

## WORK TO IMPROVE FARM CONDITIONS

AMERICAN COMMISSION CLOSELY STUDYING THE SYSTEMS IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

### SCOPE OF WORK ENLARGED

Is Important Task Whose Solution Will be of Immense Benefit to the American Farmers.

Rome, Italy.—A most important task, whose solution will be of the greatest interest to the American farmer has been undertaken by the American commission on agricultural organization, co-operation and rural credits now studying the systems at work in various countries in Europe.

During the voyage from the United States the members decided to depart from the original intention of merely investigating the systems of European rural credits, as it was considered that so narrow a subject would tend against the usefulness of the commission. The scope of the work was therefore enlarged to embrace the whole subject of co-operative effort as it touches agriculture and rural life.

The members divided into four sub-committees dealing with the subjects of finance, production, distribution and organization of agriculture and country life.

The first subcommittee has started an investigation into all forms of banking and credit affecting the agriculturists, whether co-operative or non-co-operative, but is paying especial attention to the former, as it is desired to disseminate into the North American continent some practical principle of selfhelp. All the bankers and financiers accompanying the commission are on this subcommittee.

Practical farming is being investigated by the second subcommittee, and it is inquiring into the European associations formed for the purpose of increasing the fertility of the soil or the quality of crops and live stock. The successful cow-testing associations of Denmark and other countries.

The third subcommittee is gathering information as to organizations handling farmer's implements with the object of eliminating undue profits by middle men or large combinations of dealers.

### 120 PASSENGERS ARE LOST

Steamer Nevada Strikes Mine in Gulf of Smyrna.

Smyrna.—The steamer Nevada, with 200 passengers on board, struck three mines in succession in the Gulf of Smyrna and sank. Only eighty passengers are reported saved. The mines were strewn on the coast waters by the Turks to prevent an attack by the Greek fleet during the Balkan war.

The Nevada was leaving the Gulf of Smyrna when a Russian steamer was coming in and to avoid a collision the first named vessel left the channel and entered a mine field.

The Nevada struck three mines and each exploded in quick succession. The last was followed by an explosion on the ship which immediately sank.

Of the 200 passengers on the steamer eighty were rescued by boats which put off from the French cruiser Bruix, which was anchored in the harbor.

The Nevada, though owned by a Turkish company, was flying the American flag.

### One Killed, Two Shot in Feud.

Hawkinsville.—Davis Walker, a farmer, was shot and killed by Jerry Perdue near here. Perdue was shot through the thigh and W. H. Davis, a bystander, was shot in the neck, neither being wounded seriously. The killing is said to be the outcome of ill feeling over the killing of Walker's father several months ago, for which Perdue was tried and acquitted. Perdue came to Hawkinsville and surrendered. Walker is survived by a wife and four children.

### Ten Verses of Bible in Schools.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Under a bill approved by Governor Tener, ten verses of the Bible must be read daily without comment in the public schools of Pennsylvania. Teachers who violate the law are subject to dismissal.

### Veterans Gather in Reunion.

Chattanooga.—Incoming trains brought hundreds of veterans and visitors to the twenty-third annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans, opened here. Many of those who arrived first came to attend preliminary meetings. These sessions included a welcome meeting of the Confederate Memorial association and the opening meeting of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Chattanooga is in gala attire in honor of the momentous occasion. Bunting and flags, both federal and confederate, adorn the buildings

### CARDINAL RAMPOLLA



Cardinal Rampolla, former secretary of state to Pope Leo XIII, is one of the leaders in the college of cardinals and is mentioned as a possible successor of Pope Pius.

### U. S. GOUGED ON ARMOR

COMPETITIVE BIDDING A FARCE, SAYS SECRETARY OF WAR DANIEL IN STATEMENT

Responsibility is Placed on the Navy Department for Price Agreements Among Manufacturers.

Washington.—Responsibility for price agreements among manufacturers furnishing armor plate for American warships was placed directly upon the navy department itself by Secretary Daniels. In a statement following his announcement of his intention to submit a plan for a government armor plant the secretary declared the policy of the department in dividing plate contracts among all bidders at the lowest figure offered "makes all pretense of competitive bidding to get the lowest market price a farce that cannot possibly deceive anyone acquainted with the facts."

Mr. Daniels said he was glad the resolution for an investigation of this matter, introduced recently by Senator Ashurst, was before congress and that it only anticipated a formal statement which he proposed to prepare requesting relief from "an intolerable situation."

How contracts for armor for the new battleship Pennsylvania were let by Secretary Meyer last March was told in detail in the statement. Three steel companies submitted virtually identical bids and the contracts were divided among them.

### \$100,000,000 MEXICAN LOAN

Is to be Placed at 90 and Run Ten Years at 6 Per Cent.

