

JOHN LAWS OF ORANGE.

Has Been Register of Deeds for More Than Fifty Years and is Perhaps The Oldest Elective Office-Holder in United States.

John Laws, of Hillsboro, has the honor of being the oldest office-holder in the United States in continuous service. He has been Register of Deeds of the County of Orange all that time and has been reelected every two years, very few persons ever having had the temerity to run against him, and all of these having been "left at the post," using a phrase of the race course. Mr. Laws is now in his eighty-fifth year and within the past few years he married a very charming young woman, barely turned twenty, and she has presented him with three olive branches, the last of these being only a few weeks old.

Mr. Laws' environment is certainly conducive to longevity, for in his town Time has stopped still since the days of the revolution. His office is in the historic Court House, whose clock and bell were presented by his Majesty King George Third to his trusty people of the county of Orange. The old clock has struck the hours and the halves all these years with barely a trifle of repairs, and the sweet notes are very soothing and gentle to the quiet and unworldly town-folk.

This court house has seen no little history in the making; there in 1771 Governor Tryon, marching up from his capital, New Bern, with a couple of thousand or more of his militia at his back, halted and then went on to the Alamance, where he defeated the Regulators, who in this very court house had but a little time before pulled the judge and other officers from the bench, dragged them through the streets and burnt the house of the judge. There too the drums beat during the Revolution, and the place was for a time the State capital, and there Lord Cornwallis had his headquarters in a building across the street from the Court House, which, like the Court House, is shaded by elms more than a century old, the pavement of the streets being of cobble stones, and the whole scene carrying the mind back to the early days of the Republic. At the old Court House the drums beat again in the second war with Great Britain, and their rattle and roll were heard once more when the trouble with Mexico came along. The saddest note of all was that it gave out when the civil war began, for in April, 1861, the troops marched away to occupy one of the forts at the coast, by order of the Governor.

Mr. Laws is part and parcel of the light and life of the good town of Hillsboro. When a mere lad he picked up nearly all the learning he has ever had by attending a school at Hillsboro. He learned the trade of a tinner, and for 25 years worked at this with his office as Register of Deeds. He is not in the least eccentric and his mind is as clear as a bell. No man knows so much about his county or his town. He is modest and photographs of him are hard to attain. He is very proud of the fact that he has held office longer than any other man in the country, and few summer visitors to the town fail to meet him.

He is equally proud of his young wife and the children already mentioned, and she is equally proud of him. One would judge him from appearance and activity to be somewhere around 60 years, and age does not wither him. He is methodical in his habits and to the last degree in the keeping of the records in his office. He says he has not taken a straight drink of water in the past 20 years. This is perhaps one of his fads, though he is not a faddist. He drinks milk, lemonade and other beverages of the soft kind, but never water alone.

To the mind of Mr. Laws things which happened 50 years ago are as fresh and clear as if of yesterday, and he is a mine of information. Mr. Laws has in his time heard many a thrilling story by Revolutionary soldiers and saw the great Lafayette on his second visit to America, in 1826, then being 2 years old. He has seen several Presidents of the United States including James K. Polk and Andrew Johnson in his own town, and also President Jefferson Davis, of the Confederate States of America. One hesitates to speak of Mr. Laws as an old man, for he is not entitled to be termed such. He has not renewed his youth; he has simply had it always. His friends declare him to be the Darling of the Gods. Father Time has forgotten him and may never call for him. He is simply a good, honest, active, hardworking, everyday American citizen, right there every hour of the 24, and it is no wonder that his town and country-folk are very proud of him.—Raleigh Correspondent Philadelphia Record.

Spanish women have the smallest feet, but those of the United States are the best shod.

An Extravagant Nation.

"I believe with Thomas Jefferson in a government frugal and simple, applying all possible saving of the public revenue to the discharge of the national debt, and not to the multiplication of offices and salaries," says Mr. Yoakum before an Oklahoma farmer audience.

This theory was promulgated in 1801, when the expenses of the government were \$9,500,000 annually. Last year they were more than \$650,000,000. The money received for all the cotton grown by all the farmers in the United States last year was not sufficient to pay the operating expenses of the government.

