

The Watchman and Southern

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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1856 and the Tric 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.

The Germans are beginning to suspect that the armistice terms are life terms.

It's about time for some philanthropist to raise the cry, "pensions for saloonkeepers!"

The house has offered Speaker Champ Clark his choice of a silver coffee set, a silver tea set and a silver punch bowl, and Champ has chosen the punch bowl. What's he going to do with it?

THREE TRANSPORTATION BRANCHES.

Any thoroughly satisfactory development of transportation facilities and systems in this country must now include the railroads, the waterways and the motor trucks.

During the recent Auto Truck Show in Chicago the use of the motor truck in rural hauling was particularly discussed. Iowa has tried it out more systematically and widely than perhaps any other State of that section, and has found it very successful in cheapening the distribution of food.

Although the motor truck has been effective in relieving freight congestion on the railroads in long hauls, its chief usefulness appears to lie in the shorter hauls which are so costly when made by rail.

One test trip made in Iowa was the hauling of 3,000 pounds of eggs from a small town to Des Moines, a distance of about 33 miles. The trip took three hours and twenty minutes, and the actual cost per 100 pounds for freight and cartage was 36 cents.

This all-round development of transportation lines should be brought about as quickly and naturally as possible, with no quarrelling or jealousy among the various branches. Close harmony and co-operation among them and the fullest possible use of each will be of as great benefit to the hauling systems as to the producers and consumers who seem to need it most.

PEACE MUST BE GUARANTEED.

There are men in Washington who want the peace conference simply to "make peace with Germany, and go home." As if that would end the matter!

Peace conferences have done that very thing, many a time. The congress of Vienna did it, in winding up the Napoleonic wars. And always, soon, was blazed out again, culminating finally in the worst of all wars.

"The arrangements of the present peace cannot stand a generation," says President Wilson, "unless they are guaranteed by the united forces of the civilized world."

No intelligent man who knows human nature and who reads history with an open mind can question that statement. And how shall the peace be guaranteed? Only one plan has been suggested that offers any prospect of success. It is the League of Nations.

NATIVE IMMIGRANTS.

Regardless of what is done about the alien exclusion law, there is going to be a migratory wave dashing upon American shores before long. The migration will consist of wealthy Americans who have long sojourned abroad, and who now begin to find life back in this "crude and undeveloped" country more tolerable than they used to think it.

It isn't merely that America has now grown more "cosmopolitan," though that has something to do with the matter. The main consideration is that living abroad has got to be too expensive. It used to be that a family with European tastes and an American income could get more for its money abroad than at home.

would be at home. And so hundreds, probably thousands, of these more or less cultured folk who used to scorn and slander their native land in the aristocratic circles of London, Paris and Rome—or as near those circles as they could get—will come back and make the best of it, and spend only the "social season" abroad.

It is all right, too, so far as the rest of the nation is concerned. They are not considered particularly desirable immigrants, but they may improve after a few years' close contact with real Americans.

The funny thing about it is, that some of the men who object to a L. of N. want a small army.

Biloxi, Miss., boasts of a school teacher named Miss Legal Tender Ritch. Aw, make your own joke about it!

Somebody says that "Mexico's problems are largely financial." Maybe so; but most people think they're largely Carranza.

"Must a statesman be an ass?" asks the New York World, for the forty-eighth time. Well, it isn't obligatory, but it's the custom.

Paderewski didn't work it right in his campaign for the presidency of Poland. Instead of making speeches, he ought to have played the piano.

"Mandatory" government of backward peoples is an old story to America. It means exactly what we have done with the Filipinos, though we never gave it any such fancy name.

Patrick Henry, once on a time, orated very eloquently against the Constitution of the United States. And yet the old document that he viewed with such alarm worked pretty well.

The boys are coming back from the front with accounts of how it feels to be shot. After July first, the man who knows how it feels to be half shot will be the one to focus public attention.

