

NEW STATE BUILDING ADVOCATION

Recommended State Construct Million Dollar Building to Contain Many Offices

Columbia, Dec. 29.—An effort will be made to have the next general assembly meeting here January 13, provide for the erection of a million dollar building in which can be permanently housed agricultural and industrial exhibits of South Carolina and where offices, bureaus, laboratories, other agencies of the State government now outside the State Capitol building and which have not permanent quarters can be placed. A bill providing for this has been prepared by the department of agriculture, commerce and industries and will be introduced in the legislature by the agricultural committees of the two houses.

The measure provides that the State sinking fund commission will lend \$1,000,000 to the commission in charge of the construction of the building which is to be paid for during a period of years with adequate interest. The department of agriculture, commerce and industries is to pay into the sinking fund commission yearly all its surplus funds in excess of the running expenses of the department and the various departments moving into the building are to pay the same commission a sum to equal their present rents until the principal and interest are liquidated.

Commissioner Harris, in his report to the general assembly, estimates that the department of agriculture, commerce and industries can pay an annual minimum of \$50,000 to the sinking fund commission and that the present rental of State offices aggregates \$37,000 paid to various realty concerns in Columbia.

The bill names Governor Cooper, Commissioner B. Harris, of the department of agriculture, commerce and industries; W. Banks Dove, secretary of State and ex-officio custodian of the State house and property; J. Roy Pennell, State highway engineer, and Dr. W. W. Long, director of extension work at Clemson College, and their successors, as the commission in charge of the proposed building.

At present various offices and departments are housed in buildings in the city of Columbia, and three of them have temporary offices in legislative committee rooms in the State house, and will have to move when the general assembly convenes. Those having their offices in the city of Columbia outside the State Capitol are the State bank examiner, chief game warden, State Board of Health, State Highway Commission, insurance department, railroad commissioners, tax commission and warehouse commissioner. The pension commissioner, secretary of the printing committee and the budget commission occupy legislative committee rooms. In addition, the State Board of Health's laboratories and its bureau of vital statistics and the laboratories of the department of agriculture, commerce and industries are housed at the University of South Carolina, which, according to Commissioner Harris' report, have demanded this space because of the growing needs of the institution.

Commissioner Harris suggests in his report that the building be constructed and that all these agencies and departments and their bureaus be concentrated in it. In addition, that the extension department at Clemson College be moved to Columbia, but still remain under the direction of the board of trustees, he recommends that various agencies working in conjunction with the State be allowed to have their offices in the proposed building.

ENGLISH AIRMEN FIGHT SAVAGES

British Squadron Sent to Upper Nile Region

Cairo, Dec. 31.—An air squadron is joining in the punitive expedition against Dinka tribesmen who attacked a British column in the upper Nile region early this month.

CLUB GIRLS' HENS ARE PROFIT MAKERS

"I am a poultry club member, and my records show that this year the net profits from my chickens were \$525.35." This is the report of Valerie Henning, of Panoia County, Miss., who at 16 holds the championship of her State in poultry club work. She, with six other Mississippi girls and two chaperones, recently visited Washington. The five-day trip was a prize offered by Mississippi bankers and business men to the girl in each district of the State who made the largest profit in her club work.

Miss Henning has been a member for two years of one of the poultry clubs supervised by the United States Department of Agriculture and the State colleges. To obtain her start in club work she borrowed \$12.50 from a local bank. With this money a pen of Barred Plymouth Rocks, consisting of four hens and one cockerel, was bought. The profits from her chickens last year, her first flock for 1919 consisted of two cockerels and 19 hens. By the use of trap nests and leg bands, the record as a layer of each hen had been observed, and only the good egg producers were kept. From January 1 to October 16 the 19 biddies laid 2,840 eggs. Miss Henning sells nearly all of the eggs for hatching purposes; but the birds she raises, aside from the culls, bring from \$15 to \$20 a pen.

The money this club girl has made through her poultry work is being used to pay her way through an agricultural high school.

HOLD BOLL WEEVIL CONFERENCE

County Demonstration Agent Williams Arranging Program For Meeting January 15

There is going to be a big and very important boll weevil conference in Sumter on January 15th. County Agent J. Frank Williams is arranging for this conference and after conference with the farm extension division of Clemson College, and the Sumter Chamber of Commerce Mr. Williams decided on January 15th, at 11 o'clock at the county court room as the day, hour and place.

