

# THE COMET.

JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1916.

Whole Number 1645

Thirty-Second Year.

## ANTI-CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

MEASURE PASSED BY TENNESSEE LEGISLATURE IS VALID STATUTE.

## GOV. RYE HELD BILL TOO LONG BEFORE VETOING

MAYOR CRUMP OUT OF OFFICE UNTIL CASE IS DECIDED

NASHVILLE, TENN., Jan. 8.—The supreme court, speaking through Justice Buchanan, this morning handed down a unanimous opinion which in effect means that the Bowers anti-capital punishment law, enacted by the last legislature and later vetoed by Gov. Rye, is a valid statute of the state of Tennessee. Gov. Rye held the bill on his desk for more than five days before he vetoed it, according to the point of law decided today. The case decided, which also controls the Bowers bill matter, was that of the city of Johnson City vs. the Tennessee Eastern Electric Co., in which the constitutionality of house bill No. 19, passed about the same time and vetoed under the same circumstances as the Bowers bill, was involved. House bill No. 19 authorizes the state to pay for lighting the East Tennessee normal school. The supreme court held that a recess of the legislature is not an adjournment, and that Gov. Rye should have filed his veto message with the clerk of the body in which the bill originated or the chairman of the committee on enrolled bills during the recess. The court this morning also speaking through Justice Buchanan refused to vacate its order by which former Mayor Crump and Commissioner Utley of Memphis were enjoined from taking their seats as officials of Memphis for the new term to which they were elected last April and which began January 1. The court was divided. Chief Justice Nell and Judge Williams holding with Judge Buchanan and Justice Fancher and Green dissenting. The opinion of the majority in the case was that all matters growing out of the Memphis ouster controversy should be preserved in statu quo until the court should pass upon it at final hearing. It was held that the court had appellate jurisdiction in the matter. Under the opinion Crump and Utley will not be allowed to assume office. Judge Fancher, in stating orally the dissent of himself and Judge Green, indicated that they did not think the ouster proceedings should go into the new term of Crump and Utley. Crump and Utley were suspended from office November 3 last on their "legal admission" of charges made in ouster proceedings, based chiefly on the alleged non-enforcement of the state-wide prohibition law.

## PLAN TO ADVERTISE THE SOUTHERN STATES

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 10.—Plans for an aggressive campaign to raise half a million dollars to advertise the southern states, were adopted today at a meeting here of the executive committee of the industrial bureau of the south. President F. W. Hoover, of Nashville; E. E. Britton, of Raleigh, N. C.; David Chapman of Knoxville; Paul Kreusi of Chattanooga and Dr. Poe of Raleigh, N. C. It is thought that a meeting will be arranged for January 22, at Chattanooga, of all interested in the plan.

## NECK DISLOCATED WHEN HE JUMPED OUT OF BED

Friday morning in jumping out of bed, one of the balls flew out of socket, dislocating the neck of Stanley Hambo. Dr. Massey was summoned and in utter disregard of the speed limit arrived at the Hambo home in a few minutes and thinks he got the ball back in place and that Stanley will be all right in a few days.—Sevierville Vindicator.

## DEATH SENTENCE OF HENRY ROBERTS

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 8.—Gov. Rye today commuted to life imprisonment the sentence of Henry Roberts, a Fayette county boy, sentenced to be electrocuted for murder. Action was taken following the decision of the supreme court as a result of which the anti-capital punishment bill is the law in Tennessee.

## DR. BELL'S PINE-TAR-HONEY

For your cold, for your cough, for your feverish throat, nose and head, use Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey. It soothes the irritation, Pine-Tar cuts the phlegm, thus relieving congestion. Pine Tar also acts as an antiseptic, as a result general relief follows. Breathing becomes easier and further inflammation is arrested. Insist on Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey. It is an ideal treatment. Price 25c. W. L. Lewis, one of our young legal lights, has returned from a visit with friends at Morristown.

## BRASS BAND ORGANIZED

BY TWENTY OF THE YOUNGER MEN OF JOHNSON CITY WHO WILL

## GIVE THEIR FIRST CONCERT IN THE MAJESTIC

MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY TWENTY-FOURTH

A few days ago twenty of the younger men of the city met and organized themselves with the idea of promoting a much needed brass band for Johnson City. A greater number of the organization have had some little experience in band work and much enthusiasm was manifested, attended with the raising of \$200.00 by the members of the organization. The people of Johnson City as a whole are thoroughly in accord with the movement to give to the city a first class band and the citizens and business men who have been approached thus far have given loyal support to the undertaking. The Johnson City Band will be an incorporated institution thereby insuring the city a good musical organization of its kind for many years. On Monday evening, January 24th, the band will give a concert in connection with feature pictures at the Majestic Theatre and every one who is interested in the success of a good brass band for the city is cordially invited to attend the concert. Twenty years ago, when Johnson City was about the size of Bluff City, we had a band that was a credit to the town. Why have we lately had to go to Bluff City and other places to secure the services of a band when the material at hand was more than sufficient to have an organization that would reflect credit on Johnson City at the present time.

