Latest Edition

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS.

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VOL. 43. NO. 6947 CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 9, 1911 PRICE { In Charlotte, 2 cents a Copy Daily---5 Cents Sunday Outside Charlotte, 5 Cents a copy Daily and Sunday

Beveridge Fires First Gun In The Reciprocity Fight

Prominent Insurgent Republican Comes Out in Able Speech And Defends The Administration Treaty.

Now is The Time to Establish Friendly Trade Relations With Canada in His Opinion—The Fight Is On.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 9.—The first gun in the congressional battle over Canadian reciprocity was fired in the senate today.

Senator Beveridge, of Indiana, an insurgent republican, was the marksman, and lined up on the side of the administration. He did not make pretense of representing others of the progressive republican camp.

Plunging immediately into the heart of his subject, Mr. Beveridge welcomed the compact as the first concrete evidence of the establishment of friendly relations with Canada.

"Shall the United States and Canada begin the policy of mutual trade concessions and commercial friendliness? O shall we make permanent the policy of trade obstruction and commercial hostility between the two countries?"

Mr. Beveridge said these were the real questions which must be answered in dealing with the reciprocity agreement.

"If some think that the agreement is not all that it should be because of the treatment of a few articles, the answer is that even if this objection is sound as to those defects, yet it is negligible when compared with the chance of getting this great national policy established," said Mr. Beveridge.

"It will be found that the objection to a few scattered items is not sound; for this is a matter of agreement, and mutual concessions are necessary. Even so, our government has done surprisingly well in the concessions it has secured.

"Every element of the situation is an unanswerable agreement for inti-

Continued on Page 11.

TWICE IN THE SAME PLACE!

Sometimes in The News' classified page a certain want ad is found repeated. This is done to intensify the reader's attention—and it succeeds. Almost any one reading or skimming a column of want ads will pause to consider the second appearance of an ad already read in the same column. Many will go back to the original to compare the two.

The effect your ad gains by repetition is a valuable one. It's a natural effect, and sometimes more striking in its way than large type and space.

The News patron who runs his want ad twice does more than simply double its pulling power—he increases it indefinitely.

In placing your next ad "double it up." If it is overlooked first it will be read in the second place. The cost is small—only one cent a word. Try it and watch results.

(Keep your eyes on the Want Ad Page 8)

LORD AND LADY DECIES ON TRIP.

By Associated Press.

Savannah, Ga., Feb. 9.—Lord Deceis and his bride, who was Miss Vivien Gould, did not reach Savannah via the Atlantic Coatst Line en route to Je Jekyl Island until 7:40 o'clock this morning, instead of 2:45, the hour they were expected. The car in which they traveled, although an object of curiosity to those about the station while it was here gave no sign of life, the curtains being drawn, indicating that all hands, from the Pullman porter, to his lordship, were asleep. From here the train proceeded south, transferring the distinguished passengers and their private car, the Atlanta, to the Brunswick and Western Railway at Nahunta, Ga. The Coast Line has been advised of the safe arrival of the party at Brunswick.

SNAP-SHOTS ON CURRENT TOPICS

Votes Pour Into News Ballot Boxes From an Army of The People

Coupons upon which to cast a vote for or against the proposed bond issue are in demand today, the very eve of the final count which to a great extent is to determine whether or not Charlotte is to accept or reject the recommendations of the board of aldermen and issue $1,000,000 bonds—$350,000 for water; $250,000 for sewers; $250,000 for streets, and $150,000 for schools.

In every section of the city the people are greatly interested in the proposition, and commendation of The News for inaugurating a scheme to feel the pulse of all the people is from almost every mouth. In Dilworth the people are taking a lively interest in the matter, copies of The News being in demand in practically every home. Additional coupons are furnished so that those who want to preserve their papers intact will not have to cut them.

Mecklenburg county's representatives in the present general assembly are expected here tomorrow and they will talk with many citizens with regard to the question most paramount to all. There will be no formal meeting of the board of aldermen to receive the Solons, and, in fact, no plans have been made for their especial entertainment.

