

CUT PRICE WAVE SWEEPS WEST

BIG REDUCTIONS IN MANY COMMODITIES FOLLOW IN TRACT OF TIGHT MONEY.

Chicago, May 18.—A wave of price cutting in retail clothing costs reaching from the Mississippi valley to the Pacific coast was reported today. Dispatches from twenty-four cities in that territory told of promised reductions in these necessities ranging from 15 per cent to minus profit.

Financial authorities here said that the indications were that the price decline would be limited to ready-to-wear clothes, principally women's garments and silks. Shoes were in the list affected.

Tight money and inadequate transportation facilities were cited among the prime reasons for the mercantile movement. Delays in delivery of goods in which much money had been tied up, together with inability of farmers to get grain and live stock to market, were said in many instances to have worked a hardship on merchants.

An officer of one of the leading department stores of Chicago declared that the price reduction now being reported meant also that merchants were trying to satisfy what he called "a hysterical demand from the public for lower prices. These current reductions, he said, might be only temporary.

Merchants More Cautious.
A financial authority here said that if reports of price-cutting were dependable, they indicated a tendency toward a reduction in inventories. Though this might be temporary, he said, it was undoubtedly good, in that it suggested that merchants were going ahead more cautiously. Sales are being held under various names.

In Topeka, Kansas, a men's clothing firm announced a "no-profit sale," declaring that it would back its promises at the end of the sale by letting the fair price commissioner or a committee named by him take possession of its books and accounts.

Department stores in St. Louis advertised "underselling campaigns." Twenty per cent. cuts were the most popular. On the Pacific coast Tacoma dealers announced cuts from 20 per cent flat to "profitless sales," declaring that on some women's garments prices were cut virtually in half.

In Minneapolis a large department store has announced a general cut of 20 per cent. At Knoxville, Tenn., stores today made a general discount of 20 per cent on its entire stock, except a few contract price articles. Shoe reductions also were announced.

Washington, May 18.—Bankers of the country, through representatives attending a conference today with the Federal Reserve Board, pledged themselves to help the board in its drive on high prices and to aid in efforts at deflation.

Specifically, the bankers agreed unreservedly to support the board's new policy in discouraging "habitual and unnecessary borrowings" and to seek curtailment of long standing, non-essential loans" as an initial step toward ending the era of high prices and speculation.

Governor Harding set forth the board's policy in a speech designed to clarify the general situation and to explain the government's views. He warned of impending dangers in the cycle of continued borrowings and speculation, and appealed to bankers and public alike to be conservative in its demand for banking credit.

"It is evident," Mr. Harding said, "that the country cannot continue to advance prices and wages to curtail production, to expand credits and attempt to enrich itself by non-productive operations and transactions without fostering discontent and radicalism, and that such a course, if persisted in, will eventually bring on a real crisis."

"Frozen Loans"
Mr. Harding said that "everything must be done" to expedite the release of money in "frozen loans" and in commodities held either for speculative purposes or because of lack of transportation, and urged bankers to use the utmost discrimination in granting new loans. Reports laid before the conference by the federal advisory council directors of the federal reserve banks and a committee representing the American Bankers' Association, were to the effect that inflation has continued to some extent

since the flotation of the Victory loan last May. This, Mr. Harding declared to be one of "the disquieting features" of the present situation. He asserted that the expansion of banking credit, "properly responsible for the war," was about \$11,000,000,000, while money in actual circulation had increased \$1,900,000,000. Credit expansion, even to that extent, was not believed by Mr. Harding to be alarming or excessive when "viewed from the standpoint of war necessity," and when it was recalled that the government placed \$26,000,000,000 in Liberty bonds in the same period.

Mr. Harding deplored the falling off in production in practically all important lines. He said it constituted a very "unsatisfactory element" in the national problem, because it indicated a slowing down of industrial effort.

Williamsburg Bull Association.

Williamsburg county has taken a position in the front line of progressive counties in dairy family cow development through the organization of the Williamsburg Guernsey Bull Association, which is about completed. This association is made up of four blocks, each block consisting of from 15 to 20 farmers and others who took the necessary number of shares to make the capital stock of \$500.00 per block.

Three blocks have already bought high class pure-bred Guernsey bulls, paying \$500.00 each for bulls delivered and insured for one year against death by any cause. An evidence of the values of these three animals is the records of their mothers. The dam of one has a record of 12,812.6 pounds of milk and 582.2 pounds butter-fat. The dam of another has a record of 11,782.3 pounds of milk and 564.2 pounds of butter-fat. The dam of the third has a record of 12,416 pounds of milk and 685 pounds of butter-fat. With foundation stock like this it will only be but a few years before Williamsburg county will have a good supply of high grade cattle. The fourth bull will be purchased within the next week.

