

The Messenger.

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Friday, September 22, 1905

THE SOUTH'S COTTON CROP.

The New York Commercial, in which there is no more reliable commercial or financial paper in the country, is very encouraging to the southern farmers in its expression of opinion as to the outlook for the cotton planters. In its comment on the action of the Asheville convention making eleven cents the minimum price for cotton it says:

There is nothing compulsory about this decision. It is more a matter of information than anything else, secured for the benefit of the farmer. It is a conclusion deduced—not without some trouble, as we have seen—from the data laboriously gleaned from every section of the cotton belt by the association.

Of course it is not compulsory on the farmers. It was never intended to attempt to make it so, for that would be impossible and the members of the convention knew that; but the farmers can, by sticking together and standing by the agreement, make it compulsory for those who want the cotton to pay that price or do without it. If the price of cotton is regulated by the law of supply and demand, the price increases as the supply on the market decreases then let the cotton growers create such demand as will advance the price, by keeping the product off the market. They did this last year notwithstanding they produced the largest crop on record. If they could do this with a crop of over thirteen and a half million bales, surely they can do so—and to greater extent—with a crop of from two and a half to three million bales smaller than last year's. It will take backbone to do it, and will cause temporary inconvenience and perhaps privation to many farmers, but it will pay in the end and the farmers who stick to their determination will be immensely benefited by it.

The Commercial sees a possibility of the price going much above eleven cents. It says:

If the crop estimate and condition are nearly accurate and it develops that the 1905 crop will be of ordinary dimensions, or smaller than now estimated, there is no reason to believe that cotton will not sell at a much higher figure than 11 cents.

Cotton at 11 cents now does not seem high. Some of those at the convention thought 10 cents high enough. That would afford a reasonable profit to the farmer, but 11 will be much better—and if he can get more abroad the season is over, well and good. Next year should be an extraordinarily good year. The south should get rich off this monopoly guaranteed by nature and against which none in this country protests, and those abroad only futile. By all means let the acreage be increased; let the south take advantage of the natural demand of the world. There should be no more occasion to curtail the dimensions of the crop as growers were persuaded to do this year.

There is good profit in raising cotton at eleven cents. Our farmers can well afford to sell it at that price; but if they can get more it is all the better. They should not allow themselves, though, to be carried away by the idea of securing very high prices. It will not be well to hold for figures some of them are expecting to get, for they may be disappointed.

We do not agree with The Commercial in its advocacy of an increase of acreage. The better plan would be to increase the yield per acre. Two bales of cotton can be raised on one acre cheaper than they can be on two. The crop should be increased, if it is found that the world's demand is greater than the supply, without adding another acre to the number now under cultivation, but by making the land now tilled produce more cotton. This the farmers can do easily enough if they will pay more attention to improved methods of farming, and when they do this they will increase the net value to them of the crop.

Another very encouraging feature is the failure of experiments in raising cotton in west Africa. The reports of our consuls show that the south has nothing to fear from that quarter. Great Britain and Germany have made desperate efforts to break the south's monopoly by fostering cotton growing in Africa. The results of the experiments show that it cannot be done. For years and years to come the world must look to the south for its supply of raw cotton, and every cotton factory that is built in the south leaves less of the raw material to supply the foreign demand. When the south's mills reach the consumption of all or even three-fourths of her output of raw cotton the world's demand for the manufactured goods will have become

so greatly increased that it won't make much difference to the south whence the European mills get their raw material. The south, after taking what she needs to supply her tremendous domestic and foreign trade with the products of her own mills will let the New England and foreign mills bid against each other for the balance.

Those boys in Spencer who were caught taking a peep at a meeting of Masons through the ventilator in the ceiling must have been reading Sut Lovingood. It's a pity they did not meet with the same warm reception as did Sut when discovered. That lodge room had a lath and plaster ceiling. Sut undertook to sit on the laths, with his feet over a joist. The laths gave way, but not to sufficient extent to let through his entire body, which shut up like a jack-knife, his shoulders and legs remaining above the ceiling, and he could not extricate himself. One of the Masons standing on a chair, went to work on Sut with a board.

