

# PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT FOR FARM REFORMS

## Would Improve Conditions of Country Life.

### A COMMISSION IS APPOINTED.

Prof. L. F. Bailey, of New York, heads body of men who will give Chief Executive advice to be embodied in a message to Congress next December.

Oyster Bay, N. Y. (Special).—With a view to bringing about better social, sanitary and economic conditions on American farms President Roosevelt has requested four experts on country life to make an investigation into the whole matter and to report to him with recommendations for improvements. The report and recommendations, with any additional recommendations which the President himself may desire to make, will be incorporated in a message which the President will send to Congress probably early next year.

The men President Roosevelt has asked to act as an investigating committee are:

Prof. L. H. Bailey, of the New York College of Agriculture.  
Henry Wallace, of Wallace's Farmer, Des Moines, Ia.  
President Kenyon L. Butterfield, of the United States Forest Reserve.  
Walter H. Page, editor of the World's Work, New York.  
Gifford Pinchot, United States Forest Service.

In a letter to Professor Bailey asking him to accept the chairmanship of the commission the President outlines his desires in the direction of improvements on the farms. The letter follows:

My Dear Professor Bailey:  
No nation has ever achieved permanent greatness unless this greatness was based on the wellbeing of the great farmer class, the men who live on the soil; for it is upon their welfare, material and moral, that the welfare of the rest of the nation ultimately rests. In the United States, disregarding certain sections and taking the nation as a whole, I believe it to be true that the farmers in general are better off today than they ever were before. We Americans are making great progress in the development of our agricultural resources. But it is equally true that the social and economic conditions of the open country are not keeping pace with the development of the nation as a whole.

Conditions in South.  
The farmer is, as a rule, better off than his forebears; but his increase in wellbeing has not kept pace with that of the country as a whole. While the condition of the farmer in some of our best farming regions leaves little to be desired, we are far from having reached as high a level as that in all parts of the country. In portions of the South, for example, where the Department of Agriculture, through the Farmers' Co-operative Demonstrating work of Dr. Knapp, is directly instructing more than 30,000 farmers in better methods of farming, there is nevertheless much unnecessary suffering and needless loss of efficiency on the farm. A physician, who is also a careful student of farm life in the South, writing to me recently about the enormous percentage of preventable deaths of children due to the unsanitary conditions of certain Southern farms, said:

Choose Cotton Mill.  
"Personally, from the health point of view, I would prefer to see my daughter, nine years old, at work in a cotton mill than have her live as tenant on the average Southern tenant one-horse farm."

This apparently extreme statement is based upon actual life among both classes of people.

I doubt if any other nation can bear comparison with our own in the amount of attention given by the government, both federal and state, to agricultural matters. But practically the whole of this effort has hitherto been directed toward increasing the production of crops. Our attention has been concentrated almost exclusively on getting better farming. In the beginning this was unquestionably the right thing to do. The farmer must first of all grow good crops in order to support himself and his family.

But when this has been secured the effort for better farming should cease to stand alone and should be accompanied by the effort for better business and better living on the farm. It is at least as important that the farmer should get the largest possible return in money, comfort and social advantages from the crops he grows, as that he should get the largest possible return in crops from the land he farms. Agriculture is not the whole of country life. The great rural interests are human interests, and good crops are of little value to the farmer unless they open the door to a good kind of life on the farm.

This problem of country life is in the truest sense a national problem. In an address delivered at the semi-centennial of the founding of agricultural colleges in the United States a year ago last May I said:

Farmer's Welfare.  
"There is but one person whose welfare is as vital to the welfare of the whole country as is that of the wage-worker who does manual labor,

and that is the tiller of the soil—the farmer. If there is one lesson taught by history it is that the permanent greatness of any state must ultimately depend more upon the character of its country population than upon anything else. No growth of cities, no growth of wealth can make up for a loss in either the number or the character of the farming population."

