

Table with 2 columns: Month and Rate. Includes rates for 1 year, 6 months, and 3 months.

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CLAP-TRAP THAT DOESN'T FOOL. The Republican leaders in Congress, seeing the popular disappointment and disgust which their disregard of promises to the Cubans and cowardly dodging on the tariff question have caused, are trying to hedge and a compromise is talked of based on a 20 per cent. reduction on sugar to cover the crop now on hand and the next crop.

The object behind this so-called compromise is too apparent to deceive any one. It is simply to procrastinate on the reciprocity question and stave off action until after the coming Congressional elections, when if the Republicans, in spite of their shameful disregard of promises and cowardly pandering to the protected interests which oppose concessions to Cuba, succeed in holding a majority in Congress they will postpone action indefinitely and give the campaign contributors indefinite control of the home market on the products for which concessions are asked. That's where the cold-blooded politics comes in.

We have heretofore quoted some editorials from the New York Tribune, the leading Republican paper of New York, exposing the fraudulent pleas of the beet sugar manufacturers, and pleading for the honor of the Republican party and the country that faith with Cuba and with the American people be kept. Those were trenchant and forcible articles, coming from a Republican organ, which would never have so arraigned without good cause the Representatives in Congress of the party for which it speaks, and speaks ably.

The New York Herald is not a partisan paper. It has no politics, but is as thoroughly non-partisan and independent as any paper in this country. It speaks for that kind of a constituency and here is the way it voices its disgust and the disgust of the honest masses of the American people at the shabby manœuvring and shameful course of the Republican politicians in Congress. Under the caption of "The Republican Party and the Protective System in Danger" it says:

"Damn President Roosevelt and the administration; to Hades with the national honor; crush the starving Cubans—anything rather than risk a decrease in the profit on the product of a single sugar beet handled by the Oxnard combine!"

"That's the attitude of the Republic whose views are formulated in the preamble and resolutions adopted at Tuesday night's caucus by Mr. Taylor, of Ohio, a leading member of the American Protective Tariff League, and which oppose any concessions to Cuba because it involves a relaxation of the protective principle."

"This is greed gone mad. Lifelong Republicans are shocked at the thought that they have helped to create a protectionist Frankenstein, this monster, which, rather than 'relax the protective principle, would sacrifice moral and national honor and destroy its own creator. By their blind rapacity the beet sugar men are making such a breach in the Republican ranks and exciting among the people such disgust and indignation as may overthrow the party and pull down the whole ultra protectionist structure erected by the tariff."

"Surely the present provocation is greater than that which caused the revolution of 1892, when General Harrison was defeated and Grover Cleveland was swept into power by a platform which declared ultra protective duties 'a fraud, a robbery of the great mass of the American people for the benefit of the few' characterized the tariff of 1890 as 'the culminating atrocity of class legislation,' and demanded its repeal. The best men are noisy and aggressive, but few in number, while there are fifteen millions of voters with no interest in sugar profits, but imbued with a spirit of humanity and regard for the good name and honor of their country."

"Mr. Taylor and his associates are mistaken in assuming that the American farmer is an ass. In their precious market for \$100,000,000 worth of sugar annually is rightfully the American farmer's. We shall encourage him to sell come into the time when he shall come into the time considering that the people are taxed sixty million dollars a year on the two million tons of imported sugar they consume in order to protect the growers of domestic cane and beet, the growth of the domestic industry is so slight that it will be some centuries before the amount needed can be coaxed out of the home soil."

"With State bonuses for years supplementing the enormous federal production of beet sugar is not an infinitesimal fraction of the total consumed, and the profit of the reduced industry could not be seriously reduced by a reduction in the duty on the portion of the imports coming from Cuba. It would be quite as rational to declare that the American

market for \$80,000,000 worth of silk annually imported is rightfully the American farmer's, or that the American market for tea is rightfully his, and that a duty high enough to permit its production under glass should be imposed.

