## Scraps and Facts.

— A carefully drawn provision for compensation for personal injuries of Panama canal employes is embodied in an executive order promulgated by President Taft last Wednesday, to take effect after March 1. The Panama canal act passed last August, directed the president to provide the method for adjusting the claims of employes. Every canal employe and family dependent upon him are insured against the result of injuries recived in the course of his work without reference to questions of contributory negligence or any of the other restrictive rules of the common law limiting the liability of the employer in such cases. Every injury received while at work and death resulting from such injury are compensated for, except for injuries caused by the employe's wilful intention or his intoxication. The president's order was drawn in the light of the report of Senator Sutherland's commission on workmen's compensation.

— The postoffice appropriation bill, carrying approximately $283,000,000, an increase of nearly $3,000,000, over the house bill, was passed by the senate last Wednesday. The largest single item in the bill is for the transportation of mails on mail routes, $51,500,000 being authorized by the senate for this purpose. The senate appropriated $47,500,000 for the rural delivery service. The measure carried an increase of more than $12,000,000 over the appropriations made last year, due to the establishment of the parcel post system. An amendment proposed by Senator Penrose providing for the pensioning of postal employes after they had served 25 years or more in the service was eliminated from the bill on a point of order by Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia. He contended that it was general legislation and was sustained by the chair. The provision in the bill as reported to the senate providing for the election of fourth class postmasters was also stricken out. Charges that railroads are grossly overpaid for carrying the mails were made by Senator Ashurst during the consideration of the bill. He produced statistics showing that the government paid $71.39 for carrying a ton of mail from New York to Chicago, while for carrying a ton of freight the railroads received $13 and for a ton of express $25. Senator Ashurst contended the government could save much by using its own postal cars instead of renting cars from the railroads.

— The present Constitution of Mexico was adopted Feb. 5, 1857. There has been a number of amendments. Under this Constitution, Mexico is considered a federative republic, divided into twenty-seven states, three territories and one federal district, each having the right of local self-government. The functions of the federal government are divided as under our own Constitution, the three departments, executive, legislative and judicial, being similarly organized. The president, under the Constitution at least, is elected by electors popularly chosen, for a single term of six years. The area of the country is 765,535 square miles, nearly three times that of the state of Texas. The population in 1910 was 15,063,207. Of these about 19 per cent were pure white, 43 per cent mixed bloods and 38 per cent Indians. A relatively small part of the population, from 15 to 18 per cent live in the temperate zone, which embraces the northern states, now in open rebellion aginst the authority of Provisional President Huerta. In his message to congress, Sept. 16, 1912, the late President Madero stated that the full strength of the army was 107 generals, 6,236 officers and 49,332 men. Six gunboats of 1,000 to 1,300 tons, two transports and several revenue cutters constitute the naval equipment. The revenues for the last fiscal year amounted to $55,500,000 and the expenditures the same amount. The total national debt on Jan. 1, 1911, was $219,213,000, with interest and other annual charges of $14,418,000. Mexico has 16,000 miles of railway, 50,000 miles of telegraph lines and 2,964 postoffices.

— With the outlook of armed opposition to the new provisional government in Mexico, reduced to a few small, threatened uprisings by followers of the late President Madero, it is the opinion of administration officials in Washington, according to a dispatch, that chances for the use of the military arm to protect American interests have greatly diminished. Concentration of troops at Galveston will continue, but admittedly the purpose now is principally to test the working of the new system of army organization. Major General Carter, commander of the second division, due to arrive in Galveston within the next twenty-four hours, will take the opportunity afforded by the assembly of a complete division of troops to put them through their paces thus affording to the various regimental and brigade commanders practically their first oportunity to direct the movements of the large bodies of men that would fall to their command in time of war. If the complete division is assembled in Galveston, at Texas City, about seven miles distant, and in the camp just opened near Houston before the end of the present week, the military experts feel that they will have accomplished a creditable feat. It is true that the movement appears to be very slow in comparison with the remarkable mobilization of the allies in the Balkans. But as a matter of fact, such distances as that from Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., and Fort Snelling, Minn., to Galveston, would have greatly taxed the resources of the best European quartermaster department. On the whole Secretary Stimson feels very proud of the record made up to this point, when, by the issue of a single order to Major General Carter, the second division commander, the entire body of men was set in motion, whereas under the old plan the adjutant general's department was obliged to send hundreds of telegrams to as many individuals commanding officers, all the way from major generals down to a captain, to begin the mobilization. Under the new system, too, the quartermaster general had already assembled at the proper point of embarkation all the supplies needed for a campaign.

— The operations of the five armies engaged in the Balkan war, says a London dispatch, have been brought practically to a standstill by the wintery weather. Snow storms are frequent and the roads are in a deplorable state. The daily official dispatches, upon which the world is now compelled to rely for news from the theatre of war, repeat the sterotyped statement, "nothing of importance has occurred." A dispatch from Constantinople goes a little further, recording that there has been skirmishing on the front of the Tchatalja lines by Turkish volunteers who claim to have met with some success. These must have been of a minor nature as the Bulgarians earlier in the week were said to have withdrawn further to the westward. Roads in that neighborhood are so bad that the transport columns found it difficult to keep the troops at the front supplied with provisions and ammunition. The news from the neighborhood of Adrianople is conflicting. The Bulgarian war department says only desultory fighting has been in progress, but a dispatch from a French correspondent inside the city, says that since February 3, the Bulgarians have been delivering desperate, but ineffective assaults on the fortress and are bombarding it cruelly and fruitlessly. Even less has occurred in the vicinity of Bulair, in the Gallipoli peninsula, than at the Tchatalja lines. Here the Buglarian and Turkish armies are entrenched, patiently awaiting a break in the weather. The only heavy fighting, except at Adrianople, since the war was resumed, has taken place around Scutari, where the Montenegrin army, now assisted by Servian troops, has again failed in trying to take the fortress. Austrian military experts say the Montenegrin siege guns are placed too far away to do serious damage to the Turkish works and that King Nicholas of Montenegro will not permit them to be moved forward, as he fears a sortie by the Turkish garrison. He is now awaiting the arrival of the big Servian seige guns which have been shipped from Saloniki. The Montenegrins are most anxious to capture the fortress, as Russia has agreed to the Austrian demand that it should be included in the future Albania state. With the town once in his possession, King Nicholas believes that his brother Slavs would insist on its retention by Montenegro. The Greek army seems to be just as idle at Janina as are the Bulgarians at Bulair. An occasional report comes through of a movement of Turkish troops in Macedonia, showing they are not entirely disposed of there, while the failure of the Greeks to take Janina, which is their object, is regarded as another indication that there is a lot of fight left in the Ottomans in that part of the country. The Greek fleet has now extended its blockade of the Albania coast as far as Durazzo to stop revictualling of the Turks in Scutari and Macedonia. This action may give rise to objections by Italy and Austria on the ground that the blockade is ineffective.


