

ROCKINGHAM POST-DISPATCH

Isaac S. London, Editor and Prop'r

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
 One Year\$1.50
 Six Months75
 Three Months50
 Single Copies05

Office on Hancock Street,
 Telephone No. 182.

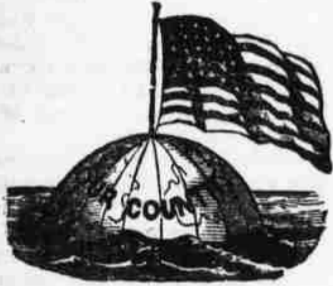
Entered as second-class mail
 matter at the postoffice at Rock-
 ingham, N. C.

Correspondence invited.

Democratic in politics.

Published every Thursday at
 Rockingham, Richmond county,
 N. C.

Advertising rates on application.



CLYDE Davis, the versatile editor of the Moore County News, avers in his last week's issue that since the editor of the Post-Dispatch left Siler City, his county of Moore has been literally overrun with rabbits. He is at a loss to place the cause: the answer is simple. The editor London's name has been associated so long with Chatham rabbit statistics that the rabbits there were struck with the wanderlust and endeavoring to follow him cross-country to Richmond became lost in the trackless forests of Moore, or mired in the drifted sands! All they need is some Moses of a rabbit to lead them out of the Moore county wilderness to the 'happy hunting grounds' of Richmond.

By the way, the first subscription received by the editor of the Post-Dispatch, upon his arrival in Rockingham three weeks ago, was in the form of barter—three rabbits.

Our Richmond friends possibly doubt the verity of the number of rabbits annually shipped from Siler City. Last season the number was over 16,000. The secret of such wholesale shipments is in the market. Siler City has an established market for such, and three dealers have made and are making a good living at the game. What is done at Siler City can be done at Rockingham. The rabbits are as plentiful, and the development of the industry lags for lack of an aggressive rabbit wholesaler.

It is well for our people to realize the fact that Mr. Hoover is merely a leader, and in no sense the whole thing in this great campaign of conservation. He outlines a course and blazes the way, but the PEOPLE, the masses whose interests are paramount, must constitute the great motive power if success is to crown our efforts. If the goal is reached it will be through the individual action of the people, of YOU, and I.

If an item fails to appear in the Post-Dispatch that YOU think should have appeared therein, don't blame the editor—rather blame yourself for not reporting said item to the paper. We try to get all the news, but lay no claim to being a mind-reader; and

we bear no relationship to Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, with powers of being in two or more places at the same time.

War between the United States and Austria-Hungary was formally declared last Friday, Dec. 7th, the President signing the resolution at 5:03 p. m. The resolution was approved by the House, 363 to 1, the only vote against it being by the socialist member from New York; this one vote is important only for the damning weight it will help to add in identifying "Socialism" with Kaiserism to the American mind for years to come.

The formal declaration of war is a diplomatic measure as well as a military measure. It gives strength and encouragement to the Italian Government in its struggle to recover from the disaster that overtook its arms, and it enables the United States to deal more freely with subjects of Austria-Hungary in this country who have been doing Germany's work and escaping the responsibility that attaches to enemy aliens. It must also have its moral effect within the Dual Monarchy, whose subjects have no quarrel with the United States and who can have little sympathy with governmental policies that bring them into conflict with the United States when they are already so sorely beset.

The two most important measures to be considered by Congress at this session will be the proposed amendments to the constitution in favor of prohibition and woman suffrage. A majority of the last Congress were in favor of both of these amendments, but a bare majority is not sufficient. According to Article V of the Constitution it requires a majority of two-thirds of each branch of Congress to propose an amendment for adoption by the states, and it then requires a vote of three-fourths of the legislatures or conventions of the several states.

The advocates of both measures claim they will be adopted by the necessary two-thirds majority. It is of interest to note that on the vote for prohibition, Congressman Small and Pou will be the only North Carolina Representatives to vote against it; both Senators favor it. It is likely that Representative Weaver will be the only North Carolina Congressman to vote in favor of woman suffrage; both Senators are opposed to it.

