# PRICES SENT UP BY WOOD FAMINE

Scarcity of Fuel May Make Partial Abandonment of Wood Stoves Necessary.

## STOCK GROWING SLIMMER

Supplies Very Difficult to Secure and Hope for Relief Scant.

For the next few months the people of this city will have to abandon their wood stoves and fires, and almost exclusively, if they wish to be economical. The price of wood is so high and so sharply contested that will certainly prohibit the poorer classes from using it, and that is likely to make away a goodly portion of the wood-fires.

On account of the small quantity of wood cut last winter in the pine forests of North Carolina and other States, a scarcity in that line is already seriously felt, and orders for Northern States come in the future, a good portion of poultry will certainly go in progress within the next few weeks.

A prominent wood and coal merchant stated last night that the large wood dealers are asking $5.50 a cord for pine wood now on the cars. This puts the burden of unloading and hauling the wood to the yards on the wood and coal dealers, besides a cost of three dollars a car for the transfer of the cars at Fifth Station.

With this additional cost, the dealer must raise the price of wood from the original at least $2 to pay himself against loss. The advanced cost to the consumer will be about $2.50.

### Stock Very Small.

One dealer stated last night that he had decided not to sell wood until the present famine was over. He said it was beyond the power of mind to persuade the consumers that it was not a deliberate attempt on the part of the dealer would reap a sudden harvest at the cost of the consumer. He also stated that he could make a greater profit when wood was selling at $3 a cord to the consumer than he could selling it for $5.50 under present conditions.

The stock of wood carried by the dealers in the city is in most instances very small. Some have a good stock on hand, but in the greater number of cases they are almost out, and the prospect of getting more is becoming slimmer and slimmer every day.

Green wood can be had in almost any quantities, but this is another useless fuel, and cannot be used except at greater cost than coal.

It was stated last night by a dealer that coal at $6 a ton is cheaper than wood at $5 a cord. It is easily seen by this that coal in the present case would be much cheaper to use than wood. What the poorer with wood stoves will do is more than can be said at this time. If the family circumstances permit, they will be forced to install coal-burning apparatus, and use it almost exclusively.

## CIVIL SERVICE.

### United States Commission Announces Series of Examinations.

The United States Civil Service Commission announces examinations on November 20th, 21st, 22d, to be held at the Richmond postoffice, to secure eligibles to fill vacancies in the positions specified below as indicated and other vacancies in the service as may occur requiring the appointment of such eligibles:

Superintendent of Letter Carriers, $1,000 per annum; 2 building superintendents, $900 per annum; 1 foreman of mechanics, $900 per annum; 3 electricians, $900 per annum; 3 electrical engineers and draftsmen (male), $900 to $1,400 per annum; 1 heating and ventilating draftsman (male), $900 to $1,400 per annum.

Bureau of Animal Industry—1 junior architectural draftsman (male), $900 per annum.

Competitors in these examinations will be furnished with whatever drawing paper and tracing cloth is necessary, but they must supply their own pens, with drawing board not less than eighteen inches square and all other drawing material as they may think necessary. Unless otherwise stated on the sheet, the use of hand books is forbidden.

These examinations are open to all citizens of the United States who comply with the requirements.

Application blanks and more fully to Local Secretary, Postoffice, Richmond, Va., or to the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., should be addressed to the Commission at Washington.

## CONTRIBUTORS FOR HOME FOR INCURABLES

[illegible]

## WOMAN ARRESTED

### Charged With Stealing Check and Diamond Rings.

[illegible]

# CELEBRATES 34TH ANNIVERSARY OF BELOVED PASTOR

REV. J. B. HUTSON, D. D.

PINE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.

Special Services Held Yesterday Morning and Night at Pine Street---Congregation is Largest Among Baptists in South.

Special services were held yesterday morning and last night by the congregation of the Pine Street Baptist Church to commemorate the thirty-fourth anniversary of the Rev. Dr. J. B. Hutson's pastorate. The church was beautifully decorated with ferns, autumn leaves and flowers, and special music was rendered under the direction of Professor L. C. Minor.

At both services the church was crowded, and in the morning many were turned away who were desirous of joining in thanksgiving for such a length of time. Dr. Hutson is now at the age of sixty-two, and is as hale and hearty as could be desired.

