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T. G. COBB, Editor and Owner.

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CONGRESS ADJOURNED LAST THURSDAY.

Amount of Appropriations \$1,120,000,000 Approximately—Several Million Under That of Previous Congress—Ship Bill Fell By the Wayside, as Did Several Other Important Ones.

Washington Dispatch, 4th. Congress adjourned to-day sine die. The Senate adjourned at 12:04 and the House at 12:18.

The total appropriations of the session was approximately \$1,120,000,000, several million under the record of previous congresses.

Two appropriation bills failed. After refusing to accept the Indian bill the Senate reversed itself and passed it but the House refused to agree to minor amendments added at the last moment.

In the closing hours President Wilson signed the Seaman bill, the neutrality resolution empowering him to prevent ships leaving American ports with supplies for belligerent warships, promoting Col. Goethals to be a major general for his services as builder of the Panama Canal.

The administration ship bill, the Philippine bill, the conservation bill, the rural credit provisions of the agricultural bill, the ratification of the treaty with Columbia fell by the wayside.

In the Senate several members, long prominent national figures, among them Senator Root and Burton, stepped back into private life, as the curtain fell. In the House of Representatives, Underwood said goodbye to take a seat in the next Senate. Three score of Representatives fell by the wayside.

Before the House adjourned today the clock was turned back fifteen minutes to allow clearing up of some minor business.

Drainage to Increase Cleveland County's Output of Corn.

Shelby Dispatch, 6th.

One of the few instances in which public work is carried on at a less expense than was anticipated is the drainage of Buffalo creek and its tributaries. The district was formed about two years ago and a bond issue of \$108,000 voted. The drainage commissioners have been faithfully working on the reclamation of the land with two big dredge boats for a little over a year. Chairman A. H. Cline says the work will be completed in two months and there will be left something like \$25,000 in the treasury which will go to paying the interest on the bonds to the relief of the tax payers of the first year's tax. Buffalo at one time was as rich as the valley of the Nile and was referred to by the uplanders as "going to Egypt" when they went to buy their corn from those living along the rich bottoms. For a quarter of a century the land has been practically worthless from the standpoint of agriculture because of the overflow from the creeks. It is estimated that now since the bottoms have been drained and the land reclaimed, it means between 50,000 and 60,000 bushels more of corn to be produced in Cleveland county.

Breakfast at Marion.

Asheville Dispatch, 5th.

Of much interest to the traveling public will be the announcement that the Southern Railway Company has arranged with the Union News Company to serve light breakfasts on passenger train No. 15. The waiter will board the train at Marion each morning and will serve the breakfast to those who desire this service rather than to rise early at Hickory to receive their morning meal. Space has been provided in the baggage car for the preparation of the meals.

Another Edison Building is Burned.

West Orange, N. J. Dispatch.

The only building of T. A. Edison's great plant here, remaining undamaged from the fire last December was practically destroyed by fire early today. It housed valuable phonographic records but most of them stored in a fire-proof vault were saved.

The inventor himself worked in his laboratory shortly after midnight. The cause of the fire has not been ascertained.

CLAIM AGAINST THE U. S. North Carolina May Get \$100,000 of an Old Claim.

Washington Dispatch to Greensboro News.

A positive effort is now being made in Congress to place the State of North Carolina on a parity with the other States of the Union in the matter of the refundment to her of money and expenditures in the payment and equipment of the State militia called into the service of the United States during the war of 1812 to 1815. A bill in the nature of an amendment to the general deficiency bill, authorizing and directing a readjustment and payment of these claims, was introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative Page. Senators Simmons and Overman are looking after the passage in the Senate.

The bill provides that the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized and directed to reopen, examine and audit the claim of the State of North Carolina on account of advances and expenditures made by the State in the war of 1812-1815, with Great Britain, and ascertain and determine, in accordance with the rule applied in the settlement of the like claim of the State of Maryland under provisions of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1857, the amount remaining unpaid and due to the State of North Carolina, on account of advances and expenditures and appropriate whatever sum is found to be necessary for the payment of said claim.

During the war with Great Britain the several States then comprising the Union made certain advances of money and expenditures in the payment and equipment of their militia called into the service of the United States. A large portion of the expenditures so made was refunded to the States out of regular appropriations made by Congress for the support of the army. Further refundments were made under an act of Congress, approved March 3, 1817, directing the payment of "balance due certain States." Additional refundments were made under special acts of Congress, in which each particular State was made the beneficiary. Subsequent to these refundments of the principal of the sums thus expended by the States, Congress has from time to time made provisions for the payment of interest charges incurred and paid by those States which had found it necessary to borrow money to meet the original obligations.