Ninety-five per cent of the American expeditionary forces are users of tobacco in some form. This makes the outlook for the campaign against the weed a little dark. Those boys are good fighters.

The answer to war debts is thrift. The French, with only about one-third of our population and one-fifth of our wealth, have twice as big a national debt; and they'll probably get it paid as quick as we do.

Most folks hope congress won't repeal the daylight-saving law. At the same time, it's nothing to get wildly excited about. Anybody who really wants to save daylight can accumulate a good deal of it without any help from congress.

The peace conference seems to have adopted Clemenceau's conception of the "balance of power," with all the honest nations in the world weighing down one end of the balance and Germany dangling by the neck from the other end.

It is said that communities now "wet" are to be comforted after July 1 by the installation of "automat motion-picture theaters." Will a thirsty citizen drop a beer check in the slot and see a film of a bibulous citizen engulfing a tub o'suds?

HOPELESSLY IDEALISTIC.

"It seems rather silly to me to put this League of Nations business on such an idealistic basis," remarks a friend of the plan. "It seems to me such a simple, straight, commonsense proposition! We don't want to fight any more wars. We don't want to pay big taxes for armament. We don't want to have business disturbed by war flurries. We want to make a sensible business arrangement about it with other nations. We are not doing it for their benefit, either, but for our own. Why all this flub-dub about altruism, democracy, world-service, etc? It is for our own selfish interest!"

When you get down to hard fact, this is quite true. As a purely selfish business enterprise, it would pay the United States to put over an international federation with power to preserve world peace. But the trouble is, the American people are so hopelessly idealistic that they will not admit that this is true, and will not take a proper interest in the matter if it is put to them on a merely practical basis.

It was the same with the war. It was for the selfish interest of the United States to jump in and lick Germany, in order to vindicate our rights for the present and guarantee our safety for the future, and incidentally gain whatever measure of honorable profit might accrue in the process. But would the American people have risen to such a purely materialistic summons? They would not. They had to be roused by a

call to "save civilization." They worked and paid and fought for Belgium and France and the other menaced countries as they would not have done for themselves.

This idealism of the American people is a factor that all wise statesmen must reckon with. Foreign nations are just beginning to understand it. Many of our own statesmen do not yet understand it.

Anybody who wants to do anything with Americans in the mass might as well learn once for all—the way to move them is to appeal to their ideals. This is the secret of all big success in America, whether in politics or literature or drama or art or business.

It may be unfortunate, but it cannot be helped. We are so hopelessly idealistic!

PROFIT LOST IN SMOKE.

Municipalities or industries could make money by abolishing smoke according to C. W. Rice, secretary of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He says: "Present engineering knowledge shows that smoke is only particles of coal made up of carbon, and that it can be abated successfully and will pay for itself in by-products. One hundred thousand tons of fertilizer goes up in smoke from the industries of the country every year."

Incidentally there is a good deal of wear and tear on clothing in communities where the smoke nuisance still thrives in all its wasteful blackness. Sunlight is shut out, injuring vegetation. The atmosphere is polluted with harmful effect on the health of people in the vicinity. Houses and buildings look shabby and dingy all the time even when paint is frequently applied, and whole neighborhoods are rendered ugly and dismal by the unchecked outpouring of smoke from factories, railroads, buildings and homes.

To change all this—letting in sunshine and pure air, brightening up the appearance of the town with aerial cleanliness, increasing the health of the population—would be enough blessing to make smoke reduction worth while, if only citizens had energy to tackle the proposition. But there are still further benefits of a more material nature accruing from the abatement of this nuisance.

Proper combustion reduces the amount of smoke and conserves coal. Smoke reduction also yields various by-products which, authorities assure us, will fully pay the necessary expense of the process. It is a plain, common-sense business proposition, any way you look at it, and some day no truly enlightened community will permit this public nuisance and great waste of resources.

WOULD IT HAVE PREVENTED THIS WAR?

