

## State News.

The stores of Joseph Hicks and A. W. Halliday, together with the postoffice at Staley, a small station near Siler City, Chatham county, were burned last Monday.

Two bears were captured near Linville Falls, last week, by Mr. Mitchell Burleson and his boys who live in that section. They were said to be the fattest seen in years.

Daniel Wise, a prominent farmer of Salem, Rowan County, was found dead near his home a few days ago, supposedly of heart disease. He was fifty-six years old and leaves a family.

As a result of the work of private detectives in Goldsboro for the past week, a wholesale arrest was made on "blind tigers" Friday afternoon last. About twenty-five warrants were issued.

Rev. Dr. James Carmichael, of Wilmington, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, of that city, died November 25th at his home, aged 76 years. He was well-known throughout the State.

Henry Moore, an aged colored man of Mount Airy, was robbed by two colored boys at Winston-Salem a few days ago. The boys asked him for change, seized his roll of money consisting of about \$50 and ran.

C. A. Nichols, United States Commissioner of Muskogee, and wealthy property owner in Muskogee and Asheville, dropped dead in the streets of Muskogee, November 28th. His death was due to heart failure.

Attorney Thomas Kellam, aged 23, who shot and killed B. C. Whitaker, another lawyer, at Pilot Mountain, October 12th, has been acquitted in the Surry Superior Court. The jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide.

Work has begun on the new Federal building at Washington, N. C. Messrs. John C. Unkefer & Co., of Minerva, Ohio, are the contractors. It is expected that it will require two years for completion, and will be one of the most modern and handsome buildings in the State.

Mr. Samuel Smith, a young man of Albemarle, an employee of the railroad company, stumbled as he was boarding a train a few days ago, in Lexington, and his foot was caught under the wheel and so badly crushed that it had to be amputated.

Cesar Cone, president of the White Oak and Proximity cotton mills in Greensboro, will observe his usual custom of presenting each family of his employees with a turkey for Thanksgiving. These turkeys are to be bought in Guilford County.

Will Hendren, of Iredell County, a young white boy living a few miles north of Statesville, was arrested and placed in jail at that place Friday last, for the alleged theft of a sack of chickens from Mrs. P. D. Sherrill, a produce peddler of that vicinity.

Blind Tiger Detective Harvey C. Byrd, of Durham, was accidentally shot in Goldsboro Sunday. A pistol in the pocket of Charles Pressley, a fellow-worker, was struck by the swinging of the door and fired, several shots taking effect in Officer Byrd.

Mr. Thomas Little, a rural carrier and prominent citizen of Pageland, was assaulted by Joe Knight, a Croatian Indian, near that place a few days ago. The Indian cut a gash several inches long across Mr. Little's throat besides stabbing him in the back.

Mr. James D. Dorsett, the Republican mayor of Spencer, and a prominent business man of that town, was married to Miss Hester C. Linney at Taylorsville last Thursday afternoon. Miss Linney is the accomplished daughter of the late ex-Congressman R. Z. Linney.

Barnett P. Moore, a prosacious farmer, of near Wentworth, Rockingham County, was returning from a tobacco market a few days ago when his team ran away, throwing him out of the wagon, and injuring him so seriously that he died in a few hours. He left a wife and a large family.

In an accident which occurred at J. B. Lee & Son's cotton gin at Arapahoe, Tuesday, Mr. James Bennette, son of Mr. Ed. Bennette, of that place, became entangled in the shafting of the gin, and was killed, and Mr. John Rawls, another employee of the gin, was very seriously injured in trying to rescue Mr. Bennette.

Messrs. L. H. Davis and J. G. Pepper, proprietors of the Forsyth Club, Winston-Salem, were convicted of violating the liquor law in keeping intoxicating liquors for distribution among the members, and sentenced to a term of twelve months on the county roads a few days ago. Notice of appeal was given, and their bonds fixed at \$500 each, which they gave.

The following changes in North

Carolina postmasters have been announced: Falcon, Cumberland County, Perry J. Israel vice G. F. Taylor, resigned; Osmant, Caswell County, Miles B. Smith vice J. B. Hudgins, resigned; Queen, Montgomery County, Arlindo L. Hill vice O. L. Reynolds, resigned; Volga, Buncombe County, Robert R. Riddle vice J. F. Pike, resigned.

Levi M. Scott, "the father of the Greensboro bar," and the oldest lawyer in active practice in North Carolina, and oldest Odd Fellow in the State, died in Greensboro Tuesday night from the effects of a fall received Saturday morning last. He was admitted to the bar in 1851, and had he lived until next June would have been eighty-five years old.

