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## EDITORIAL BRIEFS

Russia doesn't think Uncle Sam is treating her right.

At least they call Professor Coon's speech a Republican lie.

Let the mocking-bird, will not stop singing anywhere near the State Agricultural Department.

And another Raleigh speech was made which no Democratic politician has attempted to answer.

Mr. E. J. Justice says there is a "joker" in the State's anti-trust law. And so the Democrats were trying to deceive the people.

Democrats are still talking of Locke Craig as their candidate for Governor. But he hasn't yet told them where he stands on the trust question.

Professor Coon has asked his critics to come out in the open and answer his Raleigh address. But none have come forth.

Of course the Democratic politicians will try to destroy Professor Coon, but none of them will attempt to answer his argument.

They wouldn't even have a three months' school term in some of the districts if the patrons of the schools did not support them by a special local tax.

The Charlotte Observer calls the Sherwood pension bill a "steal." And to think it was a Democratic Congress that pushed the "steal" through.

Some of those Southern Democrats who voted for the Federal pension bill are now praying that Mr. Taft will save their political scalp by vetoing the bill.

Ex-Speaker Justice says certain sections of the anti-trust law were not written in good faith. And to think that a Democratic Legislature, that passed the bill, was guilty of bad faith!

Speaker Champ Clark refers to some of his Democratic opponents in Missouri as malicious liars. That doesn't sound like they have much Democratic harmony in Missouri either.

Champ Clark says that a malicious lie is a poor foundation for a campaign. The machine Democrats in this State might profit by Speaker Clark's statement.

Congressman Doughton wants the Government to establish some weather stations in the mountains of North Carolina. We can tell Mr. Doughton right now that it looks very stormy for the Democratic party in the State next year.

Ex-Governor Glenn has announced that he will campaign next year in the interest of Aycock's candidacy for the Senate. And for this announcement to be made just when Aycock thought his boom was moving along smoothly.

The Democratic politicians have claimed there is no politics in the management of the public schools in this State, but their claim was proven untrue, and they howled down Professor Coon when he attacked their methods of condoning the public schools.

Champ Clark and ex-Governor Folk are having a lively fight to see which one can get the Missouri delegation to support them as the Democratic nominee for President. Why not let the Democrats nominate both of them if they want it—what difference will it make?

When the Federal pension bill passed the House Congressmen Faison and Webb did not vote, but explained several days afterwards that they really opposed the bill, but were paired with absent Congressmen. It is funny they did not make this explanation until they were jacked up about it.

## MAKING A BAD RECORD

### The Democratic Congressmen Have Utterly Ignored Their Campaign Pledges for Economy

## DEMOCRATIC PENSION STEAL

### They Voted Millions for Federal Pensions But Not a Cent for the Confederate Soldier—Also Refused to Reduce Their Mileage Allowance to Actual Cost—A North Carolina Soldier Says It's Time for the Confederate Soldiers to Think and Vote for Themselves—The Russian Passport Tangle—President Sent Report of the Tariff Board to Congress Yesterday.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 19, 1911.

(Special to The Caucasian.)

The record which the Democratic House of Representatives have made since the opening of this session of Congress is as bad as it is possible for any party to make. One of the loudest slogans of that party in the last campaign was economy, with a big E. The Republican party was denounced for its big appropriations and for general wastefulness and extravagance. The Democratic leaders promised that if they were given hold of the nation's purse-strings that they would save at least \$300,000,000 a year in the expenses of the Government.

## The Contrast of Promises and Performances.

The first question of "retrenchment and reform" that came up for the members of the House to vote to reduce their mileage from twenty cents per mile to the actual amount spent by each member in coming and going between their homes and the National Capital. This was voted down. So the Democratic members decided to take twenty cents for every mile they travel out of the National Treasury, while they pay less than 2 1-2 cents a mile. Reform like charity, if it is honest, must begin at home. So here we have a most striking example of Democratic insincerity.

## The Democratic Pension Steal.

One of the next propositions was not one looking to economy, but one to try to catch votes in the next election. A Northern Democratic Congressman offered a bill to extend the pensions for Union soldiers by putting on the pension roll all who were in or followed the Northern army and pay each one at least a dollar a day, whether he was hurt or not and whether he was ever in a battle or not. This bill calls for an appropriation of \$75,000,000 in addition to the \$140,000,000 which is now being paid in pensions. At first no one thought that such an absurd and monstrous bill would be taken seriously. But when the argument was made by the Northern Democratic Congressmen that this bill would catch all of the old soldiers' vote of the North and help to elect a Democratic President next year, there was a great change of Democratic sentiment, and the bill was rushed through the House by a large majority.

