

Leads all North Carolina Dailies in News and Circulation

THE FIREMEN ARE FILLING THE CITY

Coming in Fast From all Parts of the State.

TO-DAY THE CONVENTION

A Fire Alarm Will Be Turned in this Afternoon.

EXHIBITION OF FIRE EXTINGUISHER

Ladies' Will Be Cordially Welcomed at the Convention. There Will Be Baseball Wednesday and Thursday and Possibly Today.

Firemen and firemen's friends were coming in fast yesterday, and the city was beginning to look crowded and festive last night. Several of the visiting companies, with their apparatus, got in during the day; but today's trains will bring the great majority.

Today is to be convention day, and will be devoted to the business of the State Firemen's Association. The convention will be called to order by President James D. McNeill at 11 o'clock in the Metropolitan Hall.

The opening prayer will be offered by Rev. Dr. L. McK. Pittenger, rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Mayor Powell will give the delegates the freedom of the city and introduce Mr. R. N. Simms, who will deliver the address of welcome.

Responses will be made by several prominent delegates from different parts of the State, among whom may be mentioned Mayor Eaton, of Winston; Hon. R. D. Douglas, of Greensboro; Col. T. H. Eain, of Goldsboro, and T. A. Green, of New Bern. These are not all, but the names of the others could not be learned last night.

After the speech-making is over, the regular order of business will be taken up. All of the officers of the association will make reports.

Any ladies who care to attend the convention will be cordially welcomed.

ALARM OF FIRE.

An alarm of fire will be turned in some time during the afternoon today, to which all of the Raleigh companies will respond, for the benefit of the convention and the visitors generally. There will also be an exhibition of a chemical fire extinguishing apparatus on Fayetteville street. A large wooden box will be set fire to and put out with the extinguisher.

The program for Wednesday and Thursday is as follows:

Wednesday, 9 a. m.—Street parade; 11 a. m., engine contests; 2 p. m., horse race; 5:30 p. m., championship reel races; 8 p. m., band concert.

Thursday, 9 a. m., Hook and Ladder contests; 11 a. m., hand-reel contests; 2 p. m., grab-reel contests; 3:30 p. m., special feature races; 4:30 p. m., baseball.

PARADE TO-MORROW.

The line of march will form at the foot of Fayetteville, march up Fayetteville to the Capitol, thence to Wilmington street, thence north to Edenton, west to Salisbury, and thence to Hillsboro, and out Hillsboro to the bridge, and counter-march back to the Capitol on the same street. Thence down Salisbury street to Morgan and back to Fayetteville, and down Fayetteville to the graded school.

The grand stand on Hillsboro will command an excellent view of the counter-marching.

Further particulars of the parade will be published tomorrow morning. The order of march will appear with the full program.

BASEBALL.

There will be baseball games at 4:30 on Wednesday and Thursday and possibly today, between a picked team from Greensboro and one from Raleigh. Among the Raleigh players will be Curran, "Billy D." of last year's "Red Birds," Will Wynne and Brenig, Morris, of Durham, will pitch one of the games. The full lineup has not been decided on, as several of the players are still to be heard from.

The games will be genuine bona-fide, snappy ball. An admission of 25 cents and 15 cents for grand stand will be made. There will be no charge for ladies, except for the grand stand.

JUDGE TAFT LEAVES ROME.

A Final Interview With the Pope Who is Much Pleased With Results.

(By the Associated Press.)
Rome, July 21.—The Pope received Governor Taft and the members of his party in farewell audience at noon today and welcomed them with marked cordiality.

To mark his satisfaction at the success of the negotiations he presented each member of Governor Taft's party with a personal gift enclosed in a magnificent morocco case adorned with the papal arms.

The pontiff commenced the interview by saying he was most satisfied and happy at the results obtained and was confident that the negotiations would be the starting point of a complete and satisfactory solution of the question under discussion. He added that the apostolic delegate soon to be appointed would be instructed most strictly and precisely re-

garding the carrying out of the ideas determined upon between the United States and the Vatican, saying:

"I will see that orders be given him as to his work, over which I will watch him personally."
The pontiff then showed them the mosaic, which he is sending to President Roosevelt in return for the President's present of a box containing Mr. Roosevelt's literary works. The mosaic is a copy of Corridis well known picture of Pope Leo sitting on the terrace of the Vatican gardens surveying Rome. It was made in the Vatican workshops.