## The Yorkville Enquirer.

Entered at the Postoffice in Yorkville as Mail Matter of the Second Class.

YORKVILLE, S. C.:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1913


If two gubernatorial candidates can set the state by the ears as was the case last summer what will a half a dozen of them do?

Dispatches of yesterday reported that Turkey has at last agreed to negotiate peace with Bulgaria on a basis of the surrender of Adrianople.

It is now settled that Hon. Wm. J. Bryan is to be secretary of state in Wilson's cabinet and that means that the administration is to be really and truly progressive.

If that old idea of giving precedence to members of congress on a basis of length of service rather than on a basis of fitness and ability wins out, how do the people ever expect to get in really close touch with congress?

There has been very little real war in Mexico. Most of the disturbance has been the work of marauding bands of robbers living on the helpless people of the smaller villages on pretence that they were waiting for orders from one side or the other. In a large measure that is the situation now.

The Columbia State some days ago issued an editorial challenge to Senator McLaurin to discuss the negative side of compulsory education. The senator has accepted and the State of yesterday, contains articles con and pro, the State being for and the senator against the bill that has just passed the senate.

The act authorizing the court house commissioners to condemn sites for the proposed new building does not compel the commissioners to buy at the price fixed by the arbiters. Under the act, the commissioners may condemn as many sites as they please without being required to take any of them.

Editor W. W. Smoak of the Walterboro Press and Standard has sold his interest in that paper for the purpose of taking charge of a semi-weekly at Madisonville, Ky. We have always considered Mr. Smoak to be a high toned gentleman and well above the average in newspaper ability, and we regret very much to see him leave South Carolina.

About the only argument we have heard advanced against the state warehouse law is that so-called "tax" of 25 cents a bale where you "don't have to pay nothing" now. In his article published elsewhere, President E. W. Dabbs, of the State Farmers' Union, gives the farmers something to think about along this line.

If the Democratic party will make proper and wise provision under the sixteenth amendment to the Constitution it will be able to correct many of the ills from which the country now suffers. In this way the protection feature of the tariff may be reduced to a really scientific basis, and the heavy tax on industry can be removed. The possibilities of the income tax are more potent and promising than any other economic proposition in sight.

There is persistent repetition of the proposition that President-elect Wilson proposes to invite Vice-President Marshall to participation in cabinet councils, thus establishing an innovation hitherto unknown in the history of the country. Heretofore the vice president has been only a figurehead, notwithstanding the fact that theoretically at least he is presumed to be second in importance to the president in the conduct of the government.

York county is now some five or six thousand dollars in "the hole." The exact amount cannot be ascertained at this time. By in "the hole," is meant that the taxes now being collected will lack that much of paying such claims as have been already matured, and during the balance of the year, the ordinary county fund will have to be supplied by borrowing. This situation is due largely to the freshet that swept away so many bridges last spring, and of course to other extraordinary expenses.

* * * As a consequence, I am free to say to you that I do not believe there is a county in the state which has no blind tigers in it—white men selling whisky, negroes selling whisky and in many instances white men backing the negroes and having the negroes acting as retailers for them.—Governor Blease's Annual Message..

A majority of negroes who are "running blind tigers" are doing it for white men. How else do they manage so readily to get up the money to pay their fines.—Newberry Observer, February 25.

We are not reproducing the above so much as an illustration of how great minds run in the same channel, as an illustration of how even political opponents may sometimes see and acknowledge the truth from the same angle.

There are frequent intimations of a lack of harmony as between President-elect Wilson and Speaker Clark. While both are "Democrats," it is clear that they stand for ideals and policies that are widely different. Mr. Clark is generally understood to be what is known as a practical politician and therefore a standpatter. Mr. Wilson believes that there is lots of room for improvement in the conduct of the government, and that the situation would be bettered by a nearer approach to the real letter and spirit of the declaration of independence and the Constitution. There are many who are looking for an early locking of horns as between Messrs. Wilson and Clark and their respective followings; but as to how that is going to be remains to be seen.

The money trust committee which has been making such an extensive investigation of conditions, has gotten so much information that it is unable to formulate a report upon which a majority can agree. This is not surprising. While most reasonably well informed people understand that the financial system of this country is a wretched patchwork generally, the best and most patriotic men the country has are not able to see just how reform is to be secured without a serious unsettling of the present status. It is our belief that Senator Aldrich understands the money question better than any other statesman of the day; but as there are very few people who believe that Senator Aldrich ever undertook legislation intended to benefit other than a class or section, his bill should not be accepted as it is. Honest, earnest, patriotic experts, however, might take the bill as it stands, drive the "nigger" out of the woodpile, and then let the proposition be enacted into a law that would eventually prove about right for the country.

At last the senate has yielded to the importunities of the seedsmen and stricken out the appropriation under which seeds have been distributed free to the people of the country. This free distribution of seeds has come in for quite a lot of contention during many years past, many people holding that its main purpose was to keep congressmen in closer touch with their constituents. The government seeds have been attacked as inferior, and many arguments have been used to break up the practice of free distribution. Although many times requested to do so by seed houses, The Enquirer has never seen proper to say anything against the free seed distribution idea. It has been our observation that while probably thousands of packages of seed are wasted in that for various reasons they are never planted, still other thousands of packages have found their way into the ground where except for the free distribution no seed would be planted. We are not, however, inclined to consider the failure of the appropriation as being of very much consequence, because the price of seeds generally is so low that most people who really desire to plant find little difficulty in securing exactly what they want.

