

THE MAYER GROCERY COMPANY IS BADLY DAMAGED BY FIRE.

The Blaze Originated in a Large Amount of Matches that Were Stored Away on the Second Floor of Building. The Loss Will Amount to About \$10,000.

The Company Carries About \$35,000 Insurance. Chief Orr and His Men Did Splendid Service. Fireman Hanoiapped by the Fumes from the Matches.

The stock of the M. C. Mayer Grocery Company at Nos. 47 and 49 South College street, was damaged by fire and water this morning to the amount of \$10,000. The damage is fully covered by insurance.

Started on Second Floor.

The fire originated on the second floor of the building this morning at 3 o'clock. The blaze started among some matches that were stored near the center of the second floor.

Alarm Turned in from Box 29.

An alarm was turned in from Box 29 which is located at the corner of Third and College street. The night watchman in one of the buildings opposite the Southern's freight depot, saw a cloud of smoke gushing from the front windows of the Mayer building and in a few seconds a bright blaze was to be seen on the second floor. He at once turned in the alarm and the firemen with their fire-fighting apparatus were soon on the scene.

Sulphurous Fumes.

On entering the building, the firemen were confronted with sulphur fumes that were well nigh unbearable. Despite this great handicap, the brave men threaded their way through the smoke and flames to the top of the stair case, that leads to the second floor. There they were met by a gush of sulphurous fumes that completely put them to the bad. The inhaling of the gases and smoke, caused by burning matches, made every one of the men deadly sick and several were put out of business for a few minutes.

Brave Acts of Firemen.

But brave men as they are, they continued to fight manfully and in a short while, the blaze that threatened the entire building, was under control.

Confined to Small Space.

The fire was confined within a radius of about 30 feet. Within this space there was stored nearly two car-loads of matches, representing about \$3,000. This mass of combustible material burned like oil. But the water was closed at hand and with every show of the flames, a well-directed stream would soon smother the blaze.

Hour after the first alarm was turned in, three taps of the fire bell sounded, which told that the fire was out.

Splendid Work of Firemen.

A careful examination of the building and contents shows how admirably the firemen did their work. Conditions warranted the throwing of a great deal of water, but no surplus was used. Chief Orr and his men sized the fire up splendidly and it is nothing but judgment and did exactly what was necessary and what the occasion demanded.

Damage About \$10,000.

While the exact amount of the damage cannot be ascertained, it is thought the loss will not exceed more than \$10,000. The largest item is the loss of nearly two cars of matches.

The Mayer Grocery Company is one of the largest dealers in matches in the South, and only recently the firm had stored two cars on the second floor.

The matches are kept on the upper floor because the boxes take up a great deal of room and too because they are light and easily handled up and down the stairway.

Water Damage on First Floor.

On the first floor, the damage sustained was entirely due to water, the blaze being confined to the second floor.

A Large amount of tobacco and other articles of merchandise were in the range of the water, but the damage sustained to these cannot even be approximated.

Origin of the Fire.

The origin of the fire is supposed to have been either the result of spontaneous combustion of a rat and a match. The latter is more generally believed to be the correct theory.

The Insurance.

The Mayer Grocery Company carried \$34,000 insurance on the stock. This amount was distributed among the following agencies:

C. N. G. Butt & Co., \$3,000; Southern States Trust Co., \$11,000; C. M. Carson, \$1,000; Baxter Ross, \$2,000; F. C. Abbott & Co., \$1,000; Fred Nash, \$4,000; R. E. Cochrane, \$1,000; W. C. Wilkinson & Co., \$2,000; Keebler and Alexander, \$1,000; and Graham & Son, \$2,000.

Mr. Gaither Owns Building.

The building occupied by the Mayer Grocery Company is owned by Mr. Thomas H. Gaither. The damage will amount to \$500. Mr. Gaither carried no insurance.

Notes of the Fire.

This morning while the workmen

were busily engaged in carrying out burned merchandise, a wagon loaded with three bales of cotton passed along the street. One of the rear wheels ran over a box of matches and several sticks to the iron tire. The rear bale was ignited and in a few seconds it was in a light blaze. A stream of water was turned on it and the flames were quickly subdued.

