

ANOTHER GENET CASE.

DUMBA'S COURSE APPEARS IN MORE SERIOUS LIGHT.

President Visits State Department to Discuss New Puzzle of International Relations.

Washington, Sept. 8.—Dr. Constantin Dumba, the Austro-Hungarian ambassador, returned late today to the summer embassy at Lenox, Mass., to await word from Secretary Lansing as to whether the United States is satisfied with his explanation of his intercepted letter to Vienna outlining plans for withdrawing Austro-Hungarian labor and handicapping American plants manufacturing war supplies.

The ambassador's statement to Mr. Lansing yesterday that he was acting under instructions from his government apparently has made the affair more serious than a mere question of ethics or propriety involving only Dr. Dumba himself. Silence on the subject was observed again today at the White House and state department. The president, carrying the cabled copy of the ambassador's letter, walked over to the department during the morning, surprised Secretary Lansing in his office and spent 15 minutes discussing the situation. It was the first time a president had done such a thing since Spanish war days.

Before leaving Washington, Ambassador Dumba called at the department of labor to seek cooperation in his programme for providing new employment for workmen expected to walk out of the munitions plants. Secretary Wilson was not in his office but he talked with Acting Secretary Denmore. It is no secret in official circles that the administration would not countenance any sort of participation in such a movement.

It is understood the ambassador proposed to go ahead with plans without regard to the attitude of the American government.

At the embassy today it was emphasized that the only step so far ordered in the instructions from Vienna was the issuance of a proclamation calling on all Austro-Hungarian subjects to obey the decree of their government against aiding in the manufacture of war munitions for the enemy.

A decree similar to this one was issued some time ago by Germany, though it attracted but little comment. It is stated that soon after the decree was proclaimed most of the Germans employed in munitions plants, chiefly in executive or scientific departments, quietly sought other positions without waiting for urging through diplomatic agencies.

TEST OF SINGLE-STALK COTTON.

Experiments at San Antonio Result in Higher Yields Than Under the Old System.

Washington, Sept. 7.—Striking evidence in favor of single-stalk cotton culture under certain conditions is furnished by the results of a test of the comparative merits of the customary wide spacing and the new single-stalk system which was conducted in 1914 at San Antonio by the United States Department of Agriculture and a report of which has just been published by the department as Bulletin No. 279.

From 50 to 150 per cent more bolls in the same row space was secured under the single-stalk system and in addition the important advantage of increased earliness was secured. Where the boll weevil is present, this consideration can not be overlooked.

Single-stalk cotton culture has been recommended under certain conditions by the Department of Agriculture in a number of recent publications, among them Farmers' Bulletin 601 and Document 1130. Very briefly, the system consists in late thinning and the leaving of short spaces between the plants in the row. The combination of these two measures results in suppressing the vegetative branches and promoting earliness. Large, luxuriant plants are later in setting and maturing the crop than plants of more restricted growth. Where the season is short, therefore, and where the boll weevil is a menace, this is a strong argument in favor of single-stalk culture.

At San Antonio, under ordinary circumstances, a cotton crop must be set in about one month. In 1914, the season when the experiments under discussion were made, the crop was set in about 25 days. The single-stalk and wide-spaced systems of cotton culture were compared in alternate single rows, in alternate blocks of four rows each, and again in alternate rows at various distances apart.

At the end of 40 days, it was found that single-stalk rows alternating with wide-spaced rows produced 84 per cent more flowers and alternating blocks of single-stalk rows produced 78 per cent more. There were fewer bolls per plant in the single-stalk rows than in the wide-spaced ones, but this difference was much more than offset by the greater number of plants in the former. As has already been said, in the same space the single-

ALLIES START OFFENSIVE.

INDICATIONS FORESHADOW STIRRING EVENTS IN WHICH ALL WILL COOPERATE.

Russians Hold Ground Before Dvinsk and Vilna—Great Battle Raging on Edge of Pripet Marshes—Heavy Bombardment Goes on in West.

London, Sept. 7.—The news that Emperor Nicholas had placed himself at the head of his armies which he announced in a telegram to Raymond Poincare, president of France, and the visit paid by the French commander-in-chief, Gen. Joffre, to the Italian army, foreshadow, it is believed in military circles here, stirring events in which the armies of all the allies will cooperate.

It is declared the Russians already are nearly, if not quite, holding their own against the Austrians and Germans whose advance at most points has been stopped. In places the Russians are on the offensive.

