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**WOMEN AT CONFERENCE.**

Women will receive an important representation at the fifteenth conference for education in the south, according to the program drawn up by Dr. P. P. Claxton, the United States commissioner of education, who is secretary of the southern education organization. The conference is to be held at Nashville on April 3, 4 and 5. All the presidents of women's colleges in the southern states, as well as the deans of the women's departments in the co-educational institutions of higher learning in that section, are to go over their problems at a special meeting to be held in connection with the conference.

In addition the Federation of Women's Clubs of the Southern States will take advantage of the same opportunity to confer on the work that they may do for the advancement and improvement of education in the south. Mrs. Lucy Crozier French, president of the Federation of Women's Clubs of Tennessee, will have general direction of the clubmen's meetings. Special invitations have been issued to some 2,000 representative clubwomen.

The Woman's Press Association of Tennessee and other southern states will also attend the conference. At the same time, the Association of Southern College Women will hold its annual meeting. Addresses will be made by Dr. Kendrick Charles Babcock, specialist in higher education of the United States Bureau of Education; by Miss Mary Leal Karkness, Sophie Newcomb Memorial College, of New Orleans, and Miss Celestia H. Parrish, of the Georgia State Normal School of Athens.

**ATTACKS ON UNDERWOOD.**

We are not able to understand those democrats, who, in their zeal from other candidates, attack the democracy of Oscar Underwood. In the election two years ago, the voters dissatisfied, to use a mild term, with the kind of government the republicans had been giving us, turned to the democrats, and in so far as they could in that election, made the national government democratic. The overturning was nationwide, extending from Maine throughout the west. The democrats went into the campaign making certain promises, chief of which was a reduction of the tariff to a revenue basis and honest and economical administration of the government. The republicans had promised two years before to reduce the tariff and had failed to keep the promise. The result is history. The democratic house, fresh from the people with its commission, met, determined to do these things. But to do the work required of them it was necessary to have a leader, not merely a nominal leader, but a man who could shape legislation and who could inspire confidence in his leadership and mold and hold his forces together. The choice of the democrats in congress for this great work fell on Oscar Underwood. The result has justified the choice and its wisdom is being further shown every day. The house is making a record that is inspiring to democrats and the terror of republicans. It is a record that is also bringing hope to

for other candidates, attack the country. If the democrats win this election this year they will win on the record that congress is making. Two years ago they were given a trial, and in a little while they will go to the people with an account of their stewardship and ask for approval. Democratic leaders believe they will get that approval and republicans have not been so fearful of the result with respect to their own fortunes in years. And yet there are democrats who would hide that record and demolish their party's hope of victory for no other purpose, so far as we can see than to help some other candidate by hurting Oscar Underwood's candidacy. They seem to forget that in damning Underwood they are damning the party record and that if they succeed in convincing the voters that under Underwood the party has not kept faith with the people that it will be useless for the democrats to nominate anybody. For our part, we are glad we have had an Underwood in this crisis, and it has been a crisis in the party's life, for we believe he has made victory possible for any good man the party may nominate.

Did you ever notice how the public will storm and howl about graft and the get-rich-quick schemes that cover the country, and the first man that mounts a box around the corner and puts up a good spiel, will take all of their loose money and they go away satisfied—until they try what they have bought? They "cuss" the man out and buy from the next that comes along. It looks as if the more they get stung, the more they buy. Several years ago a man came through North Carolina selling tar soap. One of the axles of his buggy was covered with the soap, which looks a great deal like axle grease. He would wipe a clean piece of cloth on the hub, put a small piece of soap on the rag and wash it in a bowl of water for a few minutes and show the people what a wonderful soap it was; it would wash out grease in so short a time. When he was finally caught up with he had made hundreds of dollars off of the easy marks. Hundreds of people bit on the old gag of the seller buying back his stuff at double the purchase price. A corner box man can make plenty of money by selling a small amount of prepared chalk and powdered pumice for the most wonderful tooth powder. The poor suckers could get more than that for half the price at a drug store. The more some people get stung, the more they bite, trying to get for something for nothing.

**Press Comment.**

**The Tangled Web of Deceit.**  
Here is what Turn-coat Teddy thought of recall of Judges when Bryan was almost alone among political leaders in advocating that insane innovation:  
"Savages do not like an independent and upright judiciary. They want the judge to decide their way and if he does not they want to behead him."  
In truth it may be said of the supple serpent of Oyster Bay that he has been doing little for the last ten years but turn upon his own trail:  
"He has wired in and wired out until the matter is in doubt. Whether the snake that made the track was going on or coming back."  
He has apostasized from every article of political faith he ever espoused and would now be without a platform but that he has stolen the beliefs he had denounced as heresies when pronounced by other men. Where Hearst and Bryan stood when he was branding them as apostles of incendiarism, his forward feet are planted now. Were he a bird, he would be classified as a cross between the cuckoo and the magpie. Were he a fish he would be listed as half eel and half shark. If an animal, he would be exhibited at Smithsonian Institute as part jackal and part hyena. As a man he shows the mixed traits of all these,—nesting where he has not builded; chattering in glee at his own cleverness over pirated ideas; slipping smoothly out of the clutches of promises and commitments; voraciously swallowing the refuse of dead doctrines; lying in wait for carcasses slain by bolder foragers and not disclaiming to set lures of pretended friendship for the lambkins he has marked for slaughter. He has practiced dissimulation to such extent and so often he himself is at a loss



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to determine which is his real and which is his merely professed attitude towards any public question; and he has put in circulation at divers times so many loose and conflicting statements, that it would puzzle himself under sudden challenge to decide which represented and which belied his genuine opinion or purpose. His case reminds us of that of a young lawyer similarly notorious for recklessness of tongue; One day an irate person rushed in upon him with the startling question,—"B, what did you mean by telling that outrageous story about me?"; and unable on the spur of the moment to recall the one invention among so many, the perplexed disciple of Amaluis answered,—"Which?"—Virginian-Pilot.