A small boy after filling his pockets with wet matches, started up Fourth street at a fast pace. He had only gone a short distance, when the matches ignited and a puff of smoke came from his pocket. The young fellow commenced to disrobe and in less time than it takes to tell it, he had his overcoat on the ground stamping out the blaze.

The horses attached to the Chemical wagon this morning became frightened and started down College street at a break-neck speed. They were caught before any damage was done.

TO COMEMORATE "RED SUNDAY."

Demonstration of Mourning Planned—A Two Day General Strike.

By Associated Press.
St. Petersburg, Jan. 11.—The demonstration of mourning planned to commemorate January 22 as ("Red Sunday"), includes the calling of a two-day general strike beginning at noon January 21. The "Reds" of St. Petersburg are striving to force a conflict and a repetition of the Moscow barricade of the streets and other features of the rebellion there.

According to Slovo the report of the Viceroy of the Caucasus, shows the situation in Trans-Caucasia to be alarming. The report indicates that it is necessary practically to re-conquer the whole country South of the mountains.

TRIAL RESUMED.

Prosecution Rests Case and Defense Introduces Witnesses.

By Associated Press.
Annapolis, Jan. 11.—Trial by the court martial of Midshipman Stephen Decatur, Jr., on the charge of hazarding and endangering and countenancing hazarding, was resumed. After testimony by Midshipman P. B. Marzoni, the prosecution rested its case. Several witnesses for the defense were then heard.

SENDS NOMINATIONS.

President Nominates a Collector of Customs and Two Postmasters.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Jan. 11.—President Roosevelt sent the following nominations to the Senate: Collector of Customs—George N. Cobb, for the district of Albemarle, N. C.

Postmasters—Alabama, Charles Booth, Prattville, Georgia, James F. Overstreet, Douglass.

FIRST ACTION TAKEN.

Daughters American Revolution Vote \$200 Toward Erection of Memorial Building at Jamestown.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Jan. 11.—The first action toward the erection of a memorial building at the Jamestown Exposition by the Daughters of the American Revolution was taken yesterday, when the administrative board of directors voted \$200 for the preparation and submission of designs.

FIGHT FEB. 23.

Hart and Burns Will Contest for Heavy-weight Championship at Los Angeles, Cal.

By Associated Press.
Butte, Montana, Jan. 11.—Arrangements for a match between Marvin Hart and Tommy Burns for the heavy-weight championship of the world were completed yesterday. The bout will be held before the Pacific Athletic Club of Los Angeles, February 23.

STARTS TOMORROW.

U. S. Marshall Takes Mrs. Chadwick to Penitentiary Tomorrow to Begin Her Ten Years' Sentence of Imprisonment.

By Associated Press.
Cleveland, Jan. 11.—U. S. Marshall Chandler expects to start for Columbus Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick, to begin her sentence of ten years' imprisonment.

CHARGE HUMPHREYS WITH COMPLICITY

Newspaper Writer on Trial, is Charged With Acting in Concert With Seton in Selling the Forged Certificates. Another Accomplice Probable.

By Associated Press.
New York, Jan. 11.—Samuel Humphreys, who says he is a newspaper writer, living in Brooklyn, was arraigned in the police court charged with acting in concert with C. Augustus Seton in the selling of the forged certificates of the Norfolk and Western stock to Barnard & Clark in this city last September for \$3,000. It is said that the forged letter was written on the stationery of the company.

That Humphreys should have been able to present such a letter causes the police to believe that there was another accomplice and that he is probably an employee in the office of the Norfolk and Western.

Posed as Wealthy Builder.

According to the information given out at the detective bureau, Humphreys went to the office of Barnard & Clark in this city with a letter introducing himself as "Mr. Collins," and presented two forged certificates on Norfolk and Western, which he wanted to dispose of at market value, between \$14,000 and \$15,000.

At the annual meeting of the Yellow Pine Sash, Door, and Blind Manufacturers Association, including the leading manufacturers throughout the Southern States, it was decided to advance the price second and third (B. & C.) doors and blinds two points, this being equivalent to about ten cents each. They decided to hold their next session in Atlanta on the third Wednesday in February. And the mid-summer meeting on Wrightsville Beach, the

MASONIC OFFICERS INSTALLED FOR PRESENT YEAR

Lieutenant Governor Francis D. Winston Announced the Appointing Officers for the Ensuing Masonic Year. They Were Installed with Elective Officers.