"They are at home here and they can do as they please. All of them are rather good fellows, too, considering the fact that they are legislators, and they will find a welcome anywhere," was the way one man expressed himself when asked if any action would be taken by the officals with regard to "feeling the pulse of the Solons."

The people of Charlotte want to know what the legislature will do with regard to adopting or rejecting the resolutions of the board of aldermen, and the legislators want to know how the people feel towards adopting or rejecting the recommendations of the city fathers. Hence it will be a gathering of mutual spirits when all get together. There are few people in the city but who are acquainted with every member of the house and the senator from this district. When the Solons arrive they will talk with whom they please and act as they please.

But the one thing the delegation is most interested in is, whether or not the people want to issue bonds in the sum of $1,000,000. The act asked for would grant the city power to issue this amount of bonds. In the election, if one be held, the ballot to be voted, so it was said today by the mayor, will have upon it what the money is to be expended for. A person might want to vote for water bonds and nothing else, or street bonds and nothing else.

It's been a long time since the city of Charlotte exhibited so much interest in any one question. Notwithstanding the instruction daily given that the people vote YES or NO, some have "tied strings" to their ballots. A great many favor bonds "if the right—, etc." Another will say, "I am against the proposition, but let 'em do what they want to." This class is in the minority, however. The man who owns a home in the suburbs for which he paid about $1,000, and upon which he is paying some tax, thinks of the matter in a different light from the man who counts his money by the thousands.

And out in Mecklenburg county, where hundreds of good farmers daily read the columns of The News are perusing every line that is said about the bond election. "Our say is coming," they remark in a way that makes one think they have something "up their sleeve."

However, the main question that is now to be settled is what will the ballot be tomorrow night. You, Mr. Good Citizen, have the rest of today and all of tomorrow in which to make up your mind and to vote either for or against the issue. Cut the coupon from The News and express your opinion. It will give the legislators a chance to better see how all of the people stand on the question. Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party, is in all phrase taught in schools where stenographers are educated, and it is applicable now. Remember, if you haven't a coupon, come to The News office and get one. Vote here or in any of the boxes through the city. Mr. Lynch, the Blind Man on the Square, has been diligently attending to the box located there. Hundreds of coupons were taken from it last night, and this morning early, despite the rain, there were numbers who voted.

Are you or are you not in favor of the bond issue.

Various Views On The Bond Issue

LIGHT "TURNED ON" BOND ISSUE BY F. C. ABBOTT

More light is turned on the question of assessment of property in a rich interview obtained this morning with Mr. F. C. Abbott, one of the most prominent real estate dealers in the city. Replying to an interview published yesterday from Alderman Stewart, Mr. Abbott coincides with that gentleman's views regarding the equalization of taxation, but says it is not the fault of the individual quite so much as it is the SYSTEM by which the property is assessed. And he forces this thought home by using the assesed value of Mr. Stewart's home as a striking example.

Interesting Mr. Abbott talked as follows:

" 'Turn on the light.' With this appeal to the public Mr. Plummer Stewart calls attention in your columns to the large discrepancy between actual values and assessed values of Charlotte real estate. He is doubtless correct in his quotations. This state of affairs does exist and, I think, every public-spirited citizen of Charlotte would like to see this matter equalized.

"But, to the spirit of his remarks, which tend to antagonize the smaller property owner against the larger, I would take exception.

"There is an old saying that 'People who live in glass houses should not throw stones.'

"The gentleman in question, while making his striking illustrations of property valuation as against the tax valuation, to be entirely fair in the matter, should have stated that his own home property, nicely located on one of the best residence streets in the city, and worth at least six or seven thousand dollars, is down on the tax list for only nineteen hundred dollars.

"So it is readily seen that all are in the same boat together—including Mr. Stewart.

"The fault is not in the individual, but in the system we have. Mr. Stewart is no more to blame for this than the people he criticises.