"Neither the American farmer nor any other American can be fooled by such claptrap. They all thoroughly understand the issue. They know that aside from the moral obligation we are under to help Cuba the mass of the American people would profit by the admission of her sugar; that the provisions and breadstuffs produced by American farmers and the goods turned out by American factories would be taken in return by the Cubans. Delegates from the British Chambers of Commerce visited the Foreign Office on Tuesday last and memorialized Lord Lansdowne to enter a protest at Washington against our Government granting the proposed reciprocity with Cuba. Why? Because in the language of the memorial, 'It would undoubtedly put an end to European trade in the islands.' In other words, the United States, which heretofore has had but a fraction of the Cuban market, would get practically the whole of it, and with stable government and prosperity that market would expand to vast proportions."

"The reduction of 20 per cent. proposed by the Ways and Means Committee is too small. In opposing even slight concessions the sugar beet Congressmen are in the line of the annexation of the island, with attendant admission of its products free of all duties, and are challenging the defeat of their party and the radical revision of the whole protective system by the indignant and outraged American people."

We quote this in full because it covers the case so well and comes from a paper which speaks for or against no party because it is a party, and speaks for the honest, independent thought of the country which views measures on their merits without any political bias.

No, they can't fool the farmers of the country with such clap-trap, and it would be a shameful reflection on the intelligence of the average farmer if they could, when not one farmer in a hundred is interested in growing beets for the beet sugar combination and the other ninety-nine pay enormous tribute to the sugar growers and manufacturers, of which tribute the growers get little if any.

Why not let all they can to keep foreign silk out of this country and foreign teas, as the Herald asks? It is true that we do not produce silk or tea enough to supply the home demand for consumption, but neither do the sugar beet or cane growers. But it has been demonstrated that both silk and tea can be successfully produced in this country and the probabilities are that enough of both would be produced about as soon as the sugar beet growers will produce beets enough to supply this country with the 2,000,000 tons of sugar now imported, not to speak of the increasing demand with the steadily increasing population. Ten years hence the consumption will in all probability be 3,000,000. A little figuring might give some idea of that. Sugar has had protection for over twelve years. In these twelve years the beet sugar men have got so far along that they produced last 185,000 tons, which is a fraction over one-eleventh of the quantity imported, and this is the best they could do after twelve years of tariff protection and coddling. If it has taken them eleven years to produce one-eleventh of the amount imported it would take them one hundred and twenty-one years to produce the amount at present imported without any reference to the prospective increase, so that this "infant" will have to be coddled not for ten years, as the beet sugar king, Oxnard, says, but for one hundred and eleven years.

Holding the market for the farmer. What rot, and what rotten brains the farmers must have who could be fooled with that kind of rot.

DOESN'T WANT THE TAX PAID. The sheriff of Chatham county is a Republican, who was elected with the aid of Populist votes, and he is a daisy, with some peculiar ideas of the duties and prerogatives of a sheriff.

An effort is being made in that county, as there should be in all the counties of the State, to get the white voters who have not paid their poll tax to do so and thus escape disfranchising themselves. As there must be some one to direct this movement the county Democratic committee, through a representative, asked the sheriff to permit him to make a list of the white men of the county—not simply of the white Democrats—so that they might be informed as to the provisions of the election law requiring the payment of the poll tax as a requisite to voting. The sheriff did not respond affirmatively as might be supposed he would, but refused point blank, and gave as a reason that permitting these names to be copied would "give you fellows the advantage over us."

Probably it would, but if this partisan sheriff had the interest of his county and State as much at heart as he has his own and his party's success he would, instead of opposing co-operate in the effort to get delinquent tax payers to pay their taxes. But he assumed that

these white men who have not yet paid their taxes are Democrats, which is doubtless true of the most of them, and therefore he wants them to disfranchise themselves, although the State will lose these taxes, which in the aggregate amount to a considerable sum. He would not refuse, however, to furnish the names of negroes who may not be otherwise disfranchised and can vote if their poll tax be paid in time.