The Government's Extravagance. "This extravagance is the result of increasingly expensive political machinery. It is not directly chargeable to any one. There is no direct responsibility of the parties who have charge of these expenditures, no fear of disapproval. It is the taxpayers' money. It comes easy and goes easy.

"This story of government extravagance is being told so broadly through the newspapers that the masses are beginning to realize that something is wrong. The same disregard of value of money would send the strongest private business in the country into bankruptcy. A proper use of the pruning knife in a downward revision of expenses will bring surprising results. It is not practical to itemize where reduction should be made, but they must come. The deficit should be cared for by reducing expenditures and not by raising taxes to increase revenues.

"We should have a substantial but economically conducted army and navy. The area of all Europe is only 3,500,000 square miles. The area of the United States is 3,000,000 square miles. In Europe there are five acres to one person. In this country there are 22 acres to each person, and if our development is again permitted to go on and our country to grow and expand as it should, we need not fear war with any country or combination of countries.

"I am not speaking against the army and navy; only calling attention to the growing expense of maintaining them. Last years they cost each family of five \$17.00, so every farmer with a family of five has a government boarder to take care of."

Secretary Wilson Quoted.

"Secretary of Agriculture Wilson recently said that the most pressing needs of the United States are a greater proportion of farmers and more farming land in cultivation. We would better spend more of the money we burn up in powder in making new farms. A 40-acre farm of irrigated land will comfortably support a family of five. It costs \$55,000 to make a 12-inch gun. The money that goes to pay for this gun would reclaim 1,571 acres of land, providing homes for 196 people. When all the guns on all the battle-ships are shot at one time, the government blows off in noise and smoke \$150,000. This would reclaim more than 4,000 acres of land, giving homes to more than 500 farmers and their families. The money consumed in powder is lost to all future. The farmer who buys the reclaimed land must pay the government back in ten years, so it does not cost the government anything to build up the country by helping the farmer. We should make more homes and not so many fighting machines."

"The farmer's product is his medium of exchange. When he has a bale of cotton ready for market price. The only value cotton has to the farmer is what he can sell it for, and anything that helps him get a better price puts that much more money in his pocket. Cotton is not perishable and can be carried at a light charge, in properly constructed warehouses. The larger part of the cotton crop of the South is taken from the fields to the railroad station and sold by the farmers within a period of 90 days at the prevailing prices during that short time. If you would prepare to hold your cotton crop, or a portion of it, extending the season for selling through nine or ten months, instead of being forced to dispose of it at ginning time, you could select your own time to sell.

"If this is considered a desirous thing for the Farmers' Union of Oklahoma, in so far as the line for which I can speak, and no doubt other railroad men feel as I do, we shall extend every facility we can to the officers of your organization to carry out your plan of locating a chain of warehouses so that you can store your products in your own warehouses and market them to the best advantage and at the least expense. To do this and to do it successfully, it will be necessary for this branch of your organization to be handled under the same principles and business rules that govern other commercial enterprises."—The Cotton Journal.

OUR NIAGARA HAS A RIVAL.

The Falls of Iguazu in South Africa A Master-piece of Scenic Grandeur.

In the heart of South Africa, at the meeting place of three republics—Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay—nature has chosen the site for a masterpiece of scenic grandeur to be compared only to the mighty Niagara in majesty and pronounced by some of the few travelers who have seen it to be even greater than its North American counterpart. The falls of Iguazu occur at the junction of Iguazu river with the upper Parana, in a territory famous at the original locality of the Jesuit missions, established in the sixteenth century, the ruins of which may still be seen by those who visit the falls.

About 12 miles above the falls the river Iguazu makes a sharp bend, almost at right angles, giving them greater extent and more varied character than those of Niagara, which to some degree they resemble. As the river makes the sharp bend already mentioned the main volume of water rushes around the inner bank and is discharged into a long, narrow gorge, at one point making a clear plunge of 210 feet. Not all the volume of the river is received at this place, however, the rest of the water running out past it into the wide elbow formed by the bend and circling along the farther shore among rocks and islands before reaching the edge of the cliff, over which the descent is made in two great leaps of a hundred feet each in a vast semicircle of 3,000 feet. The total length of Iguazu falls, if measured, at the upper edge of the cliff, through their broken contour, including interesting islets, is twice as great as that of Niagara, including the intersection of Goat Island.

