

NEWS OF THE WEEK IN EPITOMIZED FORM

THE LATEST HAPPENINGS OF IMPORTANCE TERSELY TOLD.

EVENTS THROUGHOUT WORLD

News of Greatest Interest From All Parts of the World Related in Paragraphs.

Southern.

Judge John M. Cheney, in Federal court at Jacksonville, Fla., handed down an opinion in the injunction suit brought some time ago by several Jacksonville liquor dealers against the express company. The opinion in part states "that the Southern Express company be restrained from receiving, and transporting for any consideration, intoxicating liquors of any class or kind from any person or persons engaged in the liquor business in the state of Georgia to any person or persons in Florida."

Ross Murkison was probably fatally shot and his wife and daughter seriously wounded by Ike Deal, the daughter's husband, at Donalsonville, Ga. Enraged because his wife had left him, Deal followed her to her father's home and there did the shooting. After Murkison was shot down he managed to get to his gun and shot Deal as he was leaving, badly wounding him. Deal, however, managed to make his escape, and is at large, although posses are hunting him.

Stabblers got at their work at Duluth, Ga., when they cracked the safe of the Bank of Duluth and secured more than \$2,000. It was evidently the work of experts. Two distinct explosions were heard by about twenty-five persons, but no one ventured out to see what was the cause of the reports. The robbery was discovered in the morning about six o'clock. At that time there had been so much passing it was impossible to track the thieves with dogs.

Gov. George W. Donaghey, who will retire from office January 1, issued pardons to 216 state and 44 county convicts as a protest against the convict lease system of the state of Arkansas. As a result, three state convict camps will be abolished. Several camps where convicts are engaged in the building of good roads, however, will be continued in operation. The convicts pardoned were serving sentences of from one to fifteen years.

Instructions for the inauguration of the parcels post delivery, effective the first of the coming year, have been received by Postmaster McKee of the Atlanta postoffice from Postmaster General Hitchcock. With the book of instructions, there was sent a map applicable to the postal territory immediately about Atlanta, together with tables showing changes to be made on parcels to be handled in the future in Atlanta and to other cities. Atlanta the rate will be 5 cents for the first pound and 1 cent for each additional pound.

General.

President-elect Wilson held up a warning finger to any man who might deliberately start a panic in the United States to show that intended legislative policies were wrong. In a speech at the banquet of the Southern Society of New York, he declared he had heard sinister premonitions of what would follow if the Democratic party put into effect changes in economic policy.

The infant geyser drilled in the bottom of San Francisco bay by a pierdriver is worth a great deal to the state of California. Jerome Newman, chief engineer for the state board of harbor commissioners, estimated that the board by using the fresh water spouting from the bottom of the bay instead of buying its water would save \$5,000 a year. The flow continued copiously. The state chemist found it pure and similar to the best artesian water.

An international conservation convention is provided for in a bill favorably reported by the house committee on industrial arts and exhibitions. The bill authorizes the president to invite the nations of the entire world to send delegates to discuss the world's natural resources and their distribution through commerce. An appropriation of \$250,000 is carried in the bill for a government exhibit and building at the national conservation exposition at Knoxville, Tenn., next fall, where it is proposed to hold the international meeting.

In declining to allow a new organization to use his name, Governor-elect Sulzer of New York said no man's reputation was safe while he lived. He advised the use of the name of a man dead 100 years.

One man is dying and seven others are in a critical condition, being beaten by highwaymen in South Lima, O. Four masked men bound and gagged the watchman at the Kyle (Texas) state bank, locked him in a boxcar and escaped with \$17,000 of the bank's funds. Three charges of nitroglycerin were fired, and the vault of the bank wrecked.

Arrangements have been completed for adequate quarters for the two battalions of the First Georgia regiment which will attend the inaugural ceremonies of President-elect Woodrow Wilson in Washington March 4.

A story of how graft alleged to have been paid for police protection enabled a Raines law hotel keeper in Harlem to build up such a business that finally he disposed of his unpretentious place for \$140,000, was told to the New York City aldermanic investigating committee.