"No property owner is asked to place a valuation on his real estate. He lists a description of his property and the assessor places the value on same, and it is a fact that all who are posted on the situation realize that there is great variation and great inequality i nthese values.

"What is needed and badly needed, in Charlotte, is a system under which the real value of all properties can be determined and then whatever proportion of assessment is decided upon, whether twenty, forty or sixty per cent of real value, should be equally and justly applied to all properties alike, no matter how large or how small it is, and if Mr. Stewart will devote his large energies to this just solution of the tax question he will find all public-spirited citizens of Charlotte are with him in the matter."

OKLAHOMA CITY SCORES POINT.

By Associated Press.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Feb. 9.—Sustaining the contentions of the supporters of Oklahoma City in every point in the capital removal controversy, the state supreme court, in a decision rendered today, declared that this city was to be the permanent capital of Oklahoma.

Bishop Whitaker Dead.

By Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 9.—Bishop Whitaker, of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, died at his residence here today.

THINKS ADJUSTMENT WITH COUNTY IS NEEDED

A well known alderman had this to say on the bond question:

"I have read with much interest the various communications you have had in your paper regarding issuing bonds, etc. I was especially interested in the article in your paper yesterday saying, 're-adjust your assessments, and you will have enough money to run the city without issuing any bonds.' I am heartily in favor of a readjustment of all property in the city of Charlotte, as I think all citizens should pay equally, but I am not in favor of assessing our property too high, unless we can get an adjustment with the county as to the amount of taxes we are now paying them. I see no reason why we should tax ourselves to death when we will be only benefitted by about one-half of the amount of the additional taxes we pay. I think the most important thing to the city at present is to work for an adjustment with the county. Why should the citizens of Charlotte be called upon to pay the county $49,000 annually to build roads in the county any more than the county should be taxed to build streets in the city of Charlotte? Do you think for one moment that the county people would stand for this? Then why will the citizens of Charlotte submit to this longer? We are a part of the county, and are paying seven times as much road tax as the county, yet we are not recognized when it comes to spending this, as all we get out of it is a refund of $9,000 annually. I do not think the comparisons made in articles appearing in your paper are exactly fair, for we must not overlook the fact that it has been years since this property was assessed, and real estate has enhanced in value considerably in this time. Why does the party not give us a few figures as to the assessment of the property in the county? From reports, county property is not assessed as highly in proportion to its value as city property.

The merchants of this city ay an advalorem tax and in addition, are compelled to pay the city a special license tax to do business. I do not think they should pay this tax, but the city must levy this tax in order to make ends meet. Taking everything into consideration, I think if the property in Charlotte was assessed equally, this would adjust matters.

If we expect to be a city, we must have better streets, have more water and sewers. If we could save the $49,000 we are annually paying to the county, we could issue a million dollars in bonds and use this money to pay the interest, and have $4,000 left to do other work. The above figures are based on present assessments, and of course will be larger after the assessment this year. All will agree that something must be done for the suburbs which were taken into the city. They need streets, lights, etc. Their streets are in worse condition than the roads in the county, yet they pay the same rate to the county as the county people, and in addition, their property is assessed higher in proportion than lands in the county of the same value. In addition to this, they pay the city the rate of $1.26 on the hundred dollars. This makes us pay twice as much tax as is paid in the county, yet we have no streets and they have good roads. Suppose a piece of property in the county is assessed at $2,500 when its real value is $10,000. The county taxes would be $24. Now, suppose a piece

(Continued on Page Eleven.)

BREVARD NIXON AGAINST BONDS FOR THE CITY

Believing that bonds are unnecessary and that the city can, with an equal taxation, derive enough revenue to meet all of its obligations and also to take its place with other cities of the country, Mr. Brevard Nixon, a well-known attorney said to a News reporter this morning:

"Yes, I am deeply interested in the proposed million dollar bond issue. I am opposed to it.

