

RASMUSSEN CONFIRMS STORY.

Repeats Assertion of His Confidence in Dr. Cook and Believes in Truth of Diary.

Copenhagen, Oct. 25.—Knud Rasmussen, the Danish explorer, whose name has been closely associated with the North Pole controversy, arrived here today on the government steamer Hans Agede from Greenland. Questioned as to his views on Dr. Cook's expedition he repeated the statement made by him in a letter to his wife that he confidently believed Dr. Cook reached the pole. He said he had seen Dr. Cook's diary and could not believe it false.

Rasmussen will return to Greenland next spring and will proceed to Etah, where he hopes to meet the two Eskimos who were Dr. Cook's sole companions on the latter part of his journey.

COTTON GINNERS' REPORT

Show Crop Very Short as Compared With 1908 Decrease is 760,575.

Washington, Oct. 25.—The census bureau today issued a report showing that 5,525,581 bales, counting round bales as half bales, had been ginned from the growth of 1909 to October 15, as compared with 6,286,156 for 1908, 4,326,258 for 1907 and 4,931,621 for 1906.

The report showed that 513,535 bales had been ginned in Alabama, as compared with 694,104 in 1908; 327,645 in Arkansas, as compared with 367,469; 24,037; in Florida, as compared with 34,027; 1,112,700 in Georgia, as compared with 1,119,328; 144,673 in Louisiana, as compared with 267,993; 393,414 in Mississippi, as compared with 621,399; 253,345 in North Carolina, as compared with 276,292; 329,370 in Oklahoma, as compared with 132,556; 622,370 in South Carolina, as compared with 666,674; 101,190 in Tennessee, as compared with 181,073; 1,672,312 in Texas, as compared with 2,047,796, and 12,789 in all other States, as compared with 23,623.

In this report 87,854 round bales were included, as compared with 118,720 for 1908, 97,957 for 1907, and 128,144 for 1906. The number of sea island bales included was 26,330, as compared with 32,613 for 1908, 18,775 for 1907 and 1,091 for 1906.

The bureau announced that the individual returns of ginner had altered the report of cotton ginned to September 25 so that the corrected number of bales ginned to that date was 5,662,150.

DOCTOR HELD FOR MURDER.

Alleged Slayer of Miss Millman to be Tried.

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 25.—After Chauffeur Jos. W. Leach had testified in police court this afternoon that on the night of August 27, he drove Dr. George A. Fritch from the physician's office to Ecorse Creek, where the doctor threw into the water three sacks which they had taken from his office, Dr. Fritch was held for trial in the Recorder's Court on the charge of manslaughter in connection with the death of Miss Maybelle Millman, of Ann Arbor.

Miss Millman's body was found in three sections in sacks in Ecorse Creek, and the lower Detroit River early in September. The body bore evidence, the police and county physicians were satisfied, that a criminal operation had been performed or attempted.

At the conclusion of Leach's cross-examination Attorney Lodge, for Dr. Fritch, made an unsuccessful attempt to have the complaint dismissed on the ground that the evidence necessary to establish the manslaughter charge had not been presented.

EXCURSION TO CHARLESTON.

On Account of the Visit of President Taft.

For the above occasion the Atlantic Coast Line offers very low round trip rates to Charleston from Sumter, Florence, Hardeeville, Young's Island, Ehrhardt, and Intermediate Points.

Tickets will be sold for trains scheduled to arrive Charleston by 5.18 p. m. November 5th, limited to return until the following day.

Mr. Taft is due to arrive Charleston Friday afternoon November 5th and will meet and address the people that evening, thereby giving every visitor an opportunity to see and hear him.

Inquire of M. F. Dukes, Agent Sumter, S. C., or any Agent of the Atlantic Coast Line for information as to rates schedules and other preliminaries. W. J. CRAIG, T. C. WHITE, Pas. Traffic Mgr. Gen. Pas. Agt. WILMINGTON, N. C.

Ralston Roberts Coffin, who was the youngest man who ever rode in a varsity boat at Poughkeepsie, and a member of the Columbia football team of 1899, which defeated Yale, died recently in New York.

MACK DROPS BRYAN?

