

State News.

FROM CURRITUCK TO CHEROKEE.

Items of Interest Gleaned From our Correspondents and Exchanges in all Parts of the State.

Rural free delivery postal routes have been established from Franklin, Franklin county, to serve a population of 2,580. The carriers appointed are Willis P. Edwards and C. T. Nicholson. The post offices at Jeffers and Zechs are to be supplied by rural carriers.

Washington Cor. Post: Former Congressman Pearson, of the Asheville district, was to day promised by President Roosevelt an appointment in the diplomatic service abroad. This promise was brought about by Senator Pritchard and Congressman Moody presenting Mr. Pearson to the President.

Shelby Star: The Lura Knitting Mill in Shelby was destroyed by fire Wednesday morning at 1 o'clock. The fire is supposed to have caught from the heating pipes. It was a two story wooden structure, well equipped with the latest machinery. It was owned by Messrs. C. Mills Lattimore and Orlando Elam and cost about \$9,000 or \$10,000. It was insured for \$6,500.

Wilson Times: We are glad to know Miss Sallie Stockard is preparing a history of North Carolina, taking the counties in detail. It promises to be a most valuable acquisition to the literature of the State. The treatise on Wilson county is very thorough embracing its educational, religious, industrial and political development. The work will be issued about January 1st and should have a large sale.

News and Observer: The United States Circuit Court of Appeals yesterday affirmed Judge Purnell's decision regarding a sale of something like 150,000 acres of land in Dare county. This case has been in the courts for some time and has attracted much attention because of the fact that it involved practically an entire county. The land in question has been a subject of litigation because of its timbered value.

Statesville Landmark: The Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company, alias the cotton seed oil trust, is gradually absorbing all of the cotton seed oil mills. The latest to go is the one at Davidson. These mills are being sold to the trust, we are told, at a good profit and the stock holders are selling because they fear that the trust, having secured the great majority of the mills, will freeze out those who refuse to sell, as it undoubtedly will.

News and Observer: Up to this time last year there had been paid out in Raleigh \$290,000 for cotton sold on the streets. Up to this time this year there has been paid out in Raleigh \$90,000 for cotton sold on the streets. Raleigh is therefore short \$200,000 from the cotton sales. This means, of course, a lack of money in circulation among farmers, merchants and all others, and tells the story of the severe loss that is involved by the very short cotton crop.

We are impressed that our people are fast recovering from the blighting influence of politics which has so afflicted us for the past five or six years. It would be a blistering shame if we permitted political differences to divide us as a people; and yet we did allow these alien influences to enter in and make our hearts bitter toward each other. Let us learn a lesson from the past and stand shoulder to shoulder in Christian activity no matter how we may differ on governmental matters.—Charity and Children.

Col. Olds: The number of convicts now in the penitentiary is only 80, which is by far the smallest since within a few weeks after its doors were first opened to the public, in 1870. There are only 17 female convicts there. Thirty of the public prisoners are on the Tillery farm, picking cotton. Thirteen male convicts were sent to the Tillery farm yesterday. Fifty are grading a railroad from Dover. There are in all 850 convicts. The decrease of the number is steady. High-water mark as to numbers was reached 14 years ago.

Maj Joe Morehead exhibited in our sanctum this morning a smooth-bore, flint and steel buck gun, five feet eleven inches in length and whole stocked—that is, the stock runs to the muzzle. This was the property of Caleb Crews, of Granville county, and used by him in the

battle of Guilford Court House in 1781. There was also shown a powder horn of that period and a buckskin shot bag also used in the battle, all now the property of the Guilford Battle Ground Museum, a presentation of patriotic descendants. The major is having pictures of these taken to aid Mr. Mullins, of Ohio, in the manufacture of a statue true to life of a North Carolina militiaman of 1771—the pioneer of American liberty who at that date set the Revolutionary ball in motion.—Greensboro Record.

Raleigh Cor. Messenger: "Peg Leg" Williams, who twelve years ago induced 30,000 negroes to leave North Carolina to go further South to work, arrived here to-day and wants large numbers of negroes to go to Kansas, Tennessee, and other States. When last in North Carolina he had several narrow escapes from mobs, as then there was violent opposition to the exodus he was promoting. His license as labor agent was made \$1,000 for each county. The Legislature three years ago repealed this law and "Peg Leg" is now welcome.

