

schools; and finally, in that educational indifference which is the chief cause of the small average daily attendance of 36 6 pupils out of every 100 enrolled in our present public schools.

We believe the future will hold us responsible for the perpetuation of these unfavorable conditions, and, therefore, we conceive it to be the patriotic, moral, and religious duty of this generation of North Carolinians to set about in earnest to find the means by which all our children can receive that education which will give them equal opportunities with the children of other sections of our common country.

4 Viewing our educational problems and conditions in the light of educational history and experience, we declare it to be our firm conviction that the next step forward for North Carolina in education is to provide more money for her country public schools, making possible the consolidation of small school districts, the professional teacher, and skilled supervision of the expenditure of all school funds and of the teaching done in the schools.

The history of the adoption of the principle of local self help by our 35 graded school towns and cities must surely be an inspiration and an example to every village and rural community in North Carolina. Those towns and cities have adopted the only means at hand for the adequate education of their children. In adopting this principle, local taxation, they secured: first, adequate school funds; second, competent supervision; third, skilled teachers. Lacking any one of this educational trinity no community has ever yet succeeded in establishing the means of complete education for its children.

These 35 towns and cities within our borders have followed the lead of other sections of the United States in adopting first the means of education, local taxation. The fact that 69 per cent. of the total school fund of this Union is now raised by local taxes, while North Carolina raises only 14 per cent. of her funds by that means, and lags behind all her sister States in every phase of public education, has both its lesson and its warning.

5 Remembering that in the last year nearly 30 communities in North Carolina, some of them distinctly rural, have adopted the principle of local taxation for schools, we think this time most auspicious to urge a general movement of all our educational forces in that direction, and, therefore, we appeal to all patriotic North Carolinians, men and women who love their State, and especially that part of their State which is worth more than all its timber, lands, mines, and manufacturing plants, to band themselves together under the leadership of our "Educational Governor" and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, aided by the Southern Education Board, to carry forward the work of local taxation and better schools, to the end that every child within our borders may have the opportunity to fit himself for the duties of citizen and soldier.

And, finally, heartily believing in the Christlikeness of this work of bringing universal education to all the children of North Carolina, we confidently rely on the full co-operation of all the churches of the State, whose work is so near the hearts of all the people, and, therefore, appeal to the pulpit to inculcate the supreme duty of universal education.

Signed: C. B. Aycock, Governor of North Carolina; T. F. Toon, State Superintendent of Public Instruction; C. D. Motter, State Normal College; F. P. Venable, State University; Geo. T. Winston, A. & M. College; C. E. Taylor, Wake Forest College; Edwin Mims, Trinity College; H. L. Smith, Davidson College; C. H. Mabane, Catawba College; L. L. Hobbs, Guilford College; Lee Crawford, Rutherford College; C. G. Vardell, Red Springs Seminary; J. O. Atkins, Elon College; Robt. Bigham, Asheville; J. A. Holt, Oak Ridge; E. P. Moses, Raleigh; R. T. Vann, Baptist Female University; T. Bratton, St. Mary's School; M. C. S. N. ble, University of North Carolina; D. H. Hill, A. & M. College; Alex. Graham, Charlotte; E. P. Mammon, Wilson; J. A. Butler, Statesville; R. J. Tighe, Asheville; De Matt Thompson, Statesville; Hugh Morson, Raleigh; J. I. Pount, State Normal; T. R. Foust, Goldsboro; J. Y. Joyner, State Normal; F. W. Curtis, Burlington; J. B. Carlisle, Wake Forest; H. J. Stockard, Peace Institute; E. C. Burns, Monroe; J. L. Kesler, Baptist Female University; C. L. Coon, Salisbury; E. McK. Goodwin, Morganton; Harry Howell, Washington; J. E. Ray, Raleigh; W. S. Long, Alamance county; F. P. Hobgood, Oxford; John Duckett, Raleigh.

State News.

FROM CURRITUCK TO CHEROKEE.

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

Alexander county will have one free rural mail delivery route to start up March 1st.

Roman Catholics have now begun the work of building chapels ten miles apart all over Wake county.

