NORTH STATE NEWS

Items of State Interest Gathered and Told in Brief.

Claims Toxaway Site-Will Carry Case to Court.

Asheville, Special.-George Washington Fisher, a farmer of Polk county, it is learned here, claims that he is the rightful owner of the property that is now occupied by the Toxaway Inn at Lake Toxaway. "While I was in the asylum at Morganton for about one year," Fisher is quoted as saying, "returning in 1896, two of my brothers sold the land, of which I have an interest, to the Lake Toxaway people." In making out the deeds, it is alleged, for the company the Fisher boys signed the paper for their insane brother as his guardian.

tiome time after the deal was made it was found that the title and deed of this land was void for the reason that George Washington Fisher never had a guardian appointed by the courts. So it became necessary to sign an entirly new deed with George Washington's signature to the papers. On this ground Fisher expects to win his suit and regain the lands or a part thereof.

Fisher was only temporarily insane, staying at the asylum one year. He is now a farmer of Polk county, 3 miles from Tryon, where he owns considerable lands. For the past three months he has been working hard in getting up records and having & survey made of the whole tract in question. The lands were known the William Barton and Frank Barton places, Johnnie Bagwell tract of land and a part of the Tom Cantrell lands. An interesting part of the deed covering this land and supposed to be signed by George Washington Fisher and wife, Addie, is that his wife also says that she knows nothing about the paper which bears a clear handwriting of the signatures of the two parties. Fisher is a man Receipts For the Year \$132,258.75. of no education and can barely write his name so that people can read it.

Seven Prisoners Escape.

Smithfield, Special.-Tuesday night there was a jail delivery here, seven prisoners making their escape and so far none have been apprehended.

One prisoner, a negro man, was held on the charge of murder. It is reported that a prisoner who

was a "'trusty" was responsible for the escape. He is said to have secured a file by which the prisoners affected an exit by sawing the bars to a window of the jail.

It is also said that the prisoners were on top of the cells when the jailer locked the doors the evening before.

Lee H. Battle Not Guilty. Greensboro, Special .- The jury in the case of the government against



culture Reviews the Agricultural Status in North Carolina-Receipts of Department \$132,258.75. Raleigh, Special .- For the annual

meeting of the State Board of Agriculture hich convened here Wednesday for probably three days' session, the feature for the day was the annual report of Commissioner W. A. Graham treating farm conditions in North Carolina and the work of the various divisions of the department The report declares the results of farming operations this year were in different section of the State and that while the yields were very good in some sections they were quite inferior in others. So that the North Carolina erop census in connection with the general census by the United States government will not show an avgrage yield for the State. Farmers, he says, have given far better attention to their work this year than in the past, especially as to improved culture of corn, due in a large measure to institute work and corn clubs in connection with demonstration work. He says the great interest in agricultural work is phenomenal and urges the board to devise some method of assuring its permanency. Soil Improvement and Divesity of

Crops.

The report urges the necssity of striving more effectively for permanent improvement of soils and diversity of crops through raising all farm supplies. Attention is directed to the fact, as he stated it, that North Carolina pays to dealers in other States for supplies that could be produced on the North Carolina farms more money than is gotten for the entire cotton crop of the State. As long as this is the case the only cotton money left in the State is that realized by profits by the dealers selling the supplies.

The yield of cotton in this State will, he says, be the smallest per acre on record. This will also be the case as to corn. At the same time some yields of both erops will be abnormally large.

Commissioner Graham reports recipts of the department for the fiscal year ending Dec. 1, 1909, \$132,258.75. The amount remaining in the treasury at the end of this fiscal year was not given in the report. He reported \$15,000 paid on the debt for the A. & M. Agricultural building and a balance due of \$15,000. This he recommended to be speedily liquidated

by special appropriation from the receipts of the department.

The commissioner reported the inest agricultural exhibits at the State and the district fairs this fall ever made in the State, due largely to the attractive supplemental premiums provided by the State Department of Agriculture He recommended that the amounts especially the department of women's work, be in-

