

AMERICA. MISSIONS ARE REPORTED DESTROYED

Consul General Rodgers at Shanghai Cabled State Department To-day that American Missions at Nanchang and Kiensee Have Been Destroyed.

Telegrams State that 14 American Missionaries Escaped, Kingham Family, Two Adults and Two Children, Reported Killed. American Gunboat Dispatched

The probable cause is local. Telegrams received from those points state that 14 American missionaries escaped from the Kingham family (English) two adults and two children, are reported to have been killed.

A gunboat from Rodgers says the inland British missions are reported to have been destroyed.

Methodist Missionaries. New York, Feb. 26.—Reports of rioting at the American Mission Station at Nanchang and the escape of eight American missionaries stationed there, were received here at the Methodist Board of foreign missions.

The cablegram was as follows: The mission at Nanchang riotous. The Methodist missionaries escaped on boat.

Concerning Missionaries. Peking, Feb. 25.—The American Methodist mission has a station at Nanchang. No news of the missionaries has been received at Peking. It is supposed they escaped to Kiungking.

DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN. Campaign For 60th Congress to Be Started in Near Future.—Call issued.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The Democratic campaign for the 60th Congress is to be started in near future. Call was issued today by Secretary Edwards of Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee for meeting of Committee March 6. Stated meeting is call for purpose of organization.

TRIAL OF BERTHA CLAICHE. Real Work on Famous Trial is Begun. —Police-men Implicated.

New York, Feb. 26.—The real work in the trial of Bertha Claiche, charged with the murder of Emil Gerderon July 26, last, was begun before Justice Davis and the jury today. The fact that several policemen have become involved in the charges growing out of the case, has contributed to the interest.

Dr. J. B. Shetter, of Davidson College, was here today.

NO STRIKE OF MINE WORKERS IN APRIL. So Says Vice-President T. L. Lewis and President Mitchell Says "I Guess he is Right."

Era of Peace for Period of Years.

By Associated Press. New York, Feb. 26.—John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, endorsed the opinion that there will be no general strike of the coal miners on April 1st, next, which was given out last night in Indianapolis by Vice President T. L. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers.

President Mitchell was shown the vice president's statement in which the latter said, in addition to the assertion there will be no general strike in the mining industry on April 1, the operators will restore the reduction accepted by the miners two years ago and perhaps more, and that an era of peace will be established for another period of years.

After hearing this statement, President Mitchell said: "I guess that is right."

Indianapolis, Feb. 26.—President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America, has called to New York a number of officers of the organization to consider the proposition from the Birmingham coal operators to restore the scale of 1903 which is an increase of 5.55 per cent over the present scale.

Horse Died on Streets. Mr. W. N. Mullen lost a valuable horse this afternoon. He was driving the animal along North Tryon street when it was seized with a fit and died in a few minutes.

HASTY ON TRIAL KILLED TWO ACTORS. Tragedy Occurred in Gaffney Last December. Defense Claims Grand Jury was not Regularly Drawn. A Battle Royal To be Fought by Lawyers.

Special to The News. Gaffney, S. C., Feb. 26.—The trial of George Hasty of this city, charged with killing two members of a theatrical company last December, was begun in sessions court today.

The grand jury has found true bills in the cases against Hasty, for the killing of Miland C. Bennett and Abbott Davidson, both of the "Nothing but Money" company which showed in Gaffney early in December.

Hasty was arraigned today as soon as the true bills were returned and as soon as the recess is over the defense will this afternoon try to set aside the bills of indictment on the ground that there was irregularity in drawing the grand jury in that one of the jury commissioners had subscribed to the fund to aid in the prosecution of Hasty.

The motion will be strongly fought by the State.

The witnesses present are Miss Sheridan of New York; Miss Bishop of Chicago; and Mr. Welch, manager of the company.

Solicitor Sease of Spartanburg and J. C. Otts and J. B. Bell, of the local bar, will conduct the prosecution, while the defense will be conducted by Geo. Johnston of Newberry, and Butler Osborne of the local bar.

The contest promises to be a battle royal for the life of the defendant whose case has attracted attention all over the country. The crime was committed during the first week of last December and two men were killed as a result, Hasty being immediately arrested and held without bail.

TILLMAN MAKES REPORT.

Reported on Hepburn R. R. Rate Bill Without Amendment.

