

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS FOR MR. WILSON.

During the Presidential campaign the Republican party managers drafted into the service nearly all the cabinet officers, who took part in the campaign either with speeches or interviews in the newspapers, so now Boss Hanna has drafted Secretary of Agriculture Wilson to help him boost his ship subsidy grab.

Accordingly Mr. Wilson has been writing to the farmers, telling them Hanna's subsidy scheme will be a good thing for them. But he is not having it all his own way, for some of the agricultural journals, which speak for the farmers and are supposed to know what their sentiments are, are calling Mr. Wilson to task and are asking him some very pertinent questions, among them the *Rural New Yorker*, one of the leading and ablest journals of that kind in the country. In a late issue it calls Mr. Wilson to task and propounds some inquiries, as follows:

"Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson has declared in favor of the shipping bill which provides large subsidies for American ships. He says the farmers need better freight service to foreign countries, and gives instances to show where important freight has been delayed. He then says that from every point of view we should not depend on foreign ships, but that Americans should carry American freight. We agree with the secretary, though we know from experience that it often pays better to hire some one else to carry your produce than to do your own hauling. If Mr. Wilson would give the farmers real advice he should not stop with what they already know, but go on and tell us why the rich ship builders and steel makers need help from the government. That is the point to be discussed. Why should the farmers be taxed to support a class of people who are better able to provide for themselves than most business men?"

"Mr. Wilson is quoted as saying that he knew from correspondence that there is a practically universal sentiment among the farmers in favor of the bill, and that those who are against it are mainly those who do not understand what advantages the bill will bring to the farmer. Our experience and the opinion of the majority of the farmers of the country are to the contrary. The farm papers of the country are outspoken against the bill. The few farmers who are in favor of it seem to have an idea that it is a party measure which will make their party stronger with certain rich men or in certain localities. There are many farmers who do not see in their own business the results of former indirect taxation schemes. Here is their question, Mr. Secretary—perhaps you will answer it. Why, if our manufacturers can outdo the world on machinery and material, do they not build their own ships without help?"

The promoters of all these schemes go on the assumption that the farmers have not the discriminating judgment to tell the difference between a grab like the ship subsidy and a piece of honest legislation by which they and others may be benefitted, and the habit has been to try to make them believe that all such jobs are for their benefit. That's the way they were talked to win their votes for a high-protective tariff, which has cost them millions of dollars without any compensating benefit, and that's what they are told to their endorsement of the Trout oleomargarine bill, and this is what Mr. Wilson tells them to fool them into supporting Hanna's subsidy steal. It is now in order for him to answer some of the pertinent questions propounded by the *Rural New Yorker*.

TWO SIDES TO IT.

The habit has been to hold the Chinese people responsible for all the outrages in China, and while no one will excuse or palliate the atrocities perpetrated by the Boxers, there are still, two sides to this question and the atrocities perpetrated by the representatives of the so-called Christian powers should not be forgotten. In a recent sermon before a missionary society in New York Bishop Potter thus rebuked the outrages which have done so much to retard the progress of Christianity in China, and brought disgrace upon Christian nations. He said:

"If I were called upon to-night for a brief for either of the two great contestants in the present struggle between China and the powers, I should choose to take the side of China. In my opinion, we should be ashamed of ourselves for our treatment of the Chinese. We have trampled on their most sacred traditions, we have ridiculed and scoffed at their gods, we have laughed at their ancestor worship. Is it any wonder that the Chinese have risen against us? Our treatment of the Chinese has been a disgrace to our religion, and we should despise ourselves for it. We have sent men over there who are not Christians, but savages, and who have led the name of Christ in a mockery. We must do this before we can ever be successful in our missions. We should create a public sentiment that will raise up our whole treatment of the Oriental. Instead of scoffing at their gods, let us show them a better one in our own Christianity. Let us treat them like brothers. Our traders have gone there to get what they can. The Christian tradesmen and travelers have been at the bottom of all the trouble in China, and their savagery has caused all the trouble. Let us convert them here at home."