Goldboro Cor. Post: The election to-day on the bond question for public improvements has shaken the old town from center to circumference. The total sum of bonds voted upon was \$110,000, divided as follows: Fifty thousand dollars to buy water works, \$25,000 to buy electric light plant, \$20,000 for street improvements and \$15,000 to build city hall. Each proposition was voted upon separately and all were carried by a handsome majority, thus attesting the public spirit, patriotic sentiment and city pride which pervade the hearts of Goldboro people.

Biblical Recorder: The trouble about the book business in North Carolina—since Charity and Children asks the question—is this: A number of good and true and competent—with the emphasis on the competent—men were appointed to select books. After they had worked and warred and suffered for sixty days, resisting all influences, their selections were largely overruled by the officers of State, who were neither so competent as these educators nor so immune to book-house influences. This is the trouble, Bro. Johnson; and it will not down simply because you stop your ears.

State Commissioner of Labor H. B. Varner, is reported in the Raleigh Times that new factories are springing so fast you can scarcely keep up with them. Furniture factories lead at the present: "There are said to be 39 wood-working factories at High Point alone, and at Lexington and Thomasville there are 18 more. New ones are being built at almost every point in that section, and the industry is assuming large proportions. One thing I am glad to report," said Mr. Varner, "and that is that the cotton mills are endeavoring to live up to their agreement regarding child labor."—Exchange.

Kinston Free Press: A night school has been established at the Eird cotton mill at Albemarle for the benefit of young men who want to obtain the rudiments of an education. The Free Press thinks it probable that such a school might succeed at the Kinston Cotton Mills. We ask some of our educators to consider the matter and see if there is a probability of success for such a school in East Kinston. It might be that a night school for all the youths and young men engaged in the various manufacturing industries of Kinston could be established and do great good.

The editor of the Marshville Home duns delinquents gently. Hear him: Here is an incident which is more conclusive evidence that editors are not able to keep up appearances. This time it caused us to be "left at our own game." Recently we approached a well dressed citizen who had just come out in a new suit. We were dressed, as usual, in our unattractive attire. "Those who didn't know you would take you for a gentleman," we remarked to the newly dressed citizen. He replied promptly: "Well, I am sorry to say that I have never seen you when anybody would take you for one." We didn't extend the conversation any further.

The Charlotte Observer says: The Supreme Court campaign seems to have opened. For Chief Justice, Judge Clark appears to have it all to himself. In the east the friends of Judge Brown and Judge Connor are at work, and the names of A. C. Zollicoffer, Esq., of Henderson, and other gentlemen are mentioned. In

the west the friends of Messrs. Platt D. Walker, of Charlotte; Chas. H. Armfield, of Statesville, and Jas. A. Lookhart, of Wadesboro, are urging them, while in the last two days circular letters in behalf of Judge Chas. A. Moore, of Asheville, have been sent out, and the names of F. A. Sondley, of Asheville, and Judge W. J. Montgomery, of Concord, appear in the papers—the latter's name on Saturday for the first time. The situation is an interesting one and the contest promises to be spirited.

Chief Clerk Moody, of the State Treasurer's office said to-day that there will be but little increase in the State's income this year from the new tax on corporations, from which so much was expected. In other words, the tax fails to materialize. "It will not bring in over \$7,500," he said, after looking over his books.—Assistant State Librarian Marshall DeLancey Haywood is nearly ready to issue a life of Governor William Tryon.—The aldermen last night adopted an ordinance imposing \$10 fine on men and boys who ogle and annoy school girls on the street and the college grounds. The behavior of some has been outrageous.—Col. Olds.

