

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Mr. Roosevelt Makes His Annual Recommendations to Congress.

THE COUNTRY IS PROSPEROUS.

Suggestions Touching Upon Our Public Policy—The Departments—The Isthmian Canal and Treaty With Panama—Other Matters.

Introduction.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The country is to be congratulated on the amount of substantial achievement which has marked the past year both as regards our foreign and as regards our domestic policy.

Corporations.

With a nation as with a man the most important things are those of the household, and therefore the country is especially to be congratulated on what has been accomplished in the direction of providing for the exercise of supervision over the great corporations and combinations of corporations engaged in interstate commerce.

Department of Commerce and Labor.

The establishment of the Department of Commerce and Labor, with the Bureau of Corporations, is a mark of real advance in the direction of doing all that is possible for the solution of the questions vitally affecting capitalists and wage-workers. The act creating the Department was approved on February 14, 1903, and two days later the Department was organized and commenced its work under the leadership of its chief, Mr. Clegg. Since then the work of organization has been pushed as rapidly as the initial appropriations permitted, and with due regard to thoroughness and the broad purposes which the Department is designed to serve. After the transfer of the various bureaus and branches to the Department at the beginning of the current fiscal year, as provided for in the act, the personnel comprised 1,230 employees in Washington and 8,835 in the country at large. The scope of the Department's duty and authority embraces the commercial and industrial interests of the Nation. It is not designed to restrict or control the fullest liberty of legitimate business action, but to secure exact and accurate information which will enable the Executive in enforcing existing laws, and which will enable the Congress to enact additional legislation, if any should be found necessary, in order to prevent the few from obtaining privileges at the expense of diminished opportunities for the many.

Bureau of Corporations.

The preliminary work of the Bureau of Corporations in the Department has shown the wisdom of the act. Publicity in the affairs of the Department is to be secured by the fact that it will afford facts upon which intelligent action may be taken. Systematic, intelligent investigation is already developing facts the knowledge of which is essential to a right understanding of the needs and the interests of the business world. The corporation which is honestly and fairly organized, whose managers in the conduct of its business recognize their obligation to deal squarely with their stockholders, their competitors, and the public, has nothing to fear from such supervision. The purpose of this Bureau is not to embarrass or assail legitimate business, but to aid in bringing about a better industrial condition—a condition under which there shall be obedience to law and recognition of public obligation by all corporations, great or small. The Department of Commerce and Labor will not only be the clearing house for information regarding the business transactions of the Nation but the executive arm of the Government to aid in strengthening our domestic and foreign markets. In perfecting our transportation facilities, in building up our merchant marine, in preventing the entrance of undesirable immigrants, in improving commercial and industrial conditions, and in bringing together on common ground those necessary partners in industrial progress—capital and labor, Commerce between the nations is steadily growing in volume, and the tendency of the times is toward closer trade relations. Constant watchfulness is needed to secure to Americans the chance to participate to the best advantage in foreign trade, and we confidently expect that the new Department will justify the expectation of its creators by the exercise of this watchfulness, as well as by the businesslike administration of such laws relating to our internal affairs as are entrusted to its care.

Capital and Labor.

The consistent policy of the National Government, so far as it has the power is to hold in check the unscrupulous man, whether employer or employee; but to refuse to weaken individual initiative or to hamper or cramp industrial development of the country. We recognize that this is an era of federation and combination, in which great capitalistic corporations and labor unions have become factors of tremendous importance in all industrial centers. Henry recognition is given the far-reaching benefits which have been accomplished through both corporations and unions, and the line as between different corporations, as between unions, is drawn as it is between different individuals; that is, it is drawn on conduct, the effort being to treat both organized capital and or-

ganized labor alike; asking nothing more than the interest of each shall be brought into harmony with the interest of the general public, and that the conduct of each shall conform to the fundamental rules of obedience to law, of individual freedom, and of justice and fair dealing towards all. Whenever either corporation, labor union or individual disregards the law or acts in a spirit of arbitrary and tyrannical interference with the rights of others, whether corporations or individuals, then where the Federal Government has jurisdiction, it will be its duty to see that the misconduct is stopped, paying not the slightest heed to the position or power of the corporation, the union or the individual, but only to one vital fact—that is, the question whether or not the conduct of the individual or aggregate of individuals is in accordance with the law of the land. Every man must be guaranteed his liberty and his right to do as he likes with his property or his labor, so long as he does not infringe the rights of others. No man is above the law and no man is allowed to be as any man's master when we require him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right; not asked as a favor.