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 26.—Tillman reported to the Senate on the Hepburn Railroad Rate Bill without an amendment as instructed by the committee on Interstate Commerce. An order was made for the publication of 10,000 copies of the testimony taken by the committee. Tillman gave notice he would press the bill to the earliest consideration.

Republicans Did Not Join. Tillman announced as soon as possible that he proposed to digest the testimony and to submit a formal report on the bill. Aldrich said "A majority of Republican members of the committee did not join in the favorable report which has just been made by the Senator from South Carolina, for the reason in their judgment that an attempt should have been made by the committee to remedy, by proper amendments, some of their obvious and admitted defects and omissions of the House bill, and an adequate provision should have been made for subjecting the orders of the commission affecting the rates to a judicial review." Culberson said the committee's action in a large degree was no more than a transfer of the controversy from the Committee to the Senate. He offered a substitute for the bill. It was ordered printed and to lie on the table until the Rate bill is taken.

MERCY GENERAL HOSPITAL. It Was Formally Opened to the Public This Morning.

The informal opening and dedication of Mercy General Hospital this morning was a very notable event, and adequate provision should have been made for subjecting the orders of the commission affecting the rates to a judicial review." Culberson said the committee's action in a large degree was no more than a transfer of the controversy from the Committee to the Senate. He offered a substitute for the bill. It was ordered printed and to lie on the table until the Rate bill is taken.

Bishop Haid pronounced the formal prayer of benediction before the altar, after which he took the vessel of holy water and went through the building sprinkling each room and asking God's blessing. In his address which followed, he spoke most beautifully of the duties that the church and humanity, and what all Christians owe to humanity, for the proper care of the sick and suffering. He felt that this was one of the foremost of Christian duties. He was happy at the result and completion of the hospital which represented so much of the time and effort of Father Joseph, whom he desired to thank especially. He also referred to the aid, in a material way, given and extended by others not of the Catholic denomination and especially thanked the corps of physicians who had joined with them in this effort. He spoke of the help that God would give the sick, but said that God expected and required the medicines of nature to be used because He has given us that high class of intelligence which makes it possible for us to know the remedies for each ill.

The Bishop spoke most pathetically and tenderly and the audience showed that it was in sympathy with him. It was an unusual collection of our people and it bespeaks a great deal for that high class Christian fellowship which exists here more so than anywhere else.

Mayor S. S. McNinch, after being introduced to the Bishop, said: "It gives me great pleasure to be with you in the formal opening of Mercy General Hospital. I come here as an official and personally to join hands with you and to give you all the sympathy, encouragement and encouragement possible. There are a number of other institutions in the city of public or private nature which are under the influence to a greater or less degree of religious denominations, and I gladly welcome your institution to the community because it is a Catholic institution, and for the reason that I will know that all Catholic institutions are for the good of the communities in which they are located.

"Some of my best friends are Catholics. I have learned to esteem them as such, and while our creed differs I love to think that we all have the same beautiful vision of the Almighty God and the same common hope of the hereafter. Surely, such being the case, we can gladly join hands with you in works of charity, mercy, love and temperance."

"In closing, good friends, I desire to again thank you for your efforts and to thank these splendid physicians and good Sisters who will have charge of the hospital and the care of the sick and suffering who will be placed in their care."

Dr. F. M. Winchester responded in behalf of the corps of physicians. He said that he and Dr. Wilder had previously discussed the needs of another institution in Charlotte and when the Mercy Hospital was proposed they were glad to join hands. He complimented the equipment and thanked the other representatives of hospitals for their presence and he hoped that there would never be other than a friendly spirit of rivalry.

Rev. Francis Osborne and Dr. F. O. Hawley made short and interesting talks.

NATIONAL SOLDIERS' RALLY. Meeting in Washington Proposed of All Soldiers of Many Wars.—A Grand Review.

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 26.—At a meeting in Atlanta March 28-29, of the National Society of Blue and Gray Veterans, 61-65, one of the plans of the reunion is to hold in Washington, D. C., at no distant date, a national rally not only of Blue and Gray but of all soldiers and sailors who participated in Mexican War, war with Spain, campaigns in China and the Philippines, together with all sons of veterans, and to pass in grand review before the President. It is proposed that the rally shall continue for one week.

Assembly to Meet. St. Petersburg, Feb. 26.—The Imperial Ukase issued today announces that the National Assembly will meet May 10.