J. Frank Martin, a young man about 30 years of age, of Rockingham County, who was traveling for the R. P. Richardson Tobacco Co., Reidsville, was shot and killed in a hotel in Memphis Saturday by E. L. Nonemacher of that city. Mrs. Nonemacher barely escaped being shot by the enraged husband. Nonemacher has since been indicted by the county grand jury on the charge of first degree murder, but was liberated on bail by the city police court.

The body of Thos. Lee Everhart, of Thomasville, was found on the afternoon of November 27th by several boys who were rabbit hunting. He had been missing since Saturday and a large posse of citizen had been searching for him. Foul play is suspected, as he was found lying with his face downward, and a hole from the back of his head through to his face; he also was known to have had \$150 when he left home, and no money was found on his person.

## MUSTN'T PREACH FOR MONEY.

Primitive Baptist Preacher Must Answer Charge of Accepting Money for Services.

The Fisher's River Primitive Baptist Association was in session in Surry County a few days ago and of its proceedings the Mt. Airy News says:

"The most important business of the sessions was that of the question sent up by another association asking if this association endorses the doctrine and practice of Elder James D. Draughn. It seems that some of the Primitive Baptist churches are under the impression that Mr. Draughn is too much of a 'progressive' as some have expressed it, in his preaching. They charge that he preaches doctrine too much like that preached by other denominations. Just what the charges are we are not informed sufficiently well to under take to give them, but it is all a question of what the Primitive Baptist people believe and what they hold is lawful in the way of a minister taking money for his services. It seems that Mr. Draughn has often gone to churches in other States, and being a man of no small ability he preaches the gospel in a way that the people pay him, and report says he gets as much money for his services as is common for the people to pay ministers of other churches. The Primitive Baptist people have always stood out firmly against making merchandise of the gospel and they denounce anything like a salary such as is common for ministers to receive in many of the churches of other denominations.

"The Association decided after a lengthy discussion that it was not a question for that body to settle, but referred the whole matter to Mr. Draughn's home church, Dover, near White Plains. The churches are expected to send delegates, who will meet with Dover Church and hear and decide finally any charges that may be brought against Mr. Draughn. The time for this meeting will be appointed later."

## METHODIST CONFERENCE ENDS.

Rev. S. N. Booth Charged With Misappropriating Funds on the Chowan Circuit is Expelled.

The Seventy-sixth Annual North Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church, South, came to a close at Kinston Monday after a successful meeting covering five days. The next meeting will be held in Hay Street Church at Fayetteville.

Four preachers were admitted namely: R. E. L. Edwards and R. E. Pittman, from the New Bern District; N. B. Stricklin, from the Raleigh District, and R. H. Hasty, from the Rockingham District.

## Mr. Plyler's Report.

M. T. Plyler, read the following statement to the Conference pursuant to the order of this Conference at its last session in Elizabeth City:

"The committee appointed by me to investigate complaints L. N. Booth and Rev. L. N. Booth, preacher-in-charge of the Chowan Circuit in 1910 misappropriated Conference funds and left the State about one year ago. Since that time nothing has been heard of him, save two letters written from Newark, N. J., in which he admitted using the money but with the expectation of returning the same."

Mr. Plyler then made the motion that the name of L. N. Booth be stricken from the roll of the Conference on account of the statements made in the paper just read. The name of Mr. Booth was then stricken from the roll.

## General News.

Thirty-three workers were killed and about one hundred injured by a boiler explosion which occurred at the Oil Cake Mills, Liverpool, November 24th.

Irving Bedell Dudley, United States Ambassador of Brazil, died at the John Hopkins Hospital, November 27th, of heart failure. He was born in Jefferson, Ohio, November 30th, 1861.

In a collision of an automobile and a trolley car at Atlanta, Ga., November 23rd, Charles Griffin, of Atlanta, and Mrs. A. E. Nelson, of Birmingham, Ala., were killed and several other members of the party were injured.

John F. Dryden, founder of the Prudential Insurance Company of America, a former member of the United States Senate, and a multimillionaire, died at his home at Newark, N. J., November 24th. He was seventy-two years old.

Elmer W. Moore, treasurer of the Federal Oil and Gas Company, was arrested a few days ago on a capias issued by Judge Orr, of the United States Circuit Court. It is alleged that there is a shortage of \$100,000 in the accounts of the company.

Charles W. Morse, the New York banker, has been transferred from the Federal Prison in Atlanta, Ga., to the army hospital at Fort McPherson, where he will be kept under the surveillance of physicians for an indefinite period.