Roland G. Garros, the French aviator, made a splendid flight over the Mediterranean sea from Tunis, Africa, to Sicily. He landed near Trapani, having covered a distance of about 160 miles over water. This establishes a new record, surpassing that of Lieutenant Bagu, who, on March 5, 1911, flew over the Mediterranean from Antibes, France, to the little island of Gorgona, off the Italian coast, a distance of 124.5 miles.

Information that Mrs. Belle Gunness, on whose murder near LaPorte, Ind., in 1908, thirteen bodies were found, is believed to be in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, was received by the chief of police of LaPorte in a telegram sent by Frederick Wise. A woman answering the description of Mrs. Gunness has been under surveillance several days. The LaPorte police were requested to send a man to complete the identification. The LaPorte chief believes that Mrs. Gunness is still alive.

Bernard Rogers, a ragged eight-year-old boy, was found in a Chicago park watching squirrels burying peanuts and planning to steal their store. He was starving.

The British government has proposed to the government of the United States that a British battleship should convey the body of Whitelaw Reid, the late American ambassador, to his native land.

An unidentified man, who was riding the "blind baggage," was killed, and twenty were injured, when Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific passenger trains Nos. 23 and 24 collided head-on at Ninnekah, seven miles south of Chickasha, Okla. State Representative-elect T. J. Brown of Oklahoma is among those hurt. His skull was fractured and his forehead badly cut.

Elisha Bramlett, son of H. M. Bramlett, shot Justice of the Peace W. L. Dalton, through the head at Copperhill, Tenn. Bramlett was paroled three years ago from the penitentiary for killing Bob Bishop in Gilmer county, Georgia, about nine years ago, and served about seven years, when he was pardoned on parole for good conduct. A row over the judgment of Justice of the Peace Dalton, which was being resented by Bramlett, was the cause of the affray. Bramlett is at large.

Whitelaw Reid, the American ambassador to Great Britain since 1905, died at his London residence.

Washington.

President Taft has made up his mind, it is announced, to accept the proffer of the Kent professorship of law at Yale, and probably will take up his duties at New Haven early in the spring. The president was said to have determined upon accepting the Yale professorship for several reasons. He will not be restricted to lectures to Yale students, but will be permitted to lecture if he desires in other law schools or upon the platform or to engage in any other occupation which he sees fit.

Robert S. Lovett, chairman of the executive committees of the Union and Southern Pacific railroads, has announced that he has arranged with Attorney General Wickham to appeal at once to the United States Supreme court for instructions in working out the dissolution plan of the railroads.

In the effort to bring about harmony and perfect a cohesive fighting organization Democratic leaders are trying to persuade Mr. Wilson to make his cabinet representative of all the different elements in the party. By bringing into the cabinet representatives of all factions it is hoped to build up an organization that will weather the storm of tariff revision and present a solid phalanx in the next presidential election.

Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia has made a favorable report from the senate committee on agriculture, upon his bill appropriating \$3,000,000 to extend the work of the agricultural and mechanical colleges established under the Morrill act. The measure, which has already passed the house, where it was introduced simultaneously by Representative Lever of South Carolina, has been strongly urged in a nation-wide crusade by the National Soil and Fertility League of Chicago.

President Taft has announced, through Secretary Hilles, that the post of ambassador to Great Britain, made vacant by the death of Whiteley Reid, will not be filled by him. This announcement followed a conference between the president and Secretary Knox. The president believes that important diplomatic questions involving Great Britain and the United States can be handled successfully in Washington by Mr. Knox and the British ambassador. He hears that Mr. Wilson is already considering a man for the London post, and he does not wish to appoint someone who can serve only a few months.

"Safety first" is the paramount rule of train operation suggested by the interstate commerce commission in its twenty-sixth annual report submitted to congress. Discussion of disasters on American railroads during the last year constitutes an important feature of the report. It is pointed out that many of the accidents resulting from fatalities might have been averted by the exercise of proper precaution or the employment of suitable devices and good equipment. Of the thirty-one derailments investigated, fourteen were either directly or indirectly caused by bad track.