"SCAB" IS FIGHTING WORD ACCORDING TO CITY RECORDER

The Term Applied to Mr. P. H. Brown Caused a Fight in which Mr. Brown was Cut by Mr. Gaston Thompson, Member of the Iron Moulders Union.

Recorder Shannonhouse Held Thompson in a \$100 Bond and Continued the Judgment as to Brown. An Interesting Case Heard this Morning.

The word "scab" as applied to one not a member of any labor union is regarded by Recorder Shannonhouse as a "fighting word," and he so held in his court this morning.

There are a few epithets that the law says are calculated to bring on a fight and the one who makes use of these is just as guilty as the man who strikes the first blow.

And this all came about in the trial of Gaston Thompson for an assault on Mr. P. H. Brown with a deadly weapon.

The evidence was that Mr. Brown, who is mailing clerk for the Charlotte Observer, went to the Gem restaurant early Sunday morning for a plate of oysters. While he was sitting at the lunch counter three men, who afterwards proved to be Gaston Thompson, J. B. Hasty and Ed Fullerton, were seated near the stove.

As Brown walked into the restaurant he "made a noise like a whistle," and this attracted the attention of the three. One spoke up and asked who the man was. Another said that he worked at the Observer office, but did not know his name.

Then it was that Thompson said, "I—a scab."

Mr. Brown, who stands six-foot-three in his stocking feet, continued to eat his oysters, seemingly paying little attention to the remarks made by those at his rear.

When he had finished eating, he whirled around on the stool and asked who called him a scab, at the same time applying an epithet to the one who had done so.

Thompson replied that he had not been talking about Brown, but he would retract nothing he had said about a "scab." Brown repeated the epithet and the two men went together.

With one move of Brown's hand Thompson went to the floor like a ton of brick. While he was down Brown kicked him and then as a climax threw a box of "coco-cola" bottles into Thompson's face.

During the melee Brown was cut across the breast, the wound requiring six stitches to close.

In court this morning Brown was the first witness examined. He did not deny that he had applied the epithet to Thompson, nor did he deny that he kicked him when down. He also admitted throwing the box of "coco-cola" at Thompson while down. Brown said he went into the restaurant, in his mind retracted nothing he had said. While he was eating the oysters, he heard someone call him a "scab." He waited until he had finished eating and then turned on his stool and faced the three men, one of whom had called him the name. He remarked that any one who said he was a scab was a scab matter up and said that he had no retraction to make; that any one who called him a scab was the same. Then was when the fireworks started.

J. B. Hasty, a friend of Thompson and a member of the Iron Moulders' Union, was the next witness called. He said there was something said about "a scab," but he did not think it applied to Brown; that he, Thompson and Fullerton had been talking concerning the help at the Mecklenburg Iron Works and were discussing this when Brown walked in the restaurant.

"What was said about a 'scab?'" asked the Recorder.

"Some one said he had no use for a 'scab.'"

"Who said it?" asked the Recorder. "I don't recall who said it," said Hasty.

"What do mean mean by a 'scab?'" "I suppose the term is applied to all who are not members of a union."

"Are you a scab?" "No, I am not," replied Hasty.

Ed Fullerton was the next witness. He corroborated Hasty at every material point and went further. He said that the word "scab" was said before Brown entered the restaurant and that it had no reference to Brown.

The Recorder in passing sentence said that the evidence, to his mind, disclosed the fact that Thompson used the word "scab" and that it was used for no other purpose than to bring on a fight and to humiliate Mr. Brown; that to the court's mind Mr. Brown did right in resenting the intended insult and that Thompson denied that he had said it in order to evade the consequences.

Continuing, the Court said: "If Thompson had kept his mouth shut, there would have been no trouble. I hold that the epithet 'scab' as applied to a non-member of a labor union is humiliating and is calculated to bring on a fight. If I had jurisdiction in this case, I would punish Thompson severely—to the fullest extent of the law. A man has the right to belong to the union. He has the same rights not to belong to it, if he

so desires. I will require Thompson to give a bond of \$100 for his appearance at the next term of the Superior Court. The judgment is continued as to Mr. Brown."

Addressing Mr. Brown, the Recorder said: "Mr. Brown, you used an epithet that is regarded in law as calculated to bring on a fight. I suppose, of course, that you thought it a difficulty, else you would not have used the language you did. Because of this your are guilty."

