

MINISTER A SUICIDE

A Prominent Pastor Takes His Own Life

CONFRONTED BY UGLY CHARGES

Prominent Baptist Minister. Under Investigation on Grave Charges, Takes His Own Life—Run on Two Peoria Banks, of Which He Was President.

Peoria, Ill., Special.—Rev. Geo. H. Simmons, pastor of the First Baptist church, president of the inter-state Savings Bank, and of the People's Savings Bank, and recently appointed manager of the Yates senatorial campaign was found dead in bed. He has been under investigation by the State's attorney, the two banks, and his congregation on the gravest charges.

The body was found by his wife when she called him to breakfast. He remained down town until late at night, disposing of some business matters. In a letter found beside him he said this was his last night on earth, and he wanted to leave a message of undying love to all. In part it said: "Also no blame must attach to ex-Governor Yates nor his associates. He simply gave me an opportunity which his opponents and my enemies have prevented my using."

The last line—"Time fails me should I attempt to write personal messages" indicates that he was dying as he brought the letter to a close. Physicians believe that death was caused by cyanide of potassium. Governor Baker has taken charge of the body. The People's Savings Bank did not open Tuesday morning. Cashier Look said the bank would remain closed until some plan of action could be determined. There was a run on the bank and a large crowd surrounded the building. The Inter-State Savings Bank was also the object of runs Monday and Tuesday. Cashier Anderson said they would be able to stand the strain.

Breese's Case Reversed.

Richmond, Special.—The United States Circuit Court of Appeals handed down a decision in the case of J. E. Breese, late president of the First National Bank of Louisville reversing the decision of the United States Court at Charlotte, by which he was convicted and sentenced to serve seven years in the Atlanta penitentiary. This ends this anomalous case and also quashes the indictment against J. E. Dickerson, who was found by the same grand jury. The ground for the action of the court was that two of the grand jurors who found the indictment against Breese had not paid their personal taxes as required.

Let By Charter to Dummies.

Savannah, Ga., Special.—Contract after contract was taken up in the Federal Court by District Attorney Marion Erwin in the prosecution of Greene and Gaynor, and connection between the contractors and the defendants was established. Checks that had been given Greene and Gaynor or others in payment for harbor improvements were exhibited and associated with the various contracts. It was brought out that contracts for important and expensive improvements were not infrequently let by Captain Carter, not to Greene and Gaynor, direct, but to relatives of the defendants or others employed by the defendants or closely allied with them. The actual work, moreover, witnesses declared, was not done in such instances by the reputed guarantors of the contracts, but by Greene and Gaynor.

Decomposed Body Identified.

Pittsburg, Special.—The badly decomposed body of a man with a bullet hole through his head, which was found in a thicket on the outskirts of Roanoke, Va., is that of Stanley C. Armstrong, the cashier of the Washington National Bank, who mysteriously disappeared from this city on January 2. The identification was made possible when the number 243241, attached to the body was identified as the number of the accident insurance policy carried by the missing cashier.

Alabama Mob Kills Negro.

Montgomery, Special.—Jim Cotton, a negro was shot to death Sunday at Blountville by a mob of white men. Saturday, Cotton, who was drunk, forced Jim Phillips, a negro salesman and the white man administered a thrashing. That night as Phillips sat in his room, someone fired upon him with a shotgun loaded with small shot. Several window panes were broken, but Phillips was not injured. There was evidence that Cotton had used the shot.

Nine Negroes Cremated.

Baltimore, Special.—About three o'clock Tuesday morning an isolated small frame house near the village of Curtis Bay, in Anne Arundel county, was consumed by a fire in which were burned to death nine colored persons, only one of the inhabitants escaping alive.

House Maid a Suicide.

Seama, Ala., Special.—Bertha Marsden, a house servant employed by a well-known family here, was found dead in her bed. A bottle of chloroform by her side and a sponge saturated with the fluid indicated suicide. This was made certain by a letter addressed to J. W. Douglass, of Washington, D. C., stating that she intended killing herself and thanking him for past kindness.

CONGRESS AT WORK

What Our National Law Makers Are Doing Day by Day.