Great Scott! What stuff that Raleigh dispensary hands out to its patrons! From the News and Observer's account of the investigation by the aldermanic committee of the charges brought against the dispensary management we take this:

In the charges of lack of cleanliness in bottling whiskey the men who swore to their own drunken habits swore that in some instances they had found straw, trash or flies in their "ticklers" while one swore that he had purchased whiskey at least once a day for a year and had never made a purchase but that there was a fly! One witness testified that he saw a negro after drinking from a whiskey bottle spit out glass, and another that he had bought a pint of cherry wine and that there was an inch of flies in the bottom. This last testimony was explained by Captain Hellig, who made the sale, who said that the only way he supposed this could have occurred was that as the wine was fermenting on the shelf the cork flew out and was put back by some one after flies had gotten into it; that in bottling the room was protected by screen doors, that all the bottles were carefully washed, that a fan was kept running above the place of bottling. He had expressed regret at the occurrence and made the exchange.

The hens of this country last year placed two hundred and eighty million dollars worth of chickens and eggs on the market. They have a right to make a great fuss every time they lay an egg.

An exchange records the fact that a New York telephone girl has married a man worth twenty million dollars. We bet she won him by never answering his call with "the line is busy now."

The mayor of Durham continues to have his long list of Monday morning cases before his court of "drunk," "drunk on Sunday" and "disorderly conduct." Durham has a greater number of such cases on its city court docket than any other city of its size in this state. That blind tiger liquor which is dished out there so freely must be of a fearful quality.

The statement comes from Georgia that Mr. Sidney C. Tapp will enter the gubernatorial race. The chief purpose of his doing so seems to be that he may "answer Mr. Hoke Smith" in regard to the latter's denial of the statement that he promised his support to Mr. Guerry during the last gubernatorial campaign and then did not give it.

New York city has over sixty-seven thousand children who cannot get seats in the public schools, and still there is the cry that the average number of children to the family is too small.

George W. Perkins, vice president of the New York Life Insurance company and a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., began his business life in 1897 as an office boy on three hundred dollars a year. We bet he saved some of his first year's salary. Now he can manage transactions involving hundreds of thousands of dollars in which he as manager of one concern bargains with himself as a member of the other.

If the policy holders of democratic persuasion in the New York Life Company had been given the choice we reckon many of them would have preferred voting for McKinley and Roosevelt and keeping those thousands of dollars in the treasury for the benefit of their policies to having the company offset their votes by those heavy contributions out of their money.

A. J. Drexell, of Philadelphia, is going to give up his American citizenship and move to Great Britain where he will become a subject of King Edward. It is not stated what has caused him to take this step. William Waldorf Astor, who did the same took that means to show his disgust at being defeated for the nomination as a candidate for congress. The United States has gotten along very well without him; and, we reckon, can do as well without Mr. Drexell as with him. When a man gets too big for his country it is best for both that he gets out of it.

CASORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Williams*

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

It did not take the justices of our supreme court long to decide that Judge Ward acted legally when he imprisoned and fined McCown for contempt, but it seems to take them some time to give the reasoning by which they came to that conclusion. The publication of the opinion in that case is awaited by the members of the legal profession with much interest. This was one of the most important and far-reaching decisions that has been made in this state in a long time, wherein the rights of person are concerned. This will form one of the leading cases on the question involved. For that reason, we suppose, more than ordinary pains will be taken in the preparation of the opinion of the court and of the justice who, while assenting to the finding of the majority of the court, reaches that conclusion by different reasoning and bases the legality of Judge Ward's action on the state statutes and not on the common law rights and powers of the court.

The public generally will not care so much by what reasoning the conclusion is reached. What it is most interested in is the fact that now under the laws of this state such conduct as that of McCown's is contempt of court, punishable by fine and imprisonment.

