

Editorial Comment.

**W. A. KENNEDY**  
 The Index's News-Dispatch is  
 well known to make the best

It is a pity that Sampson county is the only Republican county east of Raleigh, and the only county that is out of debt, has two million dollars in the treasury. Now, if there is just one Democratic county in the State that can make as good a showing, we would be glad to hear from them.

Now that sounds good for Republican administration. Oh, if the Clinton Democrat had kept silent! But it didn't. It spoke right out in meeting and told the reason why in this fashion:

Sampson county is one of the best in the State, composed of a good and thrifty citizenship and we are in a healthy state as to finances so far we know, but when it comes to the government of the county in the recent past, we have to say that during the past year, for the most part, the governing offices, as pertains to finance, were in the hands of Democrats. We had control of the board of commissioners, we had the board of education, and we have this board now, one of the best that any county ever had; we had the treasurer's office, and we had a Democrat for county attorney.

We just state this, and leave it with you to conjecture to your notion, or draw your own conclusions. As to the history since it has been in the throes of Republicanism it is known of all men.

NATIONAL MONTHLY.

Chairman Norman E. Mack, of the Democratic National Committee, in the first number of his magazine, the National Monthly, tells the gospel truth in the following lines:

"While I have pronounced views on questions of party policy, and propose from time to time to give expression to them, I do not purpose to enter upon a campaign of disagreement. What the party wants now is more issues on which we agree. Because we have met with reverses within the past forty years, we must not accept the expression that Democracy is inherently weak."

Among the notable contributors to the first number, which was issued in Buffalo, N. Y., last week, are John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, and Governor Hoke Smith, of Georgia.

We have received the first issue, and it is beautiful in cover design and interior make-up and is filled with interesting matter for the Democrat and his entire family. It is, in our opinion, one of the things the Democratic party has needed during the years.

WOMAN'S INFLUENCE

One woman, if she will, can exert more influence over a man, either for good or for evil, than half a dozen men. James A. Patten recently cornered the wheat market and realized millions of dollars. The price of wheat soared high and the bread eating world suffered. Then, all of a sudden, Patten stepped out of the market and prices dropped very considerably. Why did Patten get out? A dispatch from New York offers this explanation:

Fear that his hold on the wheat market would be broken did not induce James A. Patten to get out of the market, nor was it that he was satisfied with his profit. He closed out his holdings, according to a story in Wall Street, because his wife desired him to do so. Both Patten and his wife are intensely religious and spend much time and money in church work. Mrs. Patten saw the newspaper stories about the increase in the price of bread and read that her husband was blamed for this. She realized the sufferings brought upon the poor, and it is said persuaded Mr. Patten to close out his speculations in wheat.

It is said further that Mrs. Patten persistently prayed and pleaded with her husband until she persuaded him to quit his speculations. He has steadfastly refused since to give the public a statement of his reasons for leaving the wheat market.

General News  
 From Everywhere

Important Happenings of the Past Week Told in Single Sentences for Index Readers.

Senator Simmons spoke on the tariff Wednesday, offering an amendment to reduce the duty on window glass, declaring it a high duty made for the formation of trusts. Senators Gore and Crawford also spoke, the latter advocating free lumber, coal, oil, iron ore, etc.

Bishop Chas. B. Galloway, of the M. E. Church, died at Jackson, Miss., Wednesday.

It was announced in Baltimore Wednesday that a dozen coal companies with combined capital of over thirty-seven million dollars had merged with the Consolidated Coal Company.

A monument to Capt. Henry Wirt, of the Andersonville prison, who was hanged at the close of the Civil War, was unveiled at Andersonville, Ga., Wednesday.

Twenty persons were killed by a dynamite explosion near Albany, N. Y., Wednesday.

President Taft will be saluted with 21 guns when he visits Petersburg, Va., to-day, to participate in the unveiling of a monument to the memory of General Hartranft and Pennsylvania troops who fell at the siege of the Virginia city.

In British West Africa last week the natives ambushed a large police force, killing the officer and twelve men.

There was a running debate in the United States Senate last Tuesday on the tariff, the Democrats making vigorous efforts to get lower protection duties on crockery, glassware, etc., but all amendments for reduction being voted down; Senator Tillman wanted the infant tea industry of South Carolina protected.

Two steamers collided in the Gulf of Finland last week, and one went to the bottom, but the crew was rescued.

At Mercer, Pa., last week James H. Boyle was sentenced to a life term in the penitentiary and his wife to a term of 20 years, for kidnapping Billy Whittle.

Two big new battleships and five torpedo boats are to be added to the navy.

A bronze statue to the memory of the Confederate dead was unveiled at Salisbury last week.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission has reported to Congress that several railroads have combined to monopolize the production of coal in Ohio and West Virginia.

The United States Court of Appeals at Richmond Thursday refused to grant an appeal in the case of Westervelt against the North Carolina Mining Company.

