

CONGRESSMEN AT WORK.

THOSE LEFT IN CAPITAL STUDY PROBLEMS DURING VACATION OF BODY.

Prepare Themselves for Real Duties Which Will Come When Two Houses Reconvene—Economy the Chief Problem.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Most members of congress left in the capital through the recess are studying problems they will have to deal with when congress reconvenes a week from Monday. Individual members and clerks of committees are doing preliminary work as measures soon to be the subject of committee deliberations. Each member of the house judiciary committee left in the city is spending vacation time familiarizing himself with various proposals bearing on the administration's anti-trust programme.

The movement for economy in appropriations, approved by leaders, apparently has drifted on to the shoals.

An expected second conference of chairmen and ranking members of committees that report supply measures did not materialize and now none is in contemplation. Most chairmen of committees contend they already have cut estimates as far as consistent with public demands.

The appropriation bills have been whipped into shape far more quickly than in past seasons.

The appropriations committee is about ready with fortifications, legislative, executive and judicial, and urgent deficiency bills. The agricultural, military, diplomatic and consular appropriation measures will be in shape when the house is ready to receive them.

The rivers and harbors appropriation bill will carry about \$34,000,000 for continuing work already begun and other plans for improving waterways. The total may run up to \$40,000,000, to include new projects, including, perhaps, levee construction to prevent Mississippi river floods. The bill still is open to hearings. One bill in behalf of the proposed intracoastal waterways from Boston to Beaufort, N. C., is set for June 9.

BURGLARS STEAL EGGS.

Usual Precautions Taken to Protect Exhibits in Madison Square Poultry Show.

New York, Jan. 1.—The high price of eggs and the added value of the hatched product for hatching purposes led to so many burglaries of pens at the Madison Square Garden poultry show that several exhibitors installed electrical apparatus to protect their entries.

A device set up by K. M. Turner of Nyack, N. Y., to prevent volunteer collectors from seizing eggs laid by hens in his exhibit records the voices of three persons who are believed to have robbed the Turner pens. Officials of the show assert that they knew the identity of the marauders and arrests are expected today.

KILLED BY MOLTEN METAL.

Five Others Injured as Result of Explosion at Vanderbilt Furnace.

Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 1.—Three men were killed and five injured at Vanderbilt furnace at 7 o'clock tonight when a dust cap was blown off and released molten slag and metal which caught the victims before they could get away. The identified dead include Boet Ciglio, an Italian. Among the most seriously burned are West Grant, a negro, Paul Salamorra, an Italian, and L. V. McCabe, floating gang foreman at the furnace.

Vanderbilt furnace is about four miles north of Birmingham and is owned by the Woodward Iron company.

NOW PAYS FOR ITSELF.

Commissioner Watson's Department Shows a Profit.

Columbia, Dec. 30.—The department of agriculture, commerce and industries is now self-sustaining, for Commissioner E. J. Watson tonight turned over to the State Treasurer \$12,302.50, the income from the commercial feed stuffs and oil inspection divisions; \$2,000 from the latter and \$10,000 from the former. The direct appropriations for Mr. Watson's department for all purposes was \$12,120, so that it is in effect self-sustaining. This showing is very gratifying to the thousands of friends of this department and speaks well for the splendid work which is being done under the leadership and management of E. J. Watson.

STORM ON JERSEY COAST.

Wind Blows Eighty Miles an Hour. New York, Jan. 3.—A terrific gale is sweeping the New Jersey coast today, causing floods and doing minor damage to shipping. At Sandy Hook the wind is blowing eighty miles an hour and the waves are running 25 feet high.

BESTOWED AWARD OF HONOR.

Prof. F. H. King's Book of Farmers Recognized for Its Merits.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Although he has been dead for several months, an award of honor has been made to the late Prof. F. H. King, the author of a volume entitled "Farmers of Forty Centuries," by the National Geographic Society of Washington, D. C. Prof. King's book, completed but shortly before his death, represents what the society believes is an ideal study of foreign places. The author describes the methods by which the Chinese support nearly 500,000,000 people on an area smaller than the improved farm lands of the United States, which they have tilled for four thousand years, and from this draws an interesting parallel for the farmers of the United States to consider.

"If the United States is to endure; if we shall protect our history even through 4,000 or 5,000 years, as the Mongolian nations have done, and if that history shall be written in continuous peace, free from periods of widespread famine or pestilence, this nation must orient itself; must square its practices with a conservation of resources which can make endurance possible," he says.

