

HON. JAMES BRITT WON CHOICE BERTH

Named by Postmaster General Hitchcock as Third Assistant Postmaster General.

SUCCEEDS A. L. LAWSHE WHO RECENTLY RESIGNED OFFICE

Mr. Britt is now law officer of the department—Made Race for Congress Four Years Ago.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Postmaster General Hitchcock today announced the appointment of James J. Britt of Asheville as third assistant postmaster general, vice A. L. Lawshe, who recently resigned.

Mr. Britt is now law officer of the department and ranking official of the third assistant's bureau.

Mr. Britt is a native of Johnson City, Tenn.

The Britt Appointment.

The appointment of Hon. James J. Britt of Asheville as third assistant postmaster general will be received with great joy by his many friends in western North Carolina and elsewhere. Mr. Britt is a scholar and a statesman. He is a native of Tennessee but for many years has made his home in North Carolina. He taught school in Mitchell county and removing to Asheville was for years chief clerk in the internal revenue office here. He studied law and resigning from the revenue office practiced his profession in Asheville with a marked degree of success. In 1906 he was nominated by the republicans of the Tenth congressional district to represent the district in congress and while making a splendid race was defeated for the seat in congress by Hon. W. T. Crawford of Haywood county. In 1908 Mr. Britt was nominated by the republicans of Buncombe county for the state senate and made a strong race, defeating Frank Carter, the democratic nominee.

Following the adjournment of the general assembly of North Carolina last year Mr. Britt was named as special counsel to the postoffice department at Washington, where he has been in service since July, 1909. During the late campaign Mr. Britt returned to North Carolina for a time and made a number of political speeches in the interest of the republican ticket in the county, district, state and nation. He is a splendid speaker; a well-rounded man and the news that he has been elevated to the high position of third assistant postmaster general of the United States will be splendid news to his friends and acquaintances.

The salary of the third assistant postmaster general is \$5000 per year. Mr. Britt has the active backing of Postmaster General Hitchcock as well as the support of National Committee-man Duncan.

Mr. Britt's Duties.

Mr. Britt's duties are most strenuous and the most important of assistant postmasters general. He is in charge of the department of finance, all money order and postal revenues, division of stamps, stamped envelopes and paper, postal cards, the division of classification, including newspapers and periodicals, division of registry, and division of redemptions.

HUNTING SEASON COST MORE THAN 100 LIVES

Chicago Tribune Says That in 23 States Total of 113 Lives Were Lost.

Chicago, Dec. 1.—The hunting season of 1910, closing yesterday, cost 113 lives, according to statistics from 23 states by the Tribune.

This surpasses any previous annual record. The number of injured is \$1.

Pullman Makes Reduction In Upper and Lower Berths

Chicago, Dec. 1.—A general reduction in rates for upper Pullman berths and in certain instances for lower berths was announced before Commissioners Lam and Clark of the interstate commerce commission by G. S. Perkins, of the Pullman company today. The reduction in upper berth rates offered is 25 per cent, while a

CHEROKEE'S RICH MARBLE DEPOSITS

Establishment of Finishing Plant at Regal Means Much for That Section of the State.

WILL OPERATE DAY AND NIGHT; MANY MEN WILL BE EMPLOYED

History of the Marble Quarry—"Regal Blue" Marble Has Become Famous as Georgia Product.

Special to The Gazette-News. Andrews, Dec. 1.—The announcement that the Casparis Marble company, which has been quarrying marble at Regal, Cherokee county, is preparing to install a plant to convert the marble into a finished product, will add another important industry to North Carolina's long list for there is not another marble quarry or finishing plant in the state.

A vast area of Cherokee county is underlaid with marble, within a few feet of the surface, and cropping out in the beds of the watercourses. It is traceable from Hawkins in Swain county, through Red Marble Gap, and down Valley River by Andrews, Marble, Tomotla and Regal. It is also found along the Notta river at Kinsey and Curberston along the L. & N. railway. The deposit is of unknown width, and although cores have been bored out to a depth of over 250 feet the bottom has never been reached, and nobody knows how thick the vein is. The North Carolina deposits are probably a continuation of the beds which have been found in Georgia in the vicinity of Tate, Nelson, and Marble Hill.

