

# TO START WORK ON AMENDMENTS

ISSUES CALL FOR EIGHTEEN MEMBERS OF COMMISSION TO MEET IN RALEIGH.

## SETS DATE FOR APRIL 21

Date Fixed After Governor Corresponded With the Eighteen Members For Some Time—Will Talk Over Bills.

Raleigh.—Governor Craig has issued a call for the members of the Legislative Commission on Constitutional Amendments to meet at Raleigh April 21 for organization. This date has been selected after correspondence with the 18 members, it appearing to be the most generally convenient date. The commission is to elect a secretary at that time, and agree upon a program for sessions and hearing.

It will take over the bills for amending the Constitution that were introduced during the recent session of the Legislature, will hear any citizen and interests as to these and formulate recommendations, to be presented to the Governor 60 days before he issues a call for the Legislature to meet in special session. Also the commission will recommend any other amendments that it may consider advisable.

The Legislature, in turn, will act upon these recommendations and consider any other amendments that members propose at the extra session, the province the Legislature being to provide for the people to vote on the several amendments proposed.

The commission is composed of 18 members, five named by the Governor, five by the Senate and eight by the House. They follow:

A. M. Scales, Greensboro; J. W. Bailey, Raleigh; D. Y. Cooper, Henderson; H. Q. Alexander, Charlotte; N. J. Rouse, Kinston; Lieutenant Governor Doughtridge, Rocky Mount; H. W. Stubb, Williamston; A. T. Grant, Mocksville; A. D. Ward, Newbern; A. D. Ivie, Spray; F. M. Washington, Wilson; Speaker Connor, Wilkes; E. J. Justice, Greensboro; R. A. Doughton, Sparta; W. A. Devin, Oxford; E. R. Wooten, Kinston; C. S. Wallace, Morehead City; H. A. Page, Aberdeen; R. R. Williams, Asheville.

### Stokely Is Adjudged "Not Guilty."

The jury in the "Murder Stokely" trial announced that it had reached an agreement and was ready to render a verdict. The news quickly spread and before the court could be assembled every inch of space available in the court room was packed by eager spectators. The prisoner entered in custody of an officer and the jury filed in. Amid intense silence the formalities were gone through with, and the jury rendered a verdict of "not guilty." No trial in Elizabeth City has ever created so keen an interest. Young Stokely and his family quickly left the city for their home in Okisko.

### North Carolina New Enterprises.

A charter is issued for the Richardson-James Company (Incorporated) of Star, Montgomery county, capital \$10,000 authorized, and \$2,500 subscribed. \$1,000 by Noah Richardson and \$500 each by W. H. James, L. L. Richardson and W. L. James. Another charter is for the Southern Crown Milling Company, Asheboro, capital \$50,000 authorized, and \$25,000 subscribed by W. F. Redding and others.

### Union County Commencement.

The biggest educational rally that ever took place at Monroe was held several days ago in the form of a county commencement. The immense crowd gathered was a striking proof of the interest the people are taking in education and the advancement made. There were 3,000 school children here and the line of march was more than a mile long.

### Change County Commencement Date.

The date of the Wayne County School Commencement has been changed from April 11th to April 4th. Additional prizes have also been offered. A prize of \$10 will be given to the school bringing the largest crowd of students and patrons, and a prize of \$5 to the one bringing the second largest. The Wayne county club will give a silver loving cup to the school winning the greatest number of points in field events. A team must win three years in succession to establish permanent ownership.

### Prizes For Guilford Farmers.

The Greensboro Merchants' Association has made announcement of prize awards to farmers in Guilford county marketing the most tobacco in Greensboro during February. The first prize, \$15 coat suit, went to Mr. W. R. Moore; the second prize went to W. O. Doggett, a \$5 razor, and \$7.50 worth of paint; and the third to W. H. Trexler, \$10 worth of drugs. H. C. Rusk won the first prize for making average for all tobacco; second prize was won by T. C. Smith and third went to Fred N. Taylor.

## WOULD RECLAIM MUCH LAND

Government Engineers Have Recommended the Organization of a Drainage District in Burke.

Raleigh.—A special from Washington states that the organization of a drainage district under the state law with the co-operation of all the landowners along the bottom lands of the creek, each to pay his proportionate part of the cost, is recommended in the report of an examination of Silver Creek, Burke County, by Agricultural Department Engineers Yarnell and Lynde, made at the request of Representative Webb.