### CLUNG TO PRECIPICE.

#### Boy 600 Feet High Unable To Get Up Or Down.

Los Angeles, Cal. (Special).—A wireless message from Avalon, Catalina Islands, reports the rescue of Irving Spalding, aged 15, son of A. F. Spalding, of Springfield, Ill., from a precipice 600 feet above the sea where he had spent the day in peril of his life. The youth disappeared from the hotel early in the morning. He went to explore the island and climbed the sheer face of the cliff, 750 feet high, as far as he could go, and got within 100 feet of the top. Spalding found it impossible to get down and shouted for help, but failed to make anyone hear. He could not sit down, and the slightest misstep would have sent him to instant death on the rocks below. His father, as night was approaching, organized a searching party. After an hour's search, they located the boy, weak with fear. The problem of how to rescue him was solved at last by the discovery of a path leading 50 feet down from the top. A rope was lowered to the youth and he was dragged in safety to the top of the cliff. Aside from the nervous shock, weakness, hunger and terror, the boy is all right.

### FIRE AREA THIRTY MILES.

#### Loss To The City Of Fernie Not Less Than \$2,000,000.

Toronto, Ont. (Special).—J. G. S. Lindsey, president of the Crows Nest Coal Company, summarizes the Northwest fire situations thus in a dispatch received here:  
"The fire area is about 30 miles long and from 2 to 10 miles wide, and is still burning in many places at the outskirts, but Michel is safe except in the case of high wind, and may be even then. Hosmer is quite safe and Coal Creek may be said to be almost certainly safe.  
"The loss of the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company, owning mines at Coal Creek and Fernie, and Michel will be \$200,000; the Canadian Pacific Railway will lose \$200,000; the Great Northern Railway will lose about \$250,000, and the lumber companies not less than a million. The loss of timber to the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company will not be less than a million.  
"The loss to the city of Fernie will be not less than two millions."

### ENGINEER DRIVEN INSANE.

#### Fatal Accident Responsible For A Man's Loss Of Mind.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa. (Special).—Brooding over an accident in which his fireman was killed and holding himself to blame for the fatality, John Bonavitch, of Kingston, one of the best-known engineers on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, was committed to the insane asylum at Danville.  
Bonavitch had charge of a switch engine in the yards at Washington, N. J. About a month ago his engine collided with another in the yard and James Hutt, of Newton, N. J., who was Bonavitch's fireman, was so badly injured that he died the next day.  
The accident, and especially the death of his fireman, so preyed upon the mind of the engineer that he fled from Washington and nothing was heard of him until a week ago, when he appeared here at his home a raving maniac.

## WASHINGTON

Assistant Secretary of State Robert Bacon has gone to San Juan, Porto Rico, where he will look into the question of transferring the United States' holdings.  
Commissioner Dennett, of the General Land Office, has returned from a tour of inspection, having found the new land office system most effective.

The probable election of former Assistant Postmaster General Bristol as senator from Kansas has stirred the political circles.  
The number of yards of dirt excavated at the Isthmian Canal considerably exceeds the work done in June.

Statistics show that Porto Rican trade has increased about \$206,783 during the past year.  
Commander C. A. Gove, of the Navy, has been ordered to duty at the Naval Academy as commandant of midshipmen, relieving Commander W. S. Benson, who has been ordered to duty with the Pacific fleet, which is to sail from San Francisco on October 5.

The Bureau of Yards and Docks has recommended to the Secretary of the Navy the acceptance of the bid of the Penn Bridge Company, Beaver Falls, Pa., and Washington, D. C., of \$14,436 for the construction of a coaling plant and shed, a pier and key wall at Key West, Fla.  
C. J. Erickson, of Seattle, Wash., has been notified by the Navy Department of the acceptance of his bid of \$1,625,000 for the construction of the Puget Sound dry dock.

The Comptroller of the Currency announced the closing of the First National Bank at Delle Plains, Minn.  
The Navy Department has approved the sale of the old warships St. Mary's and Shearwater.

The southwestern territory railroads claim that the shippers of Georgia have no cause of complaint, as the injunction by Judge Speer has prevented the proposed increase in rates.

Soriano, provincial governor of Ilocos Mortek, Luzon, has sent an expression of sympathy upon the death of former President Cleveland.

# HARRY K. THAW IS A BANKRUPT

## Creditors' Bills For Nearly Half a Million.

### HIS TRIAL HAS COST HIM \$600,000.

Slayer of Stanford White Admits Owing Nearly Two Hundred Thousand—The Alienists Present Claims for From One to Twelve Thousand Dollars Each.

Pittsburg, Pa. (Special).—Alleging that his creditors are pressing unfair claims against him so that he is unable to pay, Harry Kendall Thaw, slayer of Stanford White, through his attorney, Charles Morschauer, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and ex-Governor Stone, of Pennsylvania, filed a petition in bankruptcy in the United States Court here. Detective Roger O'Mara, of Pittsburg, was named as receiver for Thaw's estate and gave bond in \$200,000.