The best test of whether the present League of Nations plan would really prevent war is its application to the war just ended. If such a League had been in existence in 1914, would this war have started?

To anyone who is familiar with the war's history, and who reads the Constitution with an open mind, the question quickly answers itself.

Would Germany have gone into the war if she had postponed hostilities for the period provided in the Constitution? Hardly, because the Germans would have had time to think things over, and their war spirit would have cooled.

But the German government might have declared war immediately, as it actually did, without giving her people a chance to think it over.

Certainly! But would the Kaiser have dared do that, knowing that under the Constitution war against one member of the League would have meant war against all? Knowing that the immediate result would be a universal economic blockade strangling Germany? And knowing that the other big powers besides France and Russia would almost certainly back that economic warfare with armed power?

Everybody knows that Germany would not have started this war if she had foreseen even the British blockade, not to mention the active armed intervention of Britain, Italy and America. She was better prepared for this war than any other nation ever was. Any big war. What she would not have done in 1914 neither she nor any other nation is likely to do hereafter.

Saturday was the last day for payment of the United War Work pledges—and many still remain unpaid. The causes for which this money was solicited and for which the pledges were made are now in urgent need of funds, and all who obligated themselves to help sustain the organizations that are laboring in Europe and in this country for the welfare of our soldiers should pay their pledges without further delay.

Washington, March 1.—The house will not make any effort before adjournment to pass a resolution ending government control of wires on December 31st. Chairman Poin announced today.

HARBY & CO., Inc.

COTTON AND FERTILIZER MERCHANTS

If you have cotton to sell, see us, it will pay you.

If you have fertilizer or fertilizer materials to buy it will pay you to see us before you buy, Cash or approved collateral.

9 West Liberty Street

The Cotton Situation

Address Delivered by Prof. D. W. Watkins of Clemson College at Abbeville.

The following is the substance of an address by Acting Director of Extension, D. W. Watkins, at Abbeville, S. C., on Acreage Reduction Day, February 28:

The cotton belt has been spoken of for many years as solid agriculturally and commercially. As a result the Southern working man, white and black, labors longer for less pay than any class of labor in the United States.

The first real opportunity for the South to become commercially and agriculturally solid is hers now. The cotton holding and acreage reduction movement has covered the South and has for the first time the support not only of the farmers, but of bankers, merchants, the press and of all legitimate business interests in the South.

In Texas, I am told, there are 1,500 business men and farmers working to get pledges signed and that they are having an easy time getting the pledges signed. North Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia have already adopted similar programs and pledges are being signed by the hundreds of thousands. Between now and planting time every cotton planter in the cotton belt will be given an opportunity to notify the world that he intends to reduce his acreage.

Heretofore such movements, while they have aimed to attain a desirable end, have failed because the farmer did not receive the support of the banker and the merchant. The movement now has the support of both bankers and merchants. There are banks in South Carolina today, I am told, which are not cashing customer's checks for the reason that they have loaned so much money on cotton to enable farmers to hold it for a fair price. The bankers of the South are solid behind the movement. Merchants also realize that unless profits are realized in cotton production their business cannot prosper. We, of the South, are all in the same boat and the interests of all of us demand that cotton shall bring a price that will support the kind of civilization which we are now determined to have. The bankers and merchants are ready to go the limit in helping to establish southern commercial and agricultural independence. What is the farmer's part in such an effort?

First, every farmer must produce all the corn, oats, hay, forage, wheat, syrup, Irish and sweet potatoes, vegetables, pork, milk, butter, fruit and other products of the soil needed to properly nourish every person living on the farm for 365 days in the year. Each farmer should produce a small surplus of some of these things for the city folks within the cotton belt. This is an old and oft-repeated remedy but there is none other to take its place.

