

GIVES CAUSE OF HIGH PRICES.

R. W. DABBS SAYS THAT EXTENSION OF CURRENCY DECREASES PURCHASING POWER OF DOLLAR.

In letters to Literary Digest and Daily News Mr. Dabbs points to weaknesses in other theories advanced as to increased prices for farm products and high cost of living.

The Literary Digest: I have read with a great deal of interest your cotton article in last week's issue. What surprised me is that not one of the papers quoted, and you have a splendidly representative list, made any mention of the leading factor in the high price of cotton, and in your article on "Feed America First," there is the same omission, viz, the tremendous world expansion of currency. It is the diminishing purchasing power of a dollar, due to increased gold production in the past twenty years, to the stupendous issues of "promises to pay" made by the great powers of Europe, that is sending prices skyward. Cotton should be 30 cents the pound if properly measured by the purchasing power of the dollar. I have tried all the season to make our farmers and business men see that this has more to do with the rising price than demand and terms. It is so much more than our people dreamed it would ever again sell for that they have rushed it on the market without regard to its value. The same might be said of all foodstuffs and manufactured goods. The only thing to do is to advance wages as you show by the many quotations you make, and as I know is being done on the farms and at the saw mills of the South, I trust you will give this a place in your widely read journal. There is no need to elaborate the idea. Every student of events ought to recognize immediately that this is the fundamental basis of high prices and that cotton is sure to go to much higher prices in the next 60 or 90 days. This is written with full knowledge of the recent slump in cotton.

E. W. Dabbs.

Letter The Daily Item

I am mailing the above today. It is a matter of fact that the people do not know the cause of high prices.

... never even alludes to it except in this question: Wage advances says The Commercial and Financial Chronicle (New York) "are an absolute necessity" and "an act of simple justice to the work people, inasmuch as owing to the great rise in prices the purchasing power of a given sum of money is so very much less than formerly." This in the article "More in the Pay Envelopes." Not one word in the pages devoted to cotton and to Fitzgerald's food embargo scheme said about expansion of the currency being the cause of high prices. By the expansion of the currency the money in the world has been provided to pay for cotton and all other products including labor, how are we going to get our share of it if we let a gang of speculators fix prices to their profit and our undoing? Why can't the business men of Sumter and of the South see that cotton should be selling for 25 to 30 cents per pound if it is to keep pace with other products? What does the recent drop of 2 1/2 cents a pound in two weeks mean? Nothing more than that speculators think that by so doing they can make the holders of actual cotton turn loose, most of them still in the South, and many of them the farmers who grow it.

If speculators can so manipulate prices in face of this short crop, what will they do for the Southern farmers next year, if we plant an increased acreage to the neglect of food crops? It will be 1914 over again on a bigger scale.

I want to call the attention of the readers of this paper to the threats from Washington to investigate high prices, including cotton. Will the Southern Commercial Congress and Southern Cotton Congress that meet in Norfolk this week stand for any such demagogic interference with free trade, when there is never an investigation of low prices that bring distress to more millions than high prices do to a few thousands? I wish I could attend this congress to voice my protest.

E. W. Dabbs.

Heats of Grandchild's Death.

Capt. and Mrs. E. Scott Carson Sunday morning received a telegram from Oakland, Cal., conveying the news of the death of their grandson, Henry Wells, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Wells, who are remembered as former residents of this city. The telegram did not give any details, but merely stated that Henry was killed by a train. Henry Wells was a lad of seventeen. He was attending the University at Oakland.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MEETING.

OFFERING TAKEN TO PROVIDE POOR OF CITY WITH CHRISTMAS CHEER.

Address by Dr. J. A. Brunson and History of Movement Given by Mr. G. Bowman—Committee is Re-elected to Disburse Fund—Meeting of Committee to be Held on Thursday—Chairman Asks that Reports be Made of Cases Needing Help.