We have cause as a nation to be thankful for the steps that have been so successfully taken to put these principles into effect. The progress has been by evolution, not by revolution. Nothing radical has been done; the action has been both moderate and resolute. Therefore the work will stand. There shall be no backward step.

Receipts and Expenditures.

From all sources, exclusive of the post office receipts, the Government for the last fiscal year aggregated \$560,295,674. The expenditures for the fiscal year being \$512,975,667. The indications are that the surplus for the present fiscal year will be very small, if indeed there be any. In November the receipts from customs were, approximately, nine million dollars less than the receipts from the same source for a corresponding portion of last year. Should this decrease continue at the same rate throughout the year, the surplus would be reduced by approximately thirty million dollars. Should the revenue from customs suffer much further decrease during the fiscal year, the surplus would vanish. A large surplus is certainly desirable. Two years ago the war taxes were taken off with the express intention of equalizing the government receipts and expenditures, and though the first year thereafter still showed a surplus, it now seems likely that a surplus equally as large as the one of 1901 will be attained. Such being the case it is of great moment both to exercise care and economy in appropriations, and to scan sharply any change in our fiscal revenue system which may reduce our income. The need of stable economy in our expenditures is an eminent one, for the fact that we can not afford to be parsimonious in providing for what is essential to our national well-being. Careful economy wherever possible will alone prevent our income from falling below the point required in order to meet our obligations.

Needs of Financial Situation.

The integrity of our currency is beyond question, and under present conditions it would be unwise and unnecessary to attempt a reconstruction of our entire monetary system. The soundness of the Treasury should be maintained, and the Secretary should be granted him in the deposit of receipts from other sources. In my Message of December 2, 1902, I called attention to certain needs of the financial situation, and I again ask the consideration of the Congress for these questions.

Merchant Marine.

A majority of our people desire that steps be taken in the interest of American shipping, so that we may once more resume our former position in the ocean carrying trade. But hitherto the prevailing opinion as to the methods of reaching this end have been so wide that it has proved impossible to secure the adoption of any particular scheme. Having in view these facts, I recommend that the Congress direct the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor, associated with such a representation of the Senate and House of Representatives as the Congress in its wisdom may designate, to serve as a commission for the purpose of investigating and reporting to the Congress at its next session what legislation is desirable or necessary for the development of the American merchant marine and American commerce, and including a national ocean mail service of adequate auxiliary naval cruisers and naval reserves. While such a measure is desirable in any event, it is especially desirable at this time, in view of the fact that our present governmental contract for ocean mail with the American Line will expire in 1905.

Immigration.

We can not have too much immigration of the right kind, and we should have none of the kind of wrong kind. The need is to devise some system by which undesirable immigrants shall be kept out entirely, while desirable immigrants are properly distributed throughout the country.

Naturalization Frauds.

The special investigation of the subject of naturalization under the direction of the Attorney-General, and the consequent prosecutions, reveal a condition of affairs calling for the immediate attention of the Congress. Forgeries and perjuries of shameful and outrageous character have been perpetrated, not only in the dense centers of population, but throughout the country; and it is established beyond doubt that very many so-called citizens of the United States have no title whatever to that right, and are asserting and enjoying the benefits of citizenship in violation of the laws of the United States. It is never to be forgotten that citizenship is, to quote the words recently used by the Supreme Court of the United

States, an "inestimable heritage," whether it proceeds from birth within the country or is obtained by naturalization; and we poison the sources of our national character and strength at the fountain, if the privilege is claimed and exercised without right, and by means of fraud and corruption.

Public Land Frauds.

In my last annual Message, in connection with the subject of the due regulation of combinations of capital which are or may become injurious to the public, I recommended a special appropriation for the better enforcement of the antitrust law as it now stands, to be expended under the direction of the Attorney-General. Accordingly, by the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation act of February 25, 1903, 32 Stat., 851, 904, the Congress appropriated for the purpose of enforcing the various Federal trust and interstate-commerce laws, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, to be expended under the direction of the Attorney-General in the employment of special counsel and agents in the Department of Justice to conduct proceedings and prosecutions under said laws in the courts of the United States. I now recommend, as a matter of the utmost importance and urgency, the extension of the purposes of this appropriation, so that it may be available under the direction of the Attorney-General, and until used, for the due enforcement of the laws of the United States in general and especially of the civil and criminal laws relating to public crimes and offenses and the subject of naturalization. Recent investigations have shown a deplorable state of affairs in these three matters of vital concern. By various frauds and forgeries and perjuries, thousands of acres of the public domain, comprising the said appropriation, have been extending through various sections of the country, have been dishonestly acquired. It is hardly necessary to urge the importance of recovering these dishonest acquisitions, stolen from the people and of promptly and duly punishing the offenders. I speak in another part of this Message of the widespread crimes by which the sacred right of citizenship is falsely asserted and that "inestimable heritage" perverted to base ends. By similar means, thousands of acres of the public domain, comprising the said appropriation, have been extending through various sections of the country, have been dishonestly acquired. It is hardly necessary to urge the importance of recovering these dishonest acquisitions, stolen from the people and of promptly and duly punishing the offenders. I speak in another part of this Message of the widespread crimes by which the sacred right of citizenship is falsely asserted and that "inestimable heritage" perverted to base ends.