Illinois newspaper men have adopted resolutions of protest against the law advocated by Postmaster-General Hitchcock, that news papers carrying more than 50 per cent of advertising matter, be refused admission to the mails as second-class matter.

Lafayette Choate, a white man of Liberty, Mo., was sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment a few days ago for hitching his wife to a pair of mules and dragging her over the field. He had just served a term of four months in jail for cruelty to her.

A passenger train at Samur, France, plunged through a bridge on the State Railway at Monteuil-Bellay and sank in the Thouet River November 4th. Thirty or more passengers were drowned, it being impossible to rescue them on account of the floods.

The jury in the case of P. C. Cox, charged with the murder of Miss Matie Parcel, at Miami, Fla., returned a verdict of guilty as accessory in attempting to conceal the crime by throwing the girl's body in the river. A motion for a new trial was made by the counsel for Cox.

In a wreck, November 24th, near Scotland, Ga., caused by two passenger trains on the Southern Railway running together, Engineer Brantley, of Macon, Ga., and Express Messenger Meyers, of Tampa, Fla., were killed and Engineer Raby, of Macon, Ga., and Fireman Robert Gleason were injured.

With but one dissenting vote the American Bankers' Association in New Orleans, last week, gave its approval to the Aldrich plan for the reform of the monetary scheme of the United States. Congress is urged to deal with the proposition as an economic question outside the domain of politics.

Friday night last a masked man robbed the mail car of the Atlantic Coast Line train No. 55, near Columbia, S. C. He took the registered mail, stopped the train and jumped off before the train reached the city limits of Columbia. There was said to have been several thousand dollars in the stolen mail.

At the annual meeting of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, in Memphis, Tenn., plans were discussed to raise two hundred thousand dollars to erect monuments to the memory of Southern soldiers and to the memory of Southern women who were active in the cause of the South during the Civil War.

The Richmond Circuit Court of Appeals has decided in favor of the Government in the bath-tub trust case. The decree of the court says the men indicted entered into a combination in restraint of trade and commerce among the several States, and are attempting to monopolize trade and commerce in violation of the act of Congress.

## The Southern's Road Improvement Train.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 25.—That the good roads movement was given most effectual impetus by the Southern Railway's "Road Improvement Train" which made a sweeping tour through Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida between May 1st and October 27th, is indicated in figures summarizing results of the campaign just made public. In the period of six months during which time from one to three demonstrations were given daily, the

experts accompanying the train instructed nearly 50,000 people in the art of building good roads and keeping them in repair. The train traveled a distance of nearly 13,500 miles, stopping at 250 towns which were located in 201 counties. The attendance at the various meetings ranged from a little less than 100 to over 1,500.

The method used in showing the people the advantages of good roads not only afforded an opportunity for them to secure a practical education on the subject of highway construction but was so unique as to form a source of real entertainment for those not directly interested in the movement.

The Southern Railway handled the train without charge to the Government or the people in the belief that greater prosperity will result from the construction of improved roads in the South.

## South Dakota Wife Must Pay Alimony.

A husband sued for divorce in South Dakota is entitled to alimony and support under certain conditions, according to a decision of the Supreme Court handed down in that State recently.

The husband during the trial claimed he was entitled to alimony from his wife. The Supreme Court handed down the following decision:

"A separate and equitable action as the suit of a husband against his wife will lie to compel the wife to support and maintain the husband when amply able to do so, and when she has not been deserted or abandoned by the husband, when he, because of age and infirmities is unable to gain his own livelihood."

## Farm Topics

## What Are Soil Surveys Worth?

Not long since there appeared an article in the columns of The Progressive Farmer under the above caption which seemed to hit wide of the mark and to do considerable injustice to a movement everywhere looked upon as most worthy and entirely necessary.

"What are soil surveys worth?" What is classification worth in any science, or in the study of any related set of facts? What would botanists of to-day do had not Linnaeus, the Swedish botanist, made his classification of plants? What would students of anatomy do to-day without a systematic classification of the bones, muscles, and nerves of the human body? And what would a course in agriculture be worth to-day without a knowledge of soils? And what would a student of agricultural soils of to-day without the classification of soils begun by Whitney some ten or twelve years ago. It is hardly too much to say that the knowledge of agricultural soils in the United States and, to a great extent, in the world, bears a direct ratio to the progress in the proper classification and mapping of the soils in the United States.

Twenty years ago "pigs was pigs" and "soils was soils," and no one knew or cared to investigate any intrinsic differences existing among them. Our soil facts were in a most chaotic condition and remained so until Whitney came to the rescue and began to set things in order and to develop a science of soils hitherto unknown. True, Mr. King had done much good work on soils but his field was soil physics pure and simple and did not touch the all-important classification so necessary as a broad foundation on which to build a really important working knowledge of soils as related to crop production.