ereased. He recommends definite effort and provision by the State Department for raising improved breeds of stock and cattle, And stated that the mountain test farms will undertake o demonstrate the possibilities of sheep raising. Progress in Horticulture Shown." Progress in horticulture as demonstrated by the very creditable high premiuus carried off by North Carolina at the National Horticultural Congress at Council Bluff in the contest with all the other apple-growing States, was presented with special compliment for State Horticulturalist W. M. Hutt. Treating soil 'survey work the report mentioned the resignation of Mr. Drane to take an appointment in the United States assay office at Charlotte and the substitution of Mr. Brinkley to take up his work in co-operating with the national government the last work being in Pitt. Gaston and Scotland counties, there being 22 counties and special sections already mapped. Treating animal industry, the commisioner recommended the appropriation of \$500 for the preparation and distribution of hog cholera serum to check the spread of this disease, especially in Eastern Carolina. He recommends legislation that will check hydrophobia among cattle, declaring that sevral thousand head of eattle were lost the past year from this disease. Cattle tick eradication was declared to be progressing well. Fine progress in dairy demonstrating department, the department of entomology and in the department of agronomy were reported, special attention being asked to action to prevent the introduction of the boll weevil into this State which, he said is expected to recah this State through natural progress in 1923. There was special mention of the farmers institute work under T. B. Parker, held each year in every part

sued by the various divisions. Increased diversification of crops. Market value of \$7 counties. Decrease in fertilization is reported in fourteen counties. The great majority of the counties. The great majority ward smaller farms. Reports from 95 counties claim that negro labor is unreliable. General increase in the cost of living is reported.

Report as to wages show highest average for men \$24.11, an increase over last year. The lowest average is \$14.76 an advance of \$1.39 over last year. Reports show financial condition of working people good in 20 counties, fair in 42, poor 30; bad 3. Improvement is reported from 71 counties.

As to cost of production 68 counties show cotton produces at average cost of \$33.39 per bale; wheat in 77 counties at 77 cents per bushel; corn in all counties at 53 cents; oats 38 cents; 51 counties tobacco average 47.71 per hundred pounds.

In the general introductory to the report covering the whole scope of to work of the department Commissioner Shipman says the distuclination, especially on the part of some manufacturers to furnish the required reports has largely disappeared, but there are still many that rive trouble by neglecting to prompty fill out and retarn the blanks. The effort to give statistics of organized and unorganized labor failed this year but it is the purpose to have such a report for the next year. Commissioner Shipman or Assistant Commissioner George B. Justice have gone into every section of the state wherever necessary to make sure of getting the fullest and most accurate reports possible. In spite of great effort, the commissioner says it has been impossible to secure absolutely complete reports of micellaneous factories. Hoever the reports of cotton, woolen and silk mills are complete.

Verdict For \$7,500.

Oxford, Special.-A remarkably interesting case was argued in court here, that of Sidney H. Usry against Southern Railway. The jury rendered verdict of seven thousand five hundred dollars in favor of the plaintiff, who was sriously and permanently injured, by having his hip fractured. The accident occurred in Sertember, 1908, near Oxford, while the train was at a water-tank. Mr. Usry was suddenly thrown down by unexpected motion of the car.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

Secretary Wilson Presents the Situation of the Farmers in Pleasing Terms--Touches on Price of Beef. Washington, Special .- In glowing terms Secretary Wilson of the Department of Agriculture in his annual report pictures the results of the farmers' work for the year ended June 30 last

"Most prosperous of all years is the place to which 1909 is entitled in agriculture," is the way the Secretary puts it. The value of farm products was \$\$,760,000,000, a gain of



SOME EVERY DAY HAPPENINGS

Lively and Crisp as They Are Garnered From the Fields of Actica at Home and Abroad.

The prohibition wave has decreased the internal revenue. The whiskey tax fell off for the last fiscal year \$5,509,831 and the ale and beer tax \$2.444.183 compared with 1908.

The use of cigaretts seems to be on the increase in spite of the war upon them by many of the states. The manufacturers paid tax on 703,-087,278 more this year than in 1908. James E. McGregar of Newport, N. H., has applied for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution. He claims to be 108 years old. His father served in the war and died at nearly 101 years.

Capt. John Downing died at Dover, Del., Tuesday at the age of 103 years. He was a veterans of three wars, the ast being the great civil war. Little Norwood Herbert, of Wash-

ington city, fell from a tree some lays ago and his back was broken. The vertebra were replaced and he was put in plaster of paris case with reasonable expectation of complete

recovery. The Switchmen's strike that has its centre about Chicago is doing great damage to commerce as the

railroads cannot move freight. The great Frisco and Rock Island railroad merger was disolved Wednesday by the purchase and changing ownership of the San Francisco road.

The steamer Adelheld Menzell of Havre cleared from the port of Pensacola, Fla., last Saturday with 12,000 bales of cotton valued at \$900,000.

A mine explosion occurred at Marion, Ill., last Monday in which one man was killed, but the 100 others in the mine escaped uninjured though there was something of

panie. The America Consul at Managua. the capital of Nicaragua, has applied for and has gotten permission to move his place of busines from the consulate to the legation as a place more safe and congenial.

North Carolina has the distinction of manufacturing more plug and smoking tobacce than any other state n the Union.

