

## MAMMOTH NEW FERTILIZER PLANT NOW IN OPERATION

Its Approximate Cost In The Neighborhood of \$150,000.

OVER ONE YEAR REQUIRED IN WORK OF CONSTRUCTION

Largest In The State And Unsurpassed In Entire South.

After having been in course of construction for more than a year the E. H. & J. A. Meadows Fertilizer Company's mammoth new plant at Graysville, two miles and a half from New Bern, on the opposite banks of Neuse river, has been completed, all the machinery necessary for the beginning of operations installed and the plant is now in operation.

For many years the Meadows Fertilizer Company has manufactured fertilizers in New Bern and their product has been widely used. As the years passed by the demand for their goods increased and they were compelled to add machinery to their plant at Union Point on several occasions in order to supply the ever increasing demand.

In 1910 the officers of the company held a meeting and decided that in order to increase their output it would be necessary for them to enlarge their plant or to build a new plant. After considering the matter the latter course was decided upon and they at once began to look around for a suitable location.

There was no available site on this side of Neuse or Trent rivers and they finally decided to construct the plant at Graysville where the Messrs. Meadows owned valuable tracts of land. Plans and specifications of the buildings were drawn up and the contract for their construction was awarded to Blalock Brothers, contractors and builders of this city. The contractors had thought to have the work completed by the latter part of last January but there were numerous delays and not until a few weeks ago did they turn the building over to the owners.

The site now occupied by the main building was on a high bluff overlooking the river. Large steam dredges toiled for weeks in cutting this down to a desired level. Fourteen feet was removed before this was secured. The work of placing the foundation for such a mammoth structure was then taken up. This is built of solid concrete reinforced with piling.

The main building is three hundred feet long, one hundred and fifty feet wide and three stories in height. All the timbers used in its construction are of heavy heart wood and the whole is covered with corrugated iron. On the first floor of the building is located the bulk material which is used in the manufacture of the fertilizer. The first impression gained by the layman in viewing this floor is that of a large bin, thousands of pounds of phosphate are seen dumped around in stacks. This is brought in on trolley cars which run along tracks on the third floor and are dumped automatically. There is a distance of thirty-eight feet that this material falls and it naturally becomes packed. When it becomes necessary to excavate in this, after several feet have been taken off the top, dynamite cartridges are used in loosening it up. Around the sides of the building on this floor run the trolley tracks and the cars traverse and circle the entire floor.

Ascending to the second floor, one views thousands of bags containing fish scrap and also bags of cotton seed. These are also brought up by the hoisting machine and are placed at desired points by the trolley cars. On this floor is also located a disintegrating machine which is fed from the third floor. This machine is used in crumbling up the pieces of fish scrap which pass through the other machines and do not become pulverized. After passing through this machine these scraps are placed on an elevator and again taken to the third floor where they are mixed with other material.

The third floor is mainly occupied by mixing machines, and the trolley tracks. All material unloaded from the barges is brought in on this floor and unloaded. There is a net work of tracks and overhead trolley wires.

### 350 Foot Pier

At the north end of the building is the pier which runs out for a distance of three hundred and fifty feet. This pier is thirty eight feet in height, at the north end is located the hoisting apparatus and the house which contains the apparatus used in this work. Scoop shaped buckets, each holding eight hundred pounds, are used in unloading the vessels. When these scoops reach the top of the hoist they automatically release their contents and this falls into a funnel-shaped receptacle from which it is emptied into the cars, these cars are operated on the same system as the trolley cars in any city and each one can carry two tons.

As soon as the cars are loaded the automotor puts on the current and the car speeds toward the main building at a rate of six miles an hour. Arriving at a desired point a brake is released and the contents are automatically dumped. The pushing of a lever brings the car back to its normal condition. With the use of this hoist and cars it is estimated that one hundred tons of material can be taken from a vessel in a day's time. At the end of the pier runs the channel of the river and the water at that point is fifteen feet in depth, making it possible for heavily loaded barges to dock there without the least danger of running aground.

### Oil Burning Engines.

Every piece of machinery is operated by electric current. This is generated at the company's own power plant located near the main building. A sixty to seventy kilowatt per hour generator is used in generating the current. This is operated by two oil burning engines. These engines consume about sixty gallons of crude oil in a day, the approximate cost of which is about three dollars. This oil at present is contained in a small tank on the exterior of the building, but a tank which will hold eight thousand gallons is now on the grounds and will be placed in position soon. No fireman is required in the operation of these engines, the engineer being able to attend to every detail. The generator also furnishes the electricity for lighting the plant.

