

THE MEBANE LEADER.

And Right The Day Must Win, To Doubt Would be Disloyalty To Falter Would be Sin.

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DOINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

Bill Passed to Allow Women to Become Notaries.

During the past week the Legislature has been oiled up and is now about ready to get down to real business. Few laws have actually been passed, but indications are that some will be turned out within the next week. However, there has been some very important bills prepared. Among them of most importance is the State Primary bill as introduced by Senator McNeely of Union. There is a good deal of speculation as to the outcome of this bill when it comes to the floor for passage. It has a good many staunch supporters in both branches and at the same time many formidable enemies. A lively debate is anticipated when this bill is brought up.

Another bill that has caused much comment is the one to prohibit the hiring of the convict force to the corporations and the State receiving in compensation therefor certificates of stock in such corporations. This bill seems to have much sentiment behind it and there is a probability of its passage.

A bill has been introduced to establish a home for fallen women. This bill has the heart of most of the members, but whether it will get their vote in face of the fact that the State will have to finance it and the State's finances are limited is a question.

One of the most interesting to come up the past week was the one allowing women to become notaries. This bill has succeeded in passing the Senate in face of much opposition. It is understood that this statute is to be tested in the courts as soon as one woman is made a notary. The Governor is to appoint one for that purpose. This is a step toward equal rights for the fair sex, and this law may be the forerunner of a bill to grant full suffrage to woman in the State.

The Child Labor problem has come up again and it will no doubt get recognition at this session of the Legislature.

Many bills of a local nature have been introduced—too numerous to mention.

Liquor And Plant Life

Another strange performance was added this afternoon to the long list of novel events in the office of the Secretary of State since Mr. Bryan assumed the office.

In company with a few officials of the Department Mr. Bryan saw a demonstration of the sensitiveness of plants given by Prof. Jangadis Chandra Bose of the Presidency College, India. Professor Bose is the support of the British Government and is giving lectures in this country to demonstrate his discoveries regarding plant life.

He has invented various devices for registering the emotions of plants. What seemed to please Mr. Bryan most was that when a plant received alcohol it passed through a brief period of obvious exhilaration, followed by a decided drooping, indicating that even plants must pay the price of "the morning after."

That plants vibrate in response to musical notes was also demonstrated by the Indian scientist.—Washington Dispatch.

Clean Up Your Premises.

The extermination of the winter fly is a problem for the individual housekeeper. Don't let one fly escape you. Hunt for them and kill them now—for the winter fly is the most dangerous of the race—she is the mother of all next summer's terrible throng.

Ever stop to think where flies come from? Every last one of them hatched fresh from some stable, pig pen, manure pile or open privy. What are you going to do about it? Nip the whole matter in the bud by keeping the premises so clean that flies can't breed.

A Good Cheap Fly Poison—2 table-spoonfuls of Formalin to a mixture of half a pint of water. Drop pieces of bread in saucers of this poison, place conveniently for the flies around the stable or milk room, and watch results.

PROUD OF BABY AS ANY GRANDFATHER

Washington, Jan. 18.—President Wilson's talks with callers today centered mainly about the new White House arrival, his first grand child, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis B. Sayre. Thousands of congratulatory messages and

MR. J. W. MURRAY DROWNED FRIDAY

Prominent Business Man, of Burlington, Drowned Near Beaufort.

Mr. J. W. Murray, of Burlington, president of the Piedmont Loan and Trust Co., of that place, was drowned with others of his party while on his way from Norfolk to Beaufort last Friday. The oil tank of the yacht in which they journeyed was ignited by a lighted match and exploded, thus precipitating the death of Mr. Murray and his crew, with the exception of Mrs. Murray, who was picked up by a fisherman and carried to shore. Mr. Murray was contemplating the purchase of the yacht and was out with it on a test trip. The news of this misfortune was a severe blow to his many friends in Burlington and elsewhere. Mr. Murray has been a leading factor in the industrial life of Burlington for many years. He was one of her most successful business men and financiers. He organized the corporation of which he was head and made it one of the "most successful enterprises in the country of its kind." Burlington and Alamance loses one of her most influential citizens. Mr. Murray's body had not been located at this writing.