France has been drawn into the Nicaraguan trouble by Zelaya's brutal treatment of French citizens. Three persons were seriously înjured and five less seriously hurt in a derailment of a train on the Peansylvania railroad near Fairhaven Tuesday.

The police of Cleveland, Ohio, discovered a plot to assassinate John D. Rockefeller Tuesday. The aged multimillionaire semed little disturbed ever it and declined a guard.

The German steamer Brewster was



Impening of Cream.

The ripening of cream for churning is caused by a certain class of bacteria which usually get into the milk from the air. They are also transmitted from the churn and milk vessels.

Also the proper ripening of cream depends upon the temperature upon which it is held. If the cream is held at too low a temperature the bacteria are held in check and hence cannot work normally. Often interfering species of bacteria get into the milk and cream and destroy the effect of those that cause proper cream ripening .- Farmers' Home Joarnal,

Buckwheat.

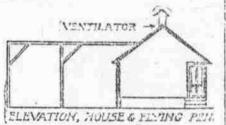
Please tell me how to harvest and threah buckwheat. I have about six acres and want to save the seed. Can it be threshed with the common wheat separator, and can you cut it with the usual wheat binder?

A. Y., Sallivan County. Answer-Euckwheat may be cut with a machine, but ought not to be put in large bundles or tied tightly. It should be cut in the morning when damp to prevent shattering the seed.

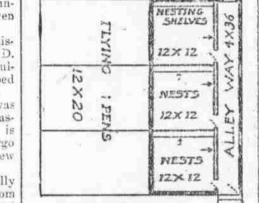
It is better to let it lie a few days in the swath, then set it up without binding, merely twisting the heads together, so as to make it stand till you are ready to thresh. Thresh with machine and be careful that it does uot mold .-- Indiana Farmer.

Squab-Horse and Flying Shed.

This is a pigeon-house and flying pen for squab-raising. The house is twelve fest wide and thirty-six feet long, divided into three rooms twelve by twelve feet, and an alleyway four feet wide



The nests somewhat resemble a grocery shelving. The partitions are about ten inches on the centre and the shelver, ten inches between all, and movable to facilitate cleaning.



ers as to care of the machine, manipulation of the udder, stripping the cows, etc. Where such is the case we can recommend the milling-machine for the general dairy farmer who has a large herd, or for farmers owning smaller herds, e. g., thirty head or perhaps less, who will be able to attend to the milking of the herd alone or with the help of a boy by means of the machine, and thus avoid keeping extra help for this purpose. We do not feel perfectly safe in recommend-a ing the milking-machine for pure bred herds, where the maintenance or the development of a maximum dairy production in the cows is of vital importance, although we believe that under favorable conditions it may alzo prove of value in such berds.

The success of machine-milking will depend largely upon the man operating the machine and on his attitude toward machine-milking. If the machine is given a fair trial and the directions of the manufacturers are carefully followed, marke-milking will, as a general rule, be a success, at least to the extent of approximating the results obtained by good hand-milkers and perhaps even improving on those secured by general farm help.

The experiences of practical farm-"a and the results of careful, exhaustive trials agree in showing that so for as the machine itself is concerned the problem of mechanical milking may now he considered solved, although minor improvements in the present runching are needed and will Comptlers he made before long.

Properly cared for and handled the milking-machine will prove a valuable aid in the solution of the hiredhelp problem on many dairy farms, and will become an important factor in the further development of our dairy industry.

Water Gaps.

The fanaing of branches and creeks than rou through farms has always been, and I suppose always will be, a vexing question for the farmer to most. He wants a gate or gap that is inexpensive, strong and lasting, When we think of the damage done nearly every year to bridges and water gaps by high water we see the necessity of studying this question very closely. Three points must be taken into consideration in the construction of water gaps, namely, that after the water gets to a certain height it will either go over, around or under the obstruction in its way. We must so arrange them that there will be as little as possible in the way of the water to

Lee H. Battle, cashier of the City National Bank, on trial in the federal court here for the past two weeks, returned a verdict of not guilty at 10 o'clock last Saturday.

District Attorney Holton announced that he would nol pos two other cases against Battle and he was discharged. Judge Boyd, in thanking the jury, said it was evident that the community believed Mr. Battle had committed no intentional wrong.

Chair Factory Organized.

Marphy, Special.-At a meeting of the Murphy board of trade Monday night it was decided to organize a chair factory, to be capitalized at \$15,000, C. E. Wood, J. M. Vaugha and C. B. Hill were appointed to solicit subscriptions. The stock was taken up immediately. A meeting of the stockholders will be called at once, when officers will be elected and the business will be pushed right along, it is thought the company will rent power from the Murphy Power & Light Co.

