

TO CUT PASSENGER RATES.

Railway Commission Serves Notice on State Railways.

THE FERTILIZER RATES CUT.

A Reduction of 162-3 Per Cent. Made - Cotton Rate Reduced on W. N. C. Railway.

The new railroad commissioners will carry out Governor Russell's idea of reducing passenger rates in the State. At a meeting last week resolutions were introduced by Chairman Caldwell of the commission that notice be served on the Seaboard, Atlantic Coast Line and Southern Railway to show cause why the fares for the transportation of passengers should not be reduced.

The divisions of the Seaboard summoned to appear before the Commission and show cause why passenger rates should not be reduced are the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad; the Seaboard and Roanoke; Georgia, Carolina and Northern; and the W. N. C. to the South Carolina lines.

The divisions of the Atlantic Coast Line that notice will be served on are: Wilmington and Weldon; Petersburg, Norfolk and Carolina; Wilson and Fayetteville; Tarboro Branch; and the division of the Southern Railway summoned are: Western North Carolina; Atlantic, Tennessee and Ohio; North Carolina; Piedmont; Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line; Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta; North Western North Carolina.

The commission passed an order reducing the old rate on cotton on the Western North Carolina and the Atlantic, Tennessee and Ohio road.

On September 21st the commission issued an order making a uniform rate on cotton on all roads in the State. This, in some instances, lowered the rate very much, and especially on branch roads.

But it raised the rate on the Western North Carolina railroad, that road having now a specially low rate for the purpose of developing mills, etc., in Western North Carolina.

The action of the commission gives the shippers on the Western North Carolina road and O. T. & O., an advantage on the shipment of cotton. A howl will likely come from other shippers in the State.

Commissioner Pearson said his idea was to make the reduction 15 per cent., but that 162 had the reduction one-sixth of the present rate, and such reduction would be a heavy burden on the clerk himself. Mr. Pearson said: "This is a peculiar class of goods, and the rate should be made as light as possible. It will help the factories in this State, at Raleigh, Wilmington, Charlotte, Durham and elsewhere, and enable them to compete with the others."

Dr. Abbott said he was always in favor of reducing the fertilizer rates. The commission issued an order reducing fertilizer rates in the State in car load shipments 162 per cent from the rates now in effect. This is a reduction of one-sixth, and will take effect Feb. 1st.

Smallpox at Wilmington. Smallpox has developed at Wilmington. This is the first genuine case of the disease reported in the State during the present epidemic. There is only one case, and little danger of infection from that source. Compulsory vaccination is to be enforced at once. A special from Wilmington says the house selected for the shelter of the smallpox patient, has been destroyed by fire.

The negroes, of whom there are a great many living in the vicinity, had sworn that the diseased man should not be carried to the house, and it is alleged that they made their words good by setting fire to it. The building was in a fairly populous portion of the city, but in the opinion of the health officer, far enough removed from neighboring houses to preclude the possibility of the disease being communicated from it.

Car "City of Charlotte" Mutilated. The Charlotte News says a vandal at Statesville mutilated the car "City of Charlotte" to the extent of \$300 by scratching up both sides of the car, and completely obliterated the picture of the little negro and the watermelon on the side of the car, which included pictures of some of the finest scenery in the State.

Prisoners Break Jail at Burnsville. A special from Asheville to the Charlotte Observer says there was a wholesale jail delivery on the night of the 19th. Nineteen prisoners, including one condemned murderer, were liberated.

Postmasters Confirmed. The United States Senate has confirmed the appointment of the following postmasters in this State: J. F. Dobson, Goldsboro; J. W. Mullen, Charlotte; D. C. Pearson, Morganton; J. H. Ramsay, Salisbury; G. W. Read, Biltmore; P. H. Lybrook, Winston; J. H. Martin, Tarboro; W. P. Ormsby, Salem.

Join Graves Acquitted. A Raleigh special says: John Graves, on trial for his life, charged with the murder of Henry Wall, at Forestville, one year ago has been acquitted. Judge Timberlake told the jury he feared they had made a grave mistake. The most intelligent jury ever in the county sat on the case.

Two Cities' New Postmasters. The nominations for the postmaster-ships at Winston and Salem have been agreed on by the United States Senate. The winners are P. H. Lybrook, for the Winston office, and W. P. Ormsby, for the Salem office.