A negro in Alabama was recently caught stealing a dead hog and couldn't deny it or claim an alibi. He undertook to tote the hog, which was a heavy one, and in crossing a fence a rail broke, the hog fell on him and broke his neck.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Willard's Bill Concerning Execution of Criminals Failed to Pass.

IMPEACHMENT RESOLUTION. Compromise in the Dispute Over Fisheries in the Lower Cape Fear River—The Aycock Text Book Bill Passed by the Senate.

(Special Star Telegram.)

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 31.—In the House of Representatives today, Craig, by unanimous consent, introduced a resolution of inquiry into the action of two judges of the Supreme Court and the State Auditor and Treasurer in the payment of the claim of Theophilus White, shell fish commissioner, after being forbidden to do so by act of the General Assembly of 1899.

The resolution condemns the action of the auditor and of Chief Justice Purchase and Associate Justice Douglas, and calls for the impeachment of both judges. The resolution is referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

The resolution ordering Theophilus White to turn over the steamer Lily to the Governor and employ for his own use a sail vessel, passed second reading. Mr. Mann said the expenses of this steamer last year were over five thousand dollars, and if "Admiral" White remained in charge much longer he would bankrupt the State.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Oysters.

The bill involving the franchise of Lamb's Ferry, Elizabeth City, precipitated another lengthy discussion on final reading, but passed by a good majority and now awaits ratification.

A bill passed final reading to appoint a committee to investigate the cost to the State of the steamer Lily during the past two years.

Other bills passed were: to provide for the celebration of North Carolina day in public schools; to amend chapter 297, Laws of 1897; to incorporate the Southport and Western Railroad Company; for relief of Peter Carver, Robeson county; to prevent public drunkenness in Ash County; to consolidate the Asheville and Spartanburg Railway with a company in South Carolina.

The Speaker announced the following committee on Congressional Districts: Gaither, chairman; Nicholson, Winston, Thompson, Morpew, Gattis, Robinson of Anson, Watts, Hoey, Zachary, Ebbs, Owen.

Among the bills ratified today are: To incorporate the Southport and Northwestern Railroad Company; to incorporate the Wilmington Lodge of Elks; to incorporate the Hilton Logging Company; to incorporate the Chamber of Commerce, Washington; to amend the charter of the Fries Manufacturing Company; to incorporate the Bank of Plymouth; to incorporate Hertford County Telephone Company; to protect deer in Onslow county; to incorporate the Carolina Art Co.; to amend Chapter 32, Private Laws 1893; to amend the charter of the Moore County Railroad Company; to amend the charter of the Winston-Salem Railway Company.

In the Senate.

Among the bills introduced were the following:

By Long, extending charter of the Atlantic and Western Railroad.

By Foushee, to amend the charter of the Morehead Banking Company.

By Warren, to amend chapter 291, Laws 1895.

By Foushee, to enable the Norfolk and Western Railroad extension in North Carolina.

By Brown, a resolution to inquire into the number of employes of the Senate.

By Alexander, to incorporate the Charlotte Savings Bank.

By Ward, to amend chapter 69, Laws of 1899, regarding compensation of officers of Washington county.

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 1.

Other bills passed final reading as follows: To appoint justices of the peace for Chatham county; to repeal Chapter 453, Laws of 1899, relating to the stock law in Johnston and Randolph counties; to prevent live stock running at large in Robeson county; requesting Senators and Representatives in Congress to support the bill to purchase the Temple farm and the Moore House at Yorktown, Va.; to confer upon the Governor power to fill vacancies on the corporation commission; to protect owners of timber; to amend Chapter 79, Laws of 1899, relating to wreckage; to make the Bishop of East Carolina a corporation sole; to amend Chapter 275, Laws of 1898, relating to a dispensary in Rutherford county; to amend Chapter 263, Laws of 1895.

