

## CAPITAL FACTS.

Interesting News Gathered in the District of Columbia.

### THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

**Personal Incidents and Important Happenings of National Import Published for the Pleasure and Information of Newspaper Readers.**

#### Government Employees Up Against It.

The Treasury Department has arranged to give thirty days' leave of absence to all employees who will be affected by the economies and improvements in business methods which will take effect July 1. In all, nearly 200 employees were affected.

There remain about eighty-five employees for whom no provision has been made, and the leave of absence is given in order that they may have every possible opportunity to find work themselves. After July 1, efficient employees who remain unprovided for will be given preference in the matter of reinstatement as vacancies occur.

#### Sunday School Convention Censured.

Prolonged applause from a congregation that completely filled the Metropolitan M. E. Church interrupted the sermon of Rev. John Reid Shannon Sunday morning, when he scolded the Washington Sunday school convention authorities for barring negro churches from the parade Friday.

The scene was unprecedented in the history of the church. The applause was spontaneous, and continued until the pastor raised his hand for order.

"As one of the pastors of Washington," Dr. Shannon said, "I want to make vehement protest from the Metropolitan pulpit against the action of the local committee in excluding from Friday's parade the colored delegates to the World's Sunday School Convention."

#### No Jurisdiction in Planetary System.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the United States does not extend far enough to determine whether the average citizen of America stops to distinguish the difference between a star and a comet.

The court has dismissed "for want of jurisdiction" a case in which two manufacturers were disputing over the alleged infringement of a trademark. The owner of the "star" trademark claimed that ordinarily a person does not stop to distinguish between a star and a comet.

#### "Plucking" Board Appointed.

The naval "plucking" board, which is to condemn to compulsory retirement naval officers, in order to encourage promotion, has been appointed. The board will meet in Washington, June 1.

#### A Woman Gambler.

In the custody of United States Marshal Fletcher, of Washington, Mrs. Josephine Dennis, a woman of advanced age, was caught in Arizona. She was arrested in Washington in March, charged with running a gambling house, but forfeited her bond of \$3,000. She was traced to Clifton, Arizona, where she was arrested Sunday.

#### Dog Sacrificed His Life.

Giving his life as a sacrifice for others was the fate of Spot, a pet fox terrier, who by his barking probably saved from death by fire his master, Lieutenant Robert Henderson, and four others, who were in the house. When the fire started, the dog ran through the upper halls of the house, barking vigorously. But while the family escaped, the dog was forgotten, and his incinerated body was found later among the ashes of the home.

#### Private Soldier and \$11,000 Gone.

Because \$11,000 mysteriously disappeared from an army safe at Fort Gibbon, Alaska, coincident with the disappearance of a private soldier, who has not yet been apprehended, Colonel George F. Cooke, who was recently retired from the Twenty-second Infantry, will probably have to face a court-martial. The charge will be lack of precaution regarding the money.

#### Favor Long Term Prisoners.

United States prisoners may be pardoned after having served one-third of the term to which they have been sentenced by the terms of a Senate bill passed by the House. This measure applies to prisoners whose sentences exceed one year, except in the cases of those who have been sentenced for life or who have been convicted of murder in the first degree, rape or incest, or who have previously served a term of at least one year in a penal institution.

The bill provides for a board of parole to judge of the right of a prisoner to receive a parole.

#### Sad Tale of City Life.

The police tribunal at Bourges, France, has sentenced Mme. Christiana de Saint Gilles, who was born at Washington, to four months' imprisonment for shoplifting.

The woman clasped her infant child in her arms as sentence was pronounced. As she heard her fate, she fell and was attacked by a severe hemorrhage.

It is said the woman was starving when she committed the theft.

## FROM COUNTY TO COUNTY

North Carolina News Prepared and Published For the Quick Perusal of Our Patrons.