Blind Pointers. Superintendent John Ray, of the institution for the white blind and for negro deaf-mutes and blind, says there are now 300 pupils present in the two departments.

THE WORLD OF TRADE.

Manufacturing Activity a Feature in the South - Rush for Alaska Begun.

Bradstreet's Commercial Review for the past week says: "Distributive trade remains rather quiet, mild weather throughout the country tending to check the distribution of winter goods. Prices generally remain steady or tend upward, except for some grades of iron, and orders for spring trade, where received are encouraging. Industrial activity is most manifest at the West, where the demand for iron is large. The feature of the week was the placing of an order by one railroad for 100,000 tons of steel rails, with smaller orders aggregating in the neighborhood of 25,000 tons more. Pig iron production is now at an unprecedented rate, the furnace output being estimated at 1,000,000 tons a month. At the South manufacturing activity is a feature, sales of iron being very heavy. A good export demand for cotton and grain at steady prices is also a feature. At the East a number of strikes against wage reductions are reported or expected in the cotton industry. Some woolen mills, working on heavy men's wear goods, are refusing orders, their capacity being fully booked. Anthracite coal production is hoped in that trade. The restriction of the advance of 20 to 40 cents per ton being maintained. The weather has been disappointing at the Northwest, but an improvement in the demand developed some centers as the week advanced. The rush to Alaska has already begun on the Pacific coast. Freight charters are reported lower. Export trade continues large, a gain of 8 per cent on the total export of breadstuffs, cotton and mineral oils, cattle and hogs and provisions being shown both for December and the calendar year."

THE CAMPAIGN OF 1900.

Wm. J. Bryan's Intentions if He is Nominated.

W. J. Bryan, in concluding a speech before the Bryan League at the Tremont House, Chicago, Ill., during a banquet made some remarks which are interpreted as showing his intentions if he is nominated for the presidency in 1900. In speaking of the next presidential election, Mr. Bryan said:

"It may be well to be strong enough to win without any outside help. But, nevertheless, I prefer to win with the Populists on one side and the silver Republicans on the other. And we must not forget when the victory is won, that in the campaign of last year it took more courage on the part of the free silver Republicans to desert their old party, and more self-sacrifice on the part of the Populists to go outside of their organization for a presidential candidate, because he agreed with them on the paramount issue, than it did for the Democrats to support the ticket which was nominated by their own national convention."

FOR A FUSION OF ALL.

Jones is Acting for the Democratic Party, Butler for the Populists.

As a result of conferences held within the last few days at Washington between the silver leaders of various parties, it is understood that Chairman Jones, of the Democratic national committee, Chairman Butler, of the Populist national committee, and Chairman Towne, of the Silver national Republican committee, will issue a joint manifesto with a view to securing common action by the three organizations in the political contest of 1900. The draft of the document is now in the course of preparation. They will appeal to all those interested in the cause of silver to work in union and to avoid rival organizations by which their common strength will be dissipated.

LEFT SAFE EMPTY.

Vice-President of Louisville Trust Co. Steals \$100,000.

The Louisville (Ky.) Trust Company has been compelled to close its doors on account of the embezzlement of its funds by one of its most trusted officers. William Reinecke, vice-president of the company, has disappeared, leaving the safe empty. Reinecke was manager of the concern and was trusted with all its business. The exact amount of the shortage is not known, but it is thought he secured nearly a hundred thousand dollars. Reinecke and his family have disappeared, leaving no trace behind. The detectives have no clue as to their whereabouts. The affair has created a great sensation in financial circles.

Death of Rev. E. A. Ramsey.

Rev. E. A. Ramsey, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Memphis, Tenn., and one of the best known divines in the South is dead, aged 46 years.

South Carolinian Wins His Suit.

A special from New Haven, Conn., says: Judge Townsend, of the United States Court, has decided the case of Edward N. Pyatt, of South Carolina, against Horace Waldo and others, of New York, in favor of the complainant. The suit was brought to collect from the heirs of Sarah H. Waldo, deceased, the amount due on a bond made by her in her lifetime, the amount being \$8,600. The statute of limitation figured in the claims of the defense.

Philadelphia Has Raised \$5,000.

The Secretary of State has been notified by Mayor Warwick, of Philadelphia, that the Citizens' Permanent Relief Committee, of that city, has collected \$5,000 for the relief of the suffering Cubans.

A Great Cotton Cargo.