Rural Free Delivery.

The rural free-delivery service has been extended. The attention of the Congress is asked to the question of the compensation of the letter carriers and clerks engaged in the postal service, especially on the new rural free-delivery routes. More routes have been established since the first of July last than in any like period in the Department. While a due regard to economy must be kept in mind in the establishment of new routes, yet the extension of the rural free-delivery system must be continued, for reasons of sound public policy. No governmental movement of recent years has resulted in greater immediate benefit to the people of the country districts. Rural free delivery, taken in connection with the telephone, the bicycle, and the tractor, accomplishes much toward lessening the isolation of farm life and making it brighter and more attractive.

Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

I trust that the Congress will continue to favor in all proper ways the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. This Exposition commemorates the Louisiana Purchase, which was the first great continental nation. The expedition of Lewis and Clark across the continent followed thereon, and marked the beginning of the process of exploration and colonization which has carried us to the Pacific. The acquisition of the Oregon country, including the present States of Oregon and Washington, was a fact of immense importance in our history; first giving us our place on the Pacific coast, and then opening the way for our ascendancy in the commerce of the greatest of the oceans. The centennial of our establishment upon the western coast by the expedition of Lewis and Clark is to be celebrated at Portland, Me., in 1905, and this event should receive recognition and support from the National Government.

Foreign Possessions.

It is urged that we do all we can to help Hawaii by constructing light-houses and helping to build up the commercial interests of the islands. Of our insular possessions the Philippines are the most important. It is gratifying that their steady progress has been such as to make it unnecessary to spend much time in discussing them. Yet the Congress should ever keep in mind that a peculiar obligation rests upon us to further in the most effective way the interests of the Philippines should be knit closer to us by tariff arrangements. It would, of course, be impossible suddenly to raise the people of the islands to the high government efficiency to which they have attained in the end by degrees attain; and the caution and moderation shown in developing them have been among the main reasons why this development has been so successful. The Philippine Islands have hitherto gone through a series of governmental agents, and the entire elimination of partisan politics from the public service. The condition of the islands is in material betterment, and the people are enjoying a more material advance. No one people have benefited another people more than we have benefited the Philippines by taking possession of the islands.

Public Land Laws.

The cash receipts of the General Land Office for the fiscal year were \$11,024,435, an increase of \$4,762,184.47 over the preceding year. Of this sum, approximately, \$8,461,493 will go to the credit of the fund for the reclamation of arid land, making the total of this fund, up to the close of June, 1903, approximately, \$16,191,836. A gratifying disposition has been evinced by those having unlawful inclosures of public land to remove their fences. Nearly two million acres so inclosed have been thrown open on demand. In but comparatively few cases has it been necessary to go into court to accomplish this purpose. This work will be vigorously prosecuted until all unlawful inclosures have been removed.

Relations With Turkey.

Early in July, having received intelligence, which happily turned out to be erroneous, of the assassination of our vice-consul at Beirut, I dispatched a small squadron to that port for such service as might be found necessary on arrival. Although the attempt on the life of our vice-consul had not been successful, yet the outrage was symptomatic of a state of excitement and disorder which demanded our attention. The arrival of the vessels had the happiest result. A feeling of security at once took the place of the former alarm and disquiet; our officers were cordially welcomed by the consular body and the leading merchants and ordinary business resumed its activity. The Government of the Sultan gave a considerable hearing to the representations of our minister; the official who was regarded as responsible for the disturbed condition of affairs was removed. Our relations with the Turkish Government remain friendly; our claims founded on inequitable treatment of some of our schools and missions appear to be in process of amicable adjustment.

Relations With China.