He goes on to point out that the Mississippi river is annually bearing to the sea nearly 225,000 acre-feet of the most fertile sediment and between levees along a raised bed through 200 miles of country subject to inundation, and that the people of the United States and Europe are pouring into the sea, lakes, or rivers and into the underground waters from 5,794,300 to 12,000,000 pounds of nitrogen; 1,881,900 to 4,151,000 pounds of potassium, and 777,200 to 3,057,500 pounds of phosphorus per million of adult population annually. "And this waste we esteem one of the great achievements of our civilization," he adds. "In the Far East, for more than 30 centuries, these enormous wastes have been religiously saved, and today the 400,000,000 of adult population send back to their fields annually 150,000 tons of phosphorus; 376,000 tons of potassium, and 1,158,000 tons of nitrogen comprised in a gross weight exceeding 182,000,000 tons, gathered from every home, from the country villages, and from the great cities. Man is the most extravagant accelerator of waste the world has ever endured. His besom of destruction in the uncontrolled hands of a generation has swept into the sea soil fertility which only centuries of life could accumulate.

"The rivers of North America are estimated to carry to the sea more than 500 tons of phosphorus with each cubic mile of water. To such loss modern civilization is adding that of hydraulic sewage disposal, through which the waste of 500,000,000 of people might be more than 194,300 tons of phosphorus annually, which could not be replaced by 1,295,000 tons of rock phosphate 75 per cent pure.

"Forty canals across the United States from east to west and 60 from north to south would not equal in number of miles those of China, Korea and Japan. It is probable that this estimate is not too large for China alone. A conservative estimate would place the miles of canals and leveed rivers in the three countries at more than 200,000 miles. In addition to the canal and levee construction work there are numerous impounding reservoirs, which control overflow waters from the great streams, and another large and small lakes in the coastal plain, giving an aggregate reservoir area exceeding 13,000 square miles, all of which are brought into service in controlling flood waters, all of which are steadily filling with the sediments brought from the far-away, uncultivable mountain slopes and which are ultimately destined to become rich alluvial plains.

"There is still another phase of these vast works—the wresting from the flood waters of the enormous volumes of silt which they carry depositing it over the flood areas, in the canals, and along the shores in such manner as to add to the habitable and cultivated land. The city of Shanghai stood originally on the seashore, which has now grown 20 miles to the northward and to the eastward. In 220 B. C., the town of Putai stood one-third of a mile from the sea, but in 1730 it was 47 miles inland and is 48 miles from the shore today.

"There ought, and it would seem there must be provided a way for sending to the sandy plains of Florida, and to the sandy lands between there and the Mississippi, large volumes of the rich silt and organic matter from this and other rivers, as to from that which should be applied systematically to building above flood plain the lands of the delta which are subject to overflow or are too low to permit adequate drainage. Such enormous field erosion as is tolerated at the present time in our Southern and South Atlantic States is permitted nowhere in the Far East, not even where the topography is much steeper."

Mrs. C. W. Stansill spent Saturday in Bastover.

DENOUNCED AS INHUMAN.

MEXICAN CONSUL EXCITED OVER DISARMING DESERTERS.

Makes Formal Protest to Washington Against American Troops at Presidio in Disarming Federal Deserters at Ojinaga—Says It Means Certain Death.

El Paso, Jan. 2.—The action of the American troops at Presidio in disarming Federal deserters from Ojinaga and sending them back across border was denounced as "inhuman" by the Mexican consul here today. A formal protest which he sent to Washington says that sending them back unarmed means certain death.

WILL PROTECT ALL COMERS.

American Military Forces Will Receive and Keep Safe Those Who Cross the Border.

Washington, Jan. 2.—All persons crossing the Mexican border into the United States, whether Federals or Rebels, armed or unarmed will be granted refuge by the American military authorities and cared for until it is safe for them to recross the border. Orders to this effect were issued by Secretary of War Garrison today.

Garrison was greatly surprised by the report that several hundred Federals were turned back after being disarmed and expressed doubt as to the correctness of the report.

HUERTA NEEDS MONEY.

Financial Situation Unchanged But Dictator Talks of Floating Large Debt.

