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NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Interesting Reading Matter of Local and National Affairs in Condensed Form.

The 31st annual session of the young people's convention of the North Carolina and Virginia Christian conference assembled at Haw River Tuesday morning.

Roy fields of East Durham, an employe of the East Durham Manufacturing Company is in a critical condition as the result of taking strychnine tablets by mistake for calomel tablets.

Archie Handy was shot by his brother, Louis Handy at Wrightsville Sound Sunday night. There was a general disturbance at the home of the later and as a result the former secured a pistol ball in his leg.

Despondent because of his inability to raise funds to meet his obligations and discouraged by the loss of money recently invested in losing ventures, W. W. Allison of South Solon, Ohio on Monday night fired a shot into his brain at Asheville in an effort to end his life.

Officers of Nash county are searching for the person or persons who fired at Geo. Whitley from ambush Sunday night. Whitley with his sister had been out driving and when passing through a thick grove several shots were fired and Whitley was struck in the back and legs by the bullets.

President Wilson on Monday granted unconditional pardons to William F. Kettenback and George H. Kester, each sentenced to five years imprisonment for making false reports to the comptroller of the currency on the condition of the Lewiston, Idaho, National bank, of which they were president and cashier respectively.

The Democrats are hoping to oust Mr. A. E. Holton, District Attorney for the Western North Carolina District within the next ten days and have one of their number appointed instead. According to the four year rule, Mr. Holton has something like a year and one half to serve yet and it said that he will resist being turned out.

Guy McCollum, a negro of High Point is dead as a result of being struck by a motorcycle ridden by J. K. Greer last Sunday evening. Greer claims that the accident was unavoidable and that he was riding on the right side of the road and within the speed limit when the negro ran into him without any chance for him to avoid him.

Henry Reeves of Charlotte was instantly killed Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Mt. Holly, where he was employed as lineman by the Southern Power Company. He was engaged in stringing a telephone wire over the highly charged trolley wire and it is thought that the telephone wire touched the other wire and became charged thus electrocuting him.

Mrs. Crawford Out On Bond.

Atlanta, Ga., July 14.—Mrs. Mary Belle Crawford, arrested yesterday on charge of poisoning her husband, Joshua B. Crawford, Atlanta capitalist, four years ago, today was released by Judge W. D. Ellis, in Superior court here on \$8,250 bond. The petition for her release was presented after attorneys for the accused widow had waived preliminary hearing, and she had been bound over to the grand jury for investigation on charge of murder.

WILMINGTON MAY HAVE EXPOSITION.

Wilmington, July 14.—Consideration is being given by business men of Wilmington to a plan of Dr. Russell Bellamy to have an exposition in Wilmington in 1916 in celebration of the completion of the Panama Canal. The exposition would be given a few months after the close of the exposition at San Francisco. Capt. A. H. Stoddard, an exposition promoter of New York city, and Mr. J. S. Chambers, formerly of Wilmington but now of New York city, spent several days here last week going over the matter with Dr. Bellamy and other business men.

The Chamber of Commerce appointed a special committee to consider the proposition. This committee held a meeting with the Exposition promoters and decided to recommend to President Corbett, of the Chamber, that he request Mayor Moore to appoint a committee of fifty business men to look further into the feasibility of the suggestion that an exposition be held here in 1916. Mayor Moore is expected to appoint the committee early in the week.

Dr. Bellamy stated today that if Wilmington does not care to undertake the project the exposition will be given in some other city in the State. It is planned to have the exposition for the entire Eastern half of the United States. Dr. Bellamy has been working on the project in a quiet way for two or three years and has enlisted the aid of prominent business men in all parts of the State.

Fatal Wreck Due To Boy's Frank.

Los Angeles, Cal., July 14.—Meddlesome youths playing with a train whistle were responsible for the loss of twelve lives and injury to two hundred passengers Sunday night when two Pacific electric trains collided, telescoping two cars and wrecking another at Vineyard Station, near the city limits.

Many of the injured will die. Three trains loaded with excursionists to Venice Beach, sixteen miles from here stopped at a curve where a switch is turned. The last train began moving forward while the two foremost trains remained at a standstill. The conductor of the last car of the center train jumped to the track to flag the approaching train. Mischievous boys pulled the whistle in jest. This was interpreted by the motorman of the oncoming train as a signal to go ahead. With a crash of breaking glass the splintering timbers and passengers cries motor car of the last train drove into rear of center train.

Farmer Murdered.

Waycross, Ga., July 14.—With the skull beaten to a pulp, and other marks of violence evident, the body of Mack Spain, a prominent farmer, who has been missing from his home 20 miles west of this place for three weeks, was found today in a shallow pond near his farm. A discharged shotgun lay nearby. No other evidence of the identity of the man's slayer was discovered.

Spain was believed to have had a large quantity of money in his possession when he disappeared, none of which was found on his dead body today. He came to Georgia from North Carolina several years ago.

