

13,677,000 BALES IS CROP ESTIMATE

FIRST ESTIMATE OF COTTON
CROP MADE BY U. S.
GOVERNMENT.

COMPARISONS ARE MADE

This Year's Crop Will Probably Be
the Most Valuable Ever Known
in the Country.

Washington.—The American cotton crop for the season of 1913-14 will amount to 13,677,000 bales of 500 pounds (not including linters), according to the first estimate made by the government this year through the crop reporting board, bureau of statistics, department of agriculture, and announced. This compares with 13,702,421 bales of 500 pounds, exclusive of linters, produced last year, when the total crop inclusive of linters was 14,312,000 bales of 500 pounds; 15,492,701 bales in 1911, including linters, amounted to 16,250,276 bales; 11,608,610 bales in 1910, which, including linters, amounted to 12,065,888 bales; 10,004,949 bales in 1909, which, including linters, amounted to 13,887,306 bales, and 11,107,179 bales in 1907, which, including linters, amounted to 11,375,461 bales. The average of the crops of 1907-11 was 12,331,047 bales, exclusive of linters. A crop of 6,542,850,000 pounds of cotton, not including linters, was produced in the United States during 1913-14, the department of agriculture announced. This is the third in size, that of 1911, which amounted to 7,459,940,000 pounds, being the record and that of last year, when 6,851,710,000 pounds were grown, being second. The year's crop probably will be the most valuable ever known in the United States. At the average farm value of cotton on November 1, which was 13 cents a pound, it is worth \$850,570,500 for the lint alone. To this about \$125,000,000 probably will be added by value of the seed and linters. The previous most valuable crop was that of 1910, which was valued at \$820,320,000 and with seed and lint at \$963,150,000.

TAFT BACKS UP WILSON

Former President Says Monroe Doctrine Must Be Upheld.

New York.—"We are international trustees of the prosperity we have and the power we enjoy, and we are in duty bound to use them when it is both civil and proper to help our neighbors," declared former President William H. Taft in a lecture before the New York Peace Society on the Monroe doctrine, which, he held, should be continued in full force, despite the hostility to its expressed in some quarters. "We cannot be too careful to avoid forcing our own ideas of government on peoples, who, though favoring popular government, have such different ideas as to what constitutes it."

