

CUBA HAS WITHDRAWN SUIT

North Carolina Is Glad That Senator Overman Has Laid That Repudiated Bond Matter Before the Cuban Government in Such a Light That the Suit Is Stopped.

Parker R. Anderson writing from Washington City Friday, sends the following good news to the people of North Carolina through the Greensboro Daily News:

Dr. Charles Manuel Cespedes, Cuban minister to Washington, formally notified Senator Lee S. Overman, of North Carolina, today that the republic of Cuba had revoked the decree allowing certain people in Cuba to sue the State of North Carolina on the repudiated carpetbag bonds and the case which was to have been heard in the United States Supreme Court Monday will be stricken from the records—dropped for once and all time.

Credit is given Senator Overman, of North Carolina, for settling this great suit. But for the senator's resolution, calling for an investigation, and his forceful speech, delivered in the senate this week, the suit would probably have been pressed and had the court decided against the State, other suits would have followed which would have aggregated something like \$43,000,000 and interest.

When Minister Cespedes read what Senator Overman said about the suit, he asked the North Carolina senator to call at his residence. He said the republic of Cuba had been grossly imposed upon and urged him to delay action on his resolution until he could cable his government. Senator Overman was willing to do this and today Minister Cespedes received a cable from Cuba advising him that the decree had been revoked and that the suit would be dropped.

At today's conference between Dr. Cespedes and Senator Overman, however, the only information as to who had turned the bonds over to the Cubans was that they came through the New York repudiated bond committee. Just who is responsible for this committee having the bonds will make interesting reading also.

MEADOW SCHOOL ITEMS.

Benson, R. 2, Jan. 6.—Notwithstanding the fact that measles is holding sway in the community, Meadow school re-opened on January 1st, with a fair attendance. The prospects for a successful term are very bright.

Mr. A. G. Powell, the competent and efficient principal, has imbued the school with much interest and enthusiasm for the upbuilding of the school and community.

Two literary societies, the Royall-Kelly for the girls, and the Athenian for the boys, have been organized. The Royall-Kelly, under the direction of Miss Ethel Maye Harwood, and the Athenian, under the direction of Mr. A. G. Powell, are both very promising. The lower grades have also been organized into a society under the leadership of Miss Floyd D. Yarboro.

The classes in Household Economics are manifesting a deep interest, both in sewing and in cooking. This course was introduced in the school last year with a certain degree of success. This year the girls are realizing more than ever the benefit received from the course and are entering whole-heartedly into the work.

On Wednesday evening, January 10, a community meeting will be held in the auditorium of the school building for the purpose of arousing interest in moon light school. An address will be delivered by an able speaker. The school chorus will render several selections. The local string band will also assist in entertaining. The public is cordially invited to be present.

The first group meeting of the present term will be held at Meadow School, the group center, on Friday, January 12th. It is hoped that every teacher in the group will be present.

General Julian S. Carr has accepted a commission from the Governor to act as agent for the people of North Carolina in erecting a suitable monument to Dr. Elisha Mitchell on the top of the mountain that bears his name, the highest east of the Mississippi river. General Carr estimates that a suitable monument to the honor of Mitchell's memory will cost around \$150,000.

WIND WHIRLS SCHOOL HOUSE.

School Teacher Gives Graphic Account of Tornado Which Caused Death of 15 School Children.

McAlester, Okla., Jan. 5.—How the little rural school house at Vireton, Okla., was torn from its foundations, whirled through the air, and ripped to pieces by a tornado, causing the death of 15 children, was described today by Miss Vera Carter, the teacher, as she lay on a cot in a hospital here where she is under treatment for injuries received in the storm.

"I was hearing a primary class when the storm broke," Miss Carter said. "It had been raining and above the noise of the patter on the roof we heard a peculiar long drawn hiss, went to the door and looked out. A big black cloud moving very fast was coming up the valley, enveloped the Baptist Indian Mission and threw pieces of it high in the air. Away to the South sky was a ghastly green which lighted everything with an unearthly glow.

