

A FAMILY KILLED IN TOWN OF TRENTON.

House Burned to the Ground Over Their Dead Bodies.

A MYSTERIOUS HORROR.

Father, Mother and Two Young Girls Killed and the Dwelling Set Afire By Unknown Parties.

The peaceful village of Trenton, where resides Senator B. R. Tillman, was stunned Thursday by a horrible tragedy as the human mind can conceive. Just as the day was about to break, the town was awakened to find that one of its best known and best respected families had been massacred, and their home burned to the ground, with perhaps no human being left who can tell the tale.

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Trenton was shocked and sorrowed and horrified when the residents learned the terrible truth. It was shortly after 5 o'clock that the house was discovered to be on fire, the first person to reach the scene being Mr. A. H. S. Day, who lives next door. The house was then almost consumed, the fire being too far advanced for any one to enter the building. The first thought of those who reached there was that the Hughes family had escaped, as nothing was seen of them at the windows or doors. It was only after the neighbors began to inquire of each other that they realized the horror. It was then too late, far too late, even to make an attempt to get out the victims.

Even though it was supposed that the family had been in some place, it was not until the neighbors had waited for the flames to subside and it was possible to go into what had been the house that they knew murder in a most horrible manner.

THE BODIES FOUND.

The house was a small, one story, frame dwelling. The young women were sleeping in one bed in a room on the left as one entered, while Mr. and Mrs. Hughes occupied the front room on the right, across a narrow hall from their daughters. There were no other members of the family and no one else staying in the house. The body of Mrs. Hughes was so badly burned that it could not be sent for certain how she was killed, but there is little or no reason to doubt that she was murdered before the fire reached her, since of all four persons she was farthest away from the point where the fire apparently started. The wind was blowing across the house from the room occupied by the girls, their bed was in the far corner and hence their bodies were not so badly charred. It could be plainly seen that their bodies had been crushed in with some heavy, blunt instrument, such as a hammer, for the bloody matted hair told the tale all too certainly. The innocent girls lay side by side, their positions showing that they had not even made a struggle for their lives. The strange thing is that it was possible to kill one after the other, without arousing the suspicion that one must have suspected another only for the time it took to raise the weapon for another blow. The bodies of these two were still resting on the springs of the bed, the inflammable part of which had burned away. Mrs. Hughes' body was also just where the bed had stood in her room, and it seemed that her head might have been under the pillow.

THE CHIEF A MYSTERY.

It is difficult to accept the theory that the husband and father exterminated his family, but the facts which lead to this theory are by no means such as can be lightly disregarded. He was fully clothed, not hastily dressed as one suddenly awakened from sound sleep to face a peril or as one roared to defend that most dear. He had not met his death in the flames nor in the manner in which death came to his wife and daughters. Mr. Hughes was shot through the right side of the head, the ball raying upward and coming out through the top of the skull. Either he shot himself or he was shot by some intruder against whom he had prepared himself to defend his castle, since a pistol was found by the outstretched right hand with one chamber exploded by contact with the fire. The absence of any motive for murder and arson makes it seem unreasonable to suppose that the home was invaded. Mr. Hughes and family always been on the best of terms with every one in the community and there is no one who is known to have had a grudge against him. He was not a conspicuously popular man, but not unpopular, regarded as a safe, conservative business man and a close trader, and never known to be inclined to speculation. There was no reason to believe that the robbery of his house would prove profitable especially, and if robbery is the clue the robber is hardly a resident of that section. On the other hand no one who knew Ben Hughes would suspect him of a tendency towards suicide, much less the more horrible crime involving his family's extermination. He had his peculiarities like other men and now that he is dead, mysteriously dead, there are persons who can recall what they now say were recent actions more peculiar than were usually noted in his conduct. But this may mean nothing. It is known his family was happy, though he had his share of trouble and worry, his wife having been on to Baltimore within the year for treatment. That he had hard pressed for money or anything of that sort was not imagined, as on the contrary he was supposed to be prosperous—and that was his condition in truth so far as is now known.