In his bankruptcy papers, which were signed by Thaw while outside the Poughkeepsie jail, he shows some startling figures. He places his assets at \$128,012, his liabilities at \$453,140. Thaw, through his attorney, sets forth plainly that he does not believe that he owes the \$453,140. He names 13 creditors and gives the amount which they claim he owes. Of this number only two claims are undisputed. He admits to owing Mrs. Mary O. Thaw, his mother, \$191,500, and he also admits the claim of Roger O'Mara for \$400 fees as a detective. There then follows in his paper a list of creditors and their amounts. It is understood that Thaw disputes every one of them, and will insist that O'Mara, as his receiver, sift the claims to the bottom.

The list of claimants is as follows: James G. Graham, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., \$2,954.  
Dr. Graham Hammond, New York, \$1,000.  
Dr. Charles G. Wagner, New York, \$4,000.  
Dr. Smith E. Jelliffe, New York, \$5,200.  
Dr. Britton Evans, New York, \$6,000.  
Martin W. Littleton, \$8,000.  
Hartridge & Peabody, \$60,000.  
John B. Gleason, New York, \$80,000.  
Allen McLean Hamilton, New York, \$12,000.  
Dr. Dana, New York, \$1,600.  
Dr. John P. Wilson, New York, \$600.  
Total, \$453,140.

Attorney Morschauer slipped into Pittsburg and had a long conference with Governor Stone, Thaw's new Pittsburg counsel. There was confusion when it was found that Judge Young, to whom Thaw's petition was addressed, was in Europe. The referee in bankruptcy of Allegheny County was also missing, and it was necessary to send to New Castle, Lawrence County, for a referee before the papers could be properly filed, and it was 8 o'clock before this was done.

In his bill of assets Thaw sets forth that he has \$40,000 worth of real estate, \$59,000 in stocks and bonds, about \$10,000 worth of books, etc. He calls attention to the fact that he has an income of \$33,300 per year from the various trusts created for him, but this, it is averred, cannot be touched by any creditors.  
From one close to Harry Thaw here it is learned that he has already spent \$600,000 in his two trials, which, he thinks, is enough, and that every bill paid from this time on must be bond-secured.  
The most interesting information given regarding the proceedings is to be found in the petition asking for the appointment of a receiver, in which it is alleged that the action is taken for the purpose of preventing his property being dissipated in litigation over claims, many of which are unjust. The figures in the bankruptcy petition show that this refers to the lawyers and doctors.  
Thaw states that he is confined in jail at Dutchess County, N. Y., and is likely to be there for sometime. He says some of his creditors have commenced suits against him and others are contemplating similar action. He is unable, he says, to give the litigation his attention owing to the confinement.

Previous to filing the paper Attorney Morschauer held a long conference with Stone & Stone, Thaw's local counsel, and the greatest secrecy was maintained regarding the action tonight.

### MILLION DOLLAR FIRE.

#### Cigarette Causes A Disastrous Blaze In Chicago.

Chicago (Special).—Fire, which was so hot that the firemen could not get nearer than a block of it, and which made it necessary to play streams of water on buildings three and four squares away, destroyed the Burlington elevators "E" and "F," the dock transfer warehouse of that road and either burned or rendered useless 100 box cars. The loss on the grain in the two elevators is placed by Armour & Co., who own it, at \$700,000. The total loss is placed at \$1,000,000.  
The fire started in the Burlington warehouse supposedly from a cigarette dropped near several barrels containing chemicals.

### Stupid Burglars.

Hendricks, W. Va. (Special).—Burglars entered the store of J. E. Polling & Co., general merchandise dealers, at Hendricks, and blew open the large safe, securing about \$25 in cash, but failing to take away \$20 worth of postage stamps. They had carefully piled up a large lot of clothing around the safe to deaden the sound, and almost all this clothing was ruined. The safe contained only the books of the firm and the amount above stated, and was unlocked.

