

DAVIDSON COURT.

Two Interesting Cases to Be Heard—
The Shoaf Trial.

Davidson county Superior Court will convene at Lexington on the 24th, with Judge Council presiding. It is believed that the criminal docket is very heavy. An important case on this docket is the one in which H. B. Shoaf and his wife are charged with having maltreated the small child of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Fields, of High Point. The victim is also a little grand-daughter of J. L. Fields, of Randleman. After remaining in jail several weeks the Shoafs gave bond and have had their liberty. During the pitiable confinement of the child Solicitor Haimes, who will prosecute the Shoafs, had pictures taken of it.

By far the most important case on the civil docket is the \$25,000 damage suit against Dr. J. H. Mock in which Winston Felton alleges that the defendant alienated the affections of his wife. The case comes from Thomasville, where Dr. Mock lives and the former home of Mr. Falton.

LOSS TO THE STATE.

Death of T. K. Bruner—Twenty-One Years in Department of Agriculture.

Mr. T. K. Bruner, for twenty-one years Secretary of the State Department of Agriculture, died at Raleigh Sunday morning after a lingering illness with Bright's disease. His death is a distinct loss to the State. He has been a recognized factor in furthering the industrial interests of North Carolina.

Mr. Bruner was 52 years old and was a son of J. J. Bruner, of Salisbury. He is survived by a wife, who is a daughter of J. A. Boyden, of Salisbury, and three sons, Thos. K., Stephen and Brandon.

BOLD ROBBERY.

Masked Men Rob Bank of \$2,700 and
Lack Cashier in Vault.

The Bank of Granite Falls, six miles from Hickory, was robbed by three masked men about 6 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The scene was equal to the wild and woolly West, when this masked men entered the bank and at the point of their guns Cashier W. T. Whisman was held at bay while they secured \$2,700 from his desk. Then, locking him in a vault, the robbers hid away. The alarm was not given until Sunday morning when the cashier was found in the vault.

ANOTHER FACTORY BURNED.

Lindsay Chair Factory Destroyed at
High Point Saturday.

The main building of the old Lindsay chair factory at High Point was destroyed by fire early Saturday morning. All the machinery, lumber and a lot of chairs and stock were destroyed. Loss, about \$25,000. The fire was discovered in a dry kiln about 1 o'clock and it spread rapidly.

The plant was recently purchased at a receiver's sale by S. L. Davis and J. F. Kirkman, of High Point.

Parsons—Laws.

The following cards have been issued:

Mr. and Mrs. James James announce the marriage of their daughter Agnes B. James

Mr. David Henry Parsons On Wednesday, February the twelfth nineteen hundred and eight High Point, North Carolina.

Jim Smith Arrested.

Jim Smith, the third blockader of Smithtown, Stokes county, charged with being implicated in the murder of Deputy Collector J. W. Hendrix, was arrested at Madison last week by Deputy Sheriff H. T. Pratt. He is in confinement in the Forsyth county jail. A reward of \$1,000 was offered by the government for his arrest.

New Novel.

Robt. Lee Durham, of Charlotte, has written a novel, "The Call of the South," which treats of the race problem, and it promises to be a "maker." It is now on the presses of L. C. Page & Co., of Boston.

J. S. Patterson has been appointed postmaster at Spray.

DEATH OF MRS. CROCKER.

Interment Sunday—Mother of Mr. H. M. Worth, of Asheboro.

The many friends of Mrs. Lizzie E. Crocker were grieved Saturday to learn of her death, which occurred at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Collins, at Greensboro. The body was brought here Sunday and interred by the side of her first husband, Capt. Shubert Worth, a son of the late Dr. J. M. Worth, who was killed during the Civil war.

The deceased was for many years a resident of Asheboro and is highly esteemed. Mrs. Crocker was 68 years old and is survived by three children, H. M. Worth, of Asheboro, and Mrs. D. H. Collins, of Greensboro.

R. V. C. A. Wood, pastor of the M. E. Church, conducted the burial service, which was a tender by a large number of friends, many from a distance.

Mr. and Mrs. Albright, Mr. and Mrs. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Worth, Misses Sallie and Lina Boyd, and Fred Boyd, accompanied the remains from Greensboro.

Book Club Meeting.

Mrs. J. D. Ross delightfully entertained the Randolph Book Club at the home of her father, Mr. P. H. Morris, Friday afternoon. The program for the afternoon and the decorations were symbolic of the day—St. Valentine's. Red hearts prevailed.

A contest, in which each person was required to answer questions, written on heart-shaped cards, with the names of varieties of roses, was an interesting number on the program. Misses Moring won the prize and Miss Jay McAllister was awarded consolation. Red carnations were presented to each one present and dainty refreshments were served.

Siler-McArthur.

