

VOL. XX.

THE ADMIRAL AT HOME.

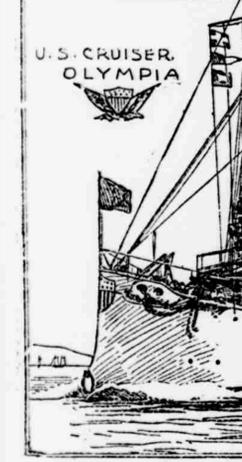
More Funds Asked for By Telegraph

THIRTY THOUSAND PEOPLE

Have So Far Contributed \$29,065, but the Committee Asks for \$50,000—To be Built in Washington.

Washington, D. C., Special.—A final meeting of the Dewey national home committee was held at the office of the Secretary of the Treasury Friday. An account of stock was taken and plans perfected for raising the subscriptions before the arrival in New York of Admiral Dewey. The committee, composed of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Vandenberg, Assistant Postmaster General Heath, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Allen, Assistant General Corbin and United States Treasurer Ellis H. Roberts, were all present. At the conclusion of the

THE RETURN OF "THE THIRD ADMIRAL."



The flagship of Admiral Dewey as the battleship appeared on her homeward voyage, with the Admiral's flag flying to the breeze.

meeting the committee requested the Associated Press to publish the following:

The Dewey national home fund committee has received contributions from about 30,000 citizens, representing every State and territory in the Union. These aggregate \$27,065, exclusive of contributions received this morning. The fund should be increased to at least \$50,000 to enable the committee to purchase a home at the capital of the nation, which will be a credit to the gift of a pride to the hero of Manila Bay. Admiral Dewey has indicated to the committee a desire to make Washington his permanent home. Here as the ranking officer of the United States navy, he will spend the remainder of his life. The Admiral has indicated his grateful appreciation of the intention of the American people to present him a home and he will accept it with a knowledge of the fact that the fund should be increased to at least \$50,000 to enable the committee to purchase a home at the capital of the nation, which will be a credit to the gift of a pride to the hero of Manila Bay. Admiral Dewey has indicated to the committee a desire to make Washington his permanent home. Here as the ranking officer of the United States navy, he will spend the remainder of his life. The Admiral has indicated his grateful appreciation of the intention of the American people to present him a home and he will accept it with a knowledge of the fact that the fund should be increased to at least \$50,000 to enable the committee to purchase a home at the capital of the nation, which will be a credit to the gift of a pride to the hero of Manila Bay.

Robbery Near Mexico City.

City of Mexico, Special.—A sensational robbery occurred Friday in a suburb of this city. Guardia Vieques, an old woman, 55 years of age, living with her widowed daughter, was the victim. The woman was alone and employed no servants, which is unusual in this country among people having property. Every one thought them exceedingly poor, but this was only apparent, for they had a great sum of money in the house, there being kept in a steel box \$50,000 in bank bills, the proceeds of the sale of a hacienda near this city. Besides this sum there were many thousands of dollars kept in the wardrobes, in stockings or between the leaves of books. In some way news that the women had a great amount of money got to the ears of some men who came in the house, and hired a large corral at its rear, for the purpose, the old woman says, of keeping pigs. Their purpose was robbery, as now appears, and Friday morning, the mother being alone in the house, these men came in on the pretense of having a message to deliver, were let in by the old woman, whom they seized and bound with ropes. They then took the steel box with the \$50,000, and decamped, but omitted to search for other money. The women on being interrogated by the police said they had heard that bank clerks had been stealing money from banks and they were afraid to deposit their funds. Many arrests have been made and the police are confident they have discovered the robbers.

Delegates to the Convention of the League of American Municipalities at Syracuse were late in assembling.

Prior to the session of representatives of Charleston, S. C., Atlanta and Peoria, Ill., busied themselves in soliciting support of the claims of their respective cities for the convention next week. Secretary Gilliam was handicapped, the half-mile track being an inferior affair. A crowd of 3,000 persons witnessed the event.

