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MILLION TO FIGHT HOOKWORM PLAGUE

ROCKEFELLER STARTS WAR ON STRANGE SOUTHERN DISEASE.

Finances Movement to Investigate and Seek Cure for "Lazy Bug" Malady in Rural South—Says He Makes Gift in appreciation of the Many Kindnesses Shown Him While Visiting There—Commission Gets to Work on Proposed Plans. New York, Oct. 28.—John D. Rockefeller has given \$1,000,000 for the eradication of the hook worm, the lazy man's bug of the South.

His agents in the Standard Oil Building in this city made the announcement today. The disbursement of the money will rest with a committee of twelve, of which John D. Rockefeller, Jr., is a member.

The idea of going after the hookworm in a scientific manner presented itself to Mr. Rockefeller some months ago, and since then he has been making inquiries through his agents as to the possibility of fighting it. A week ago Wednesday Frederick T. Gates, one of Mr. Rockefeller's agents, at 26 Broadway, sent telegrams to some of the men with whom Mr. Rockefeller had spoken on the subject of the hookworm, asking them to come to his office here and talk the matter over.

The summons was addressed to Dr. William B. Welch, professor of pathology in Johns Hopkins University, and president of the American Medical Association; Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the Rockefeller Institute for medical research; Dr. Charles W. Stiles, who is chief of the division of Zoology in the United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, and the discoverer of the American species of hookworm and one of the first to appreciate the prevalence of the disease; Dr. Edwin A. Alderman, president of the University of Virginia; Dr. David F. Houston, chancellor of Washington University, St. Louis; P. P. Claxton, professor of education in the University of Tennessee; J. Y. Joyner, State superintendent of education in North Carolina and president of the National Educational Association; Walter H. Page, editor of the World's Work, and Dr. H. P. Driscoll, principal of Hampton Institute.

With the exception of Prof. Claxton and Mr. Joyner, these men met John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Frederick T. Gates, and Starr J. Murphy, representing Mr. Rockefeller, in this city last Tuesday morning. Mr. Rockefeller himself stayed in Cleveland. This letter was read to them.

Wants Full Investigation.
"For many months my representatives have been inquiring into the nature and prevalence of 'hookworm,' and considering plans for mitigating its evils. I have delayed action in this matter only until the facts as to the extent of the disease could be verified and the effectiveness of its cure and prevention demonstrated.

"The wide distribution and serious effects of this malady, particularly in the rural districts of our Southern States, first pointed out by Dr. Charles Wardell Stiles, of the United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, have now been confirmed by independent observations of other distinguished investigators and physicians, as well as by educators and public men of the South.

"Knowing your interest in all that pertains to the well-being of your fellowmen and your acquaintance with this subject, I have invited to a conference, in the hope that it may lead to the adoption of well-considered plans for a co-operative movement of the medical profession, public health officials, boards of trade, other agencies, for the cure and prevention of this disease. If you deem it wise to undertake this commission I shall be glad to be permitted to work with you to that end and you may call upon me from time to time for such sums of money as may be needed during the next five years for carrying on an aggressive campaign, up to a total of \$1,000,000."

The committee spent most of the day in a session and at the end

of it dispatched a letter to Mr. Rockefeller, accepting his commission and agreeing to serve on the board, which they named "The Rockefeller Commission for the Eradication of the Hookworm Disease."

Prof. Claxton and Mr. Joyner, the two members who were absent, had previously given their acquiescence to the plan, and their names were signed to the letter, along with those of the others.

The commission will meet again soon for organization and for the mapping out of the work which it has set out to do.

The Coast Line's New Train.

The additional train on the Atlantic Coast Line, which the Observer several days ago stated would soon be put on, it is now officially announced will begin its regular schedule on the 15th of this month.

This train will run from New York to Florida, and will arrive in Fayetteville somewhere about 8 o'clock. Returning, the train will arrive here from Florida somewhere about 7 o'clock.

The schedule has not yet been published. This train should be of great service to Fayetteville, as it gives us train service on the Atlantic Coast Line from the north in the morning, and returning late in the afternoon.

This will give us three through trains from New York daily over the Atlantic Coast Line, in addition to the Florida Specials. —Fayetteville Observer.

A CONGRESSMAN DIES SUDDENLY

Francis R. Lassiter Expires At Petersburg. Democratic Representative of the Fourth Virginia District

Petersburg, Va., Oct. 31.—Representative Francis R. Lassiter, of the Fourth Virginia district, died suddenly at his home here today, aged 43.

Francis Rives Lassiter was born in Petersburg, Va., on February 18, 1866, and was a son of Dr. Daniel W. Lassiter. On his mother's side he was a nephew of Francis E. Rives, who represented the Fourth district in Congress before the war. He graduated in 1886 at the University of Virginia with the degree of bachelor of law. In the spring of 1888 he was elected city attorney for Petersburg, and by successive re-elections he held the office until he resigned in 1893 to accept the office of United States district attorney for the Eastern district of Virginia, which was tendered him by President Cleveland.