Miss Anna McArthur, of Staley, was recently married to Mr. Shelby Siler, of Staley R. F. D.

The bride is one of Staley's most charming and talented young ladies and is a daughter of A. L. McArthur, a prominent merchant of that place. The groom is a son of M. A. Siler, a leading farmer of Chatham county.

The marriage took place at the home of E. W. York. Only a few relatives and intimate friends knew of the affair before the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Siler have many friends who extend to them congratulations.

Fire in School Building.

E. E. Clapp, of Randleman, was in Asheboro Monday afternoon. He reported the narrow escape of the Randleman Graded School building from being burned about noon Monday. Fire was discovered in the basement near the furnace, and was promptly put out. The damage was small.

Canon Supporters.

Ex-Judge W. P. Rynum, G. S. Bradshaw, C. D. Benson, J. Elwood Cox and other prominent Guilford Republicans are openly declaring their views for Uncle Joe Cannon for President.

Mrs. Blair Agony.

The vengeance Mrs. Ethel W. Blair, charged with the murder of her husband, has again been called in the Court of General Sessions at Columbia. It will be remembered that after a verdict of manslaughter had been returned by the jury the court granted her a new trial. The solicitor, not being satisfied with the action of the Court will appeal to the Supreme Court.

Death of Mrs. Bivens.

Mrs. Grace Bivens, wife of Editor J. D. Bivens, of Albemarle, died at her home Saturday after a lingering illness. Mrs. Bivens was a comparatively young woman, being about 30 years old.

Temperance Meeting.

The Anti Saloon League of Asheboro requests the friends of Temperance in the county to meet with them on Tuesday, February 25th, at the courthouse to confer in regard to the coming Prohibition campaign.

THE RATE BILL AND STATE'S RIGHTS

By HON. E. J. JUSTICE, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Delivered January 30th.

Those who give me credit for candor understand from my course in the Legislature of 1907, and in the litigation which ensued because of the conflict between the State and Federal courts, that I have felt there was a great principle of government involved in this controversy. That principle is of such immense importance that I am now oppressed with the apprehension that it may be lost sight of, and a blow be struck at our free institutions and government by the people, from which we may not easily or quickly recover.

The question of whether the passenger rate on railroads doing business in North Carolina shall be 2 1-4 cents, as fixed by the Legislature of 1907, or 2 1-2 cents and a 2 cent mileage book, as is now proposed by the compromise effected between the Governor and certain railroads, is important, but is insignificant when compared with the other question to be determined by this Legislature, which is, whether the control by the people of one class of citizens, to wit, the railroads, shall be by the grade of the Federal Courts.

When the 2 1-4 cent rate was established it was predicted by the railroads that a loss in their revenues would result, if it were put in operation, and on this prediction an injunction was issued to prevent the operation of both the freight and passenger laws of 1907.

Because of indictments in the State Courts the railroads were forced to put the passenger rate law into effect on August 8, 1907, and experience has shown that the income of each of the railroads from the sale of intra-state tickets, between the dates of August 8th, 1907 and December 1, 1907, was greater instead of less than for the same period in the year 1906.

Having been convinced from the testimony taken in the equity suits before the Standing Master that the loss to the railroads, which they predicted when the suits were brought, has not been realized, but on the contrary, that their receipts from the class of business affected by the 2 1-4 cent rate has been increased. I cannot support a proposition to raise the rate. I shall, therefore, vote for the bill which strengthens the laws we already have, and leaves the rate at 2 1-4 cents.

The trouble that the railroads are now having, together with all other business interests in this time of panic, is not due in any degree to the rate legislation of 1907; but if they are suffering more acutely than other business enterprises, it is due to the fact that the policies of the larger railroads doing business in North Carolina are controlled by men in New York, who operate on stocks in Wall Street, and who have bonds and stocks of these great railroads which represent water only, and for which they have not paid a dollar. The Southern Railway Company, for instance, based at its organization its entire common stock of \$100,000,000 on J. P. Morgan and two other men, who professed to hold it as trustees. These men allowed the property of the Southern Railway Company to run down, pay poor wages, and give poor service, because it is cheap to buy, and charge high rates, all with the expectation of increasing upon the New York stock market the price of watered stocks and bonds, with the purpose of selling these stocks and bonds for their own personal enrichment, and not for the improvement of the railroad property. There has been a time when the common stock of the Southern Railway Company would bring on the market forty cents on the dollar, and if the \$120,000,000.00 of stock had been sold at this price it would have placed in the pockets of Mr. J. P. Morgan and his two associates \$58,000,000.00, but not a dollar from the sale of the common stock would have gone into the treasury of the Southern Railway Company. As long as these methods prevail in railroading the necessity for State control is all the greater.