The double fall of Iguazu is the most striking feature of the cataract, the rocky shelf or platform that divides the leap being in some places more than 50 yards wide and in others only a few feet.

The scenery surrounding Iguazu falls is in peculiar harmony with the solemn grandeur of the cataract and its varied character. The roar of the waterfall is more impressive for the solitude of the spot and the eternal silence that reigns in the dense forest that marks its border, into which the white man has scarcely penetrated. For several miles before the falls are reached the river is a mass of huge frowning boulders and whirlpools, and the first view of the great cataract is often a disappointment, from the fact that it must be seen from many different points to be appreciated in all its beauty.—Baltimore Sun.

New Ambassador to Russia.

William W. Rockhill, promoted from the post of minister to China to that of ambassador to Russia, is peculiarly qualified for the St. Petersburg portfolio. President Taft's choice of Mr. Rockhill for the Russian post was based largely on his knowledge of the position of Russia in China, with especial reference to the vexed railroad zone question. There has been constant friction between Russia and China in Manchuria, notably along the line of the Manchurian railroad. The question is filled with possibilities, and the United States realizes the benefits that will follow the presence of an ambassador at the Russian capital thoroughly acquainted with the details.

Another delicate diplomatic task he will be called upon to perform is that of securing from the Russian government the guarantee of proper treatment of Hebrew citizens of the United States traveling in Russia. That this step would be taken with regard to Jewish travelers in the czar's dominion was promised by Mr. Taft in the last campaign.

Mr. Rockhill was assistant secretary of state under Grover Cleveland. He has had twenty-five years' experience in the diplomatic service and has represented this country at several important posts in the orient.—Ex.

Night On Bald Mountain.

On a lonely night Alex. Benton of Fort Edward, N. Y., climbed Bald Mountain to the home of a neighbor, tortured by Asthma, bent on curing him with Dr. King's New Discovery, that had cured himself of asthma. This wonderful medicine soon relieved and quickly cured his neighbor. Later it cured his son's wife of a severe lung trouble. Millions believe it's the greatest Throat and Lung curer on Earth. Coughs, Colds, Croup, Hemorrhages and Sore Lungs are surely cured by it. Best for Hay Fever, Grip and Whooping Cough. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by Hood Bros.

The busiest spot in the world is said to be the vicinity of Mansion House, London, where 37 vehicles pass every minute during the day.

Epworth-by-the-Sea.

This is the center of the biggest young people's enterprise in Southern Methodism. Indeed it is probably true that no denominational wing of the young people's movement anywhere in America can boast so large an investment or claim so thorough an equipment as are represented by this product of Texas Methodism. When you travel to Epworth you will very likely buy your ticket to Corpus Christi. This town may be found on the right tip of the golden crescent that determines the shore line of South East Texas. It is situated on a deep-water bay which is protected from destructive hurricanes by a broken fringe of islands faintly visible from the beach. The town has built its business marts on a wide shelf of broken sea-shell and sand only a little raised above the level of the tumbling surf. But retreating about from this depression a splendid terrace rises to a height well above the tallest buildings on the business streets below. On this upper level some of the handsomest residences in the town are to be seen. And from it one enjoys a wide-extended view of the waters of Corpus Christi Bay. The population of this town is now nearly 12,000. Three years ago it was barely six thousand. Today a vigorous commercial club is successfully projecting a system of sewerage and a street railway, and booming the construction of a hotel that will cost a quarter of a million dollars. And here is the point of mentioning these things. At an informal smoker given to the men of Epworth the other day, members of this club frankly admitted that the revival of prosperity in their town was due in large measure to Epworth-by-the-Sea. The young people in Texas have advertised their encampment grounds. Inquiries, therefore, have been received from as far north as Nova Scotia. Thus Corpus Christi is profited.