Hon. H. A. Herbert, Cleveland's Secretary of the Navy, will deliver an address at the University commencement.

Greensboro Telegram: By actual count High Point now has 45 factories, including the two in the course of erection.

Rutherford B. Hayes, son of former President Hayes, has donated a hundred volumes of choice books to the county schools of Buncombe.

Judson C. Honeycutt, of North Carolina, has been sentenced to a year in the penitentiary at hard labor for desertion from the army.

Smithfield Herald: A few days ago one lot of 1,225 pounds of tobacco was sold for over \$400, averaging about 34 cents per pound.

Representative W. W. Kitchin has secured the promise of nine new free rural delivery routes in his district on the first of March, three of them being in Durham county.

The case of Long, versus the Southern Railway, has been compromised, Mr. Long receiving \$7,500. He sued for \$50,000, on account of the killing of his son, which occurred at the University Station some time ago.

Littleton Reporter: The shuttle block factory opens a purse to those who own dogwood and persimmon, which will enable them to gather in during the next few months ready cash to assist in passing over the difficulties brought about by the unfavorable seasons of last year.

It is said that the queerest name in Mecklenburg county is "Many Citizens Carter," a son of Mr. John Carter. The father says the mother saw the name "Many Citizens" signed to a newspaper article and she then and there decided to name her son Many Citizens Carter.—Charity and Children.

Columbia College has conferred the degree of Doctor of Philosophy upon Mr. Charles Lee Raper, of the chair of Economics of the University of North Carolina. Dr. Raper is one of the ablest of the young North Carolina scholars, and has won his degree as a student of economic problems.—News and Observer.

Sanford Express: Mormon Elders were, until about two years ago very active in this section, but we have heard nothing from them of late. A few years ago they organized a church near Cameron with some twenty five or thirty members, also one near Jones' Chapel, but it seems that these organizations have disbanded and renounced Mormonism.

Anniversary exercises at Wake Forest, Friday, 14th, were largely attended. The following question was debated: "Resolved, that labor organizations in America and England have been more beneficial than injurious." The affirmative was maintained by Messrs. Delos W. Sorrell and James Royall, and the negative by Messrs. Charles M. Beach and Oscar P. Dickinson. The negative won.

Washington Cor. Post: Judge Frank I. Osborne, who is here, will enter the Senatorial contest. He said to-day that he would be a candidate and he prefers the primary plan for the nomination of Senator. He is cognizant of the fact that the primary has its objectionable features, but he believes it the best method of obtaining the choice of the people for Senator Pritchard's successor.

Asheville Special to Charlotte Observer, 12th: This morning at 7 o'clock J. H. Salisbury, one of the best known conductors on the Southern between Salisbury and Knoxville, was shot and seriously wounded by Press Dillon, a colored waiter at the Glen Rock Hotel, where Salisbury was breakfasting. Salisbury had slapped Dillon a few minutes before going to breakfast because the latter had taken the seat of an old gentleman and was slow about giving it up.

Charlotte Observer: The end of the Stanley and Wilkes bond cases is perhaps not yet. The counties have the right of appeal from the adverse decision of the United States

Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond to the Supreme Court of the United States and the reasonable supposition is that they will exercise it. It may take somewhat the course of the James-Howard case, from Rowan, in which case has been established the fact that there are endless chains in other things than cherry tree transactions.

Raleigh Cor. Charlotte Observer: It is decided by the auditorium stockholders to build. A site is ordered to be purchased by March 1. It is the idea to have a building with 100 feet front and 84 feet of depth, to seat 3,000; to be one story in height, of brick and galvanized iron. The cost of the site is estimated at \$4,000 and of the building at \$7,200. There is \$6,600 in hand and \$3,000 more pledged. The building will be for use solely as an auditorium and not as a theatre.

Col. Olds: A very interesting pamphlet is in course of preparation here, giving information secured for the first time regarding the private colleges and schools in this State. It will say there are 18 well defined denominational colleges, and that in all these there are 2,700 students. There are 325 private schools, including high schools and in attendance on these there are at least 20,000 pupils during the year. The teachers in 250 of these teach public schools as long as the money lasts and then supplement these with what are termed "pay schools."