The British steamship Banza cleared from Savannah, Ga., for Bremen, Germany, with 18,300 bales of cotton, weighing 8,968,855 pounds, valued at \$324,952. This is the largest cargo of cotton ever shipped from an Atlantic port, and is over 7,000 bales more than was ever shipped from this port on any other vessel.

Hanna Gets Both Terms.

Marcus A. Hanna received both the long and short terms in the U. S. Senate from the Ohio Legislature, his job being good until 1905.

PRICES 100 YEARS AGO.

Some Items Copied by Rev. R. P. Smith From an Old

BUNCOMBE CO. ACCOUNT BOOK.

In the Old Times It Took a Week's Work to Buy a Bushel of Salt-How Do You Like the Times Now?

The Gastonia (N. C.) Gazette, of a recent date, says: People talk of the good old days of long ago when times were better and money wasn't tight. How would you like to have a dose of old times as they are indicated in the prices copied below from an old account book kept 99 years ago in Buncombe county, N. C.

Having an opportunity recently, Rev. R. P. Smith copied some items from such a book in kind remembrance of his home paper. The old book is now owned by Mr. S. W. Davidson, of Swannanoa Valley, Buncombe county. It might have been kept by a blacksmith who ran a store or by a merchant who also ran a smithy. Here are some items copied under date of March, 1798 - nearly 100 years ago:

- To 16 pounds sugar... \$4 00
To 2 bushels salt... 8 00
To 1 gallon whiskey... 75
To 1 iron wedge... 50
To 1 laying plow... 50
To 1 fair shovel... 50
To one-half yard muslin... 25
To 1 pound powder... 1 00
To 10 pounds of nails... 2 00
To 1 quire paper... 37
To 15 pounds sugar and 6 pounds coffee... 6 00

By 3 days' work... \$1 25
By 1 bushel corn... 50
By 70 pounds beef at 8 cts... 2 37
By 1 week's work... 3 00
See that 16 pounds of sugar for \$4.00 and a bushel of salt for \$8.00. How do you like it? The price of muslin was out o'sight - none was then manufactured in this country, perhaps all imported. Powder at a dollar a pound was too high to burn at Christmas. At 20 cents a pound people couldn't afford to hit many nails on the head. And people must have had something important to write and wanted to write it neatly bad when they paid 37 cents a quire for paper. In other items the contrast with today is not so marked, but in the old times when it took a week's work to buy a bushel of salt the contrast is strong enough to make a body faint. He who in those days could earn the salt that went in his bread ought not to have been counted a lazy fellow.

VICTIMS OF THE TORNADO.

43 People Killed at Fort Smith - 150 Houses Blown Down.

The latest from Fort Smith, Ark., shows a total of forty-three lives lost in the tornado which swept through that city. Not less than seventy others are injured, a large number of whom are seriously hurt, and several are expected to die. The full extent of the storm may be comprehended from the fact that thirty-five miles northeast of the city a quantity of tin roof from Garrison avenue building was found.

Ladies of the city are at work distributing food and clothing to the needy. The relief committee, composed of the prominent business men and dignitaries in housing the sufferers. One hundred and fifty buildings were demolished. Memphis, St. Louis, Kansas, Little Rock, and other cities have wired readings to lend aid if necessary. A census of the dead, injured and property losses being taken. The number of dead will not exceed fifty.

Organized War on Hanna.

A Columbus, O., special of the 18th says: Leaders on both sides are still here, preparing for another fight. The opposition to Hanna was defeated in his election, but it proposes to fight now against his being seated for the long term. His enemies say they have not the time to interfere on the short term, but they will press the bribery charges, as such charges were pressed on Henry B. Payne, fourteen years ago, to the United States Senate. Subpoenas have been issued for Senator Hanna, Major Dick, W. D. Hollenbeck, H. H. Boyce and others to appear before the Senate committee. Labels suits have been brought against several Republican papers for damages in connection with the bribery charges, notably one by T. C. Campbell, for \$100,000 against the Ohio State Journal.

Mississippi for Intervention in Cuba.

The Mississippi Legislature adopted unanimously a rousing Cuban resolution offered by Senator Hardy. After reciting the fact that 90,000 persons have been starved to death in the province of Santa Clara since January last, and that it is the policy of Spain to exterminate the "Queen of the Antilles," it demands that the United States government shall at once intervene, "peaceably if it can, forcibly if it must."