The Pope then gave Bishop O'Gorman an autograph letter to President Roosevelt.

Governor Taft and his companions then called on the Papal Secretary of State, Cardinal Rampolla, with whom they exchanged somewhat similar courtesies.

Later Governor Taft, accompanied by Judge Smith and Captain Strother, left Rome for Naples.

Bishop O'Gorman will sail for the United States next week. He will take with him a letter from Cardinal Rampolla to Secretary of State Hay.

FIRE AT OIL WELLS OUT.

After a Struggle of a Week the Flames Are Extinguished.

(By the Associated Press.)
Jennings, La., July 21.—The fire in the Heywood oil wells was distinguished this afternoon. Nine boilers of large capacity were set in the field to the northeast of the burning well. They were connected with tow lines of four-inch pipe. One of the lines was stationary and the other movable, so as to follow the flames, and a man was stationed at each boiler to keep the steam pressure up to 125 pounds. It is estimated that the combined boilers gave a 225 horse power force. Two four-inch water lines were laid from the north with four two-inch connections and fifty feet of hose on each connection and were so arranged that the flames could be covered from the east, north and northwest. One of the pumps on the Jennings-Heywood oil syndicate well was used to force the water and the other to force chemicals.

The steam did the work, extinguishing the flames which have been raging for a week. The chemicals were not used.

FIFTEEN ARE DROWNED.

The People Perish Like Rats in Their Flooded Basements.

(By the Associated Press.)
Kieff, European Russia, July 21.—Fifteen persons were drowned yesterday by a sudden rush of water into the basement of various houses in the lower portion of the town. A torrential rainstorm, accompanied by violent wind and rain, broke over Kieff during the afternoon and turned the streets into veritable torrents, flooding cellars and drowning their occupants before they were able to escape. Large trees were uprooted and railroad embankments were washed away, necessitating the suspension of traffic. The losses sustained are very heavy.

THE PUBLIC LEDGER SOLD.

(By the Associated Press.)
Philadelphia, July 21.—The Philadelphia Public Ledger was today purchased by Adolph S. Ochs, from George W. Childs Drexel and the Drexel estate and possession was at once given Mr. Ochs. The purchase includes all the Public Ledger estate, comprising about half a block of improved property on Chestnut and Sixth street, facing Independence Hall. The price paid is not made public, but it is stated on good authority that over two and one quarter million dollars are involved in the transaction. Mr. Ochs has no associates in the transaction except that a substantial interest has been acquired by James M. Beck, of Philadelphia, who represented the purchaser in the negotiations. There is no underwriting and with the exception of Mr. Beck's interest, Mr. Ochs is the sole owner.

The new owner says there will be no radical changes in the appearance or policy of the Public Ledger.

L. Clarke Davis will continue as editor and John Norris, of the New York Times, will for the present act as business manager.

TO BUY OUT BRITISH SPINNERS.

(By the Associated Press.)
London, July 21.—The Westminster Gazette says the directors of the Ashton and Stalybridge districts of Lancashire have been approached by agents of American cotton growers with the view of the sale of the former's properties. Meetings of the shareholders of the concerns affected will be held at an early date to consider the matter.

Shot and Robbed.

(By the Associated Press.)
Lafayette, Tenn., July 21.—William Delap was shot and afterward robbed of \$1,100 and a gold watch by highwaymen on the outskirts of this city late last night. He was riding through the woods and hearing the Old Fellow's distress signal, responded to it when three men accosted him. Delap will recover.

NEWSPAPER MAN DEAD.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, July 21.—John Thomas Harris, a well known newspaper man, died this morning after a brief illness from a complication of diseases. He was 74 years old and a native of Winchester, Va. The funeral, which will be held tomorrow, will be private.

The average woman doesn't care any more for the privilege of voting than the average man does for the privilege of putting a baby to sleep.

IN DEMOCRACY IS THEIR ONLY HOPE

Industrial Slavery is Drawing Steadily Nearer.

IT IS BORN OF PROTECTION

Which Fosters the Trusts and Oppresses the People.

THE OPINIONS OF WILLIAM F. VILAS

He Speaks on Political Conditions and Possibilities of Democratic Harmony. He Points to Protection as the Great-est of All Issues.

