

Editorial Comment.

How much have the truck farmers of Cumberland and Robeson counties lost in extortionate rates paid the express companies? "Did it ever strike you?"

Of world's fairs there seems to be no end in sight. Announcement was made recently by the Boston Herald of the inception of a movement to commemorate by an international exposition in Boston, in 1929, the three hundredth anniversary of the Pilgrims and the founding of New England.

"It would appear to be up to those who want the tariff revised downward to show where the money to run the government is to come from," says the Durham Herald, forgetting that the government gets but a small part of the tariff taxes the people pay, most of the money going into the hands of rich manufacturers and others. We are not complaining at what the government gets; but to give some money, magnate a thousand dollars every time the government gets a hundred—that's the abomination.

SPELLING VS. EDUCATION.

It is said that a large per cent. of the graduates the colleges are turning out these years are poor spellers; that the common schools are not making their pupils as proficient in spelling as formerly and that there are fewer good spellers now in proportion to the number of men and women "with learning" than there were 20 or 30 years ago. All of which may be true. "Why is it?" has been often asked, and many have assigned as a reason the abandonment of the "blue back speller." It is very doubtful that the kind of spelling book used in the schools has had anything to do with it.

The main cause of the so-called decline of good spelling is the fact that so many other things are embraced in the curriculum of the schools. Formerly the curriculum consisted in the "three R's." In many quarters one was considered "learned" if he could read, "do sums" in arithmetic and make pretty letters with a pen. Now the youth of the land are taught grammar and literature, history and geography, algebra and Latin, French and German, physics and chemistry, physiology and geology, et cetera ad infinitum. Perhaps there are too many subjects being taught at once to a great many in the schools and colleges. It's too much of a cramming business in many cases. Modern education may in many instances consist of a smattering knowledge of many things and thoroughness in none. But it is a fact nevertheless that many of those proficient in the "three R's" are very deficient in the power to express themselves on paper. There are thousands who can spell really well and "do all the sums" in arithmetic who cannot write a brief letter for a newspaper, telling what he thinks of special school tax, without putting the editor to the labor of going through it and straightening out the kinks before it goes to the printer.

To be a fine speller is an enviable accomplishment, but an editor finds it easier ordinarily to correct the misspelled words in an article or a news letter written fairly plain than to re-write the sentences and paragraphs and scratch his head half an hour trying to figure out just what the writer was trying to say and finally have to "dump it in" with a string of doubt tied to it because of lack of punctuation—or throw it in the waste basket for fear of a libel suit.

The best educated man is the man who is well trained to do the work he chooses for his trade or profession and who, at the same time, is able to think and to tell what he thinks and why he thinks so.

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS.

Their Work a Benefit to the Community and Many Times to Themselves—Rules for Correspondents.

THE INDEX desires to print all the news that is news from every part of its territory—the upper Cape Fear section. We thank our correspondents for the service they are rendering, and we want a few more of them. In any community in our territory from which we desire a correspondent. We do not want mere space fillers. It is one of the greatest misconceptions the public has of an editor's work that he is "put to it" to get something with which to "fill up." A greater task is his—to avoid filling up with matter sent in that is not news.

Thousands of men are making a living out of their work as correspondents. Many of the best newspaper men of the country began as correspondents. The news that fills the columns of the great daily papers is gotten up by correspondents. There are good correspondents, bad correspondents and indifferent correspondents.

The editor of this paper began his newspaper experience as a country correspondent of a weekly paper about 12 years ago. Most of the time since then he has been working on newspaper correspondence, either at the writing end or at the editing end. For fifteen months prior to the establishing of THE INDEX he handled all the correspondence of one of the State's leading dailies. Now it is our desire to give the readers of this paper the benefit of these years of experience.

To be a first class newspaper correspondent is an accomplishment worth while. The work is a splendid preparation for a position on the staff of a newspaper, great or small, or other lines of journalism. If one does not contemplate making journalism his life work, he has the opportunity as a correspondent to help his community by keeping it before the public. Greensboro will never pay the debt she owes Andrew Joyner for the great work he has done during the past 15 years in helping to build up that city by keeping it ever before the public through the scores of papers he serves as correspondent.

The Smithfield Herald, which is one of the very best weeklies in the State, gives the following instructions to its correspondents, and we publish them for the benefit of the correspondents of THE INDEX, indorsing every word. They tell what we want:

First. Report all marriages and deaths, giving full particulars in every case.