In the course of its experience The Enquirer has been brought to a realization of the fact that there are newspaper readers, not a great many perhaps; but some, who seem to have the idea that the editor must approve or disapprove everything he prints. That is that a given article that is published without comment, must be taken as having the approval of the editor. We can very readily understand how an individual who has a mere superficial conception of the conduct of a newspaper can become obsessed of such a notion; but speaking largely from a lifetime of practical consideration of the subject, we do not believe that a newspaper run on such lines would prove permanently acceptable to any considerable circle of readers. While there are those who cannot get around the idea that the one chief end of a newspaper, if it has a chief end, is to mold "public opinion" and "lead thought," we do not entertain such a notion to any considerable extent. Public opinion might be temporarily swayed by a newspaper comment, locally at least, and generally, for a time if all newspapers should work together along the same lines, and print only such facts or alleged facts as seemed to uphold the particular purpose in view; but such a policy would result in disaster and chaos, sooner or later, and more probably sooner. The only thing that really "molds" public opinion is truth, the eternal truth, and this view the newspapers cannot sidetrack, except temporarily. Neither could the pulpit, if we would grant for the sake of argument that it would try. The idea is clearly expressed in connection with the incident when the Pharisees sought to rebuke people for involuntary acknowledgement of the Savior. Christ said that if these should hold their peace, "the stones will cry out." And as to "leading thought," any man or newspaper who has a real thought can lead with it until it forms its mission in securing recognition as truth; but the individual whether in his own personal capacity or as a newspaper editor, who undertakes to lead and direct thought, has assumed a task that has never been discharged with a great deal of success by other than a very few mortals in this great world of ours. A newspaper may state as fact a thing that is not a fact; but the thing will stand only until it is exposed to the light of truth. And the newspaper which confines itself to the recording of only such happenings as it would like to happen can be of very little value to the people who look to it for information about things as they are. A great newspaper man once defined as "news fit to print" anything that the Almighty permitted to happen, and while admitting frankly that we have neither the sources of information or the high courage necessary to the proper use of them, if we had them, we will say that in our opinion, this great newspaper man came very near covering the whole ground. If this same rule, however, were upheld as to the propriety of comment we take it that the editor who could measure up to all requirements would be rather beyond anything yet known in connection with newspaper making. Also we take it that the man who essays to "lead thought" or "mold public opinion," contrary to the controlling facts, has a job alongside of which the little dog that bayed at the moon must have felt himself most profitably employed.

In speaking of the unrest and dissatisfaction throughout South Carolina, which The Yorkville Enquirer says exists it goes on to say: "Our own view of the whole situation is that above all else it is time for the people to turn their thoughts to common justice and insist on strict and impartial enforcement of the laws. If the laws of the land were properly observed, there would be no place for dissatisfaction or unrest." All of which is very true and to which might be added that of laws we have entirely too many. If men were to do their neighbors as they would their neighbors should do unto them, there would be little use for laws, and the enforcement of such laws as we had would be easier of enforcement. The great trouble with these times is that we are trying to regulate everything by law, and as a result we have very few laws strictly enforced. There is too much law and too much regulating everything by law, or at least an attempt to do it. If people would turn their thoughts to common justice and not rely so much on laws, there would be less infraction of law and less need of law.—Newberry Herald and News.

The suggestions of the Herald and News are sound. There are too many laws. That does not mean that no more laws should be enacted; but it does mean that we have many laws that should be repealed. There are on the statute books many laws that have no justification other than the personal whim of the men who introduced them and got them through. For instance, many years ago (1882) a certain member of the house in Union county rode to town one day, and while he was engaged in the transaction of his business, an acquaintance took his horse which had been left in a hitching lot and rode it away far enough to be gone when the owner returned. The owner was very angry; but said nothing to the offender. Instead at the next session of the general assembly he secured the passage of an act that provides that whoever shall knowingly use another's horse or mule without the consent of the owner, and without intent to steal, shall be liable to a fine of not more than $50 or imprisonment of not more than six months. This law may have been enforced a half-dozen times since then; but it has been violated thousands of times without anybody thinking of a prosecution. There are scores of criminal statutes on the books that have no more justification in their origin or existence than this, and the civil code is literally full of statutes that have been put there by interested persons for no other reason than to subserve their own purposes. But even such laws as these should be obeyed until they are repealed. However, the idea that none but wise and just laws be enacted is hopeless, and it will continue hopeless until the people begin to insist on sending only the wisest and best among them to the general assembly. And the wisest and best are always those who practice the rule suggested by the News and Herald—"Do unto others as you would have them to do unto you."

### A PLEA FOR MERCY.

**Governor Asks Legislature to Stop Cruelty at Penitentiary.**

Governor Blease on Tuesday night sent the following message to the senate. On Wednesday night, after the convening of the house, he also sent a copy to that body:

**Message No. 44.**

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.
Executive Department.

Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

I transmit to you herewith, letter received by me on the morning of February 25, 1913:

"February 23, 1913.

"His Excellency, Governor Blease,
Columbia, S. C.

"Honorable Sir:—

"Simeon Ellis (colored) a prisoner ... I understand was talking to you yesterday, Saturday, on the street. He was working on the city street detail and as you passed, asked his guard, Corporal Boykin, to speak to you and Boykin refused him the permission to do so and he spoke to you anyhow.

"Today he was brought up before Capt. Sondley by Boykin and was sentenced to the stocks and Ellis says he was struck forty-five or fifty lashes, he cannot say the exact number, and his back now shows the result from his head down to his hips.

"I am telling you this as a matter of information, which I think you will be glad to know at this time, as I am very well posted as to what your policies are regarding such things regarding the state penitentiary.

"Therefore I do not hesitate to send you this information as I know that you will not give the source of your information.

"Yours respectfully,
(Signed) ————
"Monday morning."

