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WILL VISIT PANAMA

President Roosevelt Decides to See For Himself

WILL GET INFORMATION DIRECT

Announcement is Made at White House That the Chief Executive Will Sail on One of Navy's Big Cruisers in Latter Part of October or Early November, to See Whether Dirt is Flying—Will Confine Visit to American Zone.

Washington, Special.—President Roosevelt will visit the Isthmus of Panama to make a personal investigation of the work of construction of the Panama canal.

This announcement was made at the White House by Secretary Loeb after a conference with the President. It is expected that the President will leave Washington for Panama in the latter part of next October or in the early days of November. He will be absent about three weeks. The trip probably will be made on one of the big cruisers of the navy, but what vessel will carry the President and his party is not yet known.

None of the details of the trip has yet been worked out. Beyond the bare decision to make the trip, the President has reached practically no conclusions. It is likely he will be accompanied on the journey by Secretary Taft and Chairman Shoup, of the Panama canal commission, but even this has not been determined definitely.

Wants to See For Himself.

The President long has desired personally to inspect the route of the canal and to make himself personally familiar with the great undertaking of constructing the waterway. The decision announced today, that he will visit the American zone on the Isthmus of Panama, was not reached hastily but has been under consideration for a considerable time. It is the expectation that the President will be able to spend at least a week on the canal zone, and in that time he will familiarize himself with the situation by a study of it at close range. He believes a personal visit to the canal zone will enable him to gather information that will be of immense advantage not only to the canal work itself, but to Congress and to the American people. Above all, it will enable him to handle with an absolute knowledge of the situation the great problems which will constantly be arising in connection with the work of canal construction and administration.

\$60,000 Factory Fire in Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Fire destroyed the plants of the Atlanta Spring Bed Company and the Atlanta Iron and Brass Bed Company. The loss is estimated at \$60,000, fully covered by insurance. At one time it was feared that the tanks of the Standard Oil Company, which adjoin one of the plants, would be ignited, but quick work by the fire department checked the flames in that direction.

Wages Raised at Fall River.

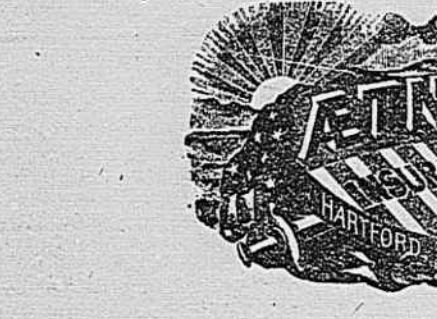
Fall River, Mass., Special.—The cotton manufacturers of this city have granted their operatives a 14 per cent. increase in wages. About 25,000 hands are benefited. The new scale, which will take effect July 2, is practically the same as that prevailing previous to July 1, 1904. As the other New England cotton manufacturing centers follow the lead of Fall River, as a rule, the change is expected ultimately to effect all cotton mill workers in this section.

Dr. Denny Re-elected.

Nashville, Special.—The book committee of the M. E. church South, met here and re-elected Dr. Collins Denny, of Nashville, secretary. Rev. J. M. Moore, of Dallas, Texas, was elected as editor of the Christian Advocate and Rev. S. M. Goodbye was re-elected as assistant editor. Rev. L. F. Beatty was re-elected assistant to the Sunday school editor. Plans have been prepared for the erection of a publishing house at Dallas, Texas, and the facilities of the publishing house in China will be increased.

Newberry College Degrees.

Newberry, Special.—In the report of the commencement day exercises at Newberry college on Wednesday last an error was made in the transcription of the honorary degrees conferred by the institution. The following is a corrected list: LL. D., Dr. H. D. Reading, Pa.; LL. D., Rev. J. G. Butler, D. D., Washington, D. C.; LL. D., Stanhope Sams, Columbia, S. C.; Litt. D., Rev. Dr. H. W. Eison, University of Ohio, Litt. D.; Rev. R. E. Campbell, New York, D. D.



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E. J. Norris, Agt.

SOUTH CAROLINA CROPS

Condition of South Carolina Crops for Week Ending Monday, June 18, 1906, as Given Out by the Department.

There was some sunshine on the first and on the last day, while the intervening days were cloudy with frequent heavy rains. Fresh to brisk westerly winds prevailed early in the week, and high winds, that at times reached gale velocity, accompanied by local thunderstorms and caused much damage.

The temperature averaged between four and five degrees below normal, owing to unusually cool weather at the beginning of the week. The last day had about normal temperature and sunshine. The deficiency in temperature was caused principally by the absence of sunshine, as the night temperatures were about normal. The highest temperature for the week was 94 degrees at Greenville on the 13th.