For several decades the Georgia quarries have been worked. Immense finishing plants were erected, marble was furnished for the construction of many fine buildings, even in northern cities, and Georgia marble is now well known in a large portion of the United States. Some princely fortunes have been made, and the entire section covered by the industry enjoys great prosperity.

About 20 years ago northern capitalists opened quarries at Kinsey and Curberston in this county, but unfortunately they struck marble which was cracked—and seemed so badly that it was not marketable. The entire expenditure of a vast amount of money, the work was abandoned, and it was generally believed that North Carolina marble was worthless.

History of Regal Quarry. No further attempt at development was made until some 10 years ago, when the National Marble company was incorporated, composed chiefly of Boston capitalists. This company opened a quarry at Regal, on the Southern railway, three miles from Murphy. The company was not very fortunate in the selection of its general manager, who was a man of great energy but not of very great business ability. Much of the company's money was expended on a saw mill, and an iron ore bank was worked for a while at a great loss, and even gold mining was tried. The capitalization of the company was \$50,000 cash, but after two years' operations the directors found that most of the money had been expended and that the work on the quarry had only begun. An experienced foreman was brought from the Georgia quarries and placed in charge of the work. He was soon cutting out good marble, but after another year's operation the company found itself out of funds, and the stock holders being unwilling to advance more money work was suspended, and the foreman, with his workmen, went back to Georgia, and left the quarry to fill with water.

Marble of Very Fine Quality. It had been ascertained positively, however, that the marble was of a very high quality, and other parties became interested in it. Three years ago a company of Ohio capitalists took charge of the property, brought back the same old foreman, made him general manager, and went to work. The deeper the excavation went, the better the marble showed up, and now there is no doubt that they have an unlimited supply of valuable seamless marble.

The Regal quarry contains two colors of marble, blue and white, side by side. The grain is fine, and takes a high polish. The blue is the more valuable, and has already achieved for itself a great reputation as "Regal Blue," but it was not known as a North Carolina marble, as it was shipped in blocks to the mills at Canton, Ga., and there finished and sold. The Regal plant will run day and night, and will employ a large number of skilled workmen at high wages. The industry will be a benefit to the entire section, and it is likely that other quarries will be opened and developed and that this locality will become one of the richest sections of the state. In the marble area is also found immense deposits of talc but it has not received much attention in this county.

Officers and Men of American Fleet Are Being Wined and Dined Abroad



THE U.S.S. GEORGIA SAILORS OF THE U.S.S. RHODE ISLAND AT BREST.

The American fleet is being well reviewed abroad. Officers and men alike are being wined and dined in all quarters. The sailors were particularly pleased with the news of the navy's victory over the army in the football game last week. The fine weather has brought visitors by the hundreds to the ships.

STANDARD OIL CO. HEARING DEFERRED

Oil Trust Hauled Before Raleigh Police Court Asks for Time and Specifications. Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, Dec. 1.

The Standard Oil company, through James H. Pou, as counsel, made appearance today in the Raleigh police justice court to answer the charge of violating the state anti-trust law in cutting the price of kerosene in Raleigh from 10 to 7 3-4 cents in order, as the state charges, to drive out competition, the Standard Oil Co., which has had established tanks here since January. The Standard asked time to prepare its case and that the state be required to specify the points in North Carolina where oil is being sold at an unjustly higher price than Raleigh, thereby showing intent to destroy Raleigh competition and thereafter put up prices. The trial was deferred until December 13, the prosecution being directed to furnish the Standard counsel particulars as to towns to be involved as to selling prices by December 9.

Prominent Lawyer Cited to Show Cause. In federal court today Judge Connor directed the clerk to have E. S. Abell, a prominent attorney of Johnson county, return here and show cause why he should not be served in contempt for procuring the continuance of a case yesterday through presenting a telegram claimed to have been received that his wife was very ill in Springfield. A government investigation shows no such telegram was received here.

Asheville Insurance Company Chartered. The Provident Mutual Life and Accident Insurance company of North Carolina was chartered today. The home office is at Asheville. J. P. Sawyer, J. H. Tucker, Charles G. Lee, William Farr, R. S. Howland of Asheville and a number of capitalists of Chataanooga, Tenn., are the incorporators. Will do a general life, health, accident insurance business.

COMMISSIONERS HOLD THEIR LAST SESSION

Odds and Ends Attended to by Board Which Goes Out of Office Monday—Bridge Matter.