What right has that partisan sheriff to refuse to let citizens of the county look at his books, for the purpose specified when the request is made respectfully and in order? With what consistency can he do it when he would go to the trouble of copying his lists for his own partisan? It seems to us there ought to be some way of calling the sheriff to law, for doubtless his example will be followed by other Republican sheriffs.

LYING ON BOTH SIDES. The following is said to be an extract from a proclamation recently issued by a Filipino commander, under the inspiring heading "Now is the time to strike."

"The United States is in the midst of a bloody civil war. The coal miners in Pennsylvania have risen against the government, and at Chicago a great battle was fought, in which 1,000 regular soldiers were killed. An army of anti-imperialists is besieging Washington. Roosevelt will be deposed and Dr. Bryan proclaimed president by the Democrats on March 4 next."

Who this Filipino commander is we do not know, or whether this is a genuine document or only a joke by some American wag, but assuming it to be genuine doesn't it present an object lesson that might be studied with some profit by those who would deal sensibly and right with the Filipinos? If the man who made it be a man of ordinary intelligence he knew better than he wrote, and was lying deliberately to deceive his people. But how about the intelligence of the people who could be imposed upon with such stuff as that after their three years' experience with the Americans? If they could be spurred to resistance by such an appeal, when could they be considered "pacified," or when might not some addle-brain reason them to resistance after they were seemingly pacified? Such a people are simply too ignorant to realize when they are whipped.

But assuming again that it is true, are not our authorities in Washington and in the Philippines doing virtually the same thing, officially lying—for that is what it is—to deceive the American people? They don't do it in the bungling, ridiculous way this Filipino commander does, but they do it all the same.

Haven't we been officially assured numerous times that the war was over, the Filipinos pacified and, with few exceptions, eager to accept American supremacy, and proclaim allegiance to this country? And yet after three years there is sporadic fighting at numerous points, and within ten miles of Manila. The Filipino commander is not the only humbugger and liar; but he has more excuse than our authorities, who are expected to tell the truth, but studiously avoid it.

A bill introduced in the Virginia Senate which provides for the employment of penitentiary convicts in road building, has been reported favorably by the Special Joint Committee on Public Roads. It also authorizes the courts to sentence to labor on the roads "all vagrants and convicted criminals confined in county jails." A county or city may hire them out to another county or city if it does not wish to work them itself.

A New York court has decided that Tom Edison was not the inventor of the moving pictures, but simply improver on previous processes. This involves a lot of royalty. The Edison Company sued another company for breach of patent. Each had spent about \$40,000 in fighting the case and will spend some more, as the case will be carried to the U. S. Supreme Court. If Edison did not invent the moving picture he put life in it.

General Hughes is a sympathetic sort of a fellow. He said in his testimony before the Senate committee that he always felt when he was attacking the Filipinos as if he was attacking children and felt sorry that he had to do it. How sorry he must have felt, then, when his soldiers burned down the towns of Filipinos who harbored "insurrectos" or gave them aid and comfort.

A WOMAN DROWNED.

Dead Body of Emma Thompson, White, Was Found Floating in the River.

AN INQUEST BY CORONER.

Thought That She Had Been in the Water for Thirty Days—The Circumstances of the Death Unknown to the Jury.

It was a ghastly find that was made Saturday afternoon about 5 o'clock by Engineer Bell, of the steamer Compton, which was tied up at her wharf, near Market street dock. He was standing on the lower deck of the boat when floating down the river came the dead body of a white woman, which was afterwards identified as that of Emma Thompson, a disolute character of the city, aged about 30 years, who figured frequently in the police court and who has served several terms in the county work house. The body was floating with the tide, face nearly downward, and in almost natural position. It was made fast with ropes between the steamer and the wharf and was not identified until some time later, when it was drawn up on the wharf. At the same time a curious crowd had gathered and a report that the body of an unknown white woman had been found spread quickly over the city and served to create great interest.