Robbers Visit a Miser.

Cumberland, Md., Special.—The residence of Absolom Keizer, a miserly farmer, aged 80, living on the West Virginia side of the river, near Parkersburg, was discovered on fire, at 1 o'clock Friday morning. Neighbors hurried to the scene and were horrified to find Keizer and Albert Gross, his hired man, lifeless in the yard. They were murdered, but their bodies were consumed in the flames.

Desecration of Church Property.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The War Department has received the following telegram from General Olin, property in the Philippines: "Referring to your cablegram of September 13, sixteen churches in different localities were occupied by United States troops. Four were only partially occupied and religious services were not interfered with. Also three convents were occupied. These three and ten of the 16 churches were formerly occupied by insurgents. Church property respected and protected by our troops."

ALL LOVELY AT JOLO.

Military Posts Established at a Number of Places.

Manila, By Cable.—General Bates returned from Jolo Friday morning and reports everything quiet and conditions satisfactory. Several military posts have been established at different points in the archipelago. Captain Day's company of the 23d regiment was sent to the Sissal, and Captain Drapary's company of the same regiment went to Gongoa, the southernmost part of Tawitawi. The Moros are friendly to Americans and the people of Sissal and Bonboa were glad to see the troops. General Bates went to Sissal on the Yoktown. When the troops landed and the flag was raised and saluted, the Chinese inhabitants responded with a great display of fireworks. Kalvi and Jokanine, Dato who are friendly to the Sultan of Jolo, have not yet begun their threatened rebellion. General Bates touched at Zamboanga. There has been a small row

WAR OR PEACE, WHICH?

Nothing Specially Significant in Transvaal Situation.

RHODES CHANGES HIS VIEWS.

London, By Cable.—A special dispatch from Capetown says there was an extraordinary scene in the assembly Friday during the debate on the registration of voters bill. Cecil Rhodes, who hitherto has deprecated the possibility of hostilities, repeated the statement that several members had "accepted money for electioneering purposes from the Transvaal government, with which England is now on the verge of war." The statement created a great impression. Later, speaking of the same bill, Mr. Rhodes pointedly indicated that some of the members were practically guilty of treason, that they were "supporters of a ministerial party who lived entirely on oil" and were "nothing more than political scavengers." He called on the premier to hold these in check. The departure of more officers for the Cape and the denial of the Portuguese minister that Great Britain is to take Delagoa bay were the only developments in the Transvaal situation. The cabinet ministers have left town. Their action Friday evoked nothing noteworthy in the way of comment. The expectation that their meeting would be followed by a border outbreak has so far been unfulfilled, though news from Johannesburg tells of unrest that is not assuring. In spite of the Portuguese minister's denial, there is good reason to believe Great Britain will lease Delagoa bay. The most notable among the officers who sailed Saturday was Maj. General French. A number of staff officers, special officers were correspondents accompanied him.

Hospital Burned.

Norfolk, Va., Special.—The main building of St. Vincent's Hospital, an institution conducted by Catholic Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul, was burned Thursday morning. The bodies of four inmates were recovered from the ruins today. He dead are: Mrs. White and Mrs. McEwen, both of Norfolk; Miss Pipkin, Tarboro, N. C., and cherry Baxmore, aged three, also of North Carolina. The injured are: Thomas Barrett, Bremen; Miss Kate Dolan, Washington, nurse; Miss Teresa Glass, Richmond, Va., nurse. Several others were less severely injured. There were no fire escapes upon the building, and when the flames and smoke made it impossible to descend the gateway the imperiled inmates went upon the roof and cried for help. Firemen, police, private citizens and men of the United States marine corps from the Norfolk yard rescued them at great risk. Loss about \$200,000, insurance about \$40,000.

Two Transports Arrive at Manila.

Washington, Special.—General Olin has informed the War Department of the arrival at Manila of the transport Ohio, with the men from the wrecked transport Morgan City. She left two sick men at Nagasaki. The City of Sydney also reached Manila today. There were no deaths during the voyage, and but one man deserted, at Nagasaki.

