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No. 12

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

Interesting Items From Here and There Briefly Told For Busy Readers

Arthur Beschke, proprietor of the Sanford bakery, died at his residence in Sanford at 10:20 Sunday morning after a brief illness, at the age of 63.

Because George W. Vanderbilt left no male heirs the Fifth Avenue mansion, the art works collected by the late Wm. H. Vanderbilt, the sum of \$1,000,000 outright and other property will descend to Cornelius Vanderbilt under the will of his grandfather.

The executive committee of the North Carolina Press Association decided to call the annual convention of the association for Wrightsville June 24-25, and to recommend to the association that the midwinter sessions be held in Raleigh.

Governor Craig has appointed a committee of delegates to attend the tenth annual conference of the National Child Committee to be held in New Orleans March 14-18 at the invitation of the Louisiana Child Labor Committee.

Mrs. Minerva Burnett, aged 75, was burned Feb. 18, at her home near Canton, N. C., when her home was destroyed by fire. While preparing her breakfast, her clothes became ignited and on account of age and feebleness was unable to escape.

James N. Bolejack, who was convicted recently in Mecklenburg Superior Court on a charge of wife murder and sentenced to be electrocuted, was first married to Victoria, a daughter of one of the noted Siamese twins.

Mrs. Bart Hall and daughter Nancy and two sons, Charlie and Larkin, were placed in Wilkes county jail Friday charged with the murder of Bart Hall, the husband and father of the accused, who lived about ten miles from Mt. Airy.

North Carolina lost one-half of the \$40,000 originally set aside for the improvement of the public highways through delay in naming the sites for the improvement. The Thomasville and Lexington project was worked up by H. B. Varner of Lexington.

Mr. W. B. Keith forwarded to the Treasury Department March 14 his resignation as collector of customs of the port of Wilmington, effective May 1. Senators Simmons and Overman recommended the appointment of Walker Taylor of Wilmington some months ago and it is expected that he will be appointed.

William McLendon, a negro of Chapel Hill, has brought suit for \$5,000 against J. C. Scarborough, a negro undertaker of Durham, because the undertaker sold the dead body of his father, Alfred McLendon to the University of North Carolina for the dissecting room. This is the first case of the kind in the State.

Capt. Cameron Witherspoon, probably the oldest locomotive engineer in the State, died Friday in Greensboro after a long illness. He was born in Orange county in January, 1846, entered the service of the railroad at Burlington at the age of 16 years and served more than 40 years. He was twice married, the second time last June, and several children of the first marriage survive. The remains were buried at Burlington.

President Wilson has appointed William H. May of Maryland United States marshal of the Panama Canal Zone as a reward for conspicuous service rendered in the construction of the canal. It was expected that John W. Thompson of North Carolina, a perpetual officeholder who now has some sort of a job at Panama, was to be made marshal, but evidently the calculation of Thompson and his friends slipped a cog.

Two men were killed and two deputy sheriffs and a woman wounded as the result of an attempted hold-up of a Chicago and Northwestern freight train at Manlius, Ill., Friday. Arthur Fisher of Peoria, Ill., engineer of the train, was shot dead by one of the bandits and an unidentified robber was slain in a battle with a sheriff's posse. Mrs. Wright, wife of the station agent at Langley, Ill., was struck by a stray bullet.

The House of the Kentucky Legislature has passed, by a vote of 60 to 32, a bill providing for the submission to the voters at an election in 1915, a constitutional amendment providing for State-wide prohibition. The bill also makes provision for a State dispensary system for the purpose of dispensing liquor for medicinal purposes. The Senate may not pass the bill. All but 19 counties in Kentucky are now dry and local option elections will be held in these. The wet counties contain the large cities and the big distilleries.

Boys in Corn Club Contest—3,082 Boys Have Enrolled
According to the figures given out in Raleigh last week, 3,082 boys have enrolled in the corn clubs in the State. Wake county leads the State with 225 and Richmond is second with 157. Iredell is credited with 95, Alexander with nine, Catawba six, Davie one, Rowan 90, Lincoln 11.