"Ellis was taken to the blacksmith shop and a pair of very short shackles put on him and he then told the captain and Dr. Jennings that he was going to tell you the first chance that he had been whipped for talking to you. Then he was taken to the shop again to have the chain lengthened and while this was being done he had a fit. He is subject to such spells. The chains were cut off him and he was taken to the hospital, where he now is. I understand he is in a serious condition.

"Later: To still further punish this poor, ignorant, defenseless negro. Dr. Jennings applied a strong electric battery to him and tortured him for more than a half hour. His screams and cries and piteous appeals for mercy could be heard all over the penitentiary grounds."

Upon receipt of the letter, Col. Aull, my private secretary, requested Captain of the Guard Sondley, at the state penitentiary, to bring this prisoner to my office at five o'clock p. m. He was brought in his prison garb, closely shackled, with a chain around both legs. As to his physical condition, I leave the description of that for Representatives C. C. Wyche, Mitchum and Fortner, who were present and saw the negro's back and hips.

This is but another instance which came to my ears only by accident, and which I am giving to you for the purpose of showing that I am doing what I can to relieve suffering humanity, and that I am only heeding the demands of humanity upon me.

After finding that the negro had been in the penitentiary thirteen years for killing another negro, and feeling sure that if I returned him to the penitentiary as a prisoner he would again be whipped, shocked and possibly killed, I granted him a parole during his good behavior.

In taking this course, I am satisfied that I am not only heeding the demands of humanity, but that I am upholding the letter and spirit of our Constitution, which provides in Section 19 of Article 1, "nor cruel and unusual punishment inflicted," and "corporal punishment shall not be inflicted."

The letter which I have transmitted to you says that when this negro was tortured with "a strong electric battery * * *for more than a half hour." "His screams and cries and piteous appeals for mercy could be heard all over the penitentiary grounds." They reached my ears. They have now reached yours. The demand upon me was not for mercy, but for justice, and I believe that justice was secured from me, so far as in my power lay to give it. What will you do?

Very respectfully,
Cole L. Blease,
Governor.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 25, 1913.

— Columbia, February 27: The committee that investigated the state Confederate infirmary submitted its report to the general assembly today with the testimony adduced at the various hearings. All papers in the case were received as information and ordered printed in the house journal. The committee found that drunkenness on the part of some of the inmates was sustained by the testimony; that the charges of partiality are conflicting; that there is great room for discipline; that there is a lack of proper nursing for the sick; that for a short time last summer bread, made of musty meal, was served to the inmates; that probably the home is allowed to get into a pretty filthy condition at times, and that the practice of dealing out supplies of liquor to the veterans should be discontinued. Part of the report reads: "Your committee is of the opinion that too much of the appropriation for the old soldiers' home goes for salaries. One man of the right kind could perform all of the duties now supposed to be performed by Major Richardson and Captain Caldwell, and if he possessed proper executive ability, considerable improvement in the management of the home and a large increase in the products of the farm could be made." The opinion of the committee is that $85 per month would be good pay for the physician of the home, "since it appears from the testimony that about all that can be done for the inmates, on account of their lack of recuperative power, as shown by Dr. F. W. Butler's testimony is to give them cathartics occasionally and something to ease pain."

— Attorney General Peeples has announced that he has appointed Fred H. Dominick, of Newberry, as assistant attorney general to succeed M. T. Debruhl, the appointment to take effect April first. Mr. Dominick has announced that he will accept the appointment He was a law partner of Cole Blease before the latter became governor and has since practiced law in Newberry. He is a member of the state Democratic committee and is well known throughout the state.

## LOCAL AFFAIRS.

### NEW ADVERTISEMENTS


Shannon-Smarr Co., Sharon—Want to talk to you about fertilizers.
Betsy Wood—Warns all persons not to employ or harbor her minor son, Agi, who has left her home.
J. M. Atwood—Has opened a restaurant in the McNeel building and is ready to furnish meals at all hours.
J. C. Wilborn—Offers the J. B. Bell house for sale. See page four.
Louis Roth—Wants to furnish you with several varieties of seed Irish potatoes at right prices.
J. Q. Wray—Calls attention to his big special sale and invites you to call on him when in town Monday.
First National Bank, Yorkville—Says that the man of the hour is the man with money, and advises you to save a part of your earnings.
Carroll Furniture Co.—Offers the Irene range to its trade as one that is entirely satisfactory, and moderately priced. Phonographs cheap.
Yorkville Hardware Co.—Is optimistic on the weather, and tells farmers where to find all kinds of farming hardware.
Kirkpatrick-Belk Co.—Sells Wunderhose for the family. Four pairs for $1, guaranteed four months. Single pairs, 25c and 35c.
Loan and Savings Bank—Says people of Yorkville and surrounding country are growing more conservative each succeeding year.
J. M. Stroup—Will sell 25 lbs. of best granulated sugar for $1.25, and 20 lbs. of rice for $1. See him for garden seeds and seed potatoes.
Thomson Co.—Is receiving large shipments of spring goods, including ladies' coat suits, embroideries, laces, galatea, ginghams, etc.
Geo. W. Williams—Tells you to stop, look and list your real estate with him if you want to sell. See him if you want to buy. Offerings.
Palmetto Monument Co.—Says that a monument is a mark of esteem and love for the dead. It makes monuments of all kinds.
Smoak-Brown Co.—Ask you to call on them Monday, and see their mules and buggies.
Carroll Bros.—Have a large supply of seed Irish potatoes, and want to sell them, and will make prices right.
James Bros.—Invite you to visit their stables next Monday, and see the mules and horses they have to offer.
I. W. Johnson—Asks you to call on him for lard, snowdrift, snowhite, lard, chicken feed, tea, coffee, and other edibles.
D. E. Boney—Remarks that while it is too wet to work, it is a good time to attend to your insurance.


**Owing to the** rapid advance in the price of gasoline, it costs about twice as much to run an automobile now as it did two years ago.

**The Chester county** Corn club boys have already started their 1913 organization; but as yet there has been very little done toward getting the work in shape in York county. However, the York county boys are assured that the club will do business as usual.