Grand Lodge Adjourns.

Detroit, Mich., Special.—The 15th annual meeting of the Odd Fellows Sovereign Grand Lodge adjourned Sunday Saturday. Action was taken providing for trial and punishment of any Odd Fellow who connects himself in any manner with any insurance company which conducts business in violation of Odd Fellows' rules by assuming the name of Odd Fellows or otherwise. It was voted, however, that the Odd Fellows' Relief association of Canada can recall its name. A committee was appointed to prepare a scheme for exercises annually for September 20, which is Rebekah Day. The sovereign body ordered cutting all superlatives from its official journal of proceedings.

Enlistments Under Last Call.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The enlistment to date of soldiers in the volunteer regiments last called out is 9,231, of which 418 were secured Friday. The 38th regiment at Jefferson barracks leads with 1,277 men. The two regiments next in order are the 29th with 1,179 and the 45th with 1,032 men. The two colored regiments, the 48th and 49th Infantry have enrolled 141 and 166 men respectively.

Department of the Twenty-Ninth.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—The Twenty-ninth Infantry, United States Volunteers, Colonel E. E. Hardin, will leave Fort McPherson for San Francisco, en route to the Philippines, as soon as the necessary care can be obtained for transportation, which will probably be on Saturday. Six companies will go over the Southern, via Vicksburg, Miss., and Shreveport, La., and the other six will go over the Atlanta and West Point, via Meridian, Miss. The route from El Paso to San Francisco will be the same for both divisions.

THE SCHOOL CENSUS.

Its Relation to the \$100,000 Appropriation for Public Schools.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction has issued the following letter to the County Superintendents of Schools:

Dear Sir: I have had some inquiries as to whether a delay in sending the census reports to this office in October would effect the appropriation to the counties of the \$100,000 appropriation. First, I will say the census that is now being taken is not to be reported to this office until July 1900, when your regular annual report is made. This census you are now taking is for the scholastic year 1898 and 1899, which began July 1st, 1898, and will end June 30th, 1899. You will see on page 45, Pamphlet of School Law, that in January, 1900, we will use as the basis of apportionment at this time "the school census of the previous scholastic year." Therefore the school census of the scholastic year 1898 and 1899 will be used. This census is included in the last annual reports sent to this office in July of the present year. The census should, however, be completed promptly by the first of October, as required by law, so the County Boards may know how to apportion the school fund. Speaking approximately will say that you may expect about 16 cents per capita for your school population from the \$100,000 appropriation. Yours truly,

C. H. MEBANE, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

At the Paris Exposition.

North Carolina is to have its representation among the exhibits at the Paris Exposition despite the Dreyfus case. Under the regulations and on account of the great demand for space from the whole world, no separate will be taken up for the State, but each can send exhibits if it so desires and they will be displayed in the space allotted to the several departments of industry of the United States. Secretary T. K. Bruner, of the Board of Agriculture, has been corresponding with the national authorities who control the space allotted to the United States. He has secured space for this State in the departments of agriculture, horticulture, mining and fisheries. He is now corresponding with parties throughout the State with a view to making up the exhibits for these several departments. The matter, it will be remembered was discussed at the last meeting of the Board of Agriculture, but action was postponed. It will be taken up again at the approaching meeting and it is hoped that a suitable appropriation may be secured for the purpose. It will be the purpose of those preparing the exhibit to make North Carolina come out prominently among other States in all the several lines of exhibits.

Of Interest to Tar Heels.

Hereafter no child under twelve years old will be allowed to work in the East Durham cotton mill. All of the mills of the city are now practically under one management, and if we are not mistaken this rule already in force in the West Durham mill. Good schools are maintained in both East and West Durham, and the management of the mills are determined that children at least shall have the advantage of them. This action, while it may seem a hardship to some of the parents, is proper and just to the child, and had not been such other mill, for that matter, is not a place for a child under twelve years old. Let such work as this continue. —Durham Herald.