## WINTER TERM OF STATE NORMAL SCHOOL

The winter term at the East Tennessee State Normal School has opened with a large increase in enrollment. Almost without exception all the students who were in attendance during the fall term returned. Among the many new students who have registered are the following: Jesse Aude, Knox county; Jesse Anderson, Washington county; Dave L. Blake, Morgan county; Horace F. Blankenship, Union county; Mollie L. Boyd, Carter county; Georgia A. Boyer, Hawkins county; Alfred E. Brown, Bledsoe county; Besse B. Brown, Washington county; James E. Brown, Bledsoe county; Clyde S. Cabage, Grainger county; Rosa M. Chestnut, Hawkins county; Beula H. Christenberry, Roane county; Emma Cooper, McMinn county; Laura A. Curtis, Monroe county; Charles E. F. Davis, Union county; Estella Easton, Greene county; Eula V. Easterly, Morgan county; Ethel M. Edwards, Claiborne county; David C. Ellis, Carter county; Fay Eskew, Knox county; Stella Fanning, Greene county; Elisha N. Fortner, Claiborne county; Luna O. Gass, Meigs county; Mildred C. Gibson, Washington county; Mae Hale, Cocke county; Ruth L. Hale, Cocke county; Flossie M. Hall, McMinn county; Della Mae Hartsell, Cocke county; Cicie J. Hartsell, Cocke county; Mollie M. Hicks, Sullivan county; Myrtle D. Hinkle, Johnson county; Robert Howard, Johnson county; Bryan M. Hyder, Carter county; Ralph Hyder, Carter county; Thomas J. Hyder, Carter county; Wm. S. Ivy, Hamblen county; Alonzo W. Johnson, Carter county; Margaret A. Jones, Cocke county; Arch M. Kincaid, Meigs county; Ho J. J. Kirkpatrick, Hawkins county; Floy A. Lambert, Claiborne county; Clarence L. Lavender, Rhea county; Daniel M. Laws, Johnson county; Inez Lowry, Monroe county; Roscoe C. McKendrick, Jefferson county; Gene C. McKnight, Meigs county; Thasia C. Hayes, Hawkins county; Glynden E. Herring, Loudon county; Virgil D. Milligan, Hamblen county; Geneva A. Moore, Washington county; Juanita Moulton, Washington county; Carrie T. Murphy, Hamilton county; James H. Nichols, Blount county; Wm. O. Ogle, Blount county; Edgar H. Ogle, Blount county; Minnie Ousley, Union county; Samuel C. Patton, Rhea county; Luella Payne, Roane county; Essie Pennington, Monroe county; Anna Laura Powell, Meigs county; Almine E. Ray, Jefferson county; Hancil W. Ring, Washington county; Carl Sams, Union county; Fanny B. Scott, Hamblen county; Della Sizer, Sullivan county; Ida G. Sizer, Sullivan county; Ira T. Slicer, McMinn county; Flora E. Stock, Hamilton county; Beulah L. Tarter, Knox county; Nola M. Taylor, Anderson county; Wm. Claude Terry, Scott county; David E. Thurman, Hawkins county; Lou Venie Wagner, Johnson county; Nora B. Wagner, Johnson county; Timmie A. Walker, Hawkins county; Elsie Williams, Morgan county; John J. Yates, Grainger county; and Silas York, Scott county.

## GOOD ROADS ADVOCATES

WILL BE PLEASANT WITH THE BILL REPORTED TO THE HOUSE.

## BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR REPAIR WORK

SUM OF \$706,000 COULD BE USED ANNUALLY IN TENNESSEE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 9.—Advocates of good roads over Tennessee will be deeply interested in the bill that has been reported to the house of congress by the committee on roads as a measure that all parties have harmonized upon as one that can be passed. Under this bill the government will spend in each state a sum equal to that by the state to a certain limit that is based upon the apportionment as to combined mileage of rural and star routes and population. Under the bill the sum that could be spent in the year in Tennessee would be \$706,000. This is because Tennessee has 2.29 per cent of the total population of the United States, estimated at one hundred million people; and 3.26 per cent of the total of the star and rural routes in the United States.