**During his recent** visit to Yorkville Judge Gary said the county has too many weeks of court, a proposition in which most of the lawyers even are heartily agreed. Notwithstanding the apparent burden on the calendars, it is difficult to get two weeks of steady business at any one term of the court; but still the law provides for several more weeks than are necessary, and the people patiently foot the bills without grumbling—because they do not know.

### ABOUT PEOPLE.

Miss Julia Witherspoon, who has been visiting in Wisacky, S. C., has returned to her home in Yorkville.

Mr. R. J. Love and daughter, Miss Bessie Love, of Clover, are visiting in Yorkville for a few days, the guests of Mr. B. M. Love and family.

Misses Daisy Gist, Willie Williams, Annie Ashe and Pearl and Annie Wallace of Yorkville, leave in the morning to attend the inauguration in Washington. They will visit other northern cities before returning home.

Speaking of the visit of Rev. J. L. Oates, of Yorkville, to Due West, the Associate Reformed Presbyterian in its current issue says: "This good brother arrived in Due West last Tuesday and began preaching that evening. He preached two sermons a day, on through Sabbath. The exercises were held in the Y. M. C. A. hall during the week and in the A. R. P. church on Sabbath. There were seven professions of faith made. These will go to the Associate Reformed Presbyterian, the Baptist, the Southern Presbyterian and the Methodist. Brother Oates preached a series of able sermons. The sermons were very much enjoyed by all who heard them. They were thoroughly scriptural and evangelical and presented the truth in a striking way. His illustrations were illuminating. The audiences on the Sabbath were very large—especially on Sabbath morning. It is not often that a minister preaches to an audience of that size. As we are informed, the accessions on this occasion leave but one student in Erskine who is not a member of the church. Rev. Mr. Oates left on Monday for his home in Yorkville, having made quite a lot of new friends in Due West and kindling anew old friends."

### TO SELL THE COUNTY FARM

The general assembly has passed an act giving the county commissioners full power to sell the county poor farm and to erect a modern county home with the money. The act is as follows:

An Act to empower County Board of Commissioners of York County to sell County Poor Farm and to Provide new quarters.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of South Carolina, that the county board of commissioners of York county be and is hereby authorized and empowered to sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash either at public or private sale as their judgment may be to the best interest of said county, the whole or any part of the county poor farm of said county.

Sec. 2. In case whole of said farm is sold the said board is hereby authorized and empowered to purchase lands of not less than fifty acres at some suitable place in said county and erect thereon the necessary buildings for the proper protection and care of the poor indigent of the county, Provided, the cost of such buildings shall not exceed fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000). Provided, further, that the said board of commissioners may retain not less than sixty acres of the present poor farm and erect said buildings thereon.

Sec. 3. For the purpose of this act, the said board of commissioners is hereby authorized to borrow the sum of fifteen thousand ($15,000) dollars, if so much be necessary, at a rate of interest not to exceed six (6%) per cent, and to pledge for the payment thereof one-half mill tax levy for the year 1913, Provided, that the proceeds of the said sale shall be applied in payment of said loan.

Sec. 4. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

Approved the 12 day of February, A. D. 1913.

### WITHIN THE TOWN

— The Yorkville High School and the Clover High School have arranged for field day exercises to be held in Yorkville on March 22, and to include all the sports and trials usual on such occasions, preparatory to the state meet later on. The understanding is that the Yorkville High school is to give Clover a return date and similar appointments are contemplated with Gastonia, Hickory Grove and other schools.

— On Tuesday afternoon a number of the graduates and former students of Winthrop college met at the residence of Miss Mary Williams and organized a society to be known as "The Winthrop Daughters of Yorkville." The following officers were elected: Miss Mary Williams, President; Mrs. John S. Jones, vice president; Mrs. J. E. Hart, secretary and treasurer; Miss Fredrica Lindsay, Gleamer. The object of the association is to keep all in closer touch with the interests and works of their Alma Mater and afford opportunity for pleasant reminiscences of school days.

— Yorkville is to have another "movie" show. Mr. D. R. Lavender is to be proprietor and Mr. Percy Berry is to be the manager. The J. W. Dobson storeroom on the corner of Congress and Madison streets is now being overhauled and put in shape as an auditorium. Mr. Lavender has been in the "movie" business for several years and owns theatres in several other towns. He understands thoroughly the principle that success in this business depends upon giving the best, and he sees to it that his patrons have everything that is to be seen in the foremost picture shows of the country. He will show in Yorkville the same class of pictures that are shown in Charleston, Columbia, Spartanburg, Charlotte and elsewhere, and will see to it that Yorkville gets the pictures along about the same time they are to be seen in other towns. Another thing Mr. Lavender promises to use only the non-inflammable films, and as an additional precaution will have an exit that will enable the audience to get out of the building promptly in time of danger. It is pretty generally conceded that the town really wants a picture show, and if Mr. Lavender delivers the goods as he promises, he will be patronized.

### LOCAL LACONICS

**The Face at the Window.**

The young folks and many of the older ones too, are very much interested in a play that is to be given at the Hickory Grove academy tonight, "The Face at the Window." The cast has been working at the play long and hard and will give a good account of itself tonight. It is probable that the visitors will include a number of people from Yorkville.

**York Cotton Mill Sold.**

The York Cotton Mill property was sold from the court house steps at noon today by Col. J. G. Wardlaw, receiver, W. W. Lewis, attorney acting as auctioneer. Mr. J. F. Cannon, of Concord, N. C., was the only bidder and the purchaser at the upset price of $160,000. The understanding is that the mill is to be owned by Mr. J. F. Cannon and his father, Mr. J. W. Cannon.

**Death of Miss Margaret Roddey.**

Rock Hill Record: Miss Margaret Roddey passed away about 5 o'clock Monday afternoon at the home of her brother, Mr. S. W. Roddey, aged 77 years. She had been in poor health for some time. The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon at Neely's Creek church, with interment there. The services were conducted by Rev. A. S. Rogers of this city. Miss Roddey is survived by three brothers, W. P. Roddey of Richmond, Va., and T. P. Roddey and S. W. Roddey of this city.