Wm. Kearns Killed Tuesday

Mr. William Kearns of near the old White House Postoffice was in the woods near Hopewell church Tuesday afternoon cutting logs and when he felled a large tree, the tree struck a limb from another tree, which fell on him, crushing his skull.

He lived until midnight Tuesday night. He was 65 years of age and leaves a wife and several children. He was born Nov. 30, 1855, and in early life married Sofronia Steed. From this union there are six living children. Ben Kearns, Ed Kearns, of this county, John who lives in Texas and Thomas who is at Elber, Cora Samuels, of Winston-Salem and Patti Ledwell of Thomasville. His last wife was Addeline Newsom.

Funerals were in bed when the fire was \$50,000 in the funds of the Goldsboro Bank and also of the National Bank. The funeral will be conducted at Hopewell church today at 11 o'clock.

TO MEET IN RALEIGH JUNE 17.

Democratic State Convention—May 16 to 23 for County Primaries and Conventions.

The Democratic State Committee, in session in Raleigh Tuesday night of last week, named Wednesday, June 17, as the date of the meeting of the Democratic State convention, Saturday, May 16, was named as the date of the county primaries or precinct meetings, and Saturday, May 23, as the date for county conventions.

Mr. Chas. A. Webb resigned as chairman of the committee and Thomas D. Warren of New Bern was unanimously elected his successor, no other name being presented. W. S. Parsons of Richmond county was elected a member of the committee to succeed J. R. Blair of Montgomery, deceased, and D. G. Brummitt of Granville was elected a member to succeed W. A. Devin, resigned—Devin having been appointed Superior Court judge.

MR. J. REECE BLAIR.

An Appreciation by the State Democratic Executive Committee.

At its meeting in Raleigh, March 10, the Democratic Executive Committee adopted the following paper: Whereas, the Hon. J. Reece Blair, has been removed by death from his useful activities as a member of the Democratic Executive Committee;

Whereas, this committee, desiring to make record of its genuine appreciation of his value to the Democratic party, as well as his noble personal qualities as a man, a friend and a citizen: Now therefore, be it resolved,

First, That in the death of Hon. J. Reece Blair, this committee recognizes an irreparable loss: As a defender of his party's cause—true, unselfish, courageous and wise, his superior our state has not produced.

Second, That the members of this committee realize that in his death they have lost the companionship of a genial, warm-hearted brother-man and fellow Democrat, wise in counsel, kind of heart and noble of soul.

Third, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, a copy be forwarded to Mrs. J. R. Blair, and other copies be given to the State press.

United States Express Company Will Go Out of Business.

In New York Friday the directors of the United States Express Company voted unanimously to liquidate its affairs and dissolve it in the shortest possible time. The success of the parcels post and the recent express rate reduction by the Interstate Commerce Commission are held directly responsible for the company's retirement from business after 60 years of continuous operation. Earnings for the five months of the fiscal year so far reported showed steady decline, with a deficit of \$32,000 for November.

The late Senator Thomas C. Platt of New York and his family for years were the dominant interests in the United States Express. The company at one time had contracts covering 38,000 miles. In part these contracts have expired, but the remaining ones are said to be of potential value, and it is assumed they will be transferred to one of the company's former competitors, probably Wells-Fargo Company, in which the Harriman interests have large interests.

CHATAUQUA COMING.

Will Be Here for Full Week in July.
Miss Grace Hossey, representing the Chataqua Association of Swarthmore, Pa., left yesterday afternoon for here for a week, in the interest of the association and has secured a contract signed by an hundred of the leading citizens of the town that insures Asheboro one week of the Chataqua during the coming summer, and we will have as one of the speakers either Judge Lindsey, Champ Clark, William J. Bryan or Senator Gore.

The Chataqua comes sometime during July and this week will also be featured by the Teachers' Institute and will be a banner week for the town.

The program for the Chataqua, which includes three services daily, is interesting from beginning to end, and Asheboro-ites to be congratulated upon securing this attraction.

