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NO. 3.

STATE NEWS.

Short Items of Interest Culled From our State Exchanges.

Hickory is to have an ice factory, which will be in operation in time for the summer's business.

Governor Aycock has appointed M. H. Justice, of Rutherfordton, judge of the newly formed fourteenth judicial district.

A movement is on foot to build a \$100,000 cotton factory in North Winston on the installment and co-operative plan.

The fourth-class postoffices at Maxton and Clinton have been advanced to the Presidential grade as third-class offices.

Tuesday's election in Rocky Mount resulted in an overwhelming majority in favor of electric lights, sewerage and graded schools for the town.

Col. W. H. Cheek died suddenly at Henderson, his home, Saturday afternoon. During the civil war he commanded the First North Carolina Cavalry.

Governor Aycock has appointed Dr. Albert Anderson, of Wilson and Dr. W. C. Allen, of Asheville, Majors and Assistant Surgeons General in the State Guard.

A negro named Will Morrison was jailed at Newton Monday, charged with attempting to commit an assault on Mrs. Lutheran Killian last Saturday evening.

A company with large capital has been chartered at Fayetteville to operate an electric railway in and around Fayetteville and to operate a steamboat line to Wilmington from Fayetteville.

The town of Creedmoore, Granville county, 14 miles east of Oxford, suffered greatly from a cyclone last Monday night. Paul Canaday, a prominent planter, was killed and much damage done to the western portion of the county.

The Fayetteville Cotton and Woollen Mills has been chartered. Incorporators are E. W. Cook, New York; W. L. Holt and W. M. Morgan, Fayetteville; R. P. Gray, Guilford county. Each one of the incorporators takes \$25,000 stock.

Mrs. Polly Inscore, aged 72 years, of Forsyth county, is a woman exceptionally well preserved for her years and is not only able to do a hard day's work, but delights in hunting. A few days ago she shouldered her gun and was successful in bagging two squirrels.

The Blackwell Durham Tobacco Company was sold at public auction Saturday to the American Tobacco Company, of New York, for \$4,000,000. The purchase includes everything in connection with the company. The sale was made to Mr. Junius Parker, agent for the company.

The postoffice at Red Springs was robbed early Wednesday morning. The safe was blown open with dynamite and quite a sum of money and stamps extracted. An attempt was made to rob this same office about a month ago but the robbers were frightened off. There is no clue.

The Secretary of State issued a charter last week to the Broad-akers Sanatorium Company, at Morganton. The incorporators are Isaac M. Taylor, Felix M. Scroggs and John McCampbell. The capital stock is \$5,000. The purpose of the corporation is to establish an invalid's home at or near Morganton.

One of the saddest things that ever occurred in this section was at Block Chapel yesterday near Godwin. Miss Oliver, the teacher, was drilling the students for commencement and in one of the plays a pistol was used. Rhodes McLellan, about 14 years old, was to point it at his sister, Miss Maggie, and when he fired, to the utter surprise, one chamber of the pistol was loaded, which put a ball through her neck, killing her in a few minutes. Miss Maggie was between 16 and 17 years old. The whole section was shocked at the sad accident.—Dunn Cor. Wil. Messenger.

The State Printing Commission met Monday and awarded the contract to Edwards & Broughton and E. M. Uzzell, of Raleigh. Governor Aycock says the contract would save the State at least \$3,800 a year over the previous contract.

Tom Jones, 40 years old, reputed one of the most desperate white criminals in Polk county, was beaten to death with a double-barreled shot-gun Tuesday, near Mill Springs, by twin brothers, Ed and Oscar Wilkerson. They had quarreled over who should have first shot at three negroes.

A sad accident occurred in upper Cumberland last week. At Black's School House the students were practicing for a public exhibition. It was the part of Rhodes McClellan to point a pistol at his sister and fire a blank cartridge. That chamber of the pistol was loaded and his sister, Maggie, fell with a ball in her throat and died in a few minutes.

The Secretary of State has chartered the Fayetteville and Wilmington Steamboat Company, with \$250,000 capital. The object is to own and operate a steamboat line from Fayetteville to the mouth of the Cape Fear river and coastwise as far as New York. The company is also allowed to construct and operate a street car system, electric lights, etc.

While attempting to work a gold brick scheme on Paul Garret, of Weldon, at Greensboro, Friday afternoon, Frank Thompson, H. D. Hawley and Gomez Bono were arrested. Garret saw through the scheme when presented to him and notified the officers to follow him and Thompson to a place in the woods where Bono, disguised as an Indian, had two gold bricks concealed.

The Governor appoints members of the Text-Book sub-Commission, which is to decide upon the list of books to be adopted in public schools as follows: Prof. J. Y. Joyner, Greensboro; J. D. Hodges, Augusta; Hon. John C. Scarborough, Murfreesboro; Prof. C. C. Wright, Straw; J. B. Butler, Statesville; Rev. C. G. Vardell, Red Springs; Prof. J. I. Foust, Goldsboro; Prof. W. L. Carmichael, Brevard; Prof. J. L. Kesler, Raleigh. The sub-commission met Tuesday to consider bids and books, and will report back April 23rd to the commission as to the merits of the various books, and the contract will be awarded as soon thereafter as possible.