Money in the Bank.

There are in Johnston county eleven banks, and according to the published statements of seven of these banks at the close of business December 31st, 1914, there were on deposit in them \$384,934 05. The deposits of the other four banks will run the sum up to more than half a million dollars. Of course this is not quite as much as was on deposit January 1st, 1914. However, it shows that Johnston county is not entirely out of it, and that we are expecting to do a nice business for the year 1915. What we need now is for every man to set his shoulder to the wheel of business and, with a smiling face and renewed courage, try to push along to that better day which is not far away. There is no room or place at this time for the grumbler and "down-in-the-mouth" fellow who hinders the wheels of progress by seeing only the dark side and talking about hard times continually. While conditions are not ideal by any means, things might have been worse. When we are inclined to bewail our lot let us for the moment turn our minds to Belgium and Poland where the people have not only lost all, but many have lost their lives also. Our lot is a glorious one beside theirs.

Let us take stock of our opportunities and possibilities and get to work with a vim and a determination to make this the best year we have ever had. Our success for this year is, to a large extent, in our own hands. So let us claim it. Let us not be like the fellow who saw a thorn with every rose, but like the fellow who saw a rose with every thorn. Beyond the clouds the sun is still shining.—Smithfield Herald.

Business Improving.

Washington, Jan. 18.—J. P. Morgan today told President Wilson that there had been a marked improvement in general trade conditions as affecting international exchange and that increase in exports to Europe and decreased greatly American indebtedness to Europe.

Mr. Morgan mentioned the credit of \$42,000,000 recently established by the Russian Government in the United States through Mr. Morgan's banking firm and explained that there was to be no direct loan of money to the Russian Government. On leaving the White House he said the arrangements for the credit loan would go forward.

Mr. Morgan came to Washington primarily to attend a meeting of the Federal reserve council and plans to remain here until Wednesday. He called on Secretary Lane today to give him figures on the cost of operations and maintenance of the Copper River and Northwestern Railroad in Alaska, which the Morgan-Guggenheim interests have offered to sell to the Government as a part of the proposed Federal connecting the coast with the coal fields.

many presents arrived.

The grave look Mr. Wilson has worn since his wife's death was supplanted by a broad smile.

Dr. C. I. Grasson, the White House physician, reported tonight that both Mrs. Sayre and the baby were progressing favorably. The baby was described as being a perfectly proportioned

NAVY WILL HAVE GREAT SUBMARINE

Biggest Yet Ordered for United States.

THREE SMALLER ONES Largest of Quartette to Be Sea-going Craft With Displacement of 1,000 Tons.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Contracts were awarded by the navy department today to the Electric Boat company for one sea-going submarine to be built at Quincy, Mass., for \$1,350,000, and for three coast defense submarines to be built at Seattle, Wash., at \$450,000 each. The Lake Torpedo Boat company was awarded contracts for four coast defense submarines to be built at Bridgeport, Conn., for \$427,000 each.

The big sea-going submarine of 1,000 tons will be twice as large as any submarine now in a foreign navy. Certain features of American design will make this craft unique. She will have a radius of action of about 3,000 miles, a surface speed of 20 knots and submerged speed of 11 knots. By using her storage batteries alone she will be able to travel completely under water for more than a whole day. On her deck will be carried rapid fire guns designed to be completely inclosed when the vessel dives beneath the surface. A valuable feature will be directable torpedo tubes, making it unnecessary to manoeuvre the ship to aim at the enemies and adding enormously to the craft's offensive power.

The coast defense submarines are only one-third the size of the big sea-going type, although they themselves are quite seaworthy for short voyages. These boats will have a steaming radius on the surface of about 1,000 miles and their lighter draft is regarded as essential for operations in comparatively shallow harbors.