Mr. Lassiter was a lawyer of ability and a man of letters. He delivered many lectures on literary subjects and much of his poetry was published in the magazines. He was appointed supervisor of census for 1900, but resigned the appointment when he was elected to Congress on April 19 of that year, to fill the unexpired term of the late Sidney P. Epes. At the Democratic convention, held in Petersburg on March 29, 1900, to make the nomination for the unexpired term he was also nominated for the full term, and was re-elected to Congress by a majority of about 4,600, which is one of the largest majorities ever given a Democratic candidate in the district. Representative Lassiter was re-elected to the Fifty-seventh, Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth Congresses.

Nine Persons Killed.

"L. Johnsbury, Vt., Oct. 30.—Nine persons killed, two are dying and five others are in a serious condition as the result of fire which was destroyed the citizens savings bank, the principle business block of St. Johnsbury early today.

Two of the dead jumped from the burning building and were instantly killed. Seven others were burned to death as their bodies were taken from the ruins this morning.

The fire started at 4 P. M. It had gained great headway when discovered and the block was doomed. The loss will reach \$125,000.

Deaths Speed Depopulation.

Paris, Oct. 29.—Vital statistics for the first six months of the present year show an excess of deaths over births in France of 28,205. In 1908 excess of deaths was 10,508.

OLD DOMINION DEMOCRATIC.

Judge Mann and All His Running Mates are Voted Into Office. For Governor, Incomplete Returns Show That Mann Will Have Approximate Plurality of 23,000 Votes.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 3.—Returns received up to an early hour this morning from seventeen of the nineteen cities and from eighty-four of the 100 counties of the State, indicate the election of Judge William Hodges Mann to the governorship by an approximate plurality of 23,000 votes over Captain William Patton Kent, the Republican nominee. With Judge Mann the entire Democratic State ticket has been elected. Apparently Colonel B. O. Jamer, the candidate for Secretary of the Commonwealth, whose name had to be written or stamped on the ticket, has polled a vote falling only a few thousand short of that received by the head of the ticket.

There was no noticeable scratching on either side of the political side of the fence. Minor candidates, as is usual in such elections, fell behind the candidates for the governorship, and in some sections Judge Mann ran behind his ticket, while in others Captain Kent received fewer votes than his confederates, but on the whole the voting was uniform.

From a number of the counties only majorities were reported, and from a few no reports at all were received, and for these reasons it is impossible to make an estimate as to the total vote. Indications are, however, that considerably fewer votes were polled than in the gubernatorial contest of 1905, and fewer also than in the presidential election of one year ago.

GENERAL NEWS.

Andreas Merdano, a Mexican, has died at Los Angeles, aged 109 years. Five of the seventy cotton mills at Lowell, Mass., and two at Lawrence have started curtailment.

The New York Criminal Court building, that cost \$2,000,000, has been declared unsafe and closed.

Charles R. Crane, recently recalled as Minister designate to China, is about to leave for a trip to Europe. Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., has received \$50,000 by the will of John Wallace, of New York, toward a new gymnasium.

American iron and steel manufacturers have been asked to bid on about half of the Turkish navy, which is to be sold as junk.

The United Metals Selling Company, selling agents of the Amalgamated Copper Company, has sold 30,000,000 pounds of copper at about 13 cents a pound.

Fearing that the auto in which she was riding at Chicago was to collide with a taxicab, Mrs. Mary Blakeley jumped to the street and was killed by the taxicab Monday.

The will of the late Senator Patrick McCarran, of Brooklyn, devised all his property, worth about \$50,000, to his mother.

Two men were killed and two seriously injured when the walls of a New York Central freight house collapsed at Rochester, N. Y., Saturday.

Charles W. Bennett, who died recently at Binghamton, N. Y., left \$200,000 to J. W. Casey, of Denver, for rescuing him from drowning several years ago.

Engineer Oscar P. Lessing, in the wreck of whose train at Husted, Col., on August 14, 12 persons were killed, was tried at Colorado Springs on a charge of manslaughter and acquitted last week.

JOHNSTON COUNTY CLUB.

The Boys at the State University From This County Organize.

Chapel Hill, Oct. 29.—The Johnston Club of the University of North Carolina held its first meeting of the year last Thursday night with a good attendance. The following officers were elected:

President, G. T. Whitley, of Smithfield. Vice-President, H. E. Austin, of Clayton.

Secretary and Treasurer, J. P. Cordon, of Clayton. Johnston sends seventeen this year, sixteen of whom are members of the county club.

JUDGE WILLIAM J. GAYNOR MAYOR

TAMMANY SAVES THE MAYORSHIP ONLY.