Some people talk about issuing bonds to get money as though it were as easy and simple as gathering up leaves in the woods. Money don't grow on the trees for city purposes any more than for individual needs. Every bond is a debt of the most serious and lingering kind. When an individual contracts a debt he figures on paying it back in a reasonable time; but the modern idea of city indebtedness is to see how long it can run. It is said the Chinese children, grand children, etc., on down the line of offspring are liable for the debts of fathers, grandfathers, etc., ad infinitum. This makes a people a slave of debt. The same principle is being put into effect by reckless running municipal corporations into debt. As this slavery of debt has kept the Chinese Empire in the very rear of progress, so it will work upon American cities if persisted in."

"Some say a 'reasonable debt' is good for anyone. The same argument would prove slavery salubrious for a comunity. Owe no man is as sound and profound a financial and philosophical poposition today as it was two thousand years ago. Ten per cent of value of taxable property has been fixed in North Carolina for years as the limit of municipal debt. The wisdom of this law has beed demonstrated by its age on the books. A debt beyond this would not be 'reasonable.' A million dollar bond issue would run the indebtedness of the city way beyond this ten per cent imit. Therefore, the proposed bond issue would be unreasonable and wrong.

"I believe in development and progress, but let it be on reasonable and conservative lines, and not by wild cat indebtedness schemes. States, counties and cities are suffering today from the wild cat schemes of foreigners. 'Carpetbaggers', who, for several years after the civil war, reveled in municipal debt. It is time now for the people of the city who have been born and bred here to call a halt. It is time for people who own property to stop and think before bequeathing to unborn generations this tremendous burden to be carried on down through time.

"Yes, we need more water, but I believe with proper taxation and financiering we can get it with out bonds—certainly without the amount of a million dollars. The slogan by which this administration was ushered into existance was to live within our income; but it seems that the watchword by which it will be ushered out will be the attempted million dollar bond issue. Instead of living within its income as pledged, it would place a debt upon the city so great as to stagger the mind of the average citizen—a debt almost double the legal limit—a debt in no sense 'reasonable.'

"Let us increase our water supply temporarily from the means around town, artesian wells, and the water from other streams in the neighborhood if necessary, and pay for same as we go, as near as possible, rather than load ourselves down with a debt we can hardly hope to be able ever to pay the interest on. Our yearly interest debt is now something like $70,000. Suppose we add $60,000 to this making

Continued on Page Eleven.)

TRIED TO HANG HIMSELF IN COUNTY JAIL

Using his strong belt as a nose, Lee Fox, the negro who last week shot a flagman of the Southern railroad just as the train was leaving Mayesworth, and who has been in the county jail since, made an inefectual attemp to hang himself last night. He was rescued just in time by fellow prisoners who notified Sheriff Porter. The negro was unconscious when the moose was taken from his neck.

Fox did not wait until all the prisoners had retired before attempting to choke himself to death. He tied a slipknot around his neck and fixing the other end to the bars above, jumped from the top of the bath tub. He was dangling in midair when a prisoner, hearing a choking soundfi went to his relief. In a second he was cut down and shortly afterwards revived.

Since his arrest the negro has acted in a strange manner. He appears to dread the ordeal of a trial and fears its outcome.

The flagman who was shot by Fox has almost recovered from the effects of the wound and will soon be able to appear in court against the negro.

MYSTERY STILL SURROUNDS VAULT ROBBERY

By Associated Press.

Erie, Pa., Feb. 9.—Mystery surrounding the robbing of the cemetery vault belonging to the family of the late William L. Scott, one time congressman, was uncleared today. It was made certain that the only body carted away was that of Mrs. Anna M. McCullum, a sister-in-law of Mr. Scott.

So far as is generally known, the only clue which may lead to the solving of the case is the receipt two years ago by Mrs. Charles H. Strong, a daughter of Mr. Scott, of "black hand" letters demanding $10,000 on pain that her summer home would be blown up. An Italian settlement near here s being watched. One theory is that the body was stolen to be held for ransom.

Practically every casket in the vault had been tampered with, it was discovered at daylight, some of them having been opened.

