

Saxapahaw Items.
Saxapahaw, Jan. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Wingham returned home Sunday from Pittsboro, after spending last week at the bedside of the latter's mother, Mrs. Robert Cooper, who has been seriously ill for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Roney and family attended a birthday dinner at Mr. Dobin Williams Sunday.

Misses Ethel and Bonner Williamson left Friday for Richmond, Va., where they will visit relatives for some time.

Messrs. Robert Isley and W. R. Freshwater visited relatives in Swepsonville Sunday.

Messrs. George T., James, Wilson and J. B. Williamson attended church at Burlington Sunday morning.

Misses Leona Phillips and Conner Wingham visited the latter's sister, Mrs. John Holt, Saturday night and Sunday.

Mr. Earl Marlett, of Hillsboro, is at home for this week.

Mr. Mona Williams, of Concord, and Miss Mattie Graves, of near this place, were married January 4.

Mr. Murphy Pickett and Miss Ila Andrew, both of near Concord, were married last week. Miss Andrew has many friends at this place who will wish for them a long and happy life.

Mr. and Mrs. William Payne, of near this place gave a "Turkey" dinner Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Payne are noted for their hospitality and their home is a center of good times in the neighborhood. Every one seemed to enjoy the day, and especially the sumptuous dinner. Those present were: Misses Nina Clendenin, Flora Wingham, Alma Stockard, Bettie and Mattie Thompson, Messrs. June Thompson, John Payne, Robert Lashley, and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Bradshaw, Mr. and Mrs. Sab Stafford, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Crawford and little daughter.

Cross Roads Items.

Burlington, Route 1, Jan. 21.—News is very scarce in this neighborhood at this time.

We can notice the smoke of the plant-bed burning. Some farmers have commenced plowing for corn and tobacco. Ask Roads and John Isley what they are sowing their plant beds for this year.

Misses Barbara Isley and Eugenie Craver visited their mother, Mrs. Emily Euliss, of No. 10, last week.

Misses Mary Lee Coble and Nona Roberson spent Saturday night at Mr. William Isley's. They reported a nice time.

There was a shadow party at Cross Roads School House Saturday night. The proceeds amounted to \$12.60, to be used for the benefit of the school. They are going to oil the floor and paint the house inside.

Oakdale Dots.

Oakdale, Jan. 21.—Messrs. M. C. and F. L. Spoon have been repairing and building some additions to their houses.

Mr. L. F. Smith made a sale last week, preparing to move to Liberty soon.

The people in the community and the Trustees of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, are preparing to build a public highway leading from the church, south-west through by the parsonage crossing the creek below the old ford, to M. A. Lineberry's, on out to the Liberty road, leading from Kimesville, at John G. Mikrey's. It is reported that the bridge is to be 104 feet long and above the high water mark. The aid of each and every one will be gladly received in the work. We hope to see it finished soon, for there is no road whatever leading out in that direction from the church, except to the parsonage.

The Dairyman continues to come to Oakdale. They visited the school last week and will be back the first of next month again. They have got some to take interest in it and we hope more will soon and prove it is a great success.

The boys at Oakdale have organized a baseball team. They have played two games with Greenwood School, winning each game. The first time the score stood 25 to 6. Second time 5 to 1. Boys mind how you tackle them. They are almost like King Philip's "Invincible Armada."

Every Fourth Class Postoffice Job Will Be Decided on Merit.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Postmaster General Burleson is preparing a letter which he will send to each Senator and Congressman, regardless of his political faith, which will strike consternation to the hearts of said legislators and to thousands of anxious applicants for office. The letter will state that hereafter applicants for fourth class postoffice jobs will be decided solely upon the result of the competitive civil service examinations, and that politics shall have nothing to do whatever with the selection of postmasters. It has been generally supposed that this rule has been followed to the letter since President Wilson assumed charge of the nation's affairs, but those who have believed this have been grossly imposed upon.