The signing of a new commercial

treaty with China, which took place at Shanghai on the 8th of October, is a cause for satisfaction. This act, the result of long discussion and negotiation, places our commercial relations with the great Oriental Empire on a more satisfactory footing than they have ever heretofore enjoyed. It provides not only for the ordinary rights and privileges of diplomatic and consular officers, but also for an important extension of our commerce by increased facilities of access to Chinese ports, and for the relief of trade by the removal of some of the obstacles which have embarrassed it in the past.

I call your attention to the reduced cost in maintaining the consular service as shown in the annual report of the Auditor for the State and other Departments, as compared with the year previous. For the year under consideration the excess of expenditures over receipts on account of consular service for the year ending June 30, 1903, was \$26,125.12, as against \$95,572.50 for the year ending June 30, 1902, and \$147,040.16 for the year ending June 30, 1901. This is the best showing in this respect for the consular service for the past four years, and the reduction in the cost of the service to the Government has been made in spite of the fact that the expenditures for the year in question were more than \$20,000 greater than for the previous year.

Pensions.

No other class of our citizens deserves so well of the Nation as those to whom the Nation owes its very being, the veterans of the civil war. Special attention is asked to the excellent work of the Pension Bureau in expending and disposing of pension claims. During the fiscal year ending July 1, 1903, the Bureau settled 251,932 claims, an average of 825 claims for each working day. The total amount of pension since July 1, 1903, has been in excess of last year's average, approaching 1,000 claims for each working day, and it is believed that the work of the Bureau will be current at the close of the present fiscal year.

Civil Service Extension.

During the year ended June 30 last 25,568 persons were appointed through competitive examinations under the civil-service rules. This was 12,72 more than during the preceding year, and 40 per cent of those who passed the examination. This abnormal growth was largely occasioned by the extension of the civil-service rules to the rural free-delivery service and the appointment last year of over 9,000 rural carriers. A revision of the civil-service rules took effect on April 15 last, which has greatly improved their operation. The completion of the reorganization of the Department of the Interior by the extension of the civil-service rules to the Bureau of Land Management, and the success of the merit system largely depends upon the effectiveness of the rules and the machinery provided for their enforcement. A very gratifying spirit of friendly cooperation exists in all the Departments of the Government in the enforcement and uniform observance of both the letter and spirit of the civil-service act. Executive orders of July 1, 1903, require that by August 1, 1903, all appointments of unclassified laborers, both in the Departments at Washington and in the field service, shall be made with the assistance of the United States Civil Service Commission, and that the relative fitness of applicants for appointment or employment. This system is competitive, and is open to all citizens of the United States qualified by moral character, industry, and adaptability for manual labor; except that in case of veterans of the civil war the element of age is omitted.

Board of Charities.

The report of the Board of Charities for the District of Columbia is submitted for the consideration of the Congress. It is a qualifying statement.

The Army.

The effect of the laws providing a General Staff for the Army and for the more effective use of the National Guard has been excellent. Great improvement has been made in the efficiency of our Army in recent years. Such schools as those erected at Fort Leavenworth, Fort Riley and the new institution at Fort Meade, have accomplished satisfactory results. The good effect of these maneuvers upon the National Guard is marked, and ample appropriation should be made to enable the guardsmen of the several States to share in the benefit. The Government should as soon as possible secure suitable permanent camps sites for military maneuvers in the various sections of the country. The service rendered not only to the Regular Army, but to the National Guard of the United States, will be so great as to repay many times over the relatively small expense. We should not rest satisfied with what has been done, however. The only people who are contented with the system now operating are those who are contented with the triumph of mediocrity over excellence. On the other hand a system which encouraged the exercise of social or political favoritism in promotions would be even worse. But it would not be easy to devise a method of promotion from grade to grade in which the opinion of the higher officers of the service upon the standing and promotion of the candidates should be decisive upon the matter. The quality of each man's work determines the standing of that year's class, the man being dropped or graduated into the next class in the relative position which his military superiors decide to be warranted by his merit.

The Navy.

Shortly after the enactment of that famous principle of American foreign policy now known as the "Monroe Doctrine," President Monroe, in a special Message to Congress on January 30, 1823, spoke as follows: "The Navy is the arm from which our Government will always derive most aid in support of our rights. Every power engaged in war will know the strength of our naval power, the number of our ships of each class, their condition, and the promptitude with which we may bring them into service, and will pay due consideration to that argument."

Isthmian Canal.