A PEARFUL SCENE.

Hardly 200 yards from where the tragedy occurred there is almost completed an ornate and attractive dwelling which Mr. Hughes was building and into which the family expected to move in the next few days. The house they were living in was merely their temporary residence until this other should be finished. The new house is directly in the rear of his store, a general merchandise establishment, which as one sees in the average South Carolina town of this size. Here Mr. Hughes did a good trade among his neighbors of this excellent, prosperous and progressive community. Across the road—or street—from the destroyed house lies a fertile and valuable stretch of land belonging to the Hughes family. Two doors across the street from the new dwelling is the unusually handsome home of his brother, Mr. Steven Hughes, one of the best and most substantial men not only in this section but in all Edgefield county. The Hughes family and that of Mrs. Hughes, the Millers, embrace a connection as substantial, as respected and as refined as any in the borders of South Carolina. The sorrow and the horror which this mystery has brought upon them can not be told in cold, unfeeling type, and the circumstances make the relation of the facts a sad and undesired duty.

Thursday afternoon, just as the December sun was beginning to sink in all its chill splendor, fire baskets were carried from the destroyed home to the little Baptist church where these good people had worshipped God in the purity of mind and heart which He gives to His elect. In this congregation the father had been a member for many years, and he had pledged himself to deliver that cotton on demand or pay the margin. December is here; thousands of bales have been sold for delivery in December. The same in every month running to July. Holding the cotton for 90 days, allowing no spots to be placed on the contract, is a future contract, simply means that the speculator has either to pay the difference between what he sells that cotton at today and what the broker demands of him as the margin or pay the price of the spot held for that to hedge his venture. The cotton mills, not through any fault of theirs or any antipathy toward the farmer, but simply because there has been no farmer to exchange, no concentration of cotton through farmers' organizations, they have been forced to deal with men for their supplies who could get it in bulk. Hence the condition that exists today. That the broker, realizing the disorganized condition of the farmers and his lack of knowledge of the simple business of cotton, has been able to do so much in the future, is a possibility to be considered. The brokers have got to supply that cotton, have got to supply it when the mills require the fulfillment of the contract. Hold your cotton; set the price and on delivery day the broker will pay it.

It has been said above that Trenton, peaceful village of the Ridge, was stunned. No other word perhaps will express the situation. The horror shocked the people, shocked them not beyond action if there has been any. They could do in punishment or vengeance, but in the absence of evidence upon which action could be taken they were merely horrified beyond expression. A Sabbath quiet, a sorrowed stillness, hung over the place. Out of respect to their fellow merchant, the other business men of the town, they did not stir and all hands turned to help in any way that was suggested. It was not the work of a few minutes, but of hours to search the ruins and to prepare the burned bodies for burial, and all day long a small crowd stood around the fatal spot. Not a curious or excited crowd of idle gossips, or frazzled irresponsibles, but men who stood by to assist when needed, and always to wonder. There was no excitement, no sign except the evidences of sadness. Tender women were there to do what only women should do for the pure dead, and then it was that strong men bowed their heads in respectful sorrow. The village negroes hung around the fence, talking with one another in quiet, respectful tones and wondering. There was no excitement, no sign except the evidences of sadness. Tender women were there to do what only women should do for the pure dead, and then it was that strong men bowed their heads in respectful sorrow. The village negroes hung around the fence, talking with one another in quiet, respectful tones and wondering. There was no excitement, no sign except the evidences of sadness. Tender women were there to do what only women should do for the pure dead, and then it was that strong men bowed their heads in respectful sorrow.

TO COTTON GROWERS.

Circular Letter in Accordance With Resolution of Convention.

MUST CURTAIL THE PRODUCTION.

An Intelligent Address Made by the Committee Appointed for the Purpose at the Late Meeting.