The Senate did not have an opportunity to hear the discussion of Mr. Patterson's resolution on the action of the Democratic caucus as was partially promised but gave the entire day to a review of the prerogatives of the Senate in the matter of raising treaties. The question was framed by Mr. Bacon in a speech on his resolution requesting information concerning the Algebrus conference. He talked for almost three hours and was followed by Mr. Spooner, who spoke for considerably more than an hour. Both speeches were interspersed with debate largely between Messrs. Bacon and Spooner and there were two or three very sharp clashes between them.

Mr. Bacon's speech was in the main a plea for the right of the Senate to "advise and consent" in the matter of the negotiation of treaties and was largely a reply to Mr. Spooner's recent speech on this question.

Bailey Plies Party Lash.

For the first time in many years, the Senate chamber was made the scene of an effort to administer party discipline to a member of that body, and the occurrence was one of so many dramatic details that the many witnesses will not soon forget it. Mr. Patterson was the subject of the effort and Mr. Bailey to whom in the absence of Mr. Gorman, Democratic leadership is conceded, was the instrument of his party in the incident.

The proceedings arose in connection with the consideration of Mr. Patterson's resolutions of remonstrance against caucus action on treaties with foreign nations. The Colorado Senator called up his resolution immediately after the conclusion of the routine morning business and addressed the Senate upon it. The facts concerning the caucus proceedings of Saturday and his withdrawal from the caucus were fresh in the minds of Senators.

Vote on Rate Bill.

By continuing its session practically to 7 o'clock the House concluded its preliminary steps to the passage of the railroad rate bill, ordered a roll call on the measure, and put off the final action until Thursday noon.

The time for amendment came at 4 o'clock and for three hours following an amendment after another came up, was read, debated in some instances, and went down to defeat. So fierce was the struggle to amend that often when a paragraph of the bill was concluded in the reading, a dozen members waved their amendments and shouted for recognition. Not one of these was adopted.

Previous to this exciting procedure, the House had been entertaining for five hours by the oratory of its best speakers. Bourke Cockran, of New York, gave his approval to the measure in an elaborate speech. Mr. Mann, of Illinois, followed, when the minority leader, Mr. Williams, expounded the measure and congratulated everybody on its success. Chairman Hepburn closed the debate in a comprehensive speech dealing with the arguments of its opponents and the terms of the bill.

Rate Bill Passes, 346 to 7.

The House passed the Hepburn railroad rate bill, 346 members voting for the bill. Seven, all Republicans, voted against it. Applause greeted the announcement of the result by the Speaker. Littlefield, of Maine; McCull and Weeks, of Massachusetts; Perkins, Southwick and Vreeland, of New York, and Sibley of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Sullivan, of Massachusetts, voted "present," and was not paired. There were 28 members paired, but these pairs were general political ones. None of them of them was made on the bill and consequently did not indicate opposition.

The pension appropriation bill, carrying \$120,000,000 for pensions and \$1,245,000 for pension administration, was taken up, debated and passed without amendment. The feature of the bill, aside from the appropriation made, is a provision making statute law of the famous order of the President declaring age conclusive evidence of disability.

RAM'S HORN BLASTS.

HE Bible has dominion nowhere in the life if it is dominant everywhere.

If some men keep on blowing their own horns they will have a hard time hearing Gabriel.

It is better to have a church all fair and glorious than the most glorious church fair.

Where the shepherds are hungry for souls the sheep do not go hungry.

It is not the dollars but the dollars who are the dollars.

Ideals are reached through oracles. Friends never come in flocks.

It's a poor kind of religion that makes a man pay a big price for his church and then beat his preacher on the sermon.

There must be some punishment for the people who are drawing checks on the bank of piety when they have no deposit there.

There's a lot of people too lazy even to climb up some other way who are coming on, crawling under the edge of the canvas at last.

If some preachers spent as much energy getting something to say as they do denouncing those who stay away they would soon have someone to say it to.