The annual mass meeting of Sunday schools and citizens of Sumter to take a Christmas offering in order that the poor of the city may be provided with Christmas cheer was held at Trinity Methodist church Sunday afternoon and the building was crowded to capacity. The address was made by the Rev. Dr. J. A. Brunson of Grace Baptist church and the offering was the largest which has ever been taken, amounting in all to nearly \$600. This amount will probably be much increased by additional subscriptions during the week.

The same committee to disburse the fund was appointed as served last year. This committee consists of Messrs. Bartow Walsh, chairman; W. F. Shaw, B. C. Wallace, A. M. Broughton, treasurer; S. F. Stoudenmire, secretary and Miss Antonio Gibson. In addition to this central committee, the following were appointed from the various churches of the city to assist in the distribution of the fund: Presbyterian church, Mrs. H. M. Stuckey and Mrs. Fred Gregg; Trinity Methodist, Mrs. H. L. Birchard, Miss Hattie Phillips; First Baptist Church, Mrs. L. N. Ligon and Mrs. T. E. White; Lutheran church, Miss Leslie Muller and Mrs. A. B. Bobbitt; Episcopal church, Mrs. J. R. Sumter and Mrs. L. W. Jenkins; Salem Baptist Church, Mrs. Lily Raffield and Mrs. Jno. Jennings; St. Anne's Catholic church, Mrs. E. H. Meese and Miss Annie Tricher; Christian church, Mrs. Butler and Miss Margaret Waggoner; Grace Baptist Church, Miss Martha Osteen and Mrs. J. N. Hill. The representatives of the Jewish Synagogue have not yet been named.

This committee will meet at the Y. M. C. A. on Thursday morning at 11 o'clock to arrange for the placing and delivery of the Christmas gifts which will be secured for those in need. In the meantime any persons who have gifts to donate are requested to give them to some member of this committee.

Mr. Bartow Walsh, as chairman of the central committee, presided at the meeting yesterday in the absence of Mr. Field. The address of the evening was made by Dr. John A. Brunson of Grace Baptist church. Dr. Brunson in eloquent and forceful language pictured the beauty of having the right Christmas spirit and urged upon his hearers to give with a love in their hearts of the joy that they might bring to others with their gifts.

Mr. P. G. Bowman told of the inception of the Christmas mass meeting and the giving of good things to the poor, a plan which was inaugurated many years ago and which has been kept up ever since, and the work has grown, as the city has increased in size and the collections have become greater.

There was some discussion during the meeting of whether the Christmas fund should become an auxiliary of the Charity League, but this idea was voted down and it was decided to have ladies of the Charity League on the disbursing committee. These ladies are:

- Mesdames Ferd Levi, Jos. Chandler, S. W. Stubbs, Pitts, Jno. Green, C. P. Ekum, Henry Witherspoon, W. J. McKay, T. S. Joye, H. G. Osteen, T. V. Walsh, I. A. Ryttenberg.
- The subscriptions received Sunday afternoon in the general collection were as follows:
- Salem Ave. Baptist Sunday School \$5.00
- Baraca Class Grace Baptist Church 5.00
- Sunday School, Christian Ch. Mrs. T. B. Jenkins 25.00
- Young People's Christian Endeavor, Presbyterian Ch. Sunday school, Congregation Sinai 5.00
- Sunday School St. Anne's Catholic Church 12.02
- O'Donnell & Co. 25.00
- A. C. Phelps 10.00
- Men's Organized Bible Class, Presbyterian Church 10.00
- Knights of Pythias 10.00
- B. Y. P. U. First Baptist Ch. Junior Baraca Class, First Baptist Church 5.00
- McCollum Bros. 10.00
- G. E. McWhirter 1.00
- Wesley Bible Class, Broad St. Methodist Church 5.00
- Rev. R. S. Truesdale 2.00
- Mrs. L. Atkinson 1.00
- McLeod-Wesley Bible Class, Trinity Methodist Ch. 10.00
- W. H. Shelley & Son 5.00
- W. F. Spann 3.00
- Sumter Shrine Club 10.00
- C. M. Wilson and Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas 11.00
- Rev. W. E. Thayer 5.00
- Little Colonel Club 5.00

- Masonic Lodge 10.00
- Philathea Class, First Baptist Church 5.00
- Philathea Class, Grace Baptist Church 3.00
- T. S. Joye 1.00
- H. J. McLaurin, Jr. 5.00
- W. W. Howland 2.00
- E. W. McCallum 2.00
- Interest from Toumey Fund 240.00
- Plate collection 132.54
- Total \$597.06

BRAND-ADAMS MARRIAGE.