Among the subjects to be discussed will be:

- Agricultural Credit Under Boll Weevil Conditions.
- Growing Cotton in spite of the Weevil.
- Money Crops Other than Cotton.
- Sound Business Farming in this county for 1920, etc.

The object of this conference is to bring about full and open discussion of those problems that are facing this county during the year 1920 on account of the presence of the boll weevil.

Farmers and other business men, specialists representing the Extension Service of Clemson College and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, as well as others interested will take part in the conference.

Mr. Williams is very anxious that the county court room be packed to its full seating capacity and in order to advertise this meeting he is having the Chamber of Commerce publicity department to do its best to let the objects of this conference be widely known, and is also having mailed out several hundred card notices to farmers, merchants, bankers, land owners, tenants, and others about this conference in the hope that those receiving these cards will assist in getting delegations from every community to attend this important conference.

Every merchant, farmer, professional man, manufacturer, and other business men should interest themselves in trying to make this conference a success by talking it up and reminding others of the importance of attending same. During the year 1920 is the time to get ready to meet the boll weevil's big 1921 and 1922 drive against the prosperity and happiness of this county, when the weevil will be in full force and prepared to slaughter our cotton crop. Diversification of field crops, planting of tobacco, peanuts, velvet beans, wheat, corn, getting ready for the livestock business by fencing in land and other necessary means of offense and defense against the weevil's threatened adversity are among the 1920 plans of preparation. This conference will be of immense value in getting the entire county thoroughly organized and for organizing by communities, townships, and by school districts. Every man in Sumter county is appointed a committee of one to advertise this conference and see that his neighbors attend.

BIG FIRE AT TAMPA

Flames on Water Front Fanned By Stiff Breeze Claim Heavy Toll

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 30.—Loss which early estimates placed at between \$350,000 and \$500,000 was caused by a serious water front fire this afternoon, which fanned a stiff breeze, destroyed two blocks in the wholesale district. The fire zone was bordered by the river on the west, by Tampa street on the south and by Washington street on the east, by Whiting street on the south and by Washington street on the north.

So fast did the fire spread that firemen nearly were cut off and had to abandon 1,000 feet of hose. Capt. J. D. Ross was burned about the face and is under a physician's care. Several other firemen were burned but not so seriously. The business section of the city was tonight without electric lights or power and police were ready for any eventuality which might arise because of the darkness. Thieves robbed offices in the Citizens' Bank building this afternoon while the fire was in progress, getting several purses.

The Tribune was preparing tonight to issue by multigraph as it looked as if there would be no power until very late hour, if at all. This is the worst fire in several years and came at the end of a year marked by losses which were remarkably light.

The origin of the fire had not been definitely determined late tonight. It was thought, however, that a hay steamer which was getting up steam under a forced draught, caused sparks to fall on the roof of the Home Line office. The fire was discovered about 20 minutes after the boat left.

HUN SOCIALISTS PLAN STRIKE

To Be a Protest Against High Cost of Food

Paris, Dec. 21.—Independent Socialist circles in Berlin are carrying on an agitation in favor of a general strike as a protest against a new increase in the cost of food, according to the Frankfort Gazette.

ARREST WOMAN MAN KILLER

Beatrice Vester Held For Murder in Michigan

Mount Clemens, Mich., Dec. 31.—Cecil Beatrice Vester, who was located yesterday by reporters of the Chicago Herald-Examiner was surrendered to the authorities here this morning and was placed in jail on the charge of murdering J. Stanley Brown.

BIG BUSINESS YEAR

Committee on Statistics of Chamber of Commerce of United States Makes Report

Washington, Dec. 30.—Continued industrial activity is predicted by the committee on statistics of the chamber of commerce of the United States in its annual end of the year review of business and crop conditions.

Manufacturers, the report said, have orders in excess of their capacity and in the retail trade there is a feeling of confidence of the continuation until another harvest at least of the demand of all classes of commodities. Farmers are reported unusual, prosperous because of the high prices of their products. The liberal spending of the farmers the review asserted, is the backbone and sustaining power of the present volume of business throughout the country, as they are paying mostly cash and are purchasing more improved farm machinery and pure bred live stock than ever before.

Of the general crop situation, the report stated that rain did much damage to unharvested crops in the South and in the Southern portion of some of the Central States, reducing the yield and impairing quality. Winter wheat acreage will be materially reduced this fall, the report said, as the farmers believed winter wheat production at high prices was over for the present.