If the newspaper reports of the decision of the court are correct it is a law which cannot be amended or repealed by a legislative act. It will take an amendment of the state constitution to change this law, or an overruling of the supreme court decision in the McCown case by that court at some subsequent period. The court would hardly do this unless it was made very plain that the members of the present court had mistaken the law in the case.

The Washington Post declares that Addicks is clamoring for honest politicians. Now that his means for corrupting the politicians are exhausted he starts out on a new track.

When Mr. Bryan sent that telegram of congratulations to Mr. Roosevelt on the latter's success in bringing about peace he must not have known the terms of the agreement as to Korea or does his oft repeated principle of government only by consent of the governed apply exclusively to Americans?

That sea captain will know better next time not to leave in distress upon the high seas a vessel on which Mrs. Roosevelt and the children take pleasure trips, whether they are on board or not.

According to the Washington Post General Wood insists that the Moros are pacificated and he is ready to prove it by showing their graves to any doubting ones.

The Americans must be becoming fonder of smoking cigars. During the last fiscal year there were manufactured in this country over one hundred and eighty-five million more than in the year previous.

If there is one man in this country who more than any other hopes that Mr. Addicks has gotten to the bottom of his barrel that man is Senator Allee. His term expires in March 1907 and it is said Mr. Addicks wishes to then try his luck again.

Mr. Rockefeller says he can see no cloud on the financial horizon. Why then did he put up the price of oil two cents one week?

How come so? The war department has issued an order against the enlistment of any more negroes in the army.

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ATTENDANCE AT UNIVERSITY

More Than Six Hundred Students Have Registered.

Substantial Increase Over Last Year.
Dr. Herty Becomes Professor of Chemistry—Other Changes in the Faculty—Secretary for the Y. M. C. A.—Bob Lawson Becomes Gymnasium Instructor—Football Prospects and Schedule of Games.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Chapel Hill, N. C., September 19.—The University of North Carolina opens for the scholastic year of 1905-6 under most favorable conditions. The number of students registered to date is 605, a substantial increase over the registration last year at this time. Of this number 20 are connected with the medical department situated at Raleigh. The last two years in medicine are furnished medical students there and every possible facility required by advanced medicine science is complied with.

The freshmen class is composed of exceptionally well prepared students, and is numerically larger than any previous class. Almost every preparatory school in the state has representatives and every county has its quota of men. Students have matriculated who represent quite a number of other states, the southern states especially having sent quite a number of men.

Several changes have been made in the faculty for the year. Leaves of absence have been granted to some members who go away for further study and for research work.

The chemistry department has quite an addition in the person of Dr. C. H. Herty who comes from the University of Georgia to accept the directorship of the department here. Dr. Herty is quite a celebrated scientist and is one of the most prominent members of his profession in the south.

Drs. Wm. McVicker and L. B. Newell are here to assist in the medical department. They were members of the faculty at Raleigh but were transferred here this year, owing to the resignation of Dr. R. H. Whitehead, dean of the medical department who resigned recently to accept a professorship at the University of Virginia.

Dr. J. E. Mills, associate professor of chemistry has been granted a year's leave of absence which he will spend in Germany. He goes abroad to do research work.

Mr. M. W. Stacy, instructor in mathematics, will leave in a few days for Cornell University where he goes for a year's work in higher mathematics. Mr. F. H. Hickerson, lately with the Wm. Bingham School at Asheville, will have charge of Mr. Stacy's work during his absence.

Professor Edward Kidder Graham, of Charlotte, of the department of English, has resumed his duties after a year's leave of absence spent at Columbia University. Mr. Frank McLean, a recent graduate of the University, has been made an instructor in the English department.

Professor Joshua W. Gore, of the school of physics, has resumed his duties after a year's leave of absence because of ill health. Professor Gore's many friends throughout the state will be glad to hear that he has entirely recovered.

Mr. J. C. Jackson, a recent graduate of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, has been secured to fill the position of secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association. He will have entire supervision of the work and has already assumed his duties. This is the first year the association has had a secretary and the University is one of the few southern institutions to have an association secretary. The new \$15,000 building of this organization is nearing completion and will be ready for occupancy within a few weeks. It is one of the most attractive looking buildings on the campus and fills a long felt want.