Asheville Cor. Charlotte Observer, 7th: Honest Merrimon, the son of Judge James H. Merrimon, and an official of the Blue Ridge National Bank, was shot this morning by Mary Slagle, a 15 year old girl. She shot four times, two 38-calibre bullets striking Merrimon, one in the elbow, the other near the spine. The shot in the elbow will make the arm stiff. The wound near the spine may prove fatal. Chief of Police Fullam rushed through the crowd, and was astonished beyond expression when the girl, a mere child, said in a clear voice: "I shot him. He ruined me, and I wanted to ruin him. God told me last night to do it." Even then Chief Fullam would have turned away, but in her hand was a 38-calibre blue steel revolver which bore evidence that she spoke the truth. With a steady step and dry eyes she walked to the police station with the chief, not once losing her nerve. She will not be 15 until next month, and in a few weeks she will become a mother, but not once has she shown a trace of nervousness. Sympathy is usually with the girl in such cases, but in this instance the sympathy has been more pronounced, partly because of the tender age of the girl, and partly because the opinion prevails that she has been very much wronged by Merrimon.—LATER Merrimon is said to have told the physicians just after he was shot, that he guessed the girl, Mary Slagle, did right in shooting him, and that he did not blame her much. She says she will yet kill the young man, should he recover from his present wounds.

WAKE FOREST-TRINITY DEBATE. The fifth annual debate between representatives of Wake Forest and Trinity Colleges will be held at the Academy of Music in Raleigh on Thanksgiving evening. The query for discussion is: "Resolved, That North Carolina should have compulsory education." Trinity will contend for the affirmative and Wake Forest will insist on the negative side of the question. The speakers selected for this occasion are: Messrs. C. C. Hornaday, W. H. Brown and L. P. Howard for Trinity; and Messrs. J. C. Little, W. A. Dunn and O. P. Dickinson for Wake Forest.

THE METHODIST ORPHANAGE. In my last letter I promised the latest news from our Methodist Orphanage at Raleigh. Rev. J. B. Hurley, Agent, was with my congregations recently. He preached to our edification and delight. Our offering to the cause was limited by the crop conditions. He gives an excellent report. Beginning the work a little over a year ago, we have now in Raleigh a property valuation of over \$25,000. We have in cash and good subscriptions over \$15,000 for our new building, which is to be the main or administration building, and is to cost \$25,000. Fifty or sixty individuals and Sunday schools have agreed to support an orphan each, at the cost of \$60 a year. One building, which cost \$5,000, and is a large, two-story brick cottage, is complete and occupied. There are at present about thirty children in the Home. The institution appeals strongly to the Church, and will never call in vain for needed funds.—Rev. N. H. D. Wilson, in Nashville Christian Advocate.

General News.

LI HUNG CHANG HAS PASSED AWAY. Peaceful End of a Long and Honored Career as China's Leading Statesman.

LONDON, Nov. 9.—Dispatches received here say that Li Hung Chang died at 11 a. m. November 7.

Li Hung first rose to prominence as the leader who suppressed the Taiping rebellion, although it is pretty generally understood that the achievements of the American Ward and the Englishman "Chinese" Gordon in this war were really what turned the tide. He was thirty-one years old when the Taiping rebellion broke out in 1853.

As a reward for his services Li Hung Chang was made governor of the provinces of Fukien and Kiangsu. In 1867 the Shantung rebellion broke out and Li again took the field and again defeated the rebels. In 1870 he was elevated to the viceroyship of Chili, the most important viceroyalty in China.

He, in 1876, again distinguished himself by his efforts to cope with the great famine, and four years later he was made grand secretary of that state and became the virtual head of the Chinese empire.

Li Hung Chang's firm grip on power early in his career was due to his army, which was the best equipped and best drilled that could be gotten together in China.

At the time of the outbreak of the war with Japan Li Hung Chang was at the height of his power, and, although the Chinese disasters resulted in some outward signs of disgrace visited by the court upon him, it nevertheless was Li Hung Chang who negotiated the terms of peace. In 1896 Li Hung Chang made a tour around the world, visiting the United States and the principal capitals of Europe, where he was received with great honors, notably in Russia.

For the recent peace negotiations between China and the powers Li Hung Chang was summoned to Peking from the southern provinces to which he had been sent as governor after his partial restoration to favor. He was one of the plenipotentiaries, though second in all things to Prince Chung.

TURPENTINE TRUST.