In accordance with resolutions passed at the cotton growers convention on Thursday night, the committee appointed has prepared the following for publication in this State: To the Cotton Growers of South Carolina: We, the committee appointed by the convention which met in Columbia on Dec 8 to issue an address to the cotton growers, wish to say that we hail with joy the fact that the cotton farmers of the south are beginning to realize that upon their industry depends the prosperity of the entire southland and to a large extent that of the world, and that speculation and manipulation of the market, for the purpose of depressing or raising the price, is of vital importance, not to him alone, but to all other industries, and that he is not alone, as sometimes reformers or so-called reformers have led him to believe, but that he is a partner in business with every industry in the south, and that today we wish to impress him with the fact that the bankers, lawyers, doctors, merchants, manufacturers—every vocation and avocation—are extending to him the hand of sympathy, not for brotherly love, but for the sole love of the dollar, in this fight to maintain the price of cotton at a reasonable price to show to the world that he proposes not any more to be the slave of his emotions, but that he will stand and act according to the dictates of his real friends, successful business men, and that their advice to him, which is the laborer's worth of his life and that we, representing the different avocations and professions, extend to him our promise, word and pledge that we will extend to him in all legitimate ways our moral and financial aid.

Now to specify: The speculator and the speculative market have no regard for the law of supply and demand, hence our opportunity. The man who has sold January, February, March or any other month, has pledged himself to deliver that cotton on demand or pay the margin. December is here; thousands of bales have been sold for delivery in December. The same in every month running to July. Holding the cotton for 90 days, allowing no spots to be placed on the contract, is a future contract, simply means that the speculator has either to pay the difference between what he sells that cotton at today and what the broker demands of him as the margin or pay the price of the spot held for that to hedge his venture. The cotton mills, not through any fault of theirs or any antipathy toward the farmer, but simply because there has been no farmer to exchange, no concentration of cotton through farmers' organizations, they have been forced to deal with men for their supplies who could get it in bulk. Hence the condition that exists today. That the broker, realizing the disorganized condition of the farmers and his lack of knowledge of the simple business of cotton, has been able to do so much in the future, is a possibility to be considered. The brokers have got to supply that cotton, have got to supply it when the mills require the fulfillment of the contract. Hold your cotton; set the price and on delivery day the broker will pay it.

It is manifest to any farmer that if he has 100 bushels more corn than is necessary for home consumption that he has 100 bushels for the market. If he has 50 bushels surplus, he has 50 bushels for the market to sell his corn, and no one wants it because every one has a surplus, he must realize that he must dispose of that corn at a sacrifice or hold it himself. He cannot expect a man of the trade to take his corn when they have no use for it simply as a special favor to him. This is not justice, so that the farmer, with that experience in mind, he will either understand the market, put himself in a position to keep a stock, and either plant as to have no surplus, but to meet the requirements of the trade. This is an illustration of the condition that confronts us in the cotton market. If we expect the world to pay us a remunerative price for our cotton, we must either carry our surplus or raise just what the amount of the world demands or raise just what is necessary for the consumption of the trade. Therefore, as a farmers' organization we call upon each man to exercise good common business sense, and if we have produced 10 per cent. more, which has cost a 50 per cent. reduction in the price, let us so regulate our next year's crop that we will meet the demand at 10 per cent. below our current price and realize the 50 per cent. profit. Last year taught the 50 per cent. profit. This year has very forcefully taught the 50 per cent. loss. It has been said, and truthfully, that an agitation of reduction of acreage means an increase of acreage, and acting upon the presumption that the farmer is a truthful and that he is a liar, the farmer pledges himself to reduce his acreage, goes home and reap the benefit of the other man's sacrifice. We are not fools any more, so by resolutions adopted last night we have appointed that there shall be township organizations, and each man's name who goes on the list pledges a reduction in acreage and in commercial fertilizers that does not reduce shall

"HOLD YOUR HOLT."

Farmers of the South Advised to Hold Their Cotton UNTIL THE PRICE ADVANCES.