Second. Special services and revival meetings at churches, Sunday school conventions, etc., should be mentioned. If a new minister visits your section don't forget to note it.

Third. Tell us about your schools and school closes. Note the work of the teachers and all other matters pertaining to schools and education.

Fourth. Improvements of a public or private character should be mentioned. If a resident of your community is building a new house or improving his farm in any way tell us about it.

Fifth. Good farming results, fine crops and fine stock are matters of general interest, and should be reported. If a rain, wind or hailstorm should do any damage in your section report it.

Sixth. Do not fill your letter with personal notices. It is not necessary to tell who attended the Sunday services at your church. That is not news. If people from a distance visit your community, or some one in your section visits in other parts, relate it.

Seventh. If a resident of your section sells his home or farm, mention it. If some one from another section moves into your community, note it.

Eighth. Do not indulge in personal "hits" or tell jokes about your neighbors. We do not care to print such items.

Ninth. Do not use big words. Write short sentences, and tell all the news that is news in a simple, straightforward manner, and the readers of this paper will enjoy your letters.

Tenth. Write as often as you have any news to tell, and no oftener.

Correspondents will do well to clip these rules and preserve them for future reference.

The opposing candidates resorted to blows. Friends rushed in to separate them. Each struggled to get at the other. Candidate No. 1, seeing the extremely violent efforts of candidate No. 2, cried out: "More of you men hold Swanson! One man can hold me!"—Everybody's Magazine.



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I HAVE OPENED A Merchant Tailoring Establishment at the Green corner, Southeast Market Square, and solicit the patronage of those who want clothes made right. All garments made here. Many years experience.

L. NEWMAN, The Practical Tailor.
Look for the Green Front.

FAYETTEVILLE PRESBYTERY
Spring Meeting Held in Rowland Last Week.

Rowland Sun.
The regular semi-annual meeting of Fayetteville Presbytery met in the Presbyterian church at this place Tuesday night. In the absence of the retiring Moderator, Rev. Watson Fairley, the opening sermon was preached by Rev. H. G. Hill, D. D., of Maxton, his text being Acts, 11th chapter, 22 24th verses.

At the close of the sermon, Rev. L. Smith, last Moderator present, called Presbytery to order and opened it with prayer.

Rev. R. W. Joplin, of Red Springs, was unanimously elected Moderator and Rev. W. O. Brown and Col. E. F. McRae temporary clerks.

Presbytery was called to order Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock by the Moderator. At 11 o'clock Dr. Hill delivered an address on "John Calvin as a Reformer in Europe." Although the oldest member of Presbytery Dr. Hill is perhaps the greatest orator of the body. The celebration of the 400th anniversary of the birth of John Calvin is one of the principal features of this meeting of Presbytery. Another address bearing on John Calvin will be delivered this morning at 11 by Dr. Henry Louis Smith, president of Davidson College.

Wednesday night was devoted to missions, stirring addresses on the subject being made by Rev. A. E. Baker, of Lumberton, and Rev. R. W. Joplin, of Red Springs.

Among the members of Presbyteries in other States attending are Rev. Dr. Buckner, of South Carolina, and Rev. R. F. Kirkpatrick, of Texas.

Presbytery will likely continue in session for two or three days yet. There will be special public service each morning at 11 and each night at 8 o'clock.

Rev. P. R. Law, D. D., the able editor of the Presbyterian Standard, is here, he being a member of this Presbytery. He has been stated clerk of the Presbytery for many years.

There are probably seventy five ministers and elders in attendance and these are being entertained in the various homes in the town.

Harnett Bonds Sold.

The Harnett county commissioners sold thirty-eight thousand dollars worth of ten and thirty-year 5 per cent. bonds to pay for the rebuilding of the bridges for \$39,827, a premium of \$1,827, to Messrs. Fiske & Roberson, of Chicago. They had thirteen bidders, the above firm being the highest. They were sold last week.

Everybody reads everybody's column.

Every Farmer Should Plant

Country Gentleman, Stowell's Evergreen or Kendall's Early Giant Seed Corn or 90 days Red Cob, "Kentucky Wonder" or "Old Homestead" Bean Bush or Pole Lima, Stringless Green Pod, Golden Wax or Black Wax, Edna Watermelon, Rocky Ford Cantaloupes, Cucumbers, Yau Sweets and Irish Potatoes, Onion Sets, Velvet Beans, Boys Beans, Millet, Sorghum Corn and Whipperwill Peas, Garden and Flower Seeds.

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