

CROP REPORTS UNPOPULAR

LAST "GUESS" COST \$80,000,000.

Representative Livingston introduces a resolution requesting the Secretary of Agriculture to make public the data upon which the latest report was based.

By W. A. HILDEBRAND. Special to The Observer.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Certain Southern members have contemplated the latest estimate of the cotton crop, promulgated by the Agricultural Department with a growing sense of indignation, and the feeling that the Department has over-reached itself found formal expression to-day when Representative Livingston, of Georgia, introduced a resolution requesting the Secretary of Agriculture to forward to the House all data upon which the last report on cotton acreage and production was made.

STATE DELEGATION MEETS.

A meeting of the North Carolina delegation was held this afternoon in one of the Democratic cloak rooms at the House.

On next Tuesday night there will be given "Scenes From the Latest Operas" at the local opera house.

HEARING ON RATE REGULATION.

Milwaukee News Addresses the Senate Committee on Inter-State Commerce and the Bill to Strengthen the Inter-State Commerce Commission is Discussed.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The Quarles-Copper bill, permitting the inter-State Commerce Commission to fix rates, was the subject of a hearing to-day by the Senate committee on inter-State commerce, at which Edward B. Bacon, of Milwaukee, was the principal speaker.

NO REPORT ON MORRELL BILL.

The House committee on the election of President and Vice President and members of Congress met to-day, but did not report any attention to the Morrell bill for the reappointment of the President and Vice President.

NO MORMON DEMOCRATIC VOTES

An Idaho witness testifies that the Democratic ticket was positively boycotted.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The investigation of the committee into the right of Senator Smoot to hold his seat in the United States Senate was resumed to-day.

Mr. Jackson, of Boise, Idaho, said the Mormons declared they would not vote for the Democrats in the last campaign, and according to the witness, "they made good."

TROUBLE MAY FOLLOW DUEL.

Friends of Dead School Teacher and Recently Wounded Patron About to Clash.

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 16.—Information from Magee, Miss., is to the effect that serious trouble is feared there over the recent pistol duel between Mangum and Woodward, in which the former was killed and the latter seriously, probably fatally, wounded.

PLEASANT ENTERTAINMENT.

Ariel Quartette, With Miss Seymour and Mr. Owens, Gave an Enjoyable Concert Last Night.

A very good-sized audience was in attendance upon the concert given last night at the Colonial Club under the auspices of St. Elizabeth's Guild, of the Church of the Holy Comforter, at Dilworth.

CRUISER WAS WELL LOADED.

Collector of Customs Finds Ostrich Feathers, Shawls, China Ware and Other Japanese Valuables—Captain Pleads Ignorance of Custom Laws.

Newport News, Va., Dec. 16.—Deputy Collector of Customs B. M. Smith, stationed at Old Point Comfort, visited the United States cruiser San Francisco, in Hampton Roads, and found several large boxes, said to contain ostrich feathers, shawls, chinaware and other Japanese valuables.

ORDER MADE PERPETUAL.

Judge Purnell Makes Latest Move in a Noted Greensboro Case.

Observer Bureau, Raleigh, Dec. 16.—Judge Purnell this evening signed an order in the important case of the Southern Railway Company against the Greensboro Ice and Coal Company, and the Corporation Commission.

Imagined Wealth Shrinks.

Atlanta, Dec. 16.—Max Hart, the New York postal clerk who purchased an old trunk and found it contained \$20,000 worth of bonds, of the Douglasville, Ga., Electric Lighting and Water Company, upon writing here, found his imagined wealth was worthless, as the bonds had never been negotiated.

Settlement of the Fall River Strike Apparently in Sight.

Fall River, Mass., Dec. 16.—A conference has been arranged for to-morrow, at which the cotton mill owners and representatives of the strikers will meet.

LOUISIANA NEWS ITEMS.

Six Inches of Snow Covers the Ground—Farmers Interested in Raising the Price of the Staple—Drug Firm to Dissolve.

Louisburg, Dec. 16.—Six inches of "the beautiful" robes in a mantle of white this entire section and is a knock-out blow to business generally, as the country folk cannot come to town with their produce and carry back part of the immense stocks of Christmas goods now loading the shelves of our merchants.

The Omeas Stock Company have a performance in the opera house last night, and also to-night and Saturday nights.

Messrs. Stokes & Gurgerson announce the dissolution of their business, January 1st, and Mr. T. Stokes will engage in business on his own account in the store now occupied by the Aycock Drug Company.