Mexico City.—The Mexican congress gave its sanction to an agreement for a loan of \$100,000,000 at six per cent interest. The amount is to be placed at ninety and will run for ten years. It is guaranteed by 38 per cent of the customs receipts. The Mexican National bank is named as the representative of the bankers.

The debate on the loan was a long one. The minister of finance was charged with failure to take better offers which had been made. He replied that Provisional President Huerta and the other members of the Mexican cabinet had urged upon him the immediate acceptance of this loan as the other offers received necessitated more delay.

### Poison Victim Is Dead.

Macon.—Sanders Walker died here without regaining consciousness. Up to his last moment of consciousness the young real estate man, whose tragic mistake, taking bichloride of mercury instead of a headache remedy is cost him his life, was calm and cheerful, comforting his grief-stricken wife and parents, and showing that the indomitable will which characterized his college days and his business life since has stood the final great test unbroken. Walker lapsed into unconsciousness before he died.

## WANT TO CHANGE CURRENCY SYSTEM

THE CURRENCY COMMITTEE IS WEIGHING MANY BILLS TO REFORM FINANCES.

### EXPERTS TO AGREE ON PLAN

Improbable That Effort Will Be Made at Present Session to Reform Banking Laws.

Washington.—In addition to conducting hearings and digesting the answers to questions which are to be propounded to bankers and financial experts the senate banking and currency committee will discuss numerous bills proposed to reform the financial system of the country before it presents a measure to the senate.

Chairman Owen and many other members of the committee are engaged in drawing up bills designed to alter the currency system and it will be necessary for the committee to consider all of them before it settles upon a measure that it can support. It is regarded as improbable that an effort will be made at the present session to reform the banking laws, but attention will be focused on the need for more elastic currency and for mobilization of reserves so that they can be utilized quickly in case of financial stress.

Republican leaders are convinced there is little likelihood of radical legislation on currency subjects.

They do not believe serious effort will be made to provide for guarantee of bank deposits and they hope some sort of central association will be provided.

The subcommittee authorized to settle upon a list of questions to bankers met, but did not complete its task. Dr. A. Piatt Andrew, former assistant secretary of the treasury and one of the experts of the monetary commission, sat with the committeemen and offered suggestions for questions. A final draft will be laid by the subcommittee by Chairman Owen, who also will draw up a letter to accompany the list.

### TWO KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Steam Pipe of Stewart Blows Out During Test.

San Diego, Cal.—Richard Curtis Smith, oiler, and H. F. Bock, chief machinist's mate, are dead and Alma Miller, oiler, who risked his life in an attempt to save Bock, is in a dying condition as the result of an explosion on the United States torpedo boat destroyer Stewart.

The accident occurred 23 miles off port during a speed test, when a steam pipe in the engine room blew out. The engines were turning 200 revolutions a minute and the destroyer was rushing through the water at the rate of twenty-five and a half knots an hour. The Stewart is the fastest of the flotilla.

A brother of Miller lives at Idaho Falls, Idaho. Smith's home was at Lolin, Texas, and Bock lived at Moline, Illinois. Bock had just re-enlisted.

Capt. M. G. Shoner says the accident was one for which no one could be blamed. He made an investigation and forwarded a report to Washington.

### 100 Federals Killed by Rebels.

Eagle Pass.—In a battle near Sacramento in northeast Mexico, 100 federals were ambushed and killed by constitutionalists, according to reports brought here by constitutionalist leaders, who are gathering across the river from here for a general military conference. Carveo, a former follower of Orozco, led the federals at Sacramento. This victory gave the constitutionalists possession of all towns between Caltillo and Monclova. Huerta's opponents claim also to have captured the cities of Tactatecas, Parras and San Pedro de Colonias, near Torreón.

### Officials Chosen for Labor Department

Washington.—It was announced that Louis F. Post of Chicago had been selected as assistant secretary of the department of labor; Anthony Caminetti of San Francisco for commissioner general of immigration, and John O. Denmore of Polson, Mont., for solicitor of the department of labor. Louis Freeland Post is an editor, author, lawyer and lecturer, who has attained prominence by his discussions of economic questions, particularly single tax.

### Flagler's Funeral Marked by Simplicity

St. Augustine, Fla.—Simplicity marked the funeral of Henry M. Flagler, when his body was laid in a mausoleum in the yard of the Flagler Memorial church. Thousands from all parts of Florida participated in the services at the church and viewed the body as it lay in state in the rotunda of the Ponce de Leon hotel, which he built. Back of the casket towered the royal palms of Florida, on the bier lay a simple bunch of lilies. The guard of honor was made up of employees of the Florida East Coast railway.

### MRS. ANNIE WILSON HOWE



Mrs. Howe of Philadelphia, a sister of President Wilson, is taking the rest cure in Paris, after spending some time at the White House.

### HENRY M. FLAGLER DEAD

END COMES TO BUILDER OF OVER-THE-SEA RAILROAD AT HIS HOME IN FLORIDA.