Riga remains the danger point, but the fact that the Russians continue to occupy the town after the Germans have advanced to Dvina, southeast of Riga, leads military writers to conclude that the Russians feel reasonably sure of their ability to defend the river and in time to push sufficiently far westward to relieve the pressure on their forces on the shores of the Gulf of Riga.

Westward of Dvinsk and Vilna the Russian offensive has held the ground for more than a week, and the military observers think those two towns seem fairly safe unless the invaders can bring up strong reinforcements. East and southeast of Grodno the Russians have taken up new positions across the River Stchara and its tributaries and are protecting network of railways which run eastward and northward to the interior.

To the southeast again, among the forests and swamps on the northeastern edge of the Pripet marshes, a great battle is in progress between the army of Prince Leopold of Bavaria and the troops of the Russian centre. Amid the marshes the German Field Marshal Mackensen, is working hard for a decisive result. His reports state that he has taken two Russian positions.

Still another battle is being fought for the triangle of fortifications farther south of which, Rovno and Dubno remain in the hands of the Russians.

The Austrians and Russians face each other across the Sereth river in Galicia, where the fighting is continuous. The stand which the Russians are making suggests that their supply of munitions is ample.

A Petrograd correspondent says the ammunition shortage of the Russians has been corrected and that while the production is slow, it is incessant and growing in activity and method.

For the 13th successive day the allies have bombarded German positions in the West, only varying their artillery activity by occasional air raids, sapping and mining operations and bomb throwing. Success rests first with one side and then the other.

Similar activity is noticed on the part of the Austro-German army along the northern frontier of Servia, where the Teutons are strengthening their positions on the Rivers Save and Danube, presumably preparatory to a new offensive movement.

MANY TRAINS ON TIME.

Southern Railroad Makes Good Record in Passenger Service.

Atlanta, Sept. 6.—Of the 175,465 regular passenger trains operated by Southern Railway during the fiscal year, ended June 30th, 155,536, or 89 per cent, made schedule time and 146,288, or 83 per cent, were on time at all stations.

During the year 149,100 strictly local trains were operated and of these 133,866, or 90 per cent, made schedule time while 127,622, or 86 per cent were on time at all stations.

Of the 26,303 limited trains, nearly all of which cover long distances and are handled by other lines in connection with Southern Railway, 21,744 or 82 per cent, made schedule time while on the Southern Railway and 18,637 or 71 per cent, were on time at all stations.

American Aeroplane Wrecked.

Washington, Sept. 7.—An army aeroplane carrying Lieut. Morrow and Private Khuenkryk, fell two hundred feet while reconnoitering over Brownsville, Texas, this morning, and was smashed to pieces. Both aviators were badly injured.

Stalk rows set from 50 to 150 per cent more bolls than the wide-spaced plants. In every case single-stalk rows yielded more than the adjoining wide-spaced ones. An examination of the fiber in the field showed that there was no perceptible difference in the quality of lint produced under the two methods.

VIEWS ON COTTON SITUATION.

GOV. MANNING FAVORS STATE WAREHOUSE SYSTEM BUT WILL ASK LEGISLATURE TO MAKE CHANGES.

Governor Speaks at Conference of Charities and Corrections and Common Good.

Columbia, Sept. 7.—The joint session of the conferences on Charities and Corrections and the Common Good opened auspiciously tonight. Gov. Manning delivered an important address on the cotton marketing problem, in which he outlined certain changes he expected to ask the general assembly to make in the State cotton warehouse system with a view to strengthening the State cotton warehouse receipts as collateral in the money markets of the country.

Albert S. Johnstone, secretary of the State board of charities and corrections, spoke to the conference about the work in penal and charitable institutions undertaken by the board, stressing the fact that it was the desire of the organization and its agents to work in co-operation with officials in charge of institutions under its supervision to accomplish any needed reforms. Mr. Johnstone said that facts already gathered by the agents of the board indicated the need of a survey of the State to determine the extent of the menace of the feebleminded, a study of the repeating prisoner and a study of pauper relief work. He told briefly of several conditions found in institutions by agents of the board whose investigations are only getting under way fairly.

"I am in favor of a State system of warehousing cotton," said Gov. Manning in his address. "However, I intend to recommend to the next general assembly certain changes in our present State system which I believe will safeguard our warehouse receipts. The changes in the system which I intend to recommend are:

First. That managers of the warehouse in the State system be disinterested parties, neither owners of the warehouses nor of cotton stored in them.