This is the Advice Given Them by Cotton King Brown of New Orleans and General Butler.

W. P. Brown, of New Orleans, the great cotton king, has issued an address over his signature as follows: To the Planters, Merchants and Bankers of the South: Cotton has declined to a point below the cost of production. Are you going to sell at present prices, or hold until you can get the market value for the balance of your holdings? The decline is unwarranted. To be conservative, I will say that the balance of this crop should bring at least 10 cents at the ports, and, according to my judgment, the only way to obtain an advance for the planter to keep his cotton on his plantation until the actual demand is sufficient to enable buyers to pay the proper value for the stuff. The merchants who are carrying cotton should not force what they have on the market, but stand firm and demand higher prices, or not sell. The banks all over the south should stand by the merchants and planters and not force them to sell their cotton at present prices, which they all know is below the cost of production. These prices mean ruin to the south. It affects every branch of trade and the only thing to do is for every man that is interested in any manner, shape or form to stand together.

For the sake of argument, admit the crop is 12,000,000 bales (though I do not believe it is), the consumption at these prices will be at least 11,500,000 bales, and the other 500,000 bales will be a small quantity to go into mill reserves. The spinners of American cotton throughout the world should, at least, add this year to their depleted stocks 500,000 to 1,000,000 bales. The visible supply at the end of the season, in order to prevent "squeezes" and "corners" should be at least 1,250,000 bales. Any well posted cotton man knows that this is practically correct, hence I see no reason for the holders of cotton to get excited and sell at anything like present prices. The bureau report was issued last week and we have seen a great many telegrams from some of the very best of the cotton merchants scattered over the south to the effect that they believed the estimate was too large. I mention this to show you that I am not the only one who thinks the estimate too large. However, it has the effect of putting middling cotton at 17 1/2 cents in the New Orleans market. The South went broke raising cotton at 12 cents in 1897-98, and during that period everything was cheap, as well as cotton, and the cost of raising cotton was small, as compared to the present crop, which is the most expensive one ever grown. It would pay the farmer to sit still and not market another bale of his crop until he can get above 10 cents and reduce his acreage another season at least 15 per cent and instead of raising another bumper crop, raise only enough to supply the world. The last crop was only 10,000,000 bales, and it brought more money than any crop ever raised—more money than the crop which brought the highest price since left brings much higher prices than those ruling today. With cotton at 7 1/2 cents at the ports, cotton plantations are worth today just about half what they were at this time last year. Now, every man that is interested in the south, regardless of the character of his business, should be interested in keeping up the price of cotton. Cotton is one of the few things that the world must have, and the south has a monopoly on the territory where it can be grown, yet they won't take advantage of the situation.

There are so many things that can be raised in the south profitably, but do not turn your attention to other things and raise less cotton. We have been told that we need a twelve million bale crop this year, and, now that you have raised one close to that figure, say you must sell it at a give away price. Stand together, both merchants, farmers and bankers, and you will come out all right, but if you throw your holdings on the market you may rest assured that the spinner will buy it just as low as he can get, and it isn't too blame him for doing so. It isn't the spinners of the world at this time who are forcing the market down. It is the bear speculators. Spinners in every country of the world, with a few exceptions, are doing the best business in the history of the trade. They can afford to pay from 9 to 10 cents per pound and make a good profit at the present price goods are bringing. The consuming world is in a position financially to pay higher prices today than they have before for a great many years. Low priced cotton really ought to be a thing of the past. A 12,000,000 bale crop is worth 10 cents at the port, to be the low price for a great many years to come, and it rests with the producer to say whether or not he will raise more than the requirements of the world and be a pauper, or whether he will raise a moderate crop another season and grow rich. But the present moment is the most important one. Hold firm, stand together and don't give your cotton away at present prices.

THE SCHOOL MONEY.

Very Large Amount Given Out This Year by the Dispensary.