This proposition is more than a steal—it is down-right corruption. It is a scheme to take \$75,000,000 from the peoples' taxes and give it to men who do not deserve it, in order to try to bribe enough voters to elect a Democratic President. Strange to say there was not a single Democratic Congressman to raise his voice in protest and say that if the country could afford to spend \$75,000,000 for pensions then this money should go to the Southern soldiers who fought as bravely and as honestly for what they thought was right as did the Northern soldier. No, it was not necessary to think of the Southern heroes of the war between the States, he might suffer and die in rags, for the Southern Democratic politicians thought they had his vote any way.

An old Confederate soldier from North Carolina who was here last Monday said that he thought it was time for the Southern soldiers to begin to think for themselves and vote independently as had the Northern soldiers and their sons. This old soldier further said that the low prices for cotton, high taxes and new public school books in the State were enough to open the eyes of all the other voters of the State in addition to the old Confederates.

## The Russian Passport Tangle.

The Russian government has recently been refusing to honor the passports of the United States in the hands of American citizens, espe-

## A Song for Christmas

HANT me a rhyme of Christmas—  
Sing me a jovial song—  
And though it is filled with laughter,  
Let it be pure and strong

Sing of the hearts brimmed over  
With the story of the day—  
Of the echo of childish voices  
That will not die away—

Of the blare of the tasseled bugle,  
And the timeless clatter and beat  
Of the drum that throbs to muster  
Squadrons of scampering feet.

But, O, let your voice fall fainter,  
Till, blent with a minor tone,  
You temper your song with the beauty  
Of the pity Christ hath shown.

And sing one verse for the voiceless;  
And yet, ere the song be done,  
A verse for the ears that hear not,  
And a verse for the sightless one.

For though it be time for singing  
A merry Christmas glee,  
Let a low, sweet voice of pathos  
Run through the melody.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

## FACTS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

### The Air is Full of Well-Known Signs of the Holiday

## BUT EGGS ARE ABSENT

### More Charges Against the Taft Administration—How We Miss Mr. Bryan—Has Been in Bed Forty Years—Why Christmas Ought to Be Kept as a Religious Holiday—Santa Claus is a Great Citizen—When Christmas Was First Celebrated and How the Christians Were Burned Up in Their Church—Other Topics Discussed.

Bilksville, N. C., Dec. 18, 1911.

(Correspondence of The Caucasian-Enterprise.)

I don't hev ter look at the calendar ter tell that Christmas iz not far off, fer thar air a plenty ov signs, signs that no one kin fail to understand. An' just think! We've got az fine a lot ov hens so far az looks goes, az you could find in a day's travel, an' nary egg fer Christmas cake! The hens just won't lay. Eggs air away up yonder in price, too; 30 or 40 cents a dozen, or \$30 or \$40, I forget which. At any rate, no eggs air in site for bakin' a cake, an' them other articles so necessary along about Christmas. We will be bound ter bring some more charges ergin the Taft administration. If Mr. Bryan had been pullin' the wires things would hev bin different an' eggs would hev bin goin' a-beggin' at 6 or 8 cents a dozen. But some ov my nabors air mean enuff ter say that the 6 or 8 cents would hev bin missin', so most people would bin without eggs anyway. So what air you goin' ter do in sich cases? If you air not pleased, you kin do like the man I wuz readin' erbout not long ago. He lives away up in New Hampshire. Some forty years ago, when he wuz about thirty years ov age, he decided to git married. He told hiz father an' the old man objected. The son went to bed an' iz still in bed, havin' lain thar fer forty years. So if any ov your readers air not pleased with the administration ov political affairs in this country, they can go to bed an' sleep hit off.

Christmas day hez bin celebrated some 1,910 times. Hit iz the most sacred ov aww the holidays. An' yet our manner ov celebration, speakin' in a general way, iz growin' worse aww the time. An' this country iz no exception to the general rule. Wherever any noticeable effort iz made to celebrate the Christmas holidays, an' most countries do observe the day in some manner, be it a Christian or pagan land, large or small, hit iz the time ov aww times for drunken revelry, fiddlin' an' dancin', bolsterous noise an' everythin'—except the right way. While hit iz time that many city, town, an' country churches have religious services in these late years, the tendency iz to the other direction.