The four communities or blocks that form the Williamsburg County Bull Association are Hemingway, Indian-town, Cedar Swamp and Kingstree. The Bloomingdale community are purchasing a one year old bull that is exceptionally well bred, and they hope to grow him out well and join the association at the end of two years.

There is already a demand for pure-bred Guernsey heifers and cows as a result of the bringing in of these bulls. Good pure-bred cattle of the Guernsey breed are not easy to find, and it is imperative that the farmers and others who are contemplating buying heifers or cows to be cautious in buying. Good bred heifers will cost from \$300 to \$400, while good cows will cost from \$400 upward, depending upon their records. It does not pay to keep a poor cow, for she will eat just as much as a good cow, and you will have to keep several cows to give the same amount of milk that a good cow will give. If you are not a judge of a good cow or haven't had any experience in buying pure-bred heifers and cows, you had better consult with some one who has had experience, for there are scrubs in pure-bred cattle; so don't take any chances.

The directors of the Williamsburg Guernsey Bull Association and your county agent are working on plans now for getting the right kind of heifers and cows that you should buy. We hope to have some definite plans to put before you next week.

Epworth League Conference.

The joint meeting of the South Carolina and Upper South Carolina conference, Epworth Leagues, will be held at Columbia College, June 14-17. A large attendance of young people is expected. The opening address will be delivered Monday night by Rev. T. G. Herbert of Charleston. The mornings will be devoted to mission study classes and Institute work. The afternoons are open for rest and recreation. Every evening Nesper services will be led by Rev. W. B. Garrett of Greenville, after which will follow a platform address.

Rates for board and room are \$1.50 per day or \$6 for the entire conference. The delegates are asked to bring bed linen and towels. All names should be sent to Miss Eula Winn, Columbia College, College Place, S. C., May 19, 1920.

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION ELECTED AT COLUMBIA YESTERDAY.

STATE CONVENTION ENDORSES WILSON'S POLICIES.

Cochran Heads State Committee--Bennet and Pollock Engage in Warm Battle of Words Over Suffrage Question, Otherwise Quiet Meeting

Columbia, May 20.—The following were elected delegates at large to the National Democratic Convention to be held at San Francisco in June:

Governor Robert A. Cooper, United States Senator E. D. Smith, Representative James F. Byrnes and ex-Governor Richard I. Manning. L. D. Jennings, the only other candidate, was elected first alternate.

District delegates were selected as follows: First, Charlton Durant, J. G. Padgett, B. C. Bradham, and Richard S. Whaley. Second, J. A. Harlee and N. G. Evans; the alternates, C. F. Riser and J. F. Johnson. Third, F. H. Dominick, F. C. Robinson, O. R. Doyle and H. L. Watson. Fourth, W. D. Workman and W. W. Johnson; alternates, C. M. Douglass and S. D. T. Lancaster. Fifth, A. F. Gaston and LeRoy Springs; alternates, T. B. Butler and R. E. Willie. Sixth, J. W. Johnson, L. M. Lawson, J. H. David and J. G. Holliday. Seventh, R. H. Jennings and William A. Coleman; alternates, S. H. Booth and B. Frank Kelley.

The districts of four delegates will have one-half vote each and no alternates provided. Those with two delegates will have a full vote. This procedure was adopted by the convention.

John Gary Evans of Spartanburg, was reelected national executive committeeman without opposition. Thomas B. Cochran was elected chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee without opposition, and Harry N. Edwards was chosen secretary.

The convention was called to order at noon by ex-Governor John Gary Evans of Spartanburg, chairman of the State Democratic executive committee, and immediately the names of M. L. Bonham of Anderson, former Adjutant General of the State, and George K. Laney, senator from Chesterfield county, were placed in nomination for temporary chairmen. Gen. Bonham was unanimously elected.

The temporary chairman referred to the prosperity of the country and the united condition of the Democracy of the State, and briefly told of the glorious victory achieved by the American troops in their fight for world freedom. Gen. Bonham was optimistic about the future of the party and expressed it as his opinion that the Democrats have a splendid chance of being returned to power in the general election.

Ex-Gov. John C. Sheppard, State senator from Edgefield county, was nominated and elected to the permanent chairmanship of the convention. He told of the trials and tribulations of the Democracy of the State went through during the days of the reconstruction between 1868 and 1876 and some of the amusing and tragic things which occurred when the radical and negro were in control of the State government. "From those days to this," he exclaimed, "we have had a government comparable with that of any State in the Union."

A resolution by D. A. Spivey of Conway, placing the name of Wm. G. McAdoe, former secretary of the treasury, before the convention for instruction, and another by D. S. Henderson of Aiken, for an undistinguished delegation were placed before the body for debate before it recessed at 2:20 o'clock.

