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ASHEVILLE'S NEW RAILROAD.

For a long time Asheville people have been trying to get a new outlet by rail. Many schemes have been laid for building a new line which would make that city independent of the Southern, but none of these roads got beyond the paper stage. Now, however, it seems the hopes of her people are to be realized and a road is to be built to a point on the Clinchfield road, thus giving Asheville a new route to the North, West and Northwest.

On this subject the Manufacturers' Record says:

"Recent reports from Asheville, N. C., say that John H. Carter, president of the American National Bank, and R. S. Howland, both of that city, are interested with Chicago capitalists in a plan to build a railroad connecting Asheville with Hunteale, N. C., on the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio Railway.

"With reference to the foregoing, Mr. R. S. Howland writes from Asheville to the Manufacturers' Record thus:

"The Asheville & East Tennessee Railroad has been chartered to take over the line of the Weaverville Electric Co., and continue the same to Hunteale, N. C., where connection will be made with the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio, thus giving Asheville and vicinity a new route to all Northern and Central Western cities and the coal fields of Western Virginia.

"The railroad will also develop the lumber resources of a large territory now without access to the markets, and the important minerals of Yancey county. The line is graded as far as Weaverville, and the cars will begin running to that point early in April. The names of the contractors and engineers will be announced later, as soon as the permanent organization has been formed."

THE SPANIARDS OFFENDED.

The feelings of the Spaniards have been hurt by the failure of the American battleship fleet to pay a visit to any of their ports while in the Mediterranean. It is said the Government officials look upon it as a slight to their country, but that for diplomatic reasons no public expression is given to their resentment. Some of the ports of all other countries in the route of travel from Port Said to Gibraltar were visited. Diplomats say the situation is too delicate for Spain to make any complaint or urge any claim that a visit to her ports was due from the American vessels. It was hoped, however, that this Government would so arrange the itinerary as to give the Spanish people an opportunity of welcoming the Americans, and the Spaniards say such a visit and the welcome which would have been given the Americans would have done much toward blotting out any bitterness that remains in consequence of the Spanish-American war.

Unless there were very good reasons for not doing it some of our warships should have been sent to Spain. Not to do so looks too much like resentment or spite. But we suppose the matter had been given due consideration by our Government and that it had good reasons for the course pursued.

GOOD ROADS BUILDING.

Good roads building has taken on an impetus in the central part of the State which augurs higher price for farm lands and farming that pays better. A letter from Durham to the Manufacturers' Record says that Engineer Gilbert A. White has gone to Alamance to superintend the building of fifty miles of macadam roads in that county; that there is a road building movement in the adjoining county of Orange, where a \$25,000 bond issue will be spent on improving the highways; that Durham county is just completing a reinforced concrete bridge, two hundred feet long, over Little river on the Durham and Roxboro road, a seventeen-mile turnpike "which experts are patterning after." The spirit of road improvements has taken such hold of the people of that section of the State that even the streets of old Hillsboro are being paved in modern style.

FOR SWAMP LAND DRAINAGE.

Congressman Godwin is determined not to let up on the swamp land drainage proposition until he succeeds in getting Congress to undertake this work which will be of such great importance to the people of his district. He is a believer in continued and persevering efforts to obtain what he desires and also that if a thing is worth having it is worth working for. He

knows the only way to get the Government to undertake this work is to keep hammering away at it, and that the results to his people will be worth all the work he can put on it. If he succeeds the good to flow therefrom will be a lasting testimonial to his faithfulness and persevering energy as the representative of this district in the Congress.

"One of the finest schools in the State is located at Blowing Rock, up among the po' whites, in Watauga county. There are similar schools in Caldwell, Alleghany, Ashe, Surry, Mitchell, Yancey, Madison, Swain, Graham, Cherokee and Macon counties. There are a few schools in Buncombe and Haywood."

The above is from the editorial columns of the Charlotte Chronicle, and, we suppose, was published by that paper for the special information of ex-Governor Glenn.

Mr. V. C. Moore has become manager of the Farmer and Mechanic of Raleigh. It has been changed from a seven column eight page paper to four columns, sixteen pages and has been improved in appearance in other ways. The Farmer and Mechanic was established by the late Randolph A. Shotwell in 1877. It is a home and farm paper and has a large circulation.

