

**PINE STRAW.**

(Continue from page two)  
by the local military unit, a word of appreciation is due the splendid service that this unit of the county life has rendered. In addition to the much underrated benefit of military trainings the company's activities in Raeford have been instrumental in building man-power and increasing Americanism. They have brought to Raeford a nationwide record, that of being the smallest town in the nation to support two military units. Their latest addition, the gymnasium will prevent a lamentable state of affairs that has been going on in Raeford for some years, that of having athletic sports going into hibernation for the winter season. Basketball on any appreciable scale has been impossible in the past on account of the lack of gymnasium facilities. With the completion of an indoor court, basketball, king of winter sports, should take its rightful place in community life, not only in the high school but among the younger men of the town. This advantage would be hard to overestimate. Great credit is due to Captain Poole and the officers and men of the two companies who are taking the lead in this forward step.

**A CIVIL WAR MILE POST.** The death of Major Stedman of Greensboro deprives the Congressional body at Washington of the last member who served with the Confederates during the War Between the States. As little as we think of it, this is an important mile stone in history. The veterans of that war are fast disappearing from our midst. Their ranks were pitifully thin, though jubilant with the spirit that defies age, when they assembled at Charlotte. During that convention in 1929, two died and eight others within two weeks after. In every com-

munity the veterans have narrowed down to a few enfeebled men who still carry on. Following the Civil War the most tremendous problem and the most lasting was the restoring of the unity of spirit between the North and South. Men of Major Steadman's stamp who so steadfastly and nobly represented the South in the congressional halls were forgers of the chain which was to reunite the estranged sections. His departure from the field of service is a symbol of the departure of all the men who served with the immortal Lee and Jackson, and a few years will bring the time when we can only say that we talked with veterans of the war in the days when some were alive.

**CONGRESSMAN HAMMER.** The sudden death of Congressman Hammer on his return from attending the funeral of Major Steadman was a blow to his many personal friends and admirers throughout the county. Mr. Hammer was splendid and stalwart figure in the national legislative halls and his work is a sturdy memorial to him. One of his last acts in Congress was a strong and moving address in the house of representatives, favoring an appropriation for the eradication of illiteracy in the states and territories of the Union. He called attention to the fact that America was below the nations of Europe in illiteracy, despite the fact that the European definition of literacy included both reading and writing while that of America includes only writing. He recognized two groups of illiterates, native born, both whites and negroes, and foreign born and made a strong plea that the government should give them the means to educate themselves "to grasp the words of God and man." A review of this address shows vision, sympathy and power. recognized traits of Asheboro's mourned citizen.

**SEPTEMBER SIGHTS.** A two-slope, dwarfed by the tremendous but horse wagon on a buff-coloured airy bulk of the hay piled on it... the magnificent sweep of the sand-hills, viewed from Sanatorium, makes

every man want to be an explorer for a moment... and most of us remember the light and dark green contrasts of that view in spring... the daring of a September cloud to spurt a sudden shower with blue sky visible all around... a two-year-old pickaninny following his burly father with a sugar sack in which he proudly displays a dozen locks of cotton... the pleasant sort of self-satisfaction in seeing the name of a home town boy regularly in state papers... the annual fight between touchdown and run for the public spotlight will start soon... the poplars, like the fur merchants, take their fall duties early.

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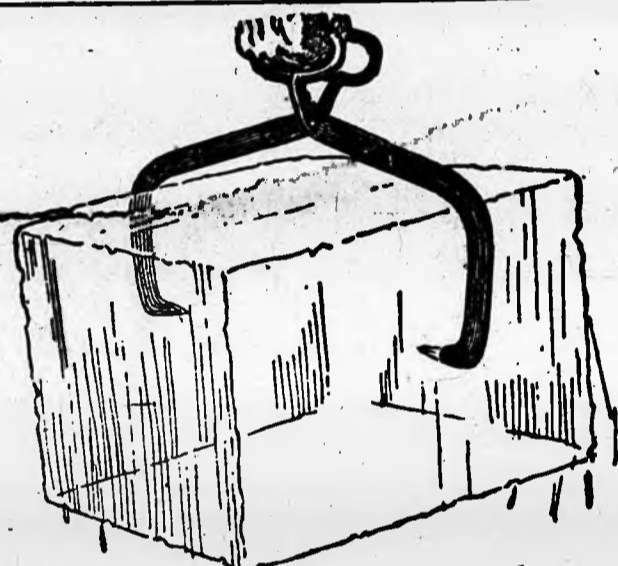
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