**Successor to Mr. McElhaney.**

The death of Mr. J. W. McElhaney, for many years magistrate in Fort Mill township, has created interest in that township over the question as to who shall be his successor. There is more or less sentiment in favor of a primary and several people will probably enter the same if it is held; but the delegation may, as it has a right to do, recommend a suitable man to the governor, and have the appointment made at once.

**Miss Russell's Salary.**

The senate on Wednesday struck out of the Winthrop appropriation bill the item of $1,200 that has heretofore been used to pay the salary of the county school supervisor, and substituted the sum of $900 for tomato club work. Winthrop has had the use of this $1,200 for some time past, and the activities of the supervisor of rural schools has been donated mainly to York county. As to how the appropriation will further fare has not yet fully developed; but the probability is that the work of school supervision is doomed unless the expenses are paid from other sources.

**Killed by Freight Train.**

Gaston Progress, February 27: John J. Watts of Morganton, a brakeman on a C. & N.-W. freight train running between Lincolnton and Gastonia, was killed about 12 o'clock last night at Dallas. The train was shifting and placing a car on a sidetrack. Watts was on the car with a lantern. It seems that he fell under it while the train was in motion, as his lantern was seen to fall and a few minutes afterward he was found dead on the tracks. The left arm was severed from the shoulder, his neck was badly broken, his right foot hurt and several bruises, etc. The body was brought here and prepared for burial. This morning it was shipped to Morganton. Watts was about 22 years of age and was well known here among railroad men.

**Winthrop Girls for Washington.**

Rock Hill, February 27: Dr. D. B. Johnson, president of Winthrop college, has completed his arrangements for a special train over the Southern railway to take the entire senior class of the college to Washington to see the inauguration of Woodrow Wilson as president. The special will leave here Monday morning at 6 o'clock, arriving in Washington that night. Dr. and Mrs. Johnson will accompany the girls, as well as a number of the lady members of the faculty. The party will remain in Washington the whole week, leaving the capital city Saturday morning at 6 o'clock. While there the entire party will be quartered in one of the large apartment houses, secured for the occasion by Senator Tillman. They will, of course, go to Arlington and Mount Vernon, and part of the programme includes a reception to the girls by the South Carolina delegation in congress.

**Sub-soiling With Dynamite.**

Mr. J. Boliver Scott, of No. 3, Yorkville, a farmer who is always trying to "do better," was among those who attended the Corn show in Columbia, and the thing that seemed to impress him most was the idea of sub-soiling with dynamite. He says he is going to try it. He cannot do it now for the reason that his sub-soil is too wet; but he thinks that he will do some experimenting next fall. Mr. Scott believes that subsoiling with dynamite is the solution of the moisture problem so far as many of the farms in this section are concerned. He does not condemn the terrace, because he recognizes that the terrace has value; but he thinks the terrace solves the problem only partially and that it involves certain disadvantages that must be removed. For one thing the terrace wastes a lot of valuable ground, and for another thing it harbors grass and weeds that do harm. Breaking of clay soil to a depth of four feet or such a matter with dynamite, Mr. Scott thinks will leave it in a condition to take care of all the water that may fall upon it without suffering from washing, and he believes that water will be kept for use during the year as needed by the crops. Of course it is not to be understood that there is anything new in these ideas; but they have been put into effect only to a very limited extent in this section so far.

**Would Office of Secretary of State Destroy Bryan?**—Measured by the fate of others, William J. Bryan would be a less potent political force in Woodrow Wilson's cabinet than he is outside of it. To be secretary of state is so high an honor that few could resist it, but the office has rarely brightened any man's future.

Henry Clay lost the presidency when he took his seat as secretary of state beside Adams, for he could never live down the absurd charge of the "corrupt bargain." Webster was, all things considered, the most powerful secretary America has ever had, but he was a poor politician. The office was a hindrance rather than a help to him in his presidential aspirations.

Great as was Seward, he put the White House forever beyond his reach when he accepted Lincoln's invitation to sit at his right hand in the cabinet. The disruption of the Republican party in a few months of Garfield's term was largely due to Conkling's hatred of Secretary of State Blaine. This eminent statesman, beyond question, again lost prestige during the time he held the same office under Harrison.

As a free lance Bryan is the greatest single factor in the Democratic party. Weighted down by the obligation to his chief as secretary of state he will be robbed of the virile powers of leadership and independent direction. If the eloquent Commoner be considering only his own future, he will surely decline, if offered, this apparently golden gift of the incoming president.—Philadelphia Ledger.

— The Rembert bill that proposed to tax water powers has failed of passage.

### CRUELTY TO CONVICTS.

**Committee Undertakes Investigation of Beating.**

Following the receipt of the message of Governor Blease on the subject of the negro Ellis, who was beaten for violation of prison rules in speaking to the governor on the street, the senate committee on charitable institutions undertook an investigation.

Ellis was taken before the committee and after he had been stripped, the members of the committee took a look at his person, which they found to be covered with bruises and welts over most of the fellow's body.

It developed that the letter to the governor had been written by a one-armed man named F. J. Nichols, formerly a telegraph operator in the employ of the Southern railroad and serving his second term for housebreaking.

On making known the name of the writer of the letter, Governor Blease handed Nichols a parole, stating that he was a free man and could testify, and explaining that he was afraid that if Nichols should be sent back to the penitentiary after what he had done, he would be beaten and otherwise mistreated unmercifully and probably killed. The letter had been smuggled to the governor through means that were not divulged, and the governor said that he had not given out Nichols' name until after he had gotten the consent of Nichols.

The negro, Ellis, told of his beating and testified also that he was subject to epileptic fits, and that the electric battery had been applied to him at different times on that account.

It developed that when it was reported to Capt. Sondley that Ellis had violated the rule in speaking to the governor on the street, Ellis was taken to the "leather house," stripped and put in the stocks, and according to the prisoner, given 75 lashes. Ellis stated that he was knocked down by the licks, after which he was whipped from the other side. On Monday he was taken to the blacksmith shop to be shackled, and fell down, whereupon he was taken to the hospital and the electric current applied.

Dr. R. K. Jennings said that when the negro was brought to the hospital, he was suffering from some kind of congestion and that the congestion was relieved by the application of the electric battery. Dr. Jennings denounced as a "lie" the statement that the electric battery was used as a punishment.