In the platform adopted the following achievements of the Wilson administration were extolled:

The abolition of the tariff law, the progressive income tax that made the rich bear a just proportion of taxes, taking the burden from the backs of the producers; the farmers' loan act, that enabled farmers to obtain cheap money on long time, through non-taxable farm loan bonds, thus compelling land mortgage banks to lower the rate of interest, a measure that the Republicans are trying to repeal; the Smith-Lever agricultural extension act, putting the services of the great agricultural department at the door of every farmer; the good roads act; the rural free delivery system; the

parcel post system; the Department of Labor, giving the workers a member of the cabinet; the child labor act, giving the children the right to be educated.

The eight hour law giving the railroad and industrial workers a chance to see their families; the workman's compensation act; the exemption of farmers and laborers from the anti-trust act, declaring labor not a commodity; the act for vocational training, giving soldiers a means for earning a livelihood; the building of a great merchant marine carrying cotton and cotton goods to foreign ports in American ships and opening Southern ports that were bottled up by Republican magnates.

The anti-trust act destroying monopolies; the federal trades commission to destroy unfair business dealings; the great federal reserve banking act which destroyed the money trusts, made panics impossible and enabled the country to finance the great war without a bank failure.

The world war was fought, financed and won without a scandal, and those who were most able were made to pay the bill; the act requiring the election of United States senators by popular vote. The platform rejoiced in the large prosperity enjoyed by the State and the nation during the past few years, but condemned the methods of profiteering practiced in certain quarters; it cautioned the people against undue extravagance and asked them to be more circumspect in their purchases; the elimination of extravagances and luxuries, it affirmed, would cause a more proper level of economic law of supply and demand.

The efforts of the national government and that of the State in fostering the educational interests of the people were endorsed; the movement for improved highways was commended and the acts of the shipping board and the Interstate Commerce Commission in giving more consideration to the just claims to the Southeastern ports were extolled as just. The platform exhibits with pride the unexcelled place South Carolina took in the world war and its achievements both in arms and the correlating movements to support the men in the lines.

It further condemns the position of the Republican party, assisted by certain reactionary Democratic Senators in delaying the beneficence of peace. The convention adopted the resolution committee's unfavorable report on the Christensen resolution proposing to enfranchise the women of the State by a vote of 245 to 68.

During the debate a warm altercation took place between Christie Bennet of Columbia, and W. P. Pollock of Cheraw, both former United States Senators for this State and both having voted on opposite sides during his tenure of office on the question. The tilt came at the conclusion of Mr. Bennet's speech, during which the Richland county delegate had said he had charged supporters of suffrage as being the self-appointed spokesmen for the women. Mr. Bennet had also said he understood that certain political announcements had been hanging fire several months, "waiting for the ratification by one more State of the Susan B. Anthony amendment, and they are still hanging fire waiting on tiptoe for the dawn."

Senator Christensen took Mr. Bennet to task for his statement as to pending political announcements. When Mr. Bennet said the charge did not apply to him, but did apply to Mr. Pollock, Mr. Pollock jumped to his feet. Prolonged bitter exchanges passed between the two, Mr. Pollock reminding Mr. Bennet that twice the Richland county man had been appointed to office by governors, each time to fail to get the office when he went before the people for reelection. "If I'm self-appointed spokesman for the women, what commission had he ever held except an appointment by a governor for whom he was running boy? He says I am on tiptoe waiting to announce my candidacy as soon

as the women can vote. I wonder if the political bee is buzzing in his bonnet, although the South Carolina electorate has twice repudiated him."

Mr. Bennet at once arose to his feet and reminded the convention that he did not object to reasonable criticism for his utterances, but he thought the speaker was going too far.

"Who started this?" Mr. Pollock continued.

At once Mr. Bennet retorted, "I have never had a cat named after me."

"I wonder if you say as much as to yellow dogs?" Mr. Pollock shot back.

J. W. McCOWN BECOMES DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

Thoroughly Believes in Value of the Work of the South Carolina Development Board.

The acceptance of the appointment of J. W. McCown as District chairman of the re-organization and expansion campaign of the South Carolina Development Board for the counties of Florence, Williamsburg, Georgetown, Marion and Horry is announced. In speaking of his acceptance, Mr. McCown stated:

"I have accepted this position because I believe that the board has a program that will be of inestimable value to the entire State. It is necessary that our citizens think as a State, and really learn what this State has in the way of resources both of men and things. The State committee is headed by Governor Cooper and ex-Governor Manning, chairman and vice chairman, respectively. I am able to announce that Mr. J. M. Lynch and Mr. F. L. Wilcox have consented to act as members of the district committee. Further appointments to district and county committees will be announced in a few days.

"Florence has been selected as the campaign headquarters for the district."—Florence Times.

The Dance Thursday Night.