(By the Associated Press.)
Milwaukee, Wis., July 21.—Hon. William F. Vilas, who was Secretary of the Interior in President Cleveland's Cabinet, was recently asked by A. F. Warden, chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, to give his opinion respecting political conditions, the possibilities of Democratic harmony, and the assurances of the party's restoration to power and the relief of the people from Republican "maladministration." Mr. Vilas replied today in part as follows:

"Whatever the alignments on past issues, the Democratic party remains today the hope of the people of this land. On no other can be placed any just expectation of a rescue from the menacing conditions that beset us. Anyone can see, who will see the truth, that all the combinations of greed, all the plottings who work upon our government to win special gain at the cost of the people at large, are to be found supporting the party now in power, for the Democratic party they have, as always, only hostility.

"The overruling need is of concentration of opinion and a co-operation in political action by the people.

"Under the false and deceitful name of protection to industry, there has arisen such a system of combining devices of legislation with the vices of business management to obtain mastery of the people as was never before seen in this or any other land; the iniquity of which it would be hard to find any parallel for, unless in Oriental countries.

"At the pace the movement has attained it can be but a few years, if it go unchecked, before substantially the entire range of manufacture, mining, trade and transportation will stand composed of a few masters and millions of employes, the latter constrained to trade only at what may be called practically 'company stores,' and all agriculture will be helplessly ensnared as it already is to no small extent. Liberty in the pursuit of livelihood will well nigh have disappeared, for, with the devices of our modern invention, it is unnecessary longer to manacle the condemned with ball and chains.

"The people must aim their stroke at the root of the poisonous tree. It is idle to complain of mere incidents, to merely attack particular evils, to begin lawsuits against some special conspiracy. The policy of the illustrious Grant, whose objective was not the capture of towns or the subjugation of districts, but the destruction of the armies of secession, must be ours in the impending conflict. The victory to be won, which alone is worth winning, is the overthrow of the grand central, governing conspiracy of protection. When that 'crowning mercy' shall be vouchsafed, the very purification of the nation's soul by the fires of the strife will easily enable it to subdue the lesser forms in which Satan is embodied in our national life.

"The contest cannot be longer postponed, but with the utmost peril to the rights of our countrymen. Though master now, protection knows its danger, and is vigilant to secure every element of strength, every 'coign of vantage,' and, as ever on both sides of the field. It is making new alliances, controlling more industries, increasing the political power. How arrogantly it has but just defied the appeal of national kindness and justice, bound by the law of its self-preservation, to stand by every confederate in whatever exaction.

"It is a painful record we have written on the pages of three years past, for Americans who look to Washington, Jefferson, Madison, the Adamses and their compeers of the Declaration and the Constitution, for the rule of national conduct that should enlighten the world with the love and truth of liberty. And that same yet be wiped off by future treatment of the unhappy Filipinos, according to the principles we have in-herited, or so surely as justice rules the world, America will bitterly atone for it in resulting suffering of her own. But not at once can all national wrongs be redressed and those borne by our countrymen must challenge first relief. I fear distraction. Protection is quick to profit by it. Its shrewd counsels have fomented war, have set the nation in quest of military glory, and find its account in the controversy over Imperialism. We may justly hold protection itself responsible for these conditions; it will craftily keep agitation of such questions alive, and we may be sure, also, as the careful observer cannot but see, the fact now to be, that it will prevent array of parties on any issue arising from them that may imperil its own party's strength."

A SUIT FOR BLANDER.

Mrs. Victoria Roberts to Proceed Against the Virginian-Pilot.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Winston-Salem, N. C., July 21.—Mrs. Victoria Roberts, of this city, has employed counsel here and at Norfolk, Va., to institute suit in the United States Circuit Court against the Virginian-Pilot, of Norfolk. Mrs. Roberts considers that she has been slandered by an article which appeared in the paper connecting her name with that of Charles F. Osborne, accused of murdering two wives. Mrs. Roberts and Osborne's second wife were good friends during their residence in Winston. It is probable that a suit will also be instituted against a North Carolina paper, which published the substance of the Norfolk paper's article in a telegram sent by a correspondent.

Hanged for Murdering a Blind Man.

(By the Associated Press.)
Atlanta, Ga., July 21.—Wells was hanged this forenoon here today for the murder of Frederick Pierce, a blind man, on February 1st, last.

Wells, who conducted a wood yard, became involved in a dispute with Pierce because Pierce had ceased buying wood from him. In the altercation that followed, Pierce, it is alleged, assaulted Wells.