Congressman Sam R. Sells, of the first district of Tennessee, is ranking republican on the roads committee and is pleased with the action of the committee, especially since features of his good roads bill have been written into the Sells measure. Why Congressman Sells secured the adoption of an amendment to this bill eliminating that feature of the proposed bill which provided for a distribution of one-third the total on the basis of area, and which amendment will give to Tennessee approximately \$150,000 additional.

## WILL LOOK INTO BUYING OF NEW ROAD MACHINERY

Although No Bonds Are Issued, Washington County Takes Action. The Washington County Court, which met at Jonesboro last week, although no road bond issues were up for consideration, took action looking to the purchase of road machinery, with a view to macadamizing roads that have already been graded, including its section of the Bristol-to-Jonesboro highway and the Bristol-to-Fall Branch. The county has about twenty-two miles of road to macadamize. Eight of this is on the State road and the remainder on the Fall Branch road. The Jonesboro Herald and Tribune says the following as in part the proceedings of the county court: The court canvassed the returns of the county road bond election held on December 18, 1915, and found the following results: For bonds, 1,729; against bonds, 1,847; majority against bonds. W. Crumley, Frank Haws, E. S. Adams, J. B. Moore and W. F. Reed were appointed to locate routes from Jonesboro to adjoining county sites on which the revenue derived from the auto tax shall be used named the following routes: From Jonesboro to Rogersville via Fall Branch, to Erwin via Embreeville, to Blountville via Fordtown, to Elizabethton via Johnson City, to Greeneville via the Memphis to Bristol highway. This revenue will amount from \$2,500 to \$3,000 per year and will increase each year. The court by unanimous vote adopted a petition asking for a committee to be appointed to consider the cost and advisability of constructing a bridge over the Nolichucky river near Bailey's store. The committee will report at the April term of court. The tax levy for 1916 was fixed as follows: State tax 35c, county tax 20c, school tax 50c, workhouse 75c, high school 10c, court house 10c, Memphis to Bristol highway 10c, Normal School, 10c, district roads, 10c, making a total of \$2.50 per \$100 taxable valuation. The county superintendent's and the various standing committee's reports were heard and adopted. Resolutions were adopted relative to the lives and deaths of Dr. George R. Duncanson and Lafayette Conley, deceased. Short and appropriate addresses were made on the resolutions.

## PRESIDENT MAY SPEAK ON PREPAREDNESS

Washington, Jan. 10.—President Wilson possibly may put the question of national defense before the country in a series of speeches as one means of getting the necessary legislation through congress. The President today received several invitations to speak at banquets and meetings here, at Baltimore and New York within the next month. Officials intimated that the President might take advantage of the invitations to lay the administration plan for national defense directly before the people. As soon as the submarine controversy is entirely cleared up the President intends to devote his whole attention to getting the national defense through congress.

## JANUARY STOCK SALE IN MORRISTOWN BIGGEST YET

Morristown, Jan. 8.—The January sale of horses and mules on the local market this week reached the highest mark on record. The buying was brisk and the prices good. Mules averaging \$175 and horses \$150 per head. Twelve carloads, averaging 35 head to the car, were shipped to points in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

## HOME COMING WEEK DATES

WILL BE SELECTED AT NEXT MEETING OF THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

## LEADING CITIZENS OF TWELVE COUNTIES

HAVE ENDORSED THE MOVEMENT AND STARTED ORGANIZATION

Although the preliminary campaign inaugurated by the East Tennessee Association of Commercial Executives has been running for only a few weeks, the East Tennessee Home Coming Week movement has already been endorsed by twelve of the thirty-four counties in this grand division of the state and inquiries have been received by the committee from several of the remaining counties, indicating that local organizations will be started in the near future. The campaign committee, composed of F. R. Miller of the Morristown Board of Trade, N. B. Remine of the Bristol Board of Trade, J. L. Tweed of the Maryville Board of Trade, and D. S. Martin of the Sweetwater Board of Trade, will meet in Knoxville during the latter part of this month for the purpose of finally selecting the dates for East Tennessee Home Coming Week and perfecting the organization for the general campaign. Before the meeting of the committee it is hoped that the movement will be endorsed by all of the remaining counties in East Tennessee. Commercial organizations, farmers clubs, immigration boards, women's clubs, school, church and college societies and fraternal orders are being urged to take action at once in order that their towns and counties may be enrolled and their recommendations as to dates and general plans may receive due consideration when the committee meets this month. A certain week in this year, probably in mid-summer or early fall, will be designated as Home Coming Week in East Tennessee and advertised throughout the world. During that week a Home-Coming celebration will be held in every town and county participating. The local campaigns and local celebrations will be carried out in the hands of local organizations, the general committee conducting the general campaign and co-operating with the local organizations in directing publicity work, securing speakers, railroad rates, and giving suggestions from time to time concerning the various departments of the campaign.—Morristown Republican.