The remarkable fact in connection with his term of service is that when Dr. Hutson came to Richmond he was a physicianic in very delicate health. Now he is robust, is a man of twenty-five, and weighs 265 pounds. He stated to the congregation yesterday that the past year had been the best for him physically that he had ever experienced.

In the morning service the Rev. J. E. Hilsen, brother of the pastor, offered prayer just before the sermon. After the sermon the Rev. Dr. John Pollard led in prayer.

Dr. Hutson took as his text in the morning Ezekiel xlviii. 35. His theme was "Spiritual Progress." The subject was handled in a masterly manner, and was warmly received by the congregation.

Just before the sermon at this service Dr. Hutson read his report for the thirty-four years he had been pastor of the Pine Street Church.

When he entered upon his work there were 187 communicants on the rolls of the church. At present there are 1,733 members. The number of baptisms during the time to have been there is 2,941. Those received by letter, 816; by restoration, 217, and by experience, 708. The total received during the thirty-four years is 4,583. The deaths in the congregation during that time have been 425; the members lost by letter, 816; by exclusion, 416, and by erasures, 288. The total number lost is 1,879.

During his pastorate Dr. Hutson has officiated at 1,035 funerals and made 20,203 pastoral visits. He kept no account of the visits made when the people visited were out.

The report for the year was also read, showing that 122 members had been received by baptism, thirteen by letters, seven by restoration and fourteen by experience.

The total number was 134. Twenty-one members were lost by death during the year, eighteen by letters, thirteen by exclusion and eleven by erasures. The total was 113. The total membership is now 1,733. During the year he officiated at sixteen funerals, made 1,001 pastoral calls.

When Dr. Hutson arrived thirty-four years ago the membership was 187, of that number only thirty-two are left. All the old officers and deacons are dead. The congregation to-day is the largest in the denomination in the South.

During the evening services four members were received by letter. They were Mrs. M. McCleaney, Mrs. Florence C. Hudgins, Mrs. Ida V. Walden and Mrs. Mernard M. Bonne. They were heartily welcomed by the congregation. The text of the evening sermon was the thirty-fourth verse of the thirteenth chapter of Mark. "To every man his work."

## AT WEST VIEW.

### First Anniversary of Pastor Was Duly Celebrated.

Rev. William L. Ball celebrated his first anniversary as pastor of the West View Baptist church yesterday. Morning and night services were well attended, and the occasion was one of great enjoyment by both pastor and congregation.

The attendance at the Bible school yesterday morning was 416, not including the visitors—the largest in the history of the school. At the morning service the church was packed to the doors. The choir loft and pulpit were decorated with autumn flowers. The music was of a very high order. Captain Cunningham sang a beautiful solo, and the regular music was rendered most artistically.

Before the sermon the pastor made a brief report, showing that during the past year there were sixty-two additions to the church. All the current expenses have been paid, and the collections for the various boards were the largest in the history of the church.

Text text of the morning service was from Exodus, fourteenth chapter, fifteenth verse: "Speak to My people Israel as they go forward." Several new members were received at this service.

During the night service the church was again crowded to overflowing. The subject of the sermon was "The Church at Prayer."

Yesterday was the busiest day in the history of the church. The prospects for the extension of the work never were better, and a general spirit of optimism and good fellowship prevailed.

# NO INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE IN 1907

"There will be no international yacht race for the America's Cup in 1907," said Mr. C. R. Kelly, head of the Jamestown Exposition publicity department, with an air of certainty last night. Mr. Kelley is now in Richmond. "You can state it as a fact," he continued. "The New York Yacht Club has given Mr. Tucker its promise that there will be no yacht race there during the exposition year. I understand Sir Thomas Lipton will challenge for the cup, however."

The international Intercollegiate rowing races will be held at the Jamestown Exposition next year, if such a contest is consummated. This statement was made authoritatively by a gentleman in a position to know. He stated that the winner of the Oxford-Cambridge race would row the winners of the New London and Poughkeepsie regattas in Virginia waters. Yale and Harvard, Columbia, Cornell, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin are the crews which will compete for the honor of rowing against the winning English university crew. This will be one of the greatest aquatic events of the exposition.

# CHURCH YEAR IS NEARING ITS END

Methodist Conference Will Meet in Portsmouth Next Week in Annual Session.

## BISHOP HENDRIX MAY COME

Great Regret Expressed at Continued Serious Illness of Bishop Galloway.