Charlotte Observer: District Attorney Holton did well to reject the proposition made to him in Washington yesterday by the attorneys for the Amos Owen Cherry Tree Company, that if the indictments against them were dismissed they would turn over for distribution among their victims \$30,000. This offer was made through attorneys who would naturally have much influence with Mr. Holton, and it is a pleasure to see that he had the backbone to refuse to consider. There are things in this world which money cannot atone for, and the crime of these cherry tree fakirs is one of them.

Durham Cor. Charlotte Observer: W. T. Oaks, of Wake county, has entered suit against Register of Deeds Suits, of this county, to recover \$200. On November 6th, last, license was issued for the marriage of Thomas F. Bradshaw and Miss Mary Elizabeth Oaks, daughter of W. T. Oaks, of Wake county. The age of the young lady was given at 18 and the young man said he was 21. Shortly after the license was issued the two were made husband and wife by Squire W. A. Avent, in East Durham. It was a runaway affair and the father of the young lady, who now asks for damages, says that she was under 18.

Greensboro Record: A man who purchased some of it last evening took a sample of shipstuf to police headquarters to be examined. In appearance it looks like finely ground saw dust. A match was applied to it and it smelled exactly like corn cobs when burning. It is the opinion of those who made only an examination with the naked eye that it is composed of corn stalks, cobs and saw dust ground together, with perhaps a few grains of oats to the bushel. It was purchased from a groceryman in Greensboro, and will be chemically analyzed. Not long ago G. Will Armfield had a horse to die after eating stuff like this, and he is satisfied this is what killed him.

BIG MONEY FOR A NORTH CAROLINA NEGRO SCHOOL.

A Brooklyn Woman Will an Edgecombe County Institution the Bulk of a Large Estate.

New York, Feb. 11.—Mrs. Elma Brewster Brick, who died at the age of 80 in her home in Brooklyn, February 3rd, bequeaths in her will, which was filed to-day, a great portion of her estate, which is said to be worth nearly \$1,000,000, to charities in which she has been interested for 50 years.

To the St. Joseph Brick Agricultural Industrial and Normal School, in Edgecombe county, N. C., the bulk of her property goes. The American Missionary Association is to take charge of this bequest, the exact value of which could not be learned to-day. This school has been one of Mrs. Brick's particular cares. It was named in memory of her husband, who died a generation ago, and is for the education of negro boys and girls.

The President's decision in the Schley appeal will be made public within a few days.

General News.

WHAT THE DISPATCHES TELL.

The Facts Boiled Down and Presented in Convenient Form for Busy Readers.

The President did not go to Charleston, being kept away by the illness of his son, who is now, however, out of danger.

Governor McBride of Washington State has made a new movement in his war on the railway lobby. He has announced his intention to dismiss any State employe who accepts a pass over a railroad. He declares he will crush out the lobby.

A bronze medallion memorial of the late John Ruskin was unveiled in Westminster Abbey last week by Mrs. Arthur Severn, Ruskin's cousin, in the presence of a distinguished gathering. The memorial is in the poet's corner, above the Sir Walter Scott memorial and beside the Oliver Goldsmith medallion.

A favorable report has been authorized by the Senate Committee on Pensions on Mr. Pritchard's joint resolution constraining the pension law of 1890. The resolution is intended to give a pensionable status to those who served in the Confederate army and subsequently joined the United States army who are now denied the benefits of that act on the ground that they gave aid to the rebellion.

The Director of the Census recently made a statement in regard to the increase of population of places of less than 4,000 inhabitants, east and west of the Mississippi river, showing that east of the Mississippi river such towns had grown more rapidly in the last ten years than during the years 1880 to 1890. A study of the population changes shows that the regions which in the previous decade lost population are now regaining it.