Democratic National Chairman Said To be Grooming Harmon for Next Race.

Buffalo, N. Y., Oct. 25.—The National Monthly, edited by Chairman Norman Mack, of the Democratic national committee gives considerable space in its November number to an article by Judson Harmon, Governor of Ohio, in which he bitterly assails the Republican Administration at Washington on account of the new tariff bill and other alleged political inequities.

Governor Harmon was the principal speaker on "Democratic Day" at the Texas State Fair, on October 6, and his address there, taken in connection with his article in Chairman Mack's National Monthly, has given rise to the statement in political quarters in close relation with Mr. Mack, that the chairman of the Democratic national committee has dropped William J. Bryan, of Nebraska, as a presidential possibility and is now engaged in grooming Governor Harmon for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1912.

YOUNG MAN FATALLY HURT.

Mr. R. L. Smith Thrown From Hand-Car Near Eutaw Springs.

Ferguson, Oct. 25.—A very sad accident occurred Saturday night on the Atlantic Coast Line railroad track near Eutaw Springs. Mr. R. L. Smith, of Tennessee, was thrown from a hand car and injured internally and died in Eutawville Saturday night. Mr. Smith was going from Ferguson to Eutawville on a hand car worked by four negroes, and when the party came to a very sharp curve in the track, near Eutaw Springs, they struck a heavy piece of timber, which had evidently been placed there by some very heartless person with evil intent. The speed at which the car was going, combined with the sharp curve, caused the car to be thrown from the track. Mr. Smith was thrown from his seat against the ties, causing his shoulder to be broken. The negroes were also thrown off, but their injuries were very slight.

Carmack's Beautiful Tribute to the South.

The following is an extract from Carmack's famous speech which is said to have won him his seat in the United States senate:

"I speak, sir, for my native South. It is a land that has known sorrows; a land that has broken the ashen crust and moistened it with its tears; a land scarred and riven by the plowshare of war and billowed with the graves of her dead, but a land of legend, a land of song, a land of hallowed and heroic memories.

"To this land every drop of my blood, every fiber of my being, every pulsation of my heart is consecrated forever.

"I was born of her womb, I was nurtured at her breast, and when my last hour shall come I pray God that I may be pillowed upon her bosom and rocked to sleep within her tender and encircling arms."

STABLES BURNED IN MANNING.

Fire Supposed to Have Started From Cigar.

Manning, Oct. 26.—The large stables belonging to R. D. Clark were burned today about noon. In these buildings were stored some corn and hay and farming implements, which were also destroyed. Buildings were insured for \$400; none on the contents. There are a number of residences surrounding these stables, being burned, and would very likely have been but for the good work of the fire company. It is supposed that the fire started from a lighted cigar or cigarette.

Reward for Honesty.

A story is told of a well known money lender of Louisville who lost a pocketbook containing several hundred dollars in bills, not long ago, says The Louisville Times.

It was two weeks before his "lost ad" brought results. One morning a man entered his office, said he had come in response to the "ad" and asked the money lender to describe the property. The description was satisfactory and the finder threw the wallet on the table.

"There it is," he said, "please count the contents and see if the money is all there."

The money lender, elated to find his pocketbook, carefully counted the bills. Then he took a piece of blank paper and for five minutes figured studiously. Turning in his chair he remarked:

"Yes, the money is all there, but I guess you owe me seventy-five cents interest."

It's hard to convince a man that he is the real thing when a bigger man has him down.

DISASTROUS FLOOD IN MEXICO.

Cloudburst Does Incalculable Damage in State of Tabasco.

Mexico City, Oct. 26.—An estimated loss of five million of pesos, including crops and fine hard woods, two lives known to be lost, and many others, it is feared, sacrificed in the floods, hundreds of homes in country and town washed away and thousands of head of cattle drowned are the known results of the disastrous cloudburst and storm that broke over the State of Tabasco yesterday, following twenty-one days of incessant rain all over this region. Rivers are out of their banks, towns are inundated, thousands homeless and no relief is yet in sight.