Edgar Poe wrote a pretty little story called "Three Sundays in a Week."

It is not all that could be written about time and where the day begins but it is enough to satisfy the school girls and boys, and especially a pretty girl who writes me from Me-Rae. In these days of telegraph and ocean cables it seems very funny to us veterans that when a message is sent from London it gets there two or three hours before it starts, and if we send a telegram to San Francisco to-day at noon it gets there at nine o'clock this morning. The battle of Manila was fought on Sunday morning, but the news of it came on Saturday night before. How is that?

Gov. McSwain has received and accepted the resignation of S. S. Dabner as supervisor of registration in Georgetown county.

He has also received and accepted the resignation of E. C. Martin as a magistrate in Anderson county. The delegation will be asked to recommend a successor.

Last June three graduated from the South Carolina College a young man who broke all records at that institution.

John Swearingen, of Edgefield, though blind, went through the entire college course and graduated at the head of his class. He was pronounced by the faculty the most remarkable man they had ever known. Upon his graduation at Swearingen went to his home in Edgefield, where he has quietly spent the summer. Now he has been elected a professor in the State institution for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind at Cedar Springs, and soon enters upon his duties there. It is understood to be his purpose to have his money and complete his education at Harvard University. He is ambitious to enter the legal profession.

A Greenwood petition is being circulated asking the city council to order an election on the question of establishing a dispensary.

The requisite number of signatures will doubtless be obtained and the election ordered. The Secretary of State has issued a commission to W. P. Pollock, James T. Ladd, G. W. Duvall, Edwin Malloy and L. M. Evans as corporations of the "Cheerful Club" of Chester. The organization is to be purely social in character and will have no capital stock. Ten freeholders of the town of Graycourt, in Laurens county, have, in compliance with the act, filed with the secretary a petition looking to the incorporation of the town. The place will doubtless receive its charter in the near future and enter upon its corporate existence.

The Chicago Times-Herald says that Mayor Harrison will run for governor of Illinois next year.

His decision was supposed to remain a secret until late in the season. Hon. W. J. Bryan let out the secret, and is pleased over the prospect.

GETS SO MANY LETTERS.

Arp Has to Have Help in Answering Them.

IS THE RESULT OF EDUCATION.

Boys and Girls Nowadays Seek Knowledge and But Takes Delight in Writing Letters to Them.

It is a hopeful sign that so many of the young girls and boys have a thirst for knowledge. The youth's department in the newspapers and magazines is growing in importance and their letters to the editors betoken studious inquiring minds. The art of letter writing is itself not only an accomplishment, but a good part of a polished education. Letters indicate character and good letters require thought. The letters of notable men and women are the best part of their biographies. They are an index to the heart, the emotions, the disposition. Time was when but few could write at all, and the opening of mail in a country town was a small affair. I know from experience, for when I was in my teens my father was the postmaster and I had the work to do. There are now at least ten letters per capita to where there was one in those days. One great drawback on letter writing then was the cost of postage. A letter to a place within the State was 12-1/2 cents and the postage had to be paid by the person receiving it and if it was a poor letter he felt like he was cheated. Many a letter was handed back to me with such a remark as "Well, I reckon it's from Ed Jones, over in Arkansas, and I ain't got the quarter. Just put it back until I come again."

This is not all that could be written about it, but it is enough to satisfy the school girls and boys, and especially a pretty girl who writes me from Me-Rae. In these days of telegraph and ocean cables it seems very funny to us veterans that when a message is sent from London it gets there two or three hours before it starts, and if we send a telegram to San Francisco to-day at noon it gets there at nine o'clock this morning. The battle of Manila was fought on Sunday morning, but the news of it came on Saturday night before. How is that?

