

The Asheville Citizen BY THE CITIZEN COMPANY. Every Afternoon Except Sunday

One Year \$4.00 Six Months 2.00 Three Months 1.00 One Month .50 One Week .25

The Semi-Weekly Citizen is issued Tuesdays and Fridays. In advance, \$1.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1900.



McKinley thinks he is entitled to more than one guess at "our plain duty."

Republicans say the sugar and tobacco trusts will pay the Porto Rican duties. A few years ago the Republicans were telling us that "the foreigner pays the tariff duties."

The price of white paper was again advanced 25 per cent. on March 1. This is the effect of trust rule in the United States.

Charles R. Spahr, author of "The Present Distribution of Wealth in the United States," says that for the \$4,000,000,000 of railway stock now in existence the original investors paid no more than \$165,000,000 or only 10 per cent. of their face value.

J. F. Hudson, in his book, "Railways and the Republic," shows that the New York Central and Hudson River railroad has watered its stock to the tune of \$2,500,000.

It is assumed that so great a sum of money paid to the transportation companies, and to all other trusts, for that matter, is conclusive evidence of a high state of prosperity which enables the people to get the money to pay out.

The fallacy lies in this: Why is it necessary for the people to pay out the money immediately they get it or earn it? The only property is where the money earner can save enough beyond his actual living expenses to convert into wealth as do the railroads and trusts.

It is announced by Comptroller Cole that the Metropolitan Traction Company of New York has acquired and will operate the underground Rapid Transit tunnel.

While the McKinley administration is joyously adopting the gold standard part of the British financial policy it is a pity it cannot see its way to adopt one feature of the British fiscal policy, a 5 per cent. tax on incomes.

Among the other "conservative" stations who called Democratic anarchists because they tried in the Wilsonian law to impose a tax of 2 per cent on incomes of \$1000 a year and over are the eminent statesmen who are now running the country in the interests of the trusts.

The tax of eight pence was 2 1/2 per cent. The tax of one shilling is a 5 per cent tax on all under it men with large incomes will pay as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Annual Income, Income Tax. Rows show income levels from \$5,000 to \$50,000 and corresponding tax amounts.

William Waldorf Astor draws an income of \$1,000,000 a year from his New York rents, and on that income he pays to the British government \$250,000 as an income tax.

Just as Western North Carolina is getting over its smallpox scare comes the horrible rumor that if Ewart is not confirmed for the federal bench he will invade the Democratic party and become one of it--will get into its midst, so to speak.

The Federal Steel company is out with a statement showing its net earnings for the first year of its operation, just completed, were \$10,592,842. It paid dividends of \$4,325,702, and earned a surplus of \$4,850,841.

LIGHTING QUESTION STILL UNDECIDED ARGUMENT ON THE MATTER BEFORE THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN LAST EVENING.

FIGURES AS TO THE COST OF LIGHTS IN OTHER CITIES OF THE COUNTRY.

At the meeting of the aldermen last evening, there was a long discussion on the lighting question, but the matter was not decided. The matter was brought up by J. H. Brooks, representing Central Labor union, a large number of the members of which were in attendance.

Mr. Brooks said the aldermen were very glad to furnish all the information possible and that he was glad to see the labor union men present. The matter of lights, he said, had been under consideration for a year.

Mr. Brooks stated that the average cost of furnishing lights from municipal ownership plants was \$0 to \$2.5. Alderman Sherrill said the aldermen tried very hard last year to get ownership of the city lights, but the best arrangement that could be suggested failed to go through.

A letter from T. C. H. Dukes asked the aldermen to remember in making a contract that the city of the present company a large part of the time was not able to perform the duty of lighting the city.

Mr. Adams related the circumstance by which the blighting of a power plant on the French Broad had frightened the inmates of the house of detention. The woman had seen a lighted fire in the yard and the inmates claimed on the house.

Walter Greenlee, colored, asked that a street be opened up Catholic Hill City Engine club was asked to make an estimate of the cost.

The Atlanta Constitution of March 3 said: The Spooner Dramatic company played to another good-sized audience at the Columbia last night. The "Good King," which was the bill put on last night, is a splendid farce comedy and made a thoroughly enjoyable entertainment.

Editor The Citizen--Anyone or the friends of anyone who served in the Sixty-fourth North Carolina regiment, who has a photo taken any time from 1861 to '65, who desires to have the same appear in the history of North Carolina troops will please write me at once and I will give such instructions as may be necessary to have it done, provided it is done at once.

R. PEARSON HOPES AND EWART SLEEPS (Continued from First Page.)

forecast with any accuracy what the outcome of the contest will be. The Wise-Young contest from Virginia and the Aldrich-Robbins contest from Alabama were lost entirely through the fault of Democrats, who did not have their men present to vote.

The Ewart case is still sleeping in the committee on judiciary in the senate. The committee is apparently waiting for more evidence from Mr. Smathers, but is determined, as the outlook now stands, to advise Governor Senator Fritchard to request the withdrawal of the nomination, which is really a pledge of loyalty to the president's wishes.

President McKinley sent a message to Congress this week, embodying the report of the work of the North Carolina Agricultural experiment station at Raleigh for the past year. The income of the station was large: \$30,345.36, of which \$15,000 came from the Government.

Senator Butler left Friday on a trip to Cuba. He will spend several days inspecting conditions in the island.

Editor The Citizen--Knowing the interest which the public take in the report of the main road leading from Asheville to Biltmore, and realizing the importance of its immediate repair, I desire to state a few facts relating thereto.

It was found upon a careful estimate that the cost of putting in a new road would be \$750,000. This sum, required to make this a really good road being too large to be raised by the two towns, a road tax, a private subscription, up to the present time, has been made necessary from all sources amounting to \$400,000.

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Editor The Citizen--"He puts up prescriptions."

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GROSS INCOME, 1899, \$985,225.91 INSURANCE IN FORCE, \$22,556,471.00 Total Number Policies in Force, 222,564 Total Payments to Policy-Holders SINCE ORGANIZATION, \$3,588,801.00

H. W. MILLER, Superintendent Asheville District, CORNER PATTON AVENUE AND CHURCH ST. FEET.

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Notice. Notice is hereby given by the mayor and board of aldermen of the city of Asheville, as required by law, that the City Engineer has made a survey and filed his report in the office of the city clerk showing the amount of work done, and the cost thereof.

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THE PARAGON, Opposite Postoffice. Prescriptions our Specialty.