The engineers recommend that the channel be widened to 35 feet and brought to a depth of eight feet, at an estimated cost of \$18,084. In the opinion of the engineers, if the work recommended is done, the land along the banks of Silver Creek will increase from 400 to 500 per cent.

There is about 1,000 acres of bottom land in the proposed drainage district now worth approximately \$25 an acre but if properly drained it would be worth at least \$100 an acre.

The report of the engineers says in part:

"The examination was made afoot, in company with W. A. Walton, one of the land owners along the creek. Starting at a point just above McElraith's dam about six miles above its outlet, the creek was traversed to its mouth. The watersheds of Silver Creek are naturally rolling and hilly, and the run-off is very rapid. It is estimated that there is about 1,000 acres of bottom lands in the proposed district. The soil is rich and needs little if any fertilizer. It possesses a much greater fertility than do the upland soils, but there is always the possibility of the complete loss of the crop by overflow. Almost any rainfall of consequence causes the creek to overflow, not only damaging the land and crops but also depositing sand.

"Almost all the bottom land was once in cultivation, but in recent years owing to the uncertainty of getting a crop, it has been abandoned to a great extent. Owing to lack of drainage the uplands are now practically useless.

### To Improve Lenoir Roads.

Property owners on one road running out of Kinston, the Hill highway, have subscribed a fund to supplement an appropriation by the County Commissioners for the improvement of the road. This in Lenoir county, and \$600 was raised by the farmers living within six miles of the city. The road will be sand-clay top-surfaced for a half dozen miles. Other communities in the county are discussing the venture, and private donations to district funds will probably be considerable when Lenoir begins the general improvement of its highways shortly, the first money for which was made available by the recent sale by the county of its stock in the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad Co.

### T. P. A. State Convention.

National Chairman B. H. Marsh, of the Traveler's Protective Association, at Raleigh for a day or two from Winston-Salem, says there is a gratifyingly good outlook for the T. P. A. State Convention to assemble in Greensboro in May. At the last state convention it was determined to have 1,200 members by the next annual session and the enrollment now is just 1,120, lacking just 80 members of the coveted number. Mr. Marsh thinks the goal in membership will be reached before the Greensboro convention. The Raleigh post now has nearly 100 members and is quite active under the presidency of Jno. W. Cross with Mr. Clem Wilder as secretary.

### Growth of Rural Libraries.

There is a steady growth in the number of rural libraries in the public schools of the state under the state aid system in vogue for several years past whereby the state gives \$10 toward each library in cases where the local people raise at least that amount in addition. Also there are supplemental allowances of \$5 each under certain conditions that are very generally taken advantage of. State treasury warrants were issued recently for the appropriations for 34 new libraries and for nine supplemental libraries.

### New Act Transfers Duty.

Through all the years past it has been the duty of the State Auditor to get out and distribute to the counties the abstract blanks for listing taxes throughout the state and the county tax lists, but under the new machinery at this duty is transferred to the Corporation Commission as State Tax Commission, a change that it is not believed the Legislature intended after the establishment of a separate tax commission was voted down and the conclusion reached to retain largely the old machinery.

### For Power Development.

The first steps looking to immense power developments in Henderson county, as well as the construction of an interurban line from Hendersonville through Flat Creek and Saluda to a point on Green River, were taken when petitions were filed in the clerk's office of the United States District Court by the Blue Ridge Interurban Railway Company for the condemnation of certain lands and boundaries on the river. The petitions were first filed with the clerk of the court of Henderson County.

## LETTER TO FARMERS

STATE CHEMIST ADVISES USE OF GROUND LIMESTONE ON FARMING LAND.

### HARD AT WORK ON MATTER

Mr. Kilgore Who is an Expert on Agricultural Chemistry Says That This Lime Can Be Used With Good Results.

Raleigh.—Dr. B. W. Kilgore, state chemist, is issuing a letter to the farmers of the state, calling their attention to the great concessions in freight rates made by the Southern Railroad to be concurred in by the other railroads of the state, it is said, for shipments of lime for agricultural purposes. The main drawback in the past to the extensive application of agricultural limes to the soils of the state, he says, has been the high cost to the farmer, due to high transportation charges.

