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THE SOUTH'S GREAT INDUSTRIAL PAPER.

The losses in the appalling conflagration in Baltimore were so stupendous that many of the serious individual calamities are only beginning to dawn upon us.

COLONIAL BLOOD PUDDLES.

The cablegrams yesterday tell us that if China's proclamation of neutrality during the Russo-Jap war is observed "it will, of course, prevent the use of her (China's) soil by either Russian or Japanese troops."

MR. F. R. KING HAS SWALLOWED.

Well Developed Case Upon Popular Young Business Man—Quarantined. Mr. Frank R. King, the popular young member of the firm of Roger Moore's Sons & Co., yesterday developed a case of smallpox at his home, No. 711 Grace street.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1904.

WAR ON FORTUNE TELLERS.

Under the laws in New York fortune tellers, or those who pretend to tell fortunes, are classed as disorderly persons and are punishable under the penal code.

THE WEEKLY STAR.

VOL. XXXV.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1904.

NO. 17

THE VICE CRUSADE.

Compromise Reached in Law and Order League Cases in Superior Court Yesterday.

ILLICIT TRAFFIC TO STOP.

Eight Defendants Will Pay Costs, Vacate Houses and Walk Circumspectly in Future—As to Renting of Property for Illegal Purposes.

Upon terms which are regarded as constituting a doubtful victory for either side, a wholesale compromise was reached yesterday in the thirty-day cases being prosecuted by the Law and Order League of Wilmington, against eight or more keepers of alleged disorderly and ill-famed houses in different sections of the city.

The Globe ascertained that there were several degrees of imposition practiced on people and that the classes of fortune tellers ran all the way from pestilence breeders to those who hold forth in luxury.

Police Commissioner McAdoo, in taking hold of the complaints against the fakers, said many poor people who are hardly able to buy bread, rake up money to have their fortunes told, and as for society people, many of them believe implicitly everything the seers tell them and pay them fabulous sums for their tommyrot.

It is gratifying for the STAR to state also that the lessons taught by the fire have caused the publishers of the Manufacturers' Record to decide to erect in Baltimore a building for its exclusive use.

THE NEWS IN RALEIGH.

North Carolina Ice Association—Baptist University Mortgage Cancelled. Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 11.—The North Carolina Ice Association held its annual meeting in this city last night and elected E. R. Conger, of Edenton, president.

Mr. W. E. Worth, general manager of Universal Oil & Fertilizer Co., has been granted permit by the city to construct the buildings of the plant of his company on the block bounded by Hall, Moore, Dickinson and Anderson streets, which is near the tobacco warehouse site.

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It is reported that Admiral Stark, commanding the Russian fleet at Port Arthur, has been called home because of the disastrous attack by the Japanese February 8th-9th.

As this is election year and every North Carolinian will want to vote for President, members of Congress and State officers, all who have not done so already should pay their poll tax before May 1st.

A cablegram states that "Lloyd has raised rates of insurance against risk of war between Great Britain and France from 20 to 30 per cent."

ITS EXCEPTIONS OVERRULED.

Corporation Commission Says A. C. L. Must Make Selma Connection—A. & N. C. Lease—Teachers' Assembly.

A. C. L. TRAINS CRASH.

Frighful Collision of Extra and Local Freights Near Pee Dee, S. C., Saturday.

ENGINEER TAYLOR KILLED.

Six Others More or Less Injured and Truck Piled With Wreckage, Blocking Traffic Many Hours—Dead Man from Wilmington.

Two Atlantic Coast Line freight trains, one of them an extra from Wilmington, bound south, and the other a local, going north from Florence to Fayetteville, were in head-on collision at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, two miles south of Pee Dee junction and only a short distance beyond the south end of the long trestle over Pee Dee river at the foot of Winona hill on Pee Dee trestle.

The wreck occurred on the hill at the foot of Winona hill on Pee Dee trestle. Engineer Taylor's train was extra No. 847 and left Wilmington early Saturday morning, being drawn by one of the big Baldwin engines, recently purchased by the Coast Line.

The local freight was No. 10, in charge of Engineer McLaughlin, and was going north. The extra had no orders over the local and should have looked out for it, registering for orders or waiting at Pee Dee.

John Hay, farmer on extra, slight scalp wound, arm bruised and back strained. Alonzo Moravan, tralaman on local, back and legs injured from jumping.

It was expected that all trains on the W. C. & A. between Wilmington and Pee Dee would have to be annulled. The main line trains were also delayed several hours as the rails are very light on the old O. S. & N. road and small engines will have to be substituted for the large ones in bringing the coaches around.

The local freight from Florence was six hours late and that is regarded as the reason the extra train conductor and engineer overlooked the wait at Pee Dee.

Slater Lucas and Betie Mills, colored women of bad repute, were committed to jail for the roads by Justice Bornemann yesterday. One was found guilty of simple assault and the other couldn't pay the costs in a frivolous prosecution she brought against John Williams, colored.

Winston's Weekly: We no longer make pilgrimages to the holy land in search of a Saviour's tomb. We build ironclad cruisers to do our searching. We no longer allow miracles to stop the sun of progress.