Wells left the place accompanied by friends, but returned a few months later and stabbed Pierce to death.

MC LAURIN SAYS NAY

And Thus Becomes Roosevelt's White Elephant.

Declines Position on Court of Claims Bench. Stung by Paper's Saying He Sold Himself for Office.

(By the Associated Press.)
Oyster Bay, N. Y., July 21.—President Roosevelt is in receipt of a letter from Senator John L. McLaurin, of South Carolina, declining the proffered appointment to the vacancy on the bench of the United States Court of Claims.

The President much regrets Senator McLaurin's decision, as he believes that McLaurin's Senatorial experience and his career as Attorney General of South Carolina would have rendered him a particularly good addition to the Court of Claims.

The President now is uncertain what he will do about Senator McLaurin. It is understood that he is anxious to appoint him to some position in recognition of what the President regards as his services to the country and his demonstrated ability in public life. Senator McLaurin's letter is couched in the most positive terms and evidently was based in particular upon a newspaper article which accompanied the letter. The article stated that the Senator had sold himself for the prospect of getting such an office as that offered to him. It can be said, however, that the President regarded such a type of accusation as beneath notice and sincerely regrets that Senator McLaurin should have deemed it necessary to pay any attention to it.

Senator McLaurin evidently has changed his mind about accepting the proffered appointment since he was in Oyster Bay July 11. At that time he indicated his readiness to accept the vacancy on the Court of Claims and the only question then was when he should resign from the Senate.

SHOT THROUGH THE HEART

Pistol in H. A. Loman's Hands Goes Off With Fatal Results.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Greensboro, N. C., July 21.—The night telegraph operator, H. A. Loman, 18 years old, was instantly killed by the accidental discharge of a pistol at 5 o'clock this afternoon. He was a telegraph operator at Banaja, a station fifteen miles from here, and had just purchased a pistol and was exhibiting it to friends when it fired, the ball going through the heart. His father is Jake Loman, a freight conductor of forty years' service, who is now sick and fatal results are apprehended to him from the shock.

British Steamer Still Aground.

(By the Associated Press.)
Norfolk, July 21.—The British steamship Comeric which stranded off Sewell's Point while on her way to Lambert's Point Saturday for bunker coal, was today still hard aground. Her cargo was being lightened, however, and the Merritt wreckers at work on the steamer expressed the hope of being able to float her at high water tonight. The Comeric is bound from New Orleans to Hamburg, and carries a general cargo.

Mocksville's Annual Pic Nic.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Mocksville, N. C., July 21.—The annual Masonic Picnic and Confederate Veterans' Picnic will be held here this year on the fourteenth day of August. General Julian S. Carr will deliver the address to the Confederates and Hon. Chas. H. Mabane will deliver the annual address.

Durham, N. C., July 19.—News has just reached here that several days ago a colored child about two years old was killed on the Oxford and Clarksville road, near Shipwits, Va. The child was killed in the presence of its mother, who was rushing to save it. The engineer did all in his power to stop the train.

A STEAMER IS CUT IN TWAIN BY A TUG

Fifty People Drowned in the River Elbe.

MANY SAVED BY THE TUG

The Steamer Sinks 300 Feet from Place of Collision.

A STATEMENT BY THE TUG'S CAPTAIN.

He Says an Attempt by the Primus to Cross the Bows of the Hansa at Close Quarters Rendered a Collision Unavoidable.

(By the Associated Press.)
Hamburg, July 21.—The steamship Primus, of Hamburg, with 185 passengers on board was cut in two and sunk by the tug Hansa on the river Elbe at 12:30 o'clock this morning. So far as is ascertainable about fifty persons were drowned. Thirteen bodies already have been recovered. The disaster occurred between Blankensee and Nienstedten. Among the passengers were the members of the Elbik Male Choral Society.

The Primus was an excursion steamer from Buxtehude (Province of Hanover, Prussia). At the time of the accident the Primus was crossing the river channel near Blankensee from the southern into the northern fairway.

According to witnesses aboard the Hansa, the movement was made too precipitately. The Primus struck the tug's engine room and the Hansa endeavored to push her ashore but the grounded and the ships parted. The Primus then sank. In the interval however, about fifty of her passengers were able to reach the Hansa by means of ropes and ladders. Seventy more were picked up by the tug's boats, while others swam ashore.