NOW BACKS DOWN

Dispensary Investigation Committee Takes Back Water

NOT TO PROBE PRIVATE AFFAIRS

South Carolina Dispensary Investigating Committee Announces That It Has Decided Not to Hear Evidence of the Special Committee.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—Wednesday afternoon session of the dispensary investigating committee was characterized by some exciting and more or less sensational and dramatic incidents, though the evidence which the spectators had been led to believe would be brought out was shut off by a decision of the commission.

The Supreme Court room, where the sessions of the committee are being held was crowded. At the opening of the session, Representative Lyon made a statement to the effect that he and Senator Christensen, in obedience to the committee's instructions, had visited the three home cities of the three members of the board of dispensary directors, with a view to bringing out a comparison between the proprietor owned by the members of board before going on the board, and what they owned now. He said that they were now ready to go into this matter and that there were a number of witnesses present from Newberry, the home of Chairman Evans, ready to testify.

The other members of the committee got their heads together on the judge's rostrum, which overlooked the seats occupied by Messrs. Lyon and Christensen, and their detective, Mr. Klingenberg, and Attorney Welsh and Bellenger for the other side. While the conference was going on, Chairman Evans pushed open the side door and strode in, his thumbs in his vest, and a cigar in the corner of his mouth.

"Hubby on the spot," he called. After circulating through the crowd of spectators, he threaded his way into the bar enclosure and, leaning at the detective, assumed a belligerent attitude. It was felt that some trouble might be expected at the afternoon's session and there was a current of suppressed excitement running through the room. The material at hand was in a highly inflammable state and, but for the coolness of those who had this official business in charge, it is likely, that serious results would have ensued.

At this point the committee decided not to go into private details, and thus a disagreeable scene was averted.

500,000 Bales at 13 Cents.

Atlanta, Special.—President Harvie Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Association, made the following statement before leaving for New York: "I have been definitely assured that an underwriting syndicate, headed by E. R. Thomas and backed by the strongest financial syndicate in New York, will underwrite 500,000 bales of cotton at 13 cents. This proposition will not interfere with those spot holders, who desire to hold for 15 cents." President Jordan distinctly declared that the Southern Cotton Association and its officers have no connection with the proposed syndicate, but will work with it, as with any other agency to raise the price of the staple.

Diaz and Party Board Ship.

Mexico City, Special.—President Diaz and party left Vera Cruz for Progresso. The President and the male members of the party boarded the Mexican man of war Bravo and the lady members went on board the

Ignorant of Morse Deal.

Augusta, Maine, Special.—The Clyde Steamship Company filed certificate of incorporation with the secretary of State. The authorized capital is \$14,000,000, all common stock, with a par value of \$100 a share. The incorporators of the new company claimed to know nothing of the reported negotiation for the purchase of the present Clyde Line of steamships by Charles Morse, who now controls the Eastern Steamship Company, operating a line east of Boston, and also the Metropolitan Steamship Company, operating a line between Boston and New York.

Family of Three Murdered.

Detham, Ala., Special.—Waltering in a pool of their own blood, their heads almost severed from their bodies, the dead bodies of J. M. Christman, his wife, and son were discovered at their home near Colwood, Ala. The crime was committed some time in the night and robbery is supposed to have been the motive. Details reach here are meagre and it is said no definite clue has yet been obtained.

Prentress and Bladse May Share School Fund.

Nashville, Special.—There will be a meeting of the state board of education at an early date for the purpose of taking some action with reference to allowing Prentress and Bladse counties which did not participate in the distribution of the Tullie school fund of \$50,000, in order that they may have that portion that would have gone to them if proper reports had been received before the meeting of the board last December.

Attacks and Robs a Merchant.

Chattanooga, Special.—Patrick Milton, a prominent merchant, was assaulted and robbed in his place of business in the heart of the city by an unknown negro. A sum of money was taken from the cash register. Milton is in a serious condition and there is much excitement.

COUNTRESS ASKS DIVORCE

Countess de Castellane, Through Representatives, Begins Proceedings in French Courts Against Husband.