The remains of the late Mrs. Bettie Thomas were brought to Louisiana Wednesday from Henderson and interred at the cemetery, Rev. L. S. Massey conducting the ceremonies.

Col. W. T. Hughes is giving pleasure to a large number of his friends by almost daily fox-hunts.

On next Tuesday night there will be given "Scenes From the Latest Operas" at the local opera house.

Mr. Charles L. Coon, of the educational department, is announced to deliver an address on the Academy on December 23rd.

Dr. R. T. Yarborough has returned after an absence of a month in New York, taking lectures along special lines—Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Hackett have returned from a short visit to Richmond, Va.—Capt. W. B. Shaw, of Henderson, is here.

Mr. Bacon said in response to Senator Ellis' question about the bill, he ultimately decided that the rate fixed by the commission was too low for the railroads than a rate that is too high would be on the shippers.

FARMERS HOLDING COTTON.

Tonson Planters Wait for a Rise—New York Marshall Held in Personal.

Wadesboro, Dec. 16.—Cotton is being marketed slowly at the farmers, holding it back waiting for a rise in price.

Wednesday Mr. Robinson, clerk of court, here received the pension warrants for the Confederate veterans and widows of Confederate veterans of this county.

Mr. Robinson is anxious to deliver the warrants at once as it will be such a welcome Christmas present to the veterans and widows.

About 8 o'clock last Friday night the barn of Mr. B. Covington, situated about a mile south of town was destroyed by fire.

Mr. B. E. Bennett was elected town marshal to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the former.

Dr. J. M. Covington, Jr., attended the annual meeting of surgeons of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad at Savannah, Mrs. D. H. Milton, of Raleigh, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. W. M. Turner—Mr. Roy Huntley, who is attending the Dental College in Atlanta, is home to spend Christmas.

NEGRO MURDERER HANGED.

Efforts to Evade Arrest by Pretended Death and Burial Proved a Failure.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 16.—Will Jones, colored, was hanged at Helena at 11:10 o'clock this morning for the murder of W. A. Robertson. The negro was executed by the gallows, pronounced dead in 11 minutes, Jones' murdered his victim in cold blood on Feb. 6.

Jones escaped, and later his friends told a circumstantial story of his being killed in a trap game. Officers were suspicious, disinterred the body buried as Jones, and found it was not his. Search was renewed, and he was captured at Rosedale, Miss.

COLLEGE GIVEN \$100,000.

New Jersey Blind Philanthropist Makes Donation to Institution at Knoxville, Tenn.

Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 16.—Maryville, Tenn., College has received a donation of \$100,000 from the blind philanthropist, Ralph Voorhes, of New Jersey.

Mr. Voorhes, president of the college, received the check Thursday, but kept the donation a secret until chapel exercises to-day. Fifteen thousand dollars are to be spent in building a chapel and assembly hall, and \$85,000 will go into the endowment fund.

Mr. Voorhes' gift is the largest ever made to Maryville College by a living donor. The Fayerweather gift of \$200,000 to the same institution was a bequest.

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The articles, he said, had been consigned to a Baltimore man. The goods were confiscated by the collector, who notified the authorities at Washington. The officer, according to the collector, asked that the discovery be kept quiet. He had, consequently, a severe reprimand.

HOUSE COMMITTEE HEARS WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The House committee on the election of President and Vice President and Members of Congress to-day heard Mrs. C. B. Colby, of Portland, Oregon, in favor of the French bill, providing for woman suffrage in the election of members of Congress.

Mr. Colby's argument Mrs. Colby remarked: "It does not require brains to vote."

"The last election demonstrated that," rejoined Representative Hardwick, of Georgia, Democrat.

There was considerable discussion over the bill, and the committee adjourned until Monday.

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Washington, Dec. 16.—The House sub-committee on the impeachment proceedings against Judge Swayne decided that the views of each of its seven members should be prepared and presented at a meeting of the sub-committee on January 5, when the articles of impeachment will be prepared for submission to the judiciary committee.

SECLUDE MRS. CHADWICK.

NO VISITOR WITHOUT PERMIT.

United States Judge Issues an Order That the Charge of Being the Plaintiff be Denied the Right to See the Marshall's Written Permission—Conflict of Authority at the Jail Ended by This Action—Wealthy Contractor Calls Prior to the Receipt of the Order—Mrs. Chadwick Files into a Rage at a Newspaper Reporter.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 16.—Mrs. Chadwick will, from now until the time of her arraignment in court, be rigidly excluded from all visitors, and even her son and nurse will be denied permission to see her, except with a written order of United States Marshal Chandler.