The Federal government has recognized the proper expenditure by the State of North Carolina for the payment and equipment of militia and has refunded to the State the sum of \$77,000. No settlement, however, appears ever to have been made with the State for the interest charges which she incurred and paid on money borrowed in order to meet these expenses. The records of the State show that North Carolina was obliged to resort to loans in order to meet these obligations. The public Treasurer, by various acts of the Legislature during the period from 1812-15, was authorized to, and did, borrow large sums of money to meet the above-mentioned expenditures, as well as for the operating expenses of the State government. The records of the Treasurer's office show that the State was borrowing from the banks and paying interest on approximately \$100,000 during parts of this period.

It is contended that the State of North Carolina is entitled to a settlement and refundment of the interest charges incurred by her on these loans and in accordance with the same rules as have been applied in the settlement of like accounts of other States.

Upon the passage of this bill by Congress, the Treasury Department will audit and adjust the account in accordance with the directions contained therein and the amount found to be due this State, reported back to Congress for specific appropriation. It is contended that an audit of the account on the same basis as to interest as the audits of the accounts of other States have been made, will show that North Carolina is clearly entitled to something more than \$100,000.

Speaker Anderson, of the Tennessee Legislature, died Tuesday night of last week of uraemic poison. It's a coincidence that the Speakers of both the North Carolina and Tennessee Legislatures have died while the Legislatures were in session and within a few days of each other.

WILSON POSTPONES TRIP TO EXPOSITION.

Vice President Marshall Will Represent President Wilson at Formal Dedication.

Washington Dispatch, 5th.

Vice President Marshall will go to San Francisco to represent President Wilson at the formal dedication of the Panama-Pacific Exposition March 20. The President still hopes to visit the exposition later.

The Vice President left to-night for Cleveland, and later will go to Indianapolis before leaving for the coast. Assistant Secretary Phillips of the State Department, chairman of the Government Exposition Board, also left for San Francisco to-night to take part in the exercises in honor of representatives of foreign government.

President Wilson reluctantly gave up his plans for going to the coast this month, but decided he was needed in Washington to direct the negotiations for the protection of American interests during the war. He may go later.

The Vice President conferred to-day with Secretary Bryan and Mr. Phillips, who discussed the trip last night with the President. The invitation to the Vice President to represent the President at the exposition followed and he accepted.

Secretary Daniels stated to-day that he intends to carry out his original plan to visit the Panama-Pacific Exposition next July, making the trip on a warship via the Panama Canal about July 1. There probably will be a number of distinguished guests in the Secretary's party.

Woodmen of World in Session at Durham.

Durham Correspondence, 8th, Greensboro News.

About 300 delegates to the State convention of the Woodmen of the World are here for the annual meeting. To-night the formal opening of the convention was held at Trinity church. The main auditorium of the building was packed with Durham Woodmen, delegates and visitors.

Sovereign L. L. Tilley, Durham, was chairman of meeting. Mayor W. J. Brogden, of Durham, delivered the address of welcome. "Woodmen's function in the world was to clear away the forests," he said. "That is the prime meaning of the word, and to-day applied to the order the Woodmen are supposed to clear away the prejudices, ignorance and other things which tend to make civilization any the less bright."

The response was made by Gen. B. S. Royster, of Oxford. He said he believed the mayor had peeped into the book, for he told the Woodmen things they should have known. He asked the delegates to see to it that they got something out of these meetings to carry home to their lodges.

The first regular meeting of the convention will be held to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

(Mr. W. T. Clark, district deputy, and Messrs. R. E. Coleman and Oliver Webb are attending the meeting from the Morganton camp.)

Water for the Hospital.

Charlotte Observer, 7th.

The Appropriations Committee did fairly well by the State institutions—did better, perhaps, than many had supposed it could do under existing circumstances. The needs of all were met and no bond issue was talked of. The Observer is glad that the State Hospital at Morganton will be enabled to secure a much-needed supply of water, the committee having set aside \$60,000 for that purpose. This institution also comes in for an appropriation of \$5,000 maintenance fund over the appropriation of last year, though the increase should have been a little more liberal, considering the increased demands upon the facilities of the hospital. But the need of water works, was the most pressing, and the institution should be thankful that this long-desired equipment is to be provided.

Four hundred North Carolina farm boys have enrolled in the new organization known as the Pig Clubs, which is being conducted by the animal husbandry division of the North Carolina Experiment Station. J. D. McVean, in charge of the work, states that since January 1st 200 have enrolled.

