

THE STATE DISPATCH.

A REPUBLICAN NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE UPBUILDING OF AMERICAN HOMES AND AMERICAN INDUSTRIES.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Congress has adjourned its short but tumultuous ante-holiday session. The President's message, in which Congress was severely taken to task for circumscribing the activities of the detective bureau, aroused the legislative body the second day of the session. Since that time the President has been sending a continuous stream of messages to the Capitol. A caricaturist in one of the daily papers had a half-page picture, giving a birdseye view of Pennsylvania Avenue filled with wagons at full speed bulging with enormous messages from the White House to the legislative branch of the government and there was no more exaggeration in the picture than in most caricatures. The final days of the Roosevelt administration will surely sustain the reputation for strenuousness and there will be no political or social rest until after the fourth of March.

The last message of the President is one recommending a change of Government for the District of Columbia. As is pretty well known, the elective franchise is unknown in the District. The government here is by three commissioners appointed by the President. The three-headed concern has proved very unsatisfactory to many substantial burghers doing business or living here. They do not want representative government with an unrestricted ballot to every male resident of twenty-one years of age. That would let in the colored population of ninety thousand (the largest colored population, by the way, of any city in the world). Negro suffrage was tried here more than thirty years ago when the District had a governor, a legislature and a representative in Congress. But all the same Washington is not satisfied with its triumvirate government. The President knows it and he has recommended to Congress a change in the form of government for the District of Columbia and should his recommendation be adopted, Washington will have single governor.

The President first calls attention to the rapid increase of population in the National Capital, which he says has recently greatly altered social conditions necessitating changes in the machinery of its administration. He suggests that a single executive head would increase efficiency, fix responsibility and eliminate delays and uncertainties such as exist under the present system. Whether Congress will pay any closer attention to the President's recommendations with reference to the District of Columbia than it has to his many other recent recommendations, is a problematical question.

The President-elect made a hasty and unexpected visit to the Capital one day this week, but left the same evening for his temporary southern home at Augusta, Ga. It is said that he came in answer to a request of President Roosevelt, who wished to consult him particularly with reference to his proposed trip to the Isthmus of Panama for purposes of canal inspection. At the White House it was decided that the trip should be made in two cruisers of the Navy and that Mr. Taft will be set sail from Charleston on January the 27th. It will be remembered that when President Roosevelt went to the Panama Canal, another ship conveyed the one which bore him and the same precautions for the safety of the President-elect will be taken. It has been found that there is no provision in law for a successor to President-elect should he die before his inauguration. The distinguished civil engineers Alfred Noble of the Pennsylvania Railroad and Frederick P. Stearns of Boston, will accompany Judge Taft and consult and advise with him with reference to the condition of the canal especially as relates to the foundations of the Catun dam.

It is known this morning that Senator Knox of Pennsylvania, has been offered the premiership of the Taft cabinet and has signified his

willingness to accept. Mr. Knox, it will be remembered, was Attorney-General during President McKinley's Administration and also for a short time under President Roosevelt. He has been for four years Senator from Pennsylvania. He is looked upon as a great lawyer—not brilliant, but well read—and safe. He is a man of considerable wealth, supposed to be in the millionaire class, and owns one of the finest residences in Washington adjoining the home of Senator Hale, of Maine, on "K" street near the corner of Sixteenth. The house was built by Mrs. George Washington Childs and bought by Senator Knox four or five years ago.

An executive order has been signed by the President prescribing a physical test for the officers and men of the Marine Corps. They will be required to walk fifty miles in three days or in twenty hours actual marching time and they must do this at least once in two years.

A feature of the walk is that during one of the marching periods the officers will be required to double quick at intervals as follows; two hundred yards with a half minute's rest; then three hundred yards with one minute's rest; then complete the test in a two hundred yards dash, making in all seven hundred yards on the double quick with one and one-half minutes rest. This is what comes of having a President who can outwalk, out-run, out-box, out-ride and do many other outre physical things that fat and phlegmatic officers, whether in the naval, military, or marine services, have long ceased to do.

HOW TO USE WEALTH.

Charles L. Freer's Gift to Nation a Typical Example.

Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Robert Louis Stevenson used to say that the two uses of wealth were a yacht and a string quartet. Most people will agree that there are less commendable employments than these for the rich man's millions. But many would widen the category of purchasable blessings to include works of the creative imagination in the form of paintings and other artistic objects.

Many rich men spend their money in feeding the five physical senses and starve their souls. They scarcely look beyond the body's need one inch into the infinite. The ruling passion strong in life is the accumulation of the dollars, and they have no higher intellectual interest or spiritual aspiration. Such men are to be commiserated. But often, in such cases, ignorance is bliss. They do not realize that they are missing the best life has to give, inasmuch as they are unaware that life is more than meat and the body more than raiment.

Bunyan has a telling picture of a man who rakes together the sticks and stones and rubbish, not once looking up to behold the golden crown above his head proffered by the hand of an angel. He is a type of the man who devotes his life to the accumulation of material things, unmindful of the fact that he must one day "slough the dross of earth," and that there is, beyond the grave, no usufruct of his worldly estate.

The man of means who spends his money with discrimination upon works of art is to be commended as unreservedly as the wealthy voluptuary is to be commiserated. He remembers that "the best things any mortal hath are those that every mortal shares." He does not merely hoard his accumulated treasures of art, but as far as practicable, he allows these who really care about such things as he has to see them. The community no more altruistic benefactor than the man who gives to the public for their perpetual enjoyment and inspiration such a collection of pictures as that which Charles L. Freer has recently given the nation, to be housed in a building especially erected at Washington. President Roosevelt was right when he said it was the most generous gift that has been made by any individual to the United States.

LAWS OF MAN AND GOD AGAINST IT

The Shame of Raleigh—The Red Light District—Rendezvous of Criminals.

News and Observer.

The tragic death of Elbert W. Smith, the young traveling man of Richmond, Va., in Raleigh's rendezvous of criminals on the night of November 14th, should sound the death knell of the city's shame and horror, the Red Light District. The existence of those crime-producing houses is against the laws of God and man; their location and their evil works are known to all men and to the police of this city; their eradication is demanded by the people, and the laws require that they be stamped out. No excuse can be given by the authorities for permitting them to continue except they may say such institutions of lust are necessary evils. They advance the further objection to driving them out that it is extremely difficult to secure evidence sufficient to convict. The legislature of 1907 enacted a law that clothes the court with power sufficient for exterminate every hell hole in the city.

Had it not been for East Raleigh, Smith would in all probability have been alive today. He was married and a beautiful young woman mourns the untimely death of her husband. The lure of the red light, the thirst for strong drink bore him to his doom, as they have carried many another, and will continue to curse and blight so long as the city government will permit them to conduct that hellish traffic.

Perhaps the most serious problem that confronts the State today is the increase of crime. Never before have the criminal dockets been so terribly heavy in certain counties. A great black cloud hangs over the city of Raleigh and the county of Wake. The startling number of shocking crimes in North Carolina's capital city and county has been commented upon not only by court officers, but has been the ghastly subject of countless conversations. Traveling men have spread our shame throughout this and other States. Outrage upon outrage has been perpetrated, and in most instances a bad woman has been at the bottom of it all.

The moral citizenry of the city demand the extermination of these hell holes. They are an octopus with long stretching tendrils, sufficiently lengthy to encircle the form of every mother's son in the city. There is no end to the danger inherent in the devilish institution. There is no abomination more to be dreaded, none so fraught with evil and damnation. These houses destroy character and assassinate conscience; they take from the heart the capacity to appreciate purity and virtue and take from the heart the capacity to appreciate purity and virtue and take from the mind its faculty for discriminating between right and wrong. They are wholly evil with no good thing in them. Their purpose is to entice men; their object to make money. Such denizens are society's basest parasites, corrupting and damning more lives and ruining more homes than any other agency of evil in the world. They are more blighting than a plague, more terrible than a devastating fire.