### State in Financial Dilemma.

The second bids for the \$3,430,000 refunding forty-year 4 per cent bonds to take up bonds falling due July 1 were opened by the State Treasurer at Raleigh Saturday in the presence of the Governor and members of the Council of State and a large company of its interested citizens in the office of State Treasurer and it was found that there were bids for only \$1,195,000 of the issue as compared with \$1,765,000 that were bid for on the first date for the bond sale May 18 when all bids were rejected.

This time the bids ranged in batches from \$1,000 to \$200,000, whereas there was one \$500,000 bid at the first effort to sell the issue. The \$500,000 bid was by the New York Life Insurance Company and was not renewed. The Council of State was in executive session all afternoon considering the situation, a number of the prominent bankers and other business men being with them in confidential conference. Late this evening announcement was made that the bids opened today are on hand running up the sale to \$1,218,850.

The bids in hand today leave \$2,211,500 of the issue to be taken care of in some extraordinary way. Several methods of extracting the administration from the embarrassing dilemma are being suggested although the Governor and Council of State are not talking. One is the calling of the General Assembly in extra session to either increase the rate of interest above the 4 per cent provided so as to effect the sale in the ordinary way, empower the Treasurer to exchange new bonds for the old, or authorize some other means of tiding the State over the difficulty until there can be permanent adjustment at the next regular session in January. Another is to sell all the bonds that are not bid for or for which bids can be secured before July 1 to redeem those bonds that are presented for collection and to borrow money to take care of the rest until the regular session of the Assembly. This is believed to be the policy decided on by the council.

There is a suggestion that the State could get money on railroad bonds the State owns as security or effect other financial arrangements that would save the State the \$25,000 or more expenses of an extra session of the Legislature.

### Big Law Suit at Marion.

The most hotly contested and long-drawn out lawsuit in the history of McDowell county was terminated at Marion Friday. The plaintiff, D. J. McDonald, a sub-contractor was suing MacArthur Bros. Company for \$50,000. A special term of court was called for the trial of this case and all except one day of the two weeks' term was consumed in the trial of same. Every inch of ground was hotly contested by the most brilliant array of counsel ever seen at that bar. The jury, after remaining out two hours, returned a verdict of \$27,528.47 in favor of the plaintiff. Both sides have taken an appeal to the Supreme Court.

### Representative Page Economizes.

Representative Page saved Uncle Sam \$250,000 Saturday by offering an amendment to the sundry civil bill. The bill provided \$750,000 for the protection of public lands and he cut a third of it off. In advocating his amendment he spoke for twenty minutes.

### Killed By Train.

W. L. Henry, of Statesville, was killed by an accidental fall from a railroad train at Cisco, Cal.

### Mr. Thomas on Gen. Greene.

Friday being the anniversary of the birth of Gen. Nathaniel Green, Representative Thomas called the attention of the House to a pending bill for the erection of a statue to Greene on the battleground of Guilford Courthouse, near Greensboro. No action was taken by the House. Mr. Thomas characterized General Greene as next to Washington, the most potent force in the struggle for independence.

### Child Killed by Whiskey.

The six-year-old child of Mr. James Smith, of Stokes county, died from the effects of a large drink of whiskey. Mr. Smith went to the field to work, carrying along a bottle of whiskey, from which he drank freely, and then lay down and fell asleep.

The little boy came along some time later, finding his father asleep and by his side the bottle of liquor. The child drank a good deal from the bottle and was immediately taken seriously ill from the violent effects of the intoxicant. After suffering several hours death came to his relief.

### North Carolina Nuggets.

James Johnson, colored, 17 years old, entered an apartment at the Carolina, at Wilmington, and stole a lady's gold watch, valued at \$90, which he later sold to a colored delivery wagon driver for \$2.

The Corporation Commission has elected A. J. Maxwell, of Dover, secretary of the commission to succeed H. C. Brown, appointed by the Governor as Commissioner to succeed the late B. F. Aycock.

## NORTH CAROLINA EVENTS

Life in the Land of the Long Leaf Pine

### Legal Battle About Baby.

The May term of Gaston superior court began at the court house in Dallas Monday.