Next Sunday will witness the closing of the Virginia Conference year, and in all the Methodist churches of the city the pastors will give a resume of the work accomplished during twelve months, and those of the ministers whose time limit will have expired will preach a farewell sermon and bid goodbye to the congregations they have served during the past four years.

The conference begins in Portsmouth on the following Wednesday, and the pastors, most of them, leave for Portsmouth on Tuesday afternoon and night. On Tuesday night the committees on examination will meet to examine the young men who offer themselves as candidates for the ministry. Homes will be assigned to the delegates also that night, and by the dawn of next morning everything will be in readiness for the starting of the conference machinery.

### Bishop Hendrix May Come.

Owing to the dangerous illness of Bishop Galloway, there is every likelihood that another will be asked to preside in his stead, and it is the general opinion that Bishop E. R. Hendrix, of Kansas City, Mo., will come, as he has no conference to hold until December 26th.

If Bishop Hendrix should elect to come, it would be entirely acceptable to the Virginia Conference, as he was here three years ago and made a most pleasing impression on the Virginia brethren. General regret is expressed, however, at the illness of Bishop Galloway, who is regarded as the most brilliant orator, and the man of the widest attainments in the Methodist Church, South. Should his present illness end fatally, it would result in the greatest loss known to the church in recent years, and now all eyes are turned to his bedside, where the grim battle between life and death is being watched with an interest and hope that only a man renowned as is Bishop Galloway could inspire.

On Wednesday morning the roll of delegates will be called, and the conference will then settle down to its work of arduous and continued work. Committees will be appointed, and the standing committees will begin their labors. The conference roll, which means the passage of every man's character, the result of which decides whether ministers shall be allowed to continue their ministry or be deferred—will probably begin on that day.

The work of the conference this session will be of no great importance outside of the regular routine, in spite of this fact, however, there has been exhaustive discussion as to the changes to be made, though there are not really many to be effected.

Epworth Methodist church, of Norfolk, one of the largest and most prominent churches in the State, will have a change of pastors, owing to the expiring of the time limit of Dr. Stuart. It is predicted that he will take the Newport News church, vacated by Rev. W. B. Beauchamp, who has gone to Louisville, Ky. Asbury Place Church, of this city, will have a new pastor, as Rev. C. H. M. Gee has been transferred to Onaboma. The names of Revs. M. S. Cloyne, J. T. Waterfield and W. A. Cooper have been mentioned in connection with the vacancy, and it is likely that one of them will be appointed to its pulpit.

Rev. J. S. Peters expects to change from Priddy, and the names of Revs. G. W. Jones and G. T. Wray have been mentioned for his position.

Rev. J. A. Thomas, of Laurel Street Methodist church, owing to some trouble with his lungs, may move to some place of higher altitude, and it is mooted that he change with one of the pastors in Lynchburg—Rev. Ernest Stevens, D. G. C. Batts or J. W. Shackford.

It has been rumored that Rev. W. L. Hayes, of Church Hill, may move to some larger field, and that Rev. H. M. Taylor, of Chester, may succeed him. For the vacancy in St. James's, of this city, the names of Revs. L. T. Williams and T. R. Ellis have been suggested.

As the conference is to meet in Portsmouth at the same time that the Baptist Association is to convene in Richmond, there will probably be the usual exchange of courtesies, each body filling the pulpits of the other.

## WOMAN'S MISSIONARY MEETING POSTPONED

The quadrennial meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the First Presbyterian Church, which was to be held today, has been postponed until November 13th, at the same hour and place. The postponement is caused by the death of Mrs. E. Y. Cannon, a prominent member of the society.

# ALL DECLARE FOR EARLY CLOSING

Notable Demonstration at Marshall-Street Christian Church at Service Yesterday.

## PASTOR CALLS FOR ACTION

Urges People to Make Influence Felt in Practical Way—Day in the Churches.

Special anniversary services were held at Marshall Street Christian Church yesterday morning. The church was crowded, and the pastor, Rev. B. H. Melton, preached a powerful sermon on "Conformity to Christ as the Ideal of the Church."

