

The Watchman and Southron.

SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1856.

'Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's.'

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866

Consolidated Aug. 3, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1912.

Vol. XXXIV. No. 8.

RECORD COTTON CROP.

SIXTEEN MILLION BALES ITS TREMENDOUS TOTAL.

December Estimate of 14,885,000 Far Surpassed—South Carolina's Share is 1,677,204.

Washington, March 20.—The census bureau's preliminary report on cotton ginning, giving the government's first figures, other than estimates, on the size of the 1911 cotton crop of the United States was issued at 10 o'clock this morning, and shows the total crop to have reached the unprecedented size of 16,050,819 running bales, counting round as half bales and including linters, which is equivalent to 16,205,997 500-pound bales.

The crop reporting board of the department of agriculture, in its estimate of the 1911 cotton crop, issued December 11 last, reckoned the total production at 14,885,000 bales of 500 pounds, gross weight. The country's 1910 production was 12,005,688 bales of 500 pounds. In previous record years the total crop was 13,587,306 bales in 1908, 13,595,498 in 1906 and 13,679,954 bales in 1904.

Included in the figures for 1911 are 239,146 bales, which ginners and delinters estimated would be turned out after the time of the March canvass.

Round bales included in the 1911 figures are 100,439 bales, compared with 112,887 bales for 1910 and 150,699 bales for 1909.

Sea island bales included in the 1911 total are 119,252, compared with 90,388 bales for 1910 and 94,791 bales for 1909.

Linters bales included in the 1911 total are 546,769, compared with 397,628 bales for 1910 and 315,478 bales in 1909.

The average gross weight of the bale for the crop, counting round as half bales and including linters, was 504.4 pounds for 1911, compared with 501.7 pounds for 1910 and 496.6 pounds for 1909.

By States the cotton crop grown in 1911, with that grown in 1910 and the big crop years of 1908 and 1909, expressed in equivalent 500-pound bales, follows:

State	1911	1910	1908	1909
Alabama	1,753,484	1,223,285	1,374,340	791,311
Arkansas	791,311	848,874	1,013,402	923,635
Florida	84,977	60,049	63,221	57,133
Georgia	2,338,571	1,820,610	1,980,077	1,626,330
Louisiana	399,525	255,733	486,350	1,012,573
Mississippi	1,248,521	1,262,680	1,306,668	1,569,530
Missouri	(not given)	62,159	64,532	56,472
North Carolina	1,101,104	726,850	663,167	594,387
Oklahoma	1,060,138	958,955	706,815	918,275
South Carolina	1,677,204	1,191,929	1,195,235	895,130
Tennessee	478,285	349,476	359,859	317,641
Texas	4,427,285	3,172,488	3,913,084	4,281,824
Virginia	(not given)	14,815		

THIRTY LIVES THREATENED.

Darlington People in Danger From Drinking Milk—Judge Spain's Narrow Escape.

Darlington, March 20.—All the doctors in the city last night were kept busy fighting an epidemic of ptomaine poisoning which threatened the lives of more than 30 people, many of whom are of the most prominent families. The poisoning was wholesale and was caused by drinking milk.

In many instances a hard fight by physicians was necessary in order to save the patients and only at 10 o'clock this morning did they cease their all night vigil. From every portion of the city this morning came reports of the epidemic, and it was not until late in the day that the exact number of cases was ascertained.

Judge Thomas H. Spain of the Fourth judicial circuit had a very narrow escape, as did a traveling man stopping at a local hotel, who drank only one glass of the infected milk.

Members of the "Buster Brown" company, which was presented here last night, were also stricken. In fact, many of the people who attended the performance at the theatre were forced to leave during the performance and quickly secure the services of physicians.

Rigid inspection of milk will doubtless ensue as a result of last night's epidemic, people having expressed their intention of drinking no more milk until this is brought about.

MILLER CASE CONTINUES.

Testimony of Expert Witnesses Continues—Case Liable to Last Another Day.

The case of Jas. A. Miller against the Atlantic Coast Line railroad company still continues in the court of common pleas and at present it seems that it is liable to last more than a day longer. Up to recess today all of the witnesses had testified and two witnesses were recalled in reply by the plaintiff.

Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning was taken up in hearing the testimony of other doctors and several railroad men. Drs. J. A. Mood, S. C. Baker, L. L. K. Philipotts, of Columbia, were the experts put on the stand, while R. B. Hair, assistant superintendent, and C. L. Porter, district superintendent, and W. U. Abell, yard master at Columbia were among the railroad men put up. The facts in the case seem to hang on the fact as to whether Mr. Miller is suffering from one disease or another and there seemed to be a number of the expert witnesses who did not think alike about the matter.