Reduced the Bill.

The supervisors of Queen's county, (N. Y.) struck the items of \$356.15 for wine, \$228.40 for cigars and \$32.40 for billiards from the hotel bill of the Thorne jurors. The net sum of the bill was reduced from \$2,049 to \$804.

Killed His Sweetheart and Himself.

At Hurlock, Dorchester, Md., a negro named Coleman shot and killed his sweetheart, a girl named Matthews, and badly wounded her companion, named Hughes. Coleman then went home and killed himself. Jealousy was the cause.

More Legislation.

The Postoffice Department will recommend to Congress legislation providing that postoffice clerks bereaved of a bond to the government and not to the postmaster.

TOLD IN A PARAGRAPH.

The South.

Mormons are making their appearance in North Carolina in great numbers. There is a movement to change the capital of Alabama from Montgomery to Birmingham.

The orange crop of Southern California, now being harvested, is in prime condition.

The Citizens' Exchange Bank has been organized in Richmond, Va., with a capital stock of \$300,000.

Judge Dick, of North Carolina, has gone to the Johns Hopkins Hospital, at Baltimore, for treatment.

Governor Taylor, of Tennessee, has announced himself as a candidate for election to the United States Senate.

The Virginia Legislature has passed a bill providing that clubs must secure license to sell wines and liquors.

Mr. J. J. Newman, of Salisbury, N. C., is making efforts to organize a Roman county settlers' association.

The "City of Charlotte" was slightly damaged at Marion, N. C., by a shifting freight car on the side track.

Thieves entered Morris' store, Alexander, N. C., rolled the safe out of the building, and broke it open, stealing \$76 in cash and several checks.

The President has named Owen L. W. Smith, of North Carolina, to be minister assistant and consular general of the United States to Liberia.

The Isbell Corundum Company has been organized at Asheville, N. C., with \$250,000 capital stock, to mine the Clay county mineral, twenty miles from Murphy.

There is a movement on foot to establish a kindergarten park in the fields of Fredericksburg, Chancellorville, the Wilderness and Spottsylvania Court House, Va., embracing 6,500 acres.

At Huntington, W. Va., Carter Shifflett has been arrested for passing old city orders which mysteriously disappeared from the city hall. Fifteen thousand dollars worth have been paid a second time. Shifflett says he came by the orders honestly. The aggregate amount of the missing orders is \$140,000.

The North.

Fifteen persons were injured in a rear-end collision on the Long Island Railroad, in New York.

The Inland and Iron Forge Company of Chicago has started, giving employment to 500 men.

By a gas explosion at Daleville, Ind., the tile factory of B. F. Lester was destroyed and John Rinker killed.

The site of a prehistoric village has been discovered near Massillon, O., and evidences of cremation found.

Aldai E. Stevenson, former Vice-President of the United States, has accepted the position of Western counsel of the North American Trust Company of New York, with a membership in the board of directors.

Mrs. Angust Neck, jointly charged, with the murder of the late George W. Guildensuppe, a bath rubber, at Woodside, L. I., in June of last year, has been sentenced to fifteen years in the State prison at Auburn, N. Y.

On February 1st 114 loaves in the Manchester (N. H.) Cotton Mills will be discovered near Massillon, O., and evidences of cremation found.

The demand for print goods. There will also be a reduction of about 30 per cent. in wages, affecting about 30 per cent. of the employes, on January 24th.

Miscellaneous.

Corbett offers Fitzsimmons \$35,000 for a fight to be held in New York.

John Lincoln, of Bolshov, Mo., a second cousin of Abraham Lincoln, has asked for a pension.

Secretary Long has asked Congress for an increase of 1,000 enlisted men in the navy and 700 apprentices.

The Mexican Congress has concluded a long term contract with the Western Union Telegraph Company.

The whole story of the Indian uprising in the Indian territory is a fake, says the Associated Press.

The body of the murdered, W. H. T. Durrant, was cremated at the crematorium of Reynolds and Van Nuys, at Alhambra, Cal.

A delegation called on Chairman Dingley in the interest of legislation reducing the internal revenue tax on distilled spirits.

The deaths from the plague at Bombay during the past week numbered 450. There were 1,397 deaths during the same period from all causes.

The estate of the late George M. Pullman, from an inventory filed in court at Chicago, was estimated to include \$8,000,000 in stocks and bonds and \$2,000,000 in real estate.