The condition of the body, Coroner Bell says, seems to indicate that it had been in the water for at least a month. The woman lived in a small house with others of her character in an alley near Fourth and Castle streets and was frequently seen along the wharf. Her disappearance about a month ago from her associates caused no alarm and she appeared to be even an outcast in the disreputable locality in which she lived. It is not known how the unfortunate woman came to her death. The suicide theory is advanced. The body was very well preserved and there appeared no indications of foul play.

Dr. Bell immediately empanelled a jury consisting of H. L. Kidd, J. C. Greys, R. J. Jones, Cornelius Holder, C. L. Lander and Robert H. King. After a view of the remains and their identification by Mamie Garfield and Carrie Fisher, two colored women, the jury returned a verdict that "the cause came to her death by drowning, date unknown."

The body was turned over to the county undertaker for burial.

THE GOVERNOR AND PARTY.

Details of Their Trip to Charleston Expedition—Larger Crowd Expected.

Col. Walker, Taylor, Maj. W. F. Robertson and Maj. C. H. White, of Governor Aycock's staff, yesterday received from the Adjutant General copies of the general order in reference to the Charleston Expedition trip and also details of the journey and visit to the Exposition city.

The Governor will leave Raleigh Tuesday morning, April 8th, at 9 o'clock over the S. A. L., and he is very anxious to have his entire staff accompany him on the trip or join him in Charleston. He has concluded not to use the private car tendered him by the Seaboard on account of the limited space it contains for the accommodation of passengers, and he will travel on the special train to be run by the S. A. L. for the benefit of the public generally. This train will be made up of baggage cars, day coaches and Pullmans and is expected to reach Charleston about 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

Adjutant General Royster says he is in correspondence with the Charleston and St. John hotels with reference to accommodation for the party and the rate will be \$4 per day. The one selected as headquarters will be announced later.

He says it is important to ascertain as early as possible how many of the staff, their families and friends will go with the Governor from Raleigh. The staff will travel in fatigue uniform, taking their full dress for ceremonial occasions. The Governor will leave Charleston Saturday, April 13th, in time to reach Raleigh by 10 P. M.

Petition in Bankruptcy. B. F. McLean, Esq., and Messrs. Patterson & McCormick, of Maxton, and R. E. Lee, Esq., of Lumberton, attorneys for certain creditors of J. W. Hall, general merchant of Red Springs, N. C., yesterday filed a petition in the U. S. Court here asking that Mr. Hall be adjudged a bankrupt. Order was issued to show cause on the creditors' petition on March 21st at Wilmington. The petitioning creditors are R. C. Dewett & Co., Kingan & Co., J. A. Horner & Co., Hadley Smith Co., Pearl Roller Mills, Ballard & Ballard Co. and others. The papers were brought down by Attorney Lee, of Lumberton.

Steamboat Masters. Capt. W. W. Skinner, the well known river steamboat captain, has become master of the A. J. Johnson, and cleared her for the initial trip up Black River Saturday afternoon. Capt. Irving Robinson, who has hosts of friends all over the Cape Fear section, has become master of the steamer Driver, and left Friday evening for a trip to Fayetteville. The Eurt didn't return to Fayetteville until yesterday afternoon.

A SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

Committees and Residents of Conestock Township, Fender County, Giving Much Attention to Education.

A large number of the residents of Conestock township, Fender county, have become very much interested in educational matters and are exerting every influence to educate their children. This section of Fender county lies between the Cape Fear and Black Rivers about 20 miles above Wilmington, and was up to 1873 a part of New Hanover county. Its residents are descendants of the sturdy colonial settlers, and are connected with many of the old Cape Fear families, whose members distinguished themselves in the Revolution.

For several years past the schools of that section have been almost abandoned, and in School District No. 3 for the last three years there has been no school at all.

Last summer a committee consisting of Wm. N. Anderson, M. F. Huffman and A. L. Pridden were selected, and they at once proceeded to build a neat frame school house large enough to accommodate 80 children, which is now known as the "Rose Hill" school house. They then secured the services of M. E. Alexander, of this county, as teacher, who opened the school last October with a roll of 30 pupils.