Before court adjourned Wednesday J. A. Miller and Dr. F. K. Holman were put on the stand in reply by the plaintiff. L. W. McLemore, Esq., of Florence, has done all of the examining for the defendant, while Mr. Jennings and Mr. Best have taken turns in the examinations for the plaintiff.

MINES MUST CLOSE.

No New Agreement Possible Before April 1.—May be Big Strike Also.

Cleveland, March 20.—Wage discussions between the operators and representatives of 20,000 union miners in the bituminous coal fields of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, aiming at averting a prolonged suspension of business after April 1, and also to avert a possible strike today, were without definite results.

The prospect that all bituminous coal mines would be closed after the first of the month, pending the making of a new two-year working and wage agreement, was said to be imminent. It also was said the lack of a wage scale in the Central States would leave the union bituminous coal miners in other States without a basis upon which to work, and they would have to close, entailing idleness for more than 350,000 miners.

1908... 12,326
1906... 13,862

All Other States.

1911... 154,537
1910... 8,611
1908... 5,439
1906... 4,628
(Virginia and Missouri included in "All Other States.")
The statistics of today's report for the year 1911 are subject to slight corrections in the full report to be published about May 1.

COTTON MARKET CONDITIONS.

OPENED STEADY, FOUR TO SIX POINTS HIGHER.

Opened at Net Advance But Selling Sent Prices Down, This Was Followed by Rally.
New York, March 20.—Scattered realizing or liquidation which seemed to be inspired by the final ginning report of the census bureau cost the cotton market an opening advance, but prices soon firmed up again on prospects for a renewal of unfavorable weather in the South, and the close was steady at a net gain of 4 to 6 points for the day.

The opening was steady at an advance of 7 to 9 points on better cables than expected and over-night buying orders based on yesterday's late predictions for unfavorable weather in the belt. The census report indicating a total ginning for the season of 16,050,819 bales, including linters, appeared to be pretty closely in line with recent forecast but it was evidently rather larger than expected by some of yesterday's buyers and the market eased off to about the closing figures of yesterday right after the call under realizing or scattered selling for long account.

The official forecast, calling for unsettled weather with rains in the eastern belt and rains or snow in the western belt, with lower temperatures for tonight or tomorrow, checked the selling movement, however, and the market later developed renewed firmness on reports from London that British coal miners might all be back at work again next Monday. Leading bull operators were buyers on this advance but considerable long cotton seemed to be coming on the market around 10.60 for July and 10.65 for October, while there was also local selling on the failure of the unfavorable weather predictions to stimulate any outside buying of consequence. Prices turned somewhat irregular under these offerings and fluctuations late in the day were nervous, but the close was in 2 or 3 points of the best.

Privats cables from Liverpool attributed the relatively firm showing of the market there to heavy continental buying and trade calling, which suggested a renewed demand from Manchester, possibly in anticipation of an early settlement of the strike.

Cotton futures closed steady: Cotton spot closed quiet, 14 points higher; middling uplands 10.65; middling 10.90; sales 200.

DEMONSTRATION IN EL PASO.

Anti-American Feeling Aroused by Tightening of Embargo on Munitions of War.

El Paso, March 20.—A street demonstration occurred in Juarez this afternoon when it became known that the embargo on munitions of war hereafter would be construed on the American side as including food as well as arms and ammunition and in fact everything which a soldier needs. The demonstration was started by a saloon keeper commonly called "Bib Pettit." He walked into the middle of the street in front of his place, and, seeing a number of Americans, began a tirade against them. A crowd gathered quickly. As the crowd of Mexicans grew denser the Americans worked their way out and lost no time in getting on the American side of the international bridge. After the departure of Gen. Bojas and his column from Juarez this afternoon, leaving a garrison of 600 men under Col. Pascual Orozco, Sr., the saloons were opened for the first time in weeks.

MR. THURMOND IN THE CITY.

Campaign Manager for Judge Jones Visited Sumter Wednesday.

Mr. William Thurmond, the campaign manager for Judge Jones in the gubernatorial campaign, was in the city for a couple of hours Wednesday afternoon between trains, looking over the city with a view of ascertaining the strength of Judge Jones in this section.

He came in on the afternoon train from Camden and left later on the train for Bishopville where he will try boosting up Jones' candidacy. Mr. Thurmond stated while here that Judge Jones was willing to visit Sumter at any time the people invited him, provided he did not already have an engagement for the date named.

CASE AGAINST PACKERS.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY CLOSES PLEADING IN BEEF TRIAL.

Upholds the Sherman Law—Declares Disobedience of Anti-trust Law is Cause of So-called Commercial Fog.

Chicago, March 20.—United States District Attorney Wilkerson demanded the conviction of the packers charged with criminal violation of the Sherman law in his closing address to the jury today. He reviewed the evidence at length and declared the government had proved beyond all reasonable doubt every offense charged in the indictment.

