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Advertisements.
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 Contracts for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates.
 All communications which subscribe private interests will be charged for as advertisements.
 Obituaries and tributes of respect will be charged for.
 The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1859 and the True Southern in 1866. The Watchman and Southern now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

Washington, March 9.—Generally fair weather is indicated for the South Atlantic States for the week beginning Sunday. More seasonable temperatures will continue the greater portion of the week.

AMERICAN PLANT PATHOLOGISTS ORGANIZE.

To Assist in Control of Plant Diseases

State College, Penn. March 9.—To prevent an annual loss estimated at 124,586,000 bushels of wheat, oats, barley and rye, and "tremendous losses" in other staple crops, specialists on agriculture have organized a War Emergency Board of American Plant Pathologists. This board has inaugurated a nation-wide campaign to increase food production through control of destructive plant diseases during the coming growing season.

Because the consumer pays for every rotted and scabby potato and every smutted grain of wheat or oats the farmer grows, without having them as food, hundreds of trained workers intended to carry the campaign into all the States. Teachers, research workers and students are being enlisted in the service which will show the farmers how to increase their yields of disease-free crops.

These preventable diseases will be attacked vigorously as the first step of a comprehensive program to prevent food waste. Further efforts to save food are to be made by teaching methods of eliminating losses in transportation, storage and in households.

The War Emergency Board, of which Dr. F. D. Kern, plant pathologist at the Pennsylvania State College, is a member, expects to give direct aid to growers as to the availability and prices of spray materials. Assistance will be given to the plant disease survey undertaken by the federal department of agriculture, in cooperation with the State colleges of agriculture and other agencies.

Plans and projects for the campaign were considered at a special meeting of the board in Washington this month. The country was divided into six sections, each in charge of a commissioner selected by the board.

A concrete example of how the scientists will attempt to increase Uncle Sam's food output is given in the statement that there is an annual loss of from four to five bushels of wheat and grain every year from every acre growing those crops. This loss is attributed to grain smut, a disease which the board says is entirely preventable by an application of a common disinfectant, costing only a few cents, to the seed before it is planted. Spreading information of this nature and of similar character for other crops on other preventable diseases is to be one of the chief activities of the board.

The board is making a complete survey of the workers who are qualified and willing to assist in the battle against plant diseases. To this end the board is taking a nation-wide census of plant disease specialists who will be enlisted.

Work has been started on the gathering of accurate information on losses in staple crops due to diseases. Teachers of botany and plant pathology are being urged to give special attention to the training of students along the line of fighting plant diseases. Many workers are needed to take up work already planned by State and federal agencies.

Seven men, all pathologists at agricultural colleges, constitute the War Emergency Board. They are:

- H. H. Whetzel, chairman, New York State College of Agriculture;
- P. Bars, Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon;
- E. C. Stakman, Agricultural College, St. Paul, Minn.;
- G. H. Coons, Agricultural College, East Lansing, Mich.;
- F. D. Kern, State College, Pa.;
- H. W. Barre, Clemson College, S. C.;
- and G. R. Lyman, Department of Agriculture, Washington.

"War Cook Books."
 Mr. William Elliott, food administrator for South Carolina has a supply of "war cook books." Any lady wishing a copy can get one by requesting it of his office in Columbia.

Home Demonstration Work

ANNIE KEELS, Demonstrator
ALICE MARTIN, Assistant

Bethel Home Demonstration Club.

On Wednesday afternoon, March 6th, the regular monthly meeting of the Bethel Home Demonstration Club was held at Bethel school house.

Our new demonstration agents, Misses Keels and Martin, met with us for the first time and much interest and enthusiasm was shown in the plans for our spring and summer meetings.

A letter was read from Miss Christine South enlisting the aid of the club in wool conservation.