U. S. DEMANDS BETTER CONDITIONS IN MEXICO.

Change of Policy of Our Government Indicated.

Washington Dispatch, 8th.

New and urgent representations, amounting practically to a warning, have been sent by the United States to General Carranza demanding an improvement of conditions in Mexico City.

Diplomats familiar with the note American Consul Silliman has been instructed to present to Carranza interpret it as an entire change of policy on the part of the Washington government toward the Mexican government.

The communication to Carranza, drafted after a conference between President Wilson, Secretary Bryan and Councilor Lansing, was guarded with secrecy pending some word from Carranza.

It was said by some officials that the note contained the strongest representations ever made to Carranza and indicated that the American government was rapidly losing patience with his indifference to the objectionable acts of General Obregon at Mexico City.

Those who know the contents of the communication said it did not set forth and was not the nature of an ultimatum but pointed out the serious consequences that might follow if the welfare of foreigners continued to be disregarded.

In diplomatic quarters there were more manifestations of concern over the Mexican situation than at any time since the American forces were landed at Vera Cruz. The foreign diplomats conferred among themselves. Some of the diplomats expressed themselves as satisfied that the note would produce results.

"Two Years of Wilson.

Asheville Citizen.

It is a glowing tribute which the New York World pays President Wilson in an extensive review of two years of his administration. While the President and his friends must have experienced a feeling of deep disappointment that the ship purchase and child labor bills failed to reach enactment, there is still before the country a splendid record of achievement. For the public prints bear evidence that no four years of preceding congressional sessions reached greater accomplishment along national lines than did the Sixty-third congress which has passed into history. It is not too much to say that President Wilson, rather than congress itself, was responsible for legislation which brought about reforms of far-reaching character. He did not use a club, yet his strong personal influence undoubtedly brought into being the Underwood-Simmons tariff law and the banking and currency law. Above these, perhaps, may be ranked President Wilson's signal victory over the warlike interests in saving this country from war with Mexico. This, of course, was not legislation of any character; it was, however, a diplomatic triumph which throughout the future history of this country must reflect the greatest credit on the present chief executive. These achievements were reached in the face of the most bitter opposition, and despite the fact that the president was not always sure of his own household.

Well does the New York World say that President Wilson "has given his office a new and unaccustomed dignity." "The old-fashioned lobby at Washington," it declares, "has become as extinct as the dodo." This was accomplished without the use of fireworks and political claptrap. Always it was the quiet, but firm insistence of the president forging to the front, demanding that respectful hearing which is never given to the demagogue in high places. President Wilson, confronted on his entrance into office with problems of the most momentous character, addressed himself to their solution with the highest patriotism and courage. Tact and wisdom marked his progress as he took up and brought to successful issue the graver questions of the hour. Now that the curtain has fallen on the first half of his administration, it is fitting and proper that press and people stamp his record with a clear seal of approval.

Try News-Herald ads and watch results.

WILSON STRONGER THAN EVER BEFORE.

"Red Buck" Says That He Has Kept His Own and Helped to Keep the Nation's Head.

Washington Correspondence Charlotte Observer, 6th.

The first Congress under the Wilson Administration has passed into history. It is now part of the records of the United States. The tariff act, the anti-trust laws, the Federal reserve act and much other valuable legislation has been put on the books. President Wilson says that the work of the Sixty-Third Congress was well done.

The Observer Correspondent has kept close tab on the President, Congress and the Executive Departments since President Wilson came in. In his capacity as representative of the Observer and the New York World he has been in position to observe all along the line. In this story he will undertake to present some facts that do not crop out in ordinary news items.

President Wilson is stronger to-day than he was when he was inaugurated. There has been some question about the correctness of the tariff policy of the Democratic party, but if the Underwood-Simmons law is given a fair test it may prove the great blessing that its friends say it must be. If there is an issue in the United States now it is over the tariff; it is not over President Wilson. The European war has brought the average American citizen, who thinks well of his family, his home and his country, and will shoulder a gun and go to battle, if necessary, to a realization of the fact that Mr. Wilson will steer the ship of State with a cool, clear head, and keep it off the rocks. There is no desire among some Americans for war with any of the foreign countries now involved in the war of Nations. There is an abiding faith in Mr. Wilson's ability to protect the honor and integrity of the Nation without plunging the United States into war. That is what his people think.

Futile Efforts.

Republicans who are partisans first and patriots next have tried for two years to undermine the Democratic President. They have not succeeded; all that they can say is that the Democratic Administration has caused hard times, which means, of course, that nothing short of the old Republican tariff will bring back prosperity.