Santa Claus, the very busy individual who iz supposed to travel with great speed an' climb down the inside ov many thousands ov chimneys after midnight on the morning ov the 25th ov December an' fill millions ov stockings with nice things such az fruit, nuts, candy an' toys, still manages to cover most ov the known world an' scatters joy an' gladness with a lavish hand. Az he gets around so fast an' visits so many homes he must be an expert in handlin' airships or somethin' ov the sort, for most ov hiz visits are made between he hours ov eleven p. m. and 5 a. m. Thus in about six hours your Uncle Santa Claus actually visits several million homes, climbs down the chimneys an' fills nearly aww the stockings found hanging before the fireplace or in any position. An' remember that aww ov this work iz done in one nite, for he can't afford to put in more time. Children air more or less impatient an' aww expect an' demand promptness about Christmas presents.

The first record of Christmas observance wuz a little more than a hundred years after Christ. The early Christians were not allowed to observe the day in safety. Before the day ov Constantine many cruelties are said to hev bin practiced upon those who desired to observe the sacred holiday. The ancient ruler, Dioclesian, having found a large congregation assembled in a church celebrating the nativity of Christ ordered the doors closed an' the church set on fire an' the entire congregation wuz burned with the church. You will say that this act wuz very cruel an' wicked. Of course hit wuz. But hit simply proves that wickedness iz az old az Christianity, if not a little older, an' that you cannot disagree with some people at all un-

less you air willin' to risk your life at aww times for the sake ov opinion or else hide what you really believe to be true. Some people are just as narrow an' selfish now az they were two or three thousand years ago. Not long ago a prominent educator in the State ov North Carolina ventured to express an opinion that wuz not entirely complimentary to the public school system ov the State. He is an educated man, a teacher ov experience, and his opinions ought to be worth somethin'. Certain men in the audience "howled an' hissed" so long an' so loud that he could not proceed with hiz speech. And he wuz speakin' in a so-called "teachers' assembly," in an atmosphere supposed to be fully charged with aww the elements necessary to hatch liberty germs az' the like.

But I am not willin' to believe that aww ov the teachers ov the State subscribed to or believe in what a few did. Hit is not likely that aww ov the people who joined in the hissing were even teachers. Must hev bin some politicians in that crowd.

Az eggs an' other ingredients air so scarce, we will not have much in the way ov—ov pancakes and boiled custard for Christmas. I would speak plainer but might violate some law. We Bilksville people air great on law observance.

Another thing that iz troublin' az iz that cotton iz down to a little more than 8 cents now. At this time last year hit wuz about 14 cents, a difference of some 6 cents a pound since the complexion ov Congress changed. At a glance that don't look so important az hit really iz. When we consider that most of the present price represents the cost ov raisin' the cotton an' that the profit in raisin' hit iz aww wrapped up in the 6 cents, we are not gettin', then hit becomes a very serious matter. If a merchant buys an article at one dollar an' sells it at somethin' like \$2, he is apt to feel purty good. But if he buys it at one dollar an' is forced to sell hit at \$1.10, \$1.00, or perhaps 80 or 90 cents, he cannot praise business conditions. Just so with the farmer an' hiz cotton crop. There has been an election since cotton sold at 14 and 15 cents.

In days gone by some ov us discussed the Sub-Treasury plan. Many smart people laughed at the idea, sayin' that the Government couldn't go into such things. But in dozens ov towns the people hev adopted the plan by buildin' cotton warehouses and cotton iz bein' stored to keep hit out ov the hands ov the speculators—the same old idea—but operated differently. Whether the Government will some time step in an' help out in such matters remains to be seen. However, let us hope that the worst iz over an' that there will be a readjustment without goin' too far into unknown paths, whether hit be private or Government warehouses.

A Merry Christmas to all.  
Az ever,  
ZEKE BILKINS.

## GREAT AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS IN THE SOUTH.

### What Dr. Galloway Who Has Charge of the Government Farm Demonstration Work Says in His Annual Report.

Great stress is laid upon the value of the farmers' co-operative demonstration work being carried on in the South by the Department of Agriculture in the annual report of Dr. B. T. Galloway, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, which has charge of the work.

As an instance he cites the fact that the average yield of cotton on demonstration farms was more than 85 per cent greater than the average yield of the whole States. "Even this," he adds, "does not represent the full benefit of the work, because the cotton raised under demonstration methods always shows a better percentage of lint than that grown by ordinary methods."

Again, the average yield of corn on the demonstration farms, he points out, showed an increase of more than 93 per cent over the average production under ordinary methods.

Co-operative administration, he says brought about widespread interest and greatly increased practice in maintaining soil fertility by the use of legumes, a greatly increased tendency to grow home supplies and make cotton the cash crop; nearly twice as large sales of improved farm machinery in the South during the aspt year is in any previous year, and a great increase in the number of pure-bred stock introduced and grown.