"There has been an attempt on the part of counsel for the defendant to surround the anti-trust law with an atmosphere of mystery," said Mr. Wilkerson.

"The Sherman law is not the fog through which the ship of interstate commerce has been sailing. The real fog has been the contempt for and disobedience of the law. In this law is crystallized the spirit of industrial freedom.

"The government has proved its case against these ten defendants and demands that in the interest of justice you return a verdict of guilty."

"All the prosecution alleges is a technical violation of the letter of the law, and it has not even proved that," Attorney John S. Miller, representing the Armour group of defendants, had declared within his closing argument.

He defined "restraint of trade" as such restriction as to destroy competition and injure the public, asserting the government did not even charge these things and quoting government statistics to prove that the indicted packers produce only a third of the meat consumed. It is expected the case will go to the jury Friday.

OUTLAWS STILL FREE.

Search for Allen Gang in Mountains Proves Fruitless.

Hillsville, Va., March 20.—With the search for the Allen gang fruitless on the eve of the seventh day since the court house tragedy, it seems probable tonight that the death list soon may be increased to six before morning. Andrew P. Howlett, who was shot in the back, is not expected to live through the night. He was trying to protect his wife from the showers of lead which killed the judge, prosecutor, sheriff, a woman and a man and set the countryside into such a state of excitement as it had never known. The ball cut through his body, coming out above the chest.

Detectives who were hurriedly summoned by messengers yesterday to the supposed hiding place of the Allen gang, had not returned from their mountain quest at nightfall. With almost a week elapsed since the shooting up of the court, not a single authentic report has reached here of the movements of any of the outlaws who have spread terror throughout the countryside for more than a generation.

It is believed that there are a dozen of the Allens and their henchmen in the band somewhere in the mountain fastness here. Many of the men in the posses, which trained detectives are leading, are mountaineers accustomed to the country and to mountain skirmishing.

The law of Carroll county has thus far been powerless to brook the situation, but the detectives and their followers are not disheartened. If bushwhacking and guerrilla warfare are brought into play, as now seems inevitable, the Allens will meet their match in cunning, courage and endurance. If the chase becomes a siege it will continue until the last of the Allen clan is killed or captured.

THREE WARSHIPS TO PHILIPPINES.

Armored Cruisers Leave Honolulu for Olongapo to Hold Their Spring Practice.

Washington, March 18.—The armored cruisers, California, South Dakota and Colorado in command of Rear Admiral Southerland, sailed today from Honolulu for the Philippines.

Notwithstanding the international significance to England of this sudden and considerable reinforcement of the American Asiatic fleet, the naval officials state that the purpose of the cruise of the three vessels is to enable them to dock at the naval station in Olongapo and to hold their spring target practice in Philippine waters.

KANSAS FAVORS WILSON.

According to Governor's Headquarters, Two-thirds of Them are Wilson Advocates.

Washington, March 18.—The Woodrow Wilson headquarters here today issued a statement virtually claiming the majority of the Kansas delegation to the Baltimore convention for Wilson. The statement claims Wilson delegates have been elected in six of the eight congressional districts of Kansas and claims a total of 12 out of the 16 district delegates. Two of the four delegates at large were also claimed.

The statement asserts that two-thirds of the Kansas delegates favor Wilson and that although the convention instructed them to vote for Clark, the instructions per se were not to swing to Wilson after he cast a ballot for Clark.

MAYESVILLE MAKES GOOD SHOWING.

Annual Report of Financial Condition of Town Just Issued—Split Log Drag in Use.

Mayesville, March 20.—The town council has just issued a report of the financial condition of the town for the period from April 8, 1911, to March 8, 1912. This includes all but one month, the present, of the term of office of the present council. Finances were collected as follows: Fines, \$1,125.50; Bonds, afterwards refunded, \$900; Licenses, \$359.25; Street Taxes, \$163.50; Rents, \$150.00; Cash on hand, April 8, 1911, \$2,808.60; Disbursements, \$3,792.12, leaving a cash balance on March 5, 1912, of \$1,718.19. The report makes a very creditable showing considering the heavy expenses of the town and the fact that there are no taxes on property here, and no revenue from the dispensary. The whiskey raids of last summer, when detectives were employed by the council, resulted in fines to the amount of \$705.00, but there was considerable expense attached to the convictions of the "tigers," including detective services, attorneys' fees, stenographer's services, and special police salaries. Mayor Womble was the first official to institute this publishing of reports of the town's financial condition and he is to be commended for this action.

The split-log drag, which has been tried with much success in Sumter and elsewhere, was put to use on the main streets here this week and much good was accomplished for the streets had become badly cut up during the long, rainy spell, and no doubt this simple but effective method of improving the roadways will be continued whenever it is needed.