After conducting a five months' session the school closed last Friday. The closing exercises consisted of recitations by the children, and were attended by a large gathering of the people of the township and a few from the city. Friday night the children decorated the school house and gave a complimentary candy party to their teacher, who appears to have won the entire confidence of the children as well as the parents.

The school committee also met at the residence of Committeeman A. L. Pridden, and on account of the remarkable progress the children had made under Miss Alexander's instruction passed a unanimous vote of thanks to her for the faithful and diligent service she had rendered.

It is gratifying to know that the residents of this district are taking such marked interest in education, and the actions of the Conestock people in this particular should be imitated by all the rural districts of the State.

Miss Alexander is a daughter of Committeeman W. F. Alexander, of this county.

LOCAL DOTS.

The only strawberries now on the New York market are from Florida. Quotations range from 28 to 30 cents per quart for "fancy" and 10 to 25 cents for "poor to good."

Wilmington Division, Naval Reserve, will carry a well drilled signal corps to Charleston next month. A. A. Hergenrother, quartermaster of the first class, has the corps in charge and the men are showing up well under their training.

The two military companies of Reidville are indignant over the report that encampment funds will be used to defray expenses of the provisional regiment to Charleston and, members say it may result in the disbanding of both organizations.

Subscribers who receive bills for subscriptions due the STAR are reminded that it is not fair to expect a publisher to supply them with news for nothing. Many, however, seem to think otherwise. As soon as a bill is received a prompt remittance should be made.

Smallpox in Sampson. Sampson Democrat, 13th: "Not a case of smallpox in Clinton, and only one case in the entire county at this writing. This one case is one of the old cases, and is of a light form. The house where this case is has been under quarantine since it first appeared, but it will be raised very shortly. It has been raised from all other houses and the patients told to go out free. Now remember, there is only one case in the county and this one about well, and not a case in town."

Will of Mrs. M. C. Mebane. Norfolk Virginian-Flit: "The will of the late Mrs. Martha C. Mebane was admitted to probate in the Corporation Court yesterday. The will, which is dated November 30, 1900, bequeaths a Hamilton avenue house to her son, Charles P. Mebane, and a house and lot on Boletourt street to her daughter, Mrs. Anna M. Fullwood. All personal property is to be divided between the two. Free of incumbrances the estate is valued at \$4,000."

A SENTENCE COMMUTED.

Southern Railway Attorney in Long Suit Allowed to Pay Fine and Go.

RALPHIGH, N. C., March 18.—Governor Aycock to-day commuted the sentence of A. J. Gorham and R. A. Ramsey from twenty days imprisonment and \$80 fine to payment of the fine. Gorham is the young attorney, who counsel for the Southern Railway in the B. F. Long damage suit at Statesville was declared by Judge Brown in contempt of court for allowing a juror to sleep in his room. Among the reasons for commutation the Governor says, Gorham's acquittal by the jury of charge of embezzlement amounts to finding no corrupt purpose in Gorham's action.

REV. DR. JARVIS BUXTON DEAD.

Father of Mrs. J. H. McRee, of Wilmington—Funeral Yesterday. Rev. Jarvis Buxton, D. D., died at 8:45 o'clock Tuesday evening at his home in Asheville. Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon at Trinity Episcopal church by the rector, Rev. McNeely DuBois. All the members of the immediate family of Dr. Buxton—J. O. Buxton, of Winston; Mrs. J. H. McRee, of Wilmington; Mrs. Jos. Kane, of Philadelphia; Miss Lily Buxton, of New York, and Misses Mary and Fannie Buxton, of Asheville, his son and daughters—were with him at the time of his death.

Dr. Buxton was for forty years rector of Trinity church. Several years ago he resigned to become rector of the church at Lenoir. About a year ago he retired from the active work of the ministry. He had passed his 83rd year. Dr. Buxton was one of the oldest Episcopal ministers in the State. He was born near Washington, N. C. He was the first Episcopal missionary to Western North Carolina, and built many of the chapels through the country.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.