# BOY MURDERED AND HIS BODY MUTILATED

## Tuffa Shishe'in is Victim of An Atrocious Crime.

### Chicago (Special).—Following the identification of the mutilated body of a boy found in Mud Lake and adjacent ponds and waterways as that of Tuffa Shishe'in, a Syrian, the police arrested Joseph Hasson on suspicion of his being the murderer of the boy. Hasson was arrested at 102 Mather Street. In his room the police found a blood-stained garment, several blood-stained saws and an ax. The body gave every indication of having been dismembered with such instruments.

With the identification of the victim of the Mud Lake mystery as Tuffa Shishe'in, a Syrian, the police began work on a new theory—that the lad met his awful death at the hands of a degenerate, probably one who had assistance in disposing of the body.  
Developments have come rapidly in the case. On Tuesday the detectives were called to Mud Lake, a pond formed in the old bed of a branch of the Chicago River, when the waters of the river were diverted to the drainage canal. Here boys had discovered the lower limbs of a human being, severed at the hips and at the knees, and with one of the feet missing. The gruesome relics when found were wrapped in an old shirt and a newspaper of July 29. Every Greek detective in the city was put to work on the case in the belief that a Greek lad, a victim of the Padrone system, had been summarily dealt with by some countrymen against whom the boy had testified in the recent cases brought by the government to wipe out the "Greek slave" trade.

Boys swimming in Pelletts Pond, half a mile from the canal and having no connection with it, discovered the head, which was removed to the morgue and placed with other portions of the body. With the body thus restored, it was possible to formulate a close description of the boy.  
At the Lawndale Station it was found that the description tallied somewhat with that of Tuffa Shishe'in, whose disappearance from his home, at 7 Johnson Street, last Sunday night had been reported by the lad's father, Samuel Shishe'in. First the shirt which the boy had worn and then the corpse were identified by members of the Shishe'in family, the mother fainting when she gazed for the first time on the mutilated remains of what had been a straight-limbed, buoyant youth.

### INDIANS KILL THIRTEEN.

#### That Is Report Received At El Paso Concerning Yaquis.

El Paso, Tex. (Special).—That Yaqui Indians on July 24 killed 13 persons, members of three families, near Lampazas Mine, was the news received by W. M. Gillette, of San Carlos, Indian Reservation, Arizona, in a letter written to him here by A. D. McPhee, superintendent of the Promontorio Mine, 20 miles from Montezuma, Sonora. The letter says ranchers of the surrounding country have congregated at the Promontorio Mine prepared to resist the Indians.

### Three Killed By Explosion.

Hazleton, Pa. (Special).—Two Americans and an Italian, all of this city, were instantly killed by the premature explosion of a blast at the stonecrushing plant of Charles Kehoe, on the outskirts of Hazleton. Thomas Kehoe, a son of the contractor, was injured about the head. The bodies were blown some distance from the scene of the explosion.

### President To The Sultan.

Washington (Special).—Ambassador Leishman, at Constantinople, has been directed by the State Department by cable to communicate to the Turkish government the President's congratulations and gratification over the action of the Sultan in proclaiming a constitution.

### Found \$50,000; Reward \$2.

Chicago (Special).—William Becker, a postoffice wagon driver, found a \$50,000 check in the driveway beneath the Federal Building, and reported it to Superintendent Day. The check was payable through the Merchants' Loan and Trust Company. The trust company was notified. Becker is said to have been the recipient of many thanks and a \$2 bill.

## FINANCIAL

Copper metal advanced another 1/2 cent.

Jones & Laughlin mills, in Pittsburg, report business 25 per cent. better in July than in June.

Philadelphia & Reading declared the regular semi-annual dividend of 2 per cent. on first preferred, payable October 10, to stock of record, August 24.

Shipments of coal and coke over the Pennsylvania lines, east of Pittsburg and Erie for the week ending August 1, amounted to 889,134 tons. Since January 1 the shipments aggregate 25,770,942 tons as compared with 34,004,222 tons during the same period last year.

Conferences between a committee of the coal operators of the Pittsburg district and officials of the United Mine Workers foreshadow a probable adjustment of difference in the wage agreement.

Note brokers say that the Western banks are purchasing commercial paper as freely as Eastern institutions and that they are taking paper maturing after the first of next year. This, they say, is unusual at any time and especially so at this time of the year. Offerings of commercial paper are light and as a consequence rates continue to be very low.