We shall publish more about it later.

North Carolina Wins Rates

Washington Special Dispatch to Greensboro Daily News.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has granted the relief asked for by the North Carolina authorities and the railroads from the provisions of the fourth section respecting class and commodity rates from Ohio river crossings, St. Louis and Memphis. The net result is to reduce the through rates from the points named to practically all the stations in North Carolina approximately 10 per cent. Several hundred stations in the State are affected, and the impression is that the decision of the commission will prove epochal in the commercial history of the State.

COOK-SLACK

Miss Majorie Slack Becomes Bride of J. A. Cook.

At the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Slack, at Randleman Tuesday at 11 o'clock a pretty home wedding was solemnized, when Miss Majorie Slack became the bride of Mr. J. A. Cook, of Burlington. Rev. G. H. Christenbury officiated.

The bride is a beautiful and accomplished young lady having many friends in other towns while Mr. Cook is one of Alamance county's finest young men.

The couple left on the noon train for Burlington where they will make their home.

Miss Slack is well known in Asheboro, where she spent several months.

St. Patrick's Day Tuesday.

Tuesday was St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, and all the loyal sons of Erin were out in full force, wearing of the green, and otherwise avowing allegiance to the patron saint of the Emerald Isle.

March 17th is not the anniversary of the birth of St. Patrick but of his death, which is reputed to have occurred in the year 492 A. D. St. Patrick was a priest sent by Pope Celestine to visit the Emerald Isle and convert the inhabitants from the ancient faith, that of the Druids, to the Catholic belief. He was reputed to have labored for 60 years among the Irish, effecting many reforms and doing many great works, one of which tradition tells was the driving of the snakes from the island. That he broke the strength of the Druids was attested by the development of time and Ireland remains true to the present day to the faith of St. Patrick.—Greensboro Daily Record.

Tragedy at Greenville, S. C.

R. Emmett Walker, aged 20, of good family and social standing, was shot and almost instantly killed Thursday, at the Carolina Mills at Greenville, S. C., by G. W. Tidwell, aged 52, a traveling salesman, of Clinton, S. C. Tidwell went to Walker's office, called him out and grasping his right hand pulled a pistol with his left and shot Walker twice. Tidwell claims that the young man contributed to the delinquency of his 19-year-old daughter and then refused to marry her. The killing occurred six days after Tidwell learned of the alleged relations between his daughter and Walker.

First Woman Convicted.

Mrs. Anna Stoe, charged with violation of the Mann white slave law, was found guilty in the United States district court at Atlanta, Ga., Wednesday. She is said to be the first woman thus far found guilty in the South of violating the act. Judge Newman will sentence her.

The indictment alleged the transportation of Anna Bond from here to Birmingham for immoral purposes. Samuel Stoe, her husband, was convicted in January of violating the white slave law.

Paul Garrett, of Norfolk, who buys the scuppernongs and other grapes of Eastern North Carolina at a good price, is engineering a women's corporation which would represent over \$150,000,000 of capital throughout the country. The Charlotte Observer says Mr. Garrett thinks "if we must be regulated it's far better it should be by ourselves than by some fellows in Washington who don't know anything about the trade and who are largely influenced by spite and malice." But he'd better watch out for the anti-trust law.

George Westinghouse the noted inventor dead.
George Westinghouse the noted inventor succumbed to heart disease at his New York home last Thursday morning. He was 68 years of age. He became an inventor at the age of 15, when he produced a rotary engine. George Westinghouse was born near Schenectady, N. Y., Oct. 6, 1846. His widow and only son survive.

Secretary McAdoo to Wed Miss Wilson.

Another White House wedding will occur in early June if reports are true. Secretary McAdoo who is 50 years old, a widower with six children is in love with Miss Eleanor Wilson who is 24 years old. McAdoo has been a frequent social visitor at the White House lately and although no public announcement is made it is certain that the wedding will occur in June.