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PROPER HOME TRAINING.

The Marriage Estate Best Solved by The Training in the Home.

(Greensboro News.)

Commenting upon marriages of both the eugenic and common sense variety the New York World has this to say:

Records of licenses issued in New York and in Chicago show that marriage continues to be in high favor and was never more popular than at present. In Chicago it has been promoted to some extent by pecuniary rewards offered by a large packing company to all of its employees that marry. But in this city no mercenary inducement or official patronage has been needed. We have broken the record by the unaided force of native love and valor.

The fact is the more interesting because in appearance at least it runs contrary to the doctrine of Malthus that marriage ratios vary inversely with the cost of living. This year, though food prices are high, the number of marriages is higher.

It is worth noting, moreover, that never before was the institution of marriage more cautiously under discussion and contention than during the past six months. Under a demand for "eugenic marriage," efforts have been made to restrict issues of licenses to persons of approved health and of fitness to support a family. In opposition has been the propaganda of "ethical marriage," which appears to aim at exempting the contracting parties from every thing except affinity.

About as sensible a scheme as any is that of two farmers in Ohio who in arranging a marriage between the son of one and the daughter of the other, put up each a bond for the right conduct of his child. This seems to secure both eugenics and ethics by the simple methods of ordinary business.

The plan of the Ohio farmers may or may not pan out in practice. But after all is said and done; after "trial marriage" and "ethical marriage" and "eugenics" have had their day and gone the training of the son and the daughter in the home for the marriage estate will probably come nearer solving the question. It is the home life and the home training in youth that manifests itself in the man or woman in later years. The boy or girl who has received the proper training in the home; who has been taught the gospel of right living and right thinking and who has been reared in an atmosphere of purity may perhaps wander for a time from the "strait and narrow path," but we believe that in a great majority of the cases they come back. Train the child right in the home and then let it select its mate of its choice and there will likely be fewer unhappy marriages and less demand for the divorce court.

If a man does some mighty mean things when he has been drinking, don't lay it all to drink. The liquor may have had a mighty mean man to work on in the first place.

It is time to stop talking about the softening influence of women. An Illinois man who has had four wives has just been sentenced to prison for stealing a cow.

COOPERATIVE COMMUNITY

Many Advantages Have Accrued to a Svea, Minnesota, Community.

(Clarence Poe, in The Progressive Farmer.)

Svea, Minnesota, so far as I know, is the finest example of co-operative community effort in America, the finest example I know of farmers getting together and pulling together as one man to build up the neighborhood not only in everything affecting their work and business, but in everything affecting the social life, the intellectual and educational development, and even the moral standards of the community. Svea is an absolutely pure and unadulterated country neighborhood, ten miles from a railroad station, and there is no village at all except the postoffice and the office of the farmers' co-operative enterprises and the homes of their managers. Untouched by town influences, therefore, these Svea farmers are working out their high destiny, and showing the whole world what farmers can do, aided only by intelligence, neighborliness, energy, and stick-to-it-iveness. In Svea they have established and operated thus far without one single failure—

1. A co-operative creamery.
2. A co-operative telephone company.
3. A co-operative grain elevator.
4. A co-operative stock-shipping association.
5. A co-operative store.
6. A co-operative insurance company.
7. A co-operative bank (now forming). Moreover, they also have as a result of what we may term co-operative effort—
8. A thoroughly equipped high school, with agricultural and domestic science teaching.
9. A consolidated church with a resident pastor.
10. A school library and a State teaching library.
11. Neighborhood social meetings three times a month under church influences.
12. They have "made their neighborhood a reading neighborhood." Almost every farmer takes two to four farm papers and other reading matter in proportion.

In other words, the Svea farmers have become "business men," as surely as commercial men in the towns, and are doubling their profits as a result, while they are at the same time developing a high degree of culture and that satisfying social life, without which mere money is valueless, while also maintaining moral and spiritual influences which town life tends to destroy.

And the most glorious fact about it all is that by adapting the business enterprises to Southern conditions, and following the example of Svea with regard to social, intellectual and moral influences, almost any Southern neighborhood can win for itself the increased profits, the added culture and the rich social life which the wise farmers of Svea have shown us how to win.

Some men won't even trust their own feelings.

An agricultural exchange asks "How to make Hogs Pay?" The best way is not to sell a hog anything unless he pays for it in advance.

WATTS SUCCEEDS BROWN AS REVENUE COLLECTOR.

(Daily News.)