The comptroller general last week sent out to the various counties a total of \$75,000 of dispensary school money to be distributed on the enrollment plan. This makes a total of the year of \$2,451,555. In addition to this \$5,000 for the summer school. On February 10th there was a distribution of \$13,968.74 to the various counties to supply the deficiency. There was also a distribution at the same time of \$122,487.81. In May there was another distribution of \$65,000, and the sum sent out last week makes a total of \$75,000. The total distribution in 1903 was \$150,431.38, and a cash balance of \$95,703.33. This year the only balance left will be the money turned over from now until January 1, as it is desired to get all of the money in the hands of the schools at once. The distribution by counties is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Amount. Includes Abbeville (\$2,358.81), Anderson (\$2,181.81), Bamberg (\$3,318.42), Barnwell (\$1,725.68), Beaufort (\$1,087.03), Berkeley (\$1,392.28), Charleston (\$3,554.85), Cherokee (\$1,268.46), Chester (\$1,521.57), Chesterfield (\$1,105.27), Darlington (\$1,662.86), Dillon (\$1,431.38), Dorchester (\$1,672.51), Edgefield (\$1,443.83), Fairfield (\$1,907.12), Florence (\$1,662.60), Georgetown (\$1,050.01), Greenville (\$3,435.98), Hampton (\$1,871.73), Horry (\$1,484.04), Kershaw (\$1,178.26), Lancaster (\$1,406.35), Laurens (\$2,046.58), Lee (\$1,127.42), Lexington (\$1,662.86), Marion (\$1,872.45), Marlboro (\$1,430.60), Newberry (\$1,821.87), Oconee (\$1,419.32), Orangeburg (\$1,205.37), Pickens (\$2,168.57), Saluda (\$1,373.25), Spartanburg (\$2,242.25), Sumter (\$1,712.13), Union (\$1,557.54), Williamsburg (\$1,763.48), York (\$2,670.90). Total: \$75,000.00.

Remember This.

The merchants who advertise in this paper have made extensive preparations for the Christmas trade and the stock from which the citizens will select is so complete and ample that there will be no occasion for sending elsewhere for gifts. That should be understood from the start and the people of this city ought to buy from the local merchants. In this connection the shippers should appreciate the importance of making early purchases. They will be able to make better selections; they will not have to wait until the last for the remnants, and it will prove a great convenience to the merchants. There is no sense in waiting until the very last moment when the rush begins, for it is trying on the clerks and unsatisfactory to the shoppers. The citizens, therefore, should be reasonable and prompt, and those who delay will be the ones to suffer. Rev. Dr. Zimmerman, of Baltimore, asks: "What shall we do with our old men?" To which the Washington Post happily responds: "Adopt the reciprocity plan and care for them as they cared for us."

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Method Injured Trade.

The Charleston cotton exchange last week adopted the following resolution and sent a copy to the chief statistician for manufacturers, census bureau: It is resolved that it is the sense of this exchange that the census bureau in issuing the report on cotton ginned in installments, instead of in sum total, as done by said bureau in previous years, has been a serious detriment to the cotton trade this season, unsettling the market values of spot cotton, and creating erroneous impressions as to the final outcome of the cotton ginned. And it is further: Resolved that the chief statistician of census bureau be respectfully asked and requested to issue all future reports of the cotton ginned in a monthly form in its entirety as was in his manner of doing same in the previous season.

Married Young Woman.

Mrs. Elizabeth Sagner Toy, of Ovingville, Ky., filed suit for divorce against Joseph Toy, her husband of a month, charging abandonment. She also wants \$3000 alimony. Toy, who is a wealthy farmer, was reported engaged to Miss Ella Otis, when he met Miss Elizabeth Sagner at church. This seemed to be the cause of love at first sight and a month ago Toy and Miss Sanders came here and were married. The pair sat in the buggy while the ceremony was performed. Next day Mrs. Toy alleges Toy awoke from a stupor and wanted to know why she was there and upbraided her bitterly, saying he thought he was marrying Miss Otis. A few days later Toy disappeared, leaving a note and a \$200 check for his wife, telling her to get a divorce. Toy, it is said, then went to Miss Otis' home and she slipped out of an upstairs window and joined him. It is believed they have gone to Oklahoma.