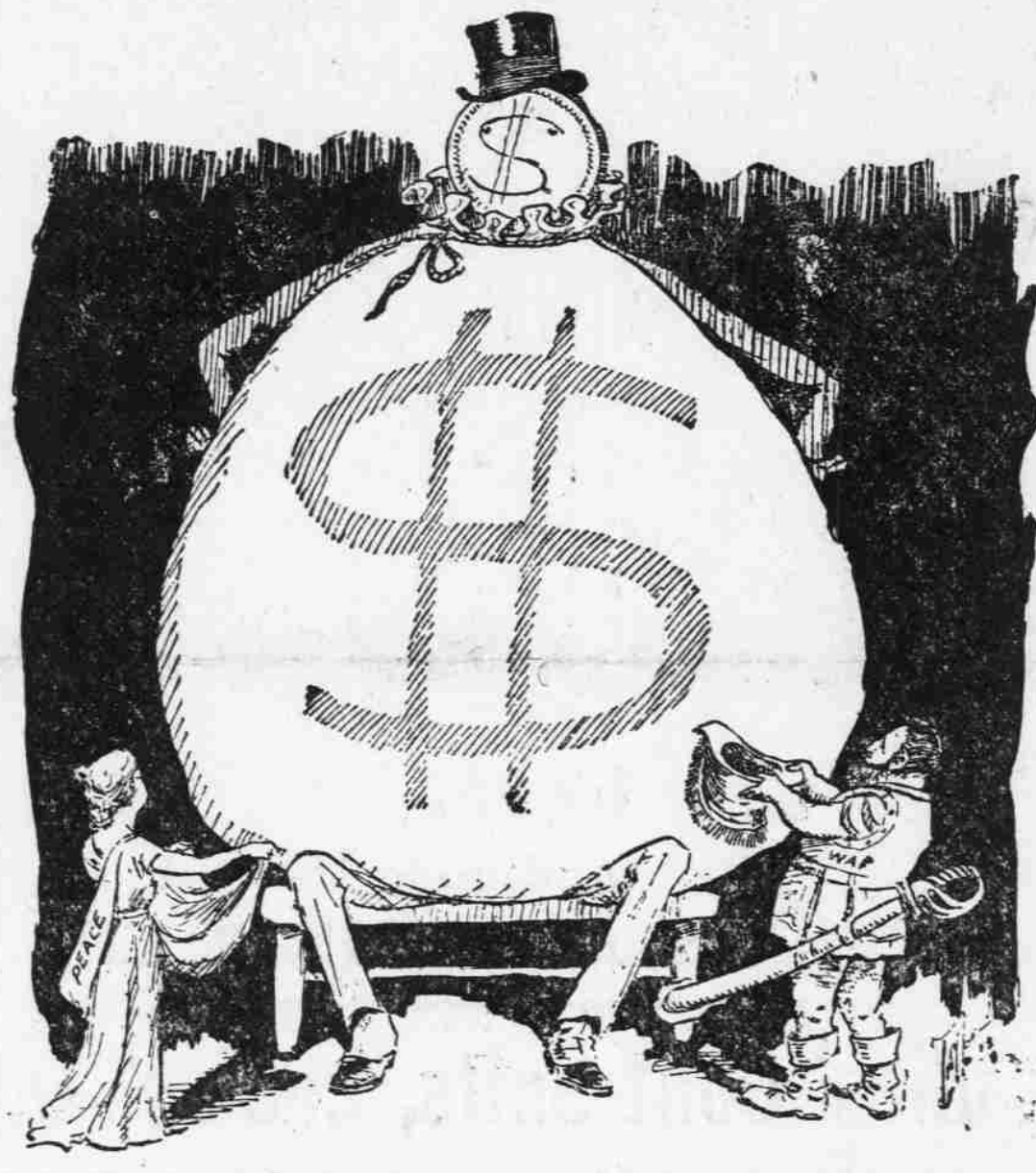
He alluded to criticism of the application of the doctrine as leading to "intermeddling by our government in the politics of the smaller countries like San Domingo and the central American Republics," and that we are exercising a protectorate of our own character over some of them. "What we are doing with respect to them," he continued, "is in the interest of civilization, and we ought to do it to aid our neighboring governments, whether the Monroe doctrine prevails or not."

"Mona-Lisa" Is Found.
Florence, Italy.—"Mona-Lisa," Leonardo Da Vinci's great painting, which was stolen from the Louvre, in Paris, more than two years ago, has been found. It is now in the hands of the Italian authorities and will be returned to France, "Mona-Lisa," or "La Gioconda," as it is more popularly known, the most celebrated portrait of a woman ever painted, has been the object of the most intense interest in all quarters of the globe. The mystery of its abstraction from the Louvre, its great intrinsic value and the strange fascination of the smile of the woman it portrayed—Lisa Del Giocondo—have combined to keep alive interest in its recovery.

Defender's Keel Laid at Bristol.
Bristol, R. I.—Disregarding the old-time sailors' superstition attaching ill luck to Friday, the builders of the Vanderbilt syndicate yacht, which is to be a candidate for the defense of the America's cup, cast her keel on the day. A little ceremony added interest to the casting of the keel when Miss Agnes Harreshoff, daughter of the designer, tossed into the melted metal several bright new pennies. The coins had been given her for the purpose by Cornelius Vanderbilt and other members of the syndicate.