President Wilson has kept out of entangling alliances. He has no pets upon which he lavishes favors. He has no enemies that he would punish. The newspaper men of Washington have great respect for Mr. Wilson. They have not had to record that any one has called him a liar, or that he has described anybody as a liar or a malefactor. The White House has not been the breeding place of Roosevelt phrases since Mr. Wilson took possession. Quiet, thoughtful, and deliberate, President Wilson has been President for two years. He wears no other man's collar. No member of his Cabinet would even think of trying to dominate him. He dominates by sheer force of character, ability and a keen, true sense of right and wrong, but does it in an inoffensive way. After he has given his word, whether it be "yes" or "no," those who know him take it as final unless they can produce evidence to change his mind. There is nothing harsh or grating about the President. He is hospitable, mannerly and gracious but not "easy."

True to Her Sex.

National Monthly.

An old colored woman was sitting with knees crossed in the shoe department of a large store when a young woman clerk stepped up to her.

"Aunty, what size of shoe do you wear?" she inquired.

"Well, honey! I kin wear eights and I generally wear nines; but dese yer I've got on are twelve, and de Lord knows day hurt me."

Thad R. Manning, for many years well known as a newspaper man of this State, died in Henderson last Thursday. He had been confined to his bed for three years. He was 58 years old and was the founder and up to four years ago owner of the Henderson Gold Leaf. He was at one time president of the North Carolina Press Association.

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Brief Notes of Recent Happenings in North Carolina.

The Buncombe county boys' cor club has a membership of 156.

Ex-President Taft will deliver three lectures at the State University, beginning March 17th.

The Junior Oratoricals were held at Davidson College last week, about 45 orations being delivered.

John Kenderick Bangs, humorist, journalist and dramatist, is visiting Asheville, stopping at the Grove Park Inn.

Grimes & Murphy, Hickory's new druggists, opened up for business Monday. This makes the fourth drug store for Hickory.

Etta, 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Umberger of the city of Concord, threw paper in a fire, the flames set her clothing afire and she was fatally burned.

Auburn H. Setzer, who recently returned to Hickory from Congo, Africa, has purchased a job printing outfit and will open up a job printing plant in Hickory in the near future.

Jesse P. Walker, a Brunswick county outlaw, who killed the sheriff of Brunswick in 1907, broke out of prison next year and has since successfully escaped the law, was captured Sunday.

Representative Doughton has recommended John L. Miller for postmaster at Concord. Mr. Miller's nomination will be made within a short time. The candidates who failed at John B. Sherrill and Mr. Widenhouse.

B. N. Mann, a merchant of Durham was found on a street in that city Monday night in a dying condition. He expired in a few hours. His head was lashed and assault by robbers was suspected, but later it was thought he had been struck by an automobile.

The cotton platform and a few over 800 bales of cotton were destroyed by fire last Friday night at Monroe. The origin of the fire is not known, but it is thought that it caught by a spark from one of the engines on the yard as the main track is about 150 or 200 feet away.

T. W. Allen, of Mecklenburg county, lost 53 bales of cotton by fire last Thursday morning about 2 o'clock. The cotton was stored in a tenant house near his home. The fire, it is thought, was of incendiary origin. The house was completely destroyed. There was no insurance.

The records at the customs house in Wilmington show that during the month of February the exports amounted to almost twice what they were in February of last year. The exports February of this year amounted to \$1,763,550 and for the same month last year \$985,300. Cotton sent to England last month totalled 21,263 bales, to France 13,119 bales. Cotton seed cakes to the amount of 4,704,000 pounds were sent to Denmark.

In view of the need of reducing the high cost of living in these strenuous times of war and rumors of war, North Carolina Sorosis, an organization of club women, has suggested to the young ladies of the senior class of the Wilmington High School that their commencement dresses be made as inexpensively as possible this year and this suggestion has met with the cordial approval of the teachers and it is expected that the suggestion will be adopted. A prize has been offered by Sorosis for the most attractive commencement dress, the cost not to exceed \$2.50, the material to be purchased from a Wilmington merchant and preferably of North Carolina looms.

Wilsonian Ideas of "Society."

In an address at Washington recently President Wilson gave his opinion of what is called "high society."

"It is very amusing sometimes," said the President, "to see the airs that high society gives itself. The world could dispense with high society and never miss it. High society is for those who have stopped working and no longer have anything important to do."

"What America has vindicated above all things else is that native ability has nothing to do with social origin."