To-day no agricultural college worthy of the name, would think of graduating a student in agriculture without first imbuing him with a knowledge of the classification of the soils of his State, and, in a general way, those of the United States.

Furthermore, there is not an intelligent answer given to-day to a question concerning the fertilization of the soil or the crop adaptation of the soil that is not based on a knowledge of the given soil type. Soil types are individuals and must have, to a large extent, individual treatment. Therefore, when a farmer writes his State Department of Agriculture, his Agricultural Experiment Station, or the U. S. Department of Agriculture, concerning the treatment of any particular soil on his farm, the answers to his questions, if reliable, are based on a knowledge of his soil gained from a study of the classification of the particular soil made by the U. S. Soil Survey or some other similar agency. Where these surveys are not made how is any agricultural adviser to know hat to tell John Smith about his soil management unless he actually visits John Smith's farm and personally inspects his fields—an impracticable undertaking?

The soil survey enables men to buy and sell at a distance without the usual danger of being cheated in a deal. Thousands of dollars are thus saved each year by reliance upon a faithful soil map of the area in which the purchase is to be made. To illustrate, not long ago a man in Arkansas wished to buy a farm in North Carolina but knew nothing of the kind of land the man had for sale. The man in Arkansas took up a soil map together with the report on the area and saw for himself just about what he might expect to find in that region. After asking the man a few well-chosen questions, he found

the soil was a type known as Cecil Sandy Loam with a field of Cecil Loam lying at one end of the farm. He knew at once the crop value of this type of soil and sent his check for the price. Two years later he ran in Arkansas came to North Carolina to see the farm he had purchased and before getting away was offered more than twice what he gave for it by a neighbor who had known the farm all his life and farmed on soil similar to that found on this place.

It is an open secret that many of the big land deals are based on the soil survey of the area in question. Were you in the West you would find men going from county to county appraising the lands on which prospective loans are to be made. Suppose a lumber company is about to buy a large tract of timber land. Would they not get an expert forester to tell them the amount of pine, oak, cypress, etc., on the area? Would you expect a big land company to do less? They also want some means of knowing what they are putting their money into before they purchase and what is true in case of a big land company is true in the case of an individual farmer in Ohio, or Michigan who wants to buy a small farm in North Carolina. He wants to know what he is getting before he buys and you do not blame him. This information he may glean from a soil map which costs him nothing, perhaps, or a very little, if anything at all, as these maps are nearly always made from money that would perhaps go to building warships, equipping navies, dredging rivers, subsidizing ships, or a hundred and one other things that may never be worth a brownie to any farmer anywhere.

Now bear in mind that a correct classification is just as necessary to a study of soils as it is to the study of any other set of related facts and that he who undertakes and carries this classification to successful termination is due just as much of our gratitude as any other systematists who succeeds in bringing order out of chaos.

Yes, so far as we know a chemical analysis is made of every soil type of any importance mapped in the United States. And this analysis means something, too. To illustrate, if the analysis of one of my soils showed a

great deficiency of phosphorus I must expect an application of phosphorus to give me good results. If my soil showed a great lack of potash I must expect an application of potash to give me good results, etc., and this theory corresponds to actual experimental facts. On the other hand, my soil showed a good amount of phosphate and potash I may get good results from any application of these elements because these in my soil may be locked up and unavailable to the plants. But, if these elements are in the soil I can easily get them out by a liberal use of stable and green manure combined with good preparation and good cultivation. The chemical analysis will show you whether the elements are present in our soil and this is what you want to know. If they are present you can get them out; if they are not there, you must supply them.

You are entirely correct. North Carolina has spent, in connection with the United States Bureau of Soils, thousands of dollars in soil surveys in the State. You might have added that Alabama, Massachusetts, Iowa, Illinois, and a number of other States have spent and are spending more than North Carolina and are likely to spend and are spending more than North Carolina and are likely to spend more in the future until a good soil map of the entire State is completed.

You will find also, on investigation, that the best talent as well as the best motive is behind this movement in the different States and we must conclude that either these men are everywhere deceived or that the idea is good and the movement worthy.

At one time this soil survey business was looked upon in some places as a political scheme to influence local politics, but this narrow view has long since given place to the all-pervading necessity of the work as the only foundation on which to erect a correct knowledge of the agriculture of this country.

We felt that the time had passed when men would ask, "What are soil surveys worth?" and that we were now urging each other to utilize and put into practice the soil survey's work.

J. L. BURGESS,  
N. C. Department of Agriculture.

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