The electrical apparatus used in the power plant and the main building was constructed by the General Electric Company and all the work of installing the generator, trolley wires, etc., was performed by George Smith of this city and it has been done in a very creditable and satisfactory manner.

Practically all of the work is done by electricity and this does away with much extra labor. J. J. Rhodes, who is the superintendent in charge

## FIGHT WILL BE THREE-CORNERED

Results at Chicago Presage Another Democratic Victory In Next Campaign.

### REPUBLICANS STILL WARRING

Roosevelt Refuses To Be Eliminated and There's Life In The G. O. P. Yet.

Washington, Dec. 16.—If the conference of Progressive party leaders in Chicago can be said to mean anything this far ahead of another national campaign, it means a three-cornered fight in 1916 and a second Democratic administration.

The very evident determination of the Progressives to nominate Theodore Roosevelt for the Presidency again and the equally evident willingness of the Colonel to accept the honor seems to end for another four years at least all talk of "eliminating" the former President from the political equation.

Mr. Roosevelt does not intend to be eliminated. His friends apparently do not propose to be parties to an elimination plot, and there the matter ends. Obviously it is useless for the Roosevelt opposition to undertake to send the former candidate to a back seat, when neither he nor his party even considers the idea.

And this is the condition which will make it impossible for the old and new parties to get together. As long as Roosevelt is the big factor in the Progressive party, just that long will a union of the factions be opposed by the forces that now dominate the Republican party and that dominated it when the former President was defeated for the nomination at the Chicago Convention.

These forces have imposed but one condition in all the negotiations that have so far been initiated for a reorganization of the Republican party. That condition has been that Roosevelt be sacrificed. If these terms had been or should later be accepted by the Progressives, all other differences might be adjusted.

Now that the terms have been rejected no further overtures are likely to be made to the insurgents to return to the fold. Any rehabilitation that takes place in the Republican party will be predicated upon the fact that the third party is a permanent organization and that the loss to it will simply have to be charged up as irredeemable.

There are no good signs either that the old party is dead or is about to be absorbed by the new. It will have more than 30 members of the next Senate. It will have considerably more than 100 members of the next House and with this much salvage from the wreck it is in a position to maintain a respectable opposition to the Democratic program.

There is also enough life left in the old party to put up at least one more fight for the Presidency. The fact that Roosevelt is head of the Progressive party and without doubt will be its nominee furnishes all the incentive that many Republicans will need to keep up their own organization.

All this summed up seems to assure the Democrats of at least eight years of control. With conditions in 1916 as they were in the campaign of 1912, it will be next to impossible to defeat the Democratic candidate, whether he be Bryan or Wilson or some one else.

of the mill, says that not more than fifty men will be employed at any time. The plant will have a capacity of an output of three hundred tons a day with this force. There is a floor space of seventy-two thousand square feet in the building or more than a million and a half cubic feet.

### Spur Track Built.

The Norfolk Southern Railway Company have completed a spur track, running a distance of about half a mile from their main line to the plant and at the present time a large steam shovel and a force of men are making excavations preparatory to laying another section of track, making in all three spurs which will be in use in the handling of the large number of cars which will be used.

The cost of the erection of the main building, the building which covers the power plant and the long pier was about one hundred thousand dollars. Every piece of machinery is new and the latest models on the market and this item alone cost several thousand dollars. The approximate cost of the entire plant is about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The plant is not only the largest and most complete in the State but there is not another in the South which can surpass it.

The plant owned by the company and located in this city will continue to operate and will supply the local trade, that is, the farmers living in the sections around New Bern, who drive in after their fertilizers. The capacity of this plant, of course, is limited but it can easily supply the demand from these customers.

## King Ferdinand of Bulgaria Touring Scene of War In Auto



Photo by American Press Association.

**R**IGHT up to date in every particular is King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, leader of his victorious army in the war on the Turks. Here he is in his army auto, snugged as he was on a tour of the territory from which his soldiers had driven the sultan's fighters. He covered in as many hours as wide a field of activity as could have been done on horseback in as many days. Perhaps the commanders in chief of the near future will go one better and use aeroplanes. War is truly evolution as well as revolution.

### ENDS HIS OWN LIFE

Greensboro Contractor Cuts Jugular Vein With Knife.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 17.—W. A. Fries, a contractor of Greensboro, N. C., ended his life by cutting his jugular vein early Monday morning in a room of a local hotel. Death occurred shortly after midnight and a knife was the instrument used. Fries, who had been in Raleigh as inspector on the part of the State of the new administration building, had spent Sunday with his family in Greensboro and returned here at 7:30 o'clock.

