

The Watchman and Southron.

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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

Idea Hydra-headed.

Roanoke Times.

A Virginia girl now holds the record for tomato growing. It is announced by the department in Washington that Miss Bessie Stalkey, who lives near Berryville, Clarke county, Virginia, leads all the 25,000 Southern girls who belong to the canning clubs in the fields for 1912.

Miss Stalkey raised no less than 5,938 pounds of tomatoes on her tenth of an acre. This is nearly three tons, and smashes the records of the production of the fruit or vegetable, or whatever it may be.

Miss Ella G. Agnew of Burkesville, who is at the head of the girls' canning club work in Virginia, heard that the Clarke county member had led all the rest. She went to Washington and inquired, and there the statement was confirmed. Naturally, Miss Agnew is pleased that one of her own girls has made such an achievement.

The idea is hydra-headed—teaching the women of families to become independent financially through their own effort, encouraging the production of more necessities of life at home, and giving to girls knowledge that is bound to be useful in after life. It would seem that Miss Stalkey should excel in all these things, and that some day somebody will have to keep busy trying to market the abundance of tomatoes that she will be in position to add to the markets of the world.

CONDITION OF COTTON 80.9.

Improvement During Past Month—South Carolina Gains.

New York, July 1.—The condition of cotton of an average date of June 23, according to the replies of over 1,900 special correspondents of the Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin, was 80.9, compared with 80.5 a month ago, or an increase of 0.4 point. This compares with the 1.3 a year ago and the 5.9 in 1911, and a ten-year average of 81.0. The percentage condition by States, with comparisons, follows:

	July	June	Dif.
North Carolina	77.2	78.0	-0.8
South Carolina	73.3	69.9	x3.4
Georgia	76.4	75.3	x1.1
Florida	80.6	79.9	x0.7
Alabama	78.3	79.5	-1.3
Mississippi	80.0	80.5	-0.5
Louisiana	80.6	81.6	-1.0
Texas	84.0	82.7	x1.3
Arkansas	85.4	85.3	x0.1
Tennessee	82.7	83.3	-0.6
Missouri	82.7	83.0	x0.3
Oklahoma	86.6	89.6	-3.0
Averages	80.9	80.5	x0.4

As a rule changes in condition are not marked. South Carolina gained 3.4 points, Georgia 1.1 points and Texas 1.3 points. Otherwise, most other States showed a fractional decline, except Oklahoma, which lost 3 points.

Since the average date of these reports rainfall has relieved nearly all districts needing moisture, causing general improvement. The season is generally two weeks late owing largely to a cold snap in the early part of June; for the same reason the plan is small, though strong and healthy. Fields are free from grass and well cultivated.

Up to around the third week of the month the need of rain was becoming urgent, but since then showers have been very general, and most sections have had the needed relief. Stands, as a rule, are poor, being very irregular owing to replanting and, cool weather.

The crop is remarkably free from insects, except in Mississippi and Louisiana, where the boll weevil is in such large numbers as to be a serious menace to the crop. Up to the date of these mail replies, however, damage was not serious.

The way is yet open for some one of the big politicians to make a bid for the rural vote by announcing that pot likker is his favorite beverage. Grape juice, milk and water have already been copyrighted as favorite irrigants.—Greenville News.

COMPLETING TARIFF WORK.

SENATE CAUCUS AGREES TO IMPORTANT POINTS.

Democrats Accept Cotton Stamp Tax With Plan for Exemption of Mutual Insurance Dividends.

Washington, July 1.—Senate Democrats approached a final agreement on the Underwood-Simmons tariff bill in caucus late today when they made the following decisions on important contested points:

Mutual life insurance companies were exempted from payment of income tax on earnings returned to policyholders in the form of dividends.

A stamp tax of 1-10 per cent per pound was agreed to for all trading on cotton futures, the tax to be refunded where cotton is actually delivered.

An agreement was reached for a vote tomorrow on the Hitchcock amendment, proposing a restrictive tax on tobacco production to prevent monopoly.

The finance committee members held another meeting tonight to decide questions referred back from the caucus. The caucus will resume work tomorrow and it is believed the final paragraphs will be reached before tomorrow night.