The precipitation was excessive over the entire State, and it was heaviest over the central and eastern parts. Twenty-two stations reported weekly amounts of over five inches, with a maximum rainfall of 11.82 inches at Allendale. The average of all the rainfall reports received from places within the State was 5.46 inches which is about 4.50 inches in excess of the normal amount. In places small rivers and creeks overflowed their banks causing local floods but the water did not reach flood stages in the large rivers.

South Carolina's Recovery.

In compiling, last January, the assessed values of property in the Southern States, the Baltimore Manufacturers' Record, in the absence of official figures for South Carolina, not then accessible, made an estimate of \$219,000,000 for that State. The conservatism of the estimate is indicated by the fact that the official figures now compiled are \$220,224,503. An interesting feature of the returns of taxable property is the statement that "while the law requires that property should be returned at 60 per cent. of its actual value," it is believed that the figures given "represent not more than 33-1-3 per cent. of the total taxable property of the State." On that basis the true value of property in South Carolina may be estimated at more than \$661,000,000, an amount greater by \$113,000,000 than the true value of property in 1880. A comparison of the figures of 1880, when the true value was \$549,138,754, with those of 1906, when the true value was \$661,000,000, reveals the immediate loss and subsequent restoration of South Carolina as a result of the war, even eliminating the value of property in slaves, and the comparison of the figures of 1880 and 1905 exhibits the wonderful advance which South Carolina has made in the past quarter of a century. In 1880 the true value of property, \$522,000,000, representing per capita wealth of \$323. The true value of property, \$661,000,000, in 1905 represents a per capita wealth of about \$460.

South Carolina was one of the Southern States most devastated by the war and most hampered by the developments of the subsequent 10 or 12 years. The progress which it has made since the burden was lifted strikingly illustrates the advance made by the whole South, and the figures of the true value of its taxable property suggest the error likely to arise in making comparisons of assessed values in the South in 1880 and in 1905 if it be not remembered that at the earlier date assessed values represented about 75 per cent. of true values and at this time they represent between 30 and 40 per cent. of true values.

W. A. Edwards was the Next Speaker

He stated that he had discovered facts of a dangerous nature in connection with the government. After citing the constitutional provision which declares that railroad franchises shall be forfeited by companies buying up competing lines, he called attention to the fact that in April, 1900, the Southern railway had obtained control of 400 miles of competing lines that afforded competition at 23 of 25 points in the State. Freight were advanced as much as 100 per cent. in some cases, he claimed. The violation of the anti-trust law appears to be beyond dispute, he contends, and yet all else in the courts except his own appear to have been dropped. His case did not get into court, after delays, until a special term in Aiken in April, 1903. At this term Judge W. C. Benet presided. Mr. Edwards declared that he suspected something and upon examination he found that Judge Benet was even then of record as one of the Southern Railway's attorneys. Mr. Edwards charged that Judge Benet declined to grant a continuance of the case until his attorneys faced Judge Benet with affidavits as to the judge's connection with the Southern railway.

He declared the Southern railway to be "a monster, a robber corporation, a blight, a foul, festering sore on the political system." There was a great deal more on this line. His time was up when he had concluded with but half of his speech. He urged the people to elect legislators who would not belong to the railroads.

Believes in the Dispensary.

Senator Cole L. Bleasdale read his platform. It is the same, he said, which he had in 1900 when he was a candidate for the legislature. He declared that he had never varied from that platform, and he had been elected several times to the legislature. When he said he was opposed to higher education of the negro, there was applause. He is in favor of the dispensary law and in favor of the absolute repeal of the Bribe law. He said that God Almighty never intended negroes to be educated, and he claimed the credit, with

THE CAMPAIGN OPENS

Candidates For the State Offices Make Their Formal Bow to the Public.

The State campaign opened at St. George on Wednesday. The candidates for governor spoke first. The crowd was not large, but paid close attention.

The position of the eight candidates for governor on the liquor question are about as divergent as the four points of the compass. Mr. Manning and Mr. McMahon believe in a reformed dispensary; Mr. Ansel in county dispensaries; Senator Bleasdale commends the institution as it is; Mr. Joel B. Brunson for prohibition; Mr. A. C. Jones agrees with Mr. Brunson; but pending the arrival of the time for prohibition he is willing to put up with the Bribe law, by voting the dispensary out of county after county and destroying the State machine. Mr. W. A. Edwards of Saluda did not get to touch on the liquor issue, but he is in favor of the Rayson-Manning. Mr. Edwards is a man with a mission—he wants to lay the Southern railroad with subjugation. He has pending a suit against that corporation for merging competing lines under its own management. He claims that the franchise of the Southern road in those properties should revert to the State of South Carolina.