Admiral Stops Fight.
Mexico City.—Rear Admiral Fletcher, commander of the American naval forces in Mexican waters, ordered the rebels and federalists fighting at Tampico to cease firing, threatening to open up on them with the guns of the gunboat Wheeling if his order was not obeyed. Both sides complied with the order. This information is contained in a dispatch received by Sir Lionel Carden, the British minister, from Rear Admiral Sir Christopher Cradock, of the British cruiser Berwick, which is lying off Tampico.

ONE REASON FOR LATE XMAS SHOPPING



MEXICAN ELECTIONS VOID

CUERTA CONGRESS CALLS NEW ELECTIONS FOR NEXT JULY.

Unless the Rebels Throw Him Out, the Dictator Will Remain in Power.

Mexico City.—The Mexican congress nullified the recent presidential elections. New elections are called for next July.

Congress, according to this action, expects General Huerta to remain in the presidency for at least seven months more; and if the time necessary for the selection and installation of his successor is taken into consideration, it will be well towards the end of September, next year, before he yields his power to another.

In voting that the recent presidential election was null, the deputies decided to fix the first Sunday in July, 1914, as the date for the new election. They also confirmed the position of General Huerta as provisional president until then.

The action of the deputies was accompanied by no debate. The committee's report was approved without a dissenting vote as rapidly as the articles could be read.

The measures taken also provide for the election of a new congress since the one elected to take the place of that dissolved by Huerta is to serve out an unexpired term which should terminate September 15.

Although there were no dissenting votes in the chamber on the committee report, it was noted that the Catholic deputies absented themselves from the session.

"DRYS" STORM THE CAPITOL

Mighty Prohibition Demonstration in Washington.

Washington.—Prohibition forces from all over the country gathered in Washington for a demonstration before the national capital. More than two thousand men and women, representing the Anti-Saloon League of America and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, marched in separate bodies to the capitol, bearing petitions demanding that national prohibition be effected by constitutional amendment.

Disagreement as to the part each organization should play in the presentation of the petitions threatened to cause a split in the temperance forces. As a result, the committee of one thousand men, representing the Anti-Saloon League forces, were received at the capitol first, after which they withdrew and the women made their plea.

Federal Ownership of Wire Lines.

Washington.—Legislation preliminary to government ownership of telegraph and long distance telephone lines, or both, may be introduced in the annual postoffice appropriation bill soon to be reported to the house. Representative Moon of Tennessee and Postmaster General Burleson have been conferring on the subject, and they are expected to reach a final agreement as to the form the proposed legislation should take. Experiments in the ownership of railway mail cars have been provided for.

To Stop "Pistol Toting."

Washington.—An amendment to the Federal constitution to permit congress and the states to regulate the practice of "pistol toting," was offered in the house by Representative Frank Park of Georgia. Judge Park predicted that the amendment would receive the overwhelming approval of congress and the states. He said his experience on the bench had convinced him that the evil of pistol toting was directly responsible for a large percentage of the homicidal records of the United States.

GARRISON IS FOR STRONG MILITIA

IN ANNUAL REPORT WAR SECRETARY FAVORS RESERVE SYSTEM.

HE WANTS MORE ARTILLERY

Proper Organization Necessary for United States Recognition and Dependence.

Washington.—Secretary Garrison's first annual report to the president, as head of the war department, makes no recommendations for the generally expected rearrangement of army posts to distribute troops in mobile units. The secretary says that other things of immediate importance, "particularly an adequate supply of field artillery," will postpone his recommendations to congress, but in the meantime the troops will be garrisoned in as practical a manner for mobilization as is possible.

Mr. Garrison discusses the militia to some length. He says, in part: "The national importance of a reserve system for the organized militia cannot be questioned. The minimum strength at which militia organizations are maintained in time of peace will render necessary a great and immediate increase in a national emergency, and this fact demands the presence of a system of reserves from which trained men may be secured for this increase. Without some such system, not only will such increase be rendered exceedingly difficult, but even when accomplished the efficiency of the organizations will have been reduced to a minimum by the introduction of an untrained element double in number the trained personnel."