STATISTICS FOR STATE LIVESTOCK

BULLETIN ISSUED BY DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

IMPOSSIBLE TO GIVE TOTAL

The Total Value of Crops in North Carolina For 1909 Was \$142,890,000.—How the Crop of the State Was Divided.

Raleigh.—A special from Washington states that statistics for live stock products for North Carolina are presented in a bulletin soon to be issued by Director Durand of the bureau of the census, department of commerce and labor. It was prepared under the supervision of John Lee Coulter, expert special agent for agriculture.

The returns for live stock products obtained at the census of 1910, like those for crops, relate to the activities of the calendar year 1909. It is impossible to give a total representing the annual production of live stock products for the reason that the total value of products from the business of raising domestic animals for use, sale, or slaughter cannot be calculated from the census returns.

The total value of crops in North Carolina in 1909 was \$142,890,000. Of this amount, 89.5 per cent was contributed by crops for which the acreage as well as the value was reported, the remainder consisting of the value of by-products (straw, garden and grass seeds, etc.) derived from the same land as other crops reported, or of orchard fruits, nuts, forest products, and the like. The combined acreage of crops for which acreage was reported was 5,737,037, representing 65.1 per cent of the total improved land in farms (8,813,056 acres). Most of the remaining improved land doubtless consisted of improved pasture land lying fallow, house and farm yards, and land occupied by orchards and vineyards, the acreage for which was not reported.

The general character of North Carolina agriculture is indicated by the fact that about one-third (35.3 per cent) of the total value of crops in 1909 was contributed by cotton, about one-fourth (26.5 per cent) by cereals, about one-tenth (9.7 per cent) by tobacco, and somewhat less than one-tenth (8.8 per cent) by potatoes and other vegetables. The remainder, representing 19.7 per cent of the total, consisted mostly of forest products, grains and seeds, other than cereals, land and forage, and fruits and nuts.

Executive Clemency Granted.

Two pardons and two commutations were granted by Governor Kitchin each of them being on recommendation of the judge, solicitor and others. The 25-year sentence of Ananias Harrington, Moore county, for second degree murder is commuted to 19 years. He was sentenced in 1896. The sentence of Charles Rowe, Mitchell county, to six years for manslaughter, is commuted to three years. Blaine Haynie, Madison county, sentenced last February to 18 months on the roads for larceny is pardoned. Otis Curtis, Wake county, serving since September, 1910, on an eight-year sentence, is also pardoned.

North Carolina New Enterprises.

Charters were issued to the Piedmont Lumber & Manufacturing Co., of Charlotte, capital \$3,100,000, authorized and subscribed by R. C. McManus, C. W. and T. G. Shuman and W. H. Allen; and the Globe Baking Company of Wilmington, capital \$5,000,000, authorized and \$4,000,000 subscribed by George T. Johnson, D. L. Latta, J. E. Boylan and T. E. Sprunt.

Appointments by Governor.

Governor Kitchin announces the appointment of Mr. M. Mc. Jones of Belhaven as state shellfish commissioner to succeed W. M. Webb, resigned. The position of state fish commissioner is also vacant.

To Report on Waterways.

General W. H. Bixby, chief of the board of army engineers, ordered the board of review to make another investigation and report on the proposed extension of the inland waterway from Beaufort, N. C., to Key West, Fla. Gen. Bixby's action is a result of the hearing in which a number of leading North Carolinians asked General Bixby to reopen the case. General Bixby paid high tribute to Hugh F. MacRae, of Wilmington, who made an excellent impression on the general public.

An Important Question.

Have the people of Winston township paid in enough taxes to pay off the bonds subscribed to the Roanoke & Southern railroad about 25 years ago? This is a question that is now being asked and one that is being investigated by a special committee composed of Mr. C. M. McNaughton and Mr. Z. T. Bynum. The committee was employed by Messrs. J. D. Waddill and Y. O. Robertson, two of the county commissioners at the request of ex-Judge E. B. James, senator-elect from this district.