We are told by some of the officers of these great railway corporations that they are going to retire from politics in the future. They do not desire their participation in the political affairs of the state in the past. They have found it to their advantage to control judges and legislators, and putting political parties under obligations to them by contributing to campaign funds. I trust they are sincere now in their professions of reformation, but as long as they play politics with their employes by intimidating or permitting them to believe that the failure of this legislature to fix passenger rates at 2 1/2 cents instead of 2 1/4 cents per mile will cause a reduction of wages, I doubt the sincerity of their professions. If Mr. Finley, the President, and Mr. Thom, the general counsel of the Southern Railway Company could have their way about this corporation retiring from politics, I am persuaded they think it the wiser policy for it to retire, and that it would do so. They tell me that this is true, and I have found them both to be truthful men, but if the New York holders of the



HON. E. J. JUSTICE.

watered stock and bonds of this corporation want it to go no politics, then it must go for the officers will lose their positions if they do not carry out the policies of these stockholders.

What Morgan is to the Southern Railway, Thomas E. Ryan is to the Seaboard Air Line System.

These men do not build railroads, they wreck them, and then gamble on the stock which they vote to give themselves upon reorganization.

I decline, therefore, to close my eyes to the troubles which Ryan and Morgan and other like stock gamblers have brought upon the railroads doing business in North Carolina, or permit them, by the false assertion that the rate legislation in 1907, in any way contributed to the troubles of the railroads, to sweep me off my feet. If this House, however, should think that a 2 1/2 cent rate for tickets and 2 cent mileage book, is better than the 2 1/4 cent rate, or that in view of the financial disturbance that it is center to settle the litigation between the State and the railroads by adopting the 2 1/2 cent rate, I say that the members of the House of Representatives, remembering that, if any vote to be done, it should be done without sacrificing the principles of State's Rights, should let us see how that principle is violated.

Judge Frankland, a member of the United States, announced his resignation in the suit brought in the Southern Railway Company, that I am an absconder of an express provision that the Corporation Commission shall have a right to do with making rates, or imposing penalties for the violation of them, that it will assume jurisdiction with respect to passenger rates in North Carolina when the Corporation Commission is sued in its court.

What is known as the Manning Bill merely strengthens the present law and declares that the Corporation Commission shall have no power with respect to rates.

What is known as the Weaver Bill provides expressly that the present rate of 2 1/4 cents may be raised to 2 1/2 cents by the railroad companies, provided they put on sale mileage books at 2 cents, and inter-state tickets at 2 1/2 cents and also under an amendment which I have offered to the Weaver Bill, if the railroads put into effect the freight rate law passed by the Legislature of 1907; and the Weaver bill also expressly provides that the Corporation Commission shall have nothing to do with the making of passenger rates or enforcing penalties, and thereby

takes the jurisdiction from the Federal courts.

Each of these bills also makes the railroads and their higher officers indictable, instead of their ticket agents.

The bill introduced by Mr. Doughton, which is like the Senate Bill and the Senate Bill, as it passed the Senate, have conferred jurisdiction upon the Federal Courts, and in case of a conflict of jurisdiction takes from the State the right to fix rates and to try in the State Courts the violators of state laws.

I will, therefore, support the Manning Bill.

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CONDENSED NEWS.

R. H. Jordan, a prominent citizen and druggist of Charlotte, died last Thursday.

Little Clifton, infant of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Plue, of Aberdeen, died Friday.

Mrs. S. A. Freeman, aged 60 yrs., died at Greensboro Monday. The remains were taken to Rockingham.

Mrs. J. Thomas Leonard, died at her home 3 miles from Lexington Saturday afternoon. She is survived by her husband and several children.

The entire outfit of the offices of the Southern at Danville has been moved to Greensboro, where the offices in the future will be located.

Mrs. Angeline Foust, died at her home in South Alamance county last week. She was the mother of Mrs. Sam McPherson, of Liberty.

All work on the power plant at Whiteley has been suspended, pending the settlement of the affairs of the Whitney Reduction Co.

The plant of the Southern Car Co., which was destroyed by fire recently at High Point, will be rebuilt at once.

Ex Gov. Voorhees, of New Jersey, has been indicted for perjury in making reports on the defunct Bankers' Life Insurance Co.

Gov. Glenn has finally commuted the death sentence of Francis Jones, the colored wife murderer, of Guilford county, to life imprisonment.

The High Point Manufacturers' Club has been notified that it will not have for a guest at the annual banquet in the spring ex President.

J. C. Gravely, a merchant of Madison, has been declared bankrupt. His liabilities are \$6,000 and his assets \$4,200.

Republicans of North Carolina are getting under way a revolt against Mr. Taft for president, favoring Uncle Joe Cannon.

After another trial the new cruiser North Carolina is pronounced the best of her class in the whole navy. The speed is 22.48 knots, or a little more than 26 miles an hour.