One would suppose from reading the editorials of the News and Observer that it was the general custom in the cotton mills of this State to work women and children all night. Here is a paragraph from its editorial columns which conveys that impression:

"If the cotton mill manufacturers would stop all-night work by children and women it would be a long step in the right direction."

The investigating committee criticised the departments, and now the heads of the departments want the special committee to criticise the action of the former committee. Even should it do so that first report will cause some State officials to be more careful in the conduct of the business of their offices in the future.

One who reads carefully the titles of the bills introduced in our Legislature and approves of the many propositions for issue of bonds and heavy appropriations cannot consistently criticise the National Congress for extravagant legislation.

While so much is being said about standing by that declaration of the platform against trusts why is nothing heard about the men engaged in manufacturing and in raising certain farm products not doing the same in reference to the tariff?

When the next Presidential election comes for Taft will be as much surprised at the vote of the South as Bryan has been at that in the agricultural sections of the West and Northwest every time he has been a candidate for President.

We are looking for an executive order to be issued from the White House prohibiting the carrying of valentines in the mail. Roosevelt knows what is coming to him on the 14th if something of the sort is not done.

CURRENT COMMENT.

—We join the Charlotte Observer in abominating the effort to make "Billy Possum" a successor of "Teddy Bear," but we can't subscribe to the sentiments of that paper and of the Macon Telegraph regarding the "possum as a dish. We are possumists up here, incurable possumists, and say what you will, 'possum meat am fine."—Lexington Dispatch.

—It strikes us, as it does the Durham Herald, that N. Glenn Williams is bragging rather too soon about having secured license to sell whiskey to druggists, the prohibition law providing that nothing shall prevent sale of whiskey to druggists and medical depositories. The Legislature is in session and doubtless somebody will get interested in this matter.—Lexington Dispatch.

In order to help Taft deceive the Southern fellows who believe he is better than Roosevelt, the Republican Senate will confirm the negro Crum over the protest of Charlestonians. It is being done by Taft's great champions in order to enable them to try to deceive the South until after the next election. It will fool only those who want to be fooled.—News and Observer.

—After the New York World has been sentenced for insinuating that graft might exist in government operations as well as increase the salary of the President, Mr. Taft may be arraigned for telling the school girls of Georgia that they need not marry unless they chose—possibly he forgot that Roosevelt had declared it the duty of every woman to marry whether she found a man or not.—Times-Union.

—California, the State of agitation, is bent on passing the anti-Japanese bill despite the good advice of President Roosevelt. The legislation which is proposed will do little good and will certainly result in unnecessarily irritating the government of Japan. It is well contended that Japanese restriction is a matter for Congress to handle. It is to be hoped that the California Senate will have the good sense to kill the proposed bill.—Charlotte Chronicle.

—The failure of several persons who knew him to identify the body of the man who committed suicide at Clegg's Hotel Monday night is not to be wondered at. It is not easy to identify a man in a barber's chair

and when a corpse is laid out it is worse. A person lying flat on his back does not look like he does when sitting or walking. The Charlotte undertaker, who came down, is accustomed to seeing men prepared for burial and he had no trouble whatever.—Greensboro Telegram.

—We condemn, of course, the sentiments of the Minnesota young lady who denounced Gen. Robert E. Lee as a traitor in the prize essay which won the Daughters of the Confederacy prize. But we do think that Dr. Alderman gives a very satisfactory explanation of his part in the matter when he says that he thought that the award was to be made on the ground of literary merit. In the absence of explicit instructions to the contrary, Dr. Alderman's assumption was very natural. The fault, it seems to us, is with the Daughters of the Confederacy in not more clearly stating the terms and conditions of the contest.—Petersburg Index-Appeal.

—We should like to see the American merchant marine restored to its former prestige and our glorious flag unfurled on every sea, but most of the people who follow the flag are of the opinion that the Merchant Marine League is after the appropriations rather than after the flag. The whole scheme of subsidies for ships is a scheme to fill the pockets of the shipbuilders and the shipowners, why not be honest about it and say so? There has been an enormous increase in the foreign commerce of the United States in the last few years and there has been no lack of ship room for American freights offered for sale in foreign markets.—Charleston News-Courier.