Other bills passed in the Senate were as follows:

Third reading—To incorporate Richmond County Savings Bank; to pay J. S. Mann balance due as shell-fish commissioner, Laws 1891-95; to amend Chapter 28, Laws '99, substitute by printing committee; to regulate working convicts in Pasquotank county; to authorize Halifax county to use certain surplus funds for county expenses; to allow Ireddell county to work convicts on public roads.

Second reading—To allow any city or town along the line of the Great Eastern Railway to subscribe to its capital stock; to authorize a graded school in Greenville; to permit Hertford to levy a special tax; to establish a graded school in Enfield; to incorporate East Spencer, Rowan county;

to authorize Waynesville to issue bonds; to authorize Franklin county to issue bonds.

RALEIGH, N. C., February 2.—In the House today Willard's bill to provide that all executions of criminals be in the State prison, came up with an amendment that unclaimed bodies be turned over to medical colleges. After a lengthy discussion the amendment was tabled, carrying the bill with it.

Shellfish Commissioner White and the steamer Lily (his pleasure yacht) were the subject of vigorous discussion, resulting in the passage of a bill to place the steamer Lily under control of the Governor, and authorizing Theophilus White to secure a sailing vessel to cost not exceeding one hundred dollars a month.

Mr. Mann in his speech charged as a notorious fact that White was not enforcing or attempting to enforce the order laws. He has only one month more in office, and the bill will save the State nearly five hundred dollars. The bill was sent to the Senate without engrossment and passed that body also.

The only other bill of interest passed, places the appointment of keeper of the Capitol into the hands of the Governor.

Bills were introduced as follows: Williams, to provide school books for orphans and indigent children.

Stewart, to incorporate the Bank of Dunn.

Mann, to pay W. H. Lucas and other oyster claims.

Brittain, to appoint representatives of unknown or absent heirs; to provide for holding municipal elections.

Simms, to allow persons to redeem land sold for taxes.

Craig, to secure better observance of the Sabbath.

In the Senate the most important business was the passage of the Aycock text book bill as revised and amended by the Joint Committee on Education. It provides for State adoption of books, or board of education, aided by a commission of educators; for county depositories for books and teacher to forfeit certificate if he or she teaches other than books prescribed. The bill was sent to the House without engrossment.

Other bills passed were the following:

To allow any town on the Great Eastern railroad to subscribe to the capital stock.

Senate bill regulating settlement of partnerships by surviving partners.

Senate bill to amend the charter of the Lumbermen and Lumber Railway.

House bill to incorporate the Robeson Loan and Trust Company.

Bill to enable Charlotte to fund its floating debt.

There was a lively discussion upon the bill to investigate the management of the institution for the deaf, dumb and blind. It resulted in reference of the bill to committee.

Senator Brown said the movement for examination was not because of charges by Republicans; but he has letters from good citizens charging extravagance.

The following, among other bills, were introduced:

Motive, regarding the Croatan normal school. Also, regarding the charter of Lumberton.

Miller, of Pamlico, to prevent non-residents from dredging and selling claims without license.

Buchanan, to protect telephone lines.

Smith, to establish graded schools in Selma.

A compromise has been agreed upon and a substitute bill is being drawn in the fisheries committee regarding stationary nets in the lower Cape Fear river. The agreement is that no set nets shall be used on the west side of the river, and none on the east side within 100 yards of the channel. No set nets more than 120 feet long, and the gaps shall be 120 feet. No drift nets used longer than 300 yards and no fish taken after April 15th.

The Biblical Recorder Company was incorporated to-day with \$16,000 capital. J. W. Batley is president and editor.