Mr. Plummer Stewart, who represented Thompson, said he did not think his client guilty because Brown used the language calculated to cause trouble. If his client did do the cutting, he did it in self-defense. He then described Mr. Brown as a mere stripping and that his client was a mere stripping when compared with him.

The knife that it is said was used by Thompson was produced in court and Officer Squires testified that when he was disarming Thompson he pulled the weapon from the man's pocket. As he did, Thompson said: "I guess that is what you will need."

MINISTERS HOLD BIG MEETING. Interesting Discussions At The Second Presbyterian Church.

More than 125 ministers and elders of the city and county churches were present at a big meeting of the Mecklenburg County Ministerial Association at the Second Presbyterian church today. The meeting went in session at 11 o'clock this morning continuing until 4 o'clock this afternoon with an intermission for dinner which was served in the Sunday school room.

The first subject discussed was "The Relation of the County and City Churches" by Revs. P. H. Gwynn and W. W. Orr.

"Needs of Revival," by Revs. Plato Durham and R. G. Miller.

"What is a True Revival?" by Rev. H. K. Becker.

"Conditions of Revival," by Revs. J. O. Adams and J. R. Howerton.

After dinner a further discussion followed as to the plan of co-operation and prayer service by the ministers of the city and county which will begin next Sunday night with revival services to be conducted by the ministers of the various churches throughout the city and county. These services will continue through the week with further unions later on.

WILL OF MR. J. M. DOVE. His Estate Is Said to Be Valued at About \$75,000.

The will of the late J. M. Dove, of Cornelius, was filed for probate in the office of the Clerk of the Court today at noon.

Mrs. Mary Ann Dove, widow of the deceased, and Mr. J. A. Dove, son of the deceased, are named as executrix and executor respectively.

The property conveyed by the will, it is said, is worth between \$75,000 and \$100,000. It consists of real estate, personal property, stocks, bonds and other securities. The beneficiaries are the widow, Mrs. M. A. Dove, the son, Mr. J. A. Dove, and two grand children, Misses Allie and Lucy Washam.

The document bears the date of October 23, 1905, and is witnessed by Messrs. F. C. Sherrill and J. T. Beard. Mr. J. Lee Sloan, Jr., a friend of the deceased, drew the document.

The Jail Thinned Out. At present there are nine prisoners in the county jail. Of this number two have been tried and sentenced by the court. These are Sis Carter and Hattie Kirkpatrick. The Carter woman is in for 30 days for selling whiskey and the Kirkpatrick woman was sentenced to six months for larceny. The court instructed the County Commissioners to hire these women out and not allow them to go to the road.

Two in jail are negroes from Huntersville, who are charged with false pretense and larceny.

Seven Freight Cars Derailed. The derailment of seven freight cars at the Elizabeth mills late yesterday afternoon delayed passenger train No. 12, scheduled to arrive here at 7 o'clock, more than three hours. The accident was caused by a loose wheel of a car of freight train No. 71. A wrecking crew was dispatched to the scene soon after the accident, clearing the track about 10 o'clock.

Growing Steadily. The Tenth Avenue Presbyterian church of this city is having an encouraging growth in attendance and membership. There were six additions to the church yesterday morning. In announcing their reception the pastor stated that during the last three Sabbaths there had been thirteen accessions to the church.

Miss Hyndman Better. Miss Nora Hyndman who was operated on for appendicitis several weeks ago at the Presbyterian hospital, was able to be taken to her home on East 6th street Saturday. Her friends will be glad to know she continues to improve.

A Sweeping Bill. Washington, Feb. 26.—Senator Lafolette, of Wisconsin, introduced a sweeping bill requiring all committees of all political parties in the National and Congressional elections to account for all moneys expended in said elections and to prohibit corporations from contributing money to any political committee or to any candidate for political office.

Cotton Receipts. The receipts at the cotton platform today amounted to 176 bales and the best price was 10.75. For the same day last year the receipts amounted to 24 bales and the best price was 7.75.

SEABOARD AIR LINE WILL MAKE MANY IMPROVEMENTS

It is More than Probable that the Passenger Station will be Moved to the Corner of Sixth and the Railroad on Vance Property.

Judge Watts, the General Counsel of the Road Gives Out the Statement that There Has Been no Change in the Management of the Road.

The published statement to the effect that the Seaboard Air Line is about to pass out of the hands of the present management is denied.

Judge Watts, general counsel for the corporation, in an interview with a prominent citizen of Charlotte, says there is absolutely no truth in the statement and that the road will continue under the present management.