A most fearful explosion and fire occurred at Halifax, N. S., on Thursday of last week. A French freight vessel loaded with benzine and high explosives collided in the harbor with a Norwegian freighter, causing the former to explode. The detonation was felt for nearly a hundred miles and a large part of the city of Halifax was destroyed by the fire that followed. 20,000 people were rendered homeless and the deaths will number over 3,000; the property damage is over \$30,000,000. The day following the explosion, a blizzard with a three-foot snow, swept over the city, adding cold to the death inferno already prevalent. When the cause of the accident is sifted down, the chances are that it will be discovered the collision on the part of the Norwegian ship was not accidental—merely another mark to be charged against the diabolical machinations of the Hun.

THE fear frequently expressed that this country may come to want should be a perfectly useless fear. There is no logical reason why the United States should not produce ample for her own wants and the needs of her allies. We have the land upon which to grow the crops and a climate that renders anything approaching a crop failure an impossibility. All that remains is for the American people to apply themselves to the task.

But it is at this point that the trouble arises. For several decades now the people have been gradually deserting agriculture for the industrial pursuits. Agriculture has been at a discount and the farmer regarded as of somewhat inferior clay. Thousands of young men, if not trained in the professions, adopted the mechanical trades till the farms have become almost deserted. The result was only to be expected, and naturally the industrial ranks were unduly swelled at the same time. Nothing save the over-abundance of mechanical labor is responsible for the great labor disturbance of the past half century. Labor in any line, when it becomes too plentiful, must either resort to competition or union in order to survive. In this instance it chose union, and the results we have seen.

From this time on, there should be a systematic effort on the part of the great labor unions to curtail the number of recruits to their ranks. Young men should be discouraged from deserting the farms to engage in the trades. The farms need them and should have them. There is room for several millions more young men on the farms of this country, and then the land would not be overcrowded.

A more equitable distribution of labor would result in great good to all parties concerned. The farms would benefit by the added forces, while the trades would benefit no less by the withdrawal of a surplus of labor that is an endless source of trouble and strife.

We have reached a point when a great readjustment of labor is imperative, and this readjustment is up to the leaders of the labor world.

THE aggregate mileage of the rural free delivery routes in North Carolina is 32,868, and entails an expenditure of \$1,638,522 for operation during the year. The number of routes is 1,398 and 1,075,310 patrons are served.

North Carolina has eight first-class postoffices, 44 second-class, 150 third-class and 1,471 fourth-class, making a total of 1,673.

(Additional Editorial and General News matter on Page 8, 3rd col.)

War Savings Stamps.

See your postmaster and let him explain to you the way in which you may make small war loans in amounts from \$5 on up. To anyone who pays \$4.12 for this purpose, a war savings certificate to the value of \$5 will be given. This certificate will be redeemed in 1923, when the Government will refund the \$5. To make it easy on the small investor who wishes to help the Government, while at the same time making compound interest on his money so placed, war-thrift stamps valued at 25 cents each will be sold at any postoffice. When \$4 worth of these stamps is purchased, a certificate for \$5 will be issued therefor, upon payment of 12 cents.

Several millions of dollars will be raised in this way, and Richmond county will do her part.

"Under the Stars and Stripes in France."

in two reels, with a five reel feature,

**NEXT MONDAY,
Dec. 17th,
ONE DAY ONLY**

--Just a few words of what this picture contains--

America's boys are now in the trenches in France fighting—You know and we know how greatly every audience is interested in seeing them at work and play over there.—This is the only picture that has ever been made of our boys in this big war and we want everybody to see it at THE STAR THEATRE Monday, December 17th.

"The Torch Bearer"

is the five reel feature which we will show with this big war picture, and it's star is William Russell. This is going to be one of the biggest days of show that you will ever see, and don't forget the date.

Matinee promptly at 3:30. Night promptly at 7 o'clock.

Admission 25 and 35c.

**THE
STAR THEATRE.**

CHRISTMAS JEWELRY

Christmas Jewelry! Where will I get it? Why at Helms & Co. I got it there last Christmas and it proved to be of the BEST QUALITY—and therefore I'll revisit that up-to-date store for my Christmas goods THIS year. : : :

We are able to state that we have secured a splendid line of watches, diamonds and various articles of jewelry, and most everything will be at or near the old price we would advise all to buy early, as goods are scarce, especially watches. However, we are ready for you and it will pay you to see us FIRST. --Moral--Shop early.

T. R. HELMS & CO.
 Opposite Rockingham Hotel.