POPULATION OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

Census Bulletin, No. 89, gives the population of some of the North Carolina towns and villages as follows: Boardman, 604; Burgaw, 387; Carthage, 605; Chadbourn, 243; Clinton, 958; Cronley, 78; Dunn, 1,072; Elizabethtown, 144; Fair Bluff, 328; Fayetteville, 4,670; Fremont, 435; Hamlet, 639; Ingold, 86; Jacksonville, 309; Kenansville, 371; Laurinburg, 1,334; Lilesville, 218; Lumber Bridge, 181; Lumberton, 849; Magnolia, 454; Maxton, 935; Monroe, 2,427; Morehead City, 1,979; Morven, 437; Mt. Olive, 617; Point Caswell, 77; Pollockville, 193; Red Springs, 855; Richlands, 160; Rockingham, 1,807; Rocky Mount, 2,937; Sanford, 1,044; Shallotte, 149; Smithfield, 764; Southport, 1,386; Swansboro, 265; Tarboro, 2,499; Warsaw, 1,546; Wallace, 318; Warsaw, 878; Whiteville, 634.

FIRE AT MOREHEAD CITY.

Burned Military Store, Dwelling and Several Other Buildings.

(Special Star Correspondence.)

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C., January 30.—Fire broke out in the sewing room of Mrs. George V. Bell's military store this morning at 5:45 o'clock and burned the military store, dwelling which she occupied, and a vacant store which Mr. Stephen Gillikin was to have occupied this morning.

Mr. Needham Willis' store was torn down to save the remaining part of the block. The fire department did some excellent work considering the circumstances under which they had to operate. There was no insurance on the property destroyed.

VERDICT FOR \$9,584.

Jury in Shepard Damage Suit Agreed After All Night's Session.

SUPERIOR COURT ADJOURNED.

Several Important Cases Appealed to the Supreme Court—Winding Up of the Session—Many Matters Considered by Judge Hoke.

Every issue in the Shepard damage suit against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, of South Carolina, was answered in favor of the plaintiff and the amount of recovery fixed at \$9,584 by the jury in the Superior Court yesterday morning upon the convening of the session at 10 o'clock. The verdict was reached by the jury, after remaining out all night, at about half an hour earlier, but was not announced until Judge Hoke came into court.

The issues submitted and answered were as follows:

Was plaintiff injured by the negligence of the defendant? "Yes."

Did plaintiff, by his own negligence, contribute to his injury? "No."

What damage is plaintiff entitled to recover? "\$9,584.00."

The verdict was the subject of much comment yesterday on the street and speculation was rife as to the method of procedure of the jury in arriving at the verdict.

The State has agreed from a trustworthy source that after wrangling over the question practically all night, it was decided yesterday just before the hour for the opening of the court, to make a general average of the estimates of the several members of the jury, each estimate not to exceed \$10,000; to take the aggregate of these and divide by twelve, which was done, eleven members having contended for \$10,000 each and one for \$5,000, making the sum total \$115,000, which divided by twelve gives the approximate result as announced in the verdict.

The jury was as follows, Mr. W. W. Roberts having been chosen as foreman: A. H. Zoeller, E. R. McGowan, D. S. Under, W. A. Finer, S. A. Schloss, W. W. Roberts, Geo. Wynne, J. H. Dyer, F. L. Mintz, John L. Smith, J. W. Barnes and Wm. Simpson.

When the result of the trial was made known attorneys for the defendant made a motion for a new trial on the question of evidence, on His Honor's charge and in refusal of the court to allow a motion of non suit. The motion for a new trial was annulled and defendant excepted. The judgment on the verdict was for the plaintiff and an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court by the defendant. Notice of appeal was waived and bond was fixed at \$100. Thirty days was allowed defendant to serve case on appeal and thirty days thereafter was allowed plaintiff to serve counter statement. The case will now be heard before the higher court during the sixth week of the Fall term which begins the latter part of September.

The case of Mrs. Shepard against the same defendant will come up at the April term of the Superior Court.

A Wilmington Soldier.

Our esteemed townsman Mr. John T. Platt was informed by wire yesterday from the West Point Military Academy that his son cadet W. P. Platt would graduate February 18th with the rank of First Lieutenant.