# COUNT ZEPPELIN'S GREAT AIRSHIP IS DESTROYED

## Aeronaut's Flight Comes To A Disastrous End.

### BY STORM AND EXPLOSION.

#### Had Nearly Achieved His Greatest Triumph in Navigating the Air—Thousands of People Waiting at Friedrichshafen to Hail the Completion of the Great Flight.

### AN AERIAL WONDER.

The airship was 443 feet long; diameter, 45 feet; weight, 6,000 pounds; motor developed 140 horsepower; carrying capacity, 16 persons.

Count Zeppelin made a number of successful trips in the last two months.  
June 29 he made a seven-hour flight at a speed of 33 miles an hour.

July 1 a 14-hour flight at average speed of 34 miles an hour.  
July 3, in an ascent over Lake Constance, the Count was accompanied by the King and Queen of Wurtemberg, this being the first time a reigning king and queen had enjoyed such an experience.

August 4 Zeppelin started on his 24-hour flight over a 400-mile triangular course from Friedrichshafen.

August 5, after traveling all night at reduced speed, because of one of two motors failing to work, the Count descended at Echterdingen to make repairs.

During a thunderstorm the airship was torn from its anchorage, a motor exploded and flames enveloped and destroyed the airship.

Echterdingen (By Cable).—A dramatic end came to Count Zeppelin's long-awaited endurance flight in his monster dirigible balloon, and the proud airship lies in an open field near here, a mass of twisted, useless metal. A chapter of accidents occasioned by bad moods of nature and the failure of mechanical appliances combined was responsible for the untimely end of the balloon, the flights of which have held the attention of the world, and for blasting the ambitions of its inventor, Count Zeppelin. The Count, almost heart-broken and unable to longer endure the sight of his shattered craft, has left by train for Friedrichshafen.

The airship had left Nackenheim, the scene of its first mishap, and over night had visited Mayence and begun on the homeward journey when misfortune overtook it. Soon after the start it was found that the front motor was working badly, owing to the fusing of metal in the groove in which the piston rod ran. This was caused by friction. Consequently Count Zeppelin was compelled to rely on one motor on the rear platform throughout the night, which considerably reduced his speed.

During the night, too, he made an ascent of nearly 6,000 feet, losing a considerable quantity of gas. This deprived the balloon of some of its buoyancy.

Over Echterdingen Count Zeppelin decided to land. Although this was the first time that such a maneuver had been attempted with a rigid balloon, the landing was effected easily and smoothly, only one of the steel wire stays being broken. The engineers immediately set about making repairs to the balloon, which rode at anchor in the center of a large force of military, which had been called out to keep the crowds away. Count Zeppelin telegraphed to Friedrichshafen for more gas cylinders, and then went to a neighboring inn for luncheon. He was away about two hours, and was destined to see only the wreck of his airship when he returned.

The local railway companies ran special cars to convey the curious sight-seers to the spot, while pedestrians, automobilists and wagons loaded with peasants also flocked to the vicinity. It is estimated that the crowd numbered nearly 40,000.

At 2:30 o'clock a wind suddenly sprang up and some of the weather-wise bystanders called the attention of the officers to the fact that a storm was brewing and advised them to secure the balloon. Their warnings were unheeded.

The balloon swayed to and fro, sometimes rising a few feet from the ground. Then a strong gust of wind struck the airship broadside. At first the craft heeled over and then her bows rose in the air, carrying with them a number of soldiers holding the ropes. After poising for a moment at a height of 50 feet the airship returned to the earth, even more suddenly than it rose, and came crashing to the ground. With a thunderous report the forward motor exploded.

From the bows of the balloon shot forth a livid flame, while from the rear escaped thick clouds of black smoke which caused the entire structure to disappear from the view of the thousands of spectators. When the air cleared the balloon was seen lying in an open field on a high plateau with only the ragged, tangled strips of the aluminum envelope still remaining. The metal stays and bands and portions of the motors were strewn about in pieces like old iron and blackened with smoke and scorched.

### Amend Banking Laws.

Washington (Special).—Acting Comptroller of the Currency Kane transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury for submission to the National Monetary Commission, authorized at the last session of Congress, his recommendation for such amendments to the national banking laws as experience in the administration of the laws by the comptroller's office and observation as to their practical operations has shown to be necessary. The recommendations cover 40 printed pages.

