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TELEPHONES.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1912.

TIME FOR CITIZENS TO ACT.

The matter of recommending that the Legislature order an election in Charlotte on the commission form of government did not come to a vote at the aldermanic session last night, the leaders among the advocates for the new form deciding that the best course is to call a mass meeting and thrash the thing out, appointing a capable committee to draw up the charter amendment to be embraced in the call for an election on the matter. This is well. It is probably better that the people of the city generally have a voice in the framing of the plan at this stage to the end that there may be a more nearly unanimous vote for the commission form at the election, which without a doubt will be ordered by the Legislature, either at the recommendation of the board of aldermen after the plan is agreed upon by the people, or at the petition of the voters of the city.

There is no doubt about the fact that sentiment has increased rapidly for the commission form during recent weeks. It has been so clearly shown that the plan has worked well in other cities, where tax rates have yields and for that reason are raised duced and more efficient, more

DUST On Ease avenue yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock a street car could not be seen for a distance of two blocks so dense was the dust. This street, like others that are paved with asphalt or bitulithic, is covered to the extent of a quarter of an inch to an inch with dust and filth, converted into slop and slush when it rains. On this street the grading, and paving of the sidewalks have served to keep the street covered with dirt

for the past three or four weeks, but it was in bad shape before and it would be in much better shape now if the city would enforce the ordinance forbidding the hauling of dirt over improved streets in wagons with troduction to humanity of its greatest loose plank bottoms.

One of the supposed advantages of paved streets is the absence of dust. This is not the case in Charlotte, however, under present, circumstances. With the exception of a few blocks of street in the center of the city the streets are seldom if ever flushed and even uptown they are in a horrible shape nine-tenths of the time.

Who is responsible? To whom can a citizen appeal for relief knowing that his appeal will be given consideration? Under a commission form of government there would be one commissioner who would be solely responsible.

SWEET POTATOES.

The Southern Railway and other lines are going to pull off a most excellent stunt tomorrow, the day being designated as sweet potato day on the dining cars of the several roads. The potato will be served free in various styles and the announcement is made that the potato will henceforth have a place upon the menu of the dining cars. Too few people realize the value and the wholesomeness of the sweet potato. Many of the potatoes raised in some sections are dry and tasteless. Some people like them. But almost every man, woman and child who eats a wellcured, juicy Norton yam is a potato convert. This delicious yellow potato is almost the only variety raised in the eastern part of North Carolina and in the sandhills, in both of which sections they grow to perfection. The

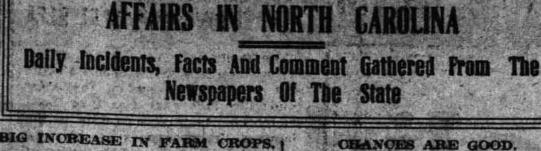


Christmas has come to mean a period of perplexity for many people. Its dignity and deeper meaning has been lent too liberally to the commercializing spirit that has not left us even the secred things unsolled of touch. Christmas is a day of a its great celebration when properly interpreted. Marking as it does the in-

sift, it has drifted away from its earler significance and descended too nearly to the ordinary levels of commerce. The spirit of the occasion has always been its genius. The custom, of exchanging gifts with friends and those to whom we are nearest and to whom we owe most: of sending remembrances, no matter how intrincically worthless, to those whom we ought to remember; of extending charity to the needy and lending aid to the poor, of exemplifying the Nazarene as nearl as it is possible for the finite to approximate the Infinite -this is a custom that brings out the humanity in men and links neighbor with neighbor and friend with friend in the ordinary duties of life. Christmas does not mean these things as it once did. The genius of the holiday has lost something of its essence in this rapidly-changing civilization. Too, often now we choose rather to first put an estimate on the material value of a Christmas gift than to find

out from whom it came. If it comes from one who ought to have sent a better thing according to our judgment we are critical and out of humor, failing to appreciate the cardinal virtue of the gift; namely, that it has been baptized with the perfumes of friendship.

It is a pity that we are getting away from the early spirit of the Christmas. We ought, first of all, remember that it is a great anniversary period and that each year we approach the date, as nearly accurate as white potatoes give slightly better chronologists can agree, upon which the Christ-child was given to men. For beyond the fact that through this gift, humanity received its most imperial Present, other essentials came along with it, the essential of friendship, of appreciation of virtue and contempt of vice, the essential of a proper code of ethics in our getting along in the world and with those thrown against us in the rush for wealth and for office and for influence, the essential of love and sentiment and every other essential that has to do with right conduct, with peace of mind, with contentment, with happiness and with personal success, sprang from the first Christmas gift of God. This is the distinguishing genius of the celebration, that it takes our vision across choatic years and fastens it upon the manger over which angels leaned and sang their hallelujahs of joy.



commissioner W. A. Graham Will

THE CHARLOTTE EVENING CHRONICLE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1912.