On last Thursday night a dance was given by the local young set at the Kellahan hotel and preparations were made for quite an enjoyable social affair. Notices, or informal invitations, were sent to members of social organizations of nearby towns and a number of out-of-town guests were present for the occasion. At about 9 p. m. the dance began, and bid fair to be one of the most largely attended and enjoyable events of its kind held here for some time.

But at about 11:30 or 12 p. m., John Barleycorn, or an alcoholic relative, made his appearance at the dance and had a very perceptible hold on some of the visitors; and then it was not long until those who indulge in dancing for the sake of exercise and wholesome social intercourse were compelled to withdraw from the ball room and take their departure, owing to the manner of dancing indulged in by some of the participants.

Finally the chaperons, young ladies of the town and some of the visitors were escorted to their homes and the hall turned over to the more riotous crowd.

It was a most unfortunate occasion for the young set of Kingstree, and has awakened them to the fact that although a person may be a member in good standing of a social organization elsewhere, it is not proof-positive that the characteristics of particular individuals will abide with them when from under the watchful and scornful eye of the home community, nor that they will not take advantage of the hospitality extended them by well-meaning friends to spoil and besmear the reputation of what is intended to foster and make more congenial the social intercourse of communities.

South Atlantic Ports Favored.

Cincinnati, May 17.—Edwin C. Gibbs, president of the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, spoke before the South Atlantic ports delegations on the fact that South Atlantic ports should be accorded a square deal.

Another prominent manufacturer called attention to the fact that today many shipments for export were lying in Cincinnati awaiting the lifting of the freight embargo in New York. A resolution to the Interstate Commerce Commission was adopted requesting the use of South Atlantic ports to relieve the present congestion.

Thirty Rotarians present at the banquet led in making the dinner one of cooperation.

"WE ARE LOST" SAYS CARRANZA

BELIEVED THAT DEPOSED CHIEF PLANS ESCAPE BY SEA—ABANDONS GOLD.

"We are lost. Good bye, gentlemen!" These were Carranza's final words before his flight from the besieged train in the early afternoon of May 14, while pausing momentarily before a crowd of terrified civilian refugees a few miles east of San Marcos, accompanied by a few intimates and guarded by what the special dispatches term "a very small cavalry force."

The fugitive president crossed the narrow valley through which the Mexican railway passes, stopped for a few moments to watch the Liberal revolutionary forces occupy the stalled trains, then disappeared among the mountains.

Heading Northeast.

It is believed that Carranza is heading northeast toward the coast by way of Cofre de Perote, with the intention of boarding a steamer at some small port and escaping from the country. Judging from the list of captured officials and generals received Sunday at the headquarters in Mexico City of the Liberal revolutionary government, a few are accompanying Carranza. Among them are believed to be Luis Cabrera, secretary of the treasury; Gen. Juan Barragan, chief of staff; Gen. Francisco Murguía, commander of the train guards; Gen. Francisco Urquiza, sub-secretary of war, and Ygnacio Bonillas, former ambassador to the United States.

A motor truck load of gold coin, which the Carranza party attempted to carry off, broke down, the soldiers obtaining the major part of it.

Labor Leaders Arrive.

Washington, May 18.—Luis Marones, labor leader of Mexico and known there as "the Gompers of Mexico," came here today as special commissioner of the defacto government. Recent reports to the State Department, announcing plans for his visit, suggested the possibility of his appointment later as the chief diplomatic representative to the United States.

Dressed as a railway brakeman, Marones accompanied Alvaro Obregon from Mexico City when the latter was threatened with imprisonment.

Further information that the defacto government was settling more firmly into power was contained in a summary of news in the Mexico City press sent by the American embassy to the State Department today. The State governments of Yucatan and Campeche have announced their support of the new government, and Villa, it was announced, was proceeding to the capital "without military escort."

Obregon in Lead.

The summary set forth that the newspapers applauded the withdrawal of Pablo Gonzales from the presidential race, saying it would reduce the chances of conflict growing out of the political rivalries. The most outstanding contender is now Obregon. He was reported to have left the capital for Queretaro and from there was expected to go to San Luis Potosi, returning May 24, the day fixed for the beginning of a special session of Congress called for the purpose of naming a president ad interim.

It was assumed here that Obregon would confer with Manuel Páez while at Tampico, but the uncertainty felt here as to the attitude of the former ruler of the oil fields might assume was greatly allayed by the message received from him assuring American business men that he was "united with and forms a part of the movement represented by Gens. Obregon and Gonzales."

Carranza was reported to be moving northward from the hills west of Jalapa.

Pension Money Ready for Veterans.

Pension money was received here Monday by P. M. Brockinton in the form of a check from the State treasurer. The amount received has been prorated and will be paid out to the Confederate veterans of the county as promptly as they properly apply. There are three classes of pensioners. Those in class A will receive \$75.00; those in class B will receive \$50.00 and those in class C \$30.00. Veterans are requested to call for their money as early as possible.