In Washington, D. C., Thursday, James J. Hill, the railroad magnate, told President Taft that if the agitation for tariff reduction were hushed up the country would enter upon a career of prosperity; that is, he would have the people sell their birthright for one mess of pottage.

Receiver Garrett, of the Seaboard Air Line, resigns to go into the manufacture of railroad supplies.

The French Chamber of Deputies was in a great uproar Thursday, and there were shouts for a king.

The Wright brothers, the world famous aeronauts, were given a warm welcome at their home at Dayton, Ohio, Thursday.

The United States Senate Thursday made the tariff on iron ore 25 cents, Senators Simmons, Daniel and Tillman voting for it.

In his African hunt last week Ex-President Roosevelt shot a big rhinoceros that was charging him, and later in the week he and Kermit had luck killing giraffes.

The First National Bank of Lumberton has begun suit against Dr. J. P. Brown, of Fairmont, for the recovery of a note for \$750, given in payment of 500 shares of stock of the Seminoles Security Company.



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MIKE FOLB, THE KING CLOTHIER.

Good Roads for Cumberland

The Robesonian has announced itself in advocacy of a bond issue of \$500,000 for good roads in Robeson county. Hon. D. P. McEachers, of Red Springs, had a communication in a recent issue of that paper endorsing its position. Robeson is the biggest county in the State, it grows more cotton than any county in the State and is noted for its progressiveness. It is safe to predict that at no far distant day Robeson will vote a bond issue for good roads and thus keep in the first rank, where she has always been, in the march of progress.

But shall Robeson outstrip Cumberland?

**REASONS FOR GOOD ROADS.**  
 In the first place, bad roads are an extravagance, and in the second place they contribute much to the isolation of farm life. A third consideration may be added—the wholesome effect of good highways on the farmer himself. Any one of these reasons is sufficient to warrant a considerable expenditure of money and time on improvements. Together they make an invincible argument.

The modern farmer keeps in touch with the market either by telephone or by his newspaper. Frequently in the case of ordinary produce, occasionally with the important staples, he can take advantage of a temporary rise in the market—provided the roads are good. If they are bad, his precautions go for nothing.

The waste of time involved in hauling through mud is apt to be overlooked. The farmer is too inclined to think that it makes no difference—maybe he wouldn't be working that day, anyway. But it is just in this neglect to make the most of their time that other farmers fail. It is as important that all hands keep busy all the time on a farm as it is that they be kept constantly at work in a manufacturing plant. Another element of waste in using bad roads is the wear and tear on the horses, wagons and harness. All the appliances have to be renewed much more frequently when they are subjected to the strain of hauling through mud than they would if used only on macadam.

The side of this question which affects the matter of taste also has a practical bearing. Dirt and shiftlessness tend to get together. The farmer whose wagon is covered

with clay doesn't feel the pride in keeping up his place that he would if his vehicles came back clean from a drive to town. Manufacturers and business men of all sorts are finding that it pays to keep their places ship-shape. The most successful farmers have learned the same lesson. Muddy roads are enemies to the good order that helps to make a farm successful. There is no reason why a farmer's family should suffer solitary confinement during many weeks of the year.

The remedy is in the farmer's own hands. With unanimity of action they could enlist help that would bring widespread relief within a few years.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS FOR FARMERS

How much do you suppose it costs you a year to repair your wagons and your harness on account of bad roads? How much does it cost you a year for shoes and clothing that are ruined by your children wading through the mud to school? How much does it cost you a year for medicine to cure your children's colds contracted in wading through the mud to school and church? How much of a damage a year to you is the mud that prevents your children from attending school, or damage to them, rather, in the loss of an education? How much damage to you are our bad roads in preventing your reaching market with your produce?

Good roads are the best possible investment in any community. There is not an interest that is not benefited by such improvements. It makes all sorts of farm products more valuable by making markets more accessible. Land located on good roads obviously becomes more valuable as residence property, for it may be more easily and pleasantly reached.

Considering the importance of good roads, it is of vital moment that object lessons in their building should be well taught. For this reason none but the most skillful engineers and the most conscientious contractors should be employed in building model roads. If the improvement proves good and permanent, it will soon convince the taxpayers that more such road is desirable, and development in that line will follow. Should the model road prove defective, it would be a serious setback to the cause.

NOTES FROM DUNN

W. A. Stewart's Executor Brings Suit Against A. C. L.

H. C. McNeill, executor of the estate of Hon. W. A. Stewart, who was killed at Dunn on February 20th by a Coast Line car, has begun suit against the road for seventy-five thousand dollars damages.

Prof. John A. McLean, superintendent of the graded school, has accepted a summer clerkship with one of the Hendersonville hotels. He will come back this fall to take charge of the school again.

An Escaped Lunatic.

Robert Marshburn was arrested Thursday on the charge of forcible trespass on the premises of John Brewer in Rookfish township, and was placed in jail, since when it has been discovered that he is an escaped lunatic from the asylum at Raleigh. He was held pending advices from the asylum authorities.

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