Effective now in North Carolina a very greatly reduced rate goes into effect, cutting the freight charges practically in half. Based on 30 tons to the carload, the new rate is 30 cents a ton for 10 miles, 65 cents for 50 miles, 85 cents for 100 miles, \$1.15 for 200 miles, with proportional increase for longer distances. The Norfolk Southern has announced new rates about the same as the Southern rate, and the other roads are to issue schedules on lime very soon.

Doctor Kilgore and the Department of Agriculture have been working on this matter for more than a year, aided materially by the president of the Southern Railway, who now takes the initiative in promulgating the reduced rate, it having been shown that there are large numbers of farmers sufficiently alive to the value of the use of this ground limestone. The state chemist, who is an expert on agricultural chemistry, says this lime can be used with good results, in many cases better than the burnt lime. It should be applied at the rate of something like one-half ton to the acre just after the ground has been broken, so that the lime will be worked into the soil by cultivation. It can be obtained at the mines at from \$1 to \$2 a ton in bulk. The black soils of eastern Carolina and soils in other sections of the state rich in vegetable matter are especially improved, it is said, by applications of the agricultural lime.

### Error in Judicial District Act.

Raleigh.—There is an error in the act prescribing the courts for the 20 judicial districts that would prove very serious but for the fact that a companion act includes a feature that cures the matter, it is thought. The act, No. 1512, specifies the number of each judicial district and the counties composing it and then specifies the courts for each of the counties. The paragraph that should specify the eighth district, composed of New Hanover, Brunswick and Pender Counties, is left out, the courts for each of the counties being given without reference to what district they constitute. However, act No. 900 specifically names each of the 20 districts and the counties constituting each district.

### Governor Makes Appointment.

Raleigh.—Governor Craig appointed John Sprunt Hill, banker and business man of Durham, the North Carolina member of the American commission for the study of the application of the co-operative system of agricultural production, distribution, and finances in European countries. Under the direction of the Southern Commercial Congress, this subject was made a national question at its last April meeting.

### New Officers For State Prison.

Raleigh.—After a session continued until nearly midnight the new Board of Directors of the state's prison announced the election of J. S. Mann of Hyde county as superintendent of the prison, to succeed Capt. J. J. Laughinghouse; E. F. McCulloch of White Oak, Bladen county, as chief clerk to succeed Thomas Fenner, and Dr. J. R. Rodgers to succeed Dr. McGeachy.

### Solicitor of Seventh District.

Lenoir.—A telegram was received here by Mr. Thomas M. Newland from Governor Craig, notifying him that he had been appointed by him solicitor of the new seventeenth judicial district, which embraces Caldwell, Burke, Lincoln, Cleveland and Polk counties. This appointment meets with the hearty approbation of the local bar and will no doubt give general satisfaction throughout the district. Mr. Newland is a son of Benjamin Newland of Tennessee and a nephew of ex-Lieut. Gov. W. C. Newland.

### Farmers Capture a Robber.

Kinston.—Farmers captured a robber at Caswell station three miles from here on the Norfolk Southern when he attempted to enter the depot several days ago, and held him until the sheriff and deputies could arrive in an automobile. The prisoner, a negro named Walter Faison, alias Andrew Williams, is believed to be a much-sought store-breaker who has operated on an extensive scale recently in Jacksonville, Kinston and Goldsboro. He claimed Newbern to be his home.

## CURRENCY TO WAIT

EVEN IF TAKEN UP AT EXTRA SESSION IT PROBABLY WILL GO OVER TO WINTER.

### GLASS WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN

Recent Developments, However, Indicate the Opposition to Free Trade Will Prolong the Work of Formulating the New Tariff.

### By GEORGE CLINTON.

Washington.—There is some doubt yet as to whether currency reform legislation will be attempted at the extra session in addition to tariff enactments. If currency is taken up it may be it will not be finished this summer, but will go over until next winter.

The Democratic leaders are telling the president they are afraid of the currency. The odds seem to be about sixteen to one that it will not be taken up before next December, but it is of course possible it may secure a place. Representative Carter Glass of Virginia, who will succeed Mr. Pujos as chairman of the banking and currency commission, naturally desires a quick encounter with the currency, but it probably would not hurt his feelings very much to say that his motives are partly due to a desire to get himself quickly into action.