The terminal of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad, southward looms into view from the approaching train across five miles of blue water. Between this point and the town, Epworth-by-the-Sea nestles close to the heaving shore. It is the first stop for the cars beyond a trestle which spans a neck of the bay two miles wide. Passengers for Corpus travel an additional mile beyond Epworth. The encampment grounds embrace a fenced area estimated at fifteen acres. Buildings representing a minimum investment of ten thousand dollars occupy the enclosure. Epworth Inn, with fifty dormitories, and a wide double porch extending the full length of the structure in front is the center of life on the grounds. Ten cottages, scattered over the beach, furnish quieter retreats for those who desire them. The great majority of visitors to Epworth, however, are sheltered in splendid canvas tents obtained from San Antonio. More than two hundred and nineteen of these cloth houses were stretched on the grounds this year. A great pavilion capable of seating fifteen hundred persons stands in the center of the enclosure. On Sundays fully two thousand people are crowded under and around this shelter. Several smaller pavilions have been erected on the grounds by local chapters of Epworth Leagues out in the State. They are used for committee meetings, Mission Study classes and recreation events. Besides these, a number of large tents appear annually on the reservation. They are provided by Leagues that do not care to build permanent headquarters at the encampment. The students of South Western University have established a delightful rendezvous near the great pavilion. The post office, refreshment and news stands, a book store and souvenir counter are housed in a group of booths adjoining the South Western Rendezvous. The business office, a laundry office, a supply depot and store and a barber shop occupy another group of buildings near the railroad tracks.

When camp is pitched at Epworth-by-the-Sea, the managers of this enterprise face practically all the problems of a small town, plus the difficulty of a seriously congested population. A sanitary commission locks after the removal of refuse and garbage. A supply of good water is hauled a distance of twenty miles in tank cars and pumped into a central reservoir. Pipe lines then carry it to the buildings and tents all over the grounds. A tank of iced water is kept full all the time just to the rear of the great pavilion. The market of which Epworth does its buying is principally San Antonio. Bread, meats, ice and fruits are shipped from that point. It will be a great convenience when Corpus Christi attains to sufficient growth to become the base of supplies. The first encampment of Epworth Leaguers in Texas was held in San Antonio five years ago. Eight thousand young people were quartered upon the citizens of that city. The convention

was on the style of a great camp meeting. There was much preaching, and the delegates rode through the streets on the cars singing revival songs. Epworth-by-the-Sea is growing to be the great chautauqua of the South. Fires of enthusiasm, indeed, are not allowed to flame low. The finest inspirational addresses possible are delivered to the people from evening to evening. The difference between San Antonio and Epworth is that the latter undertakes to supply a store of fuel upon which the flames of enthusiasm may continue to feed. It does this by introducing the latest approved chautauqua methods among the young people of its constituency. The program of an Epworth assembly compares favorably with that of a convention of the Young People's Missionary Movement or of a Y. M. C. A. conference. Mission study and Bible classes occupy the first hours of the morning. Then institutes on Epworth League and Sunday school needs and methods claim the attention of the delegates. The entire afternoon is devoted to recreation. The sermon or address comes at the eight o'clock evening hour. The more distinctly devotional life of the leaguers is enriched by daily matin and vesper services. The latter are sometimes held on the beach, where the music of the surf intensifies the spirit of reverence. Besides able workers and speakers from the home conferences, the program committee this year imported Dr. C. M. Bishop, of Missouri, Dr. A. F. Wadkins, of Mississippi, and Mrs. M. L. Hargrove, of the Scarritt Bible and Training School.

In devoting the entire afternoon to recreation and pleasure, the officers of Epworth-by-the-Sea secure the continual good humour, of the great crowds they handle. There is a surf unexcelled anywhere in the world. A sand-bottom, gently sloping shore, waves that attain a certain four feet and more above the ocean level, and absolutely not a bit of undertow. Fishing is easy and lucrative even to the awkward angler; and boating is comfortable and safe. This season a whole day was set apart for a trip across the bay to the famous Tarpon fishing grounds. A new feature of amusement was also introduced in the absence of college night. The educational institutions represented joined together to give an evening of fun and frolic by suitable exhibitions of college spirit. And Epworth-by-the-Sea is growing. Concrete walks are being laid; a Woman's Building has already been erected by the Missionary societies of the four Texas conferences; a complete water system is to be installed before the next encampment; and the trustees are planning to add twenty acres more to the beach area already enclosed. In another direction it has been resolved to urge the Sunday school interests of Texas Methodism to combine with the League in a single annual convention of enlarging proportions; and a plan has already been launched with great enthusiasm and substantial financial support to put a secretary into the State-wide field to devote his whole time to bringing these things to pass. Keep your eyes on the Lone Star State.