A note to his wife found on a table in the room gave the motive for the act as follows:

"To My Dear Wife, I am accused of ugly charges, which I cannot entirely dispose of. Therefore, goodbye, love. I take my own life hoping you collect the life insurance money, as it runs for some time. Have one in Security Life Annuity for \$3,000 and one in Mutual Life of New York for \$5,000. Amounts are due on each one, which will reduce this some. Goodbye, love. I have never been what I ought to you, and hope you and the children will yet be happy."

The note was unsigned. The first knowledge of the man's act of self-destruction was gained by a lodger next door, who heard Fries stumbling and falling. He telephoned to the clerk and asked what was the matter. When the clerk entered the room Fries was found on the floor with his feet under a table. Life was nearly extinct. A doctor was called, but the dying man breathed once only or twice after he arrived.

Fries was a prominent and well known contractor of Greensboro, married and had several children. For little over a year he had been here at the new State building representing the State building commission as inspector of the construction work. He was regarded as an excellent business man and had many friends. The news of his death was a shock to his associates here.

### TO SING SWAN SONG

Senator Bailey Preparing to Take His Flight From Senate.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Sen. Joseph Weldon Bailey of Texas is preparing to take his flight from the Senate. His programme is fixed. He will go Jan. 4 and give Col. R. M. Johnson, editor of the Houston Post, an opportunity to be Senator for two months.

Mr. Bailey, before he quits, will tell his fellow Senators what he thinks of "present-dayisms" and ideas. It is his purpose to devote two days to singing his swan song. In that time he will touch upon many phases of National life showing just where he thinks the Democrats left the path of fathers and the Republicans where they have always been wrong.

For a number of years Mr. Bailey has been out of tune with the dominant of his party. As he sees it the times are out of joint.

### NEW BERN MAN PRESIDENT

Owen G. Dunn Heads New Newspaper Association.

Durham, Dec. 16.—A number of representatives of North Carolina afternoon papers met here Saturday night for the purpose of forming a North Carolina circuit for press reports. Those present were Owen G. Dunn of The New Bern Sun, J. L. Horne, Jr., of the Rocky Mount Telegram, J. M. Reece of The Greensboro Record, J. F. Hurley of The Salisbury Post and S. J. Flickinger of the Durham Sun. Letters were received from the editors of The Wilmington Dispatch, The Wilson Times and The Concord Tribune saying that it was impossible for them to be present, but that they were to be counted on in the organization.

The association organized by electing Owen G. Dunn, president, and J. L. Horne, Jr., secretary. The different phases of the press service were discussed at length, and plans for getting an improved service were gone into thoroughly. Mr. Dunn was elected and will have full charge of the arrangements. He will visit Washington and New York, at an early date and make such contracts that will give to the afternoon dailies of the State a much better press service. The meeting last Saturday lasted until near midnight after which the visitors went to the two local newspaper offices and inspected the plants.

### WHITELAW REID DEAD

American Ambassador To Great Britain Passes Away.

London, Dec. 16.—Whitelaw Reid, the American ambassador to Great Britain since 1905 died at his London residence, Dorchester house, shortly after noon yesterday from pulmonary oedema. The end was quite peaceful. Mrs. Reid and their daughter, Mrs. John Hubert Ward, were at the bedside.

The ambassador had been unconscious since 9 o'clock in the morning and at intervals during the previous 24 hours he had been slightly delirious as a result of the drugs administered to induce sleep.

Sir Thomas Bartow, physician to the King, who was called in last week after Mr. Reid's illness became acute and his regular physician, Dr. William Hale White, is said the following bulletin as to the cause of death:

"A fortnight ago the American ambassador had a slight bronchial attack similar to others which he had suffered at considerable intervals. On Wednesday last asthma supervened and the asthmatic paroxysms became very severe, leading to extreme exhaustion. It was hoped that he might rally as no pneumonic symptoms had appeared. With difficulty the paroxysms of asthma were gotten under control, but Sunday morning the exhaustion became extreme and he died from pulmonary oedema at 1:10 p. m."

## STRIKES PUNITIVE LAWS FROM BOOKS

Present Congress Notable For What It Has Accomplished In This Respect.

### WIPES OUT UNJUST STATUTES

Five Million Dollars In Claims Involved In New Construction of a Single Law.