## PROPOSING AN ISSUE OF \$925,000.00

PAYABLE IN THIRTY-FIVE, FORTY AND FORTY-FIVE YEARS.

The County Court, at the close of its regular session late Tuesday evening, and by a vote of ten to four, ordered another bond election for March 1. A petition containing about one thousand names was presented to the court asking for the election to be called on the date named, and under the Acts of 1913 it was questionable whether the court had any options in the matter but to order the election. The proposition is to vote \$925,000 in 35, 40, and 45 year bonds for the purposes of macadamizing about 80 miles of the main roads and the grading of about the same amount of new roads in the county.—Sweetwater Telephone.

## TRADESMEN CAUTIONED BY SECRETARY REDFIELD

MUCH BUSINESS CAN BE RETAINED WHEN WAR ENDS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.—Secretary of Commerce Redfield, in a memorandum on business conditions transmitted to President Wilson today, pictures the country as in the most prosperous state of its history. The warning is added, though, that war's inflation of commerce will last only until war's end, and that business foresight alone will prepare the United States for peace. The slump that will follow the war abroad, the secretary's summary declares, must find Americans ready to take their share of the world's trade unhampered by provincial notions. False values created by unusual conditions, he fears, may dull the United States into a fancied commercial security. "It is not to be expected," the secretary says, "that our business movement will continue in its present form. No one dreams that we can now or in the future maintain an export movement of more than five billions actual value, or that we may safely expect an apparent net balance in our favor on merchandise transactions of three billions in any one year. It is alike impossible and undesirable that these things continue. It is impossible for no other reason, because the world has not the power to pay any one nation such vast sums for any long period in addition to the cost of the war. The nations are not spending their incomes in our market, but their capital, and vast as it is, there are limits to which a continuance of this process is undesirable, for it would make up the Midas among the nations and produce a moral overstrain that would be dangerous. GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TO TRUSTS IS OUTLINED

## NASHVILLE EMPLOYEE WAS SHOT DOWN

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 8.—John David Deason, aged 30, a city employe, was shot tonight near his home here by an unidentified man who escaped. The police have no clue.

## STEEL TRAIN CARRYING 250 PLUNGES INTO DITCH

Muskogee, Okla., Jan. 7.—Two hundred and fifty passengers on a Missouri, Kansas & Texas fast train, bound from St. Louis to Galveston, narrowly escaped death today when the steel train left the rails near Rentlesville, Okla., and plunged into a ditch. Four Pullman coaches and two combination coaches were stripped from their trucks and up-ended. Passengers and crew suffered only a bad fright and shaking up.

## CONSERVATION OF BUSINESS

COUNTRY IS IN THE MOST PROSPEROUS CONDITION OF ITS HISTORY.

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## ALL BUSINESS FORCES MAKING FOR GREATER ACTIVITIES IN TRADE

Since December 1 the wages of more than 1,000,000 employes in the United States have been ordered increased, although some of these increases, as in the case of the employes of the United States Steel corporation, will not be effective until February 1. The great majority of these increases was voluntary recognition by managers of the fact that better business justifies higher wages of the workers, and this should result in cordial relations between labor and capital, and it undoubtedly shows a clearer understanding of mutuality of interests as between employers and employes. These increases will add millions of dollars weekly to the purchasing power of the people affected by them, and this purchasing power, diffused, as it will be, through every branch of trade which distributes to the ultimate consumers of this country, makes for greater sales by the shopkeeper and the merchant, greater tonnage in freight traffic for transportation lines and will call for larger outputs in many lines of manufacture. While it is estimated that these increases have been granted to fully 1,000,000 persons, there is much reason to believe that before April next double that number will be receiving similar advances in pay, and this will exercise a most potent influence upon business affairs in every State in the Union. The very best effects and the long-continued benefits of these wage increases these additions to the purchasing power of the workers of the country, will be felt by the merchants of the United States, who will be called upon to meet the demands of the unprecedented stimulus and pay for commodities that limited incomes have forbidden them to purchase during the past six years of dull times. With the opening of the spring construction work in this country will commence upon a scale that has not been anticipated since the panic of 1907, and the workmen and the trades related to that class of work will become powerful factors in promoting the activities of general business as well as in those of their own direct lines. The improvement in demand for offices, stores, shops, factories, apartments, dwellings for rent has already resulted, in marked improvement in values of realty throughout New England and the great belt of the central States of the country, and the general business activity is giving a stimulus to building projects that is sure to make 1916 a record-breaking year in construction work. The States of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and North and South Carolina and the District of Columbia are entering a year of business which in number of transactions, volume and value of these transactions will be far beyond the record of any year in the past. To their people conditions forecast the highest degree of prosperity.—Washington Post.