Paris, By Cable.—Countess Boni de Castellane (formerly Anna Gould,) entered a plea for divorce. Representatives of the countess and the count appeared before Judge Henry Diettes, of the Court of First Instance, who, in conformity with the French law, endeavored to arrange a conciliation before allowing a definite suit to proceed. It is said on unquestionable authority that Judge Diettes's efforts were not successful, the countess absolutely declined to resume her relations with her husband, and that after repeated but vain attempts by Count de Castellane's advisers to arrange a settlement, the representatives of the count and countess left the court and that the suit will proceed.

Another judicial effort at reconciliation will almost certainly be made before the suit comes to trial in the ordinary course.

No decision has been reached relative to the eventual custody of the children of the count and countess, but they being under age, will for the present naturally remain with their mother.

Friends of the Count and Countess de Castellane express little hope that any adjustment of their differences will be brought about, but as divorce proceedings under the French law are very lengthy, new developments may occur before the case comes up for trial. A decree cannot be pronounced under from three to six months.

Packers' Agent Under Fire.

Chicago, Special.—The only witness on the stand in the meat packers' plea for immunity case was C. M. McFarlane, office manager for Morris & Co. His evidence related to the manner in which information was given to the agents of the government in the office of Morris & Co. The cross-examination by District Attorney Morrison was exceedingly sharp. Just before the adjournment of court the district attorney put some leading questions regarding the working of the Oppenheimer Company, which, it is asserted by the government, was one of the affiliated concerns through which the packers controlled the prices of by-products. He made the direct assertion that the witness was not telling the truth in his answers, and brought on a warm legal argument in which all the attorneys in the case took part. The questions regarding Oppenheimer & Co., were finally ruled out by the court.

Brokers Charged With Fraud.

New York, Special.—John S. White, president of the Imperial Trustee Company, of Jersey City, and Robert G. Ruxton and Clyde Colt, brokers of this city, were arrested by United States Marshal Henkel, on indictments charging them with using the mails to defraud. It is alleged that Colt and Ruxton sent out thousands of circulars setting forth that they represented clients with millions of dollars capital to invest in first-class securities. When visited by representatives of various concerns, it is alleged that Ruxton and Colt proposed to handle the securities offered, providing they were guaranteed by the Imperial Trustee Company, of Jersey City. White charged sums ranging from \$200 to \$5,000 for guaranteeing the securities.

Funding Board Purchases \$50,000 State Bonds.

Nashville, Special.—The funding board purchased \$10,000 of State bonds, paying 96 1-2 therefor. This purchase comes out of 1906 surplus. Forty thousand out of last year's surplus also went to the purchase of bonds, at the same price.

Cumberland Co. Increases Capital to \$17,000,000.

Nashville, Special.—At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Cumberland Telephone & Telegraph company, at Hopkinsville, and increase of \$3,000,000 in stock was voted, making \$17,000,000 in all. It is said the proceeds will be used in improvements in the system.

Seaboard Shops at Abbeville, S. C., Destroyed.

Charleston, S. C., Special.—A special fire from Abbeville, says that the Seaboard Air-Line Railroad shops and roundhouse were destroyed by fire Sunday morning with an estimated loss of \$25,000. The shops were built in 1892 and were actively engaged in repair work. All wood work and small parts of six engines in the round house were burned and their withdrawal from use until repaired is a great inconvenience to the railroad company. The losses are covered by insurance and it is understood that the buildings will be replaced at once.

New York Life Must Tell.

Honolulu, Tex., Special.—Insurance Commissioner Flack, who has just returned from the Chicago meeting, stated that the New York Life Insurance Company had been asked by him for certain information concerning its affairs, and that until such information, the charter of which he refused to disclose was forthcoming the company would not be granted a permit to do business in the State.

For Sons of Veterans.

Montgomery, Ala., Special.—Major Thomas C. Owen, commander-in-chief of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, has issued an open letter to the camp and members of the United Confederate Veterans, appealing for aid and assistance in reviving old camps of Sons of Veterans and urging the organization of new ones. Major Owens is especially anxious to see a renewal of interest in Sons of Veterans by the time of the next reunion in New Orleans.