The Concern Enlarging Its Sphere of Operations.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 9.—The turpentine manufacturers of Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi have been organized as a branch of the Turpentine Operators' Association formed at Jacksonville, Fla., in August, which proposed to take in all manufacturers in the United States. The association decided to form associations in all parts of the turpentine field to co-operate so as to regulate the wages paid and the labor, mainly negroes employed in the turpentine orchards, to curtail production so as to prevent the over production which is held responsible for the present low prices, and to regulate as far as possible the price of turpentine, rosin and other naval store products.

OIL TRUST PAYS GREAT DIVIDENDS.

NEW YORK, Nov. 7.—December 16 next will be better than Christmas for the stockholders of the Standard Oil Company, for they will then receive a present of an 8 per cent quarterly dividend on their holdings. The grand total to be disbursed is \$8,000,000, of which John D. Rockefeller receives one-third, or \$2,666,666.

This brings the total dividends for 1901 up to 48 per cent, or \$48,000,000, which just equals the record-breaking year of 1900. In two years the company has paid out in dividends nearly the full amount of its capital stock. There is no such record as this in the world's history. The Standard Oil Company pays more on its \$100,000,000 capitalization than the steel trust does with a capital more than ten times as great.

THE TOP CROP CUT OFF.

DALAS, Tex., Nov. 5.—Reports from points in Texas shows that there was frost last night. This practically ends the top crop of cotton in Northern and Central Texas.

The Sohley Court of Inquiry has concluded the taking of testimony and is now at work on its report.

Admiral Sampson is experiencing the same difficulty of getting into the fracas that he did at Santiago.—Tee Salt Lake Herald.

BOTHA'S BOLD NOTE OF DEFIANCE TO KITCHENER.

Englishmen in Arms to Be Regarded as Out-Laws and Shot on Sight.

PARIS, Nov. 4.—The text of General Botha's counter proclamation to Lord Kitchener's recent proclamation has reached here. It was issued September 15. It declares:

"Whereas, no official of Orange Free State or the Transvaal Republic and no general commandant of burgher intends to obey Lord Kitchener's proclamation or to trouble with it:

"And whereas, the proclamation contains falsehoods habitual to the English:

"And whereas, Lord Kitchener's proclamation has strengthened the determination of all burghers to resist to the end; now,

"Therefore, I, Louis Botha, commandant general of the republican forces, with the consent of the governments, officers and burghers of both republics, proclaim Lord Kitchener, his staff and the officers and soldiers serving under his orders fighting us now, to be outlawed in South Africa, and all forces and burghers in the two republics and in Cape Colony are ordered to shoot every armed Englishman whom they meet."

A PLOT TO MURDER AMERICAN SOLDIERS.

MANILA, Nov. 5.—A plot to massacre the American garrison at Moncada, Province of Tarlac, Island of Luzon, has been revealed by the wife of one of the conspirators.

Several of the town officials are implicated in the murderous scheme. The woman who revealed the plot had a detective beneath a house in which the leaders of the conspiracy were meeting. Arrests followed and many incriminating papers were seized.

The plan was to fire a house close to the barracks after dark, and when the soldiers came out to assist in extinguishing the flames, 150 conspirators, armed with bolos, were to rush on the guard, capture their arms and proceed to massacre the garrison.

NEEDS MORE MONEY TO FIGHT BOERS.

LONDON, Nov. 6.—What is regarded as an important announcement preparing the people of Great Britain for new taxes and fresh loans was made to night by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks Beach, in a speech at Bristol. After alluding to the enormous increase in the ordinary expenditures of the government he reviewed the war taxes, and said that the ever-increasing demand of the National Exchequer gave reasons for careful thought and even anxiety for the future.

"The cost of the war in South Africa is enormous," said Sir Michael. "It still drags on. It may be when next year comes that I may have to ask the people of this country to bear even greater burdens and to make even greater sacrifices."

CULTIVATION OF THE FILLER TOBACCO.

Secretary Wilson Wants This Country to Produce All That It Needs.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—Secretary Wilson announces that experts of the Agricultural Department will hunt all over the United States and its new possessions for conditions favorable to the cultivation of the filler tobacco, such as is now raised in Cuba, so that if possible all the filler tobacco used in this country eventually may be raised within the bounds of the United States.