TAR HEELS GET THE BONDS

Bidders Appear For \$2,193,500 Worth of Issue, Which is For \$550,000 Premiums Offered Average .59.

Raleigh.—Twenty-one out of 53 bidders for amounts of the \$550,000 issue of 40-year, four per cent, refunding North Carolina bonds were successful. There were Northern bidders, but the bonds all go to North Carolinians.

There had been some apprehension about the outcome of the sale on account of the present influence of the bondholders' certificate of New York in striving to harass the state in every way possible to force a compromise issue on repudiated bonds. State officers and citizens, generally, are jubilant over the fact that the bonds were bid for more than \$1,500,000 in excess of the amount of the issue. The bids aggregated \$2,193,500. The successful bidders and awards are as follows:

E. D. Winstead, Milton, \$5,000; George W. Watts, Durham, \$50,000; C. N. Mason, \$3,000; H. D. Bacon, Charlotte, 9,000; John D. Shaw, Rockingham, \$10,000; Raleigh Savings & Trust Co., \$26,000; Citizens' Bank, Elizabeth City, \$60,000; Henry D. Allen, Washington, D. C., \$1,000; S. H. Chester, Asheville, \$32,000; D. M. Hodges, Asheville, \$1,000; Mrs. Ethel Burne Wharton, Reidsville, \$2,000; Mrs. Sallie W. Williamson, Ruffin \$5,000; Alexander Webb, Raleigh, \$300,000; Mrs. Fannie T. Biggs, Williamson, \$1,000; C. J. Osgburn, Winston-Salem, \$1,500; J. T. Pullen, Raleigh, \$500; Merchants National Bank, Wilmington, \$2,500; Savings Bank & Trust Co., Elizabeth City, \$1,500; National Bank of Newbern, \$5,000; C. C. McDonald, Raleigh, \$2,000; Merchants National Bank, Raleigh, \$35,000.

Disastrous Fire at Elkin.

Elkin, Surry county, was recently visited by the most disastrous fire in its history. The total loss is estimated at from thirty to fifty thousand dollars, with only partial insurance. The fire originated in the brick store of J. D. Holcombe & Co., dealers in general merchandise. Other stores all of which were brick structures, included E. J. Cochran & Sons, general merchandise; Fairmont Grocery Company, dealers in groceries, and Elkin Drug Company. The losses were partially covered by insurance on all stores except the Airmont Grocery Company which did not have a dollar of insurance on either stock or building. The property was located in the very heart of the town. The origin of the fire is not yet known, but is believed to have been incendiary.

To Amend State Food Laws.

Commissioner of Agriculture W. A. Turbird and State Food Chemist W. M. Allen will urge upon the incoming legislature that the state food laws be amended so as to require that the weight of contents be placed on packages of the public through selling 6 ounce packages for half-pound and 12 or 13 ounces for pounds. They point out that so long as this state does not require that weight be stamped on packages this class of frauds can not be stopped by the department. Furthermore, the legislature will be asked to empower inspectors to enter manufacturing of food stuffs and see that the surroundings are clean.

To Consider State Finances.

State officials and others in close touch with the financial affairs of the state declare that in connection with the much-talked-about progressive legislation regulating all manner of things about the state there is the greatest sort of need for state finances to be considered in no half-handed sort of way. It is estimated now that a shortage of fully \$700,000 will be shown when the state finances are balanced for the biennial report to the legislature. Of this amount about \$300,000 was left over from two years ago. However, in preparing the revenue and machinery act of two years ago the legislature intended for the revenue of the past two years to meet current expenses, take care of all appropriations and liquidate the then existing shortage. This was not by any means done, however.

Crime in North Carolina.

"There is something uncanny about the stability of crime," declared Attorney General Bickett, of North Carolina in his biennial report several days ago. "It seems to be perpetuated with as much regularity as the ebb and flow of the tides." He pointed out that the number of cases reported to the attorney general for the four years ended July, 1912, was 40,507 as compared with 40,604 for the preceding four years. Convictions for the two periods were a little more than 27,000.