It is true examinations have been

held and right now the civil service commission is preparing to hold examinations for every fourth-class postoffice in North Carolina that pays a salary of over \$180 per annum. But the law has been violated; not that the Democratic party has disregarded the civil service provisions any more than the Republicans, because they have not had the opportunity. But since it was announced that appointments to fourth-class offices would be selected from the eligible list it has been a standing joke in Washington that a Democrat would be the lucky man, if a Democrat took the examination. According to the postoffice department the Democratic applicant has been put in office because the congressman was allowed to recommend a man after the civil service examination had been held. For instance, Congressman Blank would look over the list of those passing the examination at Rhankatt. John Jimsonweed, who in the good old days of Republican rule had allied himself with the grand old party, might have the highest average; William Bundercombe, also a Republican, might be second, and John Barleycorn, a Democrat, would stand at the foot of the ladder. Somehow the Democrat has been selected, and vice versa when Republicans were in power. Albert Sidney Burleson says this method of selecting postmasters must be stopped, and upon receipt of his letter by members of Congress he intends to adhere strictly to the civil service laws, and the common practice of allowing a congressman to "recommend" a postmaster after the government has spent good money to hold the examination is to be a thing of the past.

That the civil service laws have been violated by the political party in power is no secret in Washington. A careful survey of the departments here show that even 80 per cent. of the office holders, who apparently were selected from the civil service list, are Republicans. You cannot find a dozen Democratic chief of divisions in the entire treasury department, and to perhaps a lesser degree the same conditions prevail in other departments of the national government.

There are 215 fourth-class postmasters in the eighth North Carolina district alone. If Burleson makes good his statement and insists upon the civil service laws being upheld it will seriously affect that district. The postmaster who is already in office, of course, has a better chance of passing the examination than a man who has not been schooled by the Republican party. Therefore, it is said, at least 50 per cent. of the present Republican postmasters in the eighth have an excellent chance of remaining on the job.

The same conditions will apply to other districts, if Burleson insists upon a strict interpretation of the law. Representative Gudge, of the tenth district, announced today that he is preparing a speech which he will deliver tomorrow, when he will declare that the civil service as operated by the political parties today is a delusion and a fraud. He will ask that Congress either abolish the entire system or else compel every man who is not elected to office by the people to stand the civil service examination. He declared to The Daily News correspondent that it was not right to compel the "little fellow" to take an examination for a job, while the man for a larger and more responsible place is selected by a political pull, or words to that effect. The tenth district Congressman will also declare that the little fellow is no more of a "pie hunter" than the man who strives for the \$5,000 and even the \$12,500 places, such as are held by Secretary of State Bryan, Secretary Josephus Daniels and other men holding high paying jobs.

Representative Page called at the Treasury Department and conferred with the Supervising Architect in regard to the Monroe Federal Building. The contract has been let without including the portico, which was included in the original plans. The Monroe people want a portico, where the tired gentlemen may sit and chat. Representative Page will endeavor to have one added later. To do so now would delay the construction of the building at least two years.

Kidnapper Gets Pardon.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 22.—F. H. Tilton, a detective, who in 1909 kidnaped Marion Bleakley, the famous "incubator baby," was pardoned today by Governor Hodges. He was under sentence from one to five years in the Kansas penitentiary, but was at liberty on bond pending hearing of appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

George Merriam Dead.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 22.—George S. Merriam died here today aged 71. He was a son of one of the brothers who founded the company which long published Webster's Dictionary. He was for five years, from 1870, editor of the Christian Union, now the Outlook, under Henry Ward Beecher. Since 1875 he had lived in Springfield.

Hid from Parents.

Asheville, Jan. 21.—While an anxious father scoured the city for his daughter who, he had heard, was ill, she was dying at a local sanitarium under an assumed name, according to evidence submitted at the coroner's inquest held last night following the death of Miss Jennie Pickens, who died yesterday. According to Dr. A. C. Biggs of Biggs' Sanitarium, and a number of the staff of nurses of the same institution, the deceased came to the hospital three weeks ago and applied for treatment under the name of Miss Brown. She refused to discuss her parentage and no idea was entertained as to her identity until a search of her belongings indicated that her real name was Miss Pickens.

Her father, M. B. Pickens, a prosperous farmer of this county, was advised of the location of his daughter, although he reached the sanitarium too late to see her alive. He had appeared at many of the hospitals in the hope of finding his daughter, but at none of them was he advised that a Miss Pickens was a patient.

The coroner's jury brought in a verdict to the effect that the deceased came to her death from causes unknown to the jurors. The father was present at the hearing of the evidence.