A \$200,000,000 LOAN

A Progressive Movement By the Southern Railway

IT MEANS MUCH TO THE SOUTH

Official Announcement is Made That the Road's Stockholders Will Be Asked to Authorize Creation of New General Mortgage, at Four Per Cent, President Spencer Stating That Dividends on Preferred Stock Will Not Be Jeopardized—How the Vast Sum Will Be Expended—\$99,834,000 to be Reserved for Future.

New York, Special.—Announcement was made that the Southern Railway Company has decided to ask the stockholders to authorize the issue of \$200,000,000 development and general mortgage four per cent. bonds. Of this amount \$15,000,000 will be issued immediately for the following purposes: \$4,962,774 to refund payments for equipment heretofore made and charged to capital; \$3,500,000 to refund investments in securities of, and advances to, subordinate companies heretofore made and for the acquisition of property not heretofore funded, and \$6,536,226 for double track, revision of grades, new yards, ships, etc.

The balance, of \$185,000,000, will be reserved for the following purposes: \$31,158,000 to retire divisional prior lien bonds on properties acquired for which no provision is made in the consolidation mortgage; \$16,000,000 to retire not later than April 1, 1909, collateral trust funds; \$18,008,000 to retire, as they mature in the next 15 years, equipment capital obligations; \$10,000,000 to acquire capital stocks of certain lines; \$10,000,000 to pay, not later than July 1, 1908 for the eastern division of the Tennessee Central and immediate improvements.

After provision for the foregoing obligations are made there will be left \$99,834,000, which will be used to provide for future acquisitions and betterments.

President Samuel Spencer, of the Southern Railway Company, in a communication to the voting trustees of the capital stock of the company relative to the proposed bond issue, says that the existing financial condition of the company is such as to justify the creation of a new mortgage and the immediate issue of \$15,000,000 of the new bonds as proposed without disturbance of the dividend now paid on the preferred stock.

England Launches Monster.

Portsmouth, England, By Cable.—The monster battleship, Dreadnaught, which, when finished, will have cost \$7,500,000, was launched here Saturday by King Edward. The ceremony was the most simple imaginable, the King having vetoed all decorations and pageantry on account of the death of his father-in-law, King Christian. There was a moment of suspense after the King touched the electric button removing the last block, as the huge ship hesitated and appeared reluctant to take the water. But, ultimately, she glided down the ways in safety. This is the heaviest and fastest battleship ever constructed.

Bigamist Hoch Must Hang.

Springfield, Ill., Special.—The Supreme Court denied a rehearing in the case of Johann Hoch, sentenced to be hanged in Chicago, Feb. 23, for wife murder.

Nearly Wiped Out by Flames.

New Martinsville, W. Va., Special.—Fire broke out in Littleton, an oil town near here, and before it could be extinguished nearly every business house was destroyed, about 800 of the 1,500 inhabitants were without home, and a financial loss of more than \$200,000 was sustained.

Two Brothers Shot Down.

Rochelle, Ga., Special.—At the home of Jesse Heam North, of Rochelle, Joe Watts shot and instantly killed D. S. McDuffie, sons of D. S. McDuffie, Sr., and aged 19 and 16 respectively. They were at the gate leaving for home from a party. There were a few words between Watts and the elder McDuffie. Then Watts shot both the young men through the heart, killing them instantly. Watts fled and is now being pursued by the sheriff.

Three Struck and Killed.

York, Pa., Special.—Three men were struck and killed by an accommodation on the Northern Central Railroad, near Seitzland, 16 miles south of this city. The victims were part of the crew of a fast northbound train. They were repairing a burst tire of the driving wheel of the locomotive and, blinded and deafened by the escaping steam, did not notice the approach of the accommodation.

Souvenir Stamps for Jamestown Exposition.

Norfolk, Special.—Postmaster General Cortelyou has notified the board of governors of the Jamestown Exposition Company that the Postoffice Department will publish a special issue of souvenir stamps commemorating the Jamestown Exposition. They will be in denomination of one and two cents and will be of appropriate design.

WRECK AT GREENSBORO

Fast Passenger Train No. 34, on Southern Railway, Crushes Into a Switch Engine in Pomona Yards—Three Trainmen Instantly Killed and Two Scalded Later.