"The cloud twisted and whirled straight toward the school house. I closed the door. When the storm struck it seemed as if the end of the world had come. The school was lifted into the air, twisted dizzily and then went all to pieces. I was battered against pieces of flying timbers. Dark objects whirled around me. Some of them were my pupils, by poor little children.

"After a time I found myself lying on a hillside, many children stretched near me, some of them motionless, some of them moaning in pain." Miss Carter will recover.

Origin of Gold and Silver.

Steamboat Springs, Nevada, has figured prominently in discussions of the origin of ore deposits. The waters of these springs contain the precious metals in minute quantities, and the sinter deposited by them contains several minerals that are common constituents of ores, as well as small quantities of many of the rarer metallic constituents of ore deposits, including gold and silver. Such springs, therefore, suggest that many and perhaps most ore-bearing veins have been formed by hot waters rising from great depths, which have brought their metal contents up in solution and deposited them in open spaces or fissures in the rocks through which the waters passed, the deposition of some ores being influenced by chemical reaction with the surrounding rock. Many ore deposits are undoubtedly formed in other ways, for some are unquestionably of sedimentary origin and the metal content of some others has been carried down, redeposited, and concentrated by rain water that descended into the earth's crust, but the "hydrothermal" origin that is their deposition from ascending hot water—of many of the more valuable ore deposits is indicated by the close relation observed at many places between mineral veins and eruptive rocks. Thermal waters are believed to be, in part at least, given off by slowly cooling and solidifying masses of igneous rock (magma) deep within the earth.—U. S. Geological Survey.

The Railroad Crossings Near Corinth Church.

Now and then something is said about the two railroad crossings near Corinth Methodist church. Everybody knows they are dangerous, but nothing is being done about them. One man was killed at one of them and nobody knows how soon others may be killed. The curve in the railroad at these crossings makes them more dangerous. Those who favor a change at this place want too much change. They call for a new county bridge over Black Creek and further south an overhead bridge for the railroad. There is no particular need for doing away with the Wellons crossing of the railroad. The railroad is straight there.

Just let the Smithfield and Bentonsville road remain as it is. The Smithfield and Fayetteville road should be changed so that it would run east of the railroad. This would do away with both the crossings near Corinth church and would not cost much. We hope this change will be made before others are killed there.

Allen H. Jordon, of Upper Gloucester, Me., has taken 30 large pumpkins from a single vine.

IT WILL SOON BE GOV. BICKETT.

Our Next Governor to Arrive in Raleigh at Ten O'clock Thursday on Special Train from Louisburg. To Take Oath of Office in the Raleigh Auditorium at Noon.

The day set for the inauguration of Thomas Walter Bickett as Governor of North Carolina is Thursday, January 11, at noon. Mr. Bickett will arrive in Raleigh about ten o'clock on a special train from Louisburg, his home town. The new governor will be met at the station by representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Clubs of Raleigh and Durham, and the Woman's Club. The party will be escorted up town by a battalion of cadets from the A. & M. College.

The ceremonies attending the inauguration will be held in the Raleigh Auditorium. The oath of office will be administered by Chief Justice Walter Clark. This will be followed by the inaugural address. Then the other State officers will be sworn in. Thursday evening Governor Bickett will give a reception at the Governor's mansion from 8:30 to 11:30. Following this the inaugural ball will be held at the auditorium.

The Only Terms.

If anything has been made clear by the recent declarations of the powers of Europe, it is that the allies will never make peace until they have won the war.

The bigger allies have found the way to check the most savage onslaughts that Germany and Austria could make at the height of their strength. They have also reorganized the productive machinery, so that they are capable of turning out more war material than their enemies. They have more men, more money and more resources and they have the world to draw upon.

The battle of the Marne demonstrated that Germany was unable to beat France in battle. With wonderful courage and persistence Germany tried again, and was again beaten at Verdun.