JAS. MARVIN CULBRETH, Corpus Christi, Texas, Aug. 20.

Go With a Rush.

The demand for that wonderful Stomach, Liver and Kidney cure, Dr. King's New Life Pills—is astounding. Hood Bros. say they never saw the like. It is because they never fail to cure Sour Stomach, Constipation, Indigestion, Biliousness, Jaundice, Sick Headache, Chills and Malaria. Only 25c.

THE LATEST IN SUMMER DON'TS

- Most people have a collection of hot weather don'ts. Here is a list:
- Don't work too hard.
- Don't think too hard.
- Don't fail to play.
- Don't, if you are a man, wear a waistcoat.
- Don't, if you are a woman, fail to remember that nature did not mean you to be a harnessed, curlew creature with no dimension save length, but instead a being whose whole body, in summer especially, should be allowed to breathe.
- DON'T WORRY.
- Don't hurry.
- Don't wear black.
- Don't lose your temper.
- Don't forget to bathe often.
- Don't scold the children.
- But do drink water early, often, late.
- Don't feed a baby every time it cries. The chances are it needs water more than food.
- Don't wait until your own throat is parched and then gulp down drafts of ice water. Every time you have nothing else to do swallow a little more cool, pure water.

Farms in New York State.

The New York State bureau of agriculture has been in existence three years. In that time it has been instrumental in the sale of \$3,000,000 worth of farms, which means their rehabilitation. It has also sent out several thousand farm laborers to those who need their assistance, and maintained an office in the State agricultural department to attend to correspondence in relation to the sale of farms and the engagement of agricultural labor. It has also advertised the opportunities for farming in New York State, posting notices in European districts which send the most desirable immigrants. The latest bulletin contains a list of 936 farms, at prices varying from \$20 to \$50 an acre, and in some cases small payments may be made. To those who desire it, the State bureau will also furnish a scientific report as to the products for which each farm is best adapted.—Ex.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*
Blame on Republicans.

Much of the odium that is being heaped upon Speaker Cannon really ought to be awarded to the Republican party. It has bred Cannons and Cannonism right along without compunction, and has taken very slight pains to wash and fumigate itself after doing some dirty job for the plutocrats.—Philadelphia Record.

Last year about 30,000 persons visited the birthplace of Shakespeare.

Wood's Descriptive Fall Seed Catalog

now ready, gives the fullest information about all
Seeds for the Farm and Garden,
Grasses and Clovers, Vetches, Alfalfa, Seed Wheat, Oats, Rye, Barley, etc.
Also tells all about
Vegetable & Flower Seeds
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OCTOBER 27th, 28th & 29th.
Home Coming Week. A week of Gaiety and Pleasure. Mammoth Floral Parade. Racing Every Day. Big Gay Midway. Two Thousand Dollars in Purses and Specials. Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars in Gold in Premiums for White Seed CORN.
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VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE.

I offer for sale a farm consisting of 133 acres in the northern edge of Johnston county, about six miles from Wendell and twelve from Selma, on public road. Fifty acres cleared, fine two-horse farm. Red land and adapted to the growth of cotton, corn, oats, wheat, and tobacco. Original growth of timber. In stock law territory. Good pasture. Good out-houses and dwelling house with six rooms. Fine water. One-half mile from school house, two churches within two miles. Cultured neighborhood. \$2,600 is the price, at least \$1,000 cash, balance on time. Fine bargain, and the proposition is open for a short time only. Good reason for selling. Write or call on the undersigned. L. H. ALLRED, Selma, N. C.
Aug. 26, 1909.

Electric Bitters
Succeed when everything else fails. In nervous prostration and female weaknesses they are the supreme remedy, as thousands have testified.
FOR KIDNEY, LIVER AND STOMACH TROUBLE
it is the best medicine ever sold over a druggist's counter.