northern Germany. Pliny, the Roman naturalist, gives us possibly the first indication of the use of peat. He reports that the Teutons on the border of the North sea dried and burned mud, what we now would call peat. In Ireland, Great Britain and Russia, Scandinavia, Germany, Holland and parts of France peat has been used as a fuel since time immemorial. The peat was cut from the bog very much in the same manner as it is still being done in many parts of Europe, where it is cut in brick shapes, allowed to dry in the wind and sun.

County Treasurer's Notice.

The County Treasurer's office will be open for the purpose of receiving taxes from the 15th day of October, 1920 to the 15th day of March, 1921.

All taxes shall be due and payable between the 15th day of October, 1920 and December 31st, 1920.

That when taxes charged shall not be paid by December 31st, 1920 the County Auditor shall proceed to add a penalty of one per cent. for January, and if taxes are not paid on or before February 1st 1921, the County Auditor will proceed to add two per cent. and five per cent. additional, from the 1st of March to the 15th of March, after which time all unpaid taxes will be collected by the Sheriff.

The tax levies for the year 1920 are as follows:

	Mills
For State purposes	12
For Ordinary County	8
For Past Indebtedness	2½
For Special, Good Roads	2
For Constitutional School Tax	3
For Antioch	8
For Bacon School District	14
For Blocker	8
For Blocker-Limestone	4
For Colliers	4
For Flat Rock	8
For Oak Grove	3
For Red Hill	8
For Edgefield	10
For Elmwood No. 8	8
For Elmwood No. 9	2
For Elmwood No. 30	2
For Elmwood L. C.	3
For Hibler	8
For Harmony	3
For Johnston	15
For Meriwether (Gregg)	2
For Moss	3
For Brunson School	4
For Ropers	2
For Shaw	4
For Sweetwater	4
For Talbert	8
For Trenton	11½
For Wards	8
For Wards No. 33	4
For Blocker R. R. (portion	15
For Elmwood R. (portion	15
For Johnston R. R.	3
For Pickens R. R.	3
For Wise R. R.	3
For Corporation	30½

All the male citizens between the ages of 21 years and 60 years, except those exempt by law, are liable to a poll tax of One Dollar each. A capital tax of 50 cents each is to be paid on all dogs.

The law prescribes that all male citizens between the ages of 18 and 55 years must pay \$4.00 commutation tax or work 4 days on the public roads. No commutation is included in the property tax. So ask for road tax receipt when you desire to pay road tax. Time for paying road tax will expire March 15, 1921.

J. L. PRINCE,
Co. Treas. E. C.

WANTED: Men or women to take orders among friends and neighbors for the genuine guaranteed hoisery, full line for men, women and children. Eliminates darning. We pay 75 cents an hour spare time or \$36.00 a week for full time. Experience unnecessary. Write International Stocking Mills,

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For Rent

On Dixie Highway between Trenton and Augusta, 360 acre level to slightly rolling farm. Over 100 acres rich, open land with clay subsoil. Fine two-story dwelling and good out buildings. Rent reasonable. For terms apply to Sheppard Bros., Edgefield, S. C.

B. F. GAINES.

Notice of Final Discharge.

To All Whom These Presents May Concern:

Whereas, H. W. Kenner has made application unto this Court for Final Discharge as Administrator in re the Estate of W. B. Kenner deceased, on this the 14 day of February, 1921

These Are Therefore, to cite any and all kindred, creditors or parties interested to show cause before me at my office at Edgefield Court House, South Carolina, on the 18th day of March, 1921, at 11 o'clock a. m., why said order of Discharge should not be granted.

W. T. KINNAIRD,
Probate Judge, E. C.
Edgefield, S. C.,
February 14, 1921.

J. S. BYRD
Dental Surgeon
Office Over Store of
Quarles & Timmerman
Office Phone No. 3
Residence Phone 87

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