The numerous friends of cadet Platt have watched his career at the famous military school with much interest. Without the advantages of a collegiate education, possessed by nearly all applicants, he passed all the preliminary examinations and during his four years' term has ranked high in his classes. He will doubtless be granted a furlough as soon as he graduates and will spend some time here with relatives and friends, all of whom will greet him most cordially as Lieutenant Platt, U. S. A.

BILL REPORTED FAVORABLY.

Mr. Bellamy's Bill Amending the National Banking Law Met With Approval.

Hon. Jno. D. Bellamy yesterday received in a very complimentary letter, notice of the favorable consideration by the Committee on Banking and Currency of his bill to amend the national banking law, so as to permit national banks to consider and treat their surplus as capital in the restrictions of loans, a copy of which was recently printed in these columns.

The letter is from Congressman Adin B. Capron, of Rhode Island, one of the eighteen members of the committee, and is as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 30, 1901.

Hon. J. D. Bellamy, Wilmington, N. C.

MY DEAR MR. BELLAMY:—It is with pleasure that I inform you that the Committee on Banking and Currency this day unanimously decided that your bill, H. R. 12914, entitled "to amend the national banking law" should be favorably reported to the House. I shall be pleased to report the bill as soon as I hear from you and know your wishes in the premises. If you will draft the report I shall be glad to adopt it as the report of the committee.

Awaiting your reply, I remain Very truly yours,

A. B. CAPRON.

—Hon. Walter H. Neal, of Laurinburg, who is favorably known to many Wilmington people, has been mentioned as a probable candidate for solicitor in the Seventh Judicial district, composed of the counties of Anson, Richmond, Scotland, Moore, Robeson, Bladen, Columbus, Brunswick and Cumberland.

FARMERS' MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Ed S. Battle, Esq., Appointed Receiver for the Corporation by Judge W. A. Hoke Yesterday.

Upon motion of Messrs. Bellamy & Peschan, attorneys for the plaintiff in the suit of J. M. Malpas, of Pender county, vs. the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Association, Judge W. A. Hoke in the Superior Court yesterday appointed Ed. S. Battle, Esq., receiver for the defendant corporation, and the affairs of the company will be wound up in accordance with the following order, which was made in the premises:

J. M. Malpas vs. the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

The cause coming on for hearing and it appearing to the Court that the sum of the plaintiff's claim in this case was duly served on the defendant on November 29th, 1899, and no answer or demurrer being filed thereto and that the said complaint has been duly verified.

It is now on motion of Bellamy & Peschan, attorneys for the plaintiff, ordered, adjudged and decreed that the sum of the plaintiff's claim in this case be and it is further ordered that upon the said Ed. S. Battle entering into bond in the sum of \$500, for the faithful discharge of his duties, approved by the Clerk of the Court, the said defendant and all its officers and agents are hereby directed to turn over to said Receiver all the books, property and effects of the defendant corporation, and in the meantime the defendant and all its officers and agents are restrained from disposing of any of the property and effects of said corporation. And it is further ordered that the said Receiver is authorized and empowered to collect all the debts, choses and actions and other claims and demands due or to become due to the defendant corporation by any person or member of said corporation.

W. A. HOKE, Judge Presiding, Sixth District.

The suit of Mr. Malpas against the Farmers' Mutual was brought two or three years ago to recover from the company a loss by fire of \$400, judgment for which was obtained in the Superior Court and half of the amount paid. The other half of the judgment has been uncollectable for some time, and hence the motion and the order by Judge Hoke.

The company is a Greensboro corporation and has branch organizations in nearly every county in the State, and a number of policy holders in the concern will await the ultimate result with much interest.

Harbor Master's Report.

The report of Capt. Edgar D. Williams, harbor master, shows the following arrivals of vessels of 90 tons and over at the port of Wilmington during the past month:

American—Nine steamships, 11,509 tons; 2 barges, 2,133 tons; 15 schooners, 5,984 tons. The total number of vessels, 261; total tonnage, 19,631.