Washington, Dec. 16.—This session of Congress has so far been notably marked by steps taken by the Senate and the House to strike from the statute books punitive laws passed during the bitter days of and immediately after the Civil War and aimed to humiliate and embarrass the Southern people.

The House the other day passed the Watkins bill, which permits southern people to prosecute their claims for property seized after the war ended by Union soldiers and agents without question of their loyalty, being considered. Under the old statute, if the Southern could not show that he was loyal to the Union, he was virtually kicked out of court with his claim. There are \$5,000,000 in claims involved in changing this statute.

The Senate has not been far behind the House in taking steps to efface all sectional feeling, despite the fact that a majority of that body are adherents of the Republican party. In considering the Omnibus Claims bill the upper chamber has agreed to an amendment which directs the Government to pay the heirs of Confederate generals who resigned from the Union army and afterward joined the South certain claims under the longevity allowance. Under this amendment the heirs of Gen. Fitzhugh Lee will get \$438, the descendants of Stonewall Jackson \$2,925 and those of Gen. Joseph Wheeler \$8,192. The total amount involved in this bill is about \$100,000, and this sum will go to the children and grandchildren of the officers of the Confederate Army who were graduates of West Point or who were in the Union Army before the war started. The claims must be proved in the Court of Claims.

### WILSON SAILS FOR HOME

President-elect Departs From Bermuda on Bermudian.

Hamilton, Bermuda, Dec. 16.—President-elect Woodrow Wilson sailed yesterday for New York on the steamer Bermudian. A large crowd gathered on the quay and cheered Governor Wilson as the steamer sailed away.

Governor Wilson declared that he was delighted with his vacation. The Bermudian was escorted down the harbor by British official launches. The steamer will be involved on the journey by the Royal Mail steamer Oruba.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The steamer Bermudian, with President-elect Wilson aboard, will be practically conveyed to the shores of the United States by several American battleships and the revenue cutter Seneca. With their powerful wireless sweeping the seas these vessels will be in constant communication with the approaching steamer. The battleships of the Atlantic fleet left Hampton Roads Saturday for the high seas, while the Seneca is cruising southward from New York.

### CONCERT.

The girls and boys of Maysville, N. C., will give a concert Friday evening, Dec. 20, for the purpose of raising money for a Christmas tree. Admission fifteen and twenty-five cents.

## FAVOR PAGE FOR AMBASSADORSHIP

President Wilson Will Be Urged To Name Virginian For Important Post.

### NO APPOINTMENT BY TAFT

President Will Let Woodrow Wilson Name Successor of Whitelaw Reid.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Announcement is made at the White House that the President will not name a successor to Whitelaw Reid, late American Ambassador to the Court of St. James.

At the same time friends of Dr. Thomas Nelson Page, of Virginia, let it be known that they would urge President Wilson to send the distinguished author to this post.

Several reasons were given for the President's decision. He believes that the important diplomatic questions involving Great Britain and the United States can be handled successfully in Washington by Mr. Knox and James Bryce, the British Ambassador. He understands that President-elect Wilson already is considering a man for the London post and he does not wish to appoint some who can serve at best for only a few months.

The post at London will now be vacant until March, and for the first time in many years the United States will be without an Ambassador in London.

The London Ambassadorship will be the first diplomatic appointment which President Wilson will make. The negotiations now in progress between this country and Great Britain over the Panama Canal act make it imperative that an Ambassador be sent to England as soon as it may be practicable to name him.

In the meantime President Taft and Secretary Knox will continue their interchanges with the British Government over the Panama issue through the British Ambassador, James Bryce.

It so happens that Mr. Bryce has asked to be recalled and that his resignation is now pending before King George, but the British Foreign Office has asked the Ambassador to remain at his post until the acute stages of the Panama matter have been passed.

The suggestion that Dr. Page be sent to London as the first Democratic Ambassador to the Court of St. James since Thomas Bayard, of Delaware, was appointed by President Cleveland came from a number of influential sources.

The Virginian is known to be a man of private fortune and can meet the requirements of the office, in spite of the expensive hospitality which is necessary for such an official to maintain. He is widely known as an author and scholar on both sides of the Atlantic and his friends believe he will be heartily welcomed by the English Government and English people.

### EXPRESS RATES TO DROP.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The enactment of the parcels post law has brought the express companies into a competition that they have decided to meet.

All express company rates will be revised before January 1 to meet the parcels post rates and arrangements already are under way to extend the express delivery service everywhere.

Harvard students pay more for clothes, tobacco and liquors than they do for books, but most young men do that without having to go to school to learn how.

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