No young man in the city is safe so long as the authorities, city and county, permit these strongholds of the Devil to exist in Raleigh. It is with the authorities to tear these hellish structures down, to put the shameless law-breakers in prison cells or drive them from the city. If they say they cannot do it, there are men just as good who say they can. If the official will not do it, then it is high time to get rid of such officers and swear in men who will keep their oaths and enforce the law. The sentiment of people of Raleigh is strong against that infamous section known as East Raleigh. Its subtle influence have caused desolation in so many homes that unless the authorities act these are people

who may act themselves; then we to somebody. The hour has arrived when the authorities must act. It is up to them. They have the knowledge of the houses, even of the names of all the women of that cursed section, and they have the power of the courts behind them. Above all else the people require of them at this hour that they shall do their duty, as the law directs and as they have sworn to do, and their duty is to erase "East Raleigh" from the map of the city. If they do this, they will have the support and commendation of the citizens; if they refuse, they will suffer the indignation of an aroused and outraged public.

CARVING THE TURKEY.

Some Suggestion as to How to Do It Right.

Ohio State Journal.

The turkey is not usually carved in a scientific manner, but it should be, for the carving is a very important part of the feast. There are many carvers who actually dull the appetite, they go at the work so clumsy. But there are others, who whet the appetite—make the mouth water and the eyes shine—as they run the keen knife through the savory muscles and along the bone. Don't let anybody carve the turkey. It is the work of a genius.

The customary method of laying the turkey on its back, plunging the fork down into its white breast, and then sawing heavily into the ligaments and joints, is all wrong. Carving a turkey is not a struggle, it is a deed of grace, which is as happily done as the prestidigitator does his little trick on the stage—no turmoil, no confusion, no worrying with conditions. There is no scraping of bone, no digging frantically into a joint. It is all as gentle as gathering a bunch of lilies.

You lay the turkey on the side, raise the leg and second joint with a fork, and sever them from the body with a slip of the knife; then the wing the same way. It is all done without a ruffle or a shuffle. There is no fierce glare in the carver's face. He is as tranquil as the eventide. Turn the turkey on its back, cut down the thin slices of the breast, then turn up the other side and repeat. Why, it's actually beautiful the way it is done; and then how much the action is entitled to a treatment in which grace and skill abound. When sitting down to the turkey—don't get a haggler to carve it. Let him look on and first learn how to carve. ■

REUBEN BARBEE IS DISCHARGED

Holt Murder Mystery in Durham Dark as Ever.

Durham, N. C., Dec. 21.—Tonight after a lengthy hearing, Mayor Graham discharged Reuben Barbee of the charge of killing Engineer Holt. The evidence was not sufficient to hold in the face of the alibi that the defendant established. This leaves the Holt murder as dark as it was the moment after it was reported to the officers on the morning he was killed. The discharge of Barbee leaves the officers absolutely in the dark. There is now no clue.

The case of Reuben Barbee consumed all the afternoon, the trial being before the mayor. The case began at 1:20 o'clock and it was near dark when the adjournment was taken until tonight.

Barbee stood charged with the murder of Engineer J. A. Holt at the coal chute on the early morning of December 3rd. His reliance was to prove an alibi, but the State thought that it would establish a complete case. Barbee swore he was at home all of that night.

Mrs. Wm. H. Taft spoke to a representative gathering of Southern ladies at the home of Mrs. B. Frank Mebane at Spray last Thursday.

MINORITY IN CONGRESS.

Its Usefulness Threatened by Division on Protection.

Charleston News and Courier.

The historic attitude of the Democrats toward the tariff for reduction of the duties as well as revision of them was restated at Denver as usual, but there may well be anxiety lest an inclination on the part of individual members of Congress to regard it as a local issue and to look out for the peculiar advantage of their particular constituents will be harder to restrain even than it has been heretofore. On a great issue such as this the party or the opposition ought to be closely knit and thoroughly organized. It is already clear that the American consumer has few friends before the Ways and Means Committee of the House and that nearly every man who has tariff testimony to present has an ax to grind.

That protective schedules, however they may benefit a special industry, means a higher cost of living and harder times to the whole mass of American people is a thought that has been completely ignored since the Democratic party began to scatter its fire under the direction of Mr. Bryan in 1896, but if it should transpire that the American consumer finds the Democratic minority in Congress is his dependable friend at this time, it is reasonably certain that this same consumer will come to his senses and vote his friend in to power at a later day.

However, the Democrats are at present a disheartened host. All of them in Congress are in the plight of the member celebrated by Tom Watson—they do not know "where they're at"—and if they should be held together and whipped into shape for work that counts for the general welfare of the nation, especially in regard to tariff revision, we shall be greatly but very agreeably, disappointed.