First Fortune Swept Away by Poor Investment, He Left \$100,000,000 Estate.

West Palm Beach, Fla.—Henry M. Flagler, wealthy railroad builder and owner, died here.

Mr. Flagler, one of America's foremost financial giants, and known in the South as the "King of Florida."

After amassing a fortune of \$50,000 in Bellevue, he went to Saginaw, Mich., and made an unsuccessful venture in the salt business, losing every dollar of his money. With the aid of money furnished by his wife's relatives, he moved to Cleveland and entered the grain business.

Henry M. Flagler was born at Canandaigua, N. Y., in 1830. Little is known of his early life, except that he was clerk in a country grocery in Orleans county, Michigan, while yet in his teens.

In 1885 Mr. Flagler paid his first visit to Florida, and became impressed with the business possibilities presented there by the railroad field, in connection with the development of winter resorts.

Entering actively into the work of turning Florida into one vast winter resort, Mr. Flagler built the Florida East Coast railroad and erected the Ponce de Leon and Alcazar hotels at a cost of \$3,000,000.

His great achievement, however, was the extension of his railroad from Miami to Key West. For many years his plan was ridiculed as impracticable, and was called "Flagler's folly." The opening of this "over-seas" line is listed as one of the engineering triumphs of the age.

### LANDSLIDE WRECKS TRAIN

The Train Was Swept Down Mountain Side by Avalanche.

Hinton, W. Va.—Six persons are believed to have been killed and a number injured when a Chesapeake and Ohio train was swept down a steep mountain side by a landslide.

The train, composed of an engine, three freight cars and a caboose, the latter carrying passengers, had been stopped between Sewell and Landisburg, so that debris deposited by a cloudburst, might be cleared away.

The slide that engulfed the train and sent it rolling down the mountain side in a tumbling mass of rock, earth, steel and timber, came without warning. While the crew was working to clear the track there was a terrific roar and before any one could save themselves the crash came.

### Quilt Has 20,152 Patches.

Jackson, Ga.—Late in April it was reported from Senola that there was a quilt in Coweta county containing 5,500 patches or scraps. Butts county has since been casting about endeavoring to find one with a larger number. The search is completed, and that Mrs. F. M. Allen of this city is the owner of a beautiful quilt of many colors, containing not only that many pieces, but nearly four times as many, will interest quiltmakers. The one in her possession has 20,152 pieces, each about half an inches square.

## LOBBYISTS THICK ABOUT CAPITOL

PRESIDENT WILSON STIRS UP THINGS BY DENOUNCING THEIR WORKINGS.

### ARE MAKING NO HEADWAY

Bills Have Been Introduced in Congress by Several Senators and Will be Pressed For Action Looking to Their Regulation.

Washington.—President Wilson stirred congressional circles with an emphatic statement denouncing the "industrious" and "insidious" lobby in Washington attempting to create public sentiment against certain features of the Underwood tariff bill. This was accepted at the Capitol as referring to the unusual efforts being made against free raw wool and free sugar.

While the President was declaring it his opinion that the public should be relieved "from the intolerable burden," Senators and Representatives were viewing on every hand the evidences of the lobbyists which beset them; and significance was attached to a statement made by Senator Simmons, chairman of the Finance Committee, which now has the tariff bill in hand that, in his opinion, the lobbyists were not making any headway.

The President's declaration that the lobbyists were so thick "that one could not throw a brick without hitting one" revived interest in two bills recently introduced in the House and Senate to regulate lobbying on pending legislation.

Senator Keynon of Iowa and Representative C. B. Smith of New York have declared their intention to press bills they have introduced which would restrict the work of lobbyists, require their registration and require that they be licensed to appear before any committee or to carry on a campaign for or against proposed legislation. Heavy penalties would be imposed for violations.

Democratic leaders were almost unanimous in support of the President's statement maintaining that they are well able to handle the important pending tariff legislation and that the sugar and wool bill will be thoroughly considered and discussed by the Finance Committee and Democratic caucus before it is reported.

### Would Change Election.

Washington.—A new plan for National elections and the assembling of Congress was proposed by Senator Works in two bills. He would change election day from November to August and provide for annual sessions of Congress from the first Monday in October to the first Monday in June. Congressmen would assume office in October, immediately after election and the President and Vice President would take office in November.

### Bulgaria Looking For War.

Vienna.—Bulgaria regards war as inevitable according to dispatches from Sofia. Serbia's demand for a revision of the alliance treaty is regarded as an ultimatum, and it is expected the Bulgarian Cabinet will flatly refuse the demand and insist upon strict compliance with the treaty.