The decision to exempt earnings which mutual life insurance companies later distribute to policyholders came at the end of a long debate. The caucus by a vote of 13 to 11 overturned last night the recommendation of the finance committee Democrats that such exemption be made. On a reconsideration today, asked by Senator Lewis, the caucus reversed the action and voted to uphold the committee.

Senator Overman tried vainly to have the tax on cotton futures cut down from the 1-10 cent basis proposed by Senator Clarke to 1-20 cent.

Senator Hitchcock's fight to secure the adoption of his tobacco amendment, which embraced the views set forth some time ago by Attorney General McReynolds for curbing the growth of the "trust," was carried over until adjournment tonight and will be renewed tomorrow. Members of the finance committee decided against the amendment which would impose a heavy tax on production above a certain figure. Senator Hitchcock also will propose tomorrow a companion amendment for a tax on the production of all corporations that control more than a specified amount of the production in their line of industry; and will attempt to have both amendments made part of the tariff bill.

HAS SOME OPPOSITION.

Many Traders Don't Like Cotton Future Tax.

New Orleans, July 1.—The proposition contained in the Clarke amendment to the Underwood tariff bill to tax one-tenth of a cent a pound all cotton futures contracts has aroused aggressive opposition on the part of the members of the New Orleans cotton exchange and many others interested heavily in cotton trade throughout the South. Hundreds of telegrams from cotton dealers in a dozen States have been received at the exchange asking that its officers make every effort to prevent the enactment of the amendment into law.

W. B. Thompson, former president of the New Orleans exchange, today telegraphed to President Wilson, in behalf of the organization, a protest against the proposed tax. His statement said in part:

"This tax is prohibitive. It will put an end to non-speculative as well as speculative contracts, and hence destroy hedge protection. Upon this protection is based the system whereby the crop is marketed with the least expense and at the maximum price, and the system whereby the manufacturer is able to contract his output ahead, thus increasing the consumption of raw cotton and creating a forward demand for the product. The amendment is a daring assault upon the economics of the cotton trade."

SHOOTS MOTHER AND BABY.

Spartanburg County Lad Didn't Know Gun was Loaded.

Spartanburg, July 1.—Roy Davis, 14 years old, seriously wounded his foster mother, Mrs. W. D. McAbee, and her two-months-old baby at their home near Inman last night, by shooting them with a shotgun. He did not know the gun was loaded and playfully pointed it at the baby, which was sitting in its mother's lap. Mrs. McAbee and the baby were brought to the Spartanburg Hospital, where surgeons are considering the advisability of amputating her right leg. The baby lies beside her with its left foot mangled by the shot.

GREEK-BULGARIAN CLASH.

BALKAN WAR RENEWED WITH GREAT DETERMINATION.

Bulgarians Begin Assault all Along the Greek and Servian Line of Defence in Macedonia.

London, June 30.—The prolonged efforts of the powers to prevent the outbreak of a fratricidal war between the Balkan allies seem to have failed just at the moment when it appeared possible for the four premiers to meet at St. Petersburg and submit their differences for Russian arbitration.

Fighting began this morning all along the lines where the Bulgarian forces are facing the Servians and Greeks. These probably were only post attacks, but, according to the Greek officials' statement, the Bulgarian attacks extended over the Greek and Servian front of 140 miles. "This is manifestly war without a previous declaration of hostilities, and accordingly we are forced to order our division to advance," says the official statement.

The opposing armies accuse each other of initiating the offensive. Bulgarian representatives at Athens and Belgrade respectively have presented notes protesting against Greek and Servian attacks. The Servian government has replied by charging that the Bulgarians are making attacks and repudiating all responsibility. In Sofia the outbreak of hostilities is attributed to machinations of the Servian military league, which, it is contended, is determined to prevent Premier Pashitsch from consenting to arbitration, and from a strategic point of view, the Bulgarians declare, the Servian attack is aimed at dividing the Bulgarian army at its centre.

BULGARIANS OPEN ATTACK.

Begin Assault on Servian Troops Along Whole Line of Forts in Macedonia.

Belgrade, Servia, June 30.—The Bulgarians this morning opened an attack on the Servian troops along the whole line in Macedonia, according to dispatches from the Servian headquarters. The publication of the news created immense excitement in the Servian capital.

The Bulgarian troops opened their attack at 2 o'clock this morning on the Servian outposts before Isip and a couple of hours later their artillery was brought into action.