Friday the governor's office was notified by Captain Joseph S. Hardin, formerly of Co. D (See Light Infantry) in the First South Carolina volunteers, had been commissioned a captain in the new Forty-sixth regiment, United States volunteers, now organizing for service in the Philippines.

Captain Hardin was appointed in the place of Captain Mobley, who resigned. This is a compliment to Captain Hardin's qualifications as a soldier. He spent some time at West Point and made one of the best officers of the regiment. It was generally thought that Mr. Spahr would get this appointment, but his failure to do so is very likely due to the fact that the War Department has given no appointments in the new regiments to men who have held less than a captain's commission in the war with Spain.

Palmetto Notes.

It was stated Friday that the agents of the sinking fund commission had been looking over the list of voters, not in the tax books determined to look into the right to tax the grounds and buildings of the State Fair Society, and had submitted the question to the attorney general as to whether lands could not be collected on this property. The attorney general has as yet rendered no opinion. The property belongs to the State, and the State Fair Society, as the State Fair Society so long as its affairs are held annually, neither the city, the fair society, nor any else has a cent of profit out of the property. The agents will act in accordance with the law.

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AFTER CASTLE PICKNEY.

The Government Wishes to Make Extensive Improvements There.

Governor McSwain has received the following letter from the Secretary of War:

Dear Sir: This department is in receipt of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury in which he states that the light house board has under consideration the selection of a new site for a buoy depot in the Sixth light house district, but is of the opinion that the present site of the depot at Castle Pickney is the most advantageous one, and that it will be for the interest of the government to expend the amount of \$25,000 appropriated for the purpose in improvements and in retaining the depot in its present location. He therefore asks permission to cut down the old brick fort at the Castle Pickney buoy depot, South Carolina, to a height of ten feet above mean high water, and to use the material now above that level to fill in the interior of the fort and an outside area. Major E. H. Ruffner, corps of engineers, at Charleston, S. C., recommends that the request of the Treasury Department be granted, and the chief of engineers, in submitting the matter to this department, states that in 1878 the Secretary of War transferred the use and control of Castle Pickney to the Treasury Department for light house purposes, upon condition that the War Department should have no longer any military value in the defense of Charleston harbor; that the castle itself is practically a wreck and useless for other purposes of defense, and he knows of no objection to the demolition of the existing masonry and recommends that the request of the Secretary of the Treasury be granted. In considering the subject it has occurred to me that possibly by reason of historic associations the demolition of the castle as proposed might offend some people, and if we find that this plan works well we will extend it to the different farms of the State. In case any one should wish to contribute money to this purpose they may send it to Capt. R. P. Reinhardt, Wadesboro, N. C., and it will be expended in the proper direction. I hope the secular and religious press of the State will send such reading matter as they may deem proper, and they will be doing an unfortunate people a service by copying this article and calling attention to the same. J. A. BROWN, Chairman Investigating Committee.

Books for Convicts.

A Praiseworthy Movement of the Aston Farms.

As chairman of the Investigating Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to investigate the affairs of the State Prison, I find that the convicts of the State at the various camps, as well as at the Central Prison, have comparatively no reading matter. Some benevolent people have in one or two instances supplied Bibles, and I understand that ladies of Massachusetts, perhaps, have sent magazines to one or two of the farms. Capt. R. F. Reinhardt, Supervisor of Aston Farms, Wadesboro, N. C., has provided a small library for the use of the convicts at his own expense, and he tells me that the convicts are very glad to get the use of this reading matter, and he finds some of those who can read teaching the illiterate ones to read and write. He also states that he finds that during their idle time they read and discuss what they have read, and it has occurred to me that his effort should be encouraged. I have therefore decided to ask the good people of the State to forward such literature as they can spare from their libraries to R. P. Reinhardt, Wadesboro, N. C., to be donated to his library. We especially call for illustrated literature, such as illustrated magazines, copies of religious newspapers, and such books as the people of the State may see fit to contribute. We also especially ask the traveling men in buying magazines and other literature, instead of throwing them on the car seats, or giving them away, to forward them to Capt. Reinhardt to assist him in this commendable work. In case duplicates should be sent to Capt. Reinhardt, or he should have a surplus, I have asked him to forward to the Superintendent of the Central Prison to be distributed to the different farms of the State. We are trying this as an experiment, to provide a library for these unfortunate people, and if we find that this plan works well we will extend it to the different farms of the State. In case any one should wish to contribute money to this purpose they may send it to Capt. R. P. Reinhardt, Wadesboro, N. C., and it will be expended in the proper direction. I hope the secular and religious press of the State will send such reading matter as they may deem proper, and they will be doing an unfortunate people a service by copying this article and calling attention to the same. J. A. BROWN, Chairman Investigating Committee.