From north to south, extending across the State from the Mescalpa and the Grijalva rivers, which takes the two names after forking near Huinaguillo to the banks of the Usumacinta, which for a short distance marks the boundary between Chiapas and Guatemala, the entire country is a total waste. Only the high mountains villages and plateau farms escaped from the terrific onslaught of the waters.

Five hundred families are homeless in the city of Alaxala alone. Other cities and towns inundated are: Jalapa, Tlacotalpam, Tlapa, Santa Rosa and a number of smaller villages along the Mescalpa River, while the south border of the State of Yonuta, Palizada and Santa Rita in the valley of the Usumacinta River are badly damaged as the result of the flood.

A total of thirty-two and a half inches of water has fallen in the State in three weeks, which is the record, for water fall in thirty-two years. A large part of the lower section of San Juan Bautista is under water. The Barrio of Santa Cruz has been totally depopulated and the water is three and four feet deep in many houses. Temporary lodging houses have been fitted up by the authorities of San Juan Bautista and more than a thousand people are being fed and lodged at the city's expense. So complete is the inundation of Santa Rosa that it resembles the arm of the sea. Streets, parks and gardens are inundated by three feet of water and the population is living on roots, shivering and string, praying for the waters to recede.

Jalapa suffered heavy losses on account of flood and many Indian huts have been destroyed compelling the occupants to seek relief from the town authorities. Similar conditions prevail at Tlacotalpam and Tlapa. Reports from the interior state that the storm accompanying the heavy rain was the most destructive known in the section in years. Forests of mohogany and cedar were uprooted by the force of the wind and rain, and thousands of trees washed away. Cattle ranches also suffered heavily, stock being drowned as the herds fled from the big rain and were washed into the treacherous streams.

Every crop in the State traversed by the storm is thought to be destroyed, while thousand of acres are under water. The State Government is assisting the stricken cities and it is likely the Government will send out an appeal to the Federal Government for aid.

HOW THE DRUG MAN "STUNG."

Mixed Up a Few Things For 10 Cents; Got 50 For It.

(From the Philadelphia Telegraph.)

Dr. Charlie Hearn, of Swarthmore, always has a new joke to tell, and in his latest a prominent advertising man of this city was the victim. The latter had a touch of indigestion, and, meeting a doctor who was a friend of his upon the street, asked him what to take for it.

"A little bicarbonate of soda, a few drops of aromatic spirits of ammonia and some water," advised his medical friend.

"Write it down, will you, Doc?" asked the advertiser. The doctor did so. The man went directly to a drug store, Dr. Hearn says, and asked for five cents' worth of bicarbonate of soda and also five cents' worth of aromatic spirits of ammonia. The drug clerk got them for him and was wrapping them when the purchaser pulled the prescription blank from his pocket. "Say," he asked, "this just says put them in some water. How much ought I to use?"

The druggist leaned forward and took the blank. "I'll fix it," he said, and disappeared.

A little later he came back with a bottle, labeled.

"I added the water," he said, triumphantly; "50 cents, please."

"Fifty cents," roared the customer. "You said it was only 10 cents! Do you usually charge 40 cents for a bottle of water?"

The druggist frowned. This is a prescription," he said, "and we never put one up for less than 50 cents." And the customer, whispering "stung!" left the shop, wiser and poorer by 40 cents.

Send us your job work.

DR. FRASER HAS ACCEPTED.

Will Become Head of Theological Seminary—Has Resigned as Pastor Of Staunton, Va., Church.

Staunton, Va., Oct. 24.—Rev. Dr. A. M. Fraser, for 16 years pastor of First Presbyterian church here, tendered his resignation today to take effect in December, 1910.

After repeated calls he has accepted the presidency of Columbia Theological Seminary, Columbia, S. C. He formerly in South Carolina. Dr. Fraser is one of the best known and most influential preachers in the Southern Presbyterian church.—Baltimore Sun.

The Craving for Drink Not Inherited.

Alexander Lambert, M. D., in "Hope for the Victims of Narcotics," printed in "Success Magazine," says:

The cause and effects of alcoholism form a vast subject about which much truth and many falsehoods have been written. The falsehoods have done more than a passing harm, for they have caused in the minds of the ignorant a disbelief in the truth, and the strict truth displays a terrible picture. The use of alcohol is the most common and wide-spread of all the narcotics, and unlike morphine and cocaine it may be indulged in modestly without ever being taken to excess; but, also unlike morphine and cocaine, when used even in moderation it may cause pathologic changes in the body, and when taken to excess invariably produces degenerative changes in the various viscera.