First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington Scene of Pretty Wedding—Of Interest to Sumter People.

The following from the Wilmington, N. C., Star will be of interest to many Sumter people who are acquainted with Miss Brand.

The leading social event of the week in Wilmington was the marriage yesterday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock in the First Presbyterian church of Miss Etta Sloan Brand, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Alfred Brand, and Mr. Lawrence Augustus Adams, of Greenville, S. C., the ceremony being performed by the pastor of the church, Rev. J. M. Wells, D. D.

The large church auditorium was filled with friends of the family. Immediately after the wedding a reception was given at the home of the bride's parents, No. 313 Chestnut street, which was attended by about 200 guests.

The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion, the color scheme being pink and white. The pulpit was banked with Southern smilax and ferns, while fall flowers were tastefully arranged and the glow of numerous candles formed a background for the lovely scene.

A prelude of musical selections was played by Mr. E. H. Munson, organist of the church, and as the bridal party entered the "Bridal Chorus" from Lohengrin was rendered.

Mrs. Henry Carrier, of Brévard, and Mrs. Lucy Williams, of Maxton, were the matrons of honor, and Misses Bessie Albright and Margaret Corbett were the bridesmaids. All of the attendants were daintily gowned in pink satin and tulle and wore pink and silver hats. They carried white enamel baskets with long handles which were filled with pink roses.

Little Miss Em West Green, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Green, was the flower girl. She wore a dress of white batiste trimmed in embroidered lace and pink ribbons and carried a basket of pink rose buds and ferns.

The bride, who entered the church with her father, was dressed in a beautiful creation of Duchess lace, tulle and satin, court train, with her veil caught by orange blossoms and carried a shower bouquet of orchids and lilies of the valley.

Mr. Erwin Moran, of Durham, was the best man and the groomsmen were Mr. James M. Baker, Jr., of Washington, D. C.; Mr. Mial McRae of Rockingham; Mr. Robert Farish, Jr., of Columbus, Ga., and Messrs. Willie M. Parsley, George W. Kidder and Champion McD. Davis, of Wilmington.

The reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents on Chestnut street immediately after leaving the church. The home was artistically decorated in the same color scheme of pink and white as at the church. As the guests arrived they were greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Thos. H. Wright and shown to the receiving line in the living room which was composed of the bride and groom, Mrs. R. B. Adams, mother of the groom, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Brand, parents of the bride, and the members of the bridal party.

Delicious refreshments were served in the dining room by Mrs. T. M. Green, Mrs. Tom Wood and Misses Jennie Gilchrist, Janet Menzies, Isabel Williams and Atha Hicks.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams left on the 6:45 train in the private car of the bride's father, who is fourth vice president of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad, for a bridal trip to Northern cities and after December 15th will be at home to their friends in Greenville, S. C., where the groom is a prominent young cotton broker.

Mrs. Adams is a woman of charming personality and has a wide circle of friends throughout the State. She was educated at the College for Women in Columbia, S. C. She has endeared herself to a host of friends in this city and it is with regret that they part with her.

MCGOWAN SAVES CASH.

Paymaster General Feeds Navy at Small Cost.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Despite enormous increases in the price of provisions Paymaster General McGowan's annual report today shows that the cost of subsistence in the navy during the past two years has been lower than it was before the European war. The daily cost of rations per man was half a cent lower than for the 1913-14 period when it was a fraction over 36 cents.

OFFICERS ELECTED BY U. D. C.

Miss Armida Moses Again Heads Dick Anderson Chapter—Recommendations.

