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## EDITORIAL BRIEFS

Mr. Wilson seems to be above going to the White House so long as it is occupied by a Republican.

Thought it was about time for them. One of the saw-dust bills was introduced in the House Saturday.

The Marshville Home wants the boys of that town civilized. Why not have the Legislature pass a law?

The editor of Charity and Children doesn't think this Legislature up to the average. But isn't that hitting them hard.

Mr. Bryan now says he doesn't want the Democratic nomination for President four years hence. He probably knows it won't be worth having by that time.

Mr. Wilson says that his Cabinet is not yet completed. It appears that he is finding it very hard to get enough suitable timber within his party ranks.

The editor of Charity and Children says this is no time for creating jobs to reward politicians. Just such business in the past has helped considerably to pile up the State debt.

Since President Wilson stated that he would surround himself with Progressives, and only Progressives, it is impossible to find a Democrat who will admit that he is not a Progressive.

After all, it appears that the South will not have much representation in the inaugural parade. It is announced from Washington that only one regiment from the South will participate in this function.

President-elect has announced that he will call the special session of Congress to convene on April 1st. Wonder if he considers that the most appropriate day to call his Democratic brethren together?

About seventeen hundred bills have been introduced in the State Legislature, and if more than a half dozen of them are of any special importance, they have escaped this writer's attention.

If Governor Craig intends being the "Good Roads" Governor, it is about time for him to hand around his program. Thus far he has called only one good roads conference, and that one to boost his home town.

Representative Mull introduced a bill in the Legislature Monday to provide a non-partisan board of education for Burke County. To show that he is really non-partisan Mr. Mull should have his bill apply to the whole State.

And now the suffragette clubs are preparing to make demands on President Wilson regarding the distribution of offices. When they march on the White House Mr. Wilson will either have to hand out the offices or crawl under the table.

The Superintendent of the National Capitol has figured it will cost the Government \$186,000 to keep Congress cool this summer. But who is to keep the rest of the country cool while Congress is tinkering with the tariff?

Mr. Bryan says he will not be a candidate for the Presidency four years hence, but that he will favor Mr. Wilson's nomination. Wasn't it Mr. Bryan who wrote that sentence in the platform committing the Democratic candidate to one term? Why this sudden change of ideas?

Judge Goff, one of the Federal Judges for this Circuit, has been elected by West Virginia, United States Senator. The last appointment of a Federal Judge in this Circuit was by a Republican President, and he appointed Judge Connor, a Democrat, to the position. Now, let us see if Mr. Wilson, a Democratic President, will return the compliment by appointing a Republican to succeed Judge Goff.

## "PROFLIGATE WASTE OF MONEY."

This Democratic Congress Will Prove More Costly Than Any Previous Congress—Lot of Money Wasted.

[Union Republican.]

The Democratic national platform adopted at Baltimore—the platform on which the Democrats elected a President last November—denounced "the profligate waste of money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation through the lavish appropriations of recent Republican Congresses." This was virtuous, and was taken by the country as a hopeful promise of reform.

But recently the Democratic chairman of the Democratic Appropriations Committee of the Democratic House of Representatives declared that the appropriations of this session of Congress will exceed the appropriations of any session in the history of the Government, and that "the total expenditures are in danger of being so great that the talk of a downward revision of the tariff will be a hollow mockery." All this question of appropriations is substantially within the control of the House of Representatives and its Democratic majority.

Those who made the Democratic national platform either had no knowledge of what they were proclaiming, or it was intended to mislead the people by false charges of Republican extravagance. The proof has come with unexpected swiftness. There has been an enormous increase of expenditures for investigations into everything without resulting in anything. The so-called Money Trust Investigating Committee has not only expended its original appropriation of \$25,000, but it calls for \$35,000 more, and has obligations out for that amount, without any authority of law. And this is only one of a number of illustrations.

If the Democrats in Congress had confined themselves to the proper and necessary appropriations it is not probable their chairman of appropriations would have been compelled to confess that the expenditures of this Congress will exceed those of any previous Congress in the history of the country. But when they began their wholesale use of the public money to carry on investigations for party advantage they not only increased expenditures, but they have been guilty of a "profligate waste of money" for no public purpose.

## TEMPTING THE FARMERS.

Texas Gives \$10,000 in Prizes to Tillers of the Soil.

(From the Manufacturers' Record.)