Germany drove back the Russians, but Russia was not beaten. No one knows better than Field Marshal von Hindenburg that Russia cannot be beaten—that eventually Germany must make peace with her colossal enemy or be overwhelmed.

The smashing of Belgium, Serbia and Rumania was done with great expedition and skill, but the result is a net loss to Germany and Austria. They will have to pay back what they took and destroyed before there will be peace. Nobody will pay Germany and Austria the cost of their operations against the little nations. That is pure loss.

The maneuvering of the great belligerents is awkward and slow, and there is evidence of lack of teamwork among the allied nations on both sides. But it is perfectly clear that this maneuvering will go on until the allies are able to exert in concert their superior strength. One or two more small nations may be crushed while the main contestants are getting into position, but probably these events will neither shorten nor prolong the war. So long as Great Britain, France, Russia and Italy stick together and so long as Germany and Austria cling to the mistaken notion that the opinion of mankind is not an element of the struggle the outcome is certain. Neutral nations will join the allies if they are drawn into the war.

The success of the Teutons in Rumania is most illusory. It may mislead the German people, but it does not turn defeat aside nor long defer the day when the Teutonic allies will hand their swords over to the victor.

Until Germany is ready to surrender it is best that the war should go on. A breathing spell between wars will do Europe no good. When the allies know that they can compel enduring peace by fighting to a finish they will not accept a peace that would be equivalent to defeat. Peace with the German army the master of Europe would be more intolerable than war. The allied nations have made up their minds that Germany must be put back into her place and be made to pay for the damage she has done. They have the power to execute their will, and there is no power that can stop them.—Washington Post.

The farmers of North Dakota paid \$14,141,640 for farm labor during 1915.

STATE PRISON A MONEY MAKER

Net Earnings for Past Four Years \$331,896, Report Just Filed With Governor Craig Shows. The Prison Now Controls 900 Convicts.

The report by the board of directors of the State's Prison to Governor Craig for the Legislature, just filed, showing the operation of the institution the past four years and the assets and liabilities, shows cash and cash assets aggregating \$261,618 on hand January 1 and credit due for labor donated by the General Assembly for highway construction in Henderson, Madison and McDowell counties and to the Statesville Air Line Railroad, \$167,412, this giving a grand total of earnings, and assets of \$428,930.

This administration received from its predecessors in cash and farm products that were converted into cash, \$47,033. This would leave a total of \$381,896 assets to the credit of the present management as net earnings for the Craig administration. There are reserved and not included in the assets more than 25,000 bushels of corn, 2,000 bushels of wheat and large quantities of oats, hay, soy beans and other products for the use of the farm during 1917, which would run the total far beyond \$400,000.

The prison now has control of 900 convicts distributed, 138 at the Central prison, 462 at the State farm, 220 at Baden, 46 at Ridgecrest and 34 at Marshal.—Raleigh Dispatch to Wilmington Star.

ABOUT RAISING THE SALARIES.

Governor's Salary May Be Increased to \$6,000 a Year. Some Others May Not Get a Raise.

In yesterday's Greensboro News its Raleigh correspondent had the following:

"During the rest from the introduction of bills everybody is talking salaries. It appears that the proposal so far as it applies to the governor has little opposition and the attorney general might get a lift. But the general raise is doomed.

"Private letters in motley are going to the members of the general assembly. Figures showing that North Carolina is rewarding her public servants in a most niggardly fashion, are incorporated in these letters and the lowest salaries in the group of respectable States for certain offices that draw a pay of \$3,500 here, are listed at \$4,200.

"There is a good deal of sentiment for raising the assistant attorney general to \$2,000 or \$2,400 and the attorney general to \$4,000 or more. The State would stand \$6,000 or more on the governor's office. The legislative members are impressed with the character of recent governors. These slammed up against the Brumbaughs, the Forts, the Stuarts, the Baldwins and the several others who have come here in recent years, measure up so well that the State is beginning to feel that it owes more to its leaders. There is unquestioned sentiment for a gubernatorial raise.