Alcohol has a curious selective action, and as individuals react differently to equal doses, so, too, do individuals show different pathologic changes from equal indulgence. The brain and central nervous system, or the heart and arteries, or the liver and kidneys, may each separately bear the brunt of the alcoholic poison. Thus the brain and nervous system may entirely escape the poison, and the individual die of cardiac or other visceral degenerations; or the brain and nervous system may become early degenerated and the viscera escape, and the chronic alcoholic live long years, a nuisance and a curse to his community. Unfortunately, when alcoholic excesses are committed in the youthful, formative period of life, the brain and nervous system are the more prone to be affected. The man who indulges in alcoholic excesses is like a man who recklessly signs sight drafts which he never expects to be cashed in, but when overtaken with acute disease or accident these drafts are cashed in with pitiless insistence. The effects of alcohol do not always remain confined to the generation which commits the over-indulgence, since idiosyncrasy, epilepsy, moral degeneracy and weakened, unstable mentality are more often found in the children of alcoholic parents than in those of non-alcoholic parentage. The actual thirst or craving is not inherited, but the weaker moral character which is bequeathed easily gives way to any temptation and quickly forms habits of excessive indulgence.

Tommy Tuff seemed particularly obtuse that morning, but "dear teacher" was determined to make him understand, says the Catholic Standard and Times. "You say you own a dog, Tommy," she said. "Then you have a quadruped, don't you see?" "No'm," replied Tommy. "But I explained to you a moment ago that any animal with four legs was a quadruped." "Yes'm, but Buster lost one o' his'n't fightin' a trolley car."

TO REBUILD RAILROAD.

Contractors Who Will Improve Line From Florence to Wadesboro at Work.

Florence, Oct. 26.—The Ferguson Contracting Company, which was awarded the contract for the rebuilding of the Cheraw and Darlington and the Cheraw and Salisbury Railroad from Florence to Wadesboro, N. C., a distance of sixty-five miles, has established headquarters at Florence, and has secured offices in the Masonic Temple building, second floor. Mr. Robert C. Chase, of this city, is in charge of the office.

The contractors are now at work securing material and securing and organizing their help, after which actual work of grading and constructing will begin.

It is stated that the work on the road between Florence and Cheraw will not need very much grading except at what is known as Berkeley's grade, about two miles south of Society Hill. At that point the reverse curves will be cut out entirely, and the grade reduced to a minimum. The line will be run directly through the old mill pond that the old line runs around, which necessitated the reverse curve.

Another matter of importance will be the entrance and passing through Cheraw, Darlington and Florence, at which points considerable changes will be made.

On the Cheraw and Salisbury Road, between Cheraw and Wadesboro, it is stated that very nearly five-eighths of the road-bed will be new entirely, at some points the new road-bed will be very nearly a mile away from the old, and some of the towns that are now on the railroad will be left high and dry a mile away.

What Shall We Do for the Old?

In Germany, in Denmark, in Australia, and now in England, a new policy has been adopted toward the old. The pall of fear which has hung over the hungry, naked old men for centuries is lifted, says Walter Weyl in an absorbing article in "Success Magazine." To every man who has labored in his lifetime a pension is granted, and whether he contributes to this pension directly and compulsorily, as in Germany, or indirectly through his labor, as in England, he receives in his old age a fixed weekly stipend which is not dishonoring or rooted in charity. The pension paid by the German or English State to its old is as much a reward of labor as is the wage which is found in the weekly pay-envelope.

Old-age pensions are not the end, but the beginning of the problem. A pension is a good thing, but it is not so good as the chance to work. When by preventing child-labor, industrial accidents, remediable illness, stock-watering, and other wholesale spoliation not only of city workmen, but of farmers, professional men, and men and women of small property, we shall have struck at the root of much of our senile poverty, we shall have made the drawing of old-age pensions a universal right which will be only occasionally exercised. The pension will be opened to all who need it, but the need will be less. If our civilization is to be worth while, the solution of the problem of poverty in old age will eventually be found in prevention quite as much as in cure.