The first speaker was Mr. M. F. Ansel of Greenville, who thanked the people of South Carolina for the fine role which he played four years ago. He had not been elected then, but he had received such a flattering vote and had come so close to the line that he felt that he should make the race again. He comes with the endorsement of 75 per cent. of the people of his home section, the Piedmont country, the old Eighth circuit in which for 12 years he had prosecuted the evil habit.

He first discussed the question of education. The common schools should be given the best teachers, the largest terms and the most comfortable school houses which can be afforded. He also believes in good roads. He wants to get the people interested in building good roads. He wants the federal government to send some of their money down here to supplement our own money and convict labor. He wants the government to improve the inland waterways, but he is more in favor of good roads. The greatest tax the farmer pays is wear and tear on vehicles and stock. If the roads had been improved 50 years ago, what would this country be today?

As to the liquor question he said that he is opposed to the State dispensary. He is in favor of the county dispensary system. The counties are able to manage their affairs. The people of Dorchester should be given the right to say exactly what they want. Greenville should not say what Dorchester wants, nor should Dorchester say what Greenville wants. Let each county have the right of option between county dispensaries and prohibition. The county board could report to the court. He is opposed to any plan which would provide for license or commissions, for that would tend to push the sale of liquor.

Mr. Jones for Local Option.

Mr. A. C. Jones of Newberry, who has been a leader in the many fights against the dispensary and took the stump in Newberry county last summer against Senator Tillman and helped in driving the dispensary out of that county, followed Mr. Edwards. Mr. Jones' speech had grit and backbone in every line. He does not speak for an orator, but he speaks forcefully and gives voice to his powerful convictions. He will go out of the campaign for several days on account of illness at home.

To Reform Dispensary.

Senator R. I. Manning of Sumter, who was next introduced, stated his record for the last 14 years as a legislator from Sumter county, and for eight years of that time as a senator. He may have made mistakes, these he frankly admits, for all are human, but he had always tried to apply the rule right to every action.

The educational institutions are growing and the fight against them is largely a thing of the past. The institutions, have grown and of course the appropriations have grown in order to provide necessary accommodations.

He described the growth of pension appropriations from \$50,000 to \$250,000.

The unequal assessment of property he declared to be a burning issue which he had not the time to discuss. There should be a strict business system in the conduct of the government just as there is in business affairs.

Mr. McMahon.

The address by Mr. John J. McMahon was a classic. In statesmanlike thought it has been unsurpassed by any expression on the political stump in this State in years. It cannot be reproduced even in part, as the theme would be marred in a condensed report. He inveighed against the tendency of people to disregard or to give too little regard to their rights and duties as citizens. It is in periods of prosperity that the great dangers to governments creep in. People are then intent upon other things than the public weal.

It is with shame that in these days of prosperity we note the corruption, not in the dispensary alone, but in the country affairs as well. It is the duty of the people to be vigilant. We should be ashamed of connections which would have been intolerable even under a radical administration. The standard of integrity, of truth and of worth should be the same in public affairs as in private life, and yet too often is the excuse for a crime that it happened in politics.

He stands in this campaign for the same educational reforms for which he fought in his four year's service as State superintendent of education. He advocates an experimental school farm in every county.

The speeches of the candidates for the other offices were well received.

At Walterboro on Thursday the speaking was about the same as the day before. The crowd was small and the attention was good.

At Hampton.

Hampton had the candidates on Saturday. The speeches were about at the previous meetings. So far but little spirit has marked the contest.

Attorney General.

Attorney General Leroy F. Youmans was not present. Ex-Governor McSwain read letter from him.

Mr. J. Fraser Lyon in a brief and eloquent way investigated his views on the corruption in the dispensary. He told of his investigation and of the graft he had discovered. He closed by saying he could point to numerous instances, but time did not permit him.

Mr. Ragsdale announced himself by challenging Lyon to show where he had ever made an itemized statement of his expense account while serving on the investigating committee.

PALMETTO AFFAIRS

Occurrences of Interest From All Over South Carolina

MANY ITEMS OF STATE NEWS

A Batch of Live Paragraphs Covering a Wide Range—What is Going On in Our State.

Charlotte Cotton Market.

These prices represent the prices paid to wagons:

Good middling	11-13
Strict middling	11-13
Middling	11-13
Good middling, figured	11-13
Stains	10-10

General Cotton Market.