Rev. Mr. Melton began his fifth years' ministry with this growing congregation under very favorable circumstances. The church has doubled its membership during his pastorate. The building has been greatly enlarged and otherwise improved. The offerings of the congregation have more than doubled. Mr. Melton has a strong hold, not only upon his church, but upon the general public. He is a close student, a strong gospel preacher, and a never-tiring pastor. One of his deacons, a leading business man of the city, said this morning:

"Our pastor is a man with fine judgment, a wise counselor in matters pertaining to our business life, as well as our Christian life. We think of him as our friend, easily approached. A true man and a good citizen. He has been called during his pastorate with us to the presidency of Atlantic College and to the pastorate of several large churches. He is still with us, and we hope to keep him for many more years."

At the close of the morning sermon Mr. Melton called for an expression from his church on the proposed ordinance before the City Council looking to an earlier closing of the saloons. Every man, woman and child in the large congregation favored the ordinance. Interest at this point was intense, and the pastor urged every one to go out and make his influence felt in a practical way.

## WANTS MORE JOY IN THE RELIGIOUS LIFE

### Dr. Young Preaches Sermon on the Religion of Laughter.

"The Religion of Laughter and the Laughter of Religion" was the subject last night of the sermon by Rev. Dr. W. J. Young, pastor of Centenary Methodist church. There was a good attendance of the congregation, and all seemed to enjoy the sermon, which was built a plea for more joyousness and less sorrow in life.

Dr. Young took his text from the 126th Psalm, second verse: "Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with singing." Dr. Young explained that through the power of the Holy Spirit God's children have been filled with joy, and that the church is not a place of sorrow or gloom, but, on the contrary, a place filled with spiritual and intellectual joy.

Dr. Young said that he would rather the Father would find him laughing when he comes than filled with anguish and pain. The largest life he characterized as being the one in which God's fingers play on every key.

Laughter, said the preacher, has its place in the religious life, and if the laugh comes softly, with joyousness, "I say all hail to the laughter." Dr. Young showed that there is laughter recorded in the Scriptures, for Christ laughed at the enemies who would thwart His purposes, and He laughed at death, the thing that seemed to hurt and cause fear and anguish. Joy has its place in the religious life, and Dr. Young preached on its necessity in a life that is complete, and of its saving grace.

### Union Prayer Service.

The fourth union service for prayer, unity and power will be held tomorrow evening, at 8 o'clock, in St. Paul's Episcopal Church lecture room. Rev. W. J. Young, D. D., of Centenary Methodist Church, will preside.

These meetings are the outgrowth of a conference for a religious campaign and are interdenominational. It is hoped that they will increase in attendance and spiritual power until they be held nightly.

A great amount of interest has been manifested thus far and is increasing. All are invited to attend.

### Martin—Kessnich.

Miss Anne Louise Kessnich, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kessnich, and Mr. William T. Martin, both of this city, were married in Washington on Thursday. The young couple were accompanied to Washington by the bride's mother and Mr. Conson Parrish. After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Martin left for New York and other Northern points, and upon their return will be at home temporarily at No. 906 E. Clay Street.

JACOB UMLAUF.

Councilman who will offer ordinance to-night providing for early closing of saloons.

# UMLAUF BEGINS FIGHT TO-NIGHT

(Continued From First Page.)

tance during the week, Monday being the banner day.

### Fire Commissioners.

The Board of Fire Commissioners will meet to-night at 8 o'clock to dispose of the month's accumulated business. The board will probably elect successors to the following employes of the department, whose resignations have been received: W. D. Williams, stationman at engine company No. 2, salary $70; Walter T. Gartwright, call man, engine company No. 4, salary $22; L. E. Kesmorer, call man, engine company No. 6, and E. W. Hayne, substitute at No. 7. Considerable other business will come up.

The Board of Police Commissioners will meet on next Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. No business of startling interest or importance is scheduled, but there will be the usual monthly budget.

The Committee on James River Improvement will meet on the tug Thomas Cunningham at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

The Committee on Local Assessments will meet in the City Hall at 8 P. M. Wednesday.

There may be other called meetings of some of the committees or subcommittees during the week, but these are all that have been scheduled so far.

## NEW Y. M. C. A. COURSE.

### Bible Study Club Announces Fine List of Entertainments.

The Bible Study Club of the Central Y. M. C. A. have announced a new course of seven popular entertainments. All the entertainments will be given in the Central Y. M. C. A. Hall, and promise to be most popular. The first entertainment will be "The Italian Boys," on November 9th, an organization composed of a violist, violinist, harpist, clarinetist, an expert on the flute, and Poland, the humorist.

