

BIG GRAFT IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The demand for lavish expenditure of public funds for public improvement can be heard often. Millions are placed in state houses and a hundred thousand or more placed in courthouses where less than half the amount expended would erect and complete the buildings if all the fees and graft were eliminated.

There is not always graft and extravagance in the expenditure of public funds in the erection of public improvements. It is the case often. Take Pennsylvania's new State house which cost that State \$13,000,000, several millions of which went into the pockets of grafters.

Some people have correct ideas as to the cost of public buildings but in this case the matter was too plain, and the rumors went the rounds. When public attention was directed to the price paid as being all out of proportion to what the cost should be, a howl was raised and would not down. A committee was appointed to investigate and the report recommends that both civil and criminal proceedings be brought against seventeen persons and one corporation. Millions were stolen under the form of fees, rake offs and attorneys fees.

Lawyers who take fees and conceal the fact of their employment should be disbarred and prosecuted for grafting.

EVERYBODY PRAISES THE FAIR.

Governor Glenn declared last week at Norfolk that the Jamestown Exposition is in many respects the best of all the world's fairs, and that it was worthy of a visit from every American citizen.

Not only was Governor Glenn delighted with the Fair but everybody else is delighted and singing its praises.

There were many thousand North Carolinians at the Exposition and many thousands have gone there this week. The people are just beginning to realize what a big success the Exposition really is.

The sale of tickets at Asheboro by the ticket agent of the A. & A. Railroad averaged for the month of July \$150 a week. The average sales prior to that time per week by the agent for this road at this point was \$50 per week. We do not undertake to say the three fold increase in receipts by the agent at this place is due to the reduction in railroad fares, but we do believe that a great part is due to the reduction in fares.

The country folks ride on the railroad as well as other folks, and we are hearing from them now. They are pleased with the reduced rates. They like it because it is cheaper and they believe the railroads can make a fair profit by charging the reduced rate.

One of the stock arguments of those who are opposed to the reduction of railroad passenger fares is that mill people and laboring people will spend too much of their earnings in riding on the "kivered cars". This argument is not made, however, before the courts when injunctions are asked for.

The Chatham Record owned and edited by Maj. H. A. London, has closed its 29th year. Major London has edited The Record from the beginning and always with ability. No other paper has been under the same management so long a time.

The Seaboard Air Line is showing its good sense and sound judgment again in complying with the new two cent rate law in Virginia. In Alabama it is said there will be no resistance to the state legislation there.

The Salisbury Evening Post will print in another linotype, and will greatly enlarge and otherwise improve that most excellent afternoon paper.

The Asheboro and Randolph county people who have attended the Exposition are delighted with their trips. Everyone who goes there gets full returns for the money spent, and all are pleased. The exhibits are excellent, and every one who can should attend.

Rachel Items.

They are having one of the best Sunday Schools at Union they have had in years.

There was an ice cream supper given at the home of Mrs. Rachel Hill Saturday night. All reported a nice time. Those present were: Messrs. Irvin Lassiter, Grady Woolley, Reggie Varner, Harris Birkhead, Ed Kearns, Albert Crauford, Will Briles, Worth and Cleg Garner, Stan- isle Hix, Walter and Grover Scott, Scooter Hill, Misses Blanche and McKay Birkhead, Berchie Briles, Lula Hill, Ora Thornburg and the Misses Hills.

Miss Nannie Hill has returned home from a few days' visit to Mr. and Mrs. James Bright.

Mrs. Ella Thornburg, who has been visiting her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Lysiter, of Greensboro, returned home Saturday.

Miss Cynthia Thornburg, who attended the yearly meeting at Guilford College, returned home Saturday. We are glad to have her back with us.

Clegg Garner has returned from a visit to Greensboro.

Mr. Meendenhall, of Spencer, is visiting Miss Leona Parrish. He will continue his visit until Thursday.

Miss Lillie Lassiter of Mechanic, visited Miss E. La Lambeth Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Berchie Briles, of Hills Store, visited Miss Rochelle Hill Sunday.

Jackson Creek News.

A. C. Yates is very sick but is improving slowly.

W. R. Harris died of typhoid fever today.

Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Sell visited at Cox postoffice Tuesday.

Mrs. R. E. Hunt and two of her daughters are sick of typhoid fever.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Taylor, of High Point, visited Mrs. Taylor's father, A. C. Yates Saturday and returned Monday.

Wm. C. Yates, of China Grove, and his son, B. W. Yates, visited his father, A. C. Yates Tuesday.

There was an ice cream supper at J. C. Ragan's Saturday night. A fine time was reported.