The President has approved, with one notable exception, all the recommendations made by the army brevet board of which General MacArthur was president. The exception noted is the case of Theodore Roosevelt who was awarded the brevet of colonel and brigadier general for distinguished services at San Juan, Santiago. The nominations will be sent to the Senate this week but the list will not contain the name of the President.

A steamship that has just arrived in New York broke the record for having the longest communication with the land by means of the Marconi wireless telegraphy. On Saturday, the 1st of February, the steamship was at 12:15 p. m., a few miles off the Lizard. Messages were then exchanged and the telegraphing was kept up until midnight of the following day. The last message was sent when the Philadelphia was 150 miles from the land. This is the longest distance in which wireless communication has ever been established between vessels and the shore.

We clip this brief report of the Paterson fire from an exchange: A conflagration exceeding the blaze which recently wiped out a large part of Waterbury, Ct., swept Paterson, N. J., Sunday. It destroyed 25 entire blocks in the business center at a loss placed at \$8,000,000 by early estimates. Doubtless final estimates will put this down considerably. A gale fanned the flames into irresistible fury. Eight city building, five churches, six banks, five club houses, seven office buildings, one theatre, two newspapers, nearly 30 stores and as many dwellings were destroyed. Many persons were injured, but there appears to have been small loss of life.

The Youth's Companion gives the following information of interest in connection with our treaty with Denmark purchasing the Danish West Indies: "The treaty transfers to the United States absolute sovereignty over the islands of St. Croix or Santa Cruz, St. John and St. Thomas. The three islands have a combined area of 127 square miles and a population of 32,000. They lie not far from Porto Rico, and command one of the main entrances to the Caribbean. A treaty for their purchase was negotiated more than 30 years ago, but was rejected by the Senate. Should the sale be now completed, the easternmost point of the territory of the United will be the eastern tip of St. Croix, 64° 34' west of Greenwich, and the westernmost the western extremity of the island of Balabac in the Philippines, 117° 3' east of Greenwich, about 12,000 miles distant."

WHAT CONGRESS IS DOING.

Our Washington Correspondent Gives a Summary of Last Week's Work. Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer.

The events at the Capitol this week might almost be summed up in two words, Philippines and butter. The Senate has devoted almost its entire time to the consideration of the Philippine question—that is to say, the Democratic side has devoted the time while the Republican Senators have smoked in the cloak rooms and committee rooms. A brilliant debate between Senators Hoar and Platt of Connecticut marked the proceedings on Tuesday and filled the chairs in the chamber. There were no new ideas advanced by either Senator, but their oratory was brilliant and eloquent and proved a welcome relief from the monotony which had marked the previous sessions.

The House has thought of little but butter and oleomargarine all of the week, and, although the chamber was not divided upon strict party lines, the preponderance of the opposition to the Henry bill was on the Democratic side. On Tuesday and Wednesday the bill was considered under the five-minute rule and the debate was highly entertaining if not instructive. The Democrats approached very close to filibustering in their attempts to amend the bill so as to render its defeat inevitable and quick and sparkling repartee was indulged in by both sides of the House. On Wednesday the bill was carried, having been amended to include provision for the inspection and branding of renovated butter.

The introduction in the House by Representative Newlands of Nevada of a resolution which invites Cuba to become annexed to the United States has been the occasion of much gossip and speculation in the lobbies and committee rooms and there seems to be a good many Representatives who are desirous of seeing the island an integral part of the United States although it is doubtful if the present House would be willing to take the action on a Democratic initiative. It is held at the other end of the Capital, however, that the Platt Amendment perpetually bars the way to annexation and that all talk in that direction is idle speculation.

It is difficult to predict to what the House will turn its attention with the oleomargarine bill out of the way. There is a desire on the part of the Republican leaders to delay action on the Cuban reciprocity question for the immediate present and, in fact, until some measure can be arrived at which will not be objectionable to the representatives from Michigan and California. The Democrats are trying to force the issue with a view to embarrassing the opposition. G. G. HILL.

A BLOW TO SPOILSMEN.