The second entertainment will be one of the most unique of the season. Professor Willis L. Moore, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau, will give "The Weather," illustrated. Every man, woman and child will be interested in knowing how to make the weather.

The third entertainment will be given by the Brownell-Reed Company. Miss Brownell is considered the queen of story-tellers, and Miss Reed is a magnificent harpist.

The fourth number will be Dumo, in the "White House of Magic," an evening of mystery and fun. He is so clever that some say he is better than Maro.

Dr. Lyman Beecher Sperry, the noted traveler, will give, as the fifth number, his magnificent lecture, "Etna and Vesuvius, the Fiery Wonders."

Eldridge, the "Funny Man," will give the sixth entertainment, and Victor's Royal Venetian Band will close the course on Friday afternoon, March 22d.

All of the entertainments will be given at night except the last. The proceeds of the course will go to the athletic fund of the boys' department rooms in the new building.

# ANNUAL INSPECTION OF POLICE FORCE

The annual inspection of the Police Department of the city is set for next Wednesday afternoon. The dress parade of the bluecoats will be followed in the evening by the monthly meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners.

The inspection will be made by the Mayor, the Board and the chief, beginning with the officers of the Second District, in front of the Sixth and Marshall Street Station, at 4 P. M. Every man attached to the district will be present in full dress, and prepared to make his very best appearance. Immediately after the review of the First District force, the officers and patrolmen of the Second District will be subjected to scrutiny.

So far as known at this time, nothing of especial public interest is to come before the board. The matter of electing twenty-five policemen cannot come up until both branches of the Council act upon the ordinance, and the Board of Aldermen cannot do this until the following week. The work of the department has been very efficient, and fewer complaints even than usual are anticipated.

# VOTE TO-MORROW FOR CONGRESSMEN

Serious Opposition to Democrats Confined to Fifth and Ninth Districts.

## LITTLE INTEREST FELT HERE

Public Attention in Richmond Concerned Chiefly With Struggle in New York.

To-morrow the people of Virginia will elect ten representatives in Congress, who will enter upon their duties on March 4th next. In this city, besides choosing a member of Congress, the people will have the opportunity of again voting for Mr. James B. Pace, the Democratic candidate for City Treasurer. He is unopposed.

The only question in eight of the ten districts as to the size of the majority of Democratic candidates, and the matter of getting out the vote upon which these majorities will depend. In this congressional district, Captain John Lamb is the candidate of the Democratic party to succeed himself as a member of Congress. He is serving his seventh consecutive term, and his re-election is assured beyond all doubt. He is nominally opposed by two Republicans, Mr. George A. Henson, the candidate of the whites, and J. H. Johnson, nominee of the negro Republicans. The chief interest for Republicans lies in the question of which of their two candidates gets the larger vote.

### Fighting Districts.

In only two districts is there serious opposition to Democratic congressional nominees. These are the Ninth, now represented by Colonel Campbell Slemp, who is a candidate to succeed himself, and the Fifth, in which a successor to Claude A. Swanson, resigned to become Governor, is to be chosen. Colonel Slemp is opposed by Hon. Robert P. Bruce, both living in Wise county. Ex-Circuit Judge E. W. Saunders, of Franklin, is the Democratic nominee in the Fifth, and is opposed by Dr. J. W. Simmons, Republican. The election of Judge Saunders is regarded as practically assured, if the Democratic vote can be got out. In the Ninth Mr. Bruce has a fighting chance to snatch victory from the Republican incumbent.

There is great interest in these two districts, but otherwise public attention is chiefly concerned with the battle for Governor of New York, and with several other State elections, and the question of control of the next House of Representatives. The Democrats are hopeful of gaining sufficient seats to enable them to organize and control the House.

## DULL AT CAPITAL.

### Officers Going Home to Cast Their Votes on Tuesday.

Little of public interest will be done at the State building to-day, many of the officers and clerks who reside in distant parts of the State having gone to their homes to vote.

Colonel John W. Richardson and Commissioner Henry C. Stuart left for the Southwest to vote for Hon. B. D. Bruce, and Secretary Eggleston and Chief Clerk J. G. Hankins went over to the State to help Congressman Glass. Governor Swanson will leave for Chatham to-day, and will return here Thursday. He will remain over Wednesday to be present at the laying of the cornerstone of a new school building in his home town. Commissioner Willard will go to Fairfax, and Colonel Joseph Button has already left for the Tenth District.