"Great activity in buying," the committee added, "is reported in sections except where crop failures were extensive, copper mining is in a poor state, silver mining is doing well, oil production is good."

MEXICANS IGNORE AMERICAN NOTE

Foreign Office Refuses to Discuss Mazatlan Case

Mexico City, Dec. 31.—Foreign office officials declare they have nothing to make public regarding the two American sailors under arrest at Mazatlan. It is understood the sailors have the freedom of the city but they are still facing trial.

THE PRESIDENT NEEDS QUIET

Not Able to Have Watchnight Party in His Room

Washington, Dec. 31.—President Wilson will spend New Year's day quietly. White House officials disclosed today that he overtaxed himself on his birthday Sunday, when he celebrated the occasion by having the members of his family present; consequently it is considered improbable that he will hold a watch party in his sick room tonight.

DECKER IS A SOREHEAD

Was Removed From Post at Request of State Department

Washington, Dec. 31.—Discussing the refusal of Rear Admiral Decker to accept the navy cross on the ground that it "was inadequate" reward for services performed by him as naval attaché at Madrid during the war, Secretary Daniels today disclosed the fact that Decker was removed from that post at the request of the State department acting upon representations from Ambassador Willard.

SENATORS DISCUSS TREATY

Compromise Conference to Be Held

Washington, Dec. 30.—President Wilson has not been invited to call the first meeting of the council of the league of nations after ratification of the treaty of Versailles has been completed, state department officials said today.

There was a suggestion some time ago that the invitation be extended to him but the question was not determined at that time. Some administration officials believe he will acquiesce in a request from the allied powers but the United States will have no part in the meeting of the council by reason of the fact that the treaty has not been ratified by the senate.

The treaty provides that the first meeting of the assembly of the league shall be called by the president but the assembly is not expected to meet in the immediate future. The council, however, must assemble in a fortnight after ratification is completed at Paris as the carrying out of some provisions of the treaty are entrusted to it.

Peace treaty compromise talk reached a formal stage today when Senator McNary of Oregon, a leader of the mild reservation Republicans, discussed various compromise suggestions with Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, acting Democratic leader. It was said that although no agreement came out of the conference the conversation took a hopeful turn. Afterward both senators seemed confident that a middle ground could be found that would insure ratification early in the year.

The reservations in the majority program dealing with Article 10, Shantung and voting power in the league of nations, it was said were discussed.

During the day Senator Hitchcock saw a number of other senators and Senator Swanson of Virginia, a Democrat of the foreign relations committee, was present during a part of the talk with Senator McNary. Later Mr. McNary conferred with several on the Republican side.

WAGE WAR ON BOLL WEEVIL

Boll Weevil Community Conferences Among Colored Farmers Suggested

In delivering tobacco seed to many colored farmers at Chamber of Commerce, Secretary Reardon has a splendid opportunity to talk boll weevil to the farmers.

Several independent negro farmers, and by "independent" it is meant negro farmers who either own their lands or are sufficiently fixed financially and intellectually, and there are many such, if renting land or sharecropping, to say what they shall or shall not do on their farms that they cultivate, have said that in as much as a majority of the farmers of this county are negroes it would be no bad idea for the Extension service of Clemson College and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Chamber of Commerce to arrange for a number of township or community meetings for colored farmers to discuss boll weevil farming or diversification, and that it will be wise to furnish the negro farmers with all the possible information and encouragement at the earliest possible date before these farmers prepare their lands for the 1920 crops.

Secretary Reardon assumed the responsibility of guaranteeing that if these colored farmers will call meetings of their fellow citizens the Chamber of Commerce will supply the speakers for the meetings from among the bankers, merchants, white farmers and other business men of this city and county, and that County Agent J. Frank Williams and other Clemson College Extension Service exerts will do whatever they possibly can to put on a boll weevil propaganda among our colored farmers and to assist them in every possible way to educate themselves about how to meet boll weevil conditions.

In this connection it may be said that there is a magnificent opportunity for hundreds of white country merchants and land owners who rent or share crop lands to do a big piece of important educational and cooperative work, and it should be done immediately, before plans are made and lands prepared for the 1920 crops.

There are no citizens more vitally interested in what is going to happen on the farms during the next two or three years than the white county merchant and farm land owner. They are located right in the midst of thousands of negro farmers, are in closer touch with and wield naturally a much greater influence with these negro farmers than do the city or town business men.