N. C. Grand Lodge of Masons Elected Officers for Ensuing Year. Governor and Others Made Speeches. Big Things in Prospect.

Special to The News.
Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 11.—The newly-elected Grand Master, Lieutenant-Governor Francis D. Winston this morning announced the appointive officers for the ensuing Masonic year, and they were formally installed along with the elective officers chosen last night. They are:

Grand Chaplin, Rev. F. N. Skinner, of Clinton; Grand Lecturer, B. W. Hatcher, of Liberty; Senior Grand Deacon, Dr. F. M. Winchester, of Charlotte; Junior Grand Deacon, J. T. Aidema, of Henderson; Grand Marshal, F. P. Hobgood, Jr., of Greensboro; Grand Sword Bearer, J. B. Griggs, of Elizabeth City; Grand Pursivant, M. D. Kinsland, of Waynesville; Grand Stewards, George S. Norfleet, of Winston-Salem, and Dr. J. C. Braswell, of Whitakers; Grand Tyler, R. H. Bradley, of Raleigh; Auditor, W. S. Primrose, of Raleigh; Custodian, S. N. Boyce, of Gastonia, and Historian, Marshal Delancy Haywood, of Raleigh.

The handsome Past Grand Master, Jewel was presented in behalf of the Grand Lodge to the retiring Grand Master, W. S. Liddell, the speech being made by Past Grand Master Walter E. Moore.

It was feelingly accepted, Mr. Liddell's remarks being eloquent with gratitude and devotion to Masonry. The Grand Lodge adjourned at one o'clock.

The North Carolina Grand Lodge of Masons last night elected the following officers for the ensuing Masonic year: Grand Master, Francis D. Winston of Windsor; Deputy Grand Master, S. M. Gattis of Hillsboro; Senior Grand Warden, R. N. Hackett of Wilkesboro; Junior Grand Warden, V. B. McKay, of Wilmington; Grand Treasurer, Leo D. Beatt, of Raleigh; Grand Secretary, John C. Drewry, of Raleigh. The two last names succeeding themselves.

These officers were formally installed this morning beginning at ten o'clock by Past Grand Master, Chas. H. Robinson, of Wilmington.

The Grand Lodge also elected J. M. Curran, of Oxford, a director of the Masonic Orphanage to succeed himself.

Last night after the announcement of the unanimous election of Lieut. Gov. Winston as Grand Master was called out for a speech and after expressing appreciation for the honor declared that it had been his pleasure to become the first child to the Masonic Orphanage, it would be now his privilege to lay the cornerstone of the splendid Masonic temple and he hoped that he might also as Grand Master, welcome the first indigent Mason to the Masonic Home that the Grand Lodge would surely provide through the erection of the temple.

A signal honor was conferred on R. N. Hackett in that when his advancement to the Senior Grand Wardenship came up the rules were suspended and the unanimous vote cast by the Grand Secretary. This was also done in the election of Grand Treasurer Heart and Grand Secretary Drewry, the unanimous vote for the latter being cast by Past Grand Master Walter Moore, the vote being in the language of Past Grand Master B. S. Royster, who moved the suspension of the rules in the case of Mr. Drewry, "for the best interests of the order and to its eleventh successive term of office."

In response to calls, each of the elective officers fittingly expressed their appreciation of the honors conferred and pledged support to the new Grand Master in carrying out the work he had outlined.

In the midst of the election of the balloting for the Junior Grand Warden, Governor R. B. Glenn who was a member of the Grand Lodge from Raleigh, Lodge No. 500, and attending the sessions for the first time, was called out and made a stirring speech on Masonry, as he has found it during the few months that he has been a member of the fraternity. That he had become a Master Mason, being elected Junior Warden in his lodge, passed on through the Knights Templar, Shriner and other degrees until he had become a Knight and symbols that he really did not know where he was at. Some brother had recently asked him in Goldsboro if he was a Mason, he had tried to show that he was and the brother commended "Yes you are a hell of a Mason."