State Notes.

An enterprise that is as feasible as it is vast has been finally arranged that means much to Shelby and surrounding towns. It is the harnessing of the rushing, tumbling waters of Main Broad river so that its volume may be used in the transmission of electrical power sufficient to operate the mills of Shelby, Gaffney, Kings Mountain, Gastonia, and Cherryville. This is no idle speculation, but an accomplished fact. The riparian rights have been secured and the plant will be established within the next few months. The General Electric company, a corporation of ample capital, will establish an electric generating plant on Main Broad river. Its representative, Mr. Giles, of Wilson, accompanied by Mr. H. D. Wilson, a prominent man of Gaffney, was here last week. Contracts were signed by both the Belmont mills and Shelby cotton mills, in which they agree to take sufficient power to run both by electricity. This electric power will be furnished at a much less cost than either coal or wood can be obtained. The Gaffney mills will also be operated by the same motive power, as will the mills of other towns mentioned above. The plant will be enabled to generate power within a radius of thirty miles. —Shelby Aurora.

The Anti-Riot Act.

Good roads are a necessity in the making of prosperous farmers. There might be a hint to many farmers who desire to preserve the roads on which they ride to and fro in the sign seen on tractors ranging parts of Lowry Island. The sign reads: "Protect the road; don't drive in one track." The interest in good roads has greatly increased, and no community worth living and working in can afford to do without this "important agent in advancing civilization." The "good roads" question should be taken up by farmers' organizations.

From whatever side we may view the question from an economic standpoint, and no matter what the present condition of the agricultural classes, we cannot deny the fact that good roads are one of the highest essentials in the line of progress, and in the better development of our agricultural resources.

Good roads raise the value of farm lands and farm products and tend to beautify the country through which they pass; they facilitate rural mail delivery and are a potent aid to education, religion and sociability. Charles Sumner once said, "The road and the schoolmaster are the two most important agents in advancing civilization."

In every locality where splendid roads are found we see the people living along their right of way becoming more prosperous, the communities thickening in population, while in sections of the country where bad roads are the rule, farming is at a standstill, there is no demand for land, the population sparse and gradually decreasing.

League number No. 105,895 suggests that the co-operation of the wheelwrights and carriage-makers, wide tires might become popular. He says, "If we can introduce them to alter the style of tires from narrow, as at present to the wide ones which we hope for, we shall thereby accomplish a great deal for the cause."

State pencils are made in Tennessee from slate dust by hydraulic pressure. One concern makes 25,000,000 a year.

General Roy Stone, Director of Road Legislation, Department of Agriculture, at Washington, while in New York City recently, said that more actively is being displayed to road improvement than has been shown for years, not only in the construction of new roads, but in the general agitation for their construction. "All the road machine manufacturers," he said, "are driven with orders, and the office of Road Inquiry is overran with applications for advice on road legislation and assistance in road construction. There are perhaps 200 road conventions being held in various sections of the Northwest—under the auspices of the Interstate Road Improvement Association. Object lesson roads are to be built at a number of agricultural colleges in the West and South. For this purpose machinery is loaned by the manufacturers through the office of Road Inquiry. The use of convict labor on road improvement is spreading rapidly through the Southern States. In one locality, near Charleston, recently miles of good stone roads have been laid in this manner. I hope to interest the great concerns manufacturing automobiles in the improvement of highways. The misfortunes of the party now making the automobile trip across the country about the necessity for better roads for this class of vehicles."

