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TO KEEP THIN—EAT HAM ON TOAST.



(Mrs. Charles Phillips Hatch)  
NEW YORK.—Ham on toast three times a day as a remedy for threatening stoutness is recommended by Mrs. Charles Phillips Hatch. Mrs. Hatch, who was Baroness Marva Wilhelmina Van Halften, confided to her intimate friends that she had not been able to "reduce" by long walks or any other of the everyday physical culture methods and had to take to "dieting." Mrs. Hatch declared that by abstaining from all other dishes but ham-on-toast, which she declared to be really delicious after one had taken it three or four days, there was little danger of losing one's graceful figure.

## ROCK HILL FOLKS TALK PARCELS POST

Postoffice People Wonder At Outcome—Street Paving Progresses Nicely

(Special to The Chronicle.)

ROCK HILL, S. C., Dec. 7.—Rock Hill people and the people of the entire county as well as greatly interested in the parcels post system which becomes effective on the first of the year. There is as yet much speculation as to the scope of the system and the prospective patrons, as well as the postoffice employees, are awaiting with interest the detailed information regarding this new department, which is expected to be forthcoming in a few days. The rates for the various zones are already known, but just how much business can be done from a local standpoint is as yet a matter of conjecture. Postmaster Foss, in accordance with a request from the department at Washington has sent a blank to every business concern in the city to ascertain approximately the amount of business each concern expects to do through the parcels post. However, the invariable answer has been that no one has any idea until the detailed information regarding the system has been received. There is a possibility that the parcels post will be used extensively here and again it may not be used scarcely at all.

If the new system permits the sending of matter to and from the rural routes surrounding the city there is but little doubt that Uncle Sam will have to make considerable preparations for handling the local parcels, but otherwise it will not be used so extensively. For instance if a citizen of the city can have a farmer living on the rural route mail him by parcels post fresh vegetables, eggs, etc., there is every likelihood of an extensive business being done in this manner. So far there has been no intimation that this will not be possible, nor is it known that a farmer can mail parcels post packages at his rural mail boxes. The farmers can, however, order articles from the city and have them mailed to him. It is likely that a great many will take advantage of this convenience and with the telephone and the parcels post he will be brought right to the city, figuratively speaking. It is not believed that foreign mail order houses will profit by the system, as York people believe in buying at home, where they know they will get value received every time, or be in a position to raise a justified kick.

The postoffice force is now wondering just what the new system will mean. In case business between country and town is permitted the rural carriers will likely have to provide larger conveyances to transport the packages to the office here and an extra wagon will likely be needed to haul the packages to their various addresses as the city carriers have all they can do to handle the regular mail and besides they could not carry the heavy packages.

To realize the magnitude which the parcels post is likely to reach and the work it would consequently entail on the postoffice employees one has only to presume that trading between the city and country will be allowed on an extensive scale, so far as the weight and sizes of the parcels would permit.

The street paving fever in Rock Hill is steadily growing. Already contracts have been awarded for enough paving to keep the contractors busy until far into next year and by the time these contracts have been fulfilled additional contracts will have been signed to keep the contractors busy a large portion of the coming year. In fact, unless someone halts the work of Secretary Spencer of the chamber of commerce, it is doubtful if he stops circulating petitions until every street traveled in the city present a gleaming asphalt surface.

The required number of property owners have signed a petition to pave Marion street, Hampton to Saluda, and

the petition will go before city council soon. Already the contract has been signed to pave Hampton street to Johnston street and the property owners on the block between Johnston and Marion have agreed to have the additional block paved in order that the sheet asphalt may continue uninterruptedly from Main to Saluda streets, via Hampton and Marion streets. A petition is now being circulated among the property owners on Oaklan avenue and the people are signing as rapidly as they are approached. It is not to be doubted that this petition will be completed within a couple of weeks.

To sum up the paving project to date. The foundation for the paving has been put down on Railroad avenue, White to Main, and Main, Railroad avenue to Saluda. The contract has been let for paving on East Main to Stonehall, on Hampton to Johnston; council has decided to pave Record alley, Main to Black and Railroad avenue, Main to Black. Then there are the petitions for paving the streets above described. In all it will total an expenditure of more than \$100,000 for paving. It should be stated that the property owners are voluntarily agreeing to pay one-third of the cost of paving in front of their property in order to assist the city to pave the streets.

## SECRETARY WILSON SUBMITS REPORT

Record Is Given Of Workings Of Department Of Agriculture For 16 Years

Washington, Dec. 6.—After 16 years, a record of service in the Cabinet, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson submitted yesterday to President Taft the last annual report he will make as head of the United States Department of Agriculture. The report is more than a review of the past year's work; it contains summary of the agricultural advance of the country during the venerable Secretary's term of public service.

"The record of 16 years has been written," he says. "It begins with a yearly farm production of \$4,000,000,000 and ends with \$9,532,000,000. Sixteen years ago, the farmer was a joke of the caricaturist; now he is like the stone that was rejected by the builder and has become the headstone of the corner." The tillers of the soil were burdened with debts he adds, "but prosperity followed and grew with unexampled speed. Beginnings have been made in a production an acre increasing faster than the natural increase of population. There has been an uplift of agriculture and of country life.