### Another Aeroplane Wrecked.

Mineola, N. Y.—George Hamilton, aged 36, of Reno, Nevada, had a remarkable escape from death in an aeroplane accident. He was trying out a new type of monoplane, framed with iron tubing. When about a hundred feet in the air the aeroplane turned turtle and crashed to the ground. Hamilton was picked up in a dazed condition. He probably will recover.

### Decision Affecting Cut Rates.

Washington.—Patented articles sold under price restrictions by manufacturers may be re-sold by retailers at cut rates. The supreme court held in the case of a newly patented nerve tonic. Safety razors, talking machines and thousands of other patented articles are affected by the decision.

### Bi-Chloride Tablet Did Not Kill.

Orlando, Fla.—That bi-chloride of mercury poison is not always fatal was demonstrated here when S. Waters Howe, cashier of the State National Bank swallowed a tablet of that deadly drug mistaking it for a headache dose. As the tablet passed down his throat it contracted the muscles so violently that he discovered his mistake and hurried to the city physician who at once used the stomach pump and gave antidotes with the result that Howe is about as well as usual and he has experienced no harm.

### LAND OF THE LONG LEAPPINE

Short Paragraphs of State News That Has Been Condensed For People of the State.

Tryon.—Mr. Dave W. Pate has the contract to paint the bridges in Polk county. He is now at work on the bridge at Lynn.

Raleigh.—Governor Craig offers a reward of \$50 for the arrest of Joe Ross, colored, who is wanted in Robeson county. The county commissioners offer an additional \$50 reward.

Spencer.—East Spencer is to enlarge its public school buildings and increase the teaching force for next year. There are 190 children of school age in the town, with an enrollment of 150 to be taught by three teachers.

Asheville.—Cletus Justus, 15-year-old son of State Pharmaceutical Association, who has held the position of president and treasurer, gives out a statement that the annual meeting of the association will be held at Newbern June 10 to 13.

Raleigh.—A certificate of amendment to the charter of The State Dispatch Publishing Company, Burlington, is filed changing the basis of management so that five directors instead of 21 will have the management of the affairs.

Whitney.—John Thomas, a negro in the employ of the Hardaway Contracting Company, was shot and killed several days ago. The trouble is said to have been a personal matter between Thomas and another negro by the name of Leak, who has been around here, seemingly under the influence of liquor for several days.

Durham.—J. W. Ferrell, proprietor of the notorious "feed" store on Parish street, alleged to be one of the biggest blind tigers in the city was convicted before the recorder on a charge of violating the search and seizure law and was fined \$200 and taxed with the costs. He gave notice of an appeal.

Raleigh.—Hon. M. L. Shipman, the newly elected grand master of the North Carolina Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, has completed his list of appointive officers for the term and proposes to inaugurate forthwith one of the most aggressive campaigns for the furtherance of the interests of the order that this state has ever known.

Raleigh.—The Secretary of State chatters the Red Springs Motor Company, Red Springs, capital \$10,000 authorized and \$5,000 subscribed by J. J. Throrer, William Jones and others; also the Mint Cola Company, Salisbury, capital \$40,000 authorized and \$6,000 subscribed, by H. B. Smith, J. H. Warburton and others.

Asheville.—News has been received in Asheville of an atrocity committed in Mitchell county, when the dam of the Carolina Mining company, miring felspar and kaolin, was badly damaged by a discharge of dynamite, placed supposedly by some one with criminal intent. Three large holes were blown in the dam and other damage was done, the entire loss being between \$500 and \$700.

Scotland Neck.—The Board of Trustees of the graded school has elected the following teachers for the coming session of the school: First grade, Miss Mary Herbert Smith; second grade, left open; third grade, Miss Eleanor Smith; fourth grade, Miss Cornelia Josey; fifth grade, Miss Bessie Hellen; Farmville; sixth grade, Miss Nannie Richardson, Selma; seventh grade, left open.

Albemarle.—Mr. William E. Furr, a resident of Albemarle for the past several years, died suddenly several days ago. Mr. Furr was apparently in his usual health, having been up street all during the afternoon and having conversed with a number of Confederate veterans preparatory to joining them for a trip to Chattanooga. Mr. Furr was 81 years of age and has been constable for this township for a number of years.

Newton.—The case of the Claremont bank which was to have been tried in court here last week was continued until the July term of court. This case was the receiver applying for a right to pay off the depositors with the cash on hand when the State Bank Examiner closed the bank which was being operated by the State Trust Company. The money will be held until later for an order from the judge who will hold the next term of court.

Salisbury.—It has been decided not to celebrate the Fourth of July in Salisbury this year. All efforts will be concentrated on a big county fair in the fall. The North Carolina Public Service Company has agreed to give the grounds and make special preparation for the event.

Wake Forest.—Seventy-eight men received their diplomas from Wake Forest recently and the honorary degree of doctor of divinity was conferred upon Rev. Livingstone Johnston of Raleigh and the degree of doctor of laws upon President William J. Martin of Davidson College.