To Improve Roads in Cuba.

The War Department has in contemplation a general improvement of the roads and highways in Cuba. It is probable that with the inauguration of a system of road improvement, the present free distribution of rations to the natives in Cuba will be discontinued, and they will be put to work on the improvements. In several of the departments roads are already in existence, but they have become almost impassable because of neglect and lack of care. Within the past six months several improvement companies have started the cultivation of farms in Cuba, but they have been greatly handicapped by the bad condition of the roads, and the work has been carried on at a great disadvantage. The proposition to put the Cubans to work on improvements in the island meets with the approval of the War Department officials, as it is expected that reports from General Brooke will be received within a short time, and then a general plan for the repair of roads will be outlined under the direction of Assistant Secretary McKillop and submitted to the President for his approval.

GOOD ROADS NOTES.

Better Roads in the South.

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Good roads raise the value of farm lands and farm products and tend to beautify the country through which they pass; they facilitate rural mail delivery and are a potent aid to education, religion and sociability. Charles Sumner once said, "The road and the schoolmaster are the two most important agents in advancing civilization."

In every locality where splendid roads are found we see the people living along their right of way becoming more prosperous, the communities thickening in population, while in sections of the country where bad roads are the rule, farming is at a standstill, there is no demand for land, the population sparse and gradually decreasing.

League number No. 105,895 suggests that the co-operation of the wheelwrights and carriage-makers, wide tires might become popular. He says, "If we can introduce them to alter the style of tires from narrow, as at present to the wide ones which we hope for, we shall thereby accomplish a great deal for the cause."

State pencils are made in Tennessee from slate dust by hydraulic pressure. One concern makes 25,000,000 a year.

General Roy Stone, Director of Road Legislation, Department of Agriculture, at Washington, while in New York City recently, said that more actively is being displayed to road improvement than has been shown for years, not only in the construction of new roads, but in the general agitation for their construction. "All the road machine manufacturers," he said, "are driven with orders, and the office of Road Inquiry is overran with applications for advice on road legislation and assistance in road construction. There are perhaps 200 road conventions being held in various sections of the Northwest—under the auspices of the Interstate Road Improvement Association. Object lesson roads are to be built at a number of agricultural colleges in the West and South. For this purpose machinery is loaned by the manufacturers through the office of Road Inquiry. The use of convict labor on road improvement is spreading rapidly through the Southern States. In one locality, near Charleston, recently miles of good stone roads have been laid in this manner. I hope to interest the great concerns manufacturing automobiles in the improvement of highways. The misfortunes of the party now making the automobile trip across the country about the necessity for better roads for this class of vehicles."

To Improve Roads in Cuba.

The War Department has in contemplation a general improvement of the roads and highways in Cuba. It is probable that with the inauguration of a system of road improvement, the present free distribution of rations to the natives in Cuba will be discontinued, and they will be put to work on the improvements. In several of the departments roads are already in existence, but they have become almost impassable because of neglect and lack of care. Within the past six months several improvement companies have started the cultivation of farms in Cuba, but they have been greatly handicapped by the bad condition of the roads, and the work has been carried on at a great disadvantage. The proposition to put the Cubans to work on improvements in the island meets with the approval of the War Department officials, as it is expected that reports from General Brooke will be received within a short time, and then a general plan for the repair of roads will be outlined under the direction of Assistant Secretary McKillop and submitted to the President for his approval.

GOOD ROADS NOTES.

Better Roads in the South.

General Roy Stone, Director of Road Legislation, Department of Agriculture, at Washington, while in New York City recently, said that more actively is being displayed to road improvement than has been shown for years, not only in the construction of new roads, but in the general agitation for their construction. "All the road machine manufacturers," he said, "are driven with orders,