If you would be happy, let your memory go and cultivate your forgettery.

BOY'S PRIZE CORN CROP.

A Bascom Usher, of Brightsville, Marlboro County, Grows 152 1-2 Bushels on an Acre in Contest—Interest Aroused.

The reports of the results obtained by the several contestants participating in the State Cereal Growers' Contest are beginning to reach the office of the department of agriculture and the showing that is being made indicates that wonderful results have been obtained in the matter of intelligent corn growing during this past year. The State commission is arranging its prizes provided for a prize for boys and permitted the boys participating in the State contest to also participate in Dr. Knapp's United States Farm demonstration work contests for school boys with a free trip to Washington as one of the prizes.

The first boy's report to reach Commissioner Watson has delighted him beyond all measure as it comes from a Marlboro lad, residing in Brightsville township in Marlboro county and shows a production of 152 1-2 bushels on one acre, which is far better than any result obtained by any grown up farmer in last year's State contest. The first prize then having gone to a production of 137 3-8 bushels.

Not alone is the total result one of value, but the report shows that the lad used seed that he obtained from the winner of last year's State contest. Furthermore, the manual showing every step of cultivation, application of fertilizer, etc., has been kept in the most creditable manner and the boy obtained his result at a total expense of \$55, and sold his crop including seed and fodder for \$335, all of the seed being sold for seed purposes.

The boy's name is A. Bascom Usher. Commissioner Watson states a bushel of this corn in the ear will be placed on exhibit at the State Fair in the field crops department.

It is interesting to note in this regard that the Drake world's record of 1889 on a single acre was 255 bushels and the Tindal, 1906 world's prize yield was 182, the second prize being won with 131 bushels. It is also interesting to note that the Tindal crop was raised at a total expense of \$56.25, and his total receipts from the crop were \$423.00.

A GREAT FEATURE.

Of the South Carolina State Fair at Columbia Will be the Visit of President Taft.

The Atlantic Coast Line announces very low round trip rates from all points in South Carolina to cover the above occasions, tickets to be on sale October 31 to November 6 inclusive, with return limit to leave Columbia up to and including, but not later than, midnight of November 8, 1909. Tickets will include admission to the fair and transportation to and from Fair Grounds on local trains of the A. C. L. which will make frequent trips.

Saturday, November 6th, will be TAFT DAY.

When the President will meet and address the people at the Fair Grounds and review the Military and Civic Parade.

Inquire of M. F. Duke, Agent, Sumter, or any Agent of the Atlantic Coast Line, for information as to rates, schedules and tickets.

W. J. CRAIG, T. C. WHITE, Pas. Traffic Mgr. Gen. Pas. Agt. WILMINGTON, N. C.

BULBS

We have just received a complete assortment of the most desirable Bulbs, and would be pleased to have you inspect them.

- NARCISSUS.**
Large Trumpet Narcissus, Emperor, Perianth Primrose, Trumpet Golden Yellow.
Empress, Perianth Snow White, Triumph Rich Yellow.
Golden Spur, Perianth and Trumpet, Both Yellow.
Trumpet Major, Single Van Sion, Yellow throughout

DUTCH ROMAN HYACINTHS.

Charles Dickens, Rose, Gen. Pelissier, Deep Scarlet, Grandeur a Merveille, Blush White, Ozar Peter, Light Porcelain, Blue.

ROMAN HYACINTHS.

Early White, (extra selected Bulbs.)
Early Light Rose.
Early Blue.

A VERY POPULAR MIXTURE.

Adopted for bedding and outdoor planting and can be used for pot culture. Consists of Rose and Pink shades, Pure White sorts, Dark Blue and Purple, and other shades. These are single and double.

SINGLE TULIP.

Artus, Deep Scarlet, Chrysolora, Golden Yellow.

SINGLE VARIETIES OF NARCISSUS.

A splendid mixture, consisting of many fine varieties, and none of the undesirable kinds. Certain to prove satisfactory.

Sibert's Drug Store.