Handcuffed Men Arrested.

Two unknown men with handcuffs on their wrists and who had evidently escaped from officers were arrested at Morganton on the arrival of train 35. They had been handcuffed together but had succeeded in breaking the chain and each had one cuff on his wrist. The conductor of the train noticed the handcuff and telegraphed to the officers here, who made the arrest. Both men are young, fairly well dressed, one being rather tall and the other about average size. Nothing can be learned as they will not talk.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OF MECKLENBURG—WHAT TEACHERS ARE DOING IN THE COUNTY.

SCHOOLS GOING FORWARD

Miss Mary O. Graham, Supervisor of Primary Education, Tells of the Work That is Being Done.—Many Notable Speakers Were Present.

Charlotte.—The Mecklenburg County Teachers' Association met in the court house several days ago. Ninety-two teachers were present. The president, Mr. Jackson Hamilton, of Pineville, called the meeting to order. Capt. William Anderson, county superintendent, opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Miss Ora Wilson.

Mrs. C. C. Hook, president of the Woman's Club of Charlotte, was present and in behalf of the educational department invited the association to be their guests the second Saturday in January. A literary program will be the first feature of the meeting after which lunch will be served by the Woman's Club.

Miss Margaret Erwin voiced the sentiment of all present when she thanked Mrs. Hook for the invitation and of the appreciation of the teachers of Mecklenburg for the interest of the Woman's Club.

Capt. Anderson spoke of a number of details in the management of the schools and thanked the Woman's Club for its interest in the county work. He announced that the next meeting will be held in the court house, Saturday, January 11, at 11 o'clock, after which the teachers will go in a body to the Y. M. C. A., where they will be the guests of the Woman's Club.

Mr. John C. McNeely, chairman of the board of education, was present and spoke in an earnest manner of the interest the board felt in the teachers and the children, and of their desire to help them at any time.

Nineteen Oil Companies in State.

Raleigh.—Major W. A. Graham, commissioner of agriculture, says that so far from giving the Standard Oil Company a monopoly of the oil business in this state as opponents of the measure predicted it would, the oil inspection act had the opposite effect, and that, whereas there were four companies doing business in this state when the inspection act was passed, there are now 19 companies in the field.

Greater Western N. C. Association.

Hendersonville.—Col. Sandford H. Cohen, manager of the Greater Western North Carolina Association, was in Hendersonville in connection with the meeting to be held at Asheville December 28 for the purpose of selecting exhibits of farm products for the corn exposition to be held in Columbia, S. C., in January. Mr. Cohen stated that the Greater Western North Carolina Association will furnish free transportation and board at Columbia for the boys from each county in the association having the highest scoring 10 ears of corn of any variety and color exhibited at Asheville December 28.

Statesville District Churches.

Statesville.—The stewards of the churches of Statesville district, including several counties were in annual session at Broad Street Methodist church here Statesville and the attendance was the largest in the history of the district, much to the gratification of Presiding Elder Mann. Various matters were discussed and the year's work was outlined. The presiding elder's salary was fixed on a percentage basis and the various conference assessments were laid on the charges of the district. E. A. Cole, of Charlotte, conference lay leader, was present at the meeting and made a splendid and practical talk on an adequate financial plan, and R. L. Snow, of Taylorsville, discussed practical methods.

345 Pensioners in Wake.

Raleigh.—The total of 345 old soldiers and soldiers' widows in Wake county will receive pensions from the state this year and for two days Clerk Mial's assistants have been busy settling with the pensioners. And the work is not yet completed. The number of second and third-class pensioners is the same as last. The fourth-class has decreased eight. The number in this class receiving pension money this year is 207. The number of widows is 126, a decrease of six since last year.

Welfare Work in Wake County.