SUPERIOR COURT

Randolph County Superior Court convened here Monday, with Judge M. H. Justice as presiding judge. There will be a three weeks term of court, the first two weeks will be taken up with the trial of civil cases and beginning on Monday, March 20 there will be a week term for the trial of criminal cases.

In the Spencer vs. Bynum et al case a juror was withdrawn and a mistrial was ordered. As we go to press the jury has the case of P. A. Williams et al vs. Seth W. Laughlin.

The following jurors were drawn for the first week of court: Arthur McCollum, J. L. Henry, James Cousins, H. T. Wright, W. P. Pickett, John T. Moffitt, J. R. Coble, A. G. Green, S. B. Davis, A. A. Smith, W. H. Watkins, Jr., W. A. Lamb, B. C. Rich, J. V. Cause, R. E. Green, E. S. Gray, J. W. Yow, W. H. Wheeler, John H. Hinsaw, Samuel Lambeth.

BONDS FOR ASHEBORO WATER SYSTEM SOLD.

The \$20,000 in bonds recently issued for the water extension by the town commissioners have been sold to Messrs. Bolger, Moser and William, of Chicago, Ill., at par. Work on the water extension will be begun in a month. Mayor Cranford has been pushing this steadily.

Biltmore Estate and \$5,000,000 to Cornelia Vanderbilt.

The will of the late George W. Vanderbilt leaves his entire estate estimated at \$20,000,000 to his widow and his only daughter.

Biltmore, Mr. Vanderbilt's world-famous estate in North Carolina is left to his daughter Cornelia who is 12 years old. She also receives \$6,000,000 in cash and is made residuary legatee.

Mrs. Vanderbilt receives the estate at Bar Haven, Maine, the Vanderbilt home in Washington, \$250,000 in cash a life interest in a trust fund of \$1,000,000 which she may dispose of at her death as she sees fit, and part of the real estate in North Carolina known as Pisgah Forest, containing about 80,000 acres, together with the contracts for the sale of timber there.

Southern Will Deliver No Liquor at High Point.

High Point, March 17.—No more whiskey will be delivered at High Point by the Southern Railway Company is the latest and best news the people here have heard for some time. It has been told by O. A. Schaub, the agent, who says he has orders to that effect.

Wellesley College Building Burned

The Wellesley College Hall, at Wellesley, Mass., was burned Tuesday night. Two hundred and fifty students, fifty instructors and fifty maids were in bed when the fire was discovered. One girl rung the alarm, while others rushed through the burning halls, waking the sleeping fellow students. Perfect discipline, coolness and bravery on the part of students and faculty members prevented loss of life or injury. The loss was estimated at \$10,000,000 with \$600,000 insurance.

Bank Shortage at Goldsboro.

A shortage of \$25,000 in the funds of the Goldsboro National Bank and \$50,000 in the funds of the Goldsboro Savings and Trust Company was made public Monday. Mr. George A. Norwood, president of the Savings Bank and also of the National bank, personally deposited \$50,000 for the purpose of meeting the shortage. Mr. H. C. Smith an employe in the National Bank was bonded for \$10,000. So the shortage was only \$40,000. Mr. Smith is suspected and the money is said to have been lost by speculation in cotton futures.

Dr. S. B. Turrentine Inaugurated Yesterday at Greensboro College.

Dr. S. B. Turrentine was inaugurated President of Greensboro College for Women Wednesday. Among the noted speakers were: Governor Locke Craig and Dr. Bruce R. Payne, president of George Peabody College for teachers. A luncheon followed the exercises, admission to which was only by card.

Growth of Building and Loan Associations.

The growth of building and loan associations in North Carolina during the past ten years has been remarkable, especially in view of the fact that series of stock are being retired twice a year by most companies. In 1904 there were 41 building and loan associations in North Carolina with assets of \$2,542,988.51. The number had jumped in 1913 to 131, and the assets had increased to \$9,581,773.89. These associations are under the supervision of the Insurance Commissioner, and their affairs are regularly investigated. They exist primarily for the poor man and man of small means, and are doing a great part in providing homes and developing the habit of thrift.

Wireless Telephone Tests.