Professor N. W. Walker has been made professor of secondary school organization. This is a new office recently created and Mr. Walker's duties will be to travel throughout the state visiting the different schools and organizing schools where there are none. Mr. Walker will work under the supervision and direction of the president of the University and of the state superintendent of public instruction. Professor Walker will have professional rank in the University faculty and when not engaged in his work of travel will deliver lectures on educational topics at the university.

Dr. Robert B. Lawson, better known in athletic circles as "Bob" Lawson will be in charge of the Bynum Memorial gymnasium. He is a skilled gymnast and is very popular among the students. Dr. Lawson coached the University base ball team last spring and the team he put forth defeated the University of Virginia team in both games played. He will be assisted in his work by Mr. K. L. Wardlaw, of Boston.

The outlook for a good foot ball team is very bright. Coach Warner has had the candidates out for several days and has been putting them through a thorough course of light training preparatory to the harder work that is to follow. Mr. Warner is a Cornell University man, having played guard on that team for three years. He has coached several teams since his graduation and has developed fast teams wherever he has coached. Last year he coached the Sherman Institute team an Indian school in California and developed a team that won every game played. Foye Robertson of Chapel Hill, is Carolina's captain this year. Robertson is one of the best foot ball players in the south. In addition to Robertson, Story, Seagle, Wingorne and Townsend of last year's team have returned this fall. Carolina is fortunate

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In having this year Gardner, Abernathy and Sadler of last year's A. & M. team, and the Snipes brothers from Guilford's team. In addition to these men there are a number of candidates who are showing up exceedingly well in the practices.

Manager A. H. Bahnsen of Winston-Salem has arranged the following schedule:

September 30th, Guilford college at Chapel Hill.

October 7th, Davidson College at Charlotte.

October 14th, University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia.

October 21st, Navy at Annapolis.

October 28th, Virginia Polytechnic Institute at Richmond.

November 4th, Georgetown University at Richmond.

November 11th, Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh.

November 18th, Virginia Military Institute at Winston-Salem.

November 30th, University of Virginia at Norfolk.

DIED FROM SUCKING MATCHES

Peculiar and Sad Death of a Six Months Old Baby—Failure of the Firm of George B. Edwards & Co.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Goldstboro, N. C., September 20.—The six months old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beck met with a rather peculiar death this morning at 4 o'clock. Yesterday afternoon the baby was given a box of matches to play with, and was not noticed by its mother until it had opened the box and had several of the matches in its mouth. In a short while the infant began to grow ill and continued to get worse until death relieved it at 4 o'clock this morning. The physician in attendance said that the child sucked the poison off the matches down its throat, and literally burned its stomach out. Contrary to all expectation the child did not have convulsions, but went to sleep and breathed its last very peacefully.

The firm of George B. Edwards and Company, doing a merchant tailoring business, and selling gents furnishing goods, made an assignment this morning to Mr. H. C. Smith, bookkeeper in the National Bank, and cashier of the Savings and Trust Company. The liabilities will foot up \$5,000 or more and the assets will come something near that amount. Poor business is put down as the cause of the failure. The announcement made as surprise to the business circles of the city. The members of the firm are young and popular and were thought to be doing a paying business. This is the first failure of an established business house in Goldstboro for several years.

The Goldstboro Merchants Association have taken up the question of providing a suitable place for the reception and comfort of visitors from the surrounding towns and country who come to the city to spend the day in shopping. A committee of five has been appointed to either have erected or purchase some building where ladies especially can go to make their toilet, eat their dinner that they bring with them, and take care of their children. It is calculated that visitors to the city will greatly appreciate such a convenience and will cause many to come to the city who might possibly otherwise stay away. By providing for their comforts while they are in our midst it will show visitors that the people of Goldstboro appreciate their visits.

Stopped the Masons.
There is somewhat of a stir at Spencer today over the work of some mischievous boys. Either yesterday afternoon or Saturday night (we do not recall this) the masons were in session and these boys broke up their meeting.