"The thing that stands in the way of the general raise is apparent. There are clerks who are poorly paid. Niggardliness is found in various quarters but as Henry Page said a few days ago in an interview in these columns, there are "other laborers who don't labor." This is known of all men here and it is going to ruin the whole scheme. Some are working their heads off and others doing very little. Some of the State officials are paid very poorly. The legislature would like to reduce the salaries of some others. That will operate against any blanket raise.

"The general assembly can increase the salaries only this week if the rise is to affect the present administration. Consequently a good deal of interest follows the legislature this week."

What One Fire-Cracker Did.

In Denton, Texas, a little girl touched a fire-cracker to a cigar lighter in a confectionery store. She is still living—but \$3500 worth of confectionery went up in smoke. Some day the Christian world will learn that the birthday of the Lord and Master is not fittingly to be celebrated by the explosion of fire-works and the drinking of fire water. Meantime a combination of the two increases the danger in more than geometric progression.—Houston Post.

COTTON GRADING PAYS WELL.

It Is Estimated That \$51,750 Has Been Saved by the Cotton Grading Offices of the State.

(Charlotte Observer.)

Serving 20 counties in this and other sections of the State, it is estimated that seven offices, maintained for the purpose of scientifically grading cotton samples, have saved farmers of the State approximately \$51,750, according to estimates figured in the office of State Cotton Grader T. W. Trogdon, Thursday afternoon.

Of that \$51,750, it is claimed that the office maintained in this city by Mr. Trogdon, since September 1, has saved farmers of Cleveland, Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties no small portion, inasmuch as 7,000 samples have been graded here.

The Charlotte office will be discontinued after January 20, according to Mr. Trogdon, who has prepared figures and estimates on the work preparatory to leaving the city.

By statistics compiled by experts in 1915, cotton grading offices saved farmers which used them, an average of 1.15 a bale. Taking into consideration the same saving on cotton sampled for the fiscal year just closing, Mr. Trogdon figures the \$51,750 upon 45,000 bales, claiming that it is safe to say that much cotton has been graded by the seven offices during the year just coming to a close.

The seven grading stations this year have been in Charlotte, Tarboro, Wilson, Raleigh, New Bern, Weldon and Fayetteville.

Care of Roads During the Winter.

It is not considered good practice to use a road grader on dirt roads between November 1, and March 1, as the grader has a tendency to open the pores of a road and admit the water.

The best practice is to use the simple wooden drag or float on dirt roads after November. This should be done after each rain as it tends to squeeze out the water and seals the surface so it will shed the water. Use of a road grader is prohibited in many States after October, and a compulsory drag law then is effective.

As a drag can be made for \$2.00 and its use costs not over \$1.00 per mile of 30 feet road, it is very inexpensive. Its proper use will keep the roads in good condition all winter regardless of weather conditions.

This last spell of weather shows the roads in good condition where dragging has been constant; in fairly good condition if partly dragged; and almost impassable where no dragging has been done. Any farmer can try this experiment on the road and note the result.

If your road is bad, interest the road official in a drag, or better still, make one and use it on the road in front of your farm.

Johnston County should have for winter use between 500 and 1000 drags and their use should be compulsory.

D. H. WINSLOW,

U. S. Supt. of Construction, Hotel Malbourne, Durham, N. C.

WILSON'S MILLS SCHOOL NOTES.

Wilson's Mills High School opened for the Spring term Wednesday, January 3rd. The attendance at present is fuller than it has been at any time during the school year. Several new students have enrolled.

Misses Bess Finley and Hester Ann Farrior, of the faculty, spent the holidays with homefolks at North Wilkesboro and Kenansville, respectively.