Winston-Salem Young Man Gravely Accused.

Winston-Salem, Jan. 21.—W. G. Jones, a well known young man, was arrested this evening on a warrant sworn out by Deputy Insurance Commissioner Scott, alleging that on December 24 he set fire to a dwelling in which he had furniture stored; that he insured the goods of little value in two companies for policies aggregating \$1,750, claiming he was living in the house, and a few days later the dwelling rented by him and valued at \$4,000 and its contents were destroyed. Scott claims a clear case of fraud. Jones was formerly in the mercantile business, but is now in jail. The hearing will be held Friday.

Beat Aged Mother.

Elizabeth City, Jan. 21.—Brother and Raleigh Bercher, two young white men, were brought here this morning from Camden county and delivered to Sheriff Reid to serve 30 days on the chaingang for beating their aged mother.

These young men became involved in a row yesterday afternoon at their home in Camden county and when their mother attempted to interfere they fell upon her and beat her badly, it is alleged. They were tried before Recorder Tillett of that county and given 30 days for the offense.

Winston-Salem Man Attempts Suicide.

Winston-Salem, Jan. 21.—Walter Reynolds, a young white man, attempted to commit suicide at his boarding house in this city last night by taking laudanum. Disappointment in love is given as the cause.

At his boarding house the story is related that the young man asked the young lady upon whom he had bestowed his affections to go with him to witness a performance at the theater last night. He was told that she had already promised to go with a crowd of young people, but he insisted that she allow him alone to accompany her. She refused to do so, and he became desperate, declaring that he would make her regret her action. Later in the evening he delivered to her a package of letters, declaring that he was going to leave and that she would never see him again. In reply the young lady received the letters and lightly turned the young man's statement into a jest. Nothing more was thought of his declaration until about an hour later he was heard groaning in agony in his room. Investigation revealed the fact that he had gone to his room and taken laudanum, a four-ounce phial lying on the bed by him. He told those who were attracted to the room by his means that he had taken the poison and was going to die, and pleaded with them not to disturb him but let him die. He recovered and in his cell in the city lock-up today he seems delighted that he is alive, and declared that there was no sense in keeping him confined, for he certainly would not try again to take his life. But the officers are holding him on a warrant which charges him with attempt at suicide, and he will be given a hearing in the municipal court tomorrow morning.

A Bad Start.

President Wilson is not starting out well on the enforcement of the new currency law. The steps that he has already taken are not reassuring to banks and to business. It does not have the appearance of a policy of fair play. He is not frank and open with the country.

He has just announced that he intends to use up the full time permitted him by the law to make the appointments to the Federal Board. This means that banks must enter the system without knowing how the board is to be made up. It is more of a leap in the dark than many of them wish to take. By the terms of

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WHITTED BROS.

Burlington, North Carolina

the law this board has almost the power of life and death over the banks that are embraced in its authority. With many a bank the question of joining is the sole question of what men are to be put in these places of power.

The first selection of Mr. Wilson for the board is neither auspicious nor wise. Whatever may be the merits of Mr. Williams and his capacity, his membership will subtract from the confidence that the people of the country will have in that body. He has been a storm center in too many financial contests, the kind that breed prejudice and enmities and far-reaching effects.

His appointment was unnecessary. In every section of the land there are men at least as well fitted for the place as Mr. Williams, men with competent training and financial experience, and who do not labor under the same handicaps in the public mind. The duties, the responsibilities and the power of the board are so immense, its capacity for good or evil so tremendous, that every member of it should be a man to whose selection the whole country can say Amen. Mr. Williams falls far short of this qualification.

To the banks of the United States are given a limited time to make their decision as to becoming a part of the new system. According to the announcement of the President they must now do this without any further information of how the board is to be made up than that John Skilton Williams is to hold one of the most important places upon it. The only further knowledge that they have in regard to the board is that Secretary McAdoo is a member of it by virtue of his Cabinet place. And it was Mr. McAdoo that insisted upon the Williams' appointment, and planned and campaigned for it. This fact does not give added reassurance to the future work of the board.

It is only just to the banks that they should know something of the men who are to be their rulers, what kind of policy will be adopted, what they may expect or what they can fear. They should know this before they make their final decision as to their own course. It is not a matter to settle behind the locked door. Mystery and secrecy should have no part in the process.