The subject of Miss Keels' lecture was "Garden Hints" and proved both practical and instructive. Miss Martin spoke on poultry, giving timely suggestions for that work that were interesting and helpful. All of the ladies present were much interested in the demonstration of preserving eggs in water glass, which in view of the scarcity and high price of eggs during the past winter seemed particularly valuable. A program committee composed of Misses Martin, Jones, Pitts and Pugh was appointed by the president and after a discussion of plans for the County Fair the meeting was adjourned.

Mrs. R. B. Furman, Secretary Bethel Home Demonstration Club.

LIEUT. MONTGOMERY DEAD.

Spartanburg Man Killed in Airplane Accident in France.

Spartanburg, March 9.—A cablegram received tonight announced the death by accident today of Lieut. Frank Gibbs Montgomery, of the American aviation corps, son of Walter S. Montgomery, president of the Spartan mills in this city. The message dated Hythe, England, and signed by Lieut. Morrison, said: "Frank killed in airplane accident today. Acted hero's part to the very end. Death instantaneous."

A second message said: "Funeral with full military honors at 11 o'clock today."

Lieut. Montgomery received his commission after completing his course of training near Columbus, O., and was ordered to France last fall. He was 24 years of age, a graduate of local schools and of Yale University. He had just finished his college course and returned to Spartanburg to be associated with his father in manufacturing when the war came on and he decided to enter the aviation branch of the service. He is survived by his parents, two brothers and two sisters. His uncles are V. M. Montgomery, president of the Paolet Manufacturing Company, and Ben W. Montgomery, president of Drayton mills. The family has a wide connection throughout the State. He is the first Spartanburg boy to fall in the war with Germany since the United States has been in the conflict.

SUMTER COTTON MARKET.

P. G. BOWMAN, Cotton Buyer.
 Corrected daily at 12 o'clock Noon.
 Good Middling 32 1-2.
 Strict Middling 32 1-4.
 Middling 32.
 Strict Low Middling 31 1-4.

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET.

	Open	High	Low	Close	Yester
Mar.	32.00	32.33	31.97	32.33	31.87
May	31.47	31.75	31.37	31.73	31.33
July	30.95	31.20	30.88	31.18	30.88
Oct.	29.80	29.64	29.99	29.92	29.67
Dec.	29.55	29.79	29.51	29.74	29.46

One American Dispersed Forty of Enemy.

With American Army in France
Thursday, March 7.—A lone American sentry this morning attacked an enemy patrol of about forty men, some of whom had entered the American advanced trench. He drove them off, killing the under officer leader, and wounding others. First reports of the encounter were that another raid had taken place, but investigation showed that one American had started what there was of an offensive.

Illicit Still Captured.

An illicit whiskey still was raided near Tindal Thursday afternoon by Rural Policemen Newman and Boykin and the operator, John Smiling, was arrested. Smiling was running the still in his house and the indication were that he had been in the business for sometime. The policemen found ten gallons of whiskey and twenty gallons of mash on the premises, but Smiling succeeded in spilling the whiskey after his arrest. He was brought to town and committed to jail, but was later released on bond.

FELL ON STONY GROUND.

Speech that Cost John L. McLaurin Seat in United States Senate.

One of the most striking thoughts in the last letter of Senator Banks is a reference to McLaurin's stand on ship subsidies. In November, 1902, Senator McLaurin delivered an address to the Southern Cotton Spinners association in Atlanta, Ga., and in it not only called attention to our lack of ships, but to what Germany was doing in this respect.

"Great Britain is spending two million a year in mail subsidies in excess of her receipts. France, Japan and Germany are spending millions each year and together they have driven the American merchant flag from the high seas. There are millions of American money invested in ships that run under the German and English flag, because this government is blind to the importance of ships. Remember that being under a foreign flag in case of war, these ships built with American money will be used against us.

"This will strike the south a terrible blow when war does come, because our only money crop is cotton, and it is an export crop. These merchant ships become warships in time of war, and cannot be built here after war comes. Look at Germany. Her Kaiser is one of the ablest living men. All of his powers are bent to the promotion of German interests, and the extension of German commerce, the employment of German labor and markets for German products 'Made in Germany' is becoming a trade slogan the world over.