Foreign—Two steamships, 2,670 tons; one schooner, 285 tons. Total vessels, 3; total tonnage, 2,955.

The grand total of vessels is 29, having a tonnage of 22,586.

Died Saturday at Rose Hill.

Information has reached the city of the death at Rose Hill on last Saturday of Mr. R. B. Carr, which occurred at the home of his father, Mr. G. T. Carr, after a lingering illness. He was about 32 years of age and for some time had been a resident of Atlanta, Ga. He came home sick some time ago and never rallied. He is an uncle of Messrs. L. V. and B. G. G. of this city, and is spoken of as an exemplary young man in every respect.

MAXTON'S POPULATION.

Census Returns Show That It Is Twelve Hundred and Sixty.

(Special Star Telegram.)

MAXTON, N. C., January 31.—A man who has had as many sets with liver pudding as the STAR man, and asks "what in thunder is scrapple?" ought to be stuffed. Maxton's population is twelve hundred and sixty; a gain of eighty-one and a half points during the last decade. It is the largest town in Robeson county, which is the largest county in North Carolina.

CAPT. W. H. KITCHIN

Died Last Night at His Home in Scotland Neck, N. C.

By Telegram to the Morning Star.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., Feb. 2.—Captain W. H. Kitchin died here to-night at 9 o'clock. He had been ill for about two weeks with pneumonia. Capt. Kitchin was well known throughout the State, and his death will be greatly regretted. He was held in high esteem, being elected first to the State Legislature and afterwards to Congress. He was the father of Hon. W. W. Kitchin, Congressman from the Fifth district, and Hon. Claude Kitchin, representative in Congress from the Second district of this State.

RECRUITING THE ARMY.

Enlistments for the Month of February Were 7,732.

By Telegram to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, February 2.—The War Department practically has completed its arrangements for recruiting the army under the provisions of the reorganization act. The enlistment for the month of January amounted to 2,738, an increase of over 800 recruits secured during the previous month of December. The details are very much encouraged at this result, and have no doubt of their ability to secure all the men they need. Many new recruiting stations have been established in various parts of the country.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.

Sanford Express: The Sanford broom factory is doing a good business and is receiving more orders than it can fill.

Kinston Free Press: Mrs. Pennie Haywood, aged 77 years, died at the home of her son, Mr. L. A. Haywood, near Trenton, last Sunday.

Goldboro Argus: The table factory received an order this week from Chicago for a car load of tables, amounting in cash to something near \$1,000.

Carthage Blade: The Carthage Furniture Factory is doing a good business and is receiving more orders than it can fill.

Walden News: Efforts are being made by well known capitalists to establish a national bank here. We learn that about \$25,000 have already been subscribed and the bank will certainly be received an order this week from Chicago for a car load of tables, amounting in cash to something near \$1,000.

Chadbourn Messenger: The strawberry crop is reported short in all the fruit-growing sections, attributable to the failure of the truckers to get in early plants on account of the drought last Summer. With the prevailing circumstances in view, the outlook for good prices the coming season is bright.

Smithfield Herald: Many Johnston county farmers have been very successful in raising cotton, but no one has made a greater success than has Mr. J. M. Langdon, of Elevation township. Mr. Langdon planted only two acres the last season and sold his crop for \$487.85.

Greenville Reflector: A terrible accident occurred at Aiden Thursday afternoon at the saw mill of Mr. W. H. Baeten. The governor bolt to the engine broke and the engine ran away. This frightened the fireman so that he fled. Mr. Baeten started to stop the engine with the intention of stopping it by shutting off the steam, but the time he reached it the engine had gained such terrific momentum that the drive wheel burst all to pieces. One of the spokes from this wheel struck Mr. Baeten in the abdomen, nearly almost disemboweling him. He died in a few hours.