This afternoon an order was received at the jail by Sheriff Barry, directing him to deny all people the privilege of seeing her, and he at once ordered that the nurse, Freda Swanstrom, who was then in the jail with Mrs. Chadwick, be directed to leave.

This action was in direct opposition to an order of United States Marshal Chandler, issued yesterday, in which he directed that Emil Hoover, the son of Mrs. Chadwick, and the nurse, should be admitted at any time to see Mrs. Chadwick.

"The order applies to them as well as to anybody else," said the sheriff, "and I will ignore the order of the Marshal Chandler. This is a county jail, and the Federal authorities have nothing to say about its administration. If they don't like the way I run it, I guess they can take their prisoners to some other jail."

Sherriff Barry further declared that no visitors to Mrs. Chadwick would be permitted to see her except in the regular visiting hours at the jail, which are from 1 to 3 o'clock on every day except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

The order of Judge Wing put a period to the episodes at the jail, and her attorneys declared this afternoon that there would be no further developments in the legal end of the case until Mrs. Chadwick was brought into the court, either for arraignment or trial.

M. F. Bramley, a wealthy contractor, called on Mrs. Chadwick just prior to the receipt of Judge Wing's order, with Sidney Kerruish, one of Mrs. Chadwick's attorneys. He was asked if he was going to give bail for her, and said he was not. When asked if he intended to furnish money for the expenses of her defense, he laughed and would make no reply.

During the latter part of the morning, Mrs. Chadwick showed considerable humor. She announced that her breakfast did not suit her, and declared that hereafter she would order her meals from a restaurant, which she was visiting for 25 cents.

About noon, the Associated Press representative was admitted to the matron's quarters, where Mrs. Chadwick is. She was sitting on a couch with a silver robe thrown across her lap, and was resting her chin in her hand, a picture of mingled despair and anger. The prisoner did not present the trim appearance she has heretofore. Her features showed the traces of anxiety and the nervous tension she has been under, while her eyes flashed with spirit as she saw her visitor approach.

"Who gave you permission to come here?" she demanded, before a question had been asked. She was angered over something, and refused to answer any topic whatsoever. She was told that the promptest attention was to be made as anxiously awaited by the people of Cleveland, as well as other parts of the country, and it was again pressed upon her, but she maintained the spirit of resentment against everybody, and refused to answer papers, for printing the interview that President Beckwith had with her yesterday. Finally Mrs. Chadwick said: "I have made my last statement; I will have nothing further to say," and she closed the interview.

During the conversation her nurse, Freda, sat beside her, stroking the prisoner's hands, and trying to soothe the enraged woman.

Receiver Looser this evening made arrangements with Harold Remington, referee in bankruptcy, to examine Mrs. Chadwick Monday morning. Whether or not the inquiry will be held, depends upon the physical ability of Mrs. Chadwick to undergo the examination.

ORDER INTENDED TO PREVENT CONFERENCE WITH BECKWITH.

Toledo, O., Dec. 16.—United States Judge Wing here this afternoon issued an order to the effect that no visitors are to be permitted to see Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick unless they have an order from United States Marshal Chandler. The order is designed to prevent President Beckwith, of the Oberlin Bank, from seeing Mrs. Chadwick.

Pittsburg, Dec. 16.—In a telegram to the Pittsburg Dispatch, Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick denies that she is in debt to any Pittsburg bank. The telegram says: "Kindly deny report that I owe money to any Pittsburg bank. I don't owe them one dollar."

"MRS. C. L. CHADWICK."

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PLEASANT ENTERTAINMENT.

Ariel Quartette, With Miss Seymour and Mr. Owens, Gave an Enjoyable Concert Last Night.

A very good-sized audience was in attendance upon the concert given last night at the Colonial Club under the auspices of St. Elizabeth's Guild, of the Church of the Holy Comforter, at Dilworth.

The Ariel Quartette, assisted by Miss Bell Seymour, of Elizabeth College, and Mr. David Owens, the reader and improviser, rendered the programme in most delightful manner.

STATEMENT BY V. P. I. FACULTY.

Origin of the Trouble Resulting in the Resignation of the Junior Class and the Subsequent Dismissal of All the Cadets.