(Raleigh Times.) Maj. W. A. Graham, Commissioner Agriculture, says that six years ago nearly all the first-class apples onsumed in this State were imported and that in no market in the State could a car load of apples properly packed be purchased. Now, he says, all this has changed and that, only a few weeks ago a dozen places were mentioned to an inquirer as to points which such shipment could be procured.

He says that this year many of the North Carolina dealers are handling the apples grown in the State, and that this change has been accomplished by information given as to pruning and spraying demonstra-tions. The attention of the nation and of foreign countries has been directed to North Carolina fruits by the exhibits made at the National Horticultural Congress, where for three years they captured the sweep-stakes and many other lesser prizes.

The State Department of Agriulture is to reduce the cost of serium or vaccination against hog cholera. The sales of the serium since last June aggregated over \$4,000. It is estimated that not less than \$57,000 worth of hogs has been saved by the use of the serum supplied this year. The report of Commissioner Graham gives some remarkable statistics crop development since 1860. It shown that 30,000,000 bushels of corn were raised in 1860, 24,000,000 in 1909 and 50,000,000 in 1911. In cotton the yield in 1860 was

145,685 bales; in 1909, 665,132 bales; in 1911, 1,125,000 bales. The wheat crop shows 4.743,000 bushels in 1860, 3.827,000 in 1909

and 7.433.000 in 1911. The figures as to farm animals show that in 1860 there were 1,-183,214 head of hogs and in 1911. 1,123,952. The sheep industry shows a big slump, there having been 549,-

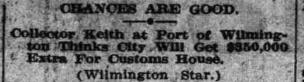
BOOKLET ON COLONIES.

in 1911.

the

Settlements and Club Religious Colonics Will Be Described in in Southern Railway Publication.

(Asheville Gazette-News.) Mr. Winston of the advertising de



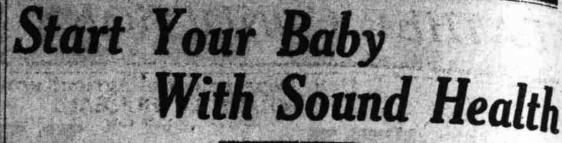
Mr. B. F. Keith, collector of customs, who, with Joseph W. Little, Esq., 'representing the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the House building committee in Washington Friday and urged the importance of favorable action on th bill providing for an increased appropriation for the proposed new cusoms house here, returned to the city yesterday morning. Mr. Little went to Baltimore and Philadelphia on business and is expected to return to-

day. Mr. Keith said that the chances are very favorable for the increased appropriation of \$350,000. He feels more encouraged, he says, than at any time since the bill providing for an additional appropriation was in-troduced. Chairman Shepard of Texas manifested deep interest in the remarks of the speakers, especially when they spoke of the volume of business through the local port.

Senator F. M. Simmons promised Mr. Keith that he would give every assistance to have the appropriation granted. Mr. Keith has written a personal letter to Congressman J. M. Gudger of this State, who is a member of the committee, cetting forth the need of the extra appropriation. The matter of the additional appropriation for the customs house will be settled definitely at this session of Congress, said Mr. Keith.

Poultry Show and Fair in Shelby. (The Highlander.)

And still the interest in the Poultry Show and County Fair, December 19, 20 and 21, continues to grow. The ound of the saw and hammer can be heard all the day in the Gidney building. Booths that will be beauties are being erected for the merchants' exhibits. The farmers are daily sending 149 sheep in 1860 and only 191,286 in their exhibits and they are going to surpass even the fondest hopes of the men behind the fair. It will be one endless round of wonder, pride and pleasure for those who come next week to see what all Cleveland County is doing. The ladies' department is going to be wonderfully attractive. Displays of varied colors and patterns of all kinds of handwork will give



Regular Bowel Movement Childhood on Forestalls Future Serious Diseases.

We cannot all start life with the dvantages of money, but every child born is entitled to the heritage of good health. Through unfortunate ce of carelessness in the feeding of a baby its tiny stomach may become deranged. The disorder spreads to the bowels and before the mother realizes it the two chief or-gans on which the infant's comfort and health depend are causing it great suffering. If the condition is allowed to continue grave allments often result.