The disaster caused deep gloom. Many children lost both their parents. The Choral Society, which was on board the excursion steamer, consisted mainly of workmen. There were no foreign passengers.

Captain Peterson, of the Primus, swam ashore and gave himself up to the police. Captain Sachs, of the Hansa, also surrendered.

The Primus was the oldest boat on the Elbe. She was built in England in 1844 and had never before met with an accident.

The Hamburg-American Line which owns the Hansa issued a statement to the effect that the weather was fine and the moon shining and both vessels were steering absolutely clear of each other. Suddenly the Primus when about 450 feet from the Hansa put her rudder hard astern and crossed the bows of the latter.

"This mistake," continues the statement, "rendered a collision unavoidable. The only possible step for the Hansa to take namely, to go full speed astern, was carried out immediately but without avail. Less than a minute elapsed between the time the Primus changed her course and the collision. Boats were immediately lowered from the Hansa and ropes and ladders were thrown overboard. Fifty persons were rescued by the boats. At the same time the Hansa tried to push the Primus ashore but being of deeper draught, grounded herself before the passenger boat. The Primus floated down stream and sank 300 feet from the Hansa."

GALLERY FOR CONGRESS

Rutherford Solid for Him. Thirty-fourth District Senatorial Convention.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Rutherford, N. C., July 21.—The Thirty-fourth District Senatorial Convention met here today. M. L. Shipman, of Henderson, was elected chairman and George Gigerstaff, of Rutherford, secretary. The convention is called to meet in this place August 18th. The county convention to appoint delegates to the Senatorial and Congressional conventions was also held today. Solomon Gallert gave the county solid for Congress. D. F. Morrow having withdrawn.

The convention adopted a resolution complimenting Judge Winston upon the fair and impartial manner which characterizes his conduct on the bench. This is the fourth week Judge Winston has presided over our Superior court.

Had to Shoot.

(Special to the News and Observer.)
Tarboro, N. C., July 21.—Willie Smith, colored, with a wounded ankle and foot, has been placed in jail for entering the dwelling of A. T. Daughtridge, of Rocky Mount, and stealing some rings of Mrs. Daughtridge. Smith gave a posse a lively chase, and it was necessary to shoot in order to capture him; W. T. Turner hit him in the ankle as he climbed a fence.

Fire at Gold Hill.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Salisbury, N. C., July 21.—Fire at Gold Hill Saturday destroyed the company building of the Gold Hill Copper Company, of which Mr. W. G. Newman is president. Mr. Newman and a party of guests were dining in the building at the time. The fire was caused by a child playing with matches in a store room in the building, which was filled with excelsior, and the blaze immediately spread. Mr. Newman and the guests had barely time to get out of the building. There were no means of fighting the fire and the destruction was complete. It was erected before the Civil War and has always been used as the residence of the company officials and for storage purposes. The loss is estimated at \$5,000 or \$5,000.

New Brandy Gaugers

(Special to News and Observer.)
Asheville, N. C., July 21.—Collector Harkins has named twenty-five new brandy gaugers who will soon go in the field. Their pay is \$3 and expenses. Those appointed are:

Cherokee and Clay, W. M. West; Macon, Jackson, Swain and Graham, Milan Parker; Henderson, Transylvania and Polk, A. E. Hudgins; Rutherford and Cleveland, W. J. Mode; Yancey, Mitchell and McDowell, J. L. Hyatt; Burke, L. A. Bristol; Catawba, J. F. Miller; Yadkin, E. Vestal; Davie, G. W. Sheek; Forsyth, C. R. Atkins; Stokes, R. F. Fulk; Davidson, F. R. Lofton; Gaston, J. L. Hoffman; Anson, Rowan, Cabarrus and Stanley, C. J. Kestler; Surry, S. G. Brim and A. L. Sparger; Alleghany and Ashe, T. W. Landroth, M. L. Henderson and J. F. Phipps; Wilkes, A. C. Phillips and D. V. Nichols; Caldwell, B. H. Dula; Watonga, W. H. Norris; Alexander, D. A. Little; Iredell, A. A. Davidson.

A BATTLE FOR HONOR

Two Attempts to Commit Criminal Assault.