Judge Gaynor Beats Bannard and Hearst for Mayor of Greater New York, but the Republican Fusionist Crowd Get the Other Fat Offices.

New York, Nov. 2.—William J. Gaynor has been elected mayor of New York by a plurality approximately 79,000.

The indications at midnight are that he will be alone in his own particular kind of political glory in the board of estimate and apportionment. Hearst proved a factor in the race.

In the next four years New York City will spend, approximately \$1,000,000,000. That money will be under the direction and by the votes of a board made up of a Tammany mayor, a Republican and fusion president of the board of aldermen, a Republican and fusion comptroller, a Republican and fusion president of the borough of Manhattan, Republican and fusion presidents of the boroughs of Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Queens, and a Republican and fusion president of the borough of Richmond.

There are sixteen votes in the board of estimate and apportionment, of which the mayor has three, the president of the board of aldermen three, the comptroller three, and the presidents of the boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn two each. The presidents of the boroughs of the Bronx, Queens, and Richmond have one each.

It will be seen, therefore, that the vast sum of money to be spent by the city in the next four years will not by any means be under the control of Tammany Hall.

It was a bitter pill, unglided, for Tammany to swallow—to lose the board of estimate and apportionment. But with that gone, there were visions of the fees in the sheriff's office, had Christie Sullivan gotten votes enough. But Christie appears to have fallen outside the breastworks, and the Republican and fusion candidates, Shea, will administer the office of sheriff and apportion the fees.

Aside from taking care of the Sullivans by electing Christie, Tammany hoped to annex the district attorney's office when it put up a high class man and an able lawyer in George Gordon Battle to run against former Judge Charles S. Whitman, but even the protection of the district attorney's office seems to have been denied the Tammany aggregation. The midnight returns appear to indicate that Whitman, a good lawyer, a good citizen, with a straight record, has beaten another good lawyer and good citizen with a record equally as straight.

BOILER AT GIN EXPLODES.

Lysander Parrish Killed and Others Injured at Gin of Charlie Creech Near Selma. Other News of Interest.

Last Saturday, October 30th, Mr. L. D. Debnam, Treasurer of the Selma Road Fund, paid Mr. John H. B. Tomlinson in full for work done by the Smithfield township convict force on the Smithfield and Selma road in Selma township. The road from Selma to Smithfield is now open and is a fine road, being thirty feet wide all the way. Dr. Dickinson, of Wilson, who went to Four Oaks last week in his automobile, says the road was changed so that he hardly knew where he was, and, with very little additional work on the road from Selma to Wilson would be a good one for automobilists from Wilson to Smithfield, and when the road is put in order, the capitals of the two counties will be only two hours apart.

The sad news came here last Thursday that Prof. Wingate Underhill, the principal of the Wilmington High school was dead. He died that morning at the Hospital where he had been operated on for an

terminal tumor which the surgeons said was caused by an attack of typhoid fever of a few years ago. Prof. Underhill was the son of Mr. John A. Underhill, Sr., and was born about one and a half miles from Selma on January 4, 1872; was a graduate of the University of North Carolina and a teacher of ability. About Christmas, 1906, he married Miss Florence May Edgerton, of Louisville, N. C., who with one child survives. The bereaved have the heartfelt sympathy of our people.

Thursday about ten thirty o'clock the steam engine of Mr. Charlie Creech's cotton gin about five miles from Selma at the cross roads where Mrs. Brown and her little grand son were killed some twenty years ago, exploded almost instantly killing Mr. Lysander Parrish, a farmer and former saw mill man who was unloading a bale of seed cotton from his wagon. Mr. John W. Brown who was talking to Mr. Parrish was not hurt. There was a large hole knocked in Parrish's back on the right, his left shoulder was almost torn off and broken in several places; his head was crushed and his face almost unrecognizable. He died before any assistance could be given and without regaining consciousness.

Mr. Walter Stancil, a son of Mr. John Henry Stancil, had his lower jaw broken, right side of head cut and it is feared internal injuries. Mr. Haywood Ellis suffered a slight scalp wound.

Mr. Dock Batton the fireman, or engineer was right badly scalded about the face, his arms and legs. The gin house was about 30 by 50 feet in size and the engine about 40 feet from the gin house. The elevator for taking-up cotton was at the end of ginhouse farthest from engine and Mr. Parrish was there unloading his cotton when the boiler exploded. The boiler went through the gin house which fell in behind the flying boiler and fell on Mr. Parrish's wagon, the boiler and falling timber killing him. Mr. Stancil was injured by the falling timber. The dead man was taken to his home about five miles from the gin, and the injured parties taken to the residence of Mr. Thomas Brown about half a mile away where they received medical attention from Dr. Person.