Nor will the banks be allowed to know where the regional banks are to be located. This is also an element in the decision that they have to make. The committee on selection will not return from their country-wide trip until just before the time comes to make the locations. Until then it will not be known what influences have been triumphant, what is the scheme settled upon. Over it all

will be the cloak of doubt. Only guesswork is possible.

President Wilson had it in his power to make such a beginning as would tell to banks and bankers that they had no reason to distrust the new regime that the law brings into being. He has not done this. It will be his own fault if there is suspicion and fear on the part of those who have so much at stake.—Press.

Police Believe They Have Caught the Robber.

Atlanta, Jan. 21.—In the arrest here today of R. S. Freeman, aged 20, the police claim they have captured the man who last Friday night held up and robbed passengers of a Western & Atlantic train near Vinings, Ga. E. H. Freeman, aged 18, brother of the suspected bandit, and T. H. Whaley, aged 17, also are under arrest, police claiming that they not only were implicated in the hold-up, but had taken part in recent jewelry robberies and other illegal transactions. A fourth suspect, George Man, still is at large.

According to the police, R. S. Freeman today admitted having received three diamonds which he claimed his brother and young Whaley had stolen from a local jewelry store and given to him to dispose of. The police also claim to have recovered two of these gems.

The arrest of R. S. Freeman followed sensational disclosures to the police by Fred Ball, a taxicab driver. Ball related what he alleged was a confession to him by Freeman, in which the youth is alleged to have told of holding up the passengers of the Western & Atlantic train, robbing a local jewelry store and taking \$1,000 from W. P. Morgan, a Polk county farmer. Ball told the police that Freeman had planned to go to Marietta, a suburb, to join his "pal," George Mann, and skip the country. Detectives hastened to Marietta, but failed to apprehend Mann. Two suitcases found in his room at a hotel were confiscated by the police, but the nature of their contents has not been disclosed.

The Father's Day.

Those of us who are not like the Athenians, always looking for new things, are not as enthusiastic over special days as some others, and we have long since given up the attempt to keep trace of them. We have Rally Day, Children's Day, Temperance Day, Mother's Day, and other Days too numerous to mention.

In Pennsylvania a member of the Lower House seriously introduced a bill to make the first Sabbath in June, Father's Day, and while we do not know the fate of the bill, we are willing to waive our prejudices against

Days, and vote for the fathers to have their chance.

Without detracting from the honor and love due to the mothers, who deserve far more than they receive, we have long felt that the fathers have not been sufficiently recognized; yet there are scenes from the life of many a father that would touch every heart. Who has ever painted the father walking the floor with the crying child at midnight; or kindling the fire at early dawn, while others slept; or growing into an old and decrepit man, as he toils from day to day?

The life of a father in many a home is dangerously near tragedy, reminding us of the early Christians who were "butchered to make a Roman holiday."

As some sort of compensation for what he endures, we say, by all means let the old man have his day, and let his children rise up and call him blessed.

The mother needs no appeal in her behalf, because from Eve down her merits have generally been recognized, and whatever she has received, she has fully earned. We are not reflecting upon the mother, nor do we sympathize with the remark of a writer who once described life in Mexico: "The bread of the natives," said he "is the tortillas, a species of cake, tough as sole leather, made by the women, and eaten by the men, and, as usual, the men bear the heat and the burden of the day."

It is for the father that we especially speak, the bread winner of the family, the pack-horse of the household, the one who furnishes the munitions of war in the battle of life. He feels his isolation and longs for sympathy, and as he stretches forth his hands, burdened by toil, we reverently clasp them and give them a sympathetic squeeze. In his behalf we endorse this Pennsylvania move.

When, however, it is proposed, along with the appointment of Father's Day, to make the rose the emblem of the day, we must pause and think the matter over awhile longer.—Presbyterian Standard.

Contained Infernal Machine.

Houghton, Mich., Jan. 22.—A harmless looking suitcase found this afternoon in a clump of underbrush near the power house of the Ahmeek mine in Keweenaw county, contained an infernal machine, according to reports received here tonight.

Resolution Defeated.

Jackson, Miss., Jan. 22.—The lower House of the Mississippi Legislature today defeated a resolution seeking to amend the constitution to give full suffrage to women.