Woman Striks Her Assailant On the Head With a Rock. He is Finally Frightened Away.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Winston-Salem, N. C., July 21.—A telephone message to the Sentinel from Smith Groves, says an unmarried man named Robert Smith, made two attempts to commit a criminal assault upon the wife of Mr. Grogan Cash, one of Davie county's best citizens. Smith would not doubt have accomplished his purpose the last time had not Mrs. Cash's brother arrived and frightened him away. Mrs. Cash says she struck her assailant on the head with a rock, but this did not stop him in his efforts to commit a nameless crime. Mr. Cash and officers are looking for Smith, but up to this afternoon they had not been able to find him.

On the Diamond.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Wilson, N. C., July 21.—Tarboro put up a "goose egg" which Wilson played to swallow whole. Tarboro played pretty ball, while the home team was slow.

Score: R H E
Tarboro... 2 0 0 1 1 1 0 0—5 5 7
Wilson... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—0 4 2
Batteries: Suggs and Sullivan; Cassidy, Sullivan and Read. Umpire, Lewis. Attendance 300.

Goldston Defeats Cumcock.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Cumcock, N. C., July 21.—Goldston defeated Cumcock in a game of ball at this place Saturday. Score, 4 to 5. Batteries, for Goldston, Harrington and Wilcox; for Cumcock, Harkey, Hood and Foster. Umpire, Beal.

American League.

(By the Associated Press.)
At Philadelphia—R H E
Cleveland... 11 5 0 0 0 3 0—16 16 5
Philadelphia... 11 0 0 1 1 6 0—11 15 1

At Baltimore—R H E
Baltimore... 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—0 6 6
Detroit... 0 0 2 1 2 3 0 0—8 14 2

At Washington—R H E
Washington... 0 0 1 0 0 0 1—2 6 0
St. Louis... 0 1 0 0 0 0 0—1 8 2

At Boston—R H E
Boston... 1 0 0 1 0 2 1 0—5 11 2
Chicago... 0 0 0 0 0 0 2—3 7 3

National League.

At St. Louis—R H E
St. Louis... 0 0 0 0 0 1 0—2 9 3
Cincinnati... 0 0 1 0 0 1 4 0—7 16 2

At New York—R H E
Philadelphia... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0—1 6 6
Brooklyn... 3 0 2 0 4 0 0—10 14 0

Southern League.

Memphis 0; Nashville 6.
New Orleans 3; Atlanta 0 (five innings, rain).
Shreveport 4; Birmingham 3.

Eastern League.

Wrester, 3; Providence 3. (Game called on account of darkness; eleven innings).
Other games postponed on account of rain.

Mr. J. J. Laughlin Dead.

(Special to the News and Observer.)
Winston-Salem, N. C., July 21.—Mr. J. J. Laughlin, a prominent citizen of the place, is dead. He was 65 years old, and was ill about ten days. He had been in feeble health for some time. Capt. J. J. Laughlin, of Durham, a son of the deceased, was here to attend the funeral yesterday.

Death of Horner H. Haws.

(Special to the News and Observer.)
Atkinson, N. C., July 21.—Horner H. Haws, an unusually popular and talented young man, aged 19, son of E. A. Haws, died at his home near Atkinson Saturday night. He leaves three brothers, four sisters and a mother and father. It is a shock to the entire community.

OUR FARMS WORTH SIXTEEN BILLIONS

And a Few Hundreds of Millions More or Less.

TALL CENSUS FIGURES

Average Size of Farms 146 Acres, 49 Per Cent. Improved.

IN 50 YEARS THE NUMBER QUADRUPLED.

The Total Value of Farm Products for the Year 1899, \$4,739,118,755. The Most Important Agricultural States in the West.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, July 21.—The census bureau today issued a bulletin giving the condition of agriculture in the United States for the year 1899. It shows that there were at that time 5,739,657 farms in the entire country which were valued at \$16,674,694,247. Of this amount \$3,560,188,191, or over 21 per cent, represented the value of buildings, and \$13,114,492,056, or over 78 per cent, represents the value of lands and improvements other than buildings. The value of farm implements and machinery was \$761,251,550, and of live stock \$2,078,050,044. These values, added to the value of the farms, gives a total value of farm property amounting to \$20,514,001,838.

The total value of farm products for the year 1899 is given at \$4,739,118,752, of which amount \$1,718,990,221 was for animal products, including live stock, poultry and bee products.

The bulletin places the average size of farms in the United States at 146 acres, and it is stated that 49 per cent of the