Expansion of the Cotton Goods Trade.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 20.—Great opportunities for expansion of the cotton goods trade with the South American countries are open now that the European mills have been curtailed and a number of Southern cotton mills are taking active steps to capture a generous share of this trade, declares Charles Lyou Chandler, South American Agent of Southern Railway, who calls attention to the following interesting figures:

Of the \$14,000,000 of cotton goods imported by Chile in 1912, only \$770,000 came from this country. Germany whose trade is now cut off, supplied \$3,400,000, and Great Britain the rest. In the same year, Argentina bought \$35,700,000 of which \$5,527,000 came from Germany, over \$17,000,000 from England and only \$445,300 from this country. Of the \$18,000,000 of cotton goods imported by Brazil, \$3,800,000 came from Germany, \$11,000,000 from England, and only \$329,000 from this country. Figures in regard to woolen goods and cutlery into the South American countries show similar opportunity.

Cotton Climbs Above Nine-Cent Position For July Delivery

New York, Jan. 18.—Cotton went above nine cents apound here today for July delivery, a new high record for the season.

Cotton for delivery in other active markets was up generally from 30 to 36 points above Saturday's closing. That was about \$8 a bale more than low prices of last month. Demand was active and despite heavy sales all offerings were readily absorbed.

Buyers were encouraged by reports of continued firmness in the Southern spot movement.

Four cotton exchange memberships were sold at auction today. The first two brought \$10,000 each, the others \$10,200 and 10,300. The last previous sale was \$2,300.

boy with blue eyes and light hair.

Maj. Elbert M. Bacon of Huston, Tex., who was baptized by the late Mrs. Wilson's grandfather, was one of the first to congratulate the President today.

A large heap of ratties was sent the baby by members of the Wilson and Sayre families and close friends. Several

MEXICO HAS A NEW PRESIDENT

Gen. Gutierrez has resigned the presidency of Mexico and gone to the field to fight Villa and the Convention forces. The convention has selected Gen. Kogque Genzales Garza in his stead. The revolution continues and no indication of its ceasing.

Horrible Earthquake.

A terrible earthquake joined with the war to make the suffering of Europe nearly universal. Several large towns in Italy were wiped out and the most conservative estimate is that about 30,000 persons were killed and wounded in the catastrophe. Observers of the earthquakes of the past say that it was practically the most destructive earthquake in history. In places huge mountains were split asunder, while cities were swallowed up. Relief is being sent to the refugees as fast as possible.

WAR CONTINUES WITH SUCCESSED VIGOR.

The Russians completely annihilated eleven corps of Turkish soldiers in the Caucasus region a few days ago and are still holding the Germans in check in the Warsaw region. The French and the English were meeting some reverses in the region of the Aisne some days ago, but at this writing they have regained all lost ground and are still pressing the Germans hard.

Ridgeville Items.

We had such a siege of bad weather that Christmas was rather quiet around here but the young people have had a number of parties since.

Miss Annie Blackwood has returned to her school after a two weeks' vacation spent at her home near Hillsboro. Miss Blackwood has no time for play. She has about fifty pupils enrolled.

Mr. Barnett, from Ceppo, who purchased the "Old Jones Place" from Mr. T. J. Carter has moved. We welcome him and his family to our neighborhood. This makes five families from Perion county that have bought homes and moved into this neighborhood recently, all seeking a good country and fine farms. Hurrah for Ridgeville!

After spending the Christmas holidays at her home near Cedar Grove Miss Vaughan has returned to take charge of her school.

The many friends of Mrs. R. V. James were painfully grieved to hear of her accident last week at her home in Mebane. We wish for her a speedy recovery to health and happiness.

Mr. J. P. Smith returned to Elon College Thursday to resume his studies after spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Smith.

Mr. J. W. James spent Thursday in Mebane at the bedside of his mother, Mrs. R. V. James.

To the delight of her many friends Miss Clara Compton, who is in training at the Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, spent several days of Christmas week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. Y. Compton.

