

The Lancaster News.

VOL. 10, NO. 1, SEMI-WEEKLY.

LANCASTER, S. C., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1914.

\$1.50 A YEAR.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES TODAY

Special Session Called to Consider the Cotton Situation.

REDUCTION OF ACREAGE.

And Warehouse System for Storing Staple Will Claim Share of Attention.

Columbia Special to Charleston News and Courier, Oct. 5.—Serious questions confront the general assembly of South Carolina, which convenes tomorrow in special session to consider the problem of financing the present cotton crop and of curtailment of cotton acreage in 1915. Both houses will be called to order at noon tomorrow, and everything is in readiness. Members are already arriving in Columbia for the session and it is thought that practically the entire personnel will be on hand when the hour for assembling arrives.

The session was called primarily for the purpose of dealing with the cotton situation, but there is no limit to the activities of the lawmakers. The question as to whether the bills which did not get through at the regular session are dead or can still be considered will have to be decided. There are a great many measures which passed one house and were in the course of passage through the other when the regular session was brought to an end.

MATTERS LEFT OVER.

If it is decided that these measures can be taken up the many matters left over can be considered. Such bills as the so-called Fortner bill to prevent whites from teaching in negro schools, the two-cent passenger rate, are third reading senate bills, having already passed the house, and if it is decided that these are matters which the extra session can or will consider the regular widespread scope of any regular session will be the order.

However, there is a disposition to limit the session to the purpose for which it was called, the consideration of ways and means for relieving the cotton situation and some resolution to this effect may be put through.

The major share of attention seems to be centered on bills for restricting the acreage of cotton another year. There are several measures suggested to accomplish this end. The one drawn by Representative Stevenson would limit the acreage to eight acres to the work animal and make any excess punishable by fine or imprisonment. Other legislators are known to favor the plan suggested by W. B. Gruber of an occupation license tax. Cecil C. Wyche, the Bleasdale house leader, has an acreage reduction bill and there are probably others.

WAREHOUSE SYSTEM.

A warehouse system for storing cotton will be introduced by Senator John L. McLaurin, the bill providing for state validation of cotton warehouse receipts. There may be other measures introduced along this line.

Press comment throughout the state as well as expressions from citizens in every walk of life, indicate growing opposition to the proposed extension of the time of payment of taxes and the proposed \$1,500,000 bond issue to put the state on a cash basis and complete the removal of the asylum. However, both of these measures will be introduced, it is believed.

Unless the scope of the session is limited there will likely be a flood of local legislation which would swamp other business.

As the members gather for the special session efforts are being made to reach some agreement on a cotton acreage reduction measure.

COMMITTEE IN CONFERENCE.

The committee from the State Cotton Congress charged with this matter, consisting of Senator P. L. Hardin of Chester, J. J. Lawton of Hartsville and B. H. Boykin of Boykin, have been in conference today with Dr. Wade Stackhouse of Dillon, John G. Anderson of Rock Hill, W. A. Stuckey of Bishopville and R. M. Cooper of Wisacky, going over the many proposed plans to cut down cotton acreage and attempting to evolve from all the suggestions a

DEADLY SHELLS.

Fumes of Famous French Shell Have Most Deadly Effect.

London, Oct. 5.—A Reuter telegram from Paris says: "That the fumes of the famous French three-inch shell have a most deadly effect in an enclosed space is shown by a scene that met the eyes of the French penetrating a chateau occupied by the Germans and which they had just bombarded. Entering the drawing room they found a company of Wuertembergians petrified in action. Some were at the windows taking aim with their fingers still pressing the trigger, while others were at the tables where they had been playing games with cards in their hands, while still others had cigarettes in their lips. An officer stood with his mouth open as if in the act of dictating an order and all the corpses looked absolutely lifelike."

INDUCE PLANTING OF FOOD CROPS

Convention Hopes to Adjust the Matter of Diversified Farming.

Atlanta, Oct. 5.—Cotton growers, wholesale merchants, bankers, commissioners of agriculture and others vitally interested in the campaign for increasing the production of food crops in the South, met here today at the opening session of the Southeastern Food Crops Congress. The congress, which will adjourn tomorrow, was called by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce to devise means to induce Southern farmers to plant food crops sufficient for their own use, so that whatever profit they may derive from their cotton will not be expended for meats and provisions.