At the annual meeting of the Yellow Pine Sash, Door, and Blind Manufacturers Association, including the leading manufacturers throughout the Southern States, it was decided to advance the price second and third (B. & C.) doors and blinds two points, this being equivalent to about ten cents each. They decided to hold their next session in Atlanta on the third Wednesday in February. And the mid-summer meeting on Wrightsville Beach, the

date to be announced later. The following new members were elected: Snow Lumber Co., of High Point; Southern Lumber Co., of Dunn, N. C.; Parker-Thompson Co., Raleigh; Rocky Mount Sash and Door Co., Sanford; Sash and Blind Co., Dudley Lumber Co. of Granite Falls; J. H. Warren & Co., Charlotte; Guilford Lumber Co., Greensboro.

FROM SALISBURY.

Interesting Local News from Salisbury and Spencer.

Special to The News.
Salisbury, N. C., Jan. 11.—There was small blaze at the Hotel Jackson at 7 o'clock last evening, but it was extinguished before any great damage was done.

The little girl of Mr. William Wiseman, one of Spencer's splendid citizens, died yesterday from one of the most terrible diseases, Typhoid. The sympathies of both Salisbury and Spencer go out to Mr. and Mrs. Wiseman.

Mr. John Cauble, whose horse fell in the big city market, E. L. Woodson, niss street, is considering bringing a suit against the Southern.

January 13th is the 20th anniversary of the organization of the King's Daughters and the Salisbury branch of this noble order is preparing to celebrate the event in a fitting manner. An extensive program has been arranged.

The petition in behalf of Postmaster Joseph H. Hamby, for reappointment is being circulated, and when it is sent to Washington it will virtually be a certainty.

Mr. Luther A. Rainey, who has been one of Faith's mercantile men for a number of years, has disposed of his stock and will go to Charlotte, where he has accepted a position in a department store.

The directors of the First National Bank have elected the following officers: President, Capt. W. C. Coughner; vice-president, T. C. Linn; cashier, J. W. Taylor, E. L. Woodson; book-keepers, J. Frank Plummer and J. L. Fisher.

The board of county commissioners are preparing to lay out an macadamized straight public road to China Grove, a distance of ten miles.

The new Spencer Railroad M. C. A. is to have rooms fitted up in the building for an emergency hospital. All the latest apparatus will be placed and an operating room established in connection.

NEW BERN NEWS NOTES.

"Prophet George" Prophecies—Fine Duck Hunting.

Special to The News.
New Bern, N. C., Jan. 11.—"Prince George," as he is called, or "Prophet George," as others call him, has again waxed prophetic. His latest prognostication is that the rest of the year will be a very dry one. On being asked why his forecasts always fail, "Prophet George" replies that his knowledge prevents them from materializing. It would seem, therefore, that the prophet is quite a valuable asset to New Bern's prosperity and progress.

New Bern experienced yesterday a real touch of winter—a light snow-fall. The ground was covered in many places. The wind, blowing from the north, was bitter cold. Duck hunters, taking advantage of the freeze, were in the marshes and swamps and mallards, this being the kind of weather that drives them up from the lakes and sounds into the small creeks in many places.

One of the women died yesterday in this city. Her name was Julia Leath. She was familiarly known as "Juno." She was a member of the Episcopal church (white) of this place. As a result of the respect and esteem in which she was held by her many relatives to attend her funeral. She was 85 years old.

PANAMA CANAL AFFAIRS.

Committee on Inter-Oceanic Canals Met—Sect. Taft Testified.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Jan. 11.—The Senate Committee on inter-oceanic canals, held its initial meeting of inquiry into the Panama Canal affair. Secretary Taft, the first witness to be interrogated, gave the few to acquiring the information needed as a guidance for an intelligent investigation.

Moroccan Resolution.

Mr. Bacon addressed the Senate on the point of order on his Moroccan resolution contending that it had not been considered by the Senate and had been improperly sent to the Calendar. On the suggestion of Mr. Morgan, the Senate went into secret session for the consideration of the subject.

SCHOONER TOWED TO NORFOLK.

Schooner Robert McClintock Leaking Badly—Almost Exhausted.