Statesville, July 14.—The office of collector of internal revenue was today transferred from George H. Brown, the retiring collector, to Alston D. Watts, the new collector, Revenue Agent Shawhan making the transfer for the government. Mr. Watts took the oath of office before J. H. Hoffman, notary public. The new collector's first business was to issue commissions to the deputies who will be retained temporarily in the office and to three new men—Democrats. The new men are James W. Wilson, of Morganton, who will take the place of M. A. Chandley, resigned, N. L. Cranford, of Winston-Salem, who succeeds H. E. Nissen, and J. H. Aiken, of Hickory, who will succeed Joseph Bandy as division deputy in Catawba and other counties. While all the men now in the service are under the civil service, it is a ruling that of the attorney general under the Taft administration that the commissions of all deputies expire with the commission of the collector. The commissions of all the old force retained and the new ones as well are temporary, pending civil service examinations to establish a list of eligible persons for the places.

STUDY OF FOREST CONDITIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Washington, July 14.—The Secretary of Agriculture has just signed an agreement with the state of North Carolina for a cooperative study of forest conditions in the eastern piedmont region. The work will be carried on by the forest service and by the state geological and economic survey with one-half of the cost paid by each.

The study will determine the distribution and proportion of forest lands, and the relative value of lands for timber and for agriculture. It will take into account the present status of lumbering, the causes and effects of forest fires, and will recommend a system of fire protection and of forest planting.

The study just arranged supplements two already completed in the more mountainous regions of the state. The first, a study of forest conditions in the Appalachians, has been published as a state report. A study of the forests of the western piedmont region was completed recently and the results are being prepared for publication. When the study of the eastern piedmont region is finished it is planned to proceed to a similar study of the coastal plain region, so that eventually the entire state will be covered by a forest survey.

Dinner By Parcel Post.

(McCall's Magazine.)

A dinner by parcel post! Why not?" said a clever New York woman when she heard of the new postal system that was to be put in operation the first of the year. "There is nothing to prevent."

And so she planned a dinner to be shipped to her straight from the country on the first day the new service became a law. She wrote to a relative in Connecticut and asked her to pack up securely and mail a fine, big roasting chicken; and she sent out to a large farm on Long Island for a market full of vegetables and fruit to complete the dinner—a few choice potatoes, winter cauliflower, cold-frame lettuce and large selected apples for dessert.

BIG MISSIONARY MEETING.

Woman's missionary Society of Classis of N. C. to meet at Reformed Church.

A splendid program has been arranged for the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Classis of N. C. to be held in the Reformed church here on July 30-31. Besides addresses, papers, solos and quartettes by various ladies prominent in the Reformed church in this state. Miss Gertrude Cogan of Philadelphia will also be present.

The following are officers of the Society: Mrs. C. C. Bost, of Hickory, president; Miss Ida Hedrick of Lexington, vice president; Mrs. L. R. Whitener of Hickory recording secretary; Mrs. M. A. Foil of Mt. Pleasant treasurer; Miss Daisy Fisher of Crescent corresponding secretary.

Following are the names of delegates already sent in: Mrs. G. T. Crowell, Mrs. W. B. Werner, Mrs. B. L. Stanley, Mrs. George Moose, Miss Fannie Clapp, Miss Daisy Fisher, Mrs. Addie Leonard, Miss Lela Woods, Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Rowe, Mrs. S. L. Herman, Misses Nova Gamble and Chloe Price, Mrs. J. Tilden Hedrick and son, Mrs. J. F. Allen, Mrs. G. H. Peeler, Miss Jennie Barrier, Mrs. C. C. Bost, Mrs. L. R. Whitener, Dr. and Mrs. J. L. Murphy, Mrs. M. A. Foil, Miss Ida Hedrick, Mrs. Shuford Peeler, Mrs. Lee Peeler, Misses Anna Holsbouser, Annie Lee Hewitt, Lois Herman, Mrs. Lowe. Still others are to be heard from yet. All sessions will be open to the public. Your presence will be appreciated.

A PROBLEM IN LAW.

(Charlotte Chronicle.)

The problem of disposing of cases wherein convictions result in indictments for selling whiskey continues to perplex the courts. The liquor traffic is such a complicated business under the terms of the present prohibition law that when guilt has once been fixed, the question of punishment arises. Evasions are natural and easy for white men and the negroes usually get the brunt of the penalties. Judge Cooke lately remarked in Raleigh that fines were unavailing and all honest men will agree with this interpretation of the situation. Those who regularly engage in the illegitimate sale of whiskey can make enough money to satisfy almost any sort of a fine and when this is paid, the defendant returns to the task of piling up more money. If the people are really anxious that effective means be employed to break up the traffic and if the courts want to satisfy themselves that it can be done, there is no alternative as an effective remedy to the punishment of those convicted by road sentences and there should be no discrimination. It is a hard law that would put a colored man on the roads because he has been importuned by some white man to purchase whiskey for him and this is the case day after day the go-between getting the punishment and those who are primarily responsible for the violation going free. Whether it is in law or not, morally these men are co-operatives in crime with those actually guilty and while there may be no way to reach them through the process of the law, they are certainly entitled to the rebuke of the community.