## NEVER BEFORE PARALLELED

IN HISTORY OF COUNTRY; SUCH HAS BEEN DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH

## OF NATIONAL BANKS OF UNITED STATES

SAYS COMPTROLLER WILLIAMS IN HIS REPORT

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 10.—"Development and growth never paralleled in the financial history of any country" is the way John Skelton Williams, comptroller of the currency, describes in his annual report to congress, the operation of the national banks under his charge, during the period from October, 1914, to November, 1915, the first year under the federal reserve system. The report was today presented to congress. Mr. Williams gives a comparative statement of the condition of the national banks to back up his statement. He shows that net resources of the banks increased in the year \$1,742,878,848, that deposits increased \$2,081,559,164, and that loans and discounts increased \$917,450,592. Available cash increased in the same period \$862,000,000 and on November 10, 1915, the reporting national banks had excess reserves of \$891,000,000. Tables show the comparative condition of banks in 1895 and 1915. In September, 1895, there were 3,712 reporting banks with net deposits of \$1,985,300,000 and loans and discounts of \$2,059,108,492, while in November, 1915, there were 7,617 reporting banks with net deposits of \$9,079,741,447, loans and discounts of \$7,233,928,373. "The reserve held by the national banks November 10, 1915, says the report, "exceeded by \$587,000,000 the greatest of the federal reserve act. Loans and discounts amounted to more than the total loans and discounts of all banks, including national, state, savings and private banks and loan and trust companies as late as the year 1902." Mr. Williams says that the "banking power" of the United States—the capital, surplus, circulation deposits, etc.—of all reporting banks national and otherwise, with an estimate of the figures for 1914-15, is \$25,297,100,000, an increase in a year of about \$1,057,100,000. Savings bank depositors increased to 176,256 during the year ending last June with total deposits of \$1,657,796,013, an increase of \$211,141,222. The average deposit, however, decreased from \$444.36 to \$2.83, while the number of banks increased from 2,100 to 2,159. VIRGINIA'S CANDIDATE FOR SUPREME BENCH

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Bristol, Tenn., Jan. 9.—Harry H. Shelton will head a Bristol special committee that will call on President Wilson in Washington in the next few days in the interest of Judge Joseph L. Kelly, in connection with the vacancy on the bench of the United States Supreme court, occasioned by the death of Justice Lamar. The belief here is that Judge Kelly will receive the support of the entire state of Virginia, and the state having not been represented on the Supreme court bench in 55 years will make a strong appeal to the president. Judge Kelly, who is 48 years old, is eminently qualified for the position, and would undoubtedly reflect high credit upon his state should he be honored with the position. The Virginians are expected to make an earnest effort to secure the appointment of Judge Kelly, who is now a member of the Supreme court of Virginia. FOR CHILDREN'S COUGH

## FOR CHILDREN'S COUGH

You cannot use anything better for your child's cough and cold than Dr. King's New Discovery. It is prepared from Pine Tar mixed with healing and soothing balsams. It does not contain anything harmful and is slightly laxative, just enough to expel the poisons from the system. Dr. King's New Discovery is antiseptic—kills the cold germs—raises the phlegm—loosens the cough and soothes the irritation. Don't put off treatment. Coughs and Colds often lead to serious lung troubles. It is also good for adults and the aged. Get a bottle today. All Druggists.

## ROOSEVELT REFUSES TO FILE HIS NAME IN PRIMARIES

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 8.—Wm. T. Coe, of Minneapolis, announced at a meeting of local progressives to day the receipt of the following letter from Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, in reply to a question whether the colonel would agree to his name being placed on the Minnesota presidential ballot. "I cannot consent to have my name filed in any primaries. What I am trying to do is to fight for straight-out Americanism. I am not concerned whatever with any individual myself or any one else." AGENTS WANTED.

We want agents in every district in Washington county to solicit subscriptions for The Comet. Write us for our liberal offer. A postal card is sufficient.