

COTTON GINNING REPORT

Total For State Up To November Twenty-first

Washington, Nov. 29.—The Department of Commerce, through the Bureau of the Census, announces the preliminary report on cotton ginned by counties in South Carolina for the crops of 1925 and 1924. The total for the state was made public Saturday, November 21.

Quantities are in running bales, counting round as half-bales. Linters are not included:

County	1925	1924
Abbeville	10,660	13,620
Aiken	38,607	25,495
Allendale	13,884	10,952
Anderson	36,611	47,638
Bamberg	18,532	11,071
Barnwell	25,982	19,801
Beaufort	1,853	1,120
Berkeley	4,823	4,162
Calhoun	17,264	8,978
Charleston	2,466	1,538
Cherokee	11,232	10,696
Chester	21,311	16,438
Chesterfield	30,677	18,008
Clarendon	17,657	8,986
Colleton	10,271	5,770
Darlington	25,337	14,834
Dillon	28,798	15,641
Dorchester	8,753	6,279
Edgefield	14,237	12,340
Fairfield	10,742	8,581
Florence	23,094	12,473
Greenville	22,382	34,721
Greenwood	10,983	13,056
Hampton	11,501	7,987
Horry	4,256	1,720
Jasper	3,696	2,016
Kershaw	27,299	15,397
Lancaster	17,851	10,076
Laurens	17,419	22,534
Lee	33,642	17,371
Lexington	16,144	14,035
McCormick	4,392	4,970
Marion	10,320	5,734
Marlboro	38,294	25,223
Newberry	11,501	12,383
Oconee	13,415	14,109
Orangeburg	57,480	36,048
Pickens	14,169	16,906
Richland	13,920	7,507
Saluda	10,761	8,950
Spartanburg	54,127	53,125
Sumter	35,318	14,966
Union	9,839	10,368
Williamsburg	16,248	7,892
York	30,694	22,850

All others 1,296 933

Totals 862,523 655,212

Unification Plan Defeated

Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 27.—The vote in the South Carolina conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, cuts down the majority of the vote favoring unification with the Methodist Episcopal church to 334 over the negative. The Florida conference, the last to vote, convenes on December 3.

The vote now is 4,309 for unification and 3,975 against. The affirmative vote is 1,904 short of the required three-fourths majority for ratification of the plan of merger.

Wins \$125,000, Kills Himself

Munich, Nov. 30.—An Italian merchant living in Munich, recently won the equivalent of \$125,000, as first prize in a lottery, but today, soon after receiving news of his winning, he committed suicide in despair. It appears when he bought his lottery tickets as a joke, he signed a statement before witnesses that in case he should win, he would give half his prize to the Society of Munich Chimney Sweepers and the rest of it to the breweries.

A new dewberry that is larger and more disease-resistant than the ordinary garden variety is the result of hybridizing by B. M. Young, an electrical engineer of Louisiana, who makes a hobby of plant breeding.

Woman Faces Novel Charge

Greensboro, Nov. 26.—Slated for trial at the December term of federal court here, western North Carolina district, is the case of a woman who is charged with using a matrimonial advertisement—but not for the purpose of obtaining a husband.

"Using the mails to defraud" is the charge brought against the defendant, Minnie Jackson, of Greenwood, S. C., it being charged that she would correspond with men and get them to send her money to pay her railroad fare to some agreed upon point, to look over the matrimonially inclined males. She would keep the money, is the charge made against her by three men.

STORY OF THE SEA

Three Men Picked Up After Sixteen Days Without Food or Water

(Tuesday's News and Courier)

Yesterday afternoon in a stuffy cabin aboard the Danish steamship Betty Maersk, which arrived here Sunday, three men told in a grim way the gruesome tale of their experiences adrift at sea for sixteen days in a 25-foot gasoline boat at the mercy of the elements. Without food, water or even a cigarette to smoke the men in the little boat were under command of the high seas. Sixteen days of fierce weather it was. To make matters worse the boat was equipped not even with lights.

The craft with Merie W. Phelps, Riley T. Doran and Albert Fine aboard left Palm Beach, Fla., November 11. The men were off on a fishing trip. When they left Palm Beach the weather was clear. Three miles out it began to get rough. A terrific gale came up. The waves began breaking over the sides of the little boat, which had only a part cabin located at the forward end. The gasoline engine was in the open part of the boat near the center. It was only a short while before the salt water had completely crippled the motor, which was one from a 1914 model Cadillac automobile.

Not even a pair of oars were available to provide power for the boat. A small piece of canvas on a flimsy pole was tried without success. Finally the men became discouraged as night came on. Then it was only a task of bailing out the boat. A hand pump, at which the men took one hour turns, took care of this end of the fight against the stirred up Atlantic. The waves were increasing in size as darkness settled on the scene. They said that the waves seemed to them as though they were a high as a three-story building.

For three days all of them worked in an effort to make the engine run. During the late afternoon of the third day they were rewarded. The motor was in condition. For an hour the boat was able to fight its way, under its own power, towards shore. Then hope once more was destroyed. The engine stopped dead.