William Marconi, inventor of wireless telegraphy, is in Ellicy this week, experimenting in the sending of wireless telephone messages from that island to England.

THE LOST \$20,000.00

Varner Explains Why Statesville-Mocksville-Winston-Salem Road Failed to Get Money.

Mr. Parker B. Anderson, the Washington correspondent of the Greensboro Daily News, crowded quite a sensation in his paper Sunday morning by sending out a report from Washington that this state had lost \$20,000 of the forty thousand that was allotted by the Government to be spent in North Carolina. This was the \$20,000 that was designated by Governor Craig to be spent on the road between Winston-Salem, Mocksville and Statesville. Mr. Anderson in his fertile imagination, and it appears "with malice aforethought," charged that I was to blame. There was not a scintilla of evidence to show that I was to blame in any way, shape or form, because I had no more to do with the designation of the \$20,000 to be spent on the Winston-Mocksville-Statesville road than the "man in the moon." Mr. Anderson should have known this, and could have found out the true facts if he had wanted them and if he had made any investigation whatever.

This article in the Greensboro Daily News did me such a great injustice that while in Washington Monday I made a thorough investigation and thoroughly explained the matter in detail to Mr. Anderson and at his request made a written statement of the whole affair, but he has so far failed to publish this statement, and in his communication Tuesday morning continued to "muddy the waters," and make it appear that there was a "nigger in the wood-pile," when the whole situation is as clear as the noon day sun. Every man who has been connected with this matter knows that I was not to blame in any way, shape or form, and I have been thoroughly exonerated by statements made by Governor Locke Craig, Senator Lee S. Overman and Mr. Geo. L. Wood, Chief of the Rural Division of the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General's office, who has the United States Government's end of this matter in charge.

The United States Government first allotted to North Carolina \$10,000. This Governor Craig designated to be spent on the Central Highway through Old Fort township, from Ridge Crest to the top of the Blue Ridge via Old Fort to the Marion township line. At the request of the Old Fort Highway Commission I assisted them in preparing their papers and securing their money.

In June, 1913, the government, at the suggestion of Senator Simmons, increased the allotment to North Carolina to \$20,000. Governor Craig designated that \$10,000 of this money be spent on the Central Highway from the Guilford county line south via Thomasville and Lexington toward the Rowan county line. He appointed me to represent him in furnishing a description of this road to the government, which I did and \$10,000 has been set aside to be spent in Davidson county, and the \$20,000 to cover same has been raised and appropriated by Thomasville and Lexington townships.

Governor Craig designated that the other \$20,000 should be spent on the road between Winston-Salem, Mocksville and Statesville, and appointed Capt. P. H. Hanes of Winston-Salem as his representative to furnish a full description of this road, which Mr. Hanes did, but his description was not satisfactory to the Postoffice Department, and the appropriation was withdrawn, which was a great loss to the counties of Forsyth, Davie and Iredell.

On February 21st, 1914, the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General wrote Governor Craig and informed him that if the designations and descriptions of the roads were not in their offices in Washington in ten days that this appropriation would be withdrawn. I immediately made my description, which was satisfactory to the Government. The time limit for this description to be in the Postmaster General's office was March 3rd, but on account of some of the officials of the counties through which the Winston-Mocksville-Statesville road ran being absent, Mr. Hanes was unable to get his final statement in until after this time, expired, and that is the excuse of the Postoffice Department for withdrawing the \$20,000.

I spent last Thursday in Winston-Salem at the request of Mr. Hanes, assisting him to make up a new set of papers in accordance with the suggestions of the Government, hoping to get them to reconsider, and let these people have their \$20,000. I did everything I could in Washington Monday to assist Mr. Hanes in this matter and we were practically assured that a little later on that they would secure their \$20,000.

The Postoffice Department ordered an architect from the Office of Public Buildings to go to Winston at once to make a preliminary survey of the road from Winston to Statesville with an estimate of the cost of building the road, so I believe that everything will come out all right in the end.