The Bulgarian attack gradually spread until there was fighting at Retna, Bouvka, Zletoyo, Neogasi and Valandovo.

The Bulgarians appeared intent upon seizing the railroad.

The Servian minister, N. Pashitsch, who was addressing the Servian parliament in support of his policy of accepting the arbitration offered by the Russian emperor when the news of the outbreak of hostilities was brought in by an official of the foreign office, hurriedly left the chamber and went to his office.

The excitement in the house was so great that the sitting had to be suspended till tomorrow and the fate of the Pashitsch cabinet remains undecided.

The opposition members demand guarantees that the territory in Macedonia now held by the Servian troops shall be annexed.

SAYS GREEKS STARTED.

Bulgarians Ascribe Hostilities to Former Allies.

Sofia, Bulgaria, June 30.—More fighting occurred today between the Greek and Bulgarian troops some distance east of Saloniki. According to the Bulgarian account the Greek soldiers tried to cut the Bulgarian communications along the railroad from Serres to Drama but were driven off by the Bulgarians after they had burned a village.

It is reported that the Bulgarians have occupied Guevgheli at the point of the bayonet. This is an important strategic position where the Greek and Servian lines join. It is understood that Bulgarian strategy aims to hinder cooperation between the Greek and Servian forces and to prevent Servian communication with Saloniki.

MADE CENSUS HEAD.

J. Harris Takes the Oath as Director.

Washington, July 1.—Wm. J. Harris of Atlanta, Ga., today took the oath of office as director of the census in Secretary Redfield's office, in the presence of a number of other officials of the department. The oath was administered by Warren Choate, chief clerk of the bureau of corporations.

Mr. Harris for a number of years was secretary to Senator Clay of Georgia, a member of the Georgia State senate and for the past few years was president and director of a fire insurance company.

HUMAN RECIPE



To a sunburnt smile, a breezy style, Bright eyes, and a wind-tossed curl, Add a life on the plains, plenty of brains— And behold this dashing cowgirl.

HERRINGTON FIRED.

McReynolds Removes From Office Frisco Agent With Frisky Tongue and Pen.

San Francisco, July 1.—Clayton Herrington, investigator for the United States department of justice with headquarters in this city, was dismissed from the federal service today by Attorney General McReynolds. Judge Herrington had been under suspension since early last week for having telegraphed to President Wilson a demand that the attorney general be ousted from office because of the action he took in the Diggs-Caminetti and Western Fuel company cases which resulted in the resignation of United States District Attorney John L. McNab. The notice of dismissal received by telegraph was as follows: "You are dismissed from the department of justice; effective immediately."

(Signed) "McReynolds," Judge Herrington's only reply was: "Telegram received."

Herrington was active in looking up evidence in the Diggs-Caminetti white slavery case. His demand for the removal of Attorney General McReynolds was grounded upon the latter's order for a postponement of the trial.

Take an Interest

Not only in whether you are going to make more money next month or next year, but whether you are going to save more money.

You "take a 4% interest" from us the day you deposit money here.

Save something with us.

The Peoples' Bank

The Time to Make Provision

For your later years is now—during the productive period of your life.

Your future prosperity depends largely upon present accumulations—not earnings.

However, our Bank Account Plan for protecting and conserving earnings is proving a distinct and actual help to others in building up their accumulations.

Will you try this plan—make your start now?

Your account will be cordially welcomed at the

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

No Summer Vacation

Is complete unless you carry a camera along. We have just put in a stock of SUPERB ANSCO cameras and will be glad to show you the line.

Anso films are richer in tone, and can be used in corresponding size cameras of other makes.

W. A. Thompson,

JEWELER AND OPTICIAN. SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

AN ADVERTISEMENT PLACED IN THE ADVERTISING COLUMNS OF THE DAILY ITEM WILL BRING RESULTS.

TRUNKS AND HAND BAGGAGE

Whether it is a Trunk, Suit Case or Hand Bag you desire, we can fill your want at a reasonable price.

We have trunks that will take you around the world and come home with you—scratched and marred, but sound and tight in every joint.

Trunks from \$6 to \$32.50.

Suit Cases from \$1.50 to \$18.50.

Hand Bags from \$3.50 to \$16.50.

The D. J. CHANDLER CO.

Phone 166

Sumter, S. C.