Charles J. Haden, president of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, said today that President Wilson probably would be requested to issue a proclamation asking that the people of each cotton producing county organize for the purpose of adjusting the matter of diversified crops so that sufficient food crops will be produced to satisfy the demands of the South Atlantic states, thus protecting the cotton crop for the next year. Mr. Haden also stated that the President probably would be petitioned to request the governors of the cotton states to appoint five commissioners in each county for the purpose of effecting the proposed organization. The initial meeting of the congress was held in the state capitol.

CHINAMAN DIES OF PLAGUE.

Tenth Victim at New Orleans Since 27th of June.

New Orleans, Oct. 4.—Four hours after being removed to the isolation hospital today, Ching Yu, a laundryman, residing in Baronne street, near Callopie, died from bubonic plague, according to the announcement of federal health authorities. He was the tenth victim of the disease since it made its appearance here June 27 and brought the total of human cases of plague to thirty. The twenty-ninth case was that of John P. Kearney, aged 4 years, a resident at 1573 Chippewa street, which developed early today.

Rainy Weather This Week.

Washington, Oct. 4.—Rainy weather over most of the East and South was forecast by the weather bureau tonight for the first half of the week.

"In the upper Mississippi and the Missouri valleys rain Monday will be followed by generally fair weather and a decided fall in temperature that will continue for a few days," said the bulletin.

play which will be constitutional and on which all parties can agree. The committee was informed by wire this morning that W. B. Gruber of Walterboro would be here this afternoon and would confer with them tonight. Mr. Gruber favors an occupation license tax and the committee invited him to meet with them and discuss the constitutionality of his measure.

There is a great deal of interest attached to what the special session will or can do, and there are many opinions on the subject. A study of the records shows that this will be the first extra session of the general assembly since 1882, when one was held that year at the call of Governor Hagood.

BRYAN AND STRAUS SPOKE ON PEACE

Peace Day Services in Carnegie Hall, New York.

STRAUS ON THE TREATIES

Declared Pacts With Foreign Countries Mark Big Forward Movement for Final Peace.

New York, Oct. 4.—Hope that the European war will be the last object lesson of the horrors of strife and that after it the efforts of man will be devoted to production rather than destruction, was expressed today by Secretary of State Bryan and Oscar S. Straus, foreign secretary of commerce and labor, at a special peace day service at Carnegie hall. The meeting was one of many held in this city in accordance with President Wilson's recent proclamation designating today as a day of prayer for peace.

"Today, when a number of nations, all our friends, have been drawn into the vortex of war," said Secretary Bryan, "our first duty is to use such influence as we may have to hasten the return of peace. There will be ample time afterward to discuss ways and means for preventing future appeals to arms."

"Our interests are so entwined with the interests of other lands that no nation can live or die unto itself alone. If we had no higher reason for encouraging conditions conducive to peace, we should find ample justification in the fact that the burdens of war no longer are borne entirely by its direct participants."

"We must not be discouraged if this, the greatest of all wars, broke out just when we were most hopeful of the substitution of reason for force in the settlement of international disputes. It may be that the world needed one more awful object lesson to prove conclusively the fallacy of the doctrine that preparedness for war can give assurance of peace."

"One encouragement to be drawn from the present European conflict is found in the fact that the governments involved vie with each other in refusing to admit they began it. We have taken a long step in advance when no civilized nation either will admit a desire for war or confess an intention to inaugurate it."

Referring to the peace policy of the United States toward Mexico and the acceptance of the mediation offered by Argentina, Brazil and Chile, Secretary Bryan said:

"President Wilson not only secured a peaceful solution of a situation that threatened war, but he gave a strong impetus to the cause of conciliation. It will be easier than before to preserve peace in the Western Hemisphere and more difficult to excite war."

Oscar Straus expressed hope that mediation eventually would settle the European struggle.

"A month ago," he said, "Secretary Bryan, under the direction of the President, encouraged by a statement by an ambassador of one of the powers, communicated informally with the other powers as to whether they were ready to accept the President's tender of good offices. While the time is not yet ripe for the definite discussion of the subject, we may be justified in hoping that these communications already have had the good result of lifting the latch on the door of mediation, so that, without the initiative of either side, at the first opportunity, that door readily may be thrown open."

Mr. Straus referred to treaties which Secretary Bryan recently has concluded with different nations, providing for investigations of disagreements between nations for a period of 12 months before war may be declared and said:

"I regard these treaties as a most important step for securing the peace of the world for the future. I believe that if those treaties had been in existence when Austria gave its ultimatum to Serbia this war might have been averted."