"He is doing it by government subsidies to ships and railroads, in Asia and South America and Africa. He is building up German shipyards and the subsidies are on the condition that the ships are built by German labor in German yards. Both exports and imports passing over German railways, leave a part of the freight remitted to the ship delivering same to increase its earning. In addition to this he has inaugurated a system of preferential rates to the German manufacturer from the railroad for goods exported into the competitive market of the world.

"This is really a bounty which enables the German manufacturer to undersell his English competitor in China or South America.

"I want to see the American built ship, with its American crew under Old Glory, put in a position where it can carry American goods and sell them in competition with any country.

"Until very recently commerce was not deemed a proper subject for governmental consideration. There is no direct department of commerce in any government except that of Germany. The moving considerations prompting the settlement of the Chinese trouble were commercial. The time will come when the best minds of every country will be called upon to adjust the complicated questions of foreign trade and the consular officers at the leading ports of commerce will equal in importance the diplomatic ambassadors."

In connection with the extension of the south's foreign trade, Senator McLaurin advocated an American merchant marine.

"Our weakness upon the sea is the one great danger that confronts the nation," said the senator. "If ships could be built in the United States as cheaply as they are under other flags, it would be unnecessary for our government to do more than to offset the subsidies, bounties, naval reserves, retainers, and other methods by which foreign governments attract capital into merchant ships built and managed by their own people.

"We must not imagine that American capital is dependent upon national legislation in order to make ship owning pay. We have ample evidence of large American investments in foreign-built ships manned and operated by foreigners in our foreign trade. However much our people may have invested in foreign ships, they are unavailable under national law when at war as naval auxiliaries.

"Another thing we should remember. These very ships and the men employed on board them may be turned against the United States in the event of our becoming involved in war with the nation whose flag they fly.

"The object of extending government aid to the upbuilding of our merchant marine is to secure adequate protection for the nation upon the sea, and the mere fact that the investment has been made attractive to American capital is an incident of the transaction.

"We do not want to see the Isthmian canal become merely a foreign highway of commerce," said the senator. "We do not want our millions expended merely to become a bounty to foreign shipping. It should be an American highway, and we should develop our mercantile marine with the opening of this great canal our own flag shall predominate at the masthead of a majority of the ships that it accommodates.

"The south will be the immediate

THE SPRING DRIVE IS ON!

South Carolina's Great Thrift Army Will Go Over the Top

America's great thrift army has begun its Spring Drive. The South Carolina division of savers is going "Over the top" with the rest of the country. The United States Treasury has already received sixty-five million dollars from the sale of these little thrift stamps. Sales are now running about two million dollars per day.

This is equal to the entire cost of running the Government ten years. It is double the receipts of the Postoffice Department or of the Customs Service before the war.

It is more than double the highest rate of growth ever reached by the savings banks in this country.

The money now coming in from War Savings Stamps every day would pay for 10,000 tons of shipping. At this rate it would provide in a year for three million tons or more than half the program of the Shipping Board.

This money is not given to the Government; it is merely a loan from the people which will be repaid with interest.

Every time you buy a War Savings Stamp you lay up money for yourself, you provide the Government with money to win the war and best of all you release materials and services which alone can make possible the supply of necessities to the boys at the front.

The War Savings Campaign has just begun. It is already doing so much, think what it will do when we really get behind it the way we will when we appreciate its importance.

BUY MORE WAR SAVINGS AND THRIFT STAMPS—THEY WILL WIN THE WAR.

beneficiary of that waterway when it is constructed."

In conclusion, Senator McLaurin said: "What we need in this country today is a non-sectional patriotism and statesmanship more devoted to the upbuilding of our country than the achievement of party success. Great national or business questions involving the glory of our public and the prosperity of our people should not be dwarfed into mere party questions."—Yorkville Enquirer.