COTTON GINNING REPORT

SIXTH COTTON GINNING REPORT ISSUED BY THE CENSUS BUREAU.

12,081,000 Bales Were Ginned Up to December 1.—A Comparative Statement.

Washington.—The sixth cotton ginning report of the census bureau for the season announces that 12,081,000 bales of cotton, counting round as half bales, of the growth of 1913 have been ginned prior to December 1, to which date during the past seven years the ginning average 83.2 per cent. of the entire crop. Last year to December 1, there had been ginned 11,854,541 bales, or 87.9 per cent. of the entire crop; in 1911 that date, 12,816,807 bales, or 82.4 per cent. and in 1908 to that date, 11,008,611 bales, or 84.1 per cent. Ginnings prior to December 1 by states, with comparison for last year and other years and the percentage of the entire crop ginned prior to that date in those years, follows:

States.	Year.	Ginnings.	P. C.
Alabama	1913	1,365,888	...
	1912	1,161,482	87.4
	1911	1,430,076	84.7
Arkansas	1913	78,038	...
	1912	659,505	85.5
	1911	680,434	74.9
Florida	1913	58,490	...
	1912	48,630	82.7
	1911	74,056	75.4
Georgia	1913	2,064,792	...
	1912	1,564,428	86.3
	1911	2,339,354	83.7
Louisiana	1913	340,068	...
	1912	343,323	91.6
	1911	313,624	82.4
Mississippi	1913	955,588	...
	1912	817,707	81.4
	1911	892,495	76.3
North Carolina	1913	622,746	...
	1912	754,569	83.3
	1911	828,660	73.6
Oklahoma	1913	761,439	...
	1912	869,278	86.5
	1911	783,989	77.1
South Carolina	1913	1,161,437	...
	1912	1,041,689	85.1
	1911	1,310,963	77.5
Tennessee	1913	304,502	...
	1912	208,721	75.0
	1911	319,979	74.4
Texas	1913	3,571,331	...
	1912	4,314,821	92.9
	1911	85,763	...
Other States	1913	70,388	78.1

Big Sun Spot Found.

San Jose, Cal.—Father Jerome Richard of Santa Clara university discovered a sun spot—the largest seen in two years. The sun spot is in longitude 9:17.24 east of the central meridian. It is due to a helio-centric conjunction of the earth with Saturn on December 7. The new sun spot has an area of 409,906,709.169 square miles. It is 32,013.15 miles long and 12,805.26 miles wide.

Possible for Man to Earn Million.

New York.—Secretary of State William J. Bryan, in speaking before the clerical conference of the New York Federation of Churches on the subject of "Fundamentals," declared it to be his belief that "it is possible for a man really to earn \$30,000 a year for a time of 33-13 years, or a million dollars in a lifetime." Secretary Bryan made this declaration in discussing man's relation to the society about him, which, he said, was one of the three things fundamental in human life.

Stops as Dividend Payer.

New York.—After an unbroken record of forty years as a dividend payer, the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad company finally has been forced to the necessity of suspending further disbursements on its \$157,000,000 of stock. This decision was reached after a protracted meeting of the directors. It is estimated that not less than \$40,000,000 of New Haven stock and bonds, as well as securities of affiliated companies and real estate are held by savings banks

NORTH CAROLINA DAY PROGRAM

PROGRAMS SENT OUT BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION VERY INTERESTING.

HONOR OF SEAMAN A. KNAPP

Instructions and Suggestions For Observance of N. C. Day Sent Out by Department of Education Are Interesting in Every Respect.

Raleigh.—Programs for the North Carolina Day celebration on Friday, December 19, have been sent by the State Department of Education to every local county farmers' union, and to every county superintendent of education in the state. The county superintendents will distribute the programs among the schools in his county, and in this way they will reach all of the schools.

