THE COURIER

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

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Asheboro, N. C., March 4, 1914.

Broad radiant smiles again brighten not only the marts of trade but Wall Street is radiant and aglow. The skies are brighter everywhere.

The only true American doctrine of the present is to stand by the President says Mr. Taft. No Democrat could have made a stronger defense of the administration. Ex-President Taft's view is that the first duty of every American at such a time as this, in Mr. Taft's view, is to be an American, and to support an American President and an American Government, without regard to political affiliations or foreign sympathies.

WHAT IS A REPUBLICAN?

In view of the fact the President of the United States has appointed three Democrats and two Progressive-Republicans as the five members for the commission provided for in the Trade Campaign Act.

The Republican leaders in Washington are in great lament because the President did not appoint standpat Republicans and are threatening that these new Republican-Progressives shall not be confirmed by the Senate. The New York World says that when it comes to the test, will the Republicans in the Senate redeem their pledges to support the confirmation of these five gentlemen? We doubt it. That would be too much like another of the lost battles between the lion and the lamb. However that may be of discrediting the President, it is quite a different matter from discrediting the President himself. The President is about to save more than half the taxes that must be paid on in 1915 to give the Republican party a handle thereto at the polls.

SMALL-POX AND TUBERCULOSIS

When you name small-pox everybody runs to cover. If a case of small pox breaks out in a community everybody runs to cover, and it more often turns out to be chicken-pox or scarlet fever.

Last year in N. C. 76 people died of small-pox, while tuberculosis got away with 5,400. Yet if a person has tuberculosis nothing is made of it. The medical profession and our health authorities should help get rid of the great White Plague which moves its thousands where small-pox is comparatively harmless.

Mr. W. V. Bobbitt, of the State Board of Health, wants to know why people scare at small-pox and go to sleep when going about tuberculosis.

Hope sits high and faith abounds. People everywhere have the forward look. Optimism is the order of the day. Great plans are ahead and set for many. Great opportunities are knocking at the door of American business men to help relieve the prostrated nations. The period of readjustment from war to peace is now in sight and soon will be in reach, is a matter of vital concern to all.

THE OUT LOOK GOOD

New York is the financial center of the world. The drop in foreign exchange is the lowest of which there is any record. This is due to the swinging of the exchange toward an opulent country and the drain of private capital from the belligerent countries to a strong country in peace. The enormous demand for wheat has made the west most prosperous in years.

Business conditions are being greatly relieved in the South by the rapid moving of cotton recently.

The Steel Corporation is getting orders for 25,000 to 30,000 tons of steel per day. This, it is true, is not the full capacity of the Steel Corporation, yet the steel trade is most optimistic.

The Illinois Central Railroad has ordered $6,000,000 of equipment.

All seasonable goods are in active demand. The price of cotton is not high because of the high freight rates, which should have been cut by the enactment of the ship purchase bill, but it is going on rapidly.

Exports are three times as much as a year ago. Corn has advanced in price more rapidly recently than wheat and the shipments are larger than a year ago. The price is high in Europe for most American products, and especially for farm products, but the high freight rates keep prices much lower here than they should be.

The Union Republican in the course of an editorial condemning the Democratic Administration has this to say:

"The system of collecting on foreign importations at the custom houses, which was the Republican policy both to secure revenue and protect American industries, has been changed to a system of internal taxation which imposes more directly upon the people. These additional taxes were intended to make up for the loss of revenue under the reduced tariff and for any falling off due to the war."

The broker's memory is fearfully defective. He forgets that in the days of Mr. McKinly when poor old John Sherman was Secretary of State, 74 years old and withering on the brink of the grave, a senile old man who could not perform the duties of the office and they had to be delegated to an inexperienced dabstant who blundered about in economy until the little broadcast spell hurry with Cuba was over.