# UNITED STATES SENATOR ALLISON PASSES AWAY

## Was Twice a Candidate For the Presidency.

Dubuque, Iowa (Special).—United States Senator W. B. Allison died at his home in this city Tuesday afternoon. The immediate cause of his death was heart failure. The end came as a result of a serious enlargement of the prostate gland, which was complicated with kidney disease and during a period of unconsciousness which had lasted since Saturday afternoon.

Two weeks ago the Senator left his home in the city to escape the heat. He went to the home of Mrs. Fannie Stout, a friend of the family, living on the Ashbury road, a few miles from town. For a few days his condition seemed to improve, but he later began to grow worse. Medical advisers urged that an operation be performed to relieve the prostatic enlargement, which was bringing his condition to a crisis. Saturday morning the Senator was brought back home. Soon afterwards he relapsed into a condition of semiconsciousness. Except for brief periods of partial recovery, he remained in this condition until death.

News of the serious illness of the aged Senator was kept from the public as much as possible, and his death came as a surprise to his thousands of friends residing in this city.  
During the last week nurses were employed to care for the Senator for the first time since his illness, and this was the first intimation anyone had of a change for the worse in his condition. After the Senator lost consciousness on Saturday he did not fully recover his mental faculties up to the time of his death. He had been under constant surveillance of physicians for the last few days. His condition grew rapidly worse his mental vigor was wholly spent and his condition was one of absolute dependence. Two nurses were in constant attendance on him and efforts to maintain secrecy as to his condition were redoubled, while every means was adopted to insure rest.

### \$50,000 IN WANDERER'S BAG.

#### Heat And Work Unbalanced Mind Of Wealthy Man.

Milwaukee, Wis. (Special).—His mind unbalanced by work and heat Norman C. Bassett, 50 years old manager of a department of the Allis-Chalmers plant, wandered for several hours about town Tuesday night until a patrolman took him to a police station.

He carried a satchel which was found to contain \$50,000 in money bonds and other papers.  
Bassett talked incoherently and was unable to tell about himself, even his name, and imagined he was in a foreign city pursued by thieves.

### FIGHTING THE PAPER TRUST.

#### Five Carloads Of News Print Paper Sold At Auction.

New York (Special).—Five carloads of news print paper were sold at auction in this city under the direction of John Norris, chairman of the committee on paper of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, for \$1.90 per 100 pounds f. o. b. at Natural Dam, N. Y., for the entire lot.

Two car loads were taken by C. D. Reimers, of the Fort Worth Telegram, of Fort Worth, and three car loads were taken by M. E. Foster, of the Houston Chronicle, of Houston, Texas. The paper was guaranteed to be equal in quality to that used by the New York World.

### Japs Sign Copyright Treaty.

Tokio (By Cable).—Formal ratifications of the new trade mark and copyright treaty between the Japanese Government and the United States were exchanged. Viscount Terauchi, acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, signed the document on behalf of the Japanese government, and P. A. Jay, American charge d'affaires, affixed his name in behalf of the United States.

### Falls 600 Feet And Lives.

Abbotsford, Wis. (Special).—Dropping 600 feet through the air Mrs. Eva Jones, balloonist for a carnival company which is conducting a street fair here, will probably recover. The rope of her parachute snapped, but she was caught in a tree 30 feet from the ground. When taken down she was unconscious, several of her ribs were broken and she was otherwise internally injured.

### Chicago Quite A Big Town.

Chicago (Special).—Chicago has a population of 2,425,000, according to the 1908 city directory, which will be issued this week. This is a gain over last year of 53,000. The total number of names in the alphabetical list is 758,100, an increase of 20,700 in a year. In estimating the population the multiple of 3.2 is used, a smaller figure than is used in some other cities.

### 100,000 Fewer Dead Letters.

Washington (Special).—One hundred thousand less pieces of mail were received in the Dead-Letter Office during July, 1908, than during the same month of 1907. Of the 932,983 pieces of mail received, 381,050 were returned to the senders. Isom E. McCury was appointed postmaster at Sylva, Mitchell County, N. C. He succeeds R. J. Burleson.

### Lightning Kills Family.

Charlotte, N. C. (Special).—A special to the Observer from Sparta, Allegheny County, brings news of the death of an entire family at Edmonds, 10 miles across the mountains from Sparta, by lightning. Frank Murphy, a farmer; his wife and young son were in the field stacking rye when the storm came up. The trio ran for shelter, but were struck down before they reached the house. The bodies were found by neighbors.