"During the past 16 years, the farmer has steadily increased his wealth production year by year, with the exception of 1911. During the 16 years the farmers' wealth production increased 141 per cent.

"Most productive of all agricultural years in the country has been 1911. The earth has produced its greatest annual dividend. The sun and the rain and the fertility of the soil heeded not the human controversy, but kept on working in co-operation with the farmers' efforts to utilize them. The prices at the farm are generally profitable and will continue the prosperity that farmers have enjoyed in recent years. The total production of farm wealth is the highest yet reached by half a billion dollars. The grand total for 1912 is estimated to be \$9,532,000,000. This is more than twice the value of the farm wealth in 1899.

More than \$105,000,000,000 is the grand total of farm wealth production, the report says, during the past 16 years, an amount equal to about three-quarters of the present National wealth.

The most effective move toward reduced cost of living is the production of greater crops, says the Secretary, and this move, he declares, is due to the work of the Department of Agriculture colleges and experiment stations and to the help of the press in publishing every movement to help the farmers. The Nation, he adds, forgot its farmers in the general scheme of education of past years and few philanthropists thought of them when giving for education, but they are waking up and thinking for themselves and Congress has been good to them.

The Secretary first takes up the work of the various bureaus of his department in the past year and then tells of the growth in some instances from the foundation of these bureaus during the time he has been head of the department. He praises

highly the experts who have worked under him.

"The great and growing movement carried on by the department for agricultural betterment," he declares, "has not been sustained solely by one man nor by a few men. A choice corps of scholarly experts in their special lines of endeavor has been growing in membership, in breadth of view and in the practical application of their efforts."

"The department is prepared to continue and increase its public service. During 16 years it has progressed from the kindergarten through the primary, middle and upper grades of development until now it has a thousand tongues that speak with authority."

From a department with 2,444 employees in 1897 and an appropriation of \$3,273,902, it has increased to 13,358 employees at the beginning of the present fiscal year with an appropriation this year of almost \$25,000,000. Whereas there are now 53,000 requests every week for department publications, there were but 800 in 1897, and during this period 225,000 copies have been distributed. In soil investigation an area of 522,000 square miles, equal to that of Germany, France, Great Britain, Ireland and Italy, has been covered.



WASHINGTON.—After declaring that it was prompted by the apparent lack of ready money in banking circles throughout the country, Representative Jefferson M. Levy of New York introduced a resolution to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to deposit in National banks \$50,000,000 to "relieve the sharp and active demand for money."



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## TRADE CONDITIONS ARE SATISFACTORY

Report Of Commissioner Of Labor And Printing Is Submitted—New Apartment House

Raleigh, Dec. 7.—A very satisfactory condition of the trades, generally, with some excess of supply in operations in textile plants, is shown by the annual report of Commissioner of Labor and Printing M. L. Shipman, a summary of which he has just made public. He says the supply of textile operatives is somewhat irregular, some localities having more operatives than they can use.

The building trades are, he says, especially active, and working people, generally, have found ready employment throughout the year. He notes that cities and towns are still infested with vagrants, mostly negroes, and declares that for some reason too little is being done to eliminate this class.

Tabulated statements show wages paid different classes and the educational advancement as reflected in the reports made from all localities to Mr. Shipman's division of the State Government.

The Raleigh Improvement Company, just organized with John A. Mills as president, has purchased the lot at the corner of Wilmington and Edenton streets, facing Capitol Square, Christ Episcopal Church and the new Y. M. C. A. building, as the site for the \$150,000 apartment house the company is to erect at once. The

building will be 110x110 feet and eight stories high, equipped with elevators and all other modern improvements.

Miss Jennie Morgan, who fell through an open elevator shaft in the Alderman toy store late last night, is found not to be at all dangerously injured. The scalp wound, that was first thought to be a fracture of the skull, is entirely free of fracture. However, several stitches had to be taken on the forehead. Miss Morgan, who is stenographer in the office of Wake County register of deeds, was in the store waiting for a friend to go home with her. She went to the rear of the store for a drink of water and stepped into the open shaft, falling 10 feet to the basement. There she landed on a pile of excelsior, but a slight or other hard substance, cut the path in her forehead.

There are 60 counties in North Carolina now that have made provision for campaigns against hookworm infection to be carried on through the State Hookworm Commission, directed by Dr. John A. Ferrell. The last to take this step are Haywood, Hoke and Union Counties, which made the appropriations last Monday. Fifty-five counties of the State have already passed through the hookworm dispensary treatment. The work is now in progress in Anson, Franklin, Lee, Henderson, Iredell and Scotland Counties.

Ends Hunt For Rich Girl. Often the hunt for a rich wife ends when the man meets a woman that uses Electric Bitters. Her strong nerves tell in a bright brain and even temper. Her peach-bloom complexion and ruby lip result from her pure blood, her light eyes from restful sleep; her elastic step from firm, free muscles, all telling of the health and strength Electric Bitters give a woman, and the freedom from indigestion, backache, headache, fainting and dizzy spells they promote. Everywhere they are woman's favorite remedy. If weak or ailing try them. 50c at Jno. S. Blake Drug Co.

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## Oh, Look Who's Back From Vacation! By "Bud" Fisher