Greensboro, Special.—Five trainmen were killed and one seriously injured in a collision between north-bound passenger train No. 34, of the Southern Railway, and a switch engine at Pomona, at 1:20 o'clock Sunday morning. The dead are: Owen Norville, engineer of No. 34; W. W. Sellers, engineer of the switch engine.

Charles H. Johnson, fireman on switch engine.

S. Y. Newman, yard brakeman.

William Bailey, telegraph student.

No passengers were injured. Wm. Sparger, fireman of No. 34 was badly hurt, but will recover.

The wreck occurred near the Pomona yard office and almost directly in front of the Central Carolina fair grounds, one mile west of this city. Train No. 34, in charge of Engineer Owen Norville, ran into the switch engine in charge of Engineer W. W. Sellers. Both engineers, Charles H. Johnson, fireman on the switch engine, were instantly killed, and S. G. Newman, yard brakeman on the switch engine, and William Bailey, a young man reported to be learning telegraphy, who, it is supposed, was riding on the engine to the Pomona telegraph office, both received injuries from which they died. Newman lived only one hour after the accident and Bailey expired at 12 o'clock at Greensboro Hospital, where he was taken for treatment. W. M. Sparger, fireman on train No. 34, was also injured, but will recover. He is at the hospital and it is stated that he will be able to be out within a week.

Hasty's Trial February 26.

Gaffney, Special.—George Hasty, of this city, who fatally shot Milan Bennett and George Abbott Davidson, of the "Nothing but Money" theatrical company here December 15, 1905, will be tried on the charge of murder February 26. Hasty, who has been in jail since the killing, will be defended by local counsel. The prosecution will be conducted by T. S. Sease, State attorney for the circuit, who will be assisted, it is understood, by special counsel employed by the Actor's Association of New York, which has taken the matter up. Several witnesses of the tragedy, members of the theatrical company, will appear on the stand for the State.

Three Die by Fire in Lockup.

Eastman, Ga., Special.—Saturday night the town barracks with its three inmates, who were placed there for drunk and disorderly conduct, being consumed. The inmates were D. A. Cooper, Elbert Mullis and John B. Hart, all white men. Cooper was about 55 years old and left a large family. Mullis was about 50 years old and leaves a large family also. Hart was a young man and left a wife and child. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Clyde Line Officers.

New York, Special.—Calvin Austin and M. H. Campbell have been elected president and treasurer, respectively, of the new incorporated Clyde Steamship company of Maine. Mr. Austin is president of the Metropolitan Steamship company, which is one of the Forde lines. Mr. Campbell is president of the People's line, which operates steamboats between this city and Albany. The directors of the new company will be selected next week.

Five Die by Asphyxiation.

Boston, Special.—A woman and four children were found dead in bed in their home on 29 Dennis street, Roxbury district. An investigation by the police indicates that the woman Mrs. Annie L. Dixon, had killed the children and herself by opening three gas jets.

Ex-Senator Hill Improved.

Charleston, S. C., Special.—Since his arrival here, the condition of former United States Senator David B. Hill, of New York, has shown marked and steady improvement. He is much strengthened. Mr. Hill expressed himself as being delighted with the climate of Camden, which is proving so beneficial to his health. He is to remain here until the termination of the season, having been ordered here by his physician, the ex-Senator being in need of rest and change of climate.

For Causing Run on Bank.

New Orleans, Special.—The sensational run on the Germania Savings Bank last year had its sequel in the conviction for criminal libel of Peter Kiernan, the owner and editor, and Jesse Webb, the city editor, of The Daily American, the newspaper which caused the flurry. The paper has since suspended, largely as the result of its loss of popularity following the attack on the bank.

Texas Central to Build Extensions.

Austin, Tex., Special.—The Texas Central Railroad filed an amendment to its charter providing for the construction of a branch road from Waco to the town of Stamford, in Jones county, also a branch from Chiropractic in Erath county to Straw, in Palo Pinto county, and for a branch from Dalcen in Comanche county to Nolan, in Nolan county. The total distance of these three branches will be 163 miles.



Trees Along the Roadway. THE wise arrangement of tree growth along the lines of streets, roads and avenues is more easily fruitful in producing financial benefit, pleasing and attractive surroundings than any other investment that can be made in the way of public improvements.