Second. That cotton in warehouses in the State system be graded by an official grader.

Third. That the State warehouse commission have inspectors and weighers to visit the warehouses in the State system and check up the number of bales in them, the weight of the bales and the grades of the cotton to see if these are as represented in the State warehouse receipts.

If the receipts for cotton warehoused under the State system represents the value given on its face, I believe that it will be eagerly sought and readily accepted as security for loans, declared Gov. Manning.

Gov. Manning said that if he were in a position to make rules to govern cotton planters in marketing this season's crop he would provide that no cotton was to be sold below the cost of production, that the whole crop was to be sold slowly; that none of it was to be sold until the price reached the cost of production or just over it and that the marketing of cotton by individuals take place only as their debts made it necessary.

MAYESVILLE SCHOOL OPENS.

Principal Brunson and Corps of Teachers Ready for Good Year's Work.

Mayesville, Sept. 7.—The Mayesville graded school opened its session yesterday under most favorable circumstances and with the largest enrollment for the first day in many years. Principal H. H. Brunson, of Orangeburg, who taught so successfully here last session, is back at his post ready for another good session's work. He spent the vacation studying at Columbia university. His assistants are all teachers of experience and come highly recommended in every way. They are: Miss Janie Forde, of Blackstock, Miss Lillian Cook, of Rock Hill, and Miss Drusilla Gee, of Santuc. The trustees and patrons of this school feel that the affairs of the school will be in good hands and that the pupils will receive a maximum of good during the session.

The cotton market has opened up lively and from all indications, there will be a strong market here again this season. Quite a quantity of cotton is being ginned for so early in the season and prospects are that the crop will be short hereabouts. Many of the planters are inclined to hold for higher prices and no great amount of cotton is being sold.

The latest new enterprise in town is the Mayesville Mercantile company which will do a general merchandising business. The organizers are J. H. Burgess and C. C. Richard.

COTTON GINNERS' REPORT.

Special to The Daily Item.
Washington, Sept. 8.—The government report today shows 461,357 bales cotton ginned from the 1915 crop to September first, against 489,317 last year.

BIG GRAIN YIELDS.

HALF DOZEN NEW PRODUCTION RECORDS SEEM ASSURED BY FEDERAL REPORT.

Billion Bushels Wheat—Corn Production Increased 67,000,000 Bushels During August.

Washington, Sept. 8. Bumper grain crops this year, with a half a dozen new production records now seem assured. Basing predictions on a canvass made September 1, the agriculture department today issued forecasts showing the prospects of big grain yields, improved during August. The wheat crop is placed at 981,000,000 bushels, 90,000,000 more than last year. No change is made in the August prediction of 659,000,000 bushels of winter wheat. The spring wheat production forecast was increased 15,000,000 bushels to a total of 322,000,000 bushels.

When the final canvass is made the entire wheat production probably will reach 1,000,000,000 bushels.

Corn production prospects increased 67,000,000 bushels during August, the forecast now being 2,985,000,000 bushels.

Although that exceeds last year's crop by more than 110,000,000 bushels, it falls 139,000,000 bushels short of the record crop of 1912.

Oats may reach a record, the September forecast being 1,408,000,000 bushels, 267,000,000 more than was harvested last year, but 10,000,000 below the record crop of 1912.

The condition of white potatoes took a decided drop. Indications point to record crops of barley, rye, sweet potatoes, tobacco, rice and hay. The apple and peach crops also are far above the average.

BALTIMORE BANKER DIES.

Michael Jenkins, Multi-millionaire and Noted Philanthropist.

Baltimore, Sept. 7.—Michael Jenkins, multi-millionaire banker and philanthropist, died at his home here today of pneumonia. He was 72 years old.

Mr. Jenkins was one of the chief owners of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad and was chairman of the board of directors of the Merchants and Miners' Transportation company. He was a trustee and treasurer of the Catholic University of America at Washington and was knighted by Pope Pius X for his services to the Roman Catholic church. Mrs. Jenkins died several years ago. They left no children.

MAYESVILLE SOCIAL LIFE.

Book Club Entertained by Mrs. Mills—Other Social Affairs.

Mayesville, Sept. 7.—Little Misses Eleanor and May Belle Crawford entertained quite a large number of their little friends at a birthday party last week. The young hostesses received a large number of beautiful presents. A number of games were played and delicious ice cream and cake were served during the afternoon.