They did it intentionally. There is a ladder by which they climbed up to the roof and entered the building from the top. The ventilator between the ceiling and the roof made it easy to see and hear what was going on and the masons were forced to abandon their purposes temporarily.

The names of the boys were learned and warrants issued for them. Several of them belong to the best families in Spencer.

The aspect that the case is to assume will be interesting. The boys may or may not be prosecuted for disturbing the masons' service, or they may be indicted simply for trespass. Whatever proceedings are instituted against them, will be of interest everywhere.—Salisbury Post.

Madam—"Have you had experience?"
Cook—"I've had tin places this month."—Harper's Bazar.

A NERVOUS WRECK

Mrs. Beasley Brooding Over Mysterious Disappearance of Her Young Son.

Elizabeth City, September 18.—Senator S. M. Beasley, of Poplar Branch, Currituck county, passed through this city today en route to his home. He has just returned from Norfolk, where he carried his wife to a hospital to be treated for nervous debility, resulting from the mysterious disappearance of their small son, Kenneth, February 13 last.

Mr. Beasley stated that the mental strain upon his wife was wearing her life away and he expressed strong doubt as to her complete recovery unless the missing boy was found. He says there have been no developments, no new clues, since the search was abandoned. He still thinks, however, that the boy is alive, but entertains no hope of recovering him.—Special to the News and Observer.

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

Raleigh, N. C., September 18.

The weather for the past week was characterized by warm days and cool nights, but the mean temperature for the week was about normal. The only rain of consequence fell on the 13th and 17th and was very beneficial to all crops. The weather in general has been very favorable for picking cotton, saving fodder, meadow and pea vine hay. Farmers in all parts of the state have been ready to plow land for fall sowing but the ground has been too dry in most places; in a few localities, however, some wheat, rye, and oats have been sown.

There has been no improvement in the cotton crop during the past week. The warm weather caused it to open rapidly, and in some places prematurely. The crop will nowhere be more than fair, and in places it will be very light. It is generally reported that there will be no top crop, owing to shedding; many correspondents state that the bolls are small and the lint short; in the south-central counties and in the extreme northeastern portion of the state are opening prematurely, owing to rust; army worms are doing considerable damage to late cotton in Beaufort, Craven, Jones, and Duplin counties.

Tobacco curing is completed in the eastern portion of the state. Cutting and curing is in progress in the central district, where the crop is reported improved and in good condition, except in Rockingham county where some of it is badly burnt and specked; it is curing well, color and texture are good but the leaf is light. In the western portion slight damage by worms is reported.

Corn improved during the past week, but late corn in some places suffered from drought, and some correspondents report that it will not mature; a poor crop is expected in the eastern, while the prospects are for good crops in the western and central portions.

Weekly Cotton Crop Report.

Washington, September 19.—The weekly summary of crop conditions issued by the weather bureau today, says:

While a slight improvement in the condition of cotton is reported from Oklahoma and Indian Territories and portions of Louisiana and northern Texas, the crop as a whole over most of the belt has experienced little or no change, with a tendency toward deterioration. Premature opening is extensively reported in the eastern and western districts, but only a few complaints of this character are received from the central portion.

Boll weevils are increasing in Texas and are causing injury in western Louisiana. A poor top crop is promised. Picking is advancing rapidly and is nearing completion in some fields in southern Georgia.

RALEIGH'S POLICE COURT

Its Constitutionality Brought Before Supreme Court on Habeas Corpus.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., September 19.—Application was made to Judge Hoke, of the Supreme court, for a writ of habeas corpus to test in the state courts the constitutionality of the act giving the police justice of Raleigh power to sentence without jury trial. It is a case agreed, Judge Hoke formally dismisses it, so it may be heard by the Supreme court in banc, thus taking about the same course as the McCown case from Durham. This course was referred to by Judge Funnell, of the Federal court, who said the only thing to be done, if anything, was to get a case before the State Supreme court, then before the Federal court on writ of error.