Much interest was shown by the large crowd in the hearing of a habeas corpus case which came before Judge Pell from Mecklenburg county. This was a proceeding brought by Mrs. W. R. Whisnant of Charlotte against her husband, W. R. Whisnant, for the possession of their infant child, which it will be remembered, the father got into his possession in a rather sensational manner on Monday morning of last week at the Southern passenger station in Charlotte by snatching it from the mother's arms and making his escape in an automobile. It was admitted in the proceedings at Dallas that the child was in the care of Mr. Whisnant's mother at Clover, S. C.

The child, however, was not produced as the writ of habeas corpus commanded. Instead the father presented a physician's certificate to the effect that the child was too ill to be brought to court without danger to its life and health. The child is twenty months old. Mr. Whisnant's attorney argued strongly in an effort to have the return of the writ accepted and final custody of the child determined at once, but the judge overruled this motion, continuing the case to be heard Monday, June 6, in Charlotte, giving as one reason for his ruling that the child, being in South Carolina, was not in the actual custody of the court. Attorneys on both sides were also ordered to file copies of their affidavits with opposing counsel within five days, so that each might have opportunity of answering the allegations of the other. These affidavits were not made public, but were read privately by the judge, who intimated in his ruling that both contained extremely serious charges, which the opposing party should have an opportunity of answering.

### Durham Visited by Safe Cracker.

An attempt to rob the safe of the Durham Light and Power Company Wednesday night stirred the people considerably. The safe cracker was discovered in the company's office by Manager Sligo who yelled at the fellow and the yegman threw down his equipment of hacksaw, dashing down to the basement and escaping through the rear door. He was seen on the streets afterwards running. His appearance was that of a well-dressed man. Such a fellow has been seen on the streets recently and evidently knew the excess of money in the safe. He broke the handle off and it is presumed that he meant to drill a hole through the door. No explosive was found. There was no money lost.

### Salem Female College's Success.

The Alumnae Association of Salem Female College at its annual meeting voted to raise \$80,000, the amount needed to make the \$200,000 endowment fund for the College. Andrew Carnegie has given \$75,000 of the amount. Announcement was made by President Rondthaler that Miss Elizabeth McBee, of Lincoln, niece of Mrs. Stonewall Jackson, was the first recipient of a scholarship from the Carnegie fund.

### Colored Man's Life Saved.

Governor Kitchin has commuted to life imprisonment the sentence of Cobb Withers, convicted of first degree murder in Mecklenburg county and who was scheduled to die in the electric chair Friday.

### Patients Removed to Raleigh.

Seventy-five patients, most of them epileptics, have been taken from the Western Hospital for the Insane at Morgantown and carried to Raleigh, and placed in the Central hospital.

### Colored People Seek Divorces.

The institution of five more divorces cases by one lawyer at Durham, all of the colored race, broke a record. It was the first time that the negro divorcees ever exceeded the whites, the marriage rate of the whites being higher, but the stay-married rate of the colored being better than the whites. In no day previous had there been so many divorces to unhitch.

### Congressman Webb's Good Measure.

A bill providing that a pauper may bring either a criminal or civil action, or defend one in any Federal court, and appeal it even to the United States Supreme Court, without cost, has been reported favorably by the judiciary committee of the House. Representative Webb is the author of the measure.

### Republicans at Greensboro August 10.

The Republican State committee, after a short executive session, at Greensboro, decided upon Greensboro as the place and August 10 as the time for holding the nominating convention.

### Newspapers After Human Hawk.

Charles K. Hamilton, the aviator, who was engaged twice by the Telegraph to make flights in Macon, Ga., on May 13 and 15, respectively, has been sued by the paper for alleged breach of contract, damages being asked in the sum of \$1,050. The Charlotte Observer may institute suit against him also for jumping a contract to appear in Charlotte. The Telegraph has garnished \$2,200 of Hamilton's gate receipts in Augusta.