TWINKLINGS.

—Commissioner—How do you desire to be uplifted? Farmer Hayrick—Wal, ye might start in by growin' a better class of city boarders.—New York Sun.

—"Old Cash landed in this country in his bare feet ten years ago. Now he's got millions." "You don't say! Why, he's got a centipede skinned to death, hasn't he?"—Cleveland Leader.

—"How come you here, my man?" said the warden who was distributing tracts in the prison to convict No. 41-141. "I was brought here by my convictions, ma'am," replied the man behind the bars.—Chicago Daily News.

—"Lazy—Wat's up, Hazy? Wat yer lookin' so worried about? Hazy—I read a piece in de paper dis mornin' where a scientific writer says don't nothin' all de time is de hardest kin' o' work. Hev'n's suppose dat's true."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

—"I have an idea that those new neighbors o' ours are great gossips, but I can't find out." "Why not?" "You see, their cook is deaf and dumb, and none of the girls in the block understand the sign language."—Baltimore American.

—"Why can't you settle up sometimes?" said the grocer, gruffly. "You are always short." "Yes," laughed the slow-plying customer, "something like your scales." And the grocer was so piqued he weighed out prunes for washing soda.—Minneapolis Journal.

"Pa, Mary's upstairs crying again." "What's the matter this time, ma?" "I can't just make out whether it's because she's afraid Jim won't ask her to go to the theatre tonight, or whether she hasn't anything fit to wear if he should."—Detroit Free Press.

—Explorer (relating tiger story)—There was the beast right in front of me. I was unarmed, and it was clearly necessary to terrify him into submission. What did I do? I—Excited Listener (who had heard about the power of the human eye)—I know. You—you bl-looked at him.—Punch.

DOWNWARD COURSES.

Fast Being Realized by Wilmington People.

A little backache at first. Daily increasing till the back is lame and weak.

Urinary disorders quickly follow; Diabetes and finally Bright's disease. This is the downward course of kidney ills.

Don't take this course. Follow the advice of a Wilmington citizen.


Thomas H. Knight, 720 Ann street, Wilmington, N. C., says: "Doan's Kidney Pills are certainly a good remedy for disordered kidneys and I do not hesitate to recommend them. I had suffered a great deal from backache and was often bothered by pains in my loins. The kidney secretions contained a heavy sediment and were quite painful in passage. One box of Doan's Kidney Pills purchased from Robert R. Bellamy's drug store stopped the backache and corrected the difficulty from the kidneys."

For sale by all dealers. Price 60 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name — Doan's — and take no other.

Soldier Balks Death Plot.

It seemed to J. A. Stone, a civil war veteran, of Kemp, Tex., that a plot existed between a desperate lung trouble and the grave to cause his death. "I contracted a stubborn cold," he writes, "that developed a cough that stuck to me, in spite of all remedies, for years. My weight ran down to 130 pounds. Then I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery, which restored my health completely, I now weigh 178 pounds." For severe Colds, obstinate Coughs, Hemorrhages, Asthma, and to prevent Pneumonia it's unrivaled. 50c. and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by R. R. Bellamy.

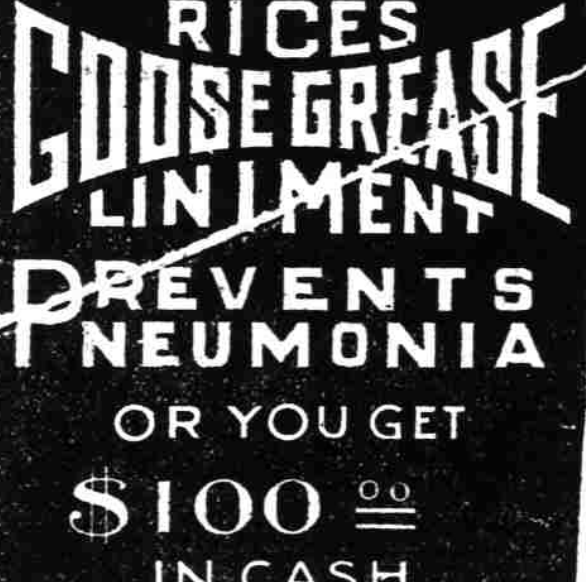
The Rate Clerks' Association of the Railways of Virginia and North Carolina are in session at Norfolk. A feature yesterday was an oyster roast at Cape Henry where the Association became the guest of the Norfolk and Southern Railway.