All this attempt to get a blame on me or on Governor Craig is so fetched and ridiculous for everybody knows that Governor Craig is doing everything in his power for good roads throughout the State. It is a fact that I have spent as much time and money out of my own pocket as any man in the State during the last five years, working tirelessly for the cause of good roads without reward or the hope of reward.

In my opinion the erroneous report was spread in Washington to injure me in the minds of the people, either thereby to elevate me or to make my statement, but I do it to keep history straight and in justice to all concerned.

H. B. VARNER,
Lexington, N. C., March 17, 1914.

TURNER'S ROMANCE

NO. 6
(Continued from last week.)

When that day rolled around it was foggy on the river. We opened fire on the Yankees with our big guns. I never heard such noise. The whole earth shook, everything was aquiver around us. Across the river they had found out what we had done so the Yankees raised some guns over on their side. It was fun to see our boys and the Yankees shoot at each other across the river. They started a railroad on their side out of reach of our guns and run around us and connected to the river above us. So all of our work profited the South nothing.

In February they called for men to volunteer for three years, or during the war. They would pay the boys \$50 bounty and 30 days furlough. A great many of the boys volunteered. I did not volunteer as my time was out in June.

On April the 16th the first conscript act was passed, that all men between 18 and 35 years of age were to be pressed into service. So that included me.

I must tell a joke on our Colonel. We boys would talk to each other when on picket across the river, and when the Colonel found it out I was on guard. He came down for a little talk with the boys. He told me to get the boys talking and then he would take hold of them. I got them started. The first word he spoke was in a different voice. The answer from them was "Who is that?" "This is Colonel Pettigrew." "Colonel Pettigrew you and your men grease your heels and slip back in the Union. I will bet you \$100 that you nor any one of your men haven't any hair on your breast." "What makes you think so?" "All wore off climbing those persimmon trees to get the fruit to eat." The Colonel turned to me, and said, "Sergeant, I will quit them." He never tried them again.

By this time our boys that had re-enlisted were making arrangements to start home with their \$50 and 30 days furlough. The Yankees were dividing their army into two parts. Jackson and Breckinridge was to watch north of Richmond and Johnson to look after the southeast part of Richmond. We were with Johnson. March was here and our big guns were rolled in the river and lay there. Our necessary baggage was sent to Richmond. Our brigade all left for Yorktown and marched down there 125 miles. The 12th Regiment was left back for some purpose. In a few days we started our march for the point. We got to Fredericksburg and took up camp.

It was now April and the boys who had been on a furlough had returned. Others had joined us. We had now a full regiment. We now became the 22nd Regiment. North Carolina had 10 regiments of three-year volunteers and 12 regiments of 12-month boys. They were all put together and ours was raised to the 22nd Regiment. We were reorganized and new officers were elected. In Company M, our company, we elected Laban Odell captain, W. B. Kivett first lieutenant, C. F. Siler second lieutenant, L. T. Mcmasters third lieutenant, Milton Lawrence fourth lieutenant. All were new men except Mcmasters. Before our time was up these old commissioned officers had a right to resign and come home, which they did, except Mcmasters. Everything was straightened out.

We started on our march for Yorktown. We got as far as Ashland and went into camp. The new boys that had joined had the measles. In a few days we started on our march again. We left the boys who had the measles at the hospital. We reached Richmond and stopped for the night. Next day our regiment took the boats for Harris landing, near Yorktown. We marched about eight miles and went into camp. We were sent down to the Warwick swamps to relieve our boys that had been there for some time. We were not allowed any fire, and it was April, 1862, then I have told my readers I would tell when I got to the war. I have gotten to the firing line after twelve months of traveling. Next number will tell what the war really is.

(To be continued.)

During a two hours session of the State Democratic executive committee in Raleigh Tuesday night Thos. D. Warr, of Newbern, was elected chairman to succeed Chas. A. Webb, of Asheville, resigned. June 17 was chosen as the date of the State convention and Raleigh as the place, and other business of importance to the party transacted. The roll call of the committee membership showed fifty-three members present or by proxy.

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