—The negro Randall Pittman, who, on Saturday, Feb. 6th, killed his sweetheart and then shot her sister because the first named refused to marry him, was arrested near Scotland Neck a few days ago by Stephen Purvis, white, and End Cannon, a negro, at whose house Pittman had stopped.

—Claude Leslie, a young white man well known in the city, was sent to jail yesterday for a term of 30 days on the county roads in default of payment of a fine of \$5 and costs in the police court, where he was charged with being drunk and down. He owed back costs aggregating in all \$35.50.

RIVENBARK TO THE HOSPITAL.

Unfortunate Man Removed from Jail for Treatment in Pleasant Quarters.

THE ACADEMY LEASE.

Messrs. Cowan Brothers Proprietors of Wilmington Playhouse Five More Years.

BIDS OPENED YESTERDAY.

Decision to Make Improvements Results in Almost Doubling Rental—Three Proposals of More Than \$1,200.

Messrs. Cowan Brothers, the present managers, were the successful bidders for the five-year lease of the Academy of Music upon the opening of sealed proposals by the Public Building Committee of the Board of Aldermen yesterday at noon.

Chief Dickens, of Wilson, has brought back from Suffolk, Louis Kattie, alias Henry James, a negro wanted for the murder of an aged citizen of this State.

—Durham Herald: We lived in the east in the days when the Republicans were supposed to play dirty politics, but they did not have the gang here skinned a little bit.

—The Salisbury Sun states that the Rowan Distilling Company has been chartered with a capital of \$25,000. The company will operate a rectifying and wholesale whiskey house at Salisbury.

—A former Salisbury man who is now living in Charlotte, raked off \$18,000 on cotton a short while since. He went in when the rise first started and sold out at the highest price before the drop.

—Durham Herald: If the State received dollar for dollar for those bonds in railroad stock, and the stock is now worth something like \$1.70, it appears to us that we are ahead of the game with our terms.

—Raleigh News and Observer: Hog and hominy will pay. At the big sale of Berkshire pigs at Billmore there was a brisk demand, the pigs bringing from \$75 to \$100.

—Judge Frank I. Osborne, of Charlotte, who is in Washington a few days ago, was a college mate of John Sharp Williams, the leader of the minority in the House, at the University of Virginia.

Major Wallace, a negro who formerly worked in Kinston, was arrested at Newbern and taken to Kinston. He is charged with burning the Carolina warehouse and other property in the tobacco section of the city of Kinston.

—Greensboro Telegram: When the Corporation Commission to get relief from an embargo laid by the Southern they said they were preparing a far reaching question. And so they were, for what do we find now but the Southern's lawyers actually claiming that the Corporation Commission is an unconstitutional body.

—Salisbury Sun, Feb. 12: Mr. L. L. Cranford is still striking it rich on his farm near Salisbury. It will be recalled that several weeks ago he found gold in considerable quantity on his farm and since that time several propositions have been made him by parties who desire to sink shafts on the place.

—You can't vote unless you pay your poll tax, you know. You think A's give you two dollars and a half but you vote A because you don't have a dollar?—Houston Post.

CHINA DECLARES NEUTRALITY.

Proclamation Issued by the Emperor. Every Precaution Will be Taken for Protection of Foreigners.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Sir Chen-tung Liang, the Chinese minister here, called at the State Department to-day and formally notified Secretary Hay that the Emperor of China had issued a proclamation of neutrality.

PARIS, Feb. 18.—The Japanese Legation here to-day gave out the text of a lengthy cable message from Tokio, defining Japanese attitude toward neutrality of China. It says China should observe strict neutrality and lay down the following principles:

Second. The number of belligerent powers should be reduced as much as possible, and the war should be confined to Japan and Russia, in order to prevent a general conflagration.

Third. It is of the utmost importance that order be preserved throughout the interior of China and at the same time the belligerent powers should be instructed her minister at Peking to urge upon Prince Ching that China scrupulously observe neutrality, maintain order, and refrain from furnishing supplies to either belligerent.

A DIPLOMATIC TRIUMPH.

All the European Powers Join the Washington Government in Urging Russia and Japan to Respect Neutrality.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Secretary Hay has added another to his long list of diplomatic triumphs and the United States is once more enabled by its diplomacy to head the nations in a concurrent effort to preserve the integrity of China.

M. Jusserand, the French ambassador, called upon Secretary Hay at his residence to-day, officially to inform him of France's acceptance and inferentially it is known that Russia's acquiescence will be communicated very soon.

—The formal acceptance of the other powers is expected to follow rapidly, but the success of the proposition is assured by the decision of Russia and Japan to agree to it.

DENMARK, PREPARING.

Army Reserves Ordered in Readiness for Mobilization Within Twelve Hours.

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK, Feb. 16.—The British government has inquired if the Danish government is prepared to defend Denmark's neutrality, especially the important seacoast. Denmark replied in effect: "We will defend ourselves."

SAN DOMINGO.

American Property Interests Suffering as a Result of Insurrection.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Minister Powell has called the State Department that American property interests in San Domingo are suffering heavily as a result of the insurrection.

—Raleigh Post: In case war is prolonged we expect wheat in this country to reach very high figures. England and Germany draw upon Russia very heavily for their wheat. Russia would of course hold on to her supply for her own use and this would force the countries named to depend entirely upon the United States and Argentina.

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