The objections which are being made to the currency are tariff objections. Not long ago it was thought and freely predicted that there would be comparatively little trouble over the tariff because of the overwhelming Democratic majority in the house and because progressive Democrats of the senate seemed to be able to hold their conservative brethren in subjection. Moreover, it was supposed from what Mr. Smoot and Mr. Penrose suggested that the high tariff Republicans would allow the Democrats "to go full bent on destruction on the low tariff rocks" and would make no strong resistance to the adoption of any form of schedule which the Democrats might suggest.

### Lack of Harmony in Committee.

In the last day or two a change has come over the fair complexion of things. Mr. Wilson has learned that even among the members of the Democratic ways and means committee there is strong opposition to anything like an approach to the free trade mark in a good many commodities. Representative Garner of Texas, for instance, who has just been made a member of the ways and means committee, probably will be pained if free wool is made a part of the program. Mr. Shackelford of Missouri, on whose district's hills feed sheep in thousands, perhaps will worry if the fleeces of the flocks are to be sacrificed on the altar.

It is the old, old story; free trade is all right for the other fellow, but all wrong for this fellow. Mr. Underwood has control of his ways and means committee and Mr. Garner and Mr. Shackelford combined with other members who have local industries to protect, it is said, probably can be brought into line, but it is becoming certain that when the bills are reported to the house there will be intimations at least from many of the Democratic members that their hope lies with the senate and that they give their votes without their whole hearts to rates which they think are too low.

The president is being told diplomatically by members of the house that tariff reduction is all right, but that it ought to be sane tariff reduction. The word sane is as much overworked by congressmen as it is by correspondents, all of whom probably will plead guilty to having used it for many months beyond the limit of the ordinary readers' endurance.

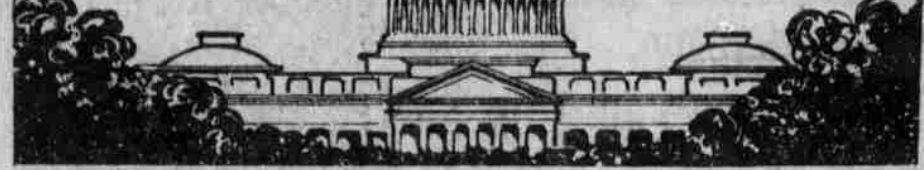
### Senate to the Rescue.

The Democratic majority in the senate is one which must be looked for with a magnifying glass; it is there, but it is small. Free sugar, it is claimed, will not have any kind of a show in the upper house. Neither will free wool, and neither will radical cuts in the rates on certain articles manufactured in the United States. Texas and the west with their sheep, Louisiana with its sugar cane, and some other states with their lumber probably will be ready through their representatives to make compromises with the representatives of the manufacturing districts of New England.

It is said by men close to the administration that President Wilson finally has been convinced that much more time will be consumed in tariff consideration than he had any thought would be the case. This belief was against the probability of currency consideration at the next session. Then again Mr. Wilson's desire, which was made known some days ago, that the country should watch tariff legislation in the senate without having its attention turned to other legislation in the house, makes it seem likely that it will be necessary for currency reform to stand waiting at the wicket until a more convenient season.

The Democratic leaders, some members say, are fearful of the effect of currency legislation. They want time to study it, although they have been studying it for a year. Financial subjects will stand study better than most other things, the Democrats declare. The house is not full of Alexander Hamiltons. The chieftains of the party say that with proper study the Democracy will give the country a stable financial system. They say this and yet they seemingly are afraid that Democracy cannot do it quickly.

# WASHINGTON CITY SIDELIGHTS



## One Bachelor in President Wilson's Cabinet



WASHINGTON.—Gatherers of statistics who have been compiling facts about the new Wilson cabinet announced with satisfaction the other day that its members are simple, home-loving and by example, active anti-race suicide propagandists.

Of all the cabinet families, only that of Secretary of War Garrison is without children.

Mrs. William Jennings Bryan is a lawyer, like her husband, but she has found time amid her professional duties to rear two children, Mrs. Richard Hargreaves, Jr., and William J. Bryan, Jr., whose wife will make her home in Washington with the family.