The program this year will be observed in the interest of rural life and as a suggestion to the late Seaman A. Knapp, who is the father of the farm life school idea in the South, and who has done as much as any other man to inject into the schools the spirit of farm life and the idea of training the country boys and girls in the knowledge of both plant and animal which surround them in their walks of life.

On account of the illness of Mr. R. D. W. Connor, who has for the past several years had charge of the work of editing and printing of the North Carolina Day booklet, the work this year fell to the State Department of Education, and all of the work had to be done on short notice.

Dr. J. Y. Joyner, in his introduction to the pamphlet, gives several valuable suggestions as to the observance of the day. He thinks it a good idea for those in charge of the exercises to secure the services of some country preacher to begin the program with a prayer and a scriptural reading, and says that a short address by some member of the local farmers' union, where there is such, might be used with wonderful effect. He suggests that it would also be a good idea to have some country doctor make a talk on health conditions, and urges upon the county superintendents to have an agricultural exhibit of some sort at all of the schools where the day is observed.

Mr. N. C. Newbold, who prepared the program this year, also has a few suggestions as to how the program may best serve its purpose in the primary, grammar and high school grades of the city schools. He points out the value of studying the bulletin for a week or ten days before the time for the celebration to take place on December 19, and shows wherein all of this may add to the perfect observance of the day as it should be.

The booklet, contains letters from boys and girls on the farm telling of how they came to be interested in the corn clubs or the tomato clubs, and articles from leading North Carolinians bearing on this same subject. It is primarily and altogether devoted to the interests of agriculture in the state, and the idea of laying more stress upon this phase of activities in first and foremost in practically every line that is printed in the booklet. It is interesting and every page has a message to the boy and girl on the farm, and if the day is observed and celebrated on as high a scale as has been planned by the Department of Education untold good can be accomplished for the cause of agricultural departments of the schools of the state.

Kinston People Are Stirred.

Nothing in many years has stirred Kinston as has the attempt of the board of trustees of the North Carolina School for the Feeble-Minded to remove Dr. Ira M. Hardy, the superintendent, for what leading men of the city openly assert to be purely political reasons. There are no radical developments in the situation, but any is likely to happen.

Hearings Have Been Postponed.

Chairman M. H. Justice of the Special Commission for adjustment of intrastate rates has changed the time of the hearings on the exceptions from December 17 to January 12. This is on account of the fact that the Interstate Commerce Commission is to hold a special series of hearings on interstate rates beginning December 16 in Greensboro. It was found to be impossible for the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Special Commission to hold their hearings at the same time.

Makes Record Yield of Corn.

The record yield of corn by members of the Boys' Corn Club was made by Robert Savage of Speed, who raised on one acre 152.5 bushels. Other boys who exceeded the 100 bushels mark were Eddie Lanier, who was second with 124 bushels; David Andrews of Speed, 123 bushels, and Frank Andrews, a brother, with a record of 115 bushels. The average yield for the entire club was 86.8 bushels and the lowest mark made was 48 bushels. Altogether the boys made an excellent showing.

STATE CHEMIST'S REPORT

Dr. B. W. Kilgore Says All Test Farms in State Are in Good Condition.

Raleigh.—Dr. B. W. Kilgore, state chemist, in his special report for his division to the state board of agriculture gives a most interesting summary of work of analyzing fertilizers, testing concentrated stock feeds. The report shows analyses of 1,900 samples of fertilizers, altogether there having been 3,286 specimens brought in.

The report shows that during the year soil maps were completed of Ashe and Randolph counties. The map of Forsyth is nearing completion and good progress is being in Wake. On account of climatic conditions all three parties will probably work in Bladen county during the winter and Halifax and Wayne in the early spring. Thereafter the parties will separate again, one finishing Wake and then working in Lincoln and Cleveland, and the third in Union county.