Raleigh.—The work of the Wake county schools, under the superintendency of Prof. Z. Y. Judd, is showing in various localities and the betterment associations have real results to announce. When Dr. Walter Page was here he gave Mr. Judd high praise for work that has reached the eyes of big men in the nation. That the associations are fashioned after different plans from any others in North Carolina, is known of everybody, and there is a peculiar joy that the home system should be a leader.

LAND OF THE LONG LEAF PINE

Short Paragraphs of State News That Has Been Conducted For Busy People of State.

Southern Pines.—The Philadelphia National League team has decided to come to Southern Pines for winter practice.

Morganton.—Mr. T. G. Cobb, editor of the Morganton News-Herald, has opened his campaign for re-election as chief clerk of the house of representatives.

Newton.—Postmaster Everhart is receiving supplies for the opening up of the parcels post business January 1. There are five rural delivery routes from the town and the patrons are interested in the new scheme.

Goldsboro.—Joe Cooper, a negro, who worked at the Goldsboro oil mills, was shot and killed by two other negroes from Kinston in an old-time crap game down in the "Little Washington" section of the city.

Asheville.—William Jennings Bryan was an Asheville visitor recently speaking at the Auditorium on "The Making of a Man." He was introduced by Governor-elect Craig, who paid an eloquent tribute to the famous Nebraskan.

Troutman.—A five or six-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. John Young, who live on the farm of Mr. P. H. Collins about four miles from Troutman, was burned in the house while its mother was at a spring engaged with the family washing.

Wilson.—As an instance of the remarkable productiveness and cash value of the crops of this section is the sale of tobacco made by Mr. Geo. Glover of Old Field township, in this county. Mr. Glover from three acres of tobacco sold in Wilson 4,580 pounds of the leaf for \$1,878.77.

Raleigh.—A state test farm for experiment and demonstration work in the culture of peanuts is to be established by the state board of agriculture before a great while now, the farm to be selected with reference to accessibility in the peanut belt of the state.

Waxhaw.—A cotton gin belonging to Mr. J. W. McCain of this place and located about five miles from town was burned. It is supposed the fire was started from a spark from the engine, as the gin had been operated during the day. The loss was about \$1,500 and was partly covered by insurance.

Kinston.—One man was killed and a woman fatally wounded in a shooting affray in Folkstone township, in Onslow county. The killing occurred during a negro frolic. "Os" Barber is the dead man and Bertie Goss died from her injuries. Two men and a woman are in the Jacksonville jail charged with the shooting.

Concord.—The board of aldermen met to consider the question of permanent street improvements. Mayor Wagner presided, but there was not a quorum present and so the mayor called for a general discussion by the citizens in attendance. City Attorney Hartsel read the provisions of the bill which it is proposed to submit to the legislature.

Lenoir.—Much interest is now being manifested in the poultry show to be held here under the auspices of the Caldwell County Poultry Association, December 27 and 28. Inquiries are being received daily as to the exhibits. The premium list is not yet complete, but it is assured that it will be such as to warrant the exhibit of fowls from all over the western part of the state.

Asheville.—James Boyd, a 10-year-old boy, succeeded in thoroughly terrorizing the Murray school here, drawing an ugly-looking knife and for nearly a half-hour holding at bay both his teacher and the principal of the school. A policeman was finally called into the school and took the boy to the station-house, where he was locked upon the charge of attempted assault with a knife.

Kings Mountain.—Deputy Sheriff Lindsay, accompanied by Mr. Raymond Miller, on a ramble through the mountains near this place ran across an illicit still which had hardly gotten cold. They tore it up, fastened it to their buggy and brought it to town placing it in the town guardhouse for safekeeping.

Raleigh.—Four terms of membership on the state board of agriculture will expire March 11th, 1913, and will be subject to appointment by Governor Craig. These are H. C. Carter, first district; I. H. Kearney, fourth district; J. P. McRae, seventh district; A. Cannon, tenth district.

Wilson.—Justice Justice in superior court recently granted a change of venue in the case of the State against J. W. Beland. The motion to change was made by the state, the first instance of the kind in the history of the county. Beland is charged with the murder of his wife.