J. F. Cameron, Frank Dolk, Lee Helt, and H. E. Osborn went fishing at Johnson's mill pond Friday, and caught 100 fish 75 at one draw.

Mrs. Flora Tysinger Ridge, wife of P. W. Ridge, died at Thomasville Saturday, of brain fever, and was buried at Hoover's Grove Sunday evening. She leaves a husband and two children.

Personals from Biscoe.

Miss Annie Sloan, of Jonesboro, is visiting at Mrs. J. W. Masemore's.

Mr. W. P. Stanley and family are visiting relatives and friends at Greensboro. Mr. J. C. Batten is acting as Train Dispatcher during the absence of Mr. Stanley.

Mr. E. L. Annum, of Asheboro, spent Sunday in town.

Rev. L. Smith, of Mt. Gilead, filled his regular appointment here Sunday.

Miss Annie Benzoy, of Aberdeen, is visiting Mrs. B. D. Drake.

Mrs. A. A. Maness and little daughter, Ruth, are visiting relatives at Thomasville this week.

Mrs. Dr. H. E. Bowman and children are at Jackson Springs for the season.

Mrs. J. R. Kanoy and family have moved into their handsome residence at Troy, which they purchased there some time ago, and will make Troy their future home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Annum are the happy parents of a new baby girl.

Mr. Alex. Kennedy has closed out his grocery business here to accept a position as foreman of the Dockery Lumber Company's plant at Rockingham. Mr. Kennedy left for Rockingham Monday.

August 31st is the date of the big Educational and Junior Order Rally at Asheboro.

THE TRUST TAX U. S.

Ten years of the Dingley law shows a tax of \$3 a year on every man, woman and child in the United States. That's only what was paid in buying imported goods. The less direct tax for high prices on domestic goods with foreign competition throttled can never be estimated, but we may form some idea of it by the size of the fortunes accumulated by the magnates of the Steel Trust, the Leather Trust and the like. The most reliable statisticians estimate that each family in the United States pays an average of nearly \$100 annually in increased profits to the trusts in consequence of the protection the tariff gives them.

Four brass bands, a baseball game and flag raising and Bible presentation are among the attractions to be here August 31st.

CUNNING COYOTES.

Their Patience and Some of Their Other Peculiar Traits. This is the coyote—Co-yo-tay, with all the syllables, to the Mexican who named him; "late" merely to the American wanderer who has come and gone so often that he at last regards himself a resident stockman and farmer.

It is this little beast's triangular visage, his sharp nose fitted for the easy investigation of other people's affairs, his oblique green eyes, with their quint of cowardice and perpetual hunger, says the Outing Magazine, that should have a place in the adoration of esotericists. It is notorious that the vicissitudes of his belly never bring to him the fate upon whose verge he always lives and that nothing but strychnine, and not always that, will bring an end to his forlorn career. As his gray back moves slowly along above the reeds and coarse grass and he turns his head to look at you he knows at once whether or not you have with you a gun, and you cannot know how he knows. Once satisfied that you are unarmed, he will remain near in spite of any vocal remonstrances and by and by will proceed to interview you in a way that for unobtrusiveness might be taken as a model of the art.

Lie down on the thick brown carpet of the wilderness and be still for twenty minutes, and watching him from the corner of your eye, you will see that he has been joined by others of his brethren hitherto unseen. He seems to be curious to know, first, if you are dead and, second, if by any chance—and he lives upon chances—there is anything else in your neighborhood that he might find edible.

If you pass on with indifference, which is the usual way, he will sit himself down upon his tail on the nearest knoll and lol his red tongue and leer at you as one whom he is half inclined to claim acquaintance. He looks and acts then so much like a gray dog that one is inclined to whistle to him. Make any hostile demonstration, and he will move a little farther and sit down again.

If by any means you manage to offend him deeply at this juncture, the chances are that he and his comrades may retire still farther and then bark ceaselessly until they have hooted you out of the neighborhood. That night he and some of his companions may come and steal the straps from your saddle, the meat from the frying pan, and politely clean the pan—and even the boots from beside your lowly bed.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Your dog never bothers any one. When the joke is "on" you it is never very funny.

There is a good deal of inhumanity in human nature.

How loud the door bangs when some one else slams it!

It is easier to keep a secret than it is to keep a promise.

Every one is superstitious enough to believe in the dollar sign.

You can't judge the speed of a locomotive by the way it whistles.

There are lots of happy people, but they are unnoticed in the noise of the wretched make.

As we grow older we are all compelled to give up much of the spunk we displayed in youth.