Smithfield Herald: One hundred and ninety-one bales of cotton were partially burned on the platform at Selma Thursday afternoon. The bales were fired by sparks from passing trains.

Kinston Gazette: About fifteen Mormon elders left Kinston Friday morning for various points along the coast. They were making out a census campaign for this year and are determined to make telling results by the next assembling of conference.

Newton Enterprise: Capt. J. W. Pope, of Newton, and Mr. Hari, of Morganton, have the contract for laying the broad gauge tract from Hickory to Lenoir. Work is progressing rapidly. It is expected to have this part of the broad gauge completed by May 1st. The time for completing the whole line has been extended from July 1st to January 1st.

Durham Herald: At Hillsboro court this week Venia Trice, mother of "Van Fuller" the burglar, was given a long term in the penitentiary for being an accomplice of her son. It was she who was first suspected and charged with the murder of David, the man who made a map of the burning. When her trial came up she was found guilty, or rather she pleaded guilty to the charge, and was sentenced to twenty years in the penitentiary.

Fayetteville Observer: Mr. David Evans, a well known farmer, died last night at 12 o'clock at his home in Creed, having been ill for a year. He was sick with bronchial pneumonia. Mr. Evans was a Confederate veteran and respected by those who knew him. The factory of the number and Manufacturing Company, etc., which has been shut down since Mr. Sledge resigned the management of the business, will start up Monday under a new organization.

Greenville Reflector: Mr. D. C. Davenport, who lives a few miles from town, had some experience with a bull Monday night. He had a cow in the animal was tied with a small rope, intending to take him away to work. The bull made a rush at the cow, breaking the rope. He threw Mr. Davenport several feet in the air, and when he fell to the ground the bull rushed on him again. He grabbed the animal by the horns, but he lay on the ground held the bull's head until help could reach him. One of Mr. Davenport's ribs was broken in the encounter.

Greensboro Record: A gentleman from the eastern part of the State called on Dr. Baum yesterday and told him that he had been troubled with his back for many years. The doctor laid out a number of physicians had examined it and said he was wrong. At times he suffered greatly from the pain, and he made the examination asked, finding and removing what is known as a group of bone spurs. The patient said he remembered distinctly that one day he was reading when something flew in his ear, but he at first thought did not return, but lay away. Soon after this he experienced trouble. This, he says, was 25 years ago.

Raleigh News and Observer: The postoffice at Madison, Rockingham county, was entered and burgled Wednesday night by unknown parties. Two hundred dollars in cash was secured. The authorities will get bloodhounds and make an effort to catch the guilty parties. J. B. Fulghum, who several weeks ago, had stolen from his house a set of silver ware, was fortunate in having his property restored to him yesterday by a colored man who found it under the Hillsboro bridge, where the thief doubtless threw it as soon as he saw it would be impossible to dispose of it without detection. The set consisted of thirty-six pieces, and was complete when found, with the exception of one knife, which probably dropped out of the pouch case as it was thrown away. The club saved the silver from injury.

The letter of resignation of First Assistant Postmaster General Johnson gives as reasons for resignation his health and personal affairs. President Roosevelt accepted the resignation with regret.

DIFFERENCES ON THE SUBSIDY BILL.

Republican Senators Take Exceptions to Some Provisions of the Measure.

Will Offer Amendments. Senator Berry, Representing the Minority of the Senate Committee, Presented Their Report in Opposition to the Ship Subsidy Bill.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Differences of opinion on the Ship Subsidy bill appeared in the Senate debate on the bill yesterday. Senator Allison, of Iowa, indicated that he was not quite satisfied with the measure as it stands now and gave notice of amendments he proposed to offer to it limiting the time of its operation and limiting, also, the amount of money annually to be paid from the treasury on account of it. He was followed by Senator Spooner, of Wisconsin, who took exception to some provisions of the measure. He was not at all certain that the bill would accomplish the great results professed by the measure, and he urged that before its enactment into law definite information upon that point ought to be furnished to Congress. He did not care to vote for a measure making an appropriation that not only would not accomplish definite results, but which might be simply a largess to ship owners. He gave notice of an amendment which he proposed to offer providing that the bill might be amended or repealed by Congress without, however, impairing any contract made under its provisions. This amendment would be a notice, he said, that the subsidy would not be a safe foundation upon which to build largely.