Capt. W. H. Sondley said that if any wrong had been committed he thought it would be better to punish him, rather than turn dangerous men loose on the community. He said that the negro, Ellis, was a bad man, in prison for murder and that he had never been a trusty.

The investigation is still in progress and may not be completed for several days.

### SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

— Mr. Richard I. Manning, of Sumter, has also thrown his hat into the ring for the governorship.

— The senate last Tuesday night struck out of the appropriation bill an item of $2,500 to pay the expenses of the Citadel cadets to the inauguration, and the understanding is that only such of the cadets as are able and willing to pay their own way are going.

— The Batesburg Herald and the Yorkville Enquirer won the first prize of $50 and the second prize of $25, respectively, offered by the Columbia chamber of commerce for the two best articles appearing in the newspapers of the state setting forth why South Carolinians should attend the National Corn exposition. The judges, William E. Gonzales, Hon. H. N. Edmunds and Gustaf Sylvan, so decided, and in their reports suggested that the third prize of $10 be awarded the Fountain Inn Tribune, and prizes of $5 each to the Calhoun Advocate, the Lancaster News and the article by Mrs. J. R. Carson of Beaufort, which appeared in the Columbia State. These additional prizes will be awarded, Hazlett N. Clark, secretary of the chamber, said.

— The McCravy compulsory school attendance bill was taken up in the senate last Tuesday night. Senator Epps of Williamsburg, moved to continue the bill to next session, which motion was lost by a vote of 20 to 15. Senator Epps then read from manuscript an extended argument against the bill. Senators Ackerman of Colleton, and Weston of Richland, spoke for the bill, and its passage was opposed by Senators Ginn, of Hampton; Strait, of Lancaster, and Verner, of Oconee. All the arguments were along the lines formerly brought out. The motion of Senator Verner to strike out the enacting words of the bill was lost by a vote of 12 to 21. The following senators voted to kill the bill: Black, Epps, Ginn, Goodwin, Gross, Johnson, Mars, McLaurin, Patterson, Strait, Stuckey and Verner—Total 12. The following voted in favor of the bill: Senators Ackerman, Appelt, Banks, Beamguard, Buck, Carlisle, Christensen, Hall, Hardin, Hough, Johnston, Ketchin, Lawson, Manning, Mauldin, McCown, Nicholson, Sullivan, Weston and Young—Total 21. Amendments were then accepted by the senate as follows: By Senator Mauldin, reducing the age limit of children affected by the law from 13 to 12 years; by Senator Lawson, requiring that four weeks' notice instead of two should be given before holding an election on the acceptance of the law. The most far-reaching of the amendments accepted were those by Senator Laney, of Chesterfield, to provide text books, and Senator Williams of Aiken, to provide clothing for children forced to attend school, whose parents are not financially able to supply these articles. The trustees of the district and county superintendent of education shall be the judges of the financial position of such parents and guardians. The counties of Williamsburg, Abbeville, Oconee and Greenville were excepted at the instance of their senators. The bill was then passed and sent to the house with amendments.

— Columbia Record, Tuesday: A coroner's jury investigating the death of Walter L. McNeill, a conductor of the Seaboard Air Line railway who was killed Friday afternoon, last, by A. V. Lee, a baggagemaster, near Swansea, S. C., Tuesday afternoon, reached the verdict that the deceased came to his death by a pistol shot fired by A. V. Lee. The case will be tried in June at Lexington, S. C. Lee claimed that the killing was accidental. The only witness at Tuesday's hearing was C. F. Hutto, the express messenger, who witnessed the shooting. He told the jury that last Friday afternoon he was in his car checking up his express when Lee entered the car; he was followed shortly afterwards by Conductor McNeill, the negro porter came in a few minutes later. "The first thing that attracted my attention," said Hutto, "was that Lee had a pistol in his hand and was waving the pistol in the air; McNeill was in front of him with his right hand on Lee's left shoulder and seemed to be trying to pacify him; Lee appeared mad and used an oath which I thought was addressed to McNeill." Hutto continued: "I then tried to get the pistol from Lee and he said to me with an oath, 'I'll shoot you too.' I then made no further attempt to get possession of the pistol." The witness testified that he did not see the two men scuffling over the pistol, nor did he see McNeill make any effort to hurt Lee. "I have never before seen Lee and McNeill playing together with the pistol," said Hutto. He then told of how McNeill, several days ago, fired his (Hutto's) pistol in the car, but it was not pointed at anyone. He said he had never known of any difficulty occurring between Lee and McNeill; he did not notice that either of the two men had been drinking. In reply to a question from a member of the jury the witness said that when the first shot was fired by Lee he noticed that the pistol was held downward and that the second shot came a few seconds later; that enough time intervened between the shots for Lee's arm to be raised. Hutto concluded his testimony by stating that as he and Lee were supporting McNeill and wiping away the blood from the wound, Lee remarked that he had hurt the best friend he had. The witnesses and spectators then retired from the room and the jury deliberated on the merits of the testimony. A verdict was reached in a few minutes. A. V. Lee was represented at the investigation by Mr. Dreher of Efird & Dreher, attorneys of Lexington. Lee's father and a brother of McNeill were also present.

— Columbia State, February 28: Because of the refusal of the senate to allow an amendment for the tax collected in certain counties to remain in those counties, supporters of this amendment started a filibuster in the senate last night about midnight. This filibuster continued until 1.30 o'clock this morning. Senator Williams started the filibuster, making a motion to adjourn, which was lost. Senator Clifton then secured the floor and spoke until Lieut. Gov. Smith at 1.30 o'clock this morning ruled that the motion to adjourn by Senator Williams prevailed, although a division was called for. Senator Clifton offered amendments providing that the money raised in Sumter should be apportioned in that county and made arguments along that line. Afterwards he began reading statistics. Time after time points of order were raised against him. At 12.50 o'clock, on an aye and nay vote of 22 to 6, the senate refused to adjourn. Mr. Clifford then asked that the clerk read line by line the educational report of W. H. Hand, state high school inspector, a volume of some 200 pages, and when a point of order was raised on this, the senate refused to sustain the point. This kept up until 1.30 o'clock when the senate adjourned. When the senate met this morning Mr. Clifton still had the floor. The best part of the three sessions of the senate yesterday was spent in debate on the Rittenberg bill and the one-mill tax bill for the free public schools. The Rittenberg bill on a motion of Senator Carlisle was apparently continued until next session, but late last night it was found that Senator Hough's vote was wrongly recorded by the clerk of the senate and with the senator from Kershaw's vote the senate refused to continue the bill. The governor sent a message to the senate last night vetoing the bill to sell the present property of the State Hospital for the Insane and transfer the institution to "State Park." The governor said in his message that he would not become a party to the plans of certain persons who have been trying to get the property. The governor asked that the bill be postponed until next year. Senator Laney moved to pass the bill over the veto but the motion was lost. On motion of Senator Appelt the message was ordered printed in the journal and debate deferred until today.