Second, put children of school age in school and keep them there. Wig work children in competition with each other in the cotton fields of the South when by taking them out of the fields and putting them in school where they should be, we realize more money from the resulting smaller crop of cotton. A small crop brings more money than a large one. The South has suffered for fifty years from an overproduction of cotton. By taking the children out of the cotton field and putting them in school we will not only educate them at no cost but will realize a profit on the transaction. At the same time we shall be wiping out the blot of illiteracy from the South. What remedies have we then for our present condition of slavery to cotton? First, education, second, a sound farming program for every farm.

Some will claim that all farmers will not unite on this and that united effort is necessary to bring about higher priced cotton. Let us suppose you do put your children in school eight or nine months in the year, cut your cotton acreage and produce a living at home, while the majority of farmers do not act with you. What is the situation at the end of the year? It is this. You will have some cheap cotton, and very few necessities to buy and your children are normal and intelligent. The other man has lost of cheap cotton, many necessities to be supplied out of cotton money, and children who have lost the golden opportunity that should have been theirs. Which do you choose?

Much propaganda is being circulated at present in the magazines and newspapers of the United States which purports to show colossal prosperity in the South. As a matter of fact the South is less prosperous than any other agricultural section of the country. A comparison of the bank deposits in the different sections is a good method of determining the relative prosperity of each section. The banks of Indiana and Ohio, two States which taken together, are so far as area is

concerned, less than one-third the size of Texas, carry more bank deposits than every bank in the cotton belt. A great injustice has been done the South by the insidious spreading of false reports of the South's prosperity. There is today a bitter feeling among many Northern and Western people against the South because they have been made to believe that we are inordinately prosperous. They have been led to attribute our prosperity to the fact that the government did not fix the price of cotton. They say that we are not patriotic because our representatives in congress urged that no price be fixed upon cotton, while they did not object to having the price fixed on wheat. The sincerity and purity of the wheat farmer's patriotism will be tested this year. The government will see that wheat farmers receive \$2.20 per bushel for all wheat harvested in 1919 in order to make good its guarantee. It is perfectly right that this should be done. The world is well supplied with wheat now, however, and there is no patriotic reason under the sun for feeding a large crop of spring wheat in addition to the 40 million acres of fall sown wheat which already promises a bumper crop. In view of the fact known to everybody that there will be no need for any spring wheat and that there is likely to be a need for corn, upon which no price is guaranteed, what will the spring farmers do. Their acreage in spring wheat will indicate the extent to which their patriotism is alloyed with a desire for profit.

The question is sometimes asked, "How can the South continue to produce cotton unless a profit is realized?" The answer is as follows:

First, the cotton producer spends less money for food, clothing, shelter and the education of his children than does any other class of farmers in America. In other words when we get into the field to produce cotton we are working for less money per day than any other class of farmers receive for a day's work. If this were not true we would not have been such a load on the rest of the country in diseases like pellagra and tuberculosis which are directly promoted by lack of nourishment and exposure, and we would not have so much illiteracy. We would not have so many Southern farm women go to insane asylums because of the monotonous grind of life on unprosperous cotton farms. Who rides to town and on Sunday to church in an automobile? Who sends his son and daughter to college? Who lives in a painted house with a big red barn in the back? Who pays cash for everything he buys and thereby saves on an average of about 20 per cent of the cost. He rises early and works until late and if fortunate realizes an occasional profit which prevents a sheriff's sale. Thousands of farmers in the South have never realized any profit on their farming operations but have been able to continue in the business because of an occasional rise in the price of land following a year or so of comparative prosperity. Such increases have occurred in keeping with the general trend of land prices in the United States and these increases have saved the South from absolute bankruptcy.

The rapid growth of farm tenancy in the South since 1850 indicates that many Southern people who were formerly in the land-owning class have been unable to hold the ownership of their lands on the remuneration received for cotton. Thousands upon thousands have been forced to give up the struggle and seek employment in the cotton mills. Negroes have been driven into public works and to industrial labor.