By the act of June 28, 1902, the Congress authorized the President to enter into treaty with Colombia for the building of the canal across the Isthmus of Panama; it being provided that in the event of failure to secure such treaty after the lapse of a reasonable time, recourse should be had to building a canal through Nicaragua. It has not been necessary to consider this alternative, as I am enabled to report before the Senate a treaty providing for the building of the canal across the Isthmus of Panama. This was the route which commended itself to the deliberate judgment of the Congress, and we can now acquire by treaty the right to construct the canal over this route. The question now, therefore, is not by which route the Isthmian canal shall be built, for the question has

been definitely and irrevocably decided. The question is simply whether or not we shall have an Isthmian canal.

When the Congress directed that we should build the Panama route under treaty with Colombia, the essence of the condition, of course, referred not to the Government which controlled that route, but to the route itself; to the territory across which the route lay, not to the name which characterizes the territory before on the map.

Safety-Apppliance Law.

In the matter of the safety-appliance law, good has already been accomplished. The law should be vigorously enforced.

Repudiation of Treaty by Colombia.

Last spring, under the act approved by the President, the Republic of Colombia and our Government was ratified by the Senate. This treaty was entered into at the urgent solicitation of the people of Colombia and after a body of experts appointed by our Government especially to go into the matter of the protection of the Isthmian route, had pronounced unanimously in favor of the Panama route. In drawing up this treaty every concession was made to the people and to the Government of Colombia. We were more than just in dealing with them. Our generosity was such as to make a generous concession in their interest at the expense of our own; for in our scrupulous desire to pay all possible heed, not merely to the real but even to the fancied rights of our weaker neighbor, who already owed so much to our protection, we yielded in all possible ways to her desires in drawing up the treaty. Nevertheless the Government of Colombia not merely repudiated the treaty, but repudiated it in such manner as to make it evident by the Colombian Congress adjourned that the sentiment of the people of Colombia had never getting a satisfactory treaty from them. The Government of Colombia made the treaty, and yet when the Colombian Congress was called to ratify it the vote against ratification was 100 against 90. It appears that the Government made any real effort to secure ratification.

The control, in the interest of the commerce and traffic of the whole civilized world, of the means of undisturbed transit across the Isthmus of Panama has become of transcendent importance to the United States. We have repeatedly exercised this control by intervening in the course of domestic dissension, and by protecting the territory from foreign invasion. In 1853 Mr. Everett assured the minister of the Emperor of Mexico that we should not hesitate to maintain the neutrality of the Isthmus in the case of war between Peru and Colombia. In 1864 Colombia, which has always been vigilant to avail itself of its privileges conferred by the treaty, exercised its expectation that, in the event of war between Peru and Spain the United States would carry into effect the guaranty of neutrality. There have been few administrations of the State Department in which this treaty has not, either by the one side or the other been governed by the same principle. There is less momentary demand. It was said by Mr. Fish in 1871 that the Department of State had reason to believe that an attack upon Colombian sovereignty on the Isthmus had, on several occasions, been averted by warning from the United States. There is no doubt that Colombia was under the menace of hostilities from Italy in the Cerutti case. Mr. Bayard expressed the serious concern that the United States could not but feel, that a European power should resort to force against a sister republic, and that the exercise of the sovereign and uninterrupted use of a part of whose territory we are guarantors under the solemn faith of a treaty.

Provisions of Treaty.

By the provisions of the treaty the United States guarantees and will maintain the independence of the Republic of Panama. The territory granted to the United States in perpetuity the use, occupation and control of a strip ten miles wide and extending three nautical miles into the sea at either terminal, with all lands lying outside the zone necessary for the construction of the canal and for its auxiliary works, and with the islands in the Bay of Panama. The cities of Panama and Colon are not embraced in the canal zone, but the United States assumes their sanitation and, in case of emergency, the maintenance of order within the granted limits all the rights, power, and authority which it would possess were it the sovereign of the territory to the exclusion of the exercise of sovereign rights by the Republic. All railway and canal property rights belonging to Panama and needed for the canal pass to the United States, including any property of the respective companies in the cities of Panama and Colon; the works, property, and personnel of the canal and railways are exempted from taxation as well as the use of Panama and Colon as in the canal zone and its dependencies. Free immigration of the personnel and importation of supplies for the construction and operation of the canal are granted. Provision is made for the use of military force and the building of fortifications by the United States for the protection of the transit. In other details, particularly as to the acquisition of the interests of the New Panama Canal Company and the Panama Railway by the United States and the condemnation of private property for the uses of the canal, the stipulations of the Hay-Herran treaty are closely followed, while the compensation to be given for these enlarged grants remains the same, being ten millions of dollars payable on exchange of ratifications; and, beginning nine years from that date, an annual payment of \$250,000 during the life of the convention.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

White House, Dec. 7, 1903.