Charlotte.—The heart of the old Confederate veteran will be made glad when he learns that the long expected state pensions have already been received at the office of Mr. C. C. Moore, clerk of the court for Mecklenburg county, and the said pensions are now ready for distribution.

Charlotte.—At a called meeting of the board of trustees of the Children's Home of the Western North Carolina Conference, located at Winston-Salem, which was held in the parlors of the Trinity church in this city, the resignation of Prof. H. A. Hayes, superintendent, was received and accepted.

U. S. TAKES FIRM STAND WITH MEXICO

WILL DEMAND FULL PROTECTION FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS AND PROPERTY.

VERY DELICATE QUESTION

Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Relations Has Received Many Letters Bearing Upon the Situation—Should Leave the Matter to Wilson.

Washington.—Henry Lane Wilson, the American Ambassador to Mexico, who has been here in conference with State Department officials regarding conditions growing out of the Mexican revolution, left for New York preparatory to sailing for his post, without the expected note of representations which this Government is preparing to be sent to the Mexican Government demanding protection for American citizens and property.

This action is taken as a further evidence of the intention of the Administration to deal with this delicate and difficult situation with circumspection and in a spirit of deliberation. The communication is being prepared with the greatest care at the State Department and will be transmitted to the American Ambassador shortly after his arrival in Mexico City early in January.

The deliberations with which the officials are moving in the preparation of the case of the United States versus Mexico is expected to result in the production of a brief that is expected to be well-nigh unanswerable, except by a promise of prompt and adequate action on the part of the Mexican Government to fairly and fully meet the demands of the United States in the matter of the protection of American interests in Mexico.

Justification for this demand by the United States Government is declared to be found in the numerous reports to the State Department from every quarter to the general effect that conditions in Mexico have grown worse since the dispatch of Secretary Knox's note of protest last September.

Taft Congratulates South.

St. Augustine, Fla.—President Taft in a speech here congratulated the South upon the election of a Democratic President, predicted National wide prosperity under the new Administration and spoke with pride of the way this Nation takes the quadrennial verdict of the people at the polls. The President spoke in the Masonic Temple and the crowd listened to his words cheered him to the echo. He gave his philosophy of politics and closed with a remark that swept the hall with laughter. "The only sorrow I have," he said, "is the thought there will break in upon the people and some individuals the fact that there are not enough offices to go around."

To Make Washington Headquarters.

New York.—With the announcement that it had been decided to establish publicity headquarters in Washington and with the appointment of various committees to forward the work of organization, the executive committee of the Progressive party adjourned a two-day session here to meet again on January 10. In a statement the committee announced the personnel of the party's legislative committee with Dean William D. Lewis of the University of Pennsylvania as chairman.

To Carefully Guard Mints.

Washington.—As a result of the anonymous threat to dynamite the Denver Mint Director George E. Roberts has warned the superintendents of all the mints in the country to observe rigid measures of precaution against violence. While Mr. Roberts does not take the Denver threat seriously he said the mere suggestion of a plot to blow up a mint has put officials on the alert. Guards will not be increased but will keep a keen watch for disturbers.

Department Store For Hong Kong.

Washington.—The establishment of a Chinese department store in Hong Kong and the installations of electric lights, etc., the first of their kind in a Chinese establishment in that city is made the subject of a report by American Vice-Counsel General Carleton. Although the manager of the establishment is a Chinese whose business experience was gained in Australia many of the employees will be Americanized Chinamen. Eight four-story buildings will be converted into the new mart of trade.

Heavy Cost of Mobilization.

Paris.—Austria-Hungary is spending \$800,000 a day to defray expenses of the mobilization of her army, according to an estimate made by a correspondent of the Temps just returned from Galicia, Austria. The whole of the commercial and industrial life of the country has been disorganized. In Galicia, neither money nor food is to be had and the weather part of the population has fled from the country. At the same time the fear-stricken peasants are becoming the prey of dishonest speculators.