Blacksburg, Va., Dec. 16.—The faculty of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute to-night made a public statement regarding the recent withdrawal of the junior class from the institute. According to the statement, a member of the junior class was dismissed for taking part in the hanging in effigy of the commandant of cadets. Thereupon the junior class passed resolutions that if the dismissed member were not reinstated unconditionally, the class as a whole would resign.

A committee from the class waited on President McBride, but did not present the ultimatum. Dr. McBride pointed out the seriousness of the student's offense, and the statement says, was led to believe that the class would bring before him the real leaders of the affair. He told the committee that if this were done, it would probably mitigate the action taken in the counter-case. Later, Dr. McBride heard of the class' action in threatening to resign. He then summoned the class president, and told him that if the class' action were not rescinded this matter would be closed, and the direct issue raised between students and faculty as to which should control the institute. The statement says the class met, refused to rescind its action, and signed another paper, resigning from the faculty.

Dismissing every student whose name remained on the paper "for taking part in an act of insubordination and rebellion, which threatened the destruction of all discipline and obedience to the laws of the institution."

In conclusion, the faculty statement says seven members of the class and seven others declared they were forced by pressure of class spirit to sign. "We have every reason to believe," the statement adds, "that other were similarly coerced." Six members took no part in the action of their class.

ARBITRATION RALLY HELD.

Mayor McClellan, Archbishop Ireland and Others Address Peace Advocates—An Unseemly Interruption of the Archbishop.

New York, Dec. 16.—A mass meeting called to urge the prompt ratification of the arbitration treaties recently signed by the United States and several of the leading foreign powers was held to-night at Carnegie Hall, under the auspices of the New York executive committee of the American conference of international arbitration.

John Crosby Brown, in an opening address, expressed regret at the absence of Andrew Carnegie, who was to have opened the meeting, but who, he said, could not be present.

Mr. McClellan presided and was the first speaker. He was followed by M. Linn Bruce and Archbishop Ireland. While the archbishop was speaking he was interrupted by a man who cried: "Give somebody else a chance."

PRIVATE BILLS IN THE HOUSE.

Considerable Discussion on the Action of a Customs Inspector at El Paso, Texas.

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PHILIPPINE BILL PASSED.

VOTE IN THE SENATE 44 TO 23.

Several Western Republicans Voted for Amendment Offered by Democrats but Only Senator McCumber Sided With the Minority on the Final Passage—Rates of Interest on Railroad Bonds Guaranteed by the Government Lowered to 4 Per Cent. as a Result of the Measure—Other Features of the Measure.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The Senate to-day carried out its unanimous agreement to vote on the Philippine civil government bill, and by a vote of 44 to 23 passed the measure. The final vote was preceded by the presentation of many amendments and a general discussion of them, as well as of the provisions of the bill. There were occasional political references, but, in the main, the discussion was confined to the merits of the measure. On some of the amendments suggested by Democratic Senators several Western Republicans voted in the affirmative, but Mr. McCumber was the only Republican who voted with the Democrats against the final passage of the bill.

The most notable change made during the day was the lowering of the rate of interest on railroad bonds to be guaranteed by the Philippine government from 5 to 4 per cent.

The bill as passed exempts from taxation all bonds issued by the Philippine and Porto Rican governments; authorizes the Philippine government to guarantee the payment of interest on railroad bonds at the rate of 4 per cent per annum; provides for the administration of the immigration laws by the Philippine authorities; establishes a system for the location and patenting of mineral, coal and saline lands; fixes the metric system for the islands and gives the civil Governor the title of Governor General.

During the day Senator Beveridge, from the committee on Territories, reported the Statehood bill. He gave notice at that time that immediately after the disposal of the Philippine bill he would move the consideration of the Statehood bill, but he discovered that the rules require that committee reports lie over for a day he decided not to enter the motion until after the Christmas holidays, his intention being to make the motion on the Friday that the Senate convenes in January.

During the debate on the Philippine bill the provision exempting bonds from taxation, met with opposition from Mr. Gorman, who contended that the exemption was wrong in principle. Mr. Curmack said he was opposed to the railroad bond provision, because it would make it more difficult for the United States to get out of the Philippines. He quoted the President's hope that our Cuban policy might at some time be adopted in the Philippines. This he characterized as a renunciation of the Republican policy and in line with the Democratic platform.

"We welcome the President to the ratification of the anti-imperialist," he said, "he is almost, if not quite, eligible to membership in the Boston Anti-Imperialist League."

The Senate adjourned until Monday.

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