Again the craft was at the mercy of the ocean which continued its rough advances. Night was upon them. There was no use to try and sleep. Hunger and thirst knawed fiercely in their stomachs. On the fourth day they were able to catch three dolphins. These were placed on the top of the small cabin to dry. Greedily the men waited on this meager feast. Finally it was time to devour it. During the sixteen days this was the full amount of food consumed by the trio. It only made matters worse. The suffering from thirst and hunger had begun to be a habit with them until the catching of the fish.

Each day the men aboard the drifting yacht saw several boats away off in the distance. One of these was near enough to sight the frantic signalings of the drifters.

It was about the tenth day of the experience that Fine began to succumb to weakness. Being smaller and frailer than either Phelps or Doran he was rapidly failing. The other men said yesterday that Fine prayed continuously from the tenth day on. His mind became hazy and his weakness was steadily driving him mad.

Early in the morning of November 16 Fine seemed even more desperate; he had tried drinking salt water. He swore that if a ship did not rescue them before night that he would jump overboard and end the miserable suffering of his nearly dead being. Several times the day before it had been only through the greatest persuasion on the part of Phelps and Doran that the other man had been kept from diving overboard. They pointed out to him the school of sharks that had been following the boat for three days. These monsters of the sea were playing a patient game. Several of them came up to the side of the boat and slightly tilted it with a swish of their tails. When asked how many sharks were following them, Phelps replied: "Plenty of 'em."

These fish ran in length from five feet to thirty feet, according to an estimate by the men. One of them was almost as big as their boat, they said. Phelps explained that he cannot understand even until now why they did not turn the craft over. The men were in constant fear of this. So it was on the sixteenth day. Suffering from hunger, thirst, fear of the fact that Fine would die and of the fact that the sharks might turn over the boat.

Then what Fine termed yesterday as being "an act of Providence" occurred. A steamship was sighted nearing them. Phelps and Doran set to work with their only means of signalling. This was the small piece of canvas. Fine was completely out by this time. He did not know where he was. Joy overcame Phelps and

Doran when they realized that the ship had sighted them. At 9:40 o'clock on the morning of November 27 the steamship Betty Maersk came alongside of the small boat in which the three fishermen were in.

Capt. A. Nielsen, of the steamship Betty Maersk, then had the task of bringing the men aboard his ship from the small craft in the bad weather. It took quite a while. It was necessary to tie Fine up with lines and hoist him up. The other two men slipped a noose under their arms and were brought aboard.

Then the first and second mates, B. Darger and P. Egerod, volunteered to engineer the bringing of the gasoline boat aboard. This consumed more than an hour but it was finally accomplished. The boat was not at all damaged due to the fine efforts of the two officers. It was aboard yesterday afternoon and the Betty Maersk will take it as freight when it leaves here tomorrow for Miami.

Fine was restored to consciousness after being brought aboard the steamship. All three of them, Doran, Fine and Phelps were gradually allowed to begin eating and drinking. Phelps said yesterday: "The worst suffering I had was when I ate my first allotment after being brought aboard this ship. My stomach just wasn't used to being fed and it didn't work at all. I really believe that I was in the best shape of any of the men, still, that isn't saying much."

Fine made this statement: "I might just as well have been dead as alive the last few days. I didn't know where I was and hardly do now. I guess you'd call it one foot in the shark's mouth and one foot aboard."

Doran did not have much to say. He seemed to be perfectly satisfied at having been rescued. He did explain that it took him forty-five minutes with a pair of shears and a safety razor to shave his sixteen-day beard off.

All of them were of the conviction that it is better to be on land than at sea. Fine explained that he never expected to do more than drink water from now on.

The trio expects to leave here today by rail for Palm Beach. Phelps is the only man in the crowd who is married. He said that he knew that his fishing days were over if his wife had anything to say about the subject. The men are all residents of Palm Beach. Fine for a time lived in Charleston and he says that he likes the place fine. Especially has he enjoyed arriving here this trip. The Seaboard dock was the first place that the men have stepped on that is connected with ground since they left the dock at Palm Beach Armistice Day.

The Betty Maersk picked them up after they had been carried about 300 miles northward by the Gulf Stream. At the time of the rescue the craft was nearly 200 miles due east of this port.

All of the men speak in high terms of appreciation for the splendid work done by the captain and crew of the steamship in rescuing them. "They have treated us like princes since they pulled us aboard," said Phelps, who is the owner of the small boat.

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NAME _____ TOWN _____ STATE _____

This is the telling of still another story of the disasters occurring off the Atlantic coast during the past few weeks. No explanation can be made to the reason for the severe weather that has prevailed.

\$15,000 to Columbia College Columbia, Nov. 30.—Announcement of a \$15,000 gift to Columbia College's endowment fund by Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Welling, of Darlington, was made today by J. C. Guilds, president of the college. The donation will be known as the Arthur Leroy Welling memorial endowment fund, in honor of the son of Mr. and Mrs. Welling who lost his life in service during the World war. Mr. Welling is a trustee of the college. This donation, it was stated, is the first large gift to the college endowment fund which, it is hoped, will eventually reach \$500,000.

A half million people live on the desert land of the Sahara.

Methodists Against Unification

Darlington, Nov. 26.—The South Carolina conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, today took its stand with the Upper South Carolina conference by voting overwhelmingly against the proposed unification of the church with the Northern Methodists. The vote was: for unification, 21; against, 167. The upper conference rejected the reunion proposal at its recent meeting in Abbeville.

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