The last census shows that the population of the United States increased 21 per cent in the ten years, while grain product in that time increased only 1.7 per cent. This is an appalling condition when you take into consideration the fact that the exports of our grain products are now so very small that a dry year or a poor crop in this mighty Union would force us either to tie our apron strings tighter or to buy bread from somebody else.

The meat conditions are even worse. Beef cattle has decreased 21 per cent in actual numbers in the ten years, while population increased 21 per cent. That puts them 42 per cent apart and both growing rapidly in the wrong direction. Sheep and hogs are in almost the same category. The only practical remedy is more intelligent and efficient effort on the farm; not an enlargement of new lands and increasing the amount in cultivation, but in cutting down the amount that each man shall cultivate and teaching him to produce a larger net return an acre.

He must also realize that the one or two-crop system is bad beyond degree; that it makes the land, the landlord and the tenant all poor in a constantly increasing ratio; that he must diversify and rotate and turn under green cover crops and return to the land fertilizing matter of various kinds in proportion to what his crops have taken from it.

To attract the attention of the farmers and the business men of the country and especially to influence those of Texas to change their methods the Texas Industrial Congress offered and paid in 1911, \$10,000 in gold as premiums or prizes for every farmer of any age who produced the best results in the class in which he was a contestant. There were no entrance fees, obligations or charges of any kind.

Should Attend to More Immediate Necessities.

If there is such a big deficit in the State Treasury cannot the refurbishing of the Executive Mansion be put off for matters of more immediate necessity?—Greensboro Patriot.

## BRYAN NOT CANDIDATE

It is Suggested he Does Not Think

There Will be Any Honor in the Next Nomination

## MR. WILSON CAUSES SURPRISE

Flatly Refused President Taft's Offer to Keep Him Informed on Important Matters Now Before the President and Departments — A Most Incomplete Congress—Pension List Swelled to \$180,000,000—What President Garfield Said About Pensions—He Thought the Pension List Should Grow Smaller Each Year.

(Special to The Caucasian.)

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25, 1913.

Word has just reached Washington from President-elect Wilson that he will call Congress to meet in extra session on April 1. It is also understood that the new President will cover other subjects besides the tariff, including reform of the currency, in his message.

Wilson Refuses Taft's Offer.

It has also just been learned that President-elect Wilson has flatly declined an offer, recently made to him by President Taft, to not only keep him informed about important matters that are now before the President and the Departments, but also to confer with him, if he desired, so that the action taken by this administration, in its closing days, would be in harmony with the policy of the new administration. Much surprise has been expressed by legislators here, of all parties, at Mr. Wilson's declination of this very proper and patriotic offer on the part of President Taft.

A number of the leading Democratic Congressmen are much worried at Mr. Wilson's course. It is pointed out that a week from to-day Mr. Wilson, who has never had any experience in public life except as Governor of New Jersey, will have to take up the threads of the many very important affairs of this great government, with many critical matters needing instant attention. It is also pointed out that President-elect Wilson has announced that he intends to name a full Cabinet on March 4. It is certain that many, if not all of these men, will be entirely unacquainted with the duties of the offices to which they will be appointed. It is clear to every one that President Wilson and his new Cabinet, notwithstanding how they may be, will not be in a position to carry on the important work of the Government without delay and embarrassment, especially under the present conditions.

If President-elect Wilson should not confer about anything else, it is inconceivable that he should not want to confer on the Mexican situation, not only to be informed as to the present state of things, but in order that he and President Taft might, each day, work in harmony as to the best steps to take to protect American lives and property, and indeed, the lives and property of all foreigners in Mexico.

A Most Incompetent Congress.

Congressman Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, one of the oldest and most experienced Congressmen at the capital, a few days since, reviewed the record of the present Democratic Congress. He showed that the things that the Democrats had promised to do had been left undone, and that the things that they had promised not to do, they had done with a vengeance.

Mr. Dalzell was trying to get the Democratic Committee on Rules to take up the Workmen's Compensation Act. When he failed to get this done he showed that this was a measure that the Democratic party had promised to pass; that they now had the power to do it and yet refused. He also pointed out that they were wasting time on a number of useless and unimportant matters, such as "the Webb Anti-Liquor Bill," which showed was a fraud at the best. He said if they wanted to pass an effective bill to prohibit the shipment of liquor into prohibition States that then they would have adopted the Senate Kenyon bill. He said it was clear their purpose was to fool the people, while, in fact, doing nothing.