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—The financial situation today is unchanged. Many clubs and gambling houses are closing because of the prohibitive license fees that have been imposed. Gen. Huerta is planning to distribute many farms in the near future to the poorer classes. Gen. Huerta hinted today at floating a large loan tomorrow.

LATE WAR NEWS.

Vital Dots From Different Scenes of Mexican Intranational Scrap.

Laredo, Jan. 2.—The Constitutionalists having been reinforced again attacked Nuevo Laredo today. Both sides are using artillery. Two hundred Federals, cut off from their comrades, must surrender or be shot to death.

Rebels Renew Attack.

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—The Rebels renewed the attack on Cuernavaca today. Seventy-one Federals have been killed.

Ojinaga Still Scene of Conflict.

Presidio, Texas, Jan. 2.—Terrific fighting today around Ojinaga continued. All night the Federals have been making a brave stand but it is thought they are wasting ammunition. Not believed they can hold out much longer.

LUMBER SCHOONER WRECKED.

Broken in Two By Fierce Storm—Crew Rescued After Five Days Exposure.

Mobile, Ala., Jan. 2.—The owners of the British schooner Glenafton were notified today that the vessel broke in two in a recent storm. The cargo of lumber which was lost was worth \$78,000. A fishing vessel saved the crew after five days after they were nearly frozen.

FAINT HEARTED SUICIDE.

John Bradon Jumps into River to Drown Himself But Swims Out When Threatened with Pistol.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—John Bradon, a white man, aged 48, leaped into the Chicago river last night to commit suicide. Policeman Rowers threatened to shoot him if he didn't get out of the water, and Bradon swam to the shore.

NEW SORT OF SUFFRAGETTE.

Alabama Postmaster Refuses to Surrender Office to Successor.

Geneva, Ala., Jan. 2.—Declaring that the Democratic party has no right to "wage political war on the disfranchised sex" in removing her from the postmastership to make a vacancy for a Democrat, Mrs. Ida Tillman has refused to vacate the office, and takes her meals and sleeps in the office.

She has addressed an appeal to President Wilson at Pass Christian and refuses to surrender her commission to W. K. Kenan, her successor. She is the daughter of a Confederate soldier, who fell at Peachtree. Her term expires next December. The postoffice department charges "irregularities."

It has been demonstrated that overgrazed stock ranges on the national forests can be brought back to use under a system of regulated grazing faster than if they are left unused.

COTTON DEALERS PAID.

Firm of Griffith & Welch Now in Trouble.

Athens, Ga., Jan. 1.—A voluntary petition in bankruptcy was filed here this afternoon by the firm of Griffith & Welch, cotton dealers. Liabilities were placed at \$78,000 and assets at \$58,000. J. W. Welch, junior member of the firm, refuses to join in the petition.

C. B. Griffith, senior member of Griffith & Welch, also filed an individual voluntary petition in bankruptcy. He gave his liabilities as \$70,000 and his assets at \$45,000.

John F. Jackson, a business man of Athens, was appointed receiver for the firm.

Oil and the Monroe Doctrine.

The most significant phase of the Mexican situation, aside from the question of our responsibility, through the Monroe Doctrine, to bring about order in that distressed country, has been brought to public notice chiefly through the efforts of a powerful British syndicate, headed by the Pearsons, to control the oil-bearing regions of Mexico and other Caribbean countries. Sir Westman Pearson, whose title is Lord Cowdray, and who has been at the head of the British railway interests in Mexico for some years, figured in the newspapers very largely during November and December because of the action of the congresses of several of the Latin-American countries, believed to have been influenced by the United States, in refusing to sanction executive or administrative concessions to the Pearson interests to develop oil regions within their borders. A concession involving large sections of Colombia reputed to be oil-bearing, and including the right to construct harbor works and canals, which had been granted by the ministry and approved by President Restrepo last April, failed of confirmation in the Colombian senate late in November, and the Pearsons announced that they would make no further effort in that direction. The Costa Rican Congress, on December 13, declined to permit the Pearsons to develop the oil regions of that republic, and later it was announced that Ecuador also was not willing that these British interests should exploit its oil fields.