BETTERING JURY SYSTEM.

Chicago Reformers Begin by Providing Comforts for Jurors.

Chicago Record-Herald.

The "dedication" Saturday evening of the new jury rooms on the top floor of the criminal Court Building amounts to "a report of progress" in connection with a most useful and imperative reform.

Better housing and some comfort for jurors will tend to overcome the repugnance of so many of our most competent and conscientious citizens to the exercise of the highest of all privileges—participation in the administration of law and justice. The hardships to which jurors have been subjected, like those frequently inflicted on "detained" witnesses, guilty of nothing save accidental knowledge of some offense, have reflected deep discredit on our legal machinery. It was high time for a change when the Industrial Club took the matter up.

But the effect of better housing on the service itself will be rather indirect. The club proposes to deal directly with the question of improving the quality of jury service. That will improve overhauling of laws and established practices. It affects the drawing of names, the scope of the exemption clauses in the statutes, the examinations of talesmen, the amount of service reasonably to be exacted of the average man of affairs, and so on. It is necessary to divorce absolutely the idea of jury service from the fabled notions of spoilsmen and cheap politicians as to "patronage" possibilities in that line. It is necessary to get rid of professional jurors, loafers, and hangers-on. It is not impossible to obtain representative juries, juries of requisite intelligence and conscientiousness to render verdicts on the merits and the testimony.

The Industrial Club is seeking to insure such juries by removing the conditions which for decades have made for determination and perversion of the true principle in jury trials.

SHAD PROTECTION TO NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. Geo. M. Bowers, United States fish commissioner has the following to say that should be of great interest to every lover of the shad family of the finny tribe.

The disappearance of the sturgeon from nearly every east coast river, Mr. Bowers states, "shows how greed and indifference may in a single generation, destroy a valuable fishery."

North Carolina stands out as the only State in which the bureau stands out in the cultivation of shad, where the general decline of this fishery has been arrested.

"The immediate effect of sensible protective measures in the State," says the commissioner shows the results that may be expected from similar legislation for the various important streams, like the Potomac, the Susquehanna and the Delaware in which the shad has been persistently destroyed year after year without any regard for the future.

Three Couples Married.

On Sunday, Dec. 13th, 1908, at the Reformed parsonage here the following marriages were solemnized by Rev. J. D. Andrew, viz: Mr. Lemvell Qualls, of West Burlington and Miss Cora E. Rich, of the Mt. Hermon community; Mr. Albert Whitesell, of the St. Marks neighborhood and Miss Sallie Keck, of near Alamance Mills, and Mr. Walter Cook and Miss Sallie Coble both of Haw River.

All these young people are deservedly popular among their many friends and the young men are to be congratulated especially in winning such brides.

Best wishes to them all for future welfare.

News Over the State

The Grand Jury of Guilford county last week passed a resolution recommending and advising that hereafter all executions be made by electricity in the State Penitentiary at Raleigh.

There is a rumor prevalent that Wm. H. Taft will be invited to come from Augusta, Ga., and speak to the legislature of North Carolina which convenes in Raleigh early in January.

A white infant supposed to be only a few hours old was found one day last week in the woods near Cool Springs, two miles north of Lenoir. It was wrapped in an old shirt, and it is thought was placed there to die.

Lea H. Battle ex-cashier of the City National Bank of Greensboro which went defunct about a year ago has been indicted in forty counts for embezzlement, by a Federal grand jury at at Charlotte last week.

Mrs. Emma Taylor, wife of Mr. W. A. Taylor, of Edgecombe county Monday afternoon committed suicide at the State Hospital in Raleigh by hanging herself with a torn sheet suspended from the top of the door of her room.

Deputy Sheriff Fred Runion of Madison county, who was also a lumber inspector of that county committed suicide last Sunday afternoon by shooting himself through the temple in the presence of his two year old child.

Judge Thomas R. Purnell, Judge of the United States District Court for Eastern District of North Carolina died at his home in Raleigh last Saturday morning after a protracted illness of cancer of the kidneys and liver. Aged 63 years.

John C. Lumsden an inventor of Raleigh, shot and probably fatally wounded Henry D. Suyden in New York last Saturday. Suyden is a mining stock broker, who it is claimed was trying to defeat Lumsden's legitimate interest in a patent.