

OUR 8TH CAR OF 26 MULES

WILL ARRIVE
SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 3rd, 1917.

Come in and see them. You will find them the best Mules we have shipped this season.

REMEMBER FEBRUARY 3RD.

Just Received: A car of Hackney Steel Standard Wagons. None better at any price. Ask your neighbor who owns one.

Complete Line of Hackney and Rowland-Sumter Buggies, Harness and Accessories.

Booth-Boyle Live Stock Company, 102-4-6, E. Liberty St.



The Watchman and Southern.

General of the Postoffice at Sumter, S. C., as Second Class Matter.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. R. M. Aman, of Heriot, was a visitor to the city today.
Miss Mary Lemmon has returned from Winthrop college, where she has, with other home demonstration agents of South Carolina, been taking a course given for the agents.
Mr. C. A. McFadden, district demonstration agent for eastern South Carolina, was in the city today.
Mr. T. H. Dick of Columbia spent the day in the city.
Mr. Eugene McCutchen of Mt. Zion was a visitor in Sumter today.
Messrs. C. W. and T. O. Sanders of Hagood were in town today.
Mr. Wilton Shaw of Lee county spent Wednesday in the city.
Mrs. J. R. Copeland has gone to Timmonsville to visit relatives.

...relieves
...in South Carolina.

Editor Daily Item:
We beg to hand you herewith clipping from a circular letter received today from one of our New York correspondents, which we feel will be read not only with interest but with considerable pride by your many readers.

It shows that the outside world has its eye on old South Carolina and recognizes the progressive spirit of its people.
Yours very truly,
Harby & Co. Inc.
A. C. Phelps, Vice Pres. & Mgr.

"South Carolina—This State has enjoyed wonderful prosperity. It is one of the greatest mill centers in the world. Its cotton is in demand locally for consumptive purposes and the money obtained due to high prices this year benefits the State, and the counties in which it is produced. The intelligence of its farmers, greater use of fertilizers, the good class of negro farmers who understand the higher forms of planting, therefore, enables South Carolina to diversify its farming with less expense than almost any other State. We therefore look for an increase in the cotton acreage in South Carolina, an increase in the use of fertilizers and an increase in the intelligence of cultivation and for these reasons great prosperity in the Palmetto State."

Break your Cold or LaGrippe with a few doses of 666.—Adv.

SOY BEAN SEED.

Seed Will be Furnished by Cotton Seed Crushers' Association for This Year's Crop.
The Cotton Seed Crushers' association offered at the recent meeting of the State Live Stock Association to furnish soy bean seed to farmers for this year's crop for the consideration of the return of an equal amount of seed this fall. This offer is made for the purpose of inducing as many farmers as possible to grow this valuable crop and to introduce it as a money crop throughout the State. Soy beans are a valuable food for live stock and are also extensively used as a substitute for cotton seed as an oil producer. The cotton seed oil mills are looking to peanuts and soy beans to take the place of cotton seed when the production of cotton is largely reduced by the advent of the boll weevil in this section. Farmers who are interested in the offer of the Cotton Seed Crushers' Association to furnish soy bean seed can obtain full information by applying to the manager of the nearest oil mill.

URGES STARCH FACTORY.

W. W. LONG SAYS THAT FARMERS CAN MAKE MONEY RAISING POTATOES FOR MARKET.

Establishment of Factory Will Cost \$25,000 and Profit of \$250 a Day Can be Made by Manufacture of Starch—Expert Chemist Tells of Cost of Factory and its Operation—Committee Appointed to Investigate and Report Back.

There was a representative body of the business men of Sumter in the Chamber of Commerce rooms last night to hear Dr. W. W. Long urge upon the business men of Sumter the erection of a starch factory here in preparation of the coming of the cotton boll weevil. Mr. B. Remmers, chemist, consulting engineer and inventor of Philadelphia, told of the cost of erecting a starch factory and its operation and how it was practically certain to make a big profit for those who established it.

The plan proposed by Dr. Long, who, as head of the farm demonstration work in South Carolina, stated that he came chiefly in the interest of the farmer, but that he was not opposed to showing the business men a good thing, if it would aid the farmers, and he would not advise anybody going into this industry, if he did not believe it a profitable investment. At the conclusion of the talks by Dr. Long and Mr. Remmers, a committee consisting of Messrs. R. B. Belser, L. D. Jennings, Neill O'Donnell, A. C. Phelps, and J. Frank Williams, was appointed to investigate more fully cost and operation of the factory, to report back to the Chamber of Commerce at another meeting. Upon motion of Mayor Jennings, a vote of thanks was tendered Dr. Long and Mr. Remmers for giving this body an opportunity to consider the matter.

