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FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1901.

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

In this week's issue of the Progressive Farmer, the editor asks his readers the following pertinent questions, which we think will bear repetition here:

"Are there any homes in your neighborhood without the enlightening and elevating influence of a clean progressive farm and family newspaper?"

"Can anything be done to improve the public schools in your district?"

"Have the people of your section made any effort to secure rural free delivery of mails?"

"Has your public school yet established a library?"

These questions—every one of them—are important ones. They deal with you and your neighbor, with your children and your neighbor's children. Upon the correct solution of these questions depends much of the welfare of our people.

How many of our readers are interested in securing good reading matter for their children in the form of good newspapers, magazines and books? In this day of advancement in the art of book-making and low-priced newspapers only a few dollars judiciously spent will keep a family well supplied with good reading matter for a whole twelve months.

How many readers of this paper have made efforts to improve the public schools in this county? How many are enough interested in their children's education to make sacrifices to keep them in school during the entire session? Every parent should do this and when our people become thoroughly aroused to the great importance of educating their children, then advances will be made, not only along educational lines, but along industrial lines, as well. Each individual can do something. And it is his duty to do that something.

Every school district in the county ought to have a library. How many are trying to get one? Now is the time to begin this work so that by the time the schools begin next summer each public school will have a library to encourage the children. There are children in every section of the county who are hungering for some good book to read. A library, though small, will help to feed the hungry mind.

Better mail facilities is another great need. Let the people in every section of our county do what they can to get a more efficient mail service. Our Congressman, Hon. Edward W. Pou, will be glad to aid our people along this line.

We hope to see the mail facilities much improved in the next two years. United effort will do this.

Senator McLaurin, of South Carolina, by his Charlotte speech, got his name in the newspapers, if he didn't accomplish anything else.

THE CUBAN QUESTION.

The Cuban commissioners and Governor-General Wood are in Washington to consult with the President and Cabinet concerning the vexed Cuban question. The Cubans do not like the Platt Amendment and they are now in Washington to protest against its enforcement. But their visit will be a useless one in that respect. The Cubans must accept the Platt Amendment before the Government of the Island can be turned over to them. These are the views held by the administration.

It is the wish of a majority of the Cubans that the United States withdraw its forces from the island and give the people absolute independence.

The Platt Amendment which is the source of great annoyance to the Cubans is summarized as follows in a recent issue of the New York Independent:

"The Cubans must never make with a foreign Power a treaty tending to impair their independence; must not permit a foreign Power to gain control of any part of their territory by colonization or for military or naval purposes; must contract no public debt for the satisfaction of which their ordinary revenues would be inadequate; shall empower the United States to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence, the maintenance of good government, and the discharge of the obligations imposed by the treaty of Paris; shall validate the acts of the United States during the period of military occupation; shall execute plans to be mutually agreed upon for the sanitation of Cuban cities; shall leave the title to the Isle of Pines to be adjusted by treaty; shall sell or lease to the United States naval stations at points to be agreed upon with the President; and shall embody all these provisions in a permanent treaty."

The Platt Amendment is, according to some, in violation of the joint resolution passed by Congress on April 19, 1898, declaring its intention to interfere in the affairs of Cuba—virtually a declaration of war. The fourth section of that resolution is as follows: "That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said island, (Cuba) except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination when that is accomplished to leave the government and control of the island to its people."

While the Platt Amendment may violate the letter of the above resolution it is claimed that it does not violate its spirit. The United States is in duty bound to protect its ward (for that is what Cuba is) from internal dissension and outside interference from other sources. To do this it passed the Platt Amendment. Perhaps some better plan may have been devised, but it, no doubt, will be better for the Cuban people in the long run to accept the good offices of this government in its behalf. It is only a question of time when it will be annexed to the United States, is our opinion.

The capture of Aguinaldo has converted that brilliant young insurgent leader into one of the most patriotic American citizens in the Philippines. How strange that he couldn't see the beauties of the glorious American nation until he slept behind prison bars! But he's no fool and he can easily see what is the wisest course to pursue. Perhaps, in his dreams he sees himself standing in the halls of Congress and being recognized as the Senator from Luzon.