Will Hold Cotton.

A dispatch from Selley says the farmers of that section held a meeting Wednesday for the purpose of forming plans by which they can keep what cotton they have out of the market for any length of time, two years if necessary. They will accept of 500 of the most prominent farmers of this section present at the meeting. They are all out of debt and have money enough ahead to carry on their business without drawing on their cotton. All the farmers at this meeting sign a pledge not to market any cotton for less than 10 cents per pound.

It Is Needed.

Secretary Wilson says the hens lay enough eggs in a month to pay the interest on the national debt for a year. Secretary Wilson ought to support the Louisville Courier-Journal's proposition that if we are to have a new cabinet portfolio to be called the Department of Mines, we should also have one to be called the Department of Hens.

I find the following statement in your issue of the 3rd inst.

COTTON MOVEMENT.

New York, Dec. 2.—The following statistics on the movement of cotton for the week ending December 2 were compiled by the New York exchange:

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1903, 1904. Includes Port receipts, Overland to Mills, Canada, Southern mill takings, Gain of stock at interior towns.

Brought into sight this far for the week ending Dec. 2, 1904.

This shows 20,889 bales for 1904 against 6,112,516 bales in 1903, making a difference of 848,827 bales in favor of 1903.

Now if this statement is correct and the late report from the Department of Agriculture showing this year's crop to be 12,100,000 bales, it is correct, there must be out of sight presumably in the hands of the farmers, 893,361 bales. Of course my sources of information are local, but we live in a section of the cotton belt which is about the average outside the delta lands of the west, and it is entirely within bounds to say that cotton is practically all picked and ginned in this latitude. A pretty close observation of the cotton production for the last few years attests me that the agricultural department report is greatly exaggerated. The reports from the gins in the census bureau is much the most reliable, and that is only approximate, as the farmers are beginning to realize that about the only persons benefited by any of these reports are the bear speculators, manipulated by them in a manner as to suit their purposes. I am unable to see how or where they benefit the farmers. You may recall that Mr. Secretary Wilson took issue with me as to last year's crop, and said that if it did not sell for 7 or 8 cents it would present me with a hat. I suppose he meant a new hat. He has not yet honored me with the hat, but cotton went soaring soon after his delivery in ex cathedra fashion of his opinion, to 15 and a belief at one time as high as 16 and 17 cents. I believed I prefer to take the distinguished secretary's estimate of the grain crop, as he comes from the first grain section in the world. If there are 6,000,000 bales in the hands of the farmers it supports the theory that they are in very sound financial condition, a condition they ought not to be frightened out of by bear speculation. In other words to borrow the homely phrase of the old dandy to his own dog in a fight with acoon to "hold his holt until the coon gives up." The farmers ought to "hold their holt" until (to borrow another phrase from a distinguished sportsman) they can get "a square deal" with the bears.

Yours truly, M. C. BUTLER.

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A dispatch from Selley says the farmers of that section held a meeting Wednesday for the purpose of forming plans by which they can keep what cotton they have out of the market for any length of time, two years if necessary. They will accept of 500 of the most prominent farmers of this section present at the meeting. They are all out of debt and have money enough ahead to carry on their business without drawing on their cotton. All the farmers at this meeting sign a pledge not to market any cotton for less than 10 cents per pound.

It Is Needed.

Secretary Wilson says the hens lay enough eggs in a month to pay the interest on the national debt for a year. Secretary Wilson ought to support the Louisville Courier-Journal's proposition that if we are to have a new cabinet portfolio to be called the Department of Mines, we should also have one to be called the Department of Hens.

SOUTH CAROLINA POSTOFFICES

Some Very Interesting Facts and Statistics Concerning Them.