**The Only Proper Decision.**

The house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, in deciding to recommend that the ships of all nations using the Panama Canal be put to the same footing as to charges, alike evince proper regard for solemn treaty obligations and consult the interests of the people of the United States as a whole. To do otherwise would be at once to break the pledged faith of the nation and further to burden the great body of the American public for the benefit of a preferred and privileged class. It is understood that a rate not to exceed \$1.25 the net ton is to be named in the bill which the committee is now drawing. Such a toll, it is very generally agreed, would not check commerce through the canal, while it would produce a revenue sufficient to relieve the American people of maintaining a waterway, the cost of constructing which amounting to approximately half a billion dollars, has been drawn solely and altogether from their pockets.

Steamship lines owned or controlled by railway companies are to be allowed, under the bill which the committee is preparing to bring in, to use the canal only in cases where such use does not have the effect of stifling competition. This provision, while aimed in the right direction, does not, in our judgment, go far enough to ensure, with any degree of adequacy, consummation of the end sought. The value of the isthmian waterway in promoting water-borne commerce between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and so in cheapening intercoastal rates, is going to be, as we have more than once before attempted to point out, proportioned to the extent to which the transcontinental railways are prevented from dominating the water lines. Will the provision noted above avail to prevent such domination? How far can competition be discouraged and minimized without being actually "stifled" within the meaning of the proposed prohibition? These are both debatable questions, and the matter is far too important to be left in doubt or open to argument. In the interest alike of the American merchant marine, of the shippers and of the country at large, it ought to be made absolutely certain that the railways will not be able to interfere with intercoastal trade through the canal, much less dominate or control it. And the only certainty in this respect, according to our way of thinking, lies in prohibiting the railroads of the country from owning, owning in or controlling in any way whatever any water line, save and except only in case where such water line forms an essential link of a railway system. There is no logical or legitimate reason why such prohibition should not be given the force and effect of law; there is every reason why it should.—Virginian-Pilot.

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**HERE IS EVERYTHING FOR EASTER WEAR**

**E**ASTER, when Mankind and Nature doff the dull garments of Winter for Spring's bright dress, awaits at the threshold. Custom has long associated Easter morning with a parade of the fashionably attired, and for many weeks we have been making preparations to enable you to take your place in that throng—suitably appareled. The Whole store blossoms with exquisite Spring Styles -- show cases, counters and racks are overflowing.

**Beautiful Lingerie Dresses**

The dresses are simply made of lace. The sleeves are short and full length. Some with girlish effects and elaborate flourishes of lace and embroidery. Prices at \$5.98, gradually up to \$35.00.

**Spring Suits**

The Suits themselves will have to be seen. Handsome Tailored Suits for Spring wear—\$15.00 to \$38.50.

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In price, range at 80c, 98c, \$1.50 on up to \$3.95. Hand embroidered and mannish effects in materials of Linen, Crepe, Madras, Sewasetts, Pereaes in white and colors.

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**150 Patterns**

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Among the novelty fabrics we are showing, none are more attractive than the Silk Stripe Cotton Voiles at 35c.

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**U. S. Department of Agriculture WEATHER BUREAU**  
WILLIS L. MOORE, Chief

**EXPLANATORY NOTES.**  
Observations taken at 8 a. m., seventy-fifth meridian time. Air pressure reduced to sea level. Isotherms (continuous lines) pass through points of equal air pressure. Isohyets (dotted lines) pass through points of equal temperature; drawn only for zero, freezing, 60°, and 100°.  
○ clear; ⊙ partly cloudy; ● cloudy;  
☉ rain; ☁ snow; ☾ report missing.  
Arrows by with the wind. First figures, lowest temperature past 12 hours; second, precipitation of .01 inch or more for past 24 hours; third, maximum wind velocity.

March 18, 1912.—Forecast: For Raleigh and vicinity: Fair tonight and Tuesday, not much change in temperature. For North Carolina: Fair tonight and Tuesday; light variable winds, mostly east.  
Weather Conditions—Clear to partly cloudy weather prevails over the major portion of the country this morning, and there has been very little precipitation during the last twenty-four hours. A slight barometric depression is present in the St. Lawrence valley, causing light precipitation in the Lake region. Another depression of greater intensity is central north of Montana, with somewhat cloudy condition over the northwest. The temperatures are now normal or above in practically all parts of the country. Present conditions indicate continued fair weather in this vicinity during the next thirty-six hours.

**Had Better Pay Taxes**

Unless your taxes are paid at once, your property will be advertised, as the sheriff is making out his delinquent list for publication.

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