The Tuesday Afternoon Book Club met last week with Mrs. J. H. Mills, and there was a large number of both members and guests in attendance. As usual, the afternoon was spent most pleasantly in playing rook. The guest's prize was won by Mrs. J. W. Spencer and the member's by Mrs. J. D. Blackwell, both receiving dainty sets of rook cards. Refreshments of cream and cake were passed during the entertainment.

Little Miss Janie Louise Mayes gave an afternoon party to a number of her little playmates during the past week. The little ones enjoyed the afternoon engaging in outdoor games and refreshments were passed to add to the afternoon's pleasure.

Miss Dorothy Mayes of Savannah is visiting her cousin, Mrs. J. H. Mills. H. C. Bland and family have returned from a month in the mountains of Western North Carolina.

SHIFT RIGHT OF WAY.

City Council Ratifies Change in Seaboard Plan.

Charleston, Sept. 7.—The line of the Seaboard Air Line railroad across Charleston to the Ashley river underwent a sweeping change today when the right of way as laid down west of Rutledge avenue in the franchise of 1914 was shifted southward from the intersection of Grove street with Rutledge to a point that locates the Seaboard bridge across the Ashley between 500 and 600 feet further down stream than hitherto.

The change in right of way will cost the city of Charleston an additional \$5,000 and will amount to considerable added expense of construction by the railroad in the new line to Savannah. It was ratified today by the special city council committee on railroads and by the municipal park commission, in conference with W. R. Bousal, promoter of the Charleston Southern.

INSURANCE MONEY COMING IN SHORT COURSE AT CLEMSON.

INVESTMENTS OF COMPANIES SHOW INCREASE.

Gain of More Than One and One-half Million Dollars is Disclosed in Report on Half Year.

Columbia, Sept. 5.—The semi-annual return of investments by insurance companies for the six months ending June 30, 1915, shows the very satisfactory figure of \$14,481,610. This is an increase over the amount invested June 30, 1914 of \$1,599,000. This is a very satisfactory increase when the war conditions are taken into consideration.

The amount \$14,481,610.66 represents investments in State, county and municipal bonds to the amount of \$3,660,169.93; real estate mortgages, \$10,745,309.97; bank deposits, \$71,630.76, and real property owned in the State, \$4,500.

No accounting is made of loans to policyholders or investments in interstate railroad bonds. The amount shown above is only in such investments as enable the companies to get a reduction in license fees.

The insurance commissioner is very much gratified at the amounts which have been invested by the insurance companies, especially when it is remembered that when the insurance department was established in 1908 the total investments by these same companies in the like form of securities amounted only to about \$325,000. To increase from this amount to \$14,481,610 in seven years' time is very gratifying to the insurance commissioner.

The insurance commissioner has made his returns to the State treasurer month by month and for the period January 1, 1915, to September 1, 1915, has turned into the State treasury from all sources the sum of \$179,034.14.

RESIGNS PLACE, AVOIDS PUNISHMENT.

R. L. Black Gives up Position as Greenville Coroner, Thereby Escaping Punishment.

Greenville, Sept. 4.—R. L. Black today resigned his position as coroner of Greenville county in order to avoid serving six months and paying a fine of \$300. Judge Prince, in sentencing him for malfeasance in office, placed a proviso in the sentence to the effect that no punishment would be meted out in case Black resigned immediately. The coroner thereupon filed his resignation, which has been forwarded to Gov. Manning. Already there are several applicants for the vacant job. Black was tried Friday and found guilty. It was proved that he was drunk on many occasions. An interesting feature in connection with the case is that Black made his campaign on the ground that he wished to get money with which to educate himself at Furman. His appeal was of the nature which gained for him the support of many a churchman in Greenville.

RICHLAND BUYS SUPPLIES.

No Purchase Can be Made After September 15—Orders Aggregating About \$300,000.

Columbia, Sept. 7.—Anticipating the success of the prohibition election September 14, the Richland county dispensary board has placed an order for approximately \$300,000 worth of liquors, beer and wines. This is considered a six months' supply. The board usually makes purchases for three months.

In the event that prohibition carries, the dispensaries will not be permitted to place orders for whiskey after September 15. The law will go into effect January 1.