Dick Anderson chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, held its annual meeting Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. W. L. Brunson. The banner presented to the chapter for increasing its membership at the recent division convention was displayed. An account of this convention was given by Mrs. Sidney W. Stubbs who had been one of the delegates. The annual reports of officers showed the chapter to be in a good active condition. The president's recommendations were adopted to give ten prizes to county schools for best celebrations of Lee's birthday, January 19; to continue the chapter scholarship and library collection; to increase the membership of the chapter to 100; to write up any reminiscences the veterans might give to the members. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Miss Armida Moses; vice president, Mrs. W. L. Brunson; secretary, Mrs. C. L. Tisdale; treasurer, Miss Minnie Moses; registrar, Mrs. M. H. Flaum; historian, Mrs. S. W. Stubbs. The names of 12 members were presented and elected into membership. Mrs. H. R. VanDeventer invited the chapter to hold its January meeting with her. At the close of the meeting refreshments were handed by Misses Lucille Brunson and Carolyn Dick.

GOV. MANNING ARRAIGNED.

Columbia, Dec. 10.—A scathing arraignment of Gov. Manning's official act in calling out the militia in the strike situation at the Equinox and the Gluck mills, Anderson county, was made here last night in an address by John Golden, of New York, general president of the United Textile Workers of America, before several hundred mill operatives. Speeches by Mrs. Sara A. Conboy, international secretary and treasurer of the same organization, and by James H. Hammond, member of the house of representatives from Richland county, also were made.

John Golden left for his headquarters in New York this afternoon. He was registered at the Jefferson Hotel while in this city. Mrs. Conboy, who also stopped at the same hotel, left the city this afternoon. While here the labor union officials were the recipients of many congratulations from the leaders of the various crafts' unions.

Toledo, Dec. 11.—Four firemen were killed and a loss of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars was sustained today in a fire sweeping the "wholesale row." A fifth fireman is missing.

BE OPTIMISTIC.

Here's Good News for Sumter Residents.

Have you a pain in the small of the back?

Headaches, dizziness, nervous spells?

Are you languid, irritable and weak?

Annoyed by urinary disorders?

Don't despair—profit by Sumter experiences.

Sumter people know Doan's Kidney Pills—have used them—recommend them.

Here's a Sumter resident's statement:

Mrs. J. A. Epperson, 14 Levi St., Sumter, says: "My back ached and I suffered from pains through my loins. Mornings I was sore and lame and Ired easily. My head ached and I was very dizzy. My ankles became swollen and I had other signs of kidney trouble. Reading about Doan's Kidney Pills I got some at Sibert's Drug Store. They relieved all signs of the trouble."

Price 50c., at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Epperson had. Foster-McBurrin Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.—Adv't (28)

For Best Results Ship your Long Staple Cotton TO WHALEY & RIVERS, Charleston, S. C. Original promoters of staple cotton in the Southeast.

Geo. H. Hurst, Undertaker and Embalmer. Prompt Attention to Day or Night Calls. At 1. 5. Craig Old Stand, N. Main. Phone Day 500 Night 201

A

CHRISTMAS SALE OF COAT SUITS

We have only a few left. Values up to \$35.00

Take your choice while they last at \$17.50

We also have a nice assortment of Skirts, Dresses and Sport Coats at very attractive prices.

THE O'DONNELL DRY GOODS CO.

MEETING BUSINESS DEMANDS.

The trend of modern business necessitates a banking connection which affords safety, promptness, accuracy and individualized service.

By reason of established responsibility, up-to-date equipment and modern methods, and a thoroughly experienced organization, The National Bank of Sumter is able to guarantee the fullest measure of satisfactory banking service.

We specialize in business accounts.

The National Bank of Sumter, SUMTER, S. C.

ON THE BUSIEST CORNER IN TOWN

Lumber, Lime, Cement,

BUILDING MATERIAL GENERALLY AND FEED OF ALL KINDS.

BOOTH & McLEOD,

Successors to Booth, Shuler Lumber & Supply Co. Geo. Epperson's Old Stand Opp. Court House EVERYTHING AT ONE PLACE.