The central Cuban relief committee of New York, recently made a large shipment on a Ward Line steamer, consigned to Consul-General Lee, consisting of 30,393 separate packages and in addition 500,000 grains of quinine.

Rev. Dr. John S. Zahn succeeds the late Dr. Corby as rector of the Catholic Order of the Holy Cross in this country.

Ex-President Cleveland, owing to press of business, has resigned the position of trustee of the New Jersey Historical Society, but will continue to be a member of the society.

CUTTING WAGES.

Lower Rates to Prevail in Cotton Mills of Six States.

The operatives in over half a hundred cotton mills in New England States ceased to be paid under the old schedule of prices on the 15th. On Monday morning, the 17th, the general policy of the manufacturers to reduce wages went into effect in nearly every mill centre in the six States. The reduction became operative in the cotton mills of New Bedford, Lowell, the Pawtucket and Blackstone Valley in Rhode Island, and in the States of Maine and New Hampshire.

The Fall River mills with the exception of three corporations, cut wages in the month, as did also the Amoskeag Company, of Manchester, and the mills in Salem and a number of smaller places.

Notices were posted in the cotton mills of the Atlantic & Pacific corporation in a controversy over some minor postoffice confirmations, the entire time of the executive session of the Senate was consumed by Senator Davis, of Minnesota, in a speech in support of Hawaiian annexation. Mr. Davis is chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations, and his speech was generally accepted as the semi-official utterance of the majority of the committee. He spoke for about two hours, and the Senate adjourned he had not finished.

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Greenleaf then went to the Masonic Temple, ascended to the sixteenth floor, climbed upon the railing and jumped off into the rotunda. His body struck a marble landing on the third floor, shattered a slab two inches thick and landed on the balcony of the second floor. The body was reduced to a mere pulp. Greenleaf's fall was witnessed by a score of people in the rotunda.

FROM THE SIXTEENTH FLOOR.

Alfred Greenleaf's Leap From the Chicago Masonic Temple.

At Chicago Alfred C. Greenleaf, a bookkeeper committed suicide by jumping from the sixteenth floor of the Masonic Temple. Greenleaf had been out of employment for some time and becoming dependent decided to make away with himself. His first attempt was made in the Chamber of Commerce building, where he was caught in the act of jumping over the railing from the twelfth floor to the rotunda, and ejected from the building.

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Striking Engineers Give Up.

London, (By Cable)—The engineers and allied trade unionists, now on strike at Glasgow have decided to abandon the struggle and give notice of their decision to the secretary of the Federated Employers. Employers held a meeting at Manchester and allowed the lockout notices recently issued to lapse.

The Walls Collapsed.

At Baltimore, Md., the walls of two houses being erected on Twenty-second street fell and seven men were injured, two probably fatally.

The Cuban Relief Movement.

A letter from Stephen E. Barton, of the Central Cuban relief committee of the State Department at Washington, D. C., says that the committee is receiving communications from Governors throughout the country, all indicating a satisfactory response to the appeals of the Department of State, and the committee.

Cold Blooded Murder.

At a negro fair, near Palmira, Va., Phillip Gaines colored, shot and instantly killed George Green, also colored. The murder was a cold-blooded one. Gaines escaped.

A Triple Murderer Hanged.

Archie Lackey, colored, the triple murderer, was hanged at King and Queen courthouses, Virginia, on the 14th. There was a large crowd at the court house, and the sheriff and his deputies had to produce pistols to prevent some of those present from forcing their way into the enclosure around the scaffold.

Football Game Receipts.

Princeton and Yale each got \$12,382.71 as their pro rata share of the receipts of the last Princeton-Yale football game.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Proceedings of Both the Senate and House Day By Day.

THE SENATE.

14th DAY.—In the Senate a bill was favorably reported from the Indian committee, prohibiting railroad companies from charging more than 3 cents a mile for passengers through Indian Territory. A resolution was introduced looking to the filtration of the water used in the city of Washington having been offered and referred to the District of Columbia Committee. Mr. Hale, of Maine, said that in no part of the United States were so abused and imposed upon as to the water supply are the citizens of Washington. "We are confronted with bad, foul water," said he, "which induces us to make it dangerous to drink and even to take a bath." The Senate at 12:50 went into executive session to consider the Hawaiian annexation treaty.

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