To-morrow will be a local holiday under a recent statute, and the offices in the state buildings will be closed.

Work will be resumed Wednesday morning, though some of the officers and clerks who reside at a distance will not return before Thursday.

### Richmond Firm Gets Contract.

The firm of Hoen & Company, lithographers, of this city, has just secured a contract amounting to several thousand dollars with the Jamestown Exposition Company. It is for 10,000 lithographs each, presenting a bird-eye view of the Jamestown Exposition site and environs for a radius of almost a hundred miles. It will be a handsome work in colors, and when the contract is executed these lithos will be sent to all government buildings and postoffices in the large cities of the country.

## OBITUARY.

### Mr. Kenneth F. Chalkley.

Mrs. Pauline Chalkley, wife of Mr. Kenneth F. Chalkley, No. 4b North Adams Street, died at 11:20 o'clock yesterday morning, after a very brief illness. She was in the twenty-seventh year of her age. She is survived by her husband and one child.

The interment will be made at 2 o'clock this afternoon in River View Cemetery. The funeral services will be held at the grave.

### Miss Anne Black Pickett.

Relatives and friends in Richmond have heard with deep regret of the death of Miss Anne Black Pickett, which occurred at her home in Lexington, Ky., last Thursday night.

Miss Pickett was ill but a few days, having contracted pneumonia, which quickly sapped her strength. She was connected with a number of the most prominent families of Virginia, and a lady of remarkable force and beauty of character.

### Charles A. Clark.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, VA., November 5.—Mr. Charles A. Clark, the well known battlefield guide of this city, died suddenly here to-day at his home on Bollingbrook Street of heart trouble. He was about fifty years of age, and is survived by his wife and one brother.

### H. H. Houck.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

STRASBURG, VA., November 5.—H. H. Houck died this morning at the residence of his nephew, A. J. Miller, here. He was unmarried. His death was due to the infirmities of age.

## DEATHS.

CANNON.—Died, at Govanstown, Baltimore county, Md., Mrs. MARY G. CANNON, widow of Edward Y. Cannon, in the eighty-third year of her age.

Her funeral will take place from the First Presbyterian Church, of this city, of which she was a lifelong member, at 3:30 (and not at 3 o'clock, as first announced) on MONDAY AFTERNOON.

CHALKLEY.—Died, at 11:20 o'clock Sunday morning, PAULINE, wife of Kenneth F. Chalkley, in the twenty-seventh year of her age.

Interment at 3 o'clock THIS (Monday) AFTERNOON in River View Cemetery. Services at grave.

PEMBERTON.—Died, at 1:15 this afternoon, near Yellow Tavern, Hanover county, Va., JAMES H. PEMBERTON, aged seventy-one years.

Burial TUESDAY at 1 P. M. near Concord Church, Caroline county, Va.

# STORIES ABOUT TOWN AND ABOUT OTHER THINGS

**CROPS VS. EDUCATION.**

Mr. Friend is a good fellow, and is generally liked. He talks well, and but few men can beat him telling a good story. Friend was a Manchester boy, and spent the most of his life in that town. Nearly two years ago he went to the new and ambitious town of South Hill, up in Mecklenburg county, to seek his fortune. He still dines in a neat little store, and of the upper room he also sells school-books, and that is how he comes to tell the good story.

Several days back Cupid, of a young hopeful, came in one day a few days ago, and said to Mr. Friend: "I want to buy a [illegible] with three-year-old boy to learn him his ABC at the schools. What can you let me have some copy-books, Mister Friend?"

"Why, certainly," said Mr. Friend, as he laid the book on the counter.

"Let's right," said the old man, "that's what the kids big kit should use, an I done seen up de last thousand times I got in de world he got my little boy de copy-book go he ain't look like to write. Mister Friend, he is 3 [illegible] old, I want him to be a good writer, I does. Yes, I gwine to spend de lif' five cent piece I got to get him dat copy-book."

While thus speaking the old man unwrapped a dingy-looking rag and drew from its folds a nickel, which he laid upon the glass-covered showcase. As he did so his eyes fell upon a box in the case which was well filled with dice, the cheap kind that darkies shoot craps with. Immediately the fond father's countenance changed, and as he pocketed the copy-book back towards Mr. Friend, he said with indescribable animation: "Here, Mister Friend, you jes take dat copy-book back, if you please sir, an gimme a box er dem bones."