Tampico, the port of the state of Tamaulipas, which was the scene of a fierce battle on December 12, between the Federals and rebels, is a large oil center, one of the most important in Mexico. The Waters-Pierce interests, believed to be a part of the Standard Oil Company, and the Cowdray or Pearson interests have been rivals in the Tampico region for years, besides which there is an alleged Mexican company, the Haustica. In these days, when the warships of the world are being built to consume oil instead of coal, the mightiest naval power on earth is naturally very anxious to secure control of every possible oil supply. Mr. Lewis R. Freeman, in an article on "The Age of Oil," in our issue for October, explained the situation in detail. It is not difficult to understand how the presence of any large vested interests of a European power in Caribbean countries in the vicinity of the Panama Canal, including the right to construct port works and canals, and by inference, later, oiling (fuel) stations, would be not only dangerous to the independence of the Latin-American countries in question, but prejudicial to the vital national interests of the United States. The right to exploit natural resources on such a large scale as such concessions would permit would be likely to involve a dominating influence by Europe on the governments of these countries in such a way that it would be in effect as much a violation of the Monroe Doctrine as the alienation to these European powers of territory on the American continent.—From "The Progress of the World," in the American Review of Reviews.

REAL BLIZZARD HITS MAINE.

Temperature Drops to Thirty-two Below and Worst is Yet to Come. Portland, Maine, Jan. 2.—A severe cold wave struck Maine today. The temperature fell to thirty-two below at Caribou and twenty-five below at Houlton.

Very Cold in New York.

Middletown, N. Y., Jan. 2.—The coldest weather of the winter prevails here. The temperature is thirteen below.

Snow at Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Jan. 2.—Light snow today, melting as fast as it fell.

Heavy Snow in West.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Heavy snow is falling in the middle States today. Temperatures are moderate.

German pencil manufacturers are looking to California incense cedar for pencil wood. The establishment of a pencil factory in California is not improbable.

TO FOSTER COTTON CULTURE.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT URGED TO TAKE STEPS.

Secretary of Agriculture Houston has Scheme to Make Bitter War on the Boll Weevil.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Warning that American supremacy in cotton commerce may be wrested by foreign countries unless this government avails itself of the full measure of its resources, has been submitted to the house committee on rivers and harbors in advocacy of the pending bill for an immediate appropriation of \$12,000,000, the first installment of the \$48,000,000 proposed by the Mississippi river commission for preventing floods on the Mississippi.

The warning voiced by B. F. Bush, president of the Missouri Pacific railroad, sets forth that the principal European countries are spending millions of dollars in fostering cotton culture in their colonies, that the English premier recently had a bill passed appropriating \$15,000,000 for experimenting in growing cotton in the Sudan to make the English splaner independent of the United States supply.

Mr. Bush asserted, however, that the United States, "if alive to its opportunities," had nothing to fear and that the nation should hasten to the rescue of the South by meeting the control of the Mississippi as a national problem.

He added that levee protection for the alluvial lands in the Mississippi delta would add 15,000,000 acres of fertile wealth producing area, whose cultivation in cotton, sugar cane or diversified crops would yield many millions of dollars annually.

Investigation of the life history and habits of the parasites of the cotton boll weevil in a more thorough and comprehensive way than ever before is proposed by Secretary Houston. He wants more funds appropriated with which to employ experts on this work in order to undertake a "community experiment" in controlling the boll weevil. Up to now practically all the efforts of the department of agriculture have been confined to assisting individual planters.

The efforts of the new corps of experts would be devoted to a study of the control of the weevil, the picking of the squares of the cotton plant, encouragement of the parasites, destruction of the cotton plants in the field and to determining where the efficiency of each step might be increased by some variation or new process.

Rotation in crops, changes in the system of handling cotton and planting the cotton wider apart have helped in the fight against the weevil, which has caused millions of dollars of loss, but its ravages still continue and no varieties of cotton are immune.

URGE OBEDIENCE TO LAW.

C. E. Askew, Talking to Raleigh Negroes, Says Bleese Has Done Much Harm.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 1.—In their celebration of the 51st freedom anniversary Raleigh negroes today appealed to white North Carolinians to oppose segregation which contemplates preventing negroes from buying lands adjoining white properties.

The Rev. C. E. Askew appealed for obedience to the law and said Gov. Bleese's utterances on the constitution had done more harm than all his pardons.

CONGRESSMAN IS ILL.

J. W. Ragsdale Undergoes Operation at Florence Hospital.

Charleston, Jan. 1.—Congressman J. W. Ragsdale, of the Sixth congressional district of South Carolina was operated on today at a Florence infirmary for gallstones. The operation was successful, and the attending physician states that while Representative Ragsdale is very sick, an early recovery is confidently expected.