Earlier in the day Senator Teller of Colorado made a speech in opposition to the measure, and was followed by Senator Elkins of West Virginia with a brief address in support of it, although the West Virginia Senator said that he would much prefer the adoption of the policy of discriminating duties.

Senator Bacon of Georgia gave notice of an amendment which he proposed to offer to the Subsidy bill, providing that no contract under the bill should be made until it shall have been submitted to and approved by Congress. In the course of some remarks in support of the amendment Senator Bacon urged that the Postmaster General ought not to be made responsible for the making of mail contracts. It was such a delegation of authority by Congress to the Postmaster General that he would much prefer the adoption of the policy of discriminating duties.

Discussing briefly the general purpose of the bill, Senator Bacon said that the word "subsidy" had no terrors for him. If a bill to provide increased compensation for mail lines between this country and South America, for instance, were pending before the Senate he would support it, and he proposed, however, to bonuses, the effect of which would be to give compensation to those who did not need it.

Senator Bacon's remarks in his remarks a table showing the exports of American products from the port of Boston for ten months—the object being to show that the bulk of those products was carried in slow vessels, much in vessels under 1,000 tons burden. These vessels, he contended, would receive little or no subsidy. The tables were carried in the ports of Savannah, Galveston and other places. Senator Bacon asserted, therefore, that the subsidy would go to a favored few, or corporations, and ships which will not carry the commerce of the country.

Senator Mallory presented an amendment to the Ship Subsidy bill providing that the Postmaster General should have the right to make contracts with the owners of vessels who have been within the past year parties to "any agreement or understanding of any kind with any person or corporation, the purpose of which agreement has been to control ocean freight rates, or to control or prevent competition in the transportation of the products of the United States to foreign countries, or the transportation of the products of foreign countries to the United States."

Minority Report on Subsidy Bill. Senator Berry, representing the minority of the Senate Committee on Commerce, to-day presented their report in opposition to the pending Ship Subsidy bill. Most of the points have been covered in speeches in the Senate. The minority deny the accuracy of both the preliminary and the facts in the majority report.

They urge that the bill is wrong in principle and declare that it will utterly fall in the accomplishment of its purpose. The minority continue to act whose owners have been within the past year parties to "any agreement or understanding of any kind with any person or corporation, the purpose of which agreement has been to control ocean freight rates, or to control or prevent competition in the transportation of the products of the United States to foreign countries, or the transportation of the products of foreign countries to the United States."

The highest rate of subsidy is given to twenty knot vessels, while the fast ocean mails are really carried by twenty-three and twenty-four knot vessels. The mail compensation to the slow American vessels, already high, is made immensely higher by this bill. We pay more for weekly service than England pays for semi-weekly service by much faster ships than ours.

They further urge that the bill makes no provision against a shipping trust and claim that it encourages a combination leading to such a trust. They also say:

"The lines might also merge with foreign lines to control freight and passenger rates. Doubtly our subsidy would be aiding the foreign partners of our subsidized vessels." "The report closes by saying: 'We know that there are hundreds and thousands of industries in our country doing a losing business, but we deny that Congress, for this reason, can go into the public treasury and save them from bankruptcy.'"

MYSTERIOUS SHOOTING OF WALTER S. BROOKS.

Fluorence Burns Arraigned in the Court of Special Sessions—Testimony of Mrs. Brooks.

NEW YORK, March 18.—Fluorence Burns was arraigned in the court of Special Sessions before Justice Mayer to-day in the continuation of the case against her on the charge of shooting Walter S. Brooks, in the Glen Island Hotel several weeks ago. Mrs. Thomas W. Brooks, mother of the dead man, who was called to testify, said: "Fluorence Burns shot Walter S. Brooks was a criminal because he would not let Walter marry her. She also said: 'If he does not marry me I will shoot him and I will shoot to kill. She swore that if she shot him I would shoot her, and then I asked her: "Why don't you kill yourself?"'