This meeting was one of several to be held in different parts of the State upon call of Dr. Long to consider the question of the erection of a starch factory. One has been held in Columbia, and others will be held in Greenwood, Darlington, Georgetown and other places. The meeting was presided over by President R. B. Belser of the Chamber of Commerce and Mr. J. Frank Williams acted as secretary.

Mr. Long, in stating the object of his visit, said that he came in the interest of the farmers, but he would not advise anything he did not think was a good plan. He brought with him, he stated, the best authority on the subject, and the business men might make up their minds, after hearing what he had to say. Dr. Long then reminded his audience that a radical revolution was going to take place in the near future, and he asked the business men to render their assistance in making the change as gradual as possible, as the farmer could not stand alone. He said that, all of the efforts of the farmers in the past to solve the marketing problems had been failures, except in a few isolated cases. The solving of marketing problems was a proposition which the business man should deal with. He stated that the basis of prosperity, the farms, had been overlooked in the past by commercial organizations, which had been chiefly interested in bringing in new industries, and government had not progressed, as it should, because production had been stressed and no provision made for marketing. All of the old farm societies had urged diversification of farm products, but this had not been done, because there were no markets. He then told of the importance of the sweet potato as a crop, but said very little was gotten out of it in the way of money, because it was only raised for table consumption. He

told of what Clemson College had done in showing that starch, which would be acceptable to the mills, could be manufactured from sweet potatoes. He said that Col. Harding had spent the latter years of his life working on the problem.

In telling of the cost of establishing a starch factory, he said the machinery would cost \$18,000 and the building would cost \$3,000 or \$4,000 more, without the cost of the site. A plant of this size will manufacture 4,000 bushels of potatoes in twenty-four hours, producing 48,000 pounds of starch at 3 cents per pound, a very conservative estimate. This starch could easily be disposed of to the cotton factories in this and adjacent States. He estimated the cost of an acre of potatoes at \$20 to \$25 and the production at 200 bushels. These could be sold to the factory at forty cents a bushel, which would give a gain of \$55 an acre for the crop. All of Dr. Long's estimates were very conservative. It is probable that the percentage of yield would be larger and the profit on the crop therefore larger than he stated.

Mr. Remmers in his remarks stated that potato starch was worth one to one and a-half cents a pound more than corn starch. He said that Clemson College had merely put up a small plant to see if the mills wanted to use the starch, and it was found that they preferred the potato starch, because it penetrates the warp of the cloth better and gives more weight. However Mr. Remmers said that he did not think that it would pay unless a larger factory than that at Clemson was established to manufacture the starch for commercial purposes, carrying out the idea advanced by Clemson College, which had been shown to be profitable. He referred to a previous visit through this country, when he had endeavored to have a starch factory established, but unsuccessfully.

He said he had made cassava starch in Florida but because the plant could not be grown successfully, the plant could not succeed. He knew that potatoes could be grown here in sufficient quantities to support the starch factory and he thought that the sweet potato starch would soon command a higher price. He stated that a certain kind of sweet potato, the name had escaped his memory, was the best, as it contained more starch than any other kind and was more productive. He said the average per cent. of starch in sweet potatoes was about 22 per cent., but went as high as 27 per cent. sometimes. In his estimates he had taken 20 as an average per cent. He said that in making starch the industry should be developed as the beet sugar industry had been.

He said that the factory should have forty-horse power engine and a large quantity of water was necessary, about 250,000 gallons daily. From the 4,000 bushels of potatoes manufactured eight tons of refuse could be converted into and sold as cattle feed. These by-products would be valued at \$15 to \$20 a ton and could be placed in silos. When the farmers brought their potatoes, they could haul off the by-products. He advised against an installation of smaller machinery than he had stated, as it would cost practically as much and the consumption would not be nearly so great.

In showing that this is a good time to establish such a factory, Mr. Remmers stated that much starch had been imported into this country from Germany before the war. Now and after the war Germany would largely confine its efforts to raising rye and it would consume practically all of the starch itself which it manufactured.

After a general discussion of the matter, in which many questions were asked Dr. Long and Dr. Remmers, it was decided to investigate the mat-

ter further before decision was taken as to the establishment of the starch factory.

FIRE VISITS WAREHOUSE.

Building and Goods of Geo. D. Shore & Bro. Badly Damaged Monday Night.

A fire which for a while bid fair to do a great deal of damage visited the Geo. D. Shore & Bro. warehouse Monday night, damaging the building and a large part of the stock of goods in the building. The loss entailed by fire and water was estimated today by Mr. W. G. Moses, president and manager of the company, at between \$7,000 and \$8,000, with the building and stock insured for \$15,000.