He also reminded the Democrats of their promises and loud protestations in favor of economy, and then proceeded to show that the appropriations made by this Congress was the most extravagant in the history of the Government.

Mr. Dalzell concluded his speech by saying:

"I submit that this is only another evidence of the fact that when history comes to record

the story of this Congress, it will pronounce this the most incompetent and useless Congress that ever sat under the dome of the capitol."

It was only a few days ago that Mann, the Republican minority leader in the House, declared that it was clear that the business of the Government was in the hands of "an unorganized mob."

The Frightful Pension List.

In this connection it should be noticed that the pension bill prepared and passed by this Democratic House carries an appropriation of over \$180,000,000. This is by far the largest pension bill ever passed. Outside of the small amount of these pensions that go to soldiers and sailors in the late Spanish War, all of it goes to supposed sailors and soldiers in the War Between the States, which ended nearly fifty years ago.

A boy who was twenty years old, as a soldier in that war, would to-day be nearly seventy years of age. A soldier who was thirty years of age, would to-day be eighty, and there are not living to-day but a handful of soldiers in that war, who are eighty years of age, and whose health was so impaired by the war that they should be entitled to a pension. The average age of the soldiers in that war was certainly not far from forty years of age, and to-day every man who was forty years of age then is dead, and yet the pension roll grows, and the greatest increase in it has been made by this Democratic Congress.

What President Garfield Said About Pensions.

In 1872 the late President Garfield, then one of the leaders on the floor of Congress, himself a soldier in that war, protested against the size of the Pension Appropriation Bill of that year because it had reached the sum of \$34,000,000. Mr. Garfield at that which was over forty years ago, said, in a speech on the floor of the House, that there was no excuse for a pension bill reaching such an enormous figure as \$34,000,000. He said that it was not possible for there to be enough men living at that time who were entitled to a pension to run the appropriation to that figure. He said in that speech that it was the duty of Congress to see to it that the pension roll was never increased, and that then the natural death-rate of those who were on the pension roll would rapidly reduce the amount of the appropriation so that within twenty years the sum would not amount to more than fifteen or twenty million dollars, and that at the end of forty years it would practically be wiped out.

It is now forty-one years since that speech was made, and instead of the pension roll dwindling to almost nothing, it has to-day grown until it is almost five times bigger than it was when Garfield made that speech; and the shame of it all is that this last great increase in pensions was made by a Democratic House just before the last campaign opened, which was a bold theft of money in the public treasury, to be used in trying to buy the old soldiers' vote.

Mr. Bryan Not a Candidate.

Word has just reached Washington that Mr. Bryan has declared that he would not be a Democratic candidate for the Democratic nomination four years from now, and that he was in favor of Mr. Wilson being renominated. This decision on the part of Mr. Bryan must have been brought about by his study of the awful record which the Democratic Congress is making. He, no doubt, sees clearly that a Democratic nomination four years from now will be an empty and burdensome honor and he is willing to throw that to Wilson.

Three Children Burned to Death While Mother Was From Home.

Elkins, W. Va., Feb. 24.—Three small children were cremated and their mother probably fatally burned in a fire to-day which destroyed the home of Hubert Slough, a railroad man, at Oxley, thirty-seven miles from here. The mother was visiting a neighbor when the fire occurred. A fourth child, who escaped, sounded an alarm and when rescuers reached the house they found the charred bodies of the three children under a large cook stove, where apparently they had taken refuge. Mrs. Slough arrived during the height of the flames. She forced her way into the house in a vain effort to save her little ones.

Took \$640 Out of the Bank; Lost It.

Mr. A. J. Jones, a farmer living near Speed, N. C., lost or was robbed of \$640 in currency in Tarboro Friday morning. Mr. Jones received a check on the First National Bank for \$640, the proceeds of his crop. He presented it at the bank and demanded the currency. While going into a store to pay his account he discovered that the roll had disappeared.—Tarboro Southerner.

## REAL ANCIENT HISTORY

Final Work in Making the Kingdom of Great Britain

## DEATH OF A GREAT MAN

Changes in World Map—Town and Country People at Odds—The "South Sea Swindle"—Great Britain and Spain at War—Several Administration Changes Without Much Gain.

Correspondence of The Caucasian Enterprise.

Bilkinsville, N. C., Feb. 24, 1913.