Why not have these country merchants get busy without a moment's delay and call upon their colored fellow citizens in every community of importance like Rembert, Dalzell, Borden, Hagood, Mavesville, Oswego, Shiloh, Trinity, Tindals, Bethel, Concord, Privateer, Wedgefield, Stateburg, Salem, Pleasant Grove, and

other townships and school districts in different sections of this county to meet and listen to good sound business and practical advice from some of the best and most successful white and colored farmers, merchants, and from Clemson College experts and our own county agent.

The negroes are not organized, thousands of them will never attend any of the white men's boll weevil conferences, and we must take the boll weevil propaganda to these colored citizens who are anxious to learn what to do. The negro race is easy to lead, it follows quickly the leadership and the advice of the white leaders of the county, this was demonstrated during the late war just ended. The Sumter County Chamber of Commerce will assist these numerous white country merchants and land owners to organize the negroes of this county immediately if the commercial organization is notified of the co-operation required.

FILIPINOS WANT INDEPENDENCE

Another Mission on the Way to America

Manila, Dec. 31.—The second Philippine mission seeking independence for the islands at the hands of the United States government sailed for San Francisco Monday.

PLANTING MORE TOBACCO

One of the largest farmers in Sumter county has secured from the Sumter Chamber of Commerce sufficient tobacco seed to plant eighty acres of tobacco, or rather to see that his forty tenants and share-croppers plant two acres of tobacco each.

Another farmer has secured seed for forty-five acres of tobacco, ten acres for his own farm and thirty-five acres to be planted by twelve of his share croppers and tenants.

This policy of farm land owners insisting upon a limited acreage of tobacco being planted by their tenants and share croppers is said to be quite popular in this county. The Chamber of Commerce reports that applicants for tobacco seed are beginning to come in pretty fast the last few days. And that from what can be gathered among the large farm land owners tobacco is going to be insisted upon as one of the crops on hundreds of Sumter county farms regardless of how many acres of cotton are planted to be plow in 1920.

It is evident that peanuts and velvet beans are going to be planted to a greater extent than ever before in this county in 1920, and that hundreds of farmers have realized that diversification of field crops is now necessary, and that the more hogs the farms can raise, and the more velvet beans with which to furnish food for these hogs and at the same time supply necessary nitrogen for the soil in 1921 which is the cheapest way to get nitrogen, the better these farms will be prepared to meet boll weevil conditions.

GOOD NEWS FOR FARMERS

A year ago middling cotton was selling at 25 cents and staple cotton of the same grade was selling at 30 cents.

Today these cottons are selling at fifty to one hundred dollars per bale more, while fertilizer which represent the greatest cost in producing cotton is selling for 1920 shipment.

AT FROM \$5 TO \$20 PER TON LESS.

We congratulate our Farming Friends in having not only "both ends of the rope" but the middle as well.

We have been in the fertilizer business for 36 years, during which time we have handled practically one brand of goods.

THE ASHEPOO

The question might be asked, why do you stick to it? The answer is simple, because it has always given us satisfaction. We don't believe we have ever had a farmer to tell us that he was not pleased with the results obtained from Ashepoo Goods. We can refer to dozens of farmers in Sumter, Clarendon and Lee Counties, who would be willing to pay more for Ashepoo Goods if necessary than any brand on the market. Many times have we been told that they got as good results from our 8-2 1-2-1 as their neighbors got from 8-3-3 of another brand. Here is a saving of about \$8 per ton the difference in price.

We have contracted on a very large scale for our 1920 requirements, and while we have every reason to believe that we are selling.

THE BEST KNOWN BRAND ON THE MARKET.

Our prices are strictly in line.

There is going to be a big demand for high grade ammoniated goods, owing to the presence of the boll weevil. Every farmer will want to get his crop off early and push it before the weevil begins to operate. We have sold more fertilizer for 1920 shipment, than we ever sold during our many years in the business. We believe we have the best goods on the market, we know our prices are right, and considering these facts it will be to the interest of every farmer to see us before buying.

Our principals advise that there is danger of car shortage and we cannot impress too strongly the need of placing orders early. If you want to get ahead of the boll weevil, you must get your crop in early, and to do this you must have your fertilizers. ACT PROMPTLY.

O'Donnell & Company