## SAVANNAH MURDER CASE

Aged White Man Guilty of Killing Three Women

Savannah, Ga., Special.—Guilty of the atrocious murder of his wife, Mrs. Eliza Gribble and her daughter, Mrs. Carrie Oblander, here last December, was the verdict returned against J. C. Hunter, in Chatham Superior Court.

With the court room's silence broken only by the sound of the voice of Judge Charlton, the sentence of death was pronounced and unless saved by legal formalities the aged prisoner will die on the gallows June 10th.

Looking steadily at the Judge with his one remaining eye, Hunter, shriveled with age and hard usage, and after the ordeal of the trial, apparently was as calm as any one else in the court room.

The murders for which Hunter is under death sentence were committed in the early afternoon of December 12, in a small frame two-story house on Perry street. Mrs. Gribble's skull was crushed in with blows of a blunt instrument. She was very old. Her laughter, too, met death almost instantly from blows over the head. Mrs. Hunter, the wife of the convicted man, was not dead when a patrolman pushed open the door of the house on the terrible scene, but died several days later in a hospital without regaining consciousness sufficiently to tell who struck her. She babbled of a "white man" who attacked her.

W. H. Walls, a white man, Mrs. Hunter's alleged lover, and John Cooker, a negro, who are charged with aiding Hunter, are prisoners. A second negro who confessed the crime was not held, his story being proven untrue.

### Bribery Charges Stir Senator.

Washington, Special.—For just two hours Saturday Senator Lorimer of Illinois stood in the Senate and discussed the charges of bribery made against him in connection with his election to the Senate. He made emphatic denial of all the allegations and sought to turn the accusation of wrongdoing upon The Chicago Tribune, in which paper the charges were first printed.

Senator Lorimer declared that all of the power of the city, county, State and Federal administrations under the leadership of Senator Hopkins, Governor Deenen and Mayor Busse, assembled into a misfit organization, combined to destroy the organization controlled by Lorimer, with intent to give control to The Tribune.

### Are There Others?

Washington, Special.—Publication of the information that Congress might pay the claims of heirs of Geo. Washington, who contend that \$305,000 worth of land was taken from them without warrant of law, has brought out a new claimant to dispute their rights.

George M. Roberts, of Wellsville, Ohio, has written the following letter to the chairman of the House Committee on Private Land Claims: "Observing that your committee is about to award the \$305,000 to the supposed heirs of George Washington I forbid any such proceedings, for I am the only heir to that land, and I will prove it when I get the original papers from England, the papers that John Paul Jones took in the river on his first trip. I write this as a warning, so that you will not spend the people's money unnecessarily."

### Thanks.

New York, Special.—Appropriations for more than \$700,000 have been made by the General Education Board for the endowment of work of various colleges and for agricultural work in the South.

### Sub-Marine Boat Stays Down.

Calais, France, By Cable.—Another French sub-marine, the Pluviose, with all her crew aboard in thirty fathoms of water, was sent to the bottom of the English channel Thurs day afternoon by the cross-channel steamer Pas Ne Calais, which, crowded with passengers bound for Dover struck the partly submerged Pluviose when about two miles from harbor.

### Ought to Live Like Editors.

Chicago, Special.—On \$70 a month you cannot save money if you are married; you cannot have joy rides; you cannot go to theatres and you can barely exist. Testimony to this effect was given by witnesses before the Federal Board of Arbitration, before which the locomotive firemen and engineers employed on 47 railroads are fighting for an increase of salary.

### Bacteriologist Dead.

Baden Baden, Special.—Prof. Robert Koch, the famous bacteriologist, died here from a disease of the heart. He was born at Klausthal, Hanover, December 11, 1843.

### Negro Sunday School Convention.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—One thousand negroes, representing every State in the Union attended the National Baptist Sunday school Congress at its annual session here. "We are struggling to uplift the negro through the Sunday school and church by the proper training of the children and by discouraging loafing and substituting industry, honesty and thrift," said the Rev. Dr. C. N. Clark, of Nashville, Tenn., who presided.