Galveston, steady	11-16
New Orleans, easy	10-15-16
Mobile, quiet	10-5-8
Savannah, quiet	10-3-4
Charleston, quiet	10-3-4
Wilmington, steady	10-3-4
Norfolk, quiet	11-1-8
Baltimore, nominal	11-1-8
New York, steady	10-90
Boston, quiet	10-90
Houston, steady	11-11
Philadelphia, steady	11-15
Memphis, quiet	10-7-8
St. Louis, quiet	11
Cincinnati	11

Electricity for Greenwood.

Greenwood, Special.—Superintendent A. J. Spivels is going right ahead in the work of wiring places for the installation of motors. The day current is now on, being furnished by the local plant, the idea being that a good trade or patronage will have been worked up by the time the current is ready from the plant on Savannah river. A large number of places in town, residences and offices, are now using electric fans. Quite a number of mechanical offices, but although they have been shipped, none have as yet arrived. This day current of electricity is a great thing for Greenwood. It will prove in fact it has already proved, quite an incentive to the so-called smaller industries.

Waterworks for Bamberg.

Bamberg, Special.—At a mass meeting of citizens held here the city council was instructed to take proper steps towards establishing a waterworks system on the principal streets of the town with the view to extending it over the few years. Propositions were submitted by engineers but none are as yet definitely. The city is enthusiastic for fire protection and the work of installation will be begun as soon as expedient. Much discussion was held and the meeting lasted over an hour. With work on electric light system already going on, the citizens have determined to continue improvements that will benefit the community.

Bad Wreck at Darlington.

Darlington, Special.—The outgoing passenger train from Darlington to Hartsville was wrecked in the yards here Sunday at 9 o'clock. The entire train was derailed although no part of it was overturned. The cause of the wreck was a half turned switch at the "Y," and there is evidence that the switch had been tampered with. A wrecking train was sent up from Florence and a special train was used to convey the passengers to Hartsville. None of the 20 passengers suffered seriously, but the colored brakeman was dangerously injured and is in great suffering.

George DeWees Acquitted.

Charleston, Special.—In the court of general sessions George DeWees, formerly ticket agent of the Southern railway, was acquitted of the charge of breach of trust. He was tried on the count of having made away with \$800, but the warrant of arrest charged him with having stolen \$8,000. DeWees is a pretty well-known man and much interest centered in the case. The jury was a fairly intelligent one. The case is the second of the kind to occur here in the past couple of years.

Judge Turner Succeeds Judge Nichol.

Leesburg, Special.—Judge Edward Spillman Turner, of Warrenton, recently elected Judge of the Twenty-fifth judicial circuit, composed of the counties of Loudoun, Fauquier and Rappahannock, succeeded Judge Chas. E. Nichol, of Manassas, Va., who has presided over the courts of Loudoun since the elevation of Judge James Keith, of Warrenton, to the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia. Judge Nichol will continue as judge of the Sixteenth circuit, composed of the counties of Fairfax, Prince William, Alexandria city and county.

Cotton men from various parts of the State who have been asked for their opinion as to the effect of the recent rains on the cotton crop are almost unanimous in the opinion that the crop has been damaged in nearly every part of the State and in some parts of North Carolina by the recent heavy rains. The estimate of the damage varies from 15 to 25 per cent.

Governor Heyward publishes in the county papers offering a reward of \$150 for the arrest and conviction of Gus Lee, colored, who is charged with the killing of Lucius Jones, colored, at a negro church near Chester on the 10th inst.

Col. M. P. Tribble candidate for secretary of state is confined to his home in Anderson on account of illness. Acting under the advice of his physicians he will not be able to join the campaign party at present, but he hopes to take the stump in a few days.

The chauffeur was killed in a collision of an automobile in New York with another machine.

St. Ann's parish, Middletown, Del., is 201 years old.

GREAT FLOOD DAMAGE

Lower Section of the State Suffering Heavily on Account of Excessive Rainfall.

A special from Goodwill to the Columbia State of Monday gives this additional report of damage done by the excessive rainfall of the past week: And it keeps on raining! Not since the August storm of 1893 have streams in this section been as high as now. Church branch bridge that cleared the water during this heavy rain of the past few years, has some of its sills washed out, and is impassable. Mr. S. W. Raffield is there with a force of hands trying to repair it. Spring branch, near Mr. J. B. Warren's on the Story road, has floated the bridge so that there is no travel from that direction. For 19 years the writ has been a close observer of the weather at this place, and in all that time has never seen so much water on the land at one time with the possible exception of the 1903 storm. It has all fallen since Tuesday morning. Friday afternoon between 4 and 5 o'clock it seemed as if the deluge had come. In 20 minutes, the already full streams, had increased in height between six inches and a foot, covering land marks that were never before seen under water. For several days the country, like other parts of the State, was like a sea.

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