39,480,326 Pounds Plug.

Winston-Salem, Special.-Local tobacco manufactories have shipped, the past eleven months of the present year, 39,480,326 pounds of plug to-bacco, an increase of 4,446,700 pounds over the same period of last year. The manufacturers have paid out to the United States government for revenue stamps, the sum of \$2,-368,819.93 this year, an increase in favor of the present year of \$266,-802.47.

Lincolnton Mill Burns.

Lincolnton, Special.-The entire plant of the Michal Gheen Manufactaring Company, manufacturers of sash, doors, blinds, etc., here was destroyed by fire at an early hour Friday morning. The machinery, buildings and raw material are a total Insurance for \$7,300 was carloss. ried but the loss will reach higher figures than this, Mr. Victor F. Motz of this place was the principal owner in the company. The fire had quite a good headway when discovered about 3 o'clock in the morning.

Plans to Check Boll Weevil.

Raleigh, Special.-The North Carolins board of agriculture has passed a regulation having for its purpose the keeping of the boll weevil out of the State. The regulation forbids the importation of cotton seed, cotton seed hulls, loose cotton in any shape and baled cotion unless compressed from Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and Alabama.

of the State. In conclusion the commission reported that the new oil division turred into the treasury Nov. 30 the sum of \$10,500.

COMMISSIONER M. L. SHIP MAN'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Raleigh, Special.-The forthcoming annual report of Commissioner of Labor and Frinting, M. , Shipman will show decided improvement in the chapter of farms and farm labor. especially in application of better methods of farming, in the efficiency of labor and an advance toward intensive farming. The report declares that a gratifying increase in breadth of vision is noticeable among the farmers generally, says the report. due largely to the effective effort through the state department of agriculture and the special bulletins is-

\$869,000,000 over the preceding year Of great popular interst are the results of a unique inevstigation conducted by the department which shows that in fifty cities the total retail cost charged to consumers for beef above the wholesale cost paid by the retailers averaged 38 per cent. The lower the grade of beef, the greater was the percentage of gross

profit. In the upward movement of beef prices the farmer, the report says, has not shared equally with the packer, retail and wholesaler, but as to hogs, the case is different, the farmer receiving nearly his fair share of the higher prices of pork in the increased price of his unfed hogs.

Secretary Wilson notes a great forward movement in enforcing the food and drug acts, the willingness of manufacturers to comply with the laws and to co-operate with the department, making the work largely ducational.

Keep Navy Yards Till Later.

Washington, Special .- Despite the agitation to close some of the navy yards along the Southern coast, Seeretary of the Navy Meyer will oppose any such step for the present. This much was made plain to President Taft Friday. He says that he is not entirely convinced that the government can advantageously give up sites in which large expenditures have been made, until after the opening of the Panama canal.

Strike About Over.

St. Paul, Minn., Special .- With 1, 500 men imported to take the place of the striking switchmen who are members of the Switchmen's Union of North America and those strikers who are members of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, returning to work, managers of the Great Northern Railway Friday night asserted that the strike was about over. The strike leaders, however, despite the desertion, asserted that the strike had only begun. Freight congestion is not apprecably relieved

W. J. Colhoun Likely to Accept the Chinese Ministership.

Chicago, Special-William J. Calhoun, a Chicago attorney and diplomat, Sunday night admitted that Secretary of State Knox had offered him the post of minister to China. The admission came in denial of a report that he had declined to accept the offer. Mr. Calhoun explained that he had been induced by Secretary of State Knox to reconsider a determination not to accept the appointment which was offered two weeks ago.

There are 247,000 more men than aition. War clouds are hovering, women in Australia.

stranded at Diamond Shoals off eastern Caroling Sunday night and is a total loss together with its cargo of bananas and coacoanuts The crew was isaved.

South Carolina farmers generally report very satisfactory results from cultivating crops under government directions.

Secretary Meyer, of the Navy has made some sweeping changes in the working machinery of his departments. It seems something like the commission form of city government in that the department is to be divided and will be under four heads who will bear the responsibility of affairs in his line.

The trial of four of the indicted sugar weighers began in New York last Monday.

Miss Lula E. Mackay, a member of the Trumbull county Ohio, bar has purchased the dilapidated house in which President McKinley was born and will put it in order to be used as an historic museum.

Near Devon, W. Vn., last week a sheriff's posse was approaching the home to areat Jim and Charles Daniels. The mother and 16-year-old daughter took up guns and held the posse at bay while the men escaped. A fusitade was kept up and the mother was shot dead with rifle in hand. The girl kept up the battle until she wass killed also. The men wanted escaped but one is severely wounded.