Just when the vault had been broken into has not been determined, as no person paid strict attention to it. Members of the family state it was intact three or four days ago.

Newspaper men were ordered away at the point of guns. The family and police refuse to further discuss the matter.

Piedmont County Bill Called Forth Heated Debate

PIEDMONT COUNTY LOSES.

Special to The News.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 9.—The Piedmont county bill was lost in the house by a vote of 54 to 42 today.

Special to The News.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 9.—In the house a spirited debate occurred on the creation of Piedmont county, with Mr. Kidkman, of High Point, leading the fight for the county with the support of Spainhour and others and equally strong speakers opposing.

The Public Service Corporations Committee reported unfavorably the bill to reduce fares on railroads that refuse to pull mileage on trains to two cents, also a bill by Ewart to reduce Pullman care fares.

A bill by General Carr to appropriate $10,000 for a monument for the women of the Confederacy came from the pensions committee with a favorable report and after General Carr addressed the house for the measure went to the committee on appropriations.

Gen. Carr's speech stirred great outbursts of applause.

The Avery county bill that passed second reading last night by 23 to 3 vote got final passage this morning and was ordered sent to the house.

The Piedmont county bill, with an unfavorable report and special order on Boydens' minority report, was indefinitely postponed.

A bill by Sykes would appropriate $150,000 for a fire proof state library museum and hall of history.

THREE DROWN IN STREET CAR

By Associated Press.

Sheboygan, Wis., Feb. 9.—Two women and a child perished and it is feared another woman and a man are still in a street car which plunged into the Sheboygan river at a drawbridge here today. The motorman and the conductor saved their lives by jumping and swimming to the river's bank.

The Wells Fargo Express Strike

By Associated Press.

New York, Feb. 9.—Three hundred employes of the Wells Fargo Express Company at Jersey City struck today but there is little indication that the strike will spread. Discrimination against leaders in the general strike last fall is said by the men to be the grievance. The two stables of the company are under guard.

Serious Auto. Wreck at Charleston

By Associated Press.

Charleston, S. C., Feb. 9.—City Forester Rollo G. Murdoch, and two friends were badly injured early today when an automobile in which they were riding crashed into a fire hydrant and then into a trolley pole on King street. Murdoch sustained internal injuries, the steering wheel being jammed against his stomach; he is in a hospital resting easily. H. T. Siebels, of Columbia, and A. D. Cohen, of this city, were less seriously hurt. The machine was badly damaged.

DE LASSY ON STANC TO-DAY IN BIG CASE

By Associated Press.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 9.—Count Patrick O'Brien de Lassy, who is accused of having hired Dr. Pantchenko to poison Count Vasselli Bouturlin was further examined by the prosecution today. In his original confession, since repudiated, Pantchenko said that he was under the hypnotic influence of de Lassy when he killed the latter's brother-in-law.

In his own defense de Lassy has declared that he was in no way concerned in Bouturlin's death. He admits he engaged Pantchenko to commit an act of malpractice and says that the correspondence on the subject was subsequently used by the doctor to blackmail him.

De Lassy said today that he was not present when the injections were given Bouturlin by Panchenko but visited the patient on the same day. He did not hear Bouturlin describe his sensations after the treatment by Pantchenko and asked no questions as the matter had no interest for him. He had visited the doctor's office on the day of the autopsy to destroy evidence of his association with Pantchenko. If the latter really injected toxin in treating Bourturlin the defendant said he did not know what the motives of the poisoner were.

Members of French Academy.

Paris, Feb. 9.—General Hippolyte Langlois, senator from Muerthe-Et-Mosselle, and Henri de Regnaier, the poet, were today elected members of the French Academy in succession to Costa de Beauregard and Viscount de Vegue, deceased.

$1,000,000 Bond Ballot

Aldermen favor the issuance of bonds to the amount of $1,000,000. Upon the proposition as it is submitted, answer YES or NO by signing your name and giving your address upon the lines on the coupon.

YES .....

NO .....

Address .....