## PRIZE OF \$10,000

Won by Curtiss in His Great Aeroplane

### GIVEN BY NEW YORK WORLD

Rode the Air From Albany to New York in a World-Breaking Record—Sailed Along Over the Historic Hudson—Not a Single Accident

New York, Special.—Gunn H. Curtiss flew from Albany to New York City in an aeroplane Sunday winning the \$10,000 prize offered by The New York World. He covered the distance of 137 miles in 2 hours and 32 minutes and came to earth as calmly and as lightly as a pigeon. His average speed for the distance—54.06 miles an hour—surpasses any record ever made by an aeroplane in long distance flight.

The start was made from Albany at 7:03 o'clock under weather conditions as near perfect as the most fastidious aviator could demand. One hour and twenty-three minutes later he had made his stopping place near Poughkeepsie, where there was an hour's intermission. Resuming his flight at 9:26 he sped southward and landed within the boundary of Manhattan Island at 10:35.

Paulhan's flight from London to Manchester—186 miles—exceeded the Curtiss feat in distance but not in speed and danger. The Frenchman's average was 44.3 miles an hour, and below him lay English meadowland. Curtiss followed the winding course of the historic Hudson, with its jutting headlands, wooded slopes and treacherous palisades. He swung high over the great bridge at Poughkeepsie, dipped at times within 50 feet of the river's broad surface and jockeyed like a falcon at the turns.

Only once did his craft show signs of rebelling. This was off Storm King near West Point, where at a height of nearly 1,000 feet, a treacherous gust struck his planes. The machine dropped like a rock for 40 feet and tilted perilously. But Curtiss, always cool, kept both his head and his seat and by adroit manipulation of his levers brought renewed equilibrium to his steed.

### Costly Typographical Error.

Milwaukee, Wis., Special.—Because Mrs. Margaret Allis, widow of the founder of the Allis-Chalmers company, forgot to append three ciphers to the bequests to her four grandchildren, Margaret W. A. Norris, of Louisville; Edward Phelps Allis II and William Phelps Allis, of Montana, Frances and Maud A. Conway of Milwaukee, will have to be satisfied with \$25 each instead of \$25,000. Judge Karel ruled that although the intent to leave the children \$25,000 each was plain, the court could not go back of the fact that the will itself says \$25.

### Soldiers Untimely Death.

Monterey, Cal., Special.—His body an unseemly target for the rain of bullets of a firing squad at rifle range practice, Claude Hetherton, a private of Company K, Thirtieth Infantry stationed at the Presidio, who was taking measurement of the range, was literally shot to pieces and died after lingering in the reservation hospital for two days.

### Live Birds Must be Free.

New York, Special.—A jury before Justice Dugro in the supreme court returned a verdict finding Thomas Burke, coachman for G. F. White, of Cedarhurst, L. I., guilty of having a turkey buzzard in his possession, in captivity, contrary to the law of the State, and assessed the statutory penalty of \$85 and costs against him.

### Will Speak in N. C. and Va.

Washington, Special.—Tentative arrangements have been made by Secretary Nagel of the department of commerce and labor to speak at several places early in June. On June 8 he expects to speak at the commencement exercises at Trinity College, at Durham, N. C., and on the 11th at the meeting of the Virginia Bankers' association at Old Point Comfort, Va.

### Taft Cannot Welcome Roosevelt.

Washington, Special.—President Taft will not attend the home-coming celebration in honor of Theodore Roosevelt at New York on June 18. The president had been urged to attend by representatives of the Republican club of New York, who first suggested the celebration. On the day the former president sails into New York harbor President Taft will be at Villa Nova, Pa., receiving the degree of doctor of jurisprudence from St. Thomas college.

There is much speculation in Washington as to just when and under what circumstances President Taft and his predecessor will meet.