Cardinal Farley at St. Patrick's Cathedral said that if Europe had heeded Pope Pius X the war never would have started.

BANKERS URGE FARMERS OF STATE TO DIVERSIFY

Issues a Circular Letter to Planters of South.

TO COMBAT BOLL WEEVIL.

That They Should Plant Cotton Acreage in Small Grain at Once.

The following is taken from The Columbia Record of yesterday:

That by the adoption of a diversified system of farming the South will be better prepared to combat the cotton boll weevil pest, which is rapidly covering the cotton belt, is the opinion of Robert I. Woodside, chairman of the committee on agricultural development and education of the South Carolina Bankers' Association, contained in a circular letter addressed to the farmers of the state. The circular urges the farmer to sow all his cotton acreage in oats, wheat and other small grain at once so that he would be in a better position to curtail next spring.

The circular letter follows:

"The European war is forcing on our country unprecedented problems. While these problems are coming to all lines of business, it is especially true to the farming pursuits in our Southland where the farmers have depended on a cotton crop as the one money crop. We are realizing now as never before just how dependent we have been on this crop. Also, we are realizing as never before how very essential it is to our farming interest that we do not depend on any one crop as a ready money crop."

"While it is evident that under the existing circumstances our farmers are likely to sustain some loss, it is also evident that a forced change in methods of farming a greater prosperity will ultimately result to our farmers. It can be seen also that by the adoption of a diversified system of farming we will be better prepared to successfully combat the cotton boll weevil pest which is rapidly covering the cotton belt."

"Many worthy plans have been suggested for temporarily assisting the farmers, but, after all, the permanent remedy lies entirely within the control of the farmer himself. We all know that supply and demand must control the price of any commodity. With a greater supply of cotton on hand than can be used by the cotton mills of the world under existing circumstances, our only recourse is that of curtailment of production."

"With the view of curtailing the production of cotton, some steps must be taken at the present time, and our committee would urge that the farmers of our state, as well as of other cotton growing states, start now by sowing all the cotton land to oats, wheat and other small grain. With this grain started it will be much easier to carry out the curtailment plan next spring, as, in this case, a farmer will then be in position to plant a portion of this grain land in cotton or harvest the grain."

"We urge that especial effort be made to gather the present crop of peas and save for next year's planting. It is certain that there will be an unusual demand for peas for sowing next year. More hay must be grown for feeding cattle and other live stock. There is no better way of building up and maintaining the fertility of the soil than by the raising of a certain amount of live stock on the farm; and certainly there is no better way of putting a stop to the continuous drain on the farmer's income for commercial fertilizers."

"More and more attention is being given to improving the quality and increasing the quantity of corn produced in the state. Time and labor can be saved and larger and more valuable crop yields can be obtained by a careful study of the question of seed selection. It has been our observation that the farmer who grows bountiful crops of corn, together with other crops, always has ready money at his command."

"We would urge the adoption of diversified systems of farming and live stock raising. Greater pros-

CARRANZA RESIGNS.

But Conference Does Not Seem Disposed to Accept.

Mexico City, Oct. 4.—Gen. Venustiano Carranza placed his resignation as first chief of the Constitutionalists before delegates to the general conference of southern chiefs shortly before 8 o'clock last night.

From that time until a late hour the question of whether the resignation should be accepted was fiercely debated with no immediate prospects of a vote.

Orators opposed to the acceptance of General Carranza's withdrawal were repeatedly cheered by delegates and spectators. A motion was made that the first chief be informed that it would be impossible to accept his patriotic act of abnegation, but the hours passed without a vote being taken on the motion, owing to the turmoil in the chamber.

MAY SUBSTITUTE COTTON FOR JUTE

Post Office Department Investigating the Matter as to Whether Change Can Be Made.

Washington, Oct. 5.—Investigation to determine whether cotton cord should be substituted for jute twine for use by the postoffice department was begun today by a committee of experts.

Postmaster General Burleson expressed belief that owing to the prevailing high price of jute and to the curtailment of demand for this year's cotton crop every effort should be made by the government to use cotton products whenever price conditions permit.

Enormous quantities of jute twine are used throughout the postal service. Over 1,700,000 pounds of it were used, mostly in the railway mail service, during the last fiscal year.

Similar inquiries in the past, it is stated, have established that cotton cord is as serviceable as jute twine, but hitherto the latter has been much cheaper. Last year the department spent about \$200,000 for jute twine.