The Genuine Baker's Cocoa carries this trade mark. Sold everywhere.

Registered U. S. Pat. Office

Richmond, Va., Jan. 28.—"I look to see the Chesapeake and Ohio railway with a terminus at both oceans. This is our desire, and this will be the end attempted. I can say the present officers will be retained." This is the statement of John P. Branch, the millionaire Richmond banker and railroad stockholder, who is largely interested in the Chesapeake and Ohio stock, who has for years been fighting to throw off the yoke of the Pennsylvania and Vanderbilt system from the Chesapeake and Ohio. "I have not heard from my partners in New York," continued Mr. Branch, "as to just exactly what has been done, but I do know that the policy of the new management will be progressive and along such lines as will make the Chesapeake and Ohio one of the greatest trunk lines in the United States." It is believed that one result from the sale of the Chesapeake and Ohio will be a big steamship line out of Newport News, the Seaboard terminus of the railroad.



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PREVENTS NEUMONIA
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\$100.00 IN CASH

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VIA
SEABOARD
Account Mardi Gras at New Orleans, Mobile and Pensacola Feb. 18-23.

The following round trip rates will apply from Wilmington.

New Orleans	\$26.75
Mobile	24.25
Pensacola	23.35

Tickets sold February 17th to 22nd inclusive, good returning to leave New Orleans 14th and 15th with final return limit February 20th, rates on same basis to apply from other points.

Orleans as late as February 27th, Mobile and Pensacola as late as March 1st and by payment of \$1.00 tickets can be extended until March 13th.

Laymen's Missionary Movement of the Southern Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Ala., February 16th to 19th.

Account the above occasion round trip rate of \$18.25 will apply from Wilmington, tickets to be sold February 16th to 19th.

The Seaboard offers excellent double daily service from all points on its lines and connections in North Carolina to New Orleans, Pensacola and Mobile with through sleeping cars and day coaches to Birmingham. Direct connection is made at Birmingham with the Queen and Crescent for New Orleans and at Atlanta with the West Point Route.

If business justifies through Pullmans and day coaches will be operated to Birmingham and New Orleans on dates and convenient schedules.

Write at once for full particulars and make reservations early.

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Jan 28 till Feb 18.

\$11.80
TO
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ATLANTIC COAST LINE
Account inaugural ceremonies President-Elect Taft.

Tickets on sale February 28th, March 1st, 2nd and 3rd, final limit to reach original starting point not later than midnight March 10th.

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For further information, reservations, etc., PHONE NO. 160.

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Will be at our store to take measures for Spring Suits

Feb. 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday

We extend a cordial invitation to all men of discriminating taste to call and view the magnificent line of fabrics, and to have their measure taken for such clothing as they may require for Spring and Summer wear.

J. M. SOLKY & CO.

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Big Reduction!

One-Fourth Off Sale

Beginning Monday, February 1st, we will place on sale our entire stock of men's, youths', boys' and children's Overcoats, Raincoats, Odd Pants and Underwear at 25 per cent. reduction.

Now is the time for you to get the biggest values in clothing of the season.

New line of John B. Stetson Spring Hats just received.

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Planting Season Is Near at Hand

A Good Farmer Needs First Class Improved Implements.



AYER'S GRUBBERS AND NEW GROUND-PLOWS \$5.50 to \$13.00.

SYRACUSE MIDDLE BURSTERS \$9.00
For Breaking up the Middles, and

SYRACUSE CHILLED ONE AND TWO HORSE PLOWS
Are well suited for our section

We have a large stock of Repairs of all kinds. Come and let us talk it over with you.

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