Frankfort, Ky., March 25.—It is rumored here to-day that decision will be handed down by the Court of Appeals to-morrow reversing both of the cases of Caleb Powers, under life sentence, and Jim Howard, sentenced to death for the murder of William Goebel. The cases have been under submission in the Court of Appeals since last fall and it is said the court has been considering the cases for a week.

Camden, N. J., March 25.—Mayor Hatch awarded a contract to-day for shirt waists for the Camden police force and nearly a hundred policemen were measured for them. The material is to be madras and of a color described as French blue. The shoulders are to be Raglan cut, the sleeves flowing to the elbow, a bit closer from the elbow to the wrist and fastened at the wrists by elastic bands. The bosom is to be of plaid white linen. Down the front will be a row of six brass buttons and around the neck is to be a rolling collar. The star is to be placed on the left breast.

A Kansas farmer who had a peck of lima beans on exhibition at the Paris Exposition has just received the following letter from a Frenchman, who evidently doesn't know much about the vegetable in question: "My Dear Sir—I bought the peck of beans which you had on exhibition here, and they are excellent. Can you send me a small package of the seed? I wish to see if they will grow in France."

DIE IN A TORNADO.

Awful Storm of Wind and Rain Sweeps Through Birmingham, Alabama. Full Extent of the Damage not yet Known.

Birmingham, Ala., March 25.—A cyclone that for intensity and havoc wrought surpassed anything in the history of Birmingham, visited the city this morning. Not only Birmingham, but every town within a radius of twenty miles east and west was devastated and hundreds of people to-night mourn the ruin that was created by it.

The storm came from the southwest. The path of the cyclone in Birmingham was 150 feet wide and through the lower portion of the city. The majority of the victims were negroes who inhabited one-story frame structures.

To-night the names of twenty persons known to have been killed have been ascertained and it is certain twenty-five are dead. The property loss in Birmingham alone is in the neighborhood of \$250,000.

There are 200 homes in this city which are without roofs, and fifteen bodies are at the morgue. In addition to this fifty patients are in the hospitals suffering from the wounds received. The village of Irondale was absolutely wiped out.

Among the dead are Dr. G. C. Chapman of the firm of Tally & Chapman, who conduct a private infirmary in this city, and the wife and infant child of Robt. J. Lowe, chairman of the Democratic State Executive Committee.

The storm struck the city in the extreme southwestern corner and plowed its way through eastward, leaving a path 150 feet wide, through the entire southern section, extending from Green Springs to Avondale, and continued its course until its fury was spent in the mountains beyond Irondale, a small town six miles east of the city.

The morning dawned cloudy and sultry. Shortly after 9 o'clock sharp lightning flashed from the southwest. The air became heavy and stifling. The velocity of the wind suddenly began to increase and from out of the overcast sky the dreaded funnel-shaped cloud made its appearance. Hugging close the earth, it passed through the city by leaps and bounds. The altitude of the cyclone was not more than seventy-five feet.

Almost a clean sweep was made of the district lying between 18th and 20th streets and Avenues H and I, two blocks. Here the scene is one of complete demolition. The frame cottages were reduced to flattened piles of debris. Every tree, large or small, was either crushed down or uprooted, together with fallen telephone poles and tangled wires.

The negro shanties and cottages in the lowlands were the principal sufferers. The larger residences on the higher grounds suffered but slightly. The large trees on the hillside of St. Vincent's hospital were torn up by the roots and large masses of stone were twisted out of the ground and broken and scattered all over the driveways.

In 11th street a house owned by John Hayes was leveled to the ground. Skimming close to earth the storm swept through a small pine grove, tearing the trees up by the roots and hurling them through the air like arrows.

Beyond the grove the storm cloud swooped down upon a negro settlement and the frail cabins were crushed, not one being left.

Eastward the storm swept, cutting its way through another strip of woods, demolishing the Second Presbyterian church at Avenue H and 15th street. The pews were piled on top of the debris, a small oak table, which was used in the rostrum, being deposited on the topmost point of the wreckage.

East of the church, in another negro settlement, much havoc was wrought among the frail shacks, seven of which were swept away.

LEGISLATURE APPROPRIATIONS.

For Our Charitable and Educational Institutions.

The amounts appropriated by the Legislature for the charitable and educational institutions of the State are as follows:

Deaf and Dumb, Morganton—Annual appropriation, \$40,000; for waterworks, fire dumb, fire escapes and equipping for better protection against loss by fire, annually for two years, \$3,500; total, \$43,500.

Cullowhee High School—Annual appropriation, \$2,000; new building (all property to be conveyed to the State,) \$5,000; total, \$7,000.

Deaf, Dumb and Blind, Raleigh—Annual appropriation, \$40,000; annual for two years, \$15,000; annual for library, \$50 annual to pay deficit and to furnish dining hall, repairs, plumbing and basement, fix artesian well, gymnasium, electric light plant, paving and macadamizing, re-cover kitchen and laundry, \$10,000; total, \$65,000.

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, annual appropriation, \$25,000—Annual increase, \$