"The public library is the people's university. Any scheme for the education of all the people that leaves out the public library is a failure. Here thousands of boys and girls who have had only limited opportunities at school may continue their education and become intelligent men and women."

THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION.

On next Wednesday at Buffalo, N. Y., the great Pan-American Exposition will open. In many respects this will be the greatest exposition ever held in America. While it is not on as large a scale as the Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893, it will be as interesting to the visitor, because of the many wonderful inventions and the great advancement in applied sciences and electrical engineering since 1893. Eight years is a short period but in that time great advancement has been made and the visitor who took in the Chicago Exposition will see at Buffalo wonders that he little dreamed of in 1893.

The Exposition is truly an American enterprise, and every American state, or nation will be represented in some manner. Mexico and many of the South American Republics will have handsome buildings in the grounds, in which will be shown the arts and industries peculiar to themselves.

The Pan-American Exposition will show to the whole world what America was, has been, and is, and from all this an idea of what she may be in the future may be gained.

Richard Watson Gilder, the poet and author, who wrote one of the inscriptions, hopes "That the century now begun may unite in the bonds of peace, knowledge, good will, friendship, and nobler emulation, all the dwellers on the continents and islands of the new world."

Dr. Lyman Abbott, editor of the Outlook, Dr. Albert Shaw, editor of the Review of Reviews and Mr. Walter Page, editor of The World's Work—three great editors of three great periodicals of New York—were visitors to North Carolina last week.

Owing to a Revival Kansas Courts are Idle.

Topeka Dispatch, 30th.

The judge of the District Court, when he visits Hiawatha, the county seat of Brown county, on Monday will find no criminal cases on the docket. Heretofore, from twenty to forty of these cases are tried at every term. In January a great religious revival was held at Hiawatha and 600 persons were converted. Since that time no dances have been held, two shows have been frozen out and the police judge has only had three trials in as many months.

Hiawatha is a town of 5,000 people. There is no place in the town where liquors are kept for sale. Druggist Smith, who had been selling whiskey and beer contrary to law for a dozen years, was one of the first to be converted. He fixed an hour when he would publicly destroy all the liquors in his store. Several barrels of whiskey, a half dozen cases of beer and other liquor were turned into the gutters, after which Smith led in prayer and song service.

BLUES

Ever have them? Then we can't tell you anything about them. You know how dark everything looks and how you are about ready to give up. Are things really so blue? Isn't it your nerves, after all? That's where the trouble is. Your nerves are being poisoned from impurities in your blood.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

purifies the blood and gives power and stability to the nerves. It restores health and strength, activity and cheerfulness.

\$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

Take Ayer's Pills with Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

"I have used your Sarsaparilla for the last thirty-five years and always with the best results. There are many other kinds now in the market, but I have great confidence in that brand."—Ayer's Pills.

M. M. MERRICK,
St. Anthony, Iowa.
Dec. 20, 1898.

Write the Doctor—If you have any complaint whatever, write us all about it. You will receive the best medical advice free.

Address, Dr. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

Short Form Lien Bonds for sale at HERALD office.

SPRING GOODS.

SPRING GOODS.

My stock is complete in each department. You are cordially invited to call and look through my new spring stock of goods.

IN MY Dress Goods Department

I have a beautiful line of Worsteds in all the newest spring shades.

—MY STOCK OF—

Pique, Dimity, Percales, LAWNS, PRINTS,

Silks, Ribbons, Laces, Hamburg, Belts, Ties

AND LADIES' COLLARS

is full and complete.

Ladies', Misses' and Children's SHOES.

In this department I have a nice line in Button, Lace and High Cuts. Also

Oxford Ties,

Oxford Button and Strap Sandals, in all styles, sizes and prices of

Zeigler Bros.' Fine Shoes.

Millinery Department.