### MERE MENTION

The Educators' congress of the National Education association is in session in Philadelphia, Pa.........Up to last Sunday night President Taft since his inauguration four years ago, had traveled a total of 114,700 miles, an average of about eighty miles a day for every day during the four years...... Patrick Cudahay, the big Omaha and Chicago meat packer, predicts that the price of meats will fall materially within the next six months......George C. Grutz, an insurance broker, was convicted in New York on Monday, being found guilty of arson in connection with the so-called "arson trust." He is the second prisoner to be convicted on evidence secured after the confession of "Izzy the Painter," some weeks ago. There are about a score of other agents and brokers to be tried......Samuel Neuin died at Lebanon, Pa., Monday, at the age of 108 years, after his first and only illness during his life......Porfiro Diaz, ex-dictator of Mexico, says he is ready to hurry to Mexico, in case complications with foreign countries should make his return desirable......Hundreds of inhabitants of the province of Fukien, China, have been killed during the past week or ten days while offering armed resistance to government troops engaged in destroying crops of opium producing poppy plants.....The daily receipts of the postoffice department have reached the enormous total of $2,427,000, which is more than $300,000 greater than the combined receipts of the government from all other sources......"Article XVI." is now a part of the Constitution of the United States, being put into effect Tuesday by a proclamation by Secretary of State Knox. It relates to the income tax. The amendment is the first to be added to the Constitution during a period of forty-five years......Kiamil Pasha, deposed grand vizier of Turkey, is reported to have died in Alexandria, Egypt, Tuesday, of apoplexy.....Governor Wilson's resignation as governor of New Jersey, takes effect tomorrow at noon.....A French aviator on Tuesday flew a monoplane from Paris to London, a distance of 287 miles in 185 minutes, averaging a mile and a half a minute......Supt. Russell of Mattewan insane asylum, New York, charges John N. Anhut, a New York lawyer, with having offered him a bribe of $20,000 to aid in releasing Harry K. Thaw from that institution. ......Mr. Roosevelt is out in a letter advocating fusion against Tammany in the mayoralty election in New York next fall......J. B. Washington, aged 87 years, began serving a one year sentence at the Federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., Tuesday, for violation of the Federal liquor laws. He was sentenced from Texas......While preparing to embalm a negro's body at Wilmington, Del., Monday night, the undertaker was surprised by the "corpse" opening his eyes, taking in the situation, and then knocking the undertaker down....A steel oil barge left Philadelphia Tuesday, with a cargo of 3,325,000 gallons of naptha in bulk, and 1,200 10-gallon casks. The shipment goes to London......Mrs. Mary Wanda, was fined $500 in the Federal court at Mobile, Ala., Tuesday, after conviction on a white slavery charge, the victim being her own daughter. Senator Tillman assisted in raising the money to pay her fine.....

— On last Tuesday at Vernon, Texas, John Beal Sneed, a wealthy west Texas ranch owner, was declared not guilty of the murder of Al Boyce, Jr., at Amarillo, Texas, last September. The jury retired Monday night and returned the verdict when court opened Tuesday morning. Sneed shot Boyce to death on a downtown street in Amarillo at what was said to have been the first meeting of the two after Boyce eloped with Mrs. Sneed about a year before the killing. Al Boyce, Jr., was the second member of the Boyce family Sneed had killed on account of developments following the elopement. The first killing was that of Capt. Albert Boyce, Sr., the father of Al Boyce, whom Sneed shot in a Fort Worth hotel. His defense was that Capt. Boyce was aiding his son, Al, in the elopement and also that he feared for his life at the hands of Capt. Boyce. Two of the largest and wealthiest families in the southwest are concerned in the Sneed-Boyce tragedies. On October 12, 1911, Mrs. Sneed confessed to her husband her love for Al Boyce and proposed that she leave Texas with Boyce and go to South America. A few days later Sneed placed his wife in a sanitarium near Fort Worth. On November 2, Boyce received a letter from Mrs. Sneed at the sanitarium saying: "For God's sake come and take me out of this mad house." Six days later Boyce and Mrs. Sneed eloped. During the several weeks following, Sneed spent $20,000 in searching for the pair. Finally they were found at Winnipeg, Canada, where Boyce was held by the police on charges of theft made by Sneed at Fort Worth, Texas. Sneed went to Winnipeg, persuaded his wife to return to Texas with him and the charges against Boyce were dropped. Several months later Boyce returned to Texas and Sneed, at his trial, declared that for months before he killed Boyce in Amarillo, he had lived in expectation of death at any time at Boyce's hands.

— Washington, February 27: After an all-night session filled with a bitter struggle over public building expenditures, the senate at 3.50 o'clock this morning passed the public building appropriation bill carrying an increase of nearly $16,000,000 over the $25,000,000 bill as passed by the house. One sweeping amendment inserted just before passage at the suggestion of Senator Kern of Indiana, prohibited the erection of a building for the purchase of a site for postoffice purposes exclusively in any city where the postal receipts were less than $10,000 a year. This change would hold up indefinitely the erection of sixty or seventy buildings authorized by the bill. The all-night session was replete with factional argument arising over appropriations made for memorial buildings at Washington and over alleged preference given to "loyal women" of the War Between the Sections, in control of the affairs of the American Red Cross.