Doctor Kilgore gives comprehensive summaries of the work on the several test farms. The Edgecombe farm for cotton, peanuts, corn, oats, burr and crimson clovers, vetch, pecans and hog work—is in good condition, but sustained considerable damage to crops through the September storm. Special tests as to cost of growing pork under Eastern Carolina conditions are being made.

Wesleyan M. C. A. Appointments.

Forest City.—The North Carolina Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America came to close after the concluding sermon was preached by Rev. S. C. Douthett. At 11 o'clock Rev. E. Teter, president of the General Conference, preached the ordination sermon. Following this Mrs. Hadley made a very pleasing report of Mount Hebron school. One of the most impressive addresses during the conference was made by Miss Jennie Whitaker on the slums of Knoxville, Tenn. Rev. H. W. Hawkins of Gastonia succeeded himself as president. Mrs. A. E. Belk as secretary and A. E. Belk as treasurer. The next Conference will be held in Halifax. The following are the appointments for the ensuing year: Gastonia, C. A. Hendrix; Kings Mountain, S. B. Williams; Caroleen, Mary Melton; Bridgewater, J. A. Sisk; Asheville, H. A. Harvey; Knoxville, First Church, J. L. Henderson; Proctor Mission, A. E. Belk; Hickory, T. E. Payne; Alamance, yet to be supplied; Randolph, E. W. Jones; Colfax, G. R. and Mary E. Mines; Mount Hebron, S. A. Pegram; Spray Mission, W. B. Clubb; Durham, C. A. Curtis; Columbia to be supplied; Gibson, Bryant Lovin; Rockingham, L. M. Henshaw; Sage Garden, C. J. Chandler. H. W. Hawkins was chosen Conference evangelist; M. F. Hartsoe, S. P. Chapman and W. B. Tillman missionary evangelists; missionary for Africa, Miss Cleo Young; Mission school work on Gibson charge, L. M. Henshaw.

N. C. Waterways Appropriations.

Special from Washington says General Bixby, chief of engineers of the army, in his annual report, presented to Congress recently, made important estimates for improvements in eastern North Carolina waters. The sum of \$1,000,000 is asked for the Norfolk-Beaufort link of the inland waterways chain. The sum of \$8,000,000 is wanted for the beginning of construction work on the "Harbor of Refuge" at Cape Lookout. The army engineers propose to erect three new drawbridges to replace the old bridges and to purchase additional rights of way along the Albemarle and Chesapeake canal.

To Have Carriers.

Tarboro.—Postmaster J. Frank Liles has received information that Tarboro will have two city carriers to deliver mail twice daily beginning May 1, 1914. This came as a surprise to the patrons of the local office, as they did not expect city mail until the new postoffice building is completed, which will be about July 1st.

Want 1,000 Turkeys For Christmas.

Mr. Caesar Cone is advertising for 1,500 turkeys at a cost of \$3,000 for the Christmas dinners of the employees of his mills. One turkey will be given each family on Christmas Eve, in accordance with a custom he has observed for several years. Mr. John J. Phoenix has the matter of obtaining the turkeys and having them delivered in charge. The turkeys this year will cost 15 cents a pound, and it is hoped that every pound can be obtained adjoining counties. About 20 tons of turkeys will be required.

Effect School Law in Buncombe.

A statement issued by Superintendent William H. Hipps of the Buncombe County schools, is to the effect that the compulsory school law is being disregarded by many of the citizens of the county, and that recently complaints have been coming into his office regarding this. Immediate steps will be taken looking to the enforcement of the law to the letter. An open letter has been sent out by Superintendent Hipps to the teachers in the county warning them that they must do their duty.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR DECEMBER 21

DIVISION OF THE LAND.

LESSON TEXT—Joshua 14:1-14.
GOLDEN TEXT—"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."—Matt. 6:33.