Mr. A. Y. Chandler spent Christmas visiting his daughter, Mrs. Houig, in Lynchburg, Va.

On Friday night a box party was given at the Prospect Hill school building for the benefit of the school. There was a large crowd present and danced until the wee small hours of the night.

The Ladies Missionary Society of Griers Church met here Saturday afternoon, the subject for the month, "Mid China," being a very interesting one. A contribution was sent to the Belgian Relief Fund, and a nice, large quilt was sent to the orphans at Barium Springs.

"Dickensy" Names.

"Dickensy" names are to be discovered in the most unlikely localities, as those whose travels take them to Burgundy may have discovered. In Macon there is a Rue Dombey, which, apart from its name, is worth exploring for the sake of one or two fifteenth century timber houses with most quaintly carved fronts. And by a strange coincidence, on the banks of the Saone, about seven miles out of Macon, there is a village called Boz.

baby baskets had also been sent to the White House, but the one used was prepared by Mrs. Sayre herself.

A toy Princeton tiger for the Sayre baby was given to President Wilson today by a committee from the Princeton Alumni Association.

PAYROLL OF CIVILIZATION MET BY FARMER

WANTS NO "DEADHEADS" ON LIST OF EMPLOYEES.

A CALL UPON THE LAW MAKERS TO PREVENT USELESS TAX UPON AGRICULTURE.

By Peter Radford

Lecturer National Farmers' Union

The farmer is the paymaster of industry and as such he must meet the nation's payroll. When industry pays its bill it must make a slight draft upon agriculture for the amount, which the farmer is compelled to honor without protest. This check drawn upon agriculture may travel to and fro over the highways of commerce; may build cities; girdle the globe with bands of steel; may search hidden treasures in the earth or traverse the skies, but in the end it will rest upon the soil. No dollar will remain suspended in midair; it is as certain to seek the earth's surface as an apple that falls from a tree.

When a farmer buys a plow he pays the man who mined the metal, the woodman who felled the tree, the manufacturer who assembled the raw material and shaped it into an article of usefulness, the railroad that transported it and the dealer who sold him the goods. He pays the wages of labor and capital employed in the transaction as well as pays for the tools, machinery, buildings, etc., used in the construction of the commodity and the same applies to all articles of use and diet of himself and those engaged in the subsidiary lines of industry.

There is no payroll in civilization that does not rest upon the back of the farmer. He must pay the bills—all of them.

The total value of the nation's annual agricultural products is around \$12,000,000,000, and it is safe to estimate that 95 cents on every dollar goes to meeting the expenses of subsidiary industries. The farmer does not work more than thirty minutes per day for himself; the remaining thirteen hours of the day's toil he devotes to meeting the payroll of the hired hands of agriculture, such as the manufacturer, railroad, commercial and other servants.

The Farmer's Payroll and How He Meets It.

The annual payroll of agriculture approximates \$12,000,000,000. A portion of the amount is shifted to foreign countries in exports, but the total payroll of industries working for the farmer divides substantially as follows: Railroads, \$1,252,000,000; manufacturers, \$4,365,000,000; mining, \$655,000,000; banks, \$200,000,000; mercantile, \$3,500,000,000, and a heavy miscellaneous payroll constitutes the remainder.

It takes the corn crop, the most valuable in agriculture, which sold last year for \$1,692,000,000, to pay off the employees of the railroads; the money derived from our annual sales of livestock of approximately \$2,000,000,000, the yearly cotton crop, valued at \$920,000,000; the wheat crop, which is worth \$610,000,000, and the oat crop, that is worth \$440,000,000, are required to meet the annual payroll of the manufacturers. The money derived from the remaining staple crops is used in meeting the payroll of the bankers, merchants, etc. After these obligations are paid, the farmer has only a few bunches of vegetables, some fruit and poultry which he can sell and call the proceeds his own.