If you think you are right, go ahead, if you want to, but don't expect every one to go with you.—Aitchison Globe.

The Muskellunge.

The Indian name of this great fighter of the fresh water lakes and tributaries is "esoxmaquagoony." Our naturalists have the word translated into about eight or nine different styles, but the correct way of spelling it in our language is undoubtedly "muskellunge." Most fishermen, however, pronounce and spell it to suit themselves, and no man seems to be an accepted authority. It is one thing in Canada, another in the St. Lawrence and another in the great lakes. The favorite among New Yorkers is "muscallonge." The fish reaches a length of seven and a half feet, and the biggest ever taken is said to have weighed ninety-two pounds. In game laws it is said to surpass the tarpon of the Caribbean and the tuna of the Pacific.—New York Press.

Rather Confusing.

Nowadays the duties of clerk and sexton are usually performed by the same person, and an amusing story is told of a person who, visiting a village church and being struck by the knowledge of legends and history shown by the old man who was taking him round, asked his guide what occupation he followed. "Well," said the old man, "I hardly know what I be. First vicar he called me clerk; then another he came, and he called me vicar; then the last vicar said I was the Christian, and now I be clerk again." "Virgin" was, of course, a confusion of verger, and "Christian" for sacristan or sexton.—London Strand.

Neighbors.

"I beg your pardon, sir, but I'm going to ask you if your daughter would mind not playing on the piano for the next two weeks?" "May I ask, sir, the reason for this extraordinary request?" "Well, you see, my son wishes to get a good start with the flute."—New York Life.

Wonderful Ability.

"I understand he is a man of great ability." "You bet he is. He can convince you that you are wrong in any argument without having to shake his finger in your face."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

WHY NOT ITEMS.

Interesting Locals from Why Not.

Mrs. J. A. Auman came home from Blue Monday, where she has been visiting her son, C. B. Auman.

Herman Auman, of Asheboro, is spending a while here.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Cornelison and J. J. Harper expect to go to Jamestown this week.

J. A. Monroe and children, Graham and Ada, recently spent a few days in Moore County.

Mrs. Lennie Cagle is improving from her recent sickness.

Mrs. George Bean has been right sick for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Cagle spent Sunday night in Montgomery.

Mrs. Cagle, of Asbury, has been visiting at her son's M. A. Cagle's.

Mr. Crawford, from near Ophir, spent a night last week with Mrs. Sarah Yow.

Charlie Davis is visiting at Staley.

Clinton Auman spent Sunday at Dover in Moore County.

A. L. King went to Asheboro on business last Saturday.

J. B. Slack spent Monday in Asheboro. School has opened up with the largest enrollment for the beginning in the history of the school.

Miss Swanna Lowdermilk has charge of the primary department; and Miss Etta Auman, of music and art.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davis were called to Italy last week by the sickness of Mr. Davis' sister.

Typhoid Fever.

The ever dread typhoid fever continues to call forth expressions of amazement, all that science and research can produce. From the Paris edition of the New York Herald the following interesting and instructive matter is reproduced; notwithstanding the fact a layman—if not also the immediate profession—is quite as incomprehensibly puzzled. The Herald says in part:

When typhoid fever is spoken of, water is always blamed. This is a mistake, for the disease may have other causes. In this connection M. Martel, inspector of the veterinary service of the Seine department has gathered some very precise statistics on this subject.

In Germany, out of 628 epidemics of typhoid fever 110, that is 17 per cent were caused by polluted milk.

In New York in 1905, out of 1,081 cases 403 occurred among persons who were milk drinkers. In 1894, in a city, out of 1,786 cases observed with 871 deaths, 378 of the patients drank milk.

In France similar observations have been made, in 1892, out of 23 cases of typhoid fever, 18 were due to milk. At Hierrefitta (Seine), in 1904, according to the report made to the council of hygiene, an epidemic affected those who drank raw milk obtained from cows in a cow-house which was found to be contaminated.

In London, according to Copper and Hattin, analogous facts have come to light.

Milk, then, is sometimes to blame and it is necessary to protect it from adulteration with doubtful water and also from other sources of contamination which affect it. Care is necessary in regard to milk as in regard to water. Statistics confirm this statement.

The lowest death rate corresponds with the greatest quantity of filtered water used. This fact tends to throw the blame at certain periods on spring water itself.

Paris, however, is relatively favored. Statistics drawn up by M. Bertillon demonstrate that the average mortality from typhoid fever from 1901 to 1905 was 12 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants. In 1805 the figure fell to 8.8, the same as in London, Berlin, and Vienna. This is the lowest figure that has ever been observed in Paris, and yet the year 1905 was exceptionally rainy.