That was under Republican rule and high tariff, and with all the ships of all the nations with their white wings of commerce spread on every sea. Yet a mere of trade not a mere of many cloud, not an inverted pile of any lumber, yet a republican administration imposed a revenue such as that not a citizen on every dime from a thank paper to a box of matches and Negro's Chewy Powell—a cause of a country in a century to withstand internal conflict.

The war we were before we were ready to enter. In did not last six months, one of the shortest wars in history and the strongest country on the globe settles the conflict. And yet the Republicans imposed this burdensome war revenue tax on the people for three years, two and a half years of the time this Republican revenue tax was on the people in time of profound peace, when all the world was in good humor. How different now. The United States was on the eve tride of an unexampled era of prosperity under the workings of the new Democratic tariff bill which was proving a most popular measure. But the last week in August of last year, crash went the cannon stationed on the boundary lines of civilization's dominions in the civilized world. The countries of Europe were at each others' throats. The mills of commerce were halted, the ports of all nations were closed, business stood still, imports to America decreased as that they almost stopped. The banks of all countries suspended. America was crippled. The tariff law yielded decreased income because imports were so crippled. Yet our intelligent contemporary lapses in its memory so that it gets history all crooked. The editor of the Republican and Examiner: he will not make such ridiculous scrain.

COL. CAMERON'S BILL

Colonel Benehan Cameron's bill to establish a State highway commission means something, yea much to the cause of intelligent and economic road building.

The usefulness of the commission will be so thoroughly demonstrated within the next two years that all will concede the importance of this legislation, which the North Carolina Good Roads Association has been contending for, for several years. The trouble in the past in road building is the waste of money in location and construction of roads. A new era will begin in road building. There will be a system throughout the State.

Money will be saved for the counties. The commission will be composed of experts and students of road building.

With the splendid public schools system growing in all parts of State nothing will do so much to attract homeseekers as good roads built intelligently and at maximum cost so as to prevent excessive taxes.

With good schools and better roads additional settlers will come from the four corners of the compass.

No legislation enacted in North Carolina recently will help the State so much indirectly as the enactment of a State highway commision.

Dr. W. S. Rankin declares that the time has come when the death rate will share with the tax rate in political significance.

THE CURSE OF DEBT

Southern Ruralist.

While thinking over the situation of the cotton grower a few days ago we happened to see, reprinted in a Florida paper, one of the strongest articles we have ever seen. Originally it was printed in the Evansville, Ind., Journal-News. We haven't space here to reproduce the whole article, but a part of it is as follows:

"Debt is a relentless, merciless beast that hunts its victims without stopping—all day and preventing sleep at night. Debt will not let you live in peace. It humiliates, degrades, discourages and belittles. Even with death you do not escape from debt. It blackens your memory, soils your reputation, brings you the contemptuous pity that you hate and puts an unwelcome burden upon your friends. Many a man has struggled against debt through a lifetime, only to die in the end killed by debt worries and fearing that debt would say at the last: 'When you have gone I will haunt those that you leave behind you. I will take their house and their living and their happiness and peace of mind and their confidence in you and your right to expect their respect and affectionate memory. You did not pay me in full, but they shall pay in full and more.'

"If debt, when it first approaches, smiling, easy, convincing, looked as it does a little later, we would set our right hand rather than sign the first note or borrow the first dollar. But debt is a slow, deceived and powerful. And like every vice, its approach is convincing, subtle and disarming.

"The fawning, little, playful puppy of whom you have so few soon grows into the powerful, all-controlled beast that hunts. If you are sailing through life's calm, nobody knows better than you that you might as well travel and compete with a cannon-ball sent around your neck. You have seen pictures of miserable criminals in China walking the streets with great heavy blocks of wood fastened around their necks, with holes for their arms to hold them right and helpless as they go about. They are absolutely helpless, as if they had the greatest rich millstone around their necks. You may kick them, insult them, spit in their face, curse them and strike them, and the slightest rock with one hand.

[illegible] in debt. [illegible] If he must [illegible] to the [illegible] to [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] and