The postmaster general believes competitive conditions can now be reached if cord manufacturers will submit bids to meet the present price of jute twine.

FATALLY HURT IN WRECK.

University of Virginia Student Was Riding in New Auto.

Charlottesville, Va., Oct. 4.—William M. Talliaferro, 21, a second year student of the University of Virginia, is dying in the University hospital, as the result of an automobile accident near Charlottesville last night. In company with six student friends he drove out in a new car, the gift of his father, a Tampa, Fla., banker. In trying to pass a wagon the car skidded and turned turtle in a ditch. "Our members of the party were rendered unconscious, but none was dangerously injured, except Talliaferro."

United States Will Secure Nearly All Mexican Trade.

St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 4.—John R. Silliman, President Wilson's personal representative with the Carranza Mexican government, and Richard H. Cole, personal friend of General Carranza, passed through today, each en route to Washington on a hurried mission concerning the Mexican situation.

Mr. Silliman declined to comment on the Mexican situation except to say that when relations between Mexico and the United States became normal again this country probably would have almost 100 per cent of the Southern Republic's trade.

"I am going to seek recognition for the Carranza government," said Mr. Cole, "and I anticipate no trouble in getting it."

American Mercy Ship Sails for Rotterdam.

Paulliac, France, Oct. 4.—The American hospital ship Red Cross, which brought physicians, nurses and hospital supplies for the French at Bordeaux and other points, sailed today for Rotterdam.

perity is assured the farmer who ceases to rely on any one crop as a money crop.

"We offer our co-operation and assistance in any worthy plan which has for its object the betterment of our farming interests."

FRENCH ADMIT REVERSES ON WEST END OF LINE

The Struggle Continues With Great Violence.

REPORTS ARE MEAGRE.

German War Office Says Three of Antwerp Forts Have Been Captured.

Associated Press dispatches last night say that the allies have been obliged to give ground at certain points on the western side of the battle line. That was announced in a statement issued by the French war office at 3 o'clock this (Monday) afternoon.

The announcement is brief, containing only the additional information that the battle continues with great violence on the north of the Oise without decisive result and that there is no change on the remainder of the front.

A wireless dispatch direct from Berlin to Sayville, L. I., today brings a long German official statement, in which there is no reference whatever to the great engagement in which the allies are attempting to turn the German right wing in north France and reach the German line of communication to Belgium.

The German war office declares that in the siege of Antwerp forts Lierre, Waelhem and Konigshoyck have been taken, opening the way for an attack on the inner circle of fortifications and the city proper.

As indicating the activity of the London censorship it may be noted that today's wireless message is the first to bring to this country the German official claim that three of the forts at Antwerp have been reduced. The fact that such a claim had been made was betrayed by a reference made to it in a general summary of the war situation from London last night, showing that the German official announcement had been received in London, though it was not permitted to reach the United States textually.

Belgian denials that any of their forts had fallen came from Antwerp by way of London yesterday and again today an official Belgian announcement which passed through the hands of the British censor declared that the situation of the fortified positions around Antwerp remains unchanged today.

The German war office says that the Russian left wing was defeated after a furious battle of two days on the Niemen river.

There has been nothing official from Petrograd, but the most recent reports, official and unofficial, from the Russian capital set forth that the German and Austrian forces all along the fighting area from the Baltic to Hungary were being checked, driven back or routed.

Returns of the German imperial bank last week are described in a Berlin dispatch as showing an increase in species of \$10,250,000 over the last report.

German infantry have appeared in the fighting in the territory of Kia Chow, China. Tokio announces a surprise night attack by infantry from Tsing-Tau, but says that the attack was repulsed. Fighting between land and naval forces at Kia Chow continues.

The Servians still claim to be about to capture Sarajevo, capital of the Austrian province of Bosnia. War headquarters at Nish announce Servian troops have approached the fortifications of the city.

An official report from Vienna says the Austrians are driving the Servian and Montenegrin invaders from east Bosnia and that two Montenegrin brigades were repulsed after a severe engagement lasting two days.

Emperor Nicholas Arrives at the Front.

Petrograd, via London, Oct. 5.—Emperor Nicholas has arrived at army headquarters at the front, according to a dispatch received here. General Soukhomlinoff, minister of war, accompanied the emperor.

Before his departure Emperor Nicholas signed a ukase calling out the reserves and ordering mobilization of the mounted troops in the eastern provinces and also the territorials.