James A. Butler, a prominent citizen of Iredell county, died Tuesday morning near Stateville. Mr. Butler was 46 years old and was a native of Dutchess county.

The main building of the Industrial Union Training School and Headquarters at Asheboro, was burned Friday morning. The loss is placed at \$24,000.

R. A. Wheeler, of R. F. Dept. has constituted a firm whereby to put his associates acquire local acres of land near Pinehills. They expect to convert it into one of the finest resorts in the South.

The falling of a heavy timber on the roof of the new mill building of the Union Point Lumber Co., at Newbern one day last week caused the frame to collapse, seriously injuring six workmen who were in the lower part of the building.

A tornado swept over a part of Mississippi Friday leaving death and great loss of property in its wake. The towns of Mussville, Service and Laurel, in Mississippi, and Minden, La., suffered most. The number of fatalities cannot be estimated.

Industrial reports from all over the country show improved conditions. Cotton mills in New England are resuming operation, and banks are being re-opened. Indications point to more prosperous markets.

JURORS DRAWN.

List of Jurors For the March Term of
Randolph Superior Court.

The County Commissioners at a call session held at the courthouse Monday, drew the following jurors for the March term of court which convenes on the third Monday;

FIRST WEEK.

- E. A. Nelson, Randleman township.
- O. J. E. Frazier, " "
- Robt. W. Dorsett, Concord " "
- J. A. Kennedy, New Market " "
- D. A. Kivett, Columbia " "
- Bethel Lucas, Union " "
- W. R. Smith, Richland " "
- T. H. Ellis, Columbia " "
- J. P. Marable, E. Franklinville " "
- H. B. Presnell, Richland " "
- W. N. Elder, Trinity " "
- W. F. Hix, New Hope " "
- O. W. Brady Pleasant Grove " "
- J. F. Kearns, Concord " "
- Jan. Arnold, " "
- M. R. Moffitt, Cedar Grove " "
- C. L. Winningham, Asheboro " "
- I. M. Baldwin, Grant " "
- T. A. Parker, Trinity " "
- R. C. Hoover, Concord " "
- J. W. Leflin, New Hope " "
- T. M. York, E. Franklinville " "
- S. H. Walker, Back Creek, " "
- J. M. Gray, New Market " "
- W. B. Hix, Pleasant Grove " "
- T. W. Ingram, New Hope " "
- A. L. Ashill, Brower " "
- G. W. Owen, " "
- Harland Prevost, Randleman " "
- W. D. Freeman, " "
- I. A. Birkhead, Concord " "
- G. H. Jones, E. Franklinville " "
- J. H. Graves, Randleman " "
- M. M. Rodgers, Asheboro " "
- John M. Marley, Pleasant Grove " "
- Alfred Jones, Liberty " "

SECOND WEEK.

- J. W. Birkhead, Union township.
- J. W. Stout, Columbia " "
- J. L. Hodge, Asheboro " "
- Isiah Parks, Union " "
- J. B. Slack, Richland " "
- J. W. Arnold, New Market " "
- J. A. Holder, Asheboro " "
- A. F. Ward, Randleman " "
- John T. Lowe, Cedar Grove " "
- W. C. Slack, E. Franklinville " "
- Hugh Parks, Jr., " "
- C. S. White, New Market " "
- W. C. Johnson, Back Creek " "
- Milton Kindley, Tabernacle " "
- J. V. Free, W. Franklinville " "
- E. W. Callicott, Union " "
- W. A. Underwood, Randleman " "
- Jan. Brady, Cedar Grove " "

VALENTINE PARTY.

Pleasant Evening Spent at the Home of
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Moring.

The Valentine party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Moring last Friday evening was attended by fifty young people, who were happily entertained. The party was given for the benefit of the M. E. church treasury fund. A small admission fee was charged from which a neat sum was realized. A unique game known as "hot tub" and played with eggs, tea spoons and other games was a great furnishing and amusement during the evening. Refreshments were served.

NEW ENTERPRISES.

A New Drug Company, Dr. Randleman—
Albion at Aberdeen.

The Board of State has issued a charter to the Randleman Drug Co. of Randleman, to carry on a wholesale and retail drug business. The charter permits the company to begin business with \$1,000 but may increase to \$25,000. P. A. Hayes, J. H. Walker, E. F. Redding and others are incorporators.

Other charters issued are: The Bethune Drug Co., of Aberdeen, capital \$4,500, by A. C. Bethune and others. The Health and Home Community Co., of Aberdeen, capital \$50,000 for developing real estate.

W. C. T. U. Meeting.

A meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union will be held at the Academy Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock. All members and friends of the Union and to the cause of temperance are urged to be present. New members will also be received. An interesting meeting is expected.