NORTH STATE MATTERS.

Newsy Items Gleaned From Murphy to Hatteras.

State Paragraphs.

A special from Winston-Salem says: Rufus Robertson, who stabbed and fatally wounded Hubbard Hasten in Kernersville on the evening of November 18, was placed in jail. He surrendered to his brother-in-law, Deputy Sheriff Brown, in the northeastern part of the county. Robertson says he has been in Virginia and West Virginia since the crime. He admits that he is guilty of killing Hasten and then taking him in a buggy and leaving him in a barn, two miles from Kernersville. He claims that he and Hasten were drinking, though they had always been good friends up to the time of the killing.

Mr. J. Louis, a farmer living several miles from Greensboro, came near losing his life Monday by falling into the fire. He is subject to having fits and while in the convulsions of a fit he fell into the fire. No one was in the room with Louis when the accident happened, and he had been lying in the fire some minutes before he was discovered. When found he was lying with his face in a bed of coals. His face and the upper portion of his body was badly burned and the physician attending him fears that he will lose the sight of both eyes if he lives, which is doubtful.

The trustees of Trinity College met in Durham Monday evening at 8 o'clock to consider the criticism of certain opinions expressed by Dr. J. S. Bassett in the October number of the South Atlantic Quarterly. Twenty-five members were present. The board remained in session till 2:30 a. m. Several memorials were presented, the subject was thoroughly discussed and the board declined to request Prof. Bassett's resignation, which he offered to present if it was desired. The board issued a statement which will be given to the public.

Sam Griffith, a lineman for the Bell Telephone Company at Greensboro, met with an awful accident Monday. He was sitting on a crossbar at the top of a fifty-foot pole, when he lost his balance and fell to the ground. He in some way managed to light on his feet and this no doubt kept him from meeting instant death. As it was he received injuries that he may prove fatal. He has both legs broken, the right knee and his right arm was also broken. The physicians attending Griffith fear that he received internal injuries.

The people of Charlotte are experiencing the novelty of a strike, and the experience is shared by people of all classes and conditions. Every one of the 48 conductors and motormen employed by the 40's in the city went on strike Tuesday morning on account of the refusal of the company to heat the cars. When the time arrived to take the cars from the shed not a single conductor or motorman reported for duty.

Dr. C. M. Strong, of Charlotte, is suffering from an unusual accident. Monday he was passing his horse while the latter was both legs broken, the right knee and his right arm was also broken. The physicians attending Griffith fear that he received internal injuries.

Four houses on Happy Hill, in Gastonia, were destroyed by fire Tuesday afternoon in about 30 minutes. Very little furniture was saved. The losses were as follows: Three houses belonging to George Quinn, Lizzie Humphreys and Dennis Wilks, one store belonging to Jim Hill and another cupped by Albert Erwin. The entire loss is estimated at \$200,000 or \$1,000,000.

The suit of the Sawyer Spindle Company in Raleigh Monday approved the dividend and disbursement sheet in the bankruptcy case of the North Carolina Car Co., of Raleigh. Claims having priority are paid in full and others receive only 5.78 per cent. This was one of the biggest failures Raleigh ever had.

The State chatters the Graham Land and Lumber Company of Raleigh, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The stockholders are B. Andrews, F. H. Busbee and A. B. Andrews, Jr. During the past year \$1,282.82 was expended in North Carolina for public schools. This does not include local taxes in Hartford county, of which the State superintendent has not been able to receive a report.

In Asheville Monday Dr. J. V. Jay was found guilty of murder in the second degree and sentenced to 30 years at hard labor. A few weeks ago Dr. Jay, who is one of the best known physicians in the Asheville community, murdered his three-year-old son. His mind was thought to be affected.

The State Treasurer in speaking about the State's finances, said that while on November 30th there was a balance in the Treasury of \$120,000, he had the very next day checked out \$51,900 for the current expenses of the public institutions and the State government.

Luther and Mitchell Carter, aged 14 and 19 years, were drowned in the French Broad river, near Dandridge, Tenn., Friday. They were in a canoe when Luther fell into the river. In trying to save his brother, Mitchell was drowned. The boys lived at Asheville, N. C. Their mother is a widow.

The Secretary of State has a letter from L. Graft, a Northern capitalist, who is looking for limestone and cement deposits in this State and who will be glad to have information as to any.