The heavy purchases therefore mean that the dispensaries in this county will remain open until the last day. Several days ago it was reported that the Charleston dispensary board had made purchases amounting to \$250,000. No reports have been received from the other 13 dispensary counties, but it is presumed that extra amounts have been bought in a majority.

Last year the Richland dispensaries sold about \$811,000 worth of whiskey. The sales are now averaging about \$50,000 a month. A member of the board said yesterday that the sales for November and December will probably average about \$70,000.

DISPENSARY IS PREPARED.

Charleston is Getting Ready for a Long Dry Siege.

The Charleston dispensary board has ordered \$250,000 worth of liquor and beer to be delivered at once, and arrangements are being made to rent a warehouse in which the goods will be stored. The object is preparedness for any eventuality when the State votes on the prohibition question on September 14, the board believing that a big demand would follow a victory of the prohibition forces, and should prohibition be established, the board could buy no more supplies.

COUNTRY MINISTERS, TEACHERS AND FARMERS AMONG THE 154 STUDENTS ENROLLED.

Session Lasted Four Weeks and Those Who Attended Were Greatly Benefited.

Clemson College, Sept. 5.—What was without doubt the most successful short course ever given at Clemson College has just closed. One hundred and fifty-four were enrolled in the five divisions of the summer school and there were very few who did not remain to the end of their course. There is general satisfaction with the success of the summer school and it is believed that this is but the beginning of a series of most successful summer sessions.

The committee in charge of the summer school consisted of Dr. F. H. H. Calhoun, chairman; Profs. H. W. Barre and W. W. Long, Mr. J. C. Littlejohn and the Rev. W. H. Mills. The 154 students enrolled were divided as follows: Country ministers, 12; farmers, 28; cotton grading students, 31; corn club boys, 81; rural school teachers, 2. The school opened August 9 and continued for four weeks.

Probably the two most interesting features of the school were the country ministers' course and the corn club boys' course. These were the first of their kinds in the State and the country ministers' course was the first of its kind in the South. The twelve rural preachers who came to the school received instruction in practical agriculture as well as in the theories of rural economics, and they expressed the opinion, when leaving, that the course had fitted them to do better and more understanding work than ever before for the people of their communities.

As for the 81 prize-winning corn club boys, representing practically every county in the State, their stay at the college was certainly productive of results. In the first place, the boys learned much about scientific agriculture. They used specially prepared text-books written in language they could understand. They also had specially selected instructors who took great pains with them. The course made the boys ambitious for more learning as was evidenced by the fact that 75 per cent of them, at the close of the session, declared their intention to take a full course at an agricultural college if it were possible.

But aside from what they learned from their books and instructors, the corn boys received other benefits from their course which are just as real and will probably be of much value to them. For many of the boys, it was the first trip away from home. There were numerous cases of homesickness and, indeed, had the course lasted only two weeks it probably would not have been a success. But the boys soon got used to their absence from home and came to take an interest in their companions and surroundings. For most of these lads it was the first adventure with the outside world.

Moreover, the boys were taught to play as well as to work and every afternoon was spent in athletic sports. There is no room to doubt that for the boys the Clemson College summer school was a highly successful undertaking. The farmers who attended had a thorough course in the elements of scientific agriculture, each week being devoted to one major subject. The course in cotton grading also proved productive of excellent results. A feature of this course was the fine class of the students.

It is likely that Clemson College will hold a summer school next year and each subsequent year, and there are reasons to believe that what has been done this summer was only the beginning of something greater.

MEETING OF STENOGRAPHERS.
State Convention to Be Held in Columbia Thanksgiving Day—Committee Meets.

Columbia, Sept. 5.—A call has been issued for a meeting of the South Carolina Association of Stenographers, to be held in Columbia Thanksgiving day. Executive committeemen met in Columbia Saturday, when plans relative to the annual gathering were made. Final arrangements were left to the Columbia representatives. Several prominent South Carolinians are to be invited to deliver addresses. Miss Kate H. Armistead is chairman of the Columbia group.

The executive committee is composed of J. J. Brennan of Sumter, also president of the association; Ernest L. Allen, Miss Kate H. Armistead, Miss Florence V. McMillan, Mrs. Joseph B. Morris, Mrs. W. T. Rison, Miss Edith Porcher, Miss Marguerite Bradford, L. E. Wood and Miles Wood, Edgar Brown; and several other writers throughout the State.

Chief of Police Killed.

Athens, Sept. 7.—A dispatch from Petrograd says the chief of police has been assassinated.