Possibly the old darkey came again for the copy-book, and by the help of "dem bones," with more than five cents to capital, for it is, Mr. Friend has not said anything about it.

* * *

**CONTENTION OVER BODY.**

Can a widow remove her husband's body from her mother-in-law's section without the consent of the mother-in-law? This was the unique, but to say grave, question presented to the Council Committee on Cemeteries a few days ago by an owner. The keeper of one of the city cemeteries applied to the committee for advice on the subject, being unwilling to face the displeasure of the mother-in-law without sanction coming from some official source. There were two funeral directors on the committee, and they both gave their opinion in favor of the widow's superior right to the sepulchre of her deceased husband. The committee consequently instructed the cemetery keeper that he had a right on the order of the widow to disinter the body and remove it to a new section purchased by the widow.

It was explained that the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law were in entire accord at the time of the interment, but since that time an estrangement had resulted, as a consequence of which the daughter-in-law had determined to remove her husband's body from his mother's section.

* * *

**MUST PAY UP OR LOSE BARRELS.**

For years the small boys of the city, and particularly those of certain sections, have been in the habit of stealing all the ash barrels and boxes of property owners, and all loose fencing and anything else inflammable that was not chained or locked up for the purpose of furnishing fuel for their Christmas bonfires. Many a householder has awakened to find his barrel or box missing, and if he were very observant he might have seen it sending a cheerful blaze skyward for the delectation of a bevy of exuberant youngsters standing around its cheering warmth in the middle of some neighboring street. This has long been a Christmas tax, which the residents of certain thoroughfares were accustomed to paying.

This year the ubiquitous and indefatigable young American has reformed, or has at least changed his tactics. On Park and West Avenues a bunch of the boys have gotten together and prepared a petition to property owners, which they have since circulated, with satisfactory results, and in which they proclaim that they desire to be honest and are unwilling to steal, but that they desire to have their Christmas fund and will appreciate a small contribution thereto. This petition was presented to several who promptly made a donation. While it is not so stated, the inference from the petition is that if those petitioned do not contribute their ash barrels will be swiped to feed the Christmas flame. The action of the boys is nothing if not unique, but it seems to be meeting with satisfactory response.

* * *

**ETTA'S LONGING AND THE SEQUEL.**

Etta Davis, a dusky damsel "fom de bottom," longed for the higher education. Etta thought she could just ooze with culture if she could hear Caruso and Eames through the horn of a graphophone, and then she longed for a graphophone.

After many months of longing, Etta saw her way clear. With a motion not unlike that of sweeping a chicken into a bag, she abducted a graphophone from the stand where it was displayed, and started for home filled with the joys of anticipation.

But joy is ephemeral, and the ruthless hand of the law is always interfering in the quiet enjoyment of stolen pleasures. After one or two selections had been rendered the hand of the law banged at the door, and Etta was "pinched." She will be haled before a justice this morning, and will in all probability spend the winter in seclusion listening to the murmur of the Shockoe, as it wends its purling way to the bosom of the noble James.

**CAUGHT BETWEEN GOAT AND AUTO.**

The position of Ulysses between Scylla and Charybdis was as nothing compared to the position of an attache of the State Library a few days ago, when he was caught between a belligerent billy goat and a speeding automobile. It happened on Franklin Street in the afternoon, when the world and his lady is taking the air, and was witnessed by a goodly number of people who enjoyed to the utmost the frantic attempts of the young historian to get away gracefully.

While crossing the street he passed at the mutterings of the sign of Capricorn, and while thus absorbed the auto crept up behind him. He made a wild leap to get out of the way of the machine and rushed straight to the horns of the goat. With a warlike bass-as, Billy raised on his hind legs and prepared for a battering ram dive, but while in this position was caught by the chin whiskers and brought to his feet.

Then the tussle began. Like the Irishman, the young man wanted some one to help him let go, but help was not forthcoming. So they pulled and scuffled for several minutes, when the colored owner of the goat appeared and called his dog off.

What disturbed the peace of mind of the librarian was not that it was a goat, but that it occupied the mental position of being the motive power for a garbage cart.