The skating rink was opened up Monday night after being closed for some months and quite a crowd of young people enjoyed the sport. It will be open on Friday nights from now on.

Mr. Sam Cox, the well-known insurance man of Columbia, was in town on Tuesday on business.

Dr. W. W. Gardner has gone to Bethune to visit his parents.

CHILD STRUCK BY AUTOMOBILE.

Heavy Machine Passes Over Spartanburg School Girl.

Spartanburg, March 20.—While returning from school at 1 o'clock this afternoon, Charlotte Dehon, the 8-year-old daughter of Theodore Dehon, was run down by the automobile of B. King Cooper. The little girl was knocked to the ground and the huge car passed over her unconscious form, but fortunately her body lay between the wheels and these did not pass over her.

Dr. F. L. Potts was nearby at the time and he picked the child up and carried her to his private sanitarium. She did not regain consciousness until late this afternoon, but it is still impossible to determine the extent of her injuries. There is no doubt that they are serious, but physicians cannot determine whether or not they will prove fatal.

NORTH DAKOTA FOR LAFOLETTE.

Roosevelt Second, Taft Poor Third, in Presidential Primary.

Fargo, N. D., March 20.—With 1,167 of the 1,800 precincts in the State heard from in the North Dakota Presidential preference primary election of yesterday, complete returns give Senator LaFollette 34,159 votes; Theodore Roosevelt 22,877, and President Taft 3,000. Senator LaFollette's plurality in these precincts is 11,282.

ANOTHER MINE HORROR.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIVE BELIEVED TO HAVE DIED IN OKLAHOMA.

Surveying Party Headed by W. D. Roper of Clio Not Accounted For—Two Score Americans Among the Victims—Interior of Pit Wrecked.

McCurain, Okla., March 20.—One hundred and five lives is accepted tonight as an approximately correct estimate of human toll taken this morning in Mine No. 2 of the Sans Bois company here was wrecked by explosion. Of the 116 men of the shift only 11 are known to be behind the debris. In the opinion of government experts and mine officials they are dead and a special train which brought physicians and nurses from Fort Smith, Ark., today returned tonight. Five physicians remained with the faint hope that some of the imprisoned men might be found alive.

Among those unaccounted for are the members of a surveying party headed by W. D. Roper of Clio, S. C. Forty-three Americans were employed in the mine.

The explosion occurred shortly after 9 o'clock this morning. Those on the surface heard a faint rumble and an earth tremor. When those nearest to the mouth of the mine reached the opening a cloud of dust and smoke belched forth.

Then came tense moments of waiting for those in the mine to emerge. Frank Fields, a miner, was the first to stagger out. He was walking in an entry and heard the explosion, he said. He jumped into a side room and the explosion passed and he made his way to the mine opening. Other miners escaped through a man-way.

A "rope-rider," who was coming to the surface when the explosion occurred, was the 11th man to escape.

Superintendent Brown of the coal company led the first rescue party into the mine, but they could proceed no further than the sixth level because of the accumulation of debris and returned to the surface with the body of John Colwas, 17-year-old youth.

NEW FACTORY INSPECTOR.

W. S. Bonner Appointed by Commissioner Watson.

Columbia, March 21.—William S. Bonner was appointed yesterday as a factory inspector for the State department of agriculture, commerce and industries by Commissioner Watson. The second inspector to assist in the enforcement of the factory inspection law will be named today by Mr. Watson.

Commissioner Watson considers Mr. Bonner particularly well fitted for the work. He was educated at Erskine college at Due West, and has had several years' practical experience in the mills of the Piedmont section of the State.

Mr. Watson said that in making the selection he had done so in pursuance of his policy of securing men specially equipped for the work required. Mr. Bonner was strongly indorsed for the position by well known men of the State, among them being M. L. Smith, speaker of the house, and Lowndes J. Browning of Union, chairman of the ways and means committee of the house.

The factory inspection act provides for two inspectors with a salary of \$1,200 and traveling expenses.

BUILDING FALLS, THREE KILLED.

Two Women and Little Girl Victims of Distressing Accident.

Wadesboro, N. C., March 20.—At 11 o'clock this morning the walls of the Parsons Drug Company's store, a two-story brick structure standing on the public square of this city, crashed with a loud noise and carried a number of men and women beneath the ruins, killing at least three of them instantly. The dead are little Virginia May Covington, oldest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Covington, Jr., Miss Marian and Miss Lora Little, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Little, all of Wadesboro.

The building belonged to Dr. W. J. McLendon and was being remodelled. The cause of the wreck was excavations being made underneath, and the wet weather probably affected the walls. The building was worth \$5,000, and the loss to the drug company's stock is about \$5,000.