The old board of county commissioners held its last official meeting today, having adjourned at the last regular meeting to come together today for the purpose of clearing up the odds and ends of business which required their attention. The old board will, however, meet with the new board when it is installed Monday. At the last meeting it was thought that the concrete bridge would have been completed so that the present board could settle with the contractors, but on account of adverse weather conditions and other causes the work has not progressed to such an extent that the final settlements could be made today; but it is thought that arrangements can be effected this afternoon so that Mr. Rankin can perfect the settlements.

There were other matters of a routine nature which occupied the attention of the board, bills to be audited, and new roads to be laid out; also reports as to roads already authorized. There was an order made that the road from the west end of the new concrete bridge to Asheville avenue should be made 45 feet wide. Messrs. Rutherford and Erwin Patton of the new board were present at the meeting today.

Blizzard Hagging in New York. Interlaken, N. Y., Dec. 1.—A blizzard is raging in New York county, the inches of snow, being running high.

Twenty-four Days to Christmas. San Juan, Porto Rico, Dec. 1.—The American schooner Frank T. Sinton was burned to the water's edge in the harbor of Mayaguez. The boat valued at \$10,000, had a cargo of salt worth \$10,000. The vessel was insured for \$5,000. The cargo is fully protected.

DECEMBER 1. The Boy Is Thinking of That New Head. Get It Now!

SURVEY OF STATE FROM THE CAPITAL

Commissioner of Labor Shipman Makes Public Report on Miscellaneous Factories.

RALEIGH METHODIST CHURCHES SEND REPORTS TO CONFERENCE

Editor Dowd's Chances to Win Speakership Apparently Good—Capital Club Will Celebrate Dec. 8.

Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, Dec. 1.

Commissioner of Labor and Printing M. L. Shipman has made public his report of the status of miscellaneous factories which include all except cotton mills and furniture factories, heretofore reported, as separate features of his forthcoming 1910 reports. There were 672 of these miscellaneous factories reporting to the department this year, some of the reports, however, omitting various features that they were called on to include. An aggregate capital of \$50,833,399 is reported by 561 factories reporting on this subject. The estimated value of plants for 553 factories reporting is \$20,438,731. As to power used there are reports from 555 factories showing that 419 use steam; 119 electricity; 7 hand; gasoline 22; 27 water; 4 combination water and steam; steam and electricity 27; 1 combination electric and gas; 2 gas; 1 steam, water and electricity; 5 electric and hand; 5 steam and gas or gasoline; 1 water and gas; 16 failing to report power. These plants exclusive of 15 that use hand power, show the employment of 109,207 horse power. Reports from 416 factories shows 65,209 persons (estimated) dependent on the factories for livelihood. The average hours of work is 10 hours and 27 minutes.

Dowd's Chances Good. The impression is growing here that Editor W. C. Dowd of the Charlotte News will win out in the contest for the speakership of the house at the approaching session of the legislature. This impression is gaining ground in the absence of any definite statement from Hon. R. A. Doughton of Allegheny that he is really in the race for the speakership. It is believed that he is about the only man who could really endanger Mr. Dowd's chances for the speakership.

The 25th anniversary of the Capital club of this city is to be celebrated Thursday evening, December 8, with a reception that promises to be one of the most brilliant the club has ever given. H. E. Litchford in the president of the club.

Methodist Churches Send Good Reports. The Edenton Street Methodist church, Raleigh's principal Methodist church, sends an exceptionally creditable report to the annual conference this time. It shows over \$14,000 raised for general purposes and a \$25,000 Sunday school building almost completed. There have been 40 additions to the church, just half of them by baptism. Central Methodist church also sends a very creditable report with 45 additions and something like \$4000 in collections. This church also reports plans about perfected for extensive improvements, including enlarged auditorium, fine new pipe organ and several handsome memorial windows.

BISHOP HENDRIX MAKES ADDRESS TO CONFERENCE. Routine Business of North Carolina Methodist Conference Transacted—Addresses.

Special to The Gazette-News. Elizabeth City, Dec. 1.—The North Carolina conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, south, received two ministers today from the Methodist Protestant church and one from the Methodist Episcopal church. Seven young men were received on trial, elected deacons, 10 elected elders, three received by transfer. Reports of the Methodist orphanage and Raleigh Christian Advocate were submitted. Three were received by transfer from other conferences. J. R. Stewart addressed the conference on behalf of the superannuated endowment fund.