The fire caught seemingly somewhere near the office, as this was the place most damage was done. The cause of the fire has not been ascertained. The office was practically gutted by the fire of all of its contents which could be burned. It is thought that the fire must have caught somewhere near 8 o'clock, although it was discovered some time later. There was considerable delay in getting the alarm sent in and the fire had a good start by the time the fire department arrived. At this time a large part of the interior woodwork of the building was ablaze, the breaking of the skylight having provided air vents, and the heat was intense. Fortunately one of the firemen was employed by the company and was among the first to reach the scene. He had a key and opened the door to the building without delay, thus expediting the work of the department.

After a long and hard fight, the fire was extinguished. Nearly all of the woodwork in the front part of the building was charred and the goods were all smoked to a more or less extent, besides being wet. Today the office of the company had been moved to another part of the building and business was going on as well as possible under the circumstances.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR COUNTY.

Proportionate Number of Deaths Greater in Town Than in County.

The vital statistics for 1916 show that in the city of Sumter the proportion of deaths to births is greater than in the county outside of the town. The report shows:

Sumter, city, births 256; deaths 254; Sumter township, outside of incorporate limits, births 193, deaths 119; Concord, births 127, deaths 69; Shiloh, births 132, deaths 31; Stateburg, births 128, deaths 64; Privateer, births 150, deaths 72; Rafting Creek, births 142, deaths 64; Middleton, births 91, deaths 50; Mayesville, births 146, deaths 53. Manchester township has not been reported.

In the city of Sumter the report shows: Births, white, 139; colored, 117; deaths, white, 85; colored, 159; still births, white, 9; colored, 19; deaths, non-residents, 22. If the non-resident deaths are subtracted from the total number of deaths, it shows 232 deaths for the city. It is also noticeable that while the proportions of deaths and births among the whites is just about proportionate with reports from outside of the city, the great majority of deaths over births among the negroes of the city is the cause for the disproportionate record of the town and township.

Death.

Mrs. J. C. Scott, formerly of Wisacky, died at Mt. Pleasant, yesterday. The funeral services will be held at Mt. Zion church, Lee county, at 11 o'clock tomorrow, Thursday morning.

Licenses to marry have been issued to two colored couples: James Bradley and Bertha James, Sumter; and William Dolson and Louisa Capers, Sumter.

ATLANTIC TRAFFIC BLOCKED.

OFFICERS OF MERCHANT MARINE DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO.

Allied Shipping Out of New York Will Sall as Usual—Some Neutral Lines Cancel Sailings of Ships—American Liner St. Louis Will Sall Saturday.

New York, Feb. 1.—After being closed last night by fleet destroyers and coast guard cutters, the port of New York was opened today by the customs authorities. It was announced that ships might sail at their own risk.

While the offices of British and French lines said there would be no interruption in the sailing of allied shipping, some neutral lines seemed doubtful as to their future course.

Officers of the Scandinavian-American line announced that the sailing of the liner Helig Olav, scheduled to leave this afternoon with three hundred passengers for Copenhagen, had been postponed indefinitely.

P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine, said


there was no danger for American vessels on their present voyages. It is understood, however, that the movement of allied ships will be controlled to a greater extent than heretofore by British admiralty orders.

Police guards on the German piers last night found no evidence of any German liner preparing to escape.

It was announced that the American steamer St. Louis would sail Saturday, as scheduled, and that the ship will not be painted in conformity with the regulations prescribed by Germany for the safety of American ships.

New York, Feb. 1.—Cotton futures were utterly demoralized at the opening of the exchange this morning. March contracts broke more than twenty-five dollars a bale. May fell five hundred and sixteen points. It was the biggest break in cotton futures in the history of cotton. The market later rallied to fourteen cents a pound.

May cotton later rallied to 17 and finally on strong trade interest buying it went above 1



The National Bank of South Carolina

\$1,138,000.00 LEADERS

Our steady growth tells the story—New accounts each day—The largest bank in this section of the State.

Safety first. Preparedness all the time. Your patronage we want.

C. G. ROWLAND, Pres. H. L. McCJY, Cashier.

THIS BANK

Gives a dollar's worth of real service for every dollar deposited here.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SUMTER.

The Oldest Banking Institution in the County

Gasparilla Carnival

TAMPA, FLA.

Round Trip Fare From SUMTER \$17.40

For this occasion which will be filled with fun and frolic, and lasting from February 2nd to 10th, tickets will be sold to Tampa and return as shown above by

ATLANTIC COAST LINE

The Standard Railroad of The South

JANUARY 31st to FEBRUARY 5th Inclusive.

Limited returning until midnight of February 20th, but may be extended to March 3rd by depositing with City Ticket Agent at Tampa, under prescribed rules, and upon payment of \$1.00.

Proportionate fares from intermediate stations. Children half fare.

LIBERAL STOP-OVER PRIVILEGES

For further particulars, schedules, sleeping car reservation, etc., call on

O. V. PLAYER,
Ticket Agent, Sumter, S. C.