The most noteworthy feature of the demonstration work in boll weevil territory during the past year, he says has been the pronounced success of a large number of demonstrations in raising cotton. He calls attention to the fact that the Department's method of producing cotton under boll weevil conditions is being fast adopted by the most intelligent planters and farmers.

## STATE OFFICERS ELECTED

### North Carolina Farmers' Union Held a Very Interesting Meeting at Wilson

### Committee is Named to Work Out Plans for Better Marketing and Distribution of the Crops—Big Barbecue Served to the Delegates in Banner Warehouse.

After a most interesting meeting the annual convention of the North Carolina Farmers' Union came to a close at Wilson Friday afternoon. President Barrett was present and delivered an interesting address and Mr. R. A. N. Wilson, of Mississippi, was also present and explained Mississippi's cotton holding and selling plan.

Much work has been accomplished by the convention and in addition to State matters discussed, the selling and distribution of the great crops of the South, especially cotton, have been handled.

The matter of working out a general co-operative proposition was left to the council who will devise plans especially with reference to marketing and distribution of the cotton crop.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, H. Q. Alexander, of Matthews; J. M. Templeton, Vice-President, Cary; Secretary and Treasurer, E. C. Faires, Charlotte; State Organizer, J. Z. Green, Marshville; Business Agent, J. R. Rives, Sanford.

## PACKER WILL LOSE MILLIONS.

### Great Britain Cuts Off Army Meat Contracts Until the Suits Against the Packers in the United States Are Settled.

Dispatches from London to American papers state that the British Government has decided to exclude all the American meat packers against whom prosecutions have been instituted in the United States from tendering for contracts for the supply of meat to the British army and navy pending the settlement of the suits.

The President of Armour & Company at Chicago says that the contracts of the indicted American packers with the British army, estimated roughly, has amounted to between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000 annually. The trial of the meat trust in this country is now in progress, but it may be some time before the case is finally settled.

The Appeal to Reason, the Socialist party organ, contents itself by saying that the McNamara brothers, were not Socialists. Yet that paper aroused sentiment in their favor by abusing and vilifying officers of the law and all who aided in ferreting out their hellish crime and brought them to the bar of justice. The Appeal to Reason is welcome to the solace it can squeeze out of the part it took in arraying wrong against right in this McNamara case.—Union Republican.

cially when they are Jews, as she is bound by treaty to do.

The Democratic House seized on this fact to prepare and rush through a resolution denouncing Russia and demanding that the treaty with Russia should be at once abrogated. The language of the resolution was so intemperate that President Taft has sent a message to the Senate asking that the resolution of the House should be amended and couched in proper and dignified language. This the Senate has done.

## The Report of the Tariff Board.

The President will on to-morrow send to Congress the report of the Tariff Board showing the difference in the cost of labor and production in the wool industry in this country and in foreign countries where wages and the plane of living are lower than here, and will ask Congress to lower the tariff on wool and woolen goods in accordance with the facts officially gathered. The country will watch to see how the Democratic House acts on these official facts.

## President Makes Recommendations.

The President sent to Congress the report of the Tariff Board on Schedule K of the tariff bill and with it a message recommending that the rates on wool and woollens be reduced. The report shows that the existing duties on the fine qualities of wool and woolen goods are in excess of the cost of production here and abroad. The President calls attention to these points urging that the revision of the schedule be proceeded with at once. He praises the report of the Tariff Board and says it is a complete and exhaustive report, and points out that the report of the Board is unanimous. The President does not recommend any definite rates of duty, but recommends that the proposed revision adhere to the policy of protection based upon the difference in cost of production at home and abroad.

## "MATRIMONY COURSE" NOW.

### Los Angeles Girls Taught Courtship and Mothercraft.

(Los Angeles Correspondence to New York World.)

A course of matrimony has been included in the curriculum of the Gardens Agricultural High School. Five classes of girls are daily taking advantage of instruction in courtship, matrimony, the care of babies, mothercraft and domestic science.

It is planned that boys in Los Angeles shall be permitted to take the course next year, but some doubt is expressed about the need of this. It is argued that "the female of the species" will be so adept in the matter of courtship and marriage by the end of the year that she will have little difficulty in imparting her knowledge to the less deadly male.

The girls are taught how to deport themselves during courtship and instructed in household management, home dietetics, housekeeping accounts, dressmaking, millinery and even in such practical matters as how plumbers are supposed to do their work and how much they should be paid.