War Savings Committee.

The War Savings Committee for Sumter County held its first meeting Friday afternoon. Many phases of war savings work was discussed. All the members of the committee agreed that it was very easy work to sell thrift stamps to people, but that to follow up the first sale was the big task, when it is considered that the whole of the county is the territory to be covered. It was recognized that the most potent factor in selling these war adjuncts was publicity; in other words, that the stamps will sell themselves when the people understand just what they are, what they stand for, and how they work.

As a publicity factor it was decided to designate March 26th as Thrift Day for Sumter county. Thrift Day committee was appointed with Mr. S. L. Roddy, Mr. E. E. Austin, and Miss Alice Martin on the committee. Various details for the day were discussed which will be given to the public as they are developed. All schools will be requested to have exercises and lectures especially bearing on thrift on that day, and every minister will be requested to discuss the topic with his congregation. Other plans also will be perfected and put into operation.

War saving societies were discussed, the committee agreeing that they were the best of, follow-ups, and that they should be formed both among children and grown-ups. It was thought that two plans should be used in forming these societies; that they should be formed as parts of societies and organizations now existing, and that they should be formed by interested individuals who would get other to band with him or her in forming a society. It was agreed to work along both lines.

A query was made as to the use of thrift stamps as trade and other prizes. It was pointed out that the administration has particularly asked that this should not be done.

Mr. R. S. Hood was appointed chairman of the agency follow-up committee with power to appoint his own committeemen. This committee will keep in touch with all the agencies, make suggestions as to the best display of their posters, as to ways of calling attention of their customers to the stamps, will see

what sales are made, and generally supervise agencies.

Mr. E. E. Austin has been appointed a director of the War Savings Committee.

Mr. W. W. McKagen has been appointed an authorized sales agent.

The canvassing committees report that they seldom fail to make a sale of stamps at the houses visited.

Food Production Program.

The war situation demands that South Carolina farmers raise enough food for all the people of the State. After arranging for ample supplies of provisions, plant maximum possible cotton acreage.

Cori.

Increase acreage 25 per cent. Keep town markets supplied. Don't carry over last year's surplus.

Gardens.

Stress Irish potatoes, beans, onions, and salad crops. Can surplus portable vegetables.

Sweet Potatoes.

Plant one-half acre per plow. Build storage house on every farm by Government plan. Secure seed at once.

Hogs.

Raise one additional hog per plow. Keep good breeding stock. Pasture and soiling crops make cheap pork. Inoculate for cholera.

Wheat.

Plant two acres per plow next fall. Oats and Rye.

Plant three acres of oats, one acre of rye per plow this fall.

Forage Crops.

Raise sorghum, velvet beans and cow pens in abundance.

Dairy Produce.

A silo for each herd of eight or more. Stock beets and rutabagas for smaller herds. Rye for winter grazing. Use best possible breeding stock and feed intelligently.

Poultry.

Increase the flock this spring. Preserve surplus eggs in water glass.

At The Sumter Dry Goods Co.

The Sumter Dry Goods Co's ready-to-wear department is a lively place these days, and several reasons for this is explained in their larger advertisement elsewhere. Read it.—Adv't.

Play at Bethel.

There will be a play, "Mr. Bob," given at Bethel school house Tuesday evening, March 12, beginning at 8 o'clock. The proceeds will go for the benefit of the school. Prices, adults 25c; children, 15c. Refreshments. The public is cordially invited.

THE READY-TO-WEAR DEPARTMENT

--- OF ---

The Sumter Dry Goods Company

Is a very attractive place to the Ladies at present. Their models in

DRESSES, TOP COATS, COAT SUITS, HOUSE DRESSES

and SEPERATE SKIRTS

are exclusive, and owing to the activity of this department, something new is almost daily to be seen.

We invite the ladies to inspect our daily display. Prices always lower than elsewhere for merchandise of quality.

The Sumter Dry Goods Co.