In the annual report of Joseph L. Bristow, fourth assistant postmaster general, made public Tuesday, some interesting facts about the postoffices of South Carolina were made public. The report is for the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1904.

There are forty-four presidential postoffices in South Carolina, two of which are first class, Charleston and Columbia; nine second-class, and thirty-three third class. Since June 30, 1903, there has been an increase of five presidential postoffices. Anderson and Rock Hill were promoted to presidential offices during the year; the former with four carriers and the latter with three. South Carolina has 1,119 fourth-class postoffices, and in this respect ranks twenty-one among the states in number of fourth-class postoffices. The average annual salary of the fourth class postmaster in South Carolina is \$2,081.70. The total receipts of all the offices, presidential and fourth-class, was \$34,549. The average gross amount expended per capita in use of the mails was 48 cents, making the state rank last in the list of states.

In the last fiscal year ninety-three new rural free delivery routes were established in South Carolina. Up to that time there had been 238 routes in operation, making the total at the close of the year 331. The postoffice department made 183 adverse reports on applications from farmers in South Carolina. It will be seen that the adverse reports almost doubled the number of routes established. In most of the other states the number of routes established exceeded the number of adverse reports. It would appear that South Carolina had been discriminated against, or else the roads were not in fit condition to warrant the establishment of the route desired.

South Carolina has one county service, which is to be found in Anderson county. The Anderson county office was established in 1902, and there are thirty-seven routes in the county alone. Almost every route in the county is reached by a rural free delivery carrier. During the year the 331 carriers in South Carolina delivered 7,997,367 pieces of mail, and papers constituted over one-half of the total. The beneficiaries of the rural routes received 4,361,490 papers during the twelve months. Registered letters delivered numbered 4,445; letters, 1,948,163; postals, 454,845; circulars, 945,837, and packages, 282,668. The total number of pieces collected to be mailed was 1,522,161, most of which were letters. The value of stamps canceled by the carriers was \$29,059.44.

The salaries of carriers are based upon the length of the route which they serve. The highest salary is paid to carriers who have twenty-four miles or longer. They receive \$720 per annum. Carriers whose routes are from eight to ten miles long get \$432 a year. Last year the postoffice department paid to the carriers in South Carolina the sum of \$1,983,700, the average salary being \$49,562 per month, or \$594.24 per year.

Must be Maintained.

Congressman T. W. Hardwick, of the Tenth Georgia District, a few days ago wrote a letter to Senator A. O. Bacon, of Georgia, asking his views on the present political situation. The Senator says there is an effort to Republicanize the South. He declares that white supremacy must be maintained in the South and everywhere; that the prosperity of the South is due to white supremacy. He advocates the repeal of the fifteenth amendment and insists that unless that shall be done the people of the South will be forced to maintain their position of white supremacy.

C Let It Alone.

Gov. Hayward has written wisely and well to the secretary of the National Child Labor Association in disapproval of the agitation that is being carried on for further legislation in South Carolina against employment of children in the mills. The movement is for a further restriction upon the employment of children. The law now puts the age minimum at twelve years for employees in the mills and it is proposed that this be raised to fourteen years. Gov. Hayward points out that the law is working to the satisfaction of everybody and there is no good to come of a further agitation at this time. The Governor is entirely right.

No Water for Stock.

Drought in Central Kentucky is the worst in the history of the State. Pasture lands that have been in grass for twenty years will have to be sowed, even the roots being parched. Creeks, ponds and wells are drying up and stock is cut down to one drink of water in twenty-four hours in many sections. Railroads and farmers are buying water at city water works and hauling it miles. The Lexington reservoir is practically inexhaustible and affords the only hope about Lexington. The big Blue Grass stock farms are in dire straits. Wheat is ruined in some places.

They make short work with negroes out in Reno, Nevada. A dispatch from that city says the chief of police has ordered all the negroes to leave the town within 24 hours. They are leaving by every train. The action is the result of a number of depredations committed by negroes in Reno during the last few weeks.

FOULLY MURDER