On macadamizing country roads a proper location of trees protects the roadbed from the direct rays of the sun, which dry out the plastic cushion forming the covering coat.

Properly distributed tree growth along the sides of a road has the advantage of breaking the sweep of the wind, which carries off the dried-out covering cushion of the macadam. The covering having been blown away the material from spaces between the stones of the pavement, the stones then become loose and picking and raveling begins, and the road becomes instead of a pleasing surface for traffic, a veritable nuisance and danger to vehicles and horses' hoofs. The replacing and repairing of the road runs into the use of new stone—additional binding material, and top surface, together with the expensive operation of a steam roller, costing the community maintaining the road annually no small sum of money.

The proper shading of these same roads by means of trees prevents the direct action of rain, which washes out the material forming the covering coat and the binding. Properly shaded roads are less expensive to maintain, because they are shaded, and the annual cost of sprinkling, which is prosecuted for maintenance purposes, will cost seventy-five per cent. less when the advantages of tree growth are secured for a road system than when they are unshaded.

If wisely placed there is no investment for the country road which can be more helpful than tree planting. Judgment, however, must be used. On the lower grades of the road and in the valleys tree planting should not be so closely arranged as to keep the subgrade of the road too moist. In the event of this taking place, the foundation will be endangered and ruts rapidly formed. On the hill-sides, spacing can be considered safe for the ordinary growth at about forty-five feet, centre to centre. In the valleys these distances should be increased to about three times the above spacing. Top moisture on an improved roadbed is desirable; the tree guarantees that. Sub-surface water for any road is dangerous; the tree roots drink it up.

There is no one improvement that municipal engineering can arrange for that can help a suburban locality so much as tree planting.

There is much difference of opinion concerning the location of the trees of a town or village street, as to whether they should be located back of the fence line or on the curb line. If located on the curb line of sidewalks, which are of the ordinary width, the curb line will be thrown out, and irregular in proportion as the tree growth progresses. If located back of the fence line, there is inconvenience for the property owners in the shape of overshadowing the lawn, with less advantage in consequence of less shading for the road system. Trees so located in thickly settled villages or in cities are, of course, out of the question.

If the streets are of ordinary width and land not held at fancy prices so that each particular resident secures more than the ordinary twenty-five foot lot, in the interest of well-appearing and well-maintained streets, the fence line is the better location for the tree. On country roads the best location for the trees is beyond the gutter line, fairly outside of the improvement and beyond the channels which provide for the passage of the storm water.

In selecting trees for your roads, select such as thrive well in your home locality.—Henry P. Morrison, C. E., in Good Roads Magazine.

They Lead All.

At a recent good roads meeting one of the speakers said that the main civilizing influences of a country should be placed in the following order of importance, viz.: Good roads, public schools and churches. The point involved was that if there are not good roads, children will not go regularly to school, and if uneducated they will not have sufficient intelligence to attend and get the most good from church services.—Good Roads Magazine.

A City of Towers.

Why not build office towers? The curse of the tenement is the want of light and air; and the same curse belongs to modern office buildings. An office tower would secure an abundance of light and air. It might consist of a series of rooms arranged one above the other inside the tower, with stairs and lifts in projections at the angles; or four towers, each with a room on every floor, grouped around a stairs and lift block in the centre. These towers could be carried 300 feet high—which is about the height of the campanile of the new cathedral at Westminster. A city of spires we already know, but a city of office towers is a suggestion of what might be, and may perhaps be.—Builders Journal.

Curious Test of Atmosphere.

A curious test of the atmosphere was tried in the French Senate recently. General Billot complained of a headache at a recent session and attributed it to gas given off by the heating apparatus. The engineer was unable to find any defect in the apparatus. Recourse was had to a "bird test." Bouzaee birds are reputed to be very easily asphyxiated. One was hung in a cage for eight hours over the furnace in which General Billot contracted the headache. As the bird was lively at the end of that period, the atmosphere was pronounced pure.

The largest island in the world is Greenland, with an area of 2,170,000 square kilometers.