There is a whiskey selling criminal in the Wilmington, N. C., jail that has pellagra and consamption and probably surface "microbes" besides. He had skipped a \$500 bond but his bondsmen brought him back to keep from paying the forfeit. Now his pellagra gives him sore feet and he can't work on the roads and it is a puzzle what to do with him and the authorities wish they had cancelled the bond and let the man be where he was.

Leo. S. Capes, of Atlanta, Ga. aged 23, was wounded by the accidental discharge of a shot gun a week ago and took tetanus (lockjaw) from which he died Monday. The Atlantic Coast Line railroad has adopted the telephone by which to dispatch trains instead of the telegraph.

Ex-Governor Gleun of North Carolina, predicts that Judson Harmon, governor of Ohio, will be the next Democratic nominee for the presidency.

It is not all sweet and lovely in Cuba. Some would have Gomez to step down and out and the Negro element is clamoring for more recog-

PIGEON HOUSE

The flying pen is covered with a house has room enough for sixty or sixty-five pairs of pizeons.

The house should be set up on posts to keep out rats and mice, and the the hole some three feet in diameter walls should be shingle-sided. The windows shown between the flying

pen and the nesting rooms have only one glass in each place, and need be only one cash wide.

A house of this size can be built for about \$200 .- J. C. Shawver, Blaine, Wash.

Pasture For Sheep.

A sheep grower says that from May to September sheep should have the upper end; just supposing your blue grass or clover pasture or some two posts are twenty-four feet apart other good grass. Stubble fields, corn fields and aftermaths should furnish bore an inch hole in the upper eye, the pasture for the balance of the sea- then through the holes in the rails, son. Nine or ten ewes averaging 100 pounds can feed on one more of good grass pusture.

From September 1 until the ficel: goes to winter quarters rape sown is necessary for the two eyes to be two or three pounds per arre in grain at seeding or corn at last cultivation | ends of the tails will not strike the will farmizh encellent feed for the post and keep them from swinging, sheen.

Lambs may be turned into the corn manner. The loose ends are laid tofields by August 19 to 29. They will ent the lower leaves and weeds that down stream. During a time of high may be present, not tauching the cars. water the rails will be pushed down This is cleap pasture and unless used in this way is wasted.

By thus using the waste and catch crops, and raising plenty of pasture lay up the rails and your gap is as the cost of pasture for sheep is ridicugood as ever. lously low .- Indiana Farmer.

Milking-Machine Experience.

The Wisconsin station has made extended tests with a milking na- boitom of the stream; the ends of this chine on its dairy herd, and says that a careful study and revalts of using the machine, as well as reports from eight feet below the first and twelve many dairymen using it in that State, or fifteen Inches higher than it. This are favorable. Here are its conclu- log should extend well into the banks. sions after all this experience. The bulletin says:

will lead to the comelusion that the this log will help to hold it in posiadoption of machine-milking with the Uon. Spike poles on these logs about present development of the machine, three inches apart, the upper ends can only be recommended under con- extending into the bottom of the ditions where the farmer is able to creek far enough so that no drift can give personal attention to the opera- catch on them. Be careful not to get tion of the machine, or has reliable, the lower and too high or it will intelligent help, who can and will fol- catch the drift wood .- The Indiana low the divictions of the manufactur. Former.

eck it: also taking into consideration the fact that during times of high water a great amount of driftwood and other trash will be carried down by the water to dam up and overflow your field above.

I will give a way that has been tried successfully in this locality to meet the water gap question. For the smaller streams a post is set on each medium-mesh chicken-wire. Each side of the stream in line with the pen and corresponding part of the fence. These posts should be placed deep in the ground, when the water is low. They need be no more than ten or twelve inches in diameter. Dig and fill in around the post with concrete. Take the bark off the post so the concrete will adhere to it. Bore two holes through each post, one near top and the other near the bottom. Take an eye made of iron, with one end bent to make an eye that will take an inch rod and the other end cut a serew for tab; place one of these in each hole and screw up tightly, Then get an inch rod with a loop to take fourteen-foot rails or poles and

> using washer made of short blocks of wood next to each rail to hold them the proper distance apart. Now ally your rod into the lower eye. It far enough from the post that the the other side being fixed in a similar

gether like a rail fence, being placed stream and around against each bank. allowing the water to pass through; after the water goes down sufficiently

For larger streams another form of gap is sometimes used. Take two logs, the first one place in a ditch or trench that has been dug across the log should extend into the bank on cach side. Place the other log six or since it does not touch the ground except at the ends. A post set on Experience with machine-milling each side of the stream just below