GROWS EXCELLENT LEMONS.

Spartanburg Woman's Success With Citrus Fruit.

Spartanburg, Jan. 1.—Mrs. R. L. Wood, of No. 20 Hammond street, has had remarkable success in growing lemons. One of her trees, two years old, produced five unusually large lemons this year. One of them is on exhibition in a downtown store. It weighs two pounds. Mrs. Wood says that while her lemons are more sour than the imported fruit, they make more delicious custards.

A MUCH MARRIED MAN.

Goes to Hymen's Altar Seven Times And Only Thirty-one.

Huntington, W. Va., Jan. 2.—"Hope this will be my last," said L. B. Maynard, aged 31 years, after his marriage to Miss Rebecca Wilson last night. "I have been married seven times, three were divorced and three died."

PLEASE NAMES CLERGY.

Selects Five as Representatives To "Star-Spangled Banner" Celebration.

Baltimore Sun. Gov. Cole L. Bleese of South Carolina distinguished himself in the minds of municipal officials this morning by announcing the appointment of five ministers of the Gospel as representatives from his State to "The Star-Spangled Banner" centennial celebration here next September. They are:

The Rev. Dr. J. Walter Daniels, presiding elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Charleston, S. C.

The Rev. Dr. J. S. Moffatt, president of Erskine College, Due West, S. C.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Hegarty, pastor of St. Peter's Catholic Church, Columbia, South Carolina.

The Rev. Dr. A. G. Voigt, dean of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Columbia, S. C.

The Rev. Dr. C. C. Brown, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Sumter, S. C.

The governor stated in a letter to Mayor Preston that he had selected South Carolina's seven congressmen as delegates to the convention of "The Star-Spangled Banner" representatives to be held in Washington next month. Governor Bleese said he hoped to be able to attend the centennial celebration in Baltimore.

RAISE POULTRY AND STOCK.

Federal Expert Says Poultry Will be Tried in Ten Counties.

Columbia, Jan. 1.—Mr. W. W. Long, farm demonstrator for this State, was in Columbia today, and while here had a conference with Mr. Hare, poultry expert of the United States department of agriculture, and Col. R. J. Watson, commissioner for the State, in reference to beginning poultry work in this State. It is proposed to confine the work to 10 counties that have already been selected. Poultry association will be organized in each of these 10 counties and the members will be treated as poultry demonstrators. Mr. Hare will visit the farms of the demonstrators for the purpose of instructing them on the matters of feeding, housing, breeding and marketing. It will be the policy to encourage the raising of one particular breed in a county for the reason that very much easier and more profitable results can be had in the selling of poultry of the same breed in the Northern and Eastern markets. In certain markets in the North the brown eggs bring two or three cents more per dozen than do white eggs; the same condition exists in other markets in favor of the white egg.

Mr. Long was asked as to the development and the policy of the live stock work that is now being taken up in certain counties of the State by Clemson college in cooperation with the United States department of agriculture. He said that the policy of organization is the same as just outlined with reference to the proposed poultry work. It is the intention to advise the use of the Hereford breed for beef cattle. The idea is to have the farmers raise from three to 10 head of beef cattle on each farm, and by having the same breed on the different farms a neighborhood can easily make up a carload of the same type of beef cattle. This always means two or three cents more per pound than would be received for a carload made up of different breeds. He added that great interest is being manifested in the live stock development and that Clemson college is advising the development along conservative lines, insisting that the farmers first make preparation by making permanent pastures, growing forage crops and learning something of the business before investing heavily in the purchase of cattle. The people in the South can never hope; and in fact, should not attempt to make this a live stock country. What is being undertaken is to grow live stock in connection with cotton and other crops and this can be done at a profit without reducing the cotton acreage. The idea is to advocate a sufficient number of live stock on each farm to consume the waste of the farm and to utilize the idle land.

YOUNG MEN'S SAVINGS FUND.

City National Bank Fund Will Be Distributed Dec. 15, 1914.

The Young Men's Savings Fund of the City National Bank, which is the oldest organization of the kind in Sumter, and annually has the largest membership, will be wound up this year at the end of the fiftieth week and the fund distributed December 15th. This will make the savings of the members available before Christmas instead of on New Year's day as heretofore.

There are 16 maples in the United States, most of them being eastern species. The most valuable, not only because of the product of its sap but also of the lumber, is sugar maple.