There is, however, no occasion for alarm, and the sensible thing to do-but it should be done instantly-is to give the baby a small dose of a mild lagative-tonic. In the opinion of a great many people, among them such well-known persons as the parents of Reginald Wayne Dannis, 20 Silmer street, Atlante, Ga., and Mr. Edward T. Rohlader, 211 N. Chapel street, Baltimore, Md., the proper remedy is Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. It is a pleasant-tasting laxative, which every person likes. It is mild, nonwhich griping, and centains that most ex-

This remedy is especially intended for infants, children, women, old people and all others to whom harsh cathartics, salt waters, pills, etc., are distressing. In fact, in the common disorders of life, such as constipation, disorders of life, such as consultation, liver trouble, indigestion, biliousness, headaches, and the various other dis-orders of the stomach, liver and bow-els nothing is more suitable than this mild laxative-tonic, Dr. Caldwell's well, 414 Washington St., Monticella, UL, and a free sample bottle will be

Syrup Pepsin. Two generations of people are us-ing it teday, and thousands of fami-lieg keep it constantly in the house,



REGINALD WAYNE DANNIS

for every member of the family can use it. It can be obtained of any druggist at fifty cents or one dollar a the latter being the size bottle. bought by families who already know its value.

If, no member of your family has ever used Syrup Pepsin and



open and more satisfactory government has resulted, that people who were at first inclined to look with disfavor upon the plan have been interested enough to study it. And studying it they have realized its vast superiority in every respect over the antequated, cumbersome and waste-

ful system now in operation. Some politician has stated that the "working" people of the city are opposed to the commission form. From the best information The Chronicle can secure the "working" people, who by the way comprise by far the larger \$1,000 having been disposed of at the majority of the people of the live city of Charlotte, are in favor of the commission form by a very safe majority. It is equally certain that the business men of the city, "working" men, too, are in favor of it for, because of their training, they most readily of all see the advantage of putting business methods into operation in the administration of the municipal government.

The expert who audited the books of the several departments of the city government declares that \$10,000 a year could be saved in clerical work, etc., in the administrative department under a simpler form of government. But this \$10,000 is not a circumstance to what would be saved to the city through increased efficiency in the street, health and other departments of the city. The Chronicle has said, and it confidently reiterates the statement, that the efficiency of the several departments of the city government could be increased from 25 to 50 per cent under a business form of government, where three men accountable directly to the people at any time were responsible for the amount and quality of work done. This means that the taxpayers of the city would be getting full value for their money. instead of 60 to 75 per cent of the full value. It means that they would have better streets and sidewalks outside of the permanently improved districts. It means that the tax-payer would get a square deal.

In the city of Columbia under the old form of government the city spent \$13,289 in repairing 39 city blocks. Under the commission form 166 blocks of the same kind of street. requiring the same sort of repairing. were put in good shape for \$17.426. Here is shown an increase in efficiency such as would be duplicated in Charlotte under the commission form of government. People in Charlotte who live on streets that are sometimes impassable and walk on sidewalks that are covered with an inch or two or mud would have about four chances of improvements under a commission form of government to

by many farmers in the Piedmont. However, there is a better demand in this section for the yellow yam and a better price is commanded by this variety. Potatoes yield from 100 to 500 bushels to the acre while some varieties on soils well adapted to them and under favorable conditions yield as much as 800 bushels to the acre.

It is gratifying to note that the season tickets for the series of artists' concerts to be given under the auspices of the Charlotte Munical Association are going so well, more than end of the first day's sale. The three attractions are the best that could be secured-Broadway has more but none better-and it would be a serious reflection upon Charlotte's culture and musical taste not to accord the series the hearty support they deserve. The three performances will have the support not only of Charlotte but of this entire section, the music lovers here and in the nearby cities and towns being fortunate in being able to attend such attractions without going to New Yorfk or Washington or Atlanta.

The argument that was once used that the people of the city should build the country roads because it enabled the farmer to bring their produce to town to sell it to the city people doesn't go. The people of the county do not raise 20 per cent of the vegetables, poultry products and meat consumed in the city. If the people of the city should be expected to build roads for the people of Mecklenburg County, why not expect them to build roads up in Illinois or some other State? The streets of, the city are used more by the people of the county than the roads of the county are used by the people of the city. Why not reverse the order and let the people of the city build some streets for

Charlotte, with 10,000 more population than any other city in the State, cannot afford to lag behind in the matter of using Red Cross Christmas seals. The seals are on sale in the smile fro mtheir faces and the several places in the city, and every holiday letter and package should have from one to a dozen on it. Every face from it, ashamed to witness the seal helps in the fight against tuberculosis, which threatens every person in the community, but which may be stamped out with the proper effort, touched with the same plague and The seals are going fast in other cities discover that the same blight has of the State and Charlotte is doing been insidiously sapping our sentifairly well, but not as well as she should do.