Three daughters call Mrs. Albert Sidney Burleson, wife of the postmaster general "mother." One of the daughters, Mrs. Richard VanWick Negley, has a son about six weeks old.

## Brokers Do a Big Business in Stolen Stamps

INSPECTORS have learned that stamps of all classes and denominations stolen by burglars from post offices and embezzled by employes from great business houses and manufacturing establishments were purchased and resold by the brokers at prices far below their face value.

The postal laws make it a crime punishable by imprisonment to sell any stamp issued by the government for less than its face value. Investigations disclosed the fact that, in addition to selling the stamps for less than a price they could have been purchased for from the government, the brokers in many cases knew that the stamps were stolen when they purchased them.

Stamp frauds against the government and various business concerns aggregating hundreds of thousands of dollars annually have been unearthed in New York City alone, while illegal trafficking in stamps in many other cities has reached large proportions.

One stamp broker in New York City who sells from \$300 to \$1,000 worth of stamps a day to merchants, it is alleged, has been purchasing some of his supply from an employe



of the New York state government at Albany. The employe confessed to post office inspectors that he remitted to the stamp broker from \$25 to \$50 a week in stamps stolen from the state.

The department redeems postal cards from original purchasers at 75 per cent. of their face value. A few weeks ago a member of congress and a former deputy commissioner of police of New York City requested the third assistant postmaster-general to redeem more than a million cards for a constituent of the representative.

Inquiry by inspectors developed the fact that the cards were the property of a stamp broker, whose business is declared by the department officials to be clearly illegitimate.

## Expert Says Icebergs Are Invisible by Night



ABBOTT H. THAYER, an artist who has given much study to the question, discusses the invisibility of icebergs at night in the last issue of the bulletin of the hydrographic office. He writes, in part:

"The Titanic and the Arizona ran into icebergs because of the universal notion that white shows at night even against a clear sky. Until this impression can be corrected the world will continue at the mercy of the chance of more ice accidents.

"A steamer may be close to an iceberg on a clear, moonless night, and, as stated above, often on a moonlit night, without the slightest sight of it. Any observing person who has lived in the country knows perfectly well that snowy roofs on such a night are

apt to be indistinguishable from the sky, and would always be so if they stood alone out on a plain or out at sea.

"In order to test this matter, notice first that it is the most nearly horizontal top surfaces of a berg, snowy roof or other white object that receive the most skylight, and consequently most nearly match it. It follows that with the average hilltop shape of an iceberg it will be the highest expanses of it visible from the ship's watch that are surest to be indistinguishable. These highest expanses of course constitute the contour that the watch would see if the berg were visible, and when these become thus effaced the berg itself is effaced.

"Even when a near berg is not tall enough to stand up against the sky to the eyes of the watch its top will necessarily be looked at against the most distant part of the sea; and this part averages, especially in calm weather, much brighter than the nearer water; and a sky-matching berg top could not often be distinguished from it any better than from the sky itself."

## Beautiful Bronze Sundial Serves as a Landmark

NEARLY all strangers who travel to the beautiful close of the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, on Mount-Saint-Alban, gather around the sundial. Most of them mount the three granite steps to stand on the narrow granite platform about the sundial and its rectangular pedestal to study the devices engraved on stone and bronze. The structure is called "the cathedral landmark and sundial." According to the handbook of the Washington Cathedral, "On Ascension Day, A. D. 1906, the landmark given by Mrs. Julian James to commemorate the freedom of the cathedral land from debt and the consequent hallowing of the cathedral close was presented and consecrated. This landmark is a beautiful bronze sundial, surmounting an open air altar, on which are inscribed the names of those it commemorates.

Beginning at the northwest edge of the altar is this inscription: "Transit umbrae lax premonet. From the rising of the sun even to the going down of the same, my name shall



be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name."

On the eastern face of the altar is this inscription: "This landmark is set up in the cathedral close in memory of Ascension day, A. D. 1906, in the seventh year of the episcopate of the first Bishop of Washington."

Some of the names carved on the altar sides are Theodoras Bailey Myers, 1821-1888; Catalina Juliana Mason, 1826-1905, and Cassie Mason Myers, Julia James, Frederick James, Edmonia Phelps, Sidney Mason, Alphonso Sidney Mason and Catherine Kobb.