In Vienna the lowering of the mortality coincided with the bringing into use of large supplies of spring water.

To sum up, the expense which Paris has incurred to obtain good water during the past 40 years has very appreciably diminished the number of cases of the disease, as is indicated by the statistics showing a drop from 1.48 per cent in 1899 to 0.77 in 1905.

But this is not a reason interrupting investigations which may result in an even more complete purification of the water supply. As a substitute for filtered water one cannot find a sufficient guarantee in the use of mineral waters the majority of which are liable to show great variations in quality, contain bacilli in more or less considerable quantities, and are subject to the same variations as the springs which are used for the water supply of cities.

In our next issue look for program of Junior Order and Educational Rally August 31st.

Miss Sarah C. Yow, of Why Not, and J. C. Cornelison, of Cagle's Mills, were married August 18th.

DEATH OF MRS. J. T. BOSTICK.

A Noble Christian Lady Passes Quietly Away.

Mrs. Sallie E. Bostick, wife of J. T. Bostick, died at her home at Randleman, Thursday morning from a complication of diseases. Deceased was in the sixty seventh year of her age and had been a consistent member of the M. E. church for over fifty years. Before her marriage, which occurred in 1859, she was Miss Sallie E. Walker, and a sister of Mr. J. Walker of Asheboro. She was born and reared in Randolph county and had spent all her life in the county—a large portion in Randleman.

Besides her husband, she is survived by four children, two sons and two daughters, Samuel E., Randleman; Misses Mary and Lena, at home; and W. P., Barkeville, Va.

THE SEA HEDGEHOG.

It Will Swallow Air Until It Swells Into Invulnerability.

Of fishes a large number are protected from hostile attack by a covering of prickles. By far the most curious examples are the globe-fishes or "sea hedgehogs" of the Atlantic and Indo-Pacific oceans. The extreme length of the globe-fish is something less than two feet. It has thick lips and goggle eyes, which give it the appearance of a good natured countryman. Courage it seems to lack, and one might suppose that such a simpleton would fall an easy prey to the first shark or dogfish it encountered. Yet the globe-fish is able to take care of itself. It never under any circumstances attacks the enemy, yet is always ready to receive him in a suitable manner should he provoke hostilities.

Let us suppose that a shoal of globe-fishes is swimming tranquilly in the clear waters when it is suddenly surprised by a hungry shark. Of course the little fellows scuttle hither and thither in uncontrollable alarm. But the shark, pausing himself upon his powerful tail, leisurely singles out one of the fleeing globe-fishes and sets out in pursuit. Now, although the globe-fish is a good swimmer, it is no match for the shark. The chase is in every way unequal and can have but one ending. Within a few minutes of its commencement the shark must overtake the globe-fish. But the quarry is well aware of its danger. It makes a bee line for the surface and as soon as it gets there begins to take in great gulps of air.

Then a strange thing happens. The fish that only a moment before was thin and small begins to grow stouter and stouter until, like the frog in the fable, it seems in danger of bursting. It stops inflating itself, however, just in time to avert this catastrophe. But its skin has become as taut as a drum-head, and the whole of its body is covered with sharp, erect prickles. It has become a sea hedgehog, and the hungry shark which comes surging through the water dares not touch it, but turns tail in search of something more edible. Of course the globe-fish was covered with prickles all the time, but in periods of tranquillity these lie comfortably along its sides, just as do those of the hedgehog. Unlike its land prototype, however, the sea hedgehog is unprovided with a special muscle for erecting its prickles, so when danger threatens it has recourse to the mechanical method of inflating the whole body with air or with water. If it cannot reach the surface quickly.—Scientific American.

Negro Shot by White Man in Winston.

At Winston-Salem Claud James shot and killed one negro by the name of Eurie Smith and shot and painfully wounded another negro by the name of Burk Alexander on last Saturday night; James is a white man and has a bad record and is just off the county roads for shooting three negroes.

NOTICE.

Having qualified as receiver for the Kennedy Talc Co., of Trinity, N. C., all persons owing said company will come forward and make immediate payment; and persons holding claims against said company are notified to present their claims duly verified before the 27 day of August, 1905, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This 19th day of Aug. 1907.

Joe PARKIN Receiver, Trinity N. C.

Mr. J. R. M arley was among those who went to Janestown this week.

John D Rockefeller prophesies that financial disaster will sweep the country owing to the policy inaugurated by Mr. Roosevelt in his opposition to trusts.