Although several attempts had been made to unite England and Scotland, hit wuz not finally closed up until March 25, 1707, that bein' the date ov the ratification ov the measure passed by Parliament, though the final touches were put on until May 1 ov that year.

In 1711 Great Britain suffered a loss ov the services ov the Duke ov Marlborough. This great fighter had never failed to take any city he attacked an' hit is claimed that no fortifications had ever stood in his way. But he finally fell before a great temptation in the form ov a bribe which is said to hav been offered him in connection with a contract to supply bread to the British army, the sum he is said to hav received amounting to about \$30,000. The Queen dismissed him from all employment soon thereafter. What a pity! On the Duke ov Marlborough hit wuz said that durin' the nine-year war with France, which had been closed, the Duke had never besieged a city which he did not take an' no fortifications had ever stood when he attacked it. But he could not resist when the "easy money" wuz in sight.

The Duke of Ormond succeeded az commander-in-chief ov the army ov Great Britain.

The end ov the British-French War caused changes in the map ov the world. Philip, the King ov Spain, renounced awl claim to the throne ov France. The fortifications ov Dunkirk were demolished. Spain gave up Gibraltar and the island ov Minorca, an' then the great fortress fell to the British, an' they still hold hit. France awlo gave up her claims az to Hudson's Bay an' Nova Scotia an' Newfoundland, and this later became interesting to Americans.

The death ov the Queen wuz the next event to stir Great Britain. It is claimed that she wuz a good woman, more fitted to govern home than a great country, but that wuz a good record anyway.

George the first became ruler. He wuz more than fifty years ov age an' that ought to hav added to his fitness. The new King wuz soon busy for civil war wuz on again, in Scotland az well as in that portion ov the country formerly known az England.

Several prominent citizens were placed in prison on account ov rebellious tactics. But the seeds had been sown an' the people ov Great Britain were not likely to witness a long period ov peace. When the English, Scotch, an' Irish got mixed up in those days there wuz bound to be some excitement. No matter in what section they lived there were a gude many people who were "agin the government." The rebellion didn't pan out much an' somo ov the ring-leaders were executed.

George I. ruled for fourteen years an' died ov paralysis. George II. succeeded him. This caused a division among the people, the parties being known as "town" people an' "country" people, the "town" people belov' those who stood by the administration while the country people, the real farmers, failed to enthuse, though the reason is not given.

In 1721 the "South Sea Company" wuz formed in Great Britain. Hit wuz close akin to the "Mississippi Company" which had ruined most ov the wealthy citizens ov France five years previous. The South Sea Company proposed to buy up the claims held by smaller companies against the government an' reduce government expense. But how they proposed to do awl this wuz never fully explained. At any rate the thousands ov men who were induced to put their savings into the scheme. In a few months the whole thing went to pieces an' nearly awl ov the stockholders lost the millions ov dollars they had put into hit. No one could explain why hit proved such a failure, so far az I know.

For some years the finances ov Great Britain had been getting in a bad way, the debts amounting to more than \$100,000,000. The people who had to dig up the cash naturally became alarmed.

In 1739 war was declared against Spain. There wuz some fitin', but hit did not last long.

In 1745 Prince Charles, grandson

or James II., took a few leaps as King ov Great Britain. He was soon involved in a war which caused a good deal ov trouble without much profit. But he seems to hav been working in the interest ov his father. But for a few years civil war or rows ov one kind an' another took up the time ov the people, but not much was accomplished.

As ever,

ZEKE BILKINS.

## THE NEW REVENUE ACT.

New Basis of Assessment and a Tax Commission May be Created—Talk of a Complete New Assessment of Property—Business Interests Are Apprehensive.

A special from Raleigh to last Sunday's Charlotte Observer says:

"The Joint Finance Committee on Finance, Senator J. P. Cook and Representative R. R. Williams chairmen, has completed its draft of the new revenue and machinery bills that are to be introduced in both branches of the Legislature early next week, having placed the bills in the hands of the State Printers for introduction in printed form. In the meantime members of the committee will make no statement of definite provisions of the bills.

"An increase of at least \$350,000 in the State's revenue is aimed at in the bills without raising tax levies on property. This means something like \$4,000,000 taxes instead of \$2,250,000 State taxes as at present. The adjustment of the Machinery Act is the principal means counted on to be especially effective in collecting revenue on incomes, inheritances, franchises and kindred sources. The committee expects \$100,000, instead of \$40,000 from incomes; \$100,000 from inheritances, instead of \$50,000; \$150,