"The United States," he said, "is now paying \$8,000,000 for filler tobacco, which comes mostly from Cuba, and \$5,000,000 for wrapper tobacco. We have succeeded in finding in this country the conditions under which all the wrapper tobacco we need can be raised here, and experts of the Department of Agriculture for the first time are seeking soils adapted to the cultivation of the fine filler product. We have parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas selected for the investigations of our experts and land for similar purposes will be selected in all our new island possessions, with a view to ascertaining how and under what conditions the filler product can be built up here."

The Philippine Commission has published a blanket bill prescribing punishment for treason, insurrection, seditious utterances, the formation of political societies, and violations of oaths. The bill is designed generally to reach all rebel sympathizers, whether active or passive. There are fifteen paragraphs, which cover all possible offenses. Some people criticize the measure as Russifying the Philippines, but on usual conditions there, it is claimed, demand extreme measures.

WASHINGTON NEWS NOTES.

Matters of Interest Reported by The Progressive Farmer's Special Correspondent.

All official documents in the Philippines must hereafter use the terms, "Mr.," "Mrs.," and "Miss", instead of Senor, Senora, Senorita or Don. Incidentally no Spanish titles or terms are to be used which have an English equivalent.

A table prepared by the director of the mint shows that the coinage of gold for the world during the last calendar year was \$334,936,497; a decrease from \$444,110,614 for the preceding year. The coinage of silver was \$117,011,902, an increase over the preceding year of \$10,884,938.

Secretary Root has decided to send some 15,000 men to the Philippines to take the place of the 20,000 whose terms of enlistment will soon end, thus working a reduction of about 5,000 in the next few months. This action is taken on recommendation of General Corbin and with the consent of General Chaffee.

Young though President Roosevelt may be, he having celebrated his 43d birthday on last Sunday, he is not so young as the Kaiser, who is not yet quite 43 nor as the Czar, who is only 33. The Emperor of Austria had been ruling for twenty years before the Czar was born and for thirty years before President Roosevelt appeared in the world.

According to the estimates of Director Merriam of the Census, the United States will have a total population of 100,000,000 in 1910. This includes, of course, the people of the Philippines, and other outlying possessions. The population of the United States proper is put at nearly 90,000,000. The percentage of increase will probably not be so large as it has been in the past but the numerical increase will be greater.

The diplomats of Washington nearly all ride in automobiles, a method of progress made especially pleasant by the asphalt streets of the Capital. The members of the Cabinet, however, and other high officials, stick pretty generally to their horses and carriages. Various explanations of this have been given, but the real reason is that Uncle Sam provides for free horses and carriages for many of his servants but does not as yet allow automobiles to anybody.

Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, Chairman of the powerful Committee on Finance of the Senate, has told President Roosevelt frankly that he is opposed to any change whatever in the tariff laws, whether brought about by the Babcock bill or by reciprocity treaties. Mr. Aldrich was strong enough to prevent the reciprocity treaties from ever being reported to the Senate last session and will probably be powerful enough to withhold them this year also, in the opinion of many.

The selection of Captain Crownshield to command the European station is accepted here as a reward for that officer, despite his record in the Schley case and despite the efforts of Secretary Long to minimize the importance of the assignment. If not the most important from a military point of view, the European station has always been regarded as the most spectacular and the most pleasant. Moreover, it is the only squadron command which will become vacant at any time in the near future.

While President Roosevelt will not make any public statement in regard to his reasons for inviting Booker Washington to dinner, he has confided to friends that he had no ulterior motive whatever in his action. He wanted to talk to Professor Washington, and invited him as the easiest way of securing the chance. It never occurred to him that anyone would object or even think of the subject a second time. He adds, however, that he should have done just the same if he had known of the coming storm of criticism.

Negroes are better housed and better fed in the District of Columbia than in any other section of the United States, yet the inherent weakness of the race keeps them down. Vital statistics of the District just made public show that the death rate among negroes in Washington is 31 per thousand against 18 per thousand among the whites. More startling still is the infant mortality among the blacks; 457 negro infants out of every thousand dying before they are one year old. Similar mortality among whites is only 183 per thousand.