L. H. Donkle, of Salisbury, has been elected State Organizer for the State Federation of Labor. The Federation met at Charlotte last week.

The Yadkin Valley Fair Association of Salisbury is preparing for an elaborate county fair for Rowan county in October.

RAMON'S FOR NERVE & BONE CUTS, SORES, BURNS & RHEUMATISM 25c

THE TRAIN BELL ROPE.

How It and the Conductor's Supremacy Came to Be Established.

Although there does not seem to be anything in common between pugilism and railroad rules, yet the adoption of the familiar bell rope that stretches through every car of the modern train was the result of a drastic encounter. At the same time and by the issue of the same combat the supremacy of the conductor in railroad travel was ordained. It was Philadelphia which gave both to the world.

One of the oldest railroads in the country is the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore, now known as the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, which was opened in 1837. The terminus in Philadelphia was at Broad and Prime streets—Prime street now being known as Washington avenue—and after crossing the Schuylkill river at Gray's Ferry the route ran along the Delaware river on what is now the Chester line of the Reading railway. The first schedule contained one passenger train, which went to Baltimore one day and came back the next, which was considered a remarkable feat in rapid travel. When a train a day each way was placed in service the people of the two cities served concluded that the same of convenience in transportation had been reached.

Next to the president of the railroad the most important functionaries were the engineer and conductor. It was a question whether or not the head of the line was not considered a subsidiary officer in popular estimation to the men who ran the train, but Robert Fogg, who pulled the throttle, and John Wolf, who collected fares, won the deference of the public because of their high and responsible duties.

Fogg, an Englishman, had all the tenacity of opinion of his race. Wolf, an American, had the ingenuity of the Yankee and, seeing the need of some method by which he could communicate with the engineer, devised the scheme of running a cord through the cars to the locomotive. As the engine was a wood burner, Wolf fastened one end of the cord to a log, which was placed on the engineer's seat and was pulled to the floor when the conductor desired to signal for a stop.

Fogg resented what he considered an interference with his rights on the platform of the locomotive and on the first run out from Broad and Prime streets with the new device paid no heed to the displacement of the log from the seat when the conductor desired to take on a passenger from a farm near Gray's Ferry, but sped on over the bridge and did not deign to bring his engine to a stop until Blue Bell station, on the south side of the Schuylkill, had been reached. Then he demanded to know of Wolf why he had been jerking that log all about the locomotive.

Wolf hotly declared that he had signaled to stop, but Fogg retorted that he would stop when and where he pleased and that, too, without any reference to orders from the conductor, whom he did not regard as his superior in the management of the train. The altercation grew very heated, and Wolf invited the engineer from the cab to settle the matter, and the challenge was quickly accepted.

Passengers and a group of men who had gathered at the station to see the train come in formed a ring about the combatants, but the fight did not last long, as Wolf proved by far the superior artist with his fists and with a few blows made it almost impossible for the engineer to see sufficiently to complete his run, but Fogg admitted that he had been fairly beaten, and the supremacy of the conductor on a train was settled for all time.

As the log signal was crude and ineffective, Wolf devised the use of a bell on the locomotive, and this method was soon adopted by all of the American railroads. Then a code of signals was adopted, and these remain practically to this day. The only change in the bell cord is that by use of the air from the brake system a whistle has superseded the bell in the locomotive cab.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Clay's Sassy Wit.

When Henry Clay was stumping Kentucky for re-election, at one of his mass meetings an old hunter of wide political influence said, "Well, Harry, I've always been for you, but because of that vote (which he named) I'm goin' 'a' h' you."

"Let me see your rifle," said Clay.

"It was handed to him.

"Is she a good rifle?"

"Yes."

"Did she ever miss fire?"

"Well, yes, once."

"Why didn't you throw her away?"

The old hunter thought a moment and then said, "Harry, I'll try you again."

And Harry was elected.

Hard on the Reporters.

"I had a strange dream the other night," said the major.

"What was it?" asked the young thing.

"I went to heaven and as an old newspaper man was interested in their journal up there. It was a miserable thing—not a well written story in it—and I told St. Peter so."

"What did he say?"

"He said: 'It's not our fault. We never get any good reporters up here.'"

—Philadelphia Press.

A Treasure.

Mrs. De Hitt—The Dobsons at last have a girl they hope to keep. Mrs. De Witt—Abeurd! Where is such a girl to be found? Mrs. De Hitt—She was born to them yesterday. —Harper's Weekly.

No exile or danger can fright a brave spirit.—Dryden.