Places of Country Postmasters to Be Made More Secure.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Through Mr. John L. Bristow, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, the Postmaster General has announced what is intended to be a gradual, but nevertheless a decided, change of policy as to fourth class postmasters. In the future, so far as the department can effect such a change without opposing everybody in Congress fourth class postmasters are not to be removed from office except for inefficiency or misconduct. Those positions are no longer to be regarded as political prizes to be awarded every four years.

Postmaster General Payne explained this policy to Mr. Bristow several days ago, stating at the time that no intention existed to make a hard and fast rule. It was recognized that many Representatives and Senators had already pledged certain postoffice appointments in their districts, and that any fixed rule must work to the great disadvantage of such Congressmen. Those pledges were accordingly to be observed and fourth-class appointments were to be made in accordance with the old custom whenever such agreements existed. But Mr. Bristow was to make it plain to all his Congressional callers that the attitude of the department is against the old political method, and that hereafter fourth class postmasters who serve satisfactorily can expect to hold office without regard to the old four-year service rule.

This attitude is supposedly in accord with the President's views.

MISS STONE TO BE RELEASED.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 14.—4:15 p. m.—The ransom of Miss Ellen Stone and her companion, Mme. Telika, has been paid. The limit of time allowed for the release of the captives has not yet expired, but their delivery is expected hourly.

COST OF THE NAVY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The Secretary of the Navy has sent to Congress a statement showing the cost of the vessels of the modern navy of the United States to have been \$99,803,398, and \$7,343,235 additional has been expended for repairs. The total number of vessels included in the list is 76, which does not include those under construction. The detailed figures for the battleships—Illinois, Wisconsin, Alabama, Kentucky and Kearsage are not given. Of the others the Oregon heads the list for greatest cost—\$6,575,032.

LAW TO PROTECT THE PRESIDENT.

The Senate Committee on Judiciary has completed the bill "for the protection of the President of the United States," and has authorized Chairman Hoar to report it.

The bill provides that any person who shall wilfully kill or cause the death of the President or any one in line of succession to the Presidency, or who, within the limits of the jurisdiction of the United States, shall cause the death of the sovereign or chief magistrate of any foreign country, shall be punished with death.

Instigation, advice, counsel or conspiracy to kill such officials is to be punished by not exceeding twenty years, imprisonment, and a person aiding in the escape from punishment or any one guilty under this act is to be punished as if a principal.—Washington Dispatch.

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Creation of a New Cabinet Office That is to Wield Considerable Power—Separate Labor Department Wanted.

Senator Nelson's bill to create a Department of Commerce has passed the Senate, but not in its original form, nor even in the form described in our columns last week. The Patent Office and the Coast and Geodetic Survey are no longer included in the new department. The Census Bureau, however, has been restored, and the department has been made almost distinctively a Department of Statistics. The only bureaus not statistical included within it relate to shipping, such as the Life-Saving Service, the Lighthouse Board, the Marine Hospital Service, etc. Apart from the Census, the most important statistical bureau is that of Labor. Before the act was voted upon one of the Democratic Senators who had favored the creation of a new Department of Labor with a Cabinet representative moved that the name of the department be changed from the Department of Commerce to the Department of Commerce and Labor. This amendment was promptly accepted, by Senator Nelson, and the bill was soon after passed in this amended form. The change thus made was designed to give satisfaction to the representatives of organized labor; but it is doubtful if the concession will prove satisfactory to them. Their object in demanding a Department of Labor was that they might have a representative in the Cabinet who would present the interests and the sentiments of the wage earners with the same zeal that the Secretary of Agriculture presents the interests and sentiments of agriculturists. They claim that most of the present Cabinet positions are naturally filled by representatives of commercial classes, who will have still another representative through the Department of Commerce, and they now fear that the consolidation of the Department of Labor with that of Commerce will mean that labor interests will be subordinate in the naming of the Secretary, and in the character of his report. The other criticism made upon the new department is that it does not contain the Inter-State Commerce Commission, though this Commission deals with commercial questions affecting public policy more directly than any other branch of the Government service which has now a Cabinet representative. But whether the Inter-State Commerce is to develop into an administrative or a judicial department of the Government cannot perhaps now be determined.—New York Outlook.