Cheap labor, both white and black and that poorly housed, poorly fed, poorly clothed and poorly educated has produced the most abundant and least expensive supply of clothing that the world has ever known. If Southern people desire to continue this system all they need to do is to lend every effort toward cotton production. On the other hand if we would exact a better living from the world in return for the cotton produced, what must we do? The answer is simple, sure and unchangeable. "Hold what we have, cut the acreage, and live at home."

Japan and China.

Tokio, Jan. 15 (Correspondence of the Associated Press)—Japan is not obliged to return Kiauchau to China but is willing to do so on terms that will secure the peace of the East, says the Chugwai Shogyo (Journal of Commerce). Commenting on the announcement by the Chinese peace delegates in New York that China would insist on the restitution of Kiauchau and the revision of commercial treaties with Japan, the paper says that as to the latter Japan is willing to undertake the revision of the present treaties but that such a step will have no practical value unless China takes steps to restore internal harmony and control of the bandits.

As to Japan's loans to China, the Chugwai Shogyo assured the South

China party that Japan would not hand over the balance of 20,000,000 yen loaned for China's participation in the war, the object of which the Southern Party has regarded as suspicious. Japan's railway loans, the paper said, should be excepted because the railways are urgently needed and if the loans were extended with proper care, they would not have any political significance.

One of the claims of China at the peace conference is, the return of Kiauchau which was occupied by the Germans and, as a German colony, was captured by Japan early in the war. According to semi-official Chinese sources in Peking, pressure was brought to bear by Japan to induce the Chinese government to disavow the action of its delegates at the peace conference. The Chinese president was reported to have refused to interfere with the Chinese peace delegation in Paris.

Cotton Market

LOCAL. P. G. BOWMAN, Cotton Buyer. (Corrected Daily at 12 o'clock Noon). Good middling 24. Strict middling 23 1-2. Middling 23. Low middling 21.

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET. Yes'd's Open High Low Close Clos. Mch. 21.85 22.31 21.85 22.31 22.6. May 21.05 21.32 20.99 21.32 21.15. July 20.35 20.60 20.32 20.60 20.50.

Charity League Entertainment. Mrs. D. H. Kincheloe, reader, whistler, vocalist and pianist, will appear at the Auditorium of the Girls' High School on the evening of Tuesday, March 4th, and her program will be one that delights, as she has made a favorable impression all over the United States in Chautauqua work. She is the best "one woman" entertainer on the platform today. Her coming should be the magnet for drawing a big crowd, the proceeds of which go toward charity.

Programme. Overture. Vocal Solo—Love's Garden of Roses—Wood. Reading—"The Midnight Run of the Overland"—John Gilmore. Whistling Solo—Improvement. Mrs. Kincheloe.

Piano Solo—(a) Arabesque—Debussy; (b) Persian Song—Burmester. Mrs. Stuckey.

Comedy Song—Irvin Berlin. Reading—Negro Dialect, Mr. Washington's Arrangement of Moonshine Whiskey—Trotwood. Negro Dialect—Aunt Maria's First Visit to the City—"Dat Time Money Got Lost." Mrs. Kincheloe.

Mrs. H. M. Stuckey and Miss Ethel Green, accompanists.

Barbecue at Dalzell.

There will be a barbecue and hot supper at Dalzell school house Friday night, March 7th, for the benefit of the school. The public is cordially invited.—Adv't.

Washington, March 1.—The senate judiciary committee has unanimously ordered favorably reported the nomination of A. Mitchell Palmer as attorney general, forshadowing a prompt confirmation.

PALACE BUFFET

Atop

DELOREME'S PHARMACY,

Sumter, S. C.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Steaks, Chops, Deviled Crabs, Salads, Home Made Pie, Cake and Puddings. Delicious Sandwiches. Open Daily 10.00 A. M. to 12 P. M. Sunday 12 M. to 9 P. M.

Music All the Time. Dance if You Like.