By Associated Press.
Norfolk, Va., Jan. 11.—The schooner Robert McClintock from Baltimore to Georgetown, S. C., was wrecked on the Cape Fear river, near the mouth of the river, on Saturday night. The McClintock is leaking badly and is expected to be practically all its sails. Captain Lewis tells his experiences in several days storms encountered.

The crew as a result of the loss of savers came aboard.

GAYNOR AND GREEN CASE.

Argument Was Continued—Judge Speer to Render Decision.

By Associated Press.
Savannah, Jan. 11.—Counsel for the defense continued the argument in the Green and Gaynor case as to the offense charged in the indictments. At the conclusion of the argument Judge Speer said he would take the demurrer under consideration to render a decision as soon as possible and recess was taken.

MUST DEWEY RESIGN?

Resolution Requesting His Resignation Introduced.

By Associated Press.
Albany, Jan. 11.—Senator Brackett's resolution requesting the resignation of United States senator Chauncey M. Dewey was introduced in the Senate and was made a special order for next Monday.

WAS ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

Carlisle Was Grandson of Former Secretary of the Treasury—Wound Not Fatal.

By Associated Press.
Mobile, Ala., Jan. 11.—John G. Carlisle, grandson of the former Secretary of the Treasury John G. Carlisle, accidentally shot himself. The wound is serious but not thought to be fatal. The accident occurred at Mr. Carlisle's boarding house.

Philippine Tariff Bill.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Jan. 11.—The House resumed the debate on the Philippine Tariff Bill, Grosvenor, of Ohio, speaking in favor of the bill.

SOUTHERN COTTON GROWERS ASS'N. IS NOW IN SESSION

Cotton Growing States were Well Represented at Opening of the Three Day Session of the Association. Great Progress of Past Year Recounted.

Mr. D. A. Tompkins of Charlotte Addressed Association. Many Vital Subjects to be Considered of Interest to Southern Farmers at Present Session.

By Associated Press.
New Orleans, Jan. 11.—With a large and representative attendance from the cotton growing states, the Southern Cotton Growers' Association opened its three day session. The Association organized here a year ago, when cotton was selling at six cents, its officers point to the reduction of acreage, and fertilizers, increase of the price of cotton to 12 cents, disclosure of a scandal in the crop reporting department of the Government, and the improved condition of the farmers as the tangible results of the work it has done during the year.

More important matters are to come before the convention. There will be a proposition to hold the balance of this year's crop until cotton goes to 15 cents.

A decision as to the acreage for the year is to be made. Congress will be urged to provide for a commission to visit the cotton markets of the world, including China, and the Orient, to find new fields for the surplus.

Diversified farming and a more perfect county organization will be recommended. The question of the permanent headquarters for the Association will be discussed. Atlanta, Memphis, and New Orleans will be candidates. Officers will be chosen and President Harvie Jordan, of Georgia will be a candidate for re-election.

Charlotte Man Speaks.

Mr. Tompkins spoke on "Cotton Values in Textile Factories." He advocated the sale of cotton goods to China instead of the raw cotton to England and especially emphasized the need of development of a knowledge and skill in manufacture that would lead to the production of better goods than Osnaburg and standard sheetings so that in time cotton would become in a degree a basis for the sale of knowledge and skill necessary to the production of the finer fabrics. Continuing, Mr. Tompkins said:

"It was the cotton manufacturer who drew from the cotton in working people and gave them employment in occupations that made them the customers of the farmer for perishable farm products, thereby giving the farmer a resource which he did not have before. The same movement took so many people off the farms that for those left there double the price is now being obtained for the raw material over what it was a very few years ago. The Southern Cotton Manufacturer has not been instrumental in increasing the price of cotton. With better values for the manufactured product, better values will be obtained for the raw material. Therefore, it is to the interest of the Southern Cotton Farmer that knowledge and skill should be developed in the South in the manufacture of cotton."

Regarding immigration, he said: "Extensive importation of any class of cheap labor for any reason cannot be made homogeneous as a part of the American race is undesirable. Complaint is made that labor is scarce. It is my observation that the present situation in the South is more one where work is plenty and wages fair than one in which labor is scarce. It is better to have fair prices and full employment than an excess of cheap labor. Favor immigration, but I think we should always see to it that there should be admitted into this country only those immigrants who would bring to our people a strain of new blood which might be absorbed with benefit."

President Jordan's Speech.

In his address President Jordan discussed the reasons for the demand made by the association for 11 cents for cotton.

"It has been ascertained by the investigation," he said, "and has not yet been denied that at the prevailing prices of manufactured products this season, spinners could easily have paid 12 cents for the entire crop to the growers and declared good dividends on their investments. If we demand 15 cents for the balance of the unsold portion of the crop, basis middling at interior points, we will still be unable to average the whole crop at 12 cents a pound, due to the unwarranted low prices at which more than one-half of the crop has been sold."

"The proposition to hold the balance of the crop at the maximum figure, or 15 cents, is, therefore, based upon a conservative reasoning and is justified by all the conditions surrounding the present legitimate laws of the demand and supply."

"The solution of marketing our cotton crop lies in moving the crop slowly so as to regulate the supply to meet the legitimate demands of the spinners."

Concluding his address, President Jordan urged the wisdom and neces-

sity for a compact organization among the growers in every cotton producing country in the South.

MADE HONORARY MEMBER.

Was Made Honorary Member of Improved Order of Red Men.

By Associated Press.
Washington, Jan. 11.—President Roosevelt was made an honorary member of the Improved Order of Red Men.

The national officers of the organization called at the White House to present to the President a beautifully engrossed set of resolutions adopted at the national convention in order at Nashville, Tenn., last September, commending the President's efforts toward bringing about peace between Japan and Russia. The testimonial was presented by Judge Robert T. Daniel, of Griffin, Ga., Past Great Inchoonee, in a laudatory address.

Among those present at the ceremony were Representatives Livingston, Bartlett and Bell, of Georgia. President Roosevelt made a felicitous reply to the address of Judge Daniel, expressing his high appreciation of the objects of the Improved Order of Red Men, and his thanks for the cordial regards stated in the testimonial.

The desire then was expressed that the President be made an honorary member of the order. The President assented heartily and Mr. John W. Cherry, of Norfolk, Va., Great Inchoonee, immediately granted a special dispensation enabling the President to be inducted into the mysteries of the order.

DOG'S BITE KILLED HER.

Girl Dies Locked in Room That Relatives Might Not See Her Agony.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 11.—Hydrophobia, resulting from the bite of a pet dog six weeks, caused the death of Miss Julia Curtin today at the home of her parents in this city. Miss Curtin was twenty-one years old.

When all hope was gone, and when she and her family knew that death could not be far off, she bade them farewell in one of her lucid moments, and was locked in the room with four physicians to meet her terrible end beyond the gaze of her relatives, who could not bear to look upon her sufferings.

WEDDED NEGRO COACHMAN.

Girl's Father Used Fists and Villagers Threatened Lynching.

Newburg, N. Y., Jan. 11.—William Bruyn, a negro coachman, and Frances Courter, a white girl, returned to Washington last night from Newburg and announced that they had been married.

The girl's father knocked them both down, and the angry villagers attacked them and threatened to lynch him. He escaped, but later he and the girl were placed in jail.

Mrs. Brown Very Ill.

The news from Mrs. Louis Brown, nee Miss Adelaide Clarkson, who is at the Stokes-Whitehead Sanitarium in Salisbury, is distressingly sad. She was operated on yesterday for appendicitis and her condition is regarded as extremely critical. The news received a long distance message from the sanitarium at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon. Dr. Stokes stated at that hour that she was resting comfortably and was doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances. Dr. Stokes added that Mrs. Brown was exceedingly ill.

Meeting With Success.

The committee recently appointed by the executive committee of the Mecklenburg Cotton Association to solicit funds for a better State organization are meeting with marked success. The Southern States Trust Company today subscribed \$100 towards the cause.

Merchant Prince Better.

By Associated Press.
New York, Jan. 11.—The condition of Marshall Field, the Chicago merchant, who is ill here, is reported favorable. He is suffering from pneumonia. The physicians say he is out of danger.

CAR PLUNGES FROM ELEVATED TRACK

Pullman Sleeper Attached to Wabash Train Breaks Loose in St. Louis and Falls Sideways to the Granite Paving, 15 Feet Below.

By Associated Press.
St. Louis, Jan. 11.—Plunging from the terminal of the elevated tracks at Carr street, the Pullman sleeping car, Harcourt, attached to the Wabash train, due at the Union Station at 7:30 a. m., dropped sideways 15 feet to the granite paving of the levee. Seven passengers on board were injured, one seriously. The remainder of the train continued to the Union Station.

At the Second Church.

The teachers and officers of the Second Presbyterian church Sunday school will meet Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the church parlor. Rev. S. M. Johnson will deliver a lecture on "The Geography of Palestine." Light refreshments will be served.

Woman Demented.

Mattie Sizer, a well known negro woman, was today sent to the County Home. The woman returned from Statesville yesterday in a demented condition. She was placed in the insane ward at the Home and will be taken care of.

Strike Outlook is Brighter.

By Associated Press.
New York, Jan. 11.—The Typothetae gave out the statement that with the acquisition more compositors the outlook is brighter than at any stage since the strike began.

ALL OF THE BURNED BUILDINGS ARE TO BE REBUILT AT ONCE

Southern Cotton Oil Company Does Not Intend to Curtail the Products of their Plant in this City. Work of Rebuilding to Begin at Once.

The Loss Caused by Yesterday's Fire will Amount to About \$85,000, Which is Fully Covered by Insurance. Firemen and Others are Thanked for Services.

The burned buildings at the Charlotte plant of the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company will be rebuilt at the earliest possible date.

This statement was made today today by one who has authority to speak and it may be taken as absolutely correct.

A rumor was current in the city this morning that the company would abandon the refinery at this point and would curtail the manufactured products at the Charlotte mill. Both these statements were idle rumors and, in fact, had no foundation whatever.

It will be learned with interest that the loss sustained by yesterday's frightful conflagration will fall short of the first figures given out. It is stated today that the entire loss will not exceed \$85,000 and that it may fall below these figures.

The greatest loss was in the seed house. The fire consumed about 1,000 tons of seeds, and in addition to this, a large amount of jute and cotton linters went up in smoke. The loss in the seed house alone will amount to about \$65,000.

The damage to the refinery will amount to about \$10,000 and the damage to the oils, in process of refining, will amount to about \$5,000.

The loss is fully covered by insurance. The local insurance agents were not interested in the loss, as all the policies were placed in Mutual Companies, in New York City.

The news told the story in detail yesterday afternoon and there is little to add to the first report. The fire originated in the seed house yesterday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock and in a short while the flames had completely enveloped the large building.

From the seed house the flames were conveyed to the laboratory and from this building to the refinery. All three of these structures were totally consumed. How well the firemen and the different individuals worked to save the property, is best told in the following card of thanks the company requests The News to publish:

The Southern Cotton Oil Company begs to publicly express their thanks and deep appreciation to the Chief and members of the Charlotte Fire Department, the management and employees of the Atherton mills, the management of the D. A. Tompkins Company and their employees, the management of the Charlotte Consolidated Construction Company and their employees, and to many individuals, and last, but not least, to the faithful employees of the company, who, by their zealous and heroic work, aided and assisted in fighting the fire fiend at our plant on yesterday. Due to their efforts the actual loss is small compared with total values at risk.

Respectfully,
C. FITZSIMONS,
General Manager.
A. C. PHILLIPS,
District Manager.
W. T. MCKAY,
Resident Manager.

Trust Company Elects Officers.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Southern Real Estate Loan and Trust Company, held yesterday afternoon, the following directors were elected: Messrs. F. M. Brown, R. A. Dunn, E. T. Cassel, W. S. Alexander, W. R. Burwell, A. Morris McDonald and Dr. R. L. Gibbon.

After the meeting of the stockholders, the directors met and elected the following officers: F. M. Brown, president and treasurer; W. S. Alexander, vice-president and general manager; and Mr. A. Morris McDonald, secretary.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

An Aged Negro Struck by Shifting Train.

An aged negro man by the name of Ephraim Beam had a