Following the defeat at Ai we see Joshua building an altar at Elbal (ch. 8) and reading again "all that Moses commanded" (v. 35), to the Israelites and the strangers as well. Then follows an account of his campaigns. A military critic has classed Joshua with the Alexanders, Caesars, Napoleons, Wellingtons and Grants of all ages. His dealing with the Gibeonites and its after effects was one error in his campaign, for he failed to take counsel of Jehovah. At the close of the war (ch. 11) Joshua is ready to divide the long-promised inheritance, chapters 12-21.

I. Those left behind, vv. 1-5. Read carefully Numbers ch. 32 to recall the story of those who, like Lot of old, saw good grazing land and chose it in preference to that on the farther side of Jordan, that possessed by the "children of Anak." Subsequent history reveals the foolishness of their choice, for they were the first to fall before the enemies of Israel when the kingdom was broken up. The Levites (v. 4) were not to have a portion but rather they were to dwell in selected cities with suburban property.

Caleb Not an Israelite.
II. Caleb claims his inheritance, vv. 6-12. Joshua was old and stricken in years (13:1) and now Israel is before him, each of the remaining nine and one-half tribes, to have appointed unto them a permanent dwelling place after the long years of wilderness wandering, and the more recent campaign of subjugation. Before Joshua casts the lot, however, Caleb recalls the promise Moses had made to him 45 years before (v. 10). From a comparison of v. 6 R. V. Gen. 15:19 and Josh. 15:13 it appears that Caleb was not an Israelite by birth, but nevertheless he claims an inheritance among them, based upon the promise of Moses, "The man of God," because he had "holly followed the Lord my God" v. 9. His name literally means "a dog"—yet this dog of a Gentile got more than the crumbs that fell from the master's table, Matt. 15:26. Caleb rested upon the sure word of God, and to remember this promise was not an act of selfishness. How those events in the valley of Eschel must have stood out in the memory of Caleb and Joshua. They remembered how their companions cast the hearts of the people "to melt" Num. 14:27. That day's work was one of serious results and so shall it be for their imitators of the present day. To see the giants and not, as Caleb, to see God had brought death. In his heart, however, Caleb treasured God's word and now at eighty-five he has not alone been "kept alive," but he is as strong as on that day, when in the prime of his manhood, Moses had sent him forth with the twelve.

Remembered God's Promise.
III. A promise fulfilled vv. 13-15. Joshua at once recognizes the justice and validity of Caleb's claim. He remembered God's promise, Num. 14:24-30; Deut. 1:36-38, therefore he at once grants the request and adds to it his blessing. Hebron, means "joining," "union," "fellowship." This we see Caleb entering into all the rights, privileges and blessings of any of the descendants of Jacob. Is this not typical of our privilege in Christ Jesus? John 15:5; 14:20; 1 John 1:3. See also Matt. 8:11, 12. The only condition is that of faith in God and in his Word, Gal. 3:7, 26, 29. "Thus faith in the case of Caleb is revealed as the principle which follows fully, waits patiently, asks for new opportunities for its exercise, and gains finally a victory."—G. Campbell Morgan.

The Golden Text. The essential value of this lesson is expressed in these words of our Lord. To seek the kingdom of God and his righteousness first, is the matter of supreme importance and involves following the Lord fully. Frequently, constantly, this means a long postponement of the day of our visible vindication. Yet such postponement is not the result of the capriciousness of God, nor is it delayed beyond the hour necessary for the working out of the plans of Jehovah, in accordance with the very best means. As Caleb waited those 45 years his strength waxed not, and all things needful were supplied. The point is not so much that he at last gained the inheritance, but that during the period of waiting his sustenance and his raiment were provided.

All through the year we have been hearing of promises which were conditional upon loyalty to God and obedience to his will. Today we see a fulfillment of the promise made over and over again that Israel should possess the Promised Land. Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman asked Gen. William Booth for the secret of his success in the Salvation Army and his reply was, "God has had all there was of me." Caleb's was a vigorous, happy old age; he had not wasted anxious thought on the morrow; he kept alive his interest in the ever-throbbing present.