### Pursuing a Forlorn Hops.

Halifax, N. S., Special.—The recovery of sunken riches estimated to be worth between \$250,000 and \$500,000 is the object of an expedition which is to commence salvage operations in Port Murray bay within a few days. The treasure is supposed to be in the cabin of the Spanish galleon Don Gigra, which was sunk about a hundred years ago.

## QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

Sweden and Spain have the fewest alien residents.

London motor bus drivers are fined for being ahead of time, but rarely for being late.

Scavenging, watering and cleaning the streets of London costs over \$3,500,000 a year.

In 26 out of the 28 boroughs of London there were 43,538 empty houses in August last year.

The following words if spelt backward and forward are the same: "Name no one man."

The use of dust from vacuum cleaners is in demand for use in dusting patterns in foundries.

Prussia's coal and iron mines and salt works turned out in 1909 products valued at over \$53,000,000.

The London County council within 20 years have devoted over \$45,000,000 to street improvements.

In general and electrical engineering factories in the United Kingdom over 16,000 women are employed.

Within 15 years the estimated wealth of Germany has increased from \$53,360,000 to \$83,300,000,000.

Fish is now one of the chief means of subsistence of the German people, because of its comparative cheapness.

Germany in 1909 voted \$2,500,000 for submarines, and her latest estimates—1910—provided a further \$3,750,000.

The inhabitants of Southern Italy and Sicily are alarmed by an invasion of ravens, which are causing serious damage.

Long hair, it seems, is to be the fashion for men this year in London. The flat has gone forth from the hair-dressing establishments in Bond street.

Recently there has been a great sale of hansom cabs and horses in London. From one establishment alone 120 cab horses and more than 70 cabs were sold.

Samples of Turkish tobacco grown in the Uganda Protectorate, British East Africa, lost their Cavalla character, developing a new aroma and flavor of good quality.

J. Howard Reeder and Charles Rothwell of North East, made a catch one day last week of 1100 perch by fishing through the ice with a lead minnow. In one day this week they caught 600.

Newfoundland, with which the United States has a large and leading trade, exceeding \$5,000,000 a year, is prosperous. Both revenue and surplus this fiscal year are the largest in her history, namely, \$3,250,000, increase \$400,000, and \$250,000 respectively.

### Sirius the Master Sun?

Astronomers once believed that the entire starry universe revolved around a centre of attraction, and the star named Alcyone, in the group of the Pleiades, was selected by Maedler as marking that great centre. It has long been known, however, that Maedler's conclusion, which was based on the apparent motions of the stars, was incorrect, and if any universal centre exists it has not yet been discovered. In fact, many of the stars seem to be moving in straight lines, some in one direction and some in another, and among these is our own sun. But it is possible that further observations will show that all the stars are really moving in curved lines. In the meantime it has been found that there are certain groups or sets of stars which appear to travel together. To what set, if any, the sun belongs, we do not yet know, but Delaunay has presented reasons for thinking that those stars whose distances have been measured (that is to say, those which are nearest to us) group themselves around Sirius, the Dog Star, in a manner similar to that in which the inner planets are grouped around the sun. If this be correct, Sirius may possibly be the master sun of which our orb of day is a distant satellite.—Harper's Weekly.

### The Long Hat Pin—A Remedy.

Many and loud are the complaints against the use of the hat pin of extreme length. But what are women to do? The old style hat pin is useless, the size of the present hat crown necessitates a long pin to pass through the crown and the coiffure in order that the hat may be maintained in position. There is a remedy, however, which American manufacturers have not as yet introduced to any extent, and that is the German and French idea of attaching a metal end, or knob, to the point of the hat pin (much the same style as the button on the end of fencing foils), which takes away that element of danger to the long pin, and at the same time is an additional ornament to the hat.—Millinery Trade Review.

### Plenty on Hand.

"Have you ever wondered about your husband's past?"  
"Dear me, no; I have all I can do in taking care of his present and worrying about his future."—Boston Herald.