The Asheville aldermen have given a contract for eight ornamental lighting standards such as are to be used on 14 blocks of the uptown district we have set upon material things,

But we are not thinking about these features of the day. We take Christmas as a very ordinary occasion. Ordinarily, it amounts to little more than the closing of the bank as on the Fourth of July, or the shutting up of shop as on Labor Day. It seems

to have an almost entirely human meaning to this generation plus the new feature of giving and receiving princely gifts. A little recreation in the fields with the hound and the muzzle-loader, or a little time around the old hearthstone, an unmolested day in the club partors-anywhere except in the office or behind the counter, straining over ledger or bending over a keyboard, and there's very little else to the day. We open the morning mail with more ourlosity to view what somebody has sent than to find out what friend has written well wishes. We race down stairs to ascertain the gift from parents rather than to meet them with cheery face and wish for them returning Christmases without number. How we are transformed by money either by its. direct incentives or by its indirect effect upon the ordinary activities of the people. It has been grinding some men's souls down to dust and wearing away their health, snatching blush from their cheeks and we cursed it as a pestilence. We hid our devastation upon the face of a friend. And coming ourselves to approach this Christmas, we find our lives ment and putting the tinsel of the price upon every sacred thing we

touch. Our gifts are spongy and without spirit. They have not been consecrated at the altar of friendship because commerce and the value

tment of the Southern Railway at Washington arrived in the city this morning for a conference with Division Passenger Agent J. H. Wood and Col. Sanford H. Cohen, manager of the Greater Western North Carolina Association, about the booklet which the railway is to issue on the religious and club colonies in western North Carolina. This conference was for the purpose of arranging

having been decided several weeks ago to issue one. This booklet will come from the press about February 1 and will contain valueble reading matter for the public at large concerning the developments of the past that have been made in this section by colonies of various sorts. The religious colonies now existing and proposed for immediate construction at Black Mountain and Ridge Crest will be given considerable space, as well as the extensive chautauqua being built at Waynesville. Of equal importance with these will be a review of the club colonies that have been organized within the past few years throughout this section, and the further colonies of this plans for cind will show very conclusively that western North Carolina is an ideal place for them.

The Country Influence Felt.

(Southern Pines Tourist.) liscoe and Asheboro are hustling and bustling towns. In each town the new order is crowding the old away, not violently but gently, although with a good degree of celerity. All the way along, the development of the country districts is keeping pace with the growth of the towns. Indeed, if the truth were known, it is probable that the development of the country and the adoption of better and more remunerative methods of farming explain the remarkable improvement in town conditions.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Cupid Puts in a Good Year at Green

(Greenville Piedmont.) The maidens of Greenville as usual aven't failed to overlook a good or

maybe in some cases, a bad bet. Somebody, years ago, decreed that leap Year was the one year in four during which it is perfectly good form for the girl in the case not only to direct the game, but even to go so far as popping the question. Just how many swains have been startled during the waning year by "Will you marry me?" is not known, but the records of the judge of pro-bate's office show that Leap Year has produced a good marriage "crop" in this city and county.

The record at the probate's office tells nothing of the romantic court ships, nor by the side of each certification of the side of each certification of the side cate is there a little dot or dash to tell who popped the question. The dope of the probate's office

imply shows that already during 1912, or Leap Year, there have been marriage licenses issued in 761 Greenville County.

What's in a Name?

(Anderson Mail.) Of course there is nothing in a ame, but the following interesting items appear in the Conference apame. pointments: D. R. Root, from Bath to Travelers'

this department a fascinating exhibit. Quilts have been entered that are 50 and 60 years old-the kind that our grandmothers made, the art of which elongs to the past,

> In the Moving Pictures. (Asheville Gazette-News.)

A hundred Asheville school chiliren wriggled and squirmed with delight this morning as they saw themmrtieulary of the booklet, it selves as they appeared when leaving school yesterday, march before their own eyes on the screen of the Classic Theater. Parts of a large film, which when completed, will show a number of different scenes of the city and will be sent about the United States as an advertisement of the place by Brunswig Bros. & Sparks, the owners and managers, was being tried out at their theater.

College Athletics. (Durham Herald.)

We are glad to see that Trinity has withdrawn from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association. The benefits were small and some mighty good men who were real students were kept off of the ball team by its rulings. After all it is left for the college to say whether or not it shall have clean athletics.

Press and Farmers Together. (Asheville Citizen.)

With the press of the State and the farmers declaring for compulsory education throughout North Carolina. the outlook for the future is most encouraging.

The Australian Ballot. (Asheville Citizen.) The Australian ballot has gone be-

rond the dream stage in North Carolina, and is rapidly nearing accomplishment. It will doubtless come in with compulsory education.

exhibition Governor Blease made or himself in Richmond the other day is attracting unfavorable attention.

PICAYUNES

(New Orleans Picayune.)

Every man who succeeds in keeping out of jail isn't going to heaven

A baby is sometimes not only the sunshine of the home, but also the storm center.

Some people don't have to get out of society, it slides from under them.

The more trouble some people have the more money they want to borrow

Strange that cold cash sometimes gets so warm that it burns a hole in the pocket.

Why is it that in nearly every popular novel the "town nestles among the hills?"

Experience is sometimes the result

of wanting everything you can't get and getting everything you don't want. -----

Executive ability sometimes is the

can find.

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