Mrs. Brooks said she heard many conversations between her son and Fluorence Burns. The latter on one occasion lauded the young man with being a kid, because he said he did not wish to marry her, but she was obliged to leave the home of his parents.

Mrs. Brooks was shown and asked to identify the watch as shown and said she was sure she had seen it. At the time she was killed. At the time of the watch Mrs. Brooks away in her chair and would have fallen to the floor if a friend had not hurried to her aid. She was carried from the room in a faint.

Mrs. Brooks returned to the stand when she had recovered. She was shown a comb found in the room where Brooks was shot, and she said it was one she had seen Fluorence Burns wear.

On the last day Fluorence Burns was in her house, said the witness, "on December 18th, in the morning, Fluorence told me that she had been home on the previous evening to look for her father's pistol in the room. She said she had been looking for it in her father's bureau drawer without being able to find it."

Fluorence was identified to what transpired on February 15th, when he went to the Burns' house to arrest the accused girl. Miss Burns told him she saw Walter at his office at 6:30 on the night she was killed, and that she arrived home at about 7:30.

Colby told of a search of Fluorence Burns' room at her parents' home and said that she found a black shirt and jacket suit, such as the woman who went with Brooks to the hotel on the night of the murder is said to have worn. Colby identified the comb found in the room in the Glen Island hotel. An adjournment was taken until 10 o'clock next Tuesday.

THE CROPSY MURDER.

Coroner Fearing Continued His Testimony.

Dr. J. E. Wood the Next Witness. ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., March 18.—Coroner Fearing to-day continued his testimony in the case of James Wilcox, charged with the murder of Miss Nellie Cropsy. He expressed the opinion that the blow on the head caused concussion of the brain and death.

Dr. J. E. Wood, Miss Cropsy's physician, was the next witness. He told of the autopsy and said no photograph or token of friendship was found. Wilcox claimed that he returned Miss Cropsy's picture on the night of his disappearance.

At the afternoon session Dr. Wood gave evidence corroborative of Dr. Fearing's testimony. Two members of the coroner's jury issued the picture was found on the dead girl. The trial will be resumed Monday.

JEFFRIES-FITZSIMMONS.

Battle to Heave Weight Championship to Take Place in May. NEW YORK, March 18.—Bids for the Jeffries-Fitzsimmons battle for the heavy-weight championship of the world, which is to take place about the 15th of next May, were opened here to-day in the presence of Fitzsimmons in California.

There were three offers—from the Yosemite, San Francisco and Twentieth Century Clubs, all of San Francisco. The Yosemite offer was for 70 per cent. of the gross receipts, the San Francisco 70 per cent., and the Twentieth Century 80 per cent. All of these offers provided that they were ready to post forfeit. Fitzsimmons said he would like to talk with Jeffries by telegraph concerning the bids and an arrangement was made for him to do so.

ELECTIONS IN THE SOUTH.

The Crumpecker Resolution to be Reported to House of Representatives. WASHINGTON, March 18.—Speaker Henderson and his lieutenants of the House have decided to report the Crumpecker resolution for the appointment by the Speaker of a committee of three to investigate the election laws of the Southern States and to determine whether the right of suffrage is abridged contrary to the provisions of the constitution. The resolution gives the committee the power to summon witnesses and send for persons and papers. The committee on Rules will be called to order next week to formally report this resolution.

FLOODS IN GEORGIA.

Washouts Interfere With Traffic On the Southern Railway System. BRUNSWICK, GA., March 18.—Washouts on the Southern Railway, just above Everett City, Ga., have prevented the arrival of trains and mails over that system since yesterday. It is reported here that the town of Everett City itself is being threatened by the waters of the lower Altamaha are rising rapidly. The Southern is bringing its trains in over the Plant