In this department we have one of the most complete lines we have carried any season heretofore. Our trimmed hats are up-to-date and we invite you to call and take a look at as neat a line as you will find in most of the cities, and much cheaper. We have a full and complete line of

Flowers, Berries, Braids, Chiffons, Foliage, Buckles and Fancy Ribbons

Also a full line of nice Sailors and Walking Hats. Latest styles in black and white. Misses' and children's hats and caps in nice shapes and fancy colors for spring and summer. Come to see us for your hats, and if we should not have one to suit you Miss Beckwith would take pleasure in trimming one up to suit you.

Gents' Furnishing Goods Department.

In this department I have put in a full stock that is up to date. I have a beautiful line of men's, youths' and boys' suits in all of the latest styles and cuts. Black, Brown, Blue, Grey, and Checks. Also a nice line of Men's and Boys'

Nice Line Fur and Fancy Straw Hats.

Men's and Boys' Fine Hand Sewed Shoes in Calf and Vici from \$2 to \$3.25. Also a large stock of men's and boys' Dress Shoes very cheap.

Thin Coats and Vests for Hot Weather

WEAR VERY CHEAP.

Also nice line of fancy DRESS SHIRTS, CUFFS, COLLARS AND TIES.

Trunks, Valises and Umbrellas.

Come and look at my prices before you buy, and I am sure I can save you some money.

Very Respectfully,

W. G. YELVINGTON,
SMITHFIELD, N. C.

H. G. SPIERS,
Weldon, N. C.

J. D. SPIERS,
Smithfield, N. C.

SPIERS BROS.

When you anticipate buying in the line of Dry Goods, Millinery, Notions, Shoes, House Furnishing Goods, &c., be sure to examine our stock. We now have the most complete line of such goods that we have ever carried.

Embroideries, Laces, Belts, Novelties, &c.

SILKS FOR WAISTS, LAWNS,

Organdies, Foulards, Lansdown, Zephyr Ginghams, Percales,

and numerous other articles in Dry Goods, Notions, &c. Ready-to-wear Skirts and Waists. "Nelson's" Men's Shoes. "Duttenhoffer's" Ladies' Shoes. Every pair warranted to give satisfaction.

MILLINERY.

Miss Puckett, who has charge of this department, has returned from the North, where she has secured the latest styles for the spring and summer. THE W. B. CORSET IS CONCEDED by many to be the leader. Men's up-to-date FANCY SHIRTS and Neckwear—the prettiest we have ever had.

Carpetings, Mattings, Art Squares, Rugs, Window Shades,

Curtain Rods, Curtain Swiss, Chenille and Lace Curtains. Centerpieces,

TABLE, BUREAU AND WASH STAND SCARFS. BATTENBURG SUPPLIES, EMBROIDERY SILKS, ETC.

Remember we guarantee to be undersold by no one in any department.

SPIERS BROTHERS,

SMITHFIELD, N. C.

If You Want to Save Money

We advise you to go to R. I. Lassiter. He has Another Fresh Car of **FLOUR, MEAL, CORN AND OATS**

Cheap for cash and exchange for farm produce. HAMS AND CHICKENS wanted at high prices. A lot of IRON AGE CULTIVATORS, best on earth for cultivating cotton.

COX COTTON PLANTERS and everything you need very cheap.

He has the Best Sprayer for Spraying Tobacco in the World.

Now if you want no trust fertilizers, the best made for cotton and tobacco, cheap as any body, go to **R I LASSITER,** SPILONA, N. C.

or Will H. Lassiter, FOUR OAKS, N. C.

SECOND-HAND Sewing Machines.

I have for sale several second-hand sewing machines. The prices on them range from five dollars up. Most of them are good machines. All machines sold for ten dollars or more are guaranteed. If you want to buy one of them come to see me or write to me, stating what price machine you want and how much you can pay cash.

New Sewing Machines.

I have for sale the New Domestic and New Home and other sewing machines. I can suit you in style and price. Let me know if you want to buy.

J. M. BEATY,
Smithfield, N. C.