When the farmer pays off his help he has very little left and to meet these tremendous payrolls he has been forced to mortgage homes, work women in the field and increase the hours of his labor. We are, therefore, compelled to call upon all industries dependent upon the farmers for subsistence to retrench in their expenditures and to cut off all unnecessary expenses. This course is absolutely necessary in order to avoid a reduction in wages, and we want, if possible, to retain the present wage scale paid railroad and all other industrial employes.

We will devote this article to a discussion of unnecessary expenses and whether required by law or permitted by the managements of the concerns, is wholly immaterial. We want all waste labor and extravagance, of whatever character, cut out. We will mention the full crew bill as

illustrating the character of unnecessary expenses to which we refer.

Union Opposes "Full Crew" Bill.

The Texas Farmers' Union registered its opposition to this character of legislation at the last annual meeting held in Fort Worth, Tex., August 4, 1914, by resolution, which we quote, as follows:

"The matter of prime importance to the farmers of this state is an adequate and efficient marketing system; and we recognize that such a system is impossible without adequate railroad facilities, embracing the greatest amount of service at the least possible cost. We further recognize that the farmers and producers in the end pay approximately 95 per cent of the expenses of operating the railroads, and it is therefore to the interest of the producers that the expenses of the common carriers be as small as is possible, consistent with good service and safety. We, therefore, call upon our law-makers, courts and juries to bear the foregoing facts in mind when dealing with the common carriers of this state, and we do especially reaffirm the declarations of the last annual convention of our State Union, opposing the passage of the so-called 'full-crew' bill before the thirty-third legislature of Texas."

The farmers of Missouri in the last election, by an overwhelming majority, swept this law off the statute book of that state, and it should come out of all statute books where it appears and no legislature of this nation should pass such a law or similar legislation which requires unnecessary expenditures.

The same rule applies to all regulatory measures which increase the expenses of industry without giving corresponding benefits to the public. There is oftentimes a body of men assembled at legislatures—and they have a right to be there—who, in their zeal for rendering their fellow-associates a service, sometimes favor an increase in the expenses of industry without due regard for the men who bow their backs to the summer's sun to meet the payroll, but these committees, while making a record for themselves, rob the skin of the shoulders of the farmer by urging the legislature to lay another burden upon his heavy load and under the banner of service to the farmer to pull and surge at the traces of civilization, no matter how he may sweat, foam and gall at the task. When legislatures "cut a melon" for labor they hand the farmer a lemon.

The farmers of the United States are not financially able to carry "dead heads" on their payrolls. Our own hired hands are not paid unless we have something for them to do and we are not willing to carry the hired help of dependent industries unless there is work for them. We must therefore insist upon the most rigid economy.

Legislative House-Cleaning Needed.

While the war is on and there is a lull in business, we want all legislative bodies to take an inventory of the statute books and wipe off all extravagant and useless laws. A good house-cleaning is needed and economies can be instituted here and there that will patch the clothes of indigent children, rest tired mothers and lift mortgages from despondent homes. Unnecessary workmen taken off and useless expenses chopped down all along the line will add to the prosperity of the farmer and encourage him in his mighty effort to feed and clothe the world.

If any of these industries have surplus employes we can use them on the farm. We have no regular schedule of wages, but we pay good farm hands on an average of \$1.50 per day of thirteen hours when they board themselves; work usually runs about nine months of the year and the three months dead time, they can do the chores for their board. If they prefer to farm on their own account, there are more than 14,000,000 acres of idle land on the earth's surface awaiting the magic touch of the plow. The compensation is easily obtainable from Federal Agricultural Department statistics. The total average annual sales of a farm in the continental United States amounts to \$516.00; the cost of operation is \$340.00; leaving the farmer \$176 per annum to live on and educate his family.

There is no occasion for the legislatures making a position for surplus employes of industry. Let them come "back to the soil" and share with us the prosperity of the farm.

When honesty is merely a good policy it is a poor virtue.

Lazy farmers are just as useless as dead ones and take up more room.

When the soul communes with the spirit of nature the back to the farm movement prevails.

There are two kinds of farmers. One tries to take all the advice he hears and the other won't take any at all.