A right interesting meeting for the community was held at the school house on Monday night, January 1st. The program consisted of music, stories, jokes and recitations, participated in by the students, members of the faculty and patrons of the school. Similar entertainments are given frequently and prove very enjoyable to those who attend.

REPORTER.

Two Fine Pigs.

Not long since, Mr. W. G. Earp, of Selma, Route No. 1, killed two fine pigs. These were 12½ months old. One weighed 350, while the other tipped the scales at 370. They were Duroc Jerseys. More hogs and better hogs is one of the great needs of the day.

There are more than 2,000 miles of railway and nearly 5,000 miles of telegraphs in Rumania.

VILLA SUFFERS SEVERE LOSS.

Was Defeated at Jimenez Thursday With Losses Reported at 1500. Martin Lopez, Rebel Leader, Among the Slain.

A Chihuahua City dispatch dated January 5th, says:

Villa was defeated at Jimenez yesterday by Gen. Francisco Murguia with a loss of 1,500 rebel dead, wounded and captured. Martin Lopez, a rebel leader, and another Villa general were among the slain, according to an official report tonight from the Carranza commander. Villa was said to be fleeing toward El Valle.

General Murguia stated that this command pushed back Villa's troops five miles after coming into contact. Machine guns are credited with playing an important part in the offensive, in which both cavalry and infantry were heavily engaged. Villa, according to the report, personally led repeated cavalry attacks against Murguia's infantry which were checked with heavy losses.

Besides Villa's heavy losses in men, horses, ammunition, arms and other war material, General Murguia claims the recovery of many carloads of loot brought by the Villa troops from Torreon. Government cavalry is said to have killed about 50 members of Villa's body guard, which is protecting him in his escape by automobile. General Murguia advised his subordinates here that he intends to keep up a hot pursuit as Villa's forces are badly disorganized.

Met His Father-In-Law With Knife.

On Saturday night, January 6th, George Childers went to the home of Joe Narron, his father-in-law, at the Ivanhoe Cotton Mills, and raised quite a disturbance. Childers was drinking and on arriving at Narron's home broke a handle from a stick broom and with it made the family scatter. Rushing around the house after them he met Mr. Narron and struck him back of his left ear splitting it open and making a long gash across the temple and forehead. Mr. Narron was brought to Smithfield for medical attention and it took about a dozen stitches to sew up the gash. Childers was arrested Sunday and placed in jail.

Salt a Big Industry.

In the production of that indispensable condiment, salt, the United States is happily independent of all other countries. The 38,231,496 barrels of salt produced in 1915 by 14 States, Porto Rico, and Hawaii constituted 99 per cent of the salt consumed in the United States, and much more could easily have been supplied had the demand required it, according to the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

Salt occurs naturally in two distinct ways—as rock salt, in beds or associated with bedded or sedimentary deposits, and in natural brines. The larger part of our salt is obtained by converting rock salt that lies deep below the earth's surface into artificial brines, which are pumped to the surface and there evaporated. Some idea of the quantity of salt evaporated from natural brines may be gained from statistics of the output of New York, Michigan, and Kansas alone, three large salt-producing States, for the calendar year 1915. In Michigan, 6,708,261 barrels of evaporated salt, having a value of \$3,635,692, were produced; in New York, 3,443,464 barrels valued at \$1,720,434; and in Kansas, 1,901,756 barrels, valued at \$696,000.—Ex.

Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Andrews Entertain.

Kenly, January 6.—Last evening, from eight to eleven o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Andrews entertained a small circle of friends in the large reception hall of the school dormitory. Rook was the game of the evening. The guests were seated at three tables. At ten o'clock the guests were invited to the dining hall where hot chocolate and wafers, and home made candies were served. Those present were as follows: Misses Inez Edgerton, Agnes Watson, Allie Bailey, Gladys Barnes Wallace, and Zessie Sasser; Messrs. Tira Bailey, Nathaniel Flowers, Claude Edgerton, Rudolph Kirby, and Harvey Corbett; Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Edgerton and Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Johnson.