The largest stack of peavine hay it was ever my pleasure to see was at the Selma Lumber Company's plant. It was baled a few days ago and made 379 bales averaging eighty pounds to the bale, making a total of 30,320 pounds, all nice bright hay. Now, want that a nice stack? That was not half of the hay the Lumber Co. made.

The little 6 or 7 year old son of Mr. C. C. Tiner, who lives near Thanksgiving church, accidentally shot himself with a borrowed pistol through the calf of his leg. It seems that he borrowed a pistol of a negro and went under the house to play with it when it went off.

Miss Bertha Griffin returned from Clayton Tuesday after a visit to friends.

Mrs. J. H. Griffin left Wednesday morning to visit her daughter in Wakefield.

Miss Helen Newbold returned last Thursday from the marriage of a cousin at Washington, N. C.

Miss Margaret Etheredge entertained a number of her friends at a Halloween party Monday evening.

Opposite the Selma Cotton Mills last Monday evening about 6:30 there was a head on collision between an east bound through freight and the shifting engine. Both engines were badly torn up, the shifting engine worse.

Selma, Nov. 3.

12 DIE IN MINE EXPLOSION.

Three Men Escape from Shaft by Climbing Life Ladders.

Johnstown, Pa., Oct. 31.—Twelve men were killed in the Cambria Steel Company's coal mine, two miles from here, tonight as the result of what is supposed to have been a dynamite explosion. All the dead were foreigners. Three men escaped with their lives by a perilous climb on life ladders through poisonous mine gas and falling slate up the steep walls of the main shaft. At the time of the explosion only fifteen workmen, all track layers, were in the mine.

A TRAGEDY OF THE GRIDIRON.

Army Cadet Eugene Byrne Dies of a Broken Neck Received in the Game Between West Point and Harvard.

West Point, N. Y., October 31.—Cadet Eugene A. Byrne, of Buffalo, N. Y., a fourth-year man at the United States Military Academy, died in the cadet hospital at 6:35 o'clock this morning, a sacrifice to football. The Army is accustomed to death, but not in this deplorable form, and this tragedy of the gridiron has brought grief to officers and cadets alike that the end of football at West Point and Annapolis is predicted by many.

Young Byrne expired as the sun was riding over the hills along the Hudson, with his grief-stricken father, John Byrne, a Civil War veteran at his bedside. Brave as was the young soldier, a fight against death, it was hopeless from the start. Buried beneath a mass of struggling players in the Harvard-Army game yesterday, his neck was twisted and broken by the weight of the crushing pile above him, and he was picked up with every nerve of his body, except those of his head and face helpless to perform their function.

Young Byrne was only 21 years old and was a veteran of the Army football team and popular with his classmates and officers. He was acting as captain of the eleven yesterday and he gave his life, too early perhaps, but as his father wished it, struggling on the field for the honor of the Army.

Byrne was injured in a mass play on tackle, a play that is common enough in football and which had been used several times in the game previous to the accident. Byrne, standing valiantly as left tackle for the Army, was forced under the rush of Crimson players and on falling must have had his head twisted into a position where the weight of the men piling upon him was greater than the strong ligaments of the vertebral column at the back could stand. They snapped with the pressure and the fatal lesion resulted.

SELMA HALLOWEEN PARTY.

A Delightful Evening With Miss Margaret Ethridge.

Selma, N. C., Nov. 2.—Last night Miss Margaret Etheridge entertained her friends with a halloween party. The parlors and halls were grotesquely decorated with jack-o'-lanterns, and the guests on arriving were each received by a spook, and escorted into the drawing room, where they were seated, and afterwards visited by the ghosts.

After the young men had each selected the spook of his choice, the young ladies unmasked, and for the rest of the evening were the partners of the gentlemen who had preferred them as spooks.

The amusements of the evening consisted of a word writing contest: "Cats I have known," Miss Wart being the prize winner, and "A march into the unknown," in which the guests were made to undergo a trying ordeal of marching backwards, blindfolded, up improvised stairs, and through the most impossible places. The guests then had their fortunes told by Miss Newbold, some of the young men being informed that they were doomed to loneliness and a dreary bachelorhood.

The punch bowl was presided over by Miss Fitzgerald and Mr. Call. Upon request, several beautiful instrumental solos were charmingly rendered by Miss Ware.

Later delicious refreshments were served to the guests.—News and Observer.

Death Takes Two Over 100.

Chicago, Oct. 29.—Two women, whose ages aggregate 207 years, died today. Mrs. Amelia Mocklee, 104 years old, died of pneumonia, while Mrs. Antonio Spadzinski, 103 years old died of senility. Joseph Spadzinski, the surviving husband of the latter, was 100 years old in July.

Having no faith in banks, Peter Massion, a trolley car employe at Chicago, carried his savings in his pocket, a robber finally getting from