W. L. Cunningham, represented the board of education and correspondence school. Bishop Hendrix delivered an able address before the conference on "Men of Shrunken Ideals."

Mrs. Schenck Will Remain in Jail. Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 1.—Counsel for Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenck, indicted for attempting to murder her husband by poison, state that she will probably remain in jail to save her annoyances which might follow her admission to bail.

Fifteen Fishermen Are Supposed to Be Drowned. Charleston, Dec. 1.—Fifteen fishermen, it is supposed, have been drowned at the fishing grounds off Charleston. Their smacks have been missing for several days. Report says that one smack was sighted, floating bottom upwards.

Vessel Burned. San Juan, Porto Rico, Dec. 1.—The American schooner Frank T. Sinton was burned to the water's edge in the harbor of Mayaguez. The boat valued at \$10,000, had a cargo of salt worth \$10,000. The vessel was insured for \$5,000. The cargo is fully protected.

Supposed Dead Man Broke Up the Coroner's Inquest. Newark, N. J., Dec. 1.—A long time after physicians had pronounced him dead, and while coroners were disputing over the right to lift on his supposed demise, a Boston man named Henry, by means of a trick, broke up the inquest by showing the corpse from his car and sitting up.

Why, Bill, where am I? What's the matter? he exclaimed. The surprised physicians were able to revive him and he is expected to recover.

THE WEATHER. Forecast for Asheville and vicinity. Fair tonight and Friday; continued cold. The lowest temperature tonight will be about 13 degrees.

EXPRESS COMPANIES' STRIKE IS SETTLED

Employees Received 5 to 8 per Cent Increase in Wages—Open Shop Established.

New York, Dec. 1.—A final settlement of the express companies' employees' strike was effected today; the companies agreed to give the men 5 to 8 per cent increase in wages. The new agreement establishes the open shop.

Ellsworth Resigns. Eagle Pass, Tex., Dec. 1.—Luther T. Ellsworth, United States consul at Ciudad Portillo Diaz, has sent his resignation to the state department at Washington, effective as soon as possible.

Complete Order Restored in Portugal. Lisbon, Dec. 1.—Portugal official advices from Macao state that complete order has been restored, following the granting of the demands of the rebelling soldiers and sailors.

NEW INSURANCE CO. CHARTERED TODAY

It is the Mutual Life, Health and Accident Insurance Co. With Headquarters in Asheville.

INCORPORATORS AMONG THE TOWN'S BEST KNOWN PEOPLE

Company's Money Will Be Invested in Western North Carolina Real Estate—The Plans.

THE Provident Mutual Life, Health and Accident Insurance company, which was chartered today with its home office in Asheville is simply another evidence that this is a good business city and that the business men of the town as well as of other states have faith in its future. The local incorporators are Capt. J. P. Sawyer, president of the Battery Park bank; J. H. Tucker and Charles G. Lee, of the well known law firm of Tucker & Lee; R. S. Howland, of the Asheville & East Tennessee Railroad company; William Parr of the Piedmont Electric company, and Edwin Eberman of the Scott Lumber company.

The Chataanooga business men who are interested in the company are Thomas McClelland, Robert J. McClelland, A. W. Chambliss and J. W. Kirksey. Mr. Kirksey, who is an insurance man of wide experience, will have charge of the company's home office.

Will Invest Money Here. It is expected that the organization meeting will be held within a few days and that the company will be ready for business by January 1. The company is to be conducted upon a high plane, and, backed by such strong business men, it should be a success from the first. One of the features which will doubtless commend it to the local people is the fact that it is the intention of the company to invest its funds entirely in western North Carolina real estate. There are several state insurance companies and many foreign companies operating in this state. There is much money each year paid into insurance companies which goes to build up other states, little if any, being invested in this state, while the companies which are composed of North Carolina people invest their funds in other parts of the state largely.

Will Do General Insurance Business. The company will do a general life, health and accident insurance business in North Carolina. The promoters had little trouble in organizing the company. When it became known that they wanted a home insurance company it met with general favor and the raising of the money was an easy matter. Incidentally it might be remarked that the granting of the charter by the state today without having to redraft and make many changes is something new in this state; the other companies often having to get several drafts before approved. It speaks of the ability of the lawyers who drew it up, Tucker & Lee.

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