Judge Watts' statement should set the matter at rest.

The News is informed by a leading Charlotte citizen that the great system has pleased that will mean much to North Carolina and Charlotte. For some weeks past, it has been common rumor on the streets that the Seaboard Air Line had either purchased or had options on a number of pieces of property lying between East Trade and Seventh street. It was said that the old Vance home, on Sixth street, had been purchased by Mr. F. D. Alexander and that he was acting for the Seaboard Air Line. However, this may be. The News is in a position to state that the Seaboard is to make some wonderful improvements to its property in Charlotte and that other properties will be purchased in a few weeks. Then, and not until then, will the real facts be given out.

The News man learned this afternoon that the Seaboard will, an all probability, give up the present passenger yards at the foot of North Tryon street and the passenger station will be moved to East Sixth street.

It is also said that the present freight station is to be abandoned and that a large and commodious freight depot will be erected farther down the tracks, probably between Fifth and Sixth streets.

In an interview with a well-known citizen this afternoon it was learned that General Manager Barr is devoted to Charlotte and the only reason these contemplated improvements have not been started earlier was because of certain litigations that are hanging fire.

There seems to be a desire on the part of the Seaboard to put an end to all differences between it and the city, in order that the road may put on foot such improvements as is deemed necessary for the proper handling of both the freight and passenger business of Charlotte.

Dr. W. G. Wylie here. Dr. W. G. Wylie arrived in Charlotte this morning from New York. He comes down to look after his interests in the Southern Power Co.

NOTED CASES TO BE HEARD IN GATE CITY. Blackburn Arrives Smiling and Confident. Says he is Innocent. Judge Bynum to Represent Him. Cases to be Tried in Greensboro in April.

Special to The News. Asheville, N. C., Feb. 26.—Spencer Blackburn, Republican Congressman from the Eighth district, indicted for alleged practicing before the Department, appeared this morning in the Federal Court, and through his counsel, Judge Bynum, of Greensboro, announced his readiness for trial.

When Congressman Blackburn appeared in the court room he immediately became the center of attraction, but he took no part in the proceedings, his case being conducted by his attorneys.

Judge Bynum stated that the District Attorney had informed him it would be impossible to go into a trial at the present or before the middle of April and said that arrangements would be satisfactory to his client.

The trial will be held at Greensboro at a special term of court some time in April, the exact date to be announced later.

In reply to an inquiry of the Court, Judge Bynum said he did not desire to enter pleadings today as he desired more carefully to examine the bills of indictment. The question of a bond was next gone into, this being fixed at \$1,000. C. J. Harris, of Dillsboro, going surety. There were no sensational developments, the whole proceeding passing off quickly. Blackburn had nothing to say beyond stating to his friends that he was innocent and had no fear of the outcome.

He appeared in the court with a cigar between his teeth, smiling and self-possessed and confident. He and his attorneys left this afternoon.

ABOUT SOUTHERN REPRESENTATION. Representative Keifer of Ohio Introduces Bill to Reduce Southern Representation in the House. The Reduction by States Provided for in Bill.

By Associated Press. Washington Feb. 26.—Representative Keifer of Ohio introduced a bill to reduce the number of representatives in the House of the Southern states, because of the disfranchisement of negro voters.

The bill makes a reduction as follows: Alabama from 9 to 5; Arkansas from 7 to 5; Florida from 3 to 2; Georgia from 11 to 6; Louisiana from 7 to 3; Mississippi from 8 to 3; North Carolina from 10 to 6; South Carolina from 7 to 3; Tennessee from 10 to 8; Texas from 16 to 12; Virginia from 10 to 8.

BELK BROS. THE PURCHASERS. Entire Stock of Carolina Clothing Co. Purchased by This Firm.

The entire stock of the Carolina Clothing Company, one of Charlotte's leading clothing concerns, was today sold to Belk Brothers, the well known East Trade street firm. The doors of the company were closed this morning in order that an inventory of the stock might be taken and as soon as this is completed the stock will be increased and sold in the present location, the corner store room in the Central Hotel building.

Mr. J. A. Solomons, president of the company, expects to leave Charlotte about the last of the week for New York and he states that he does not know positively in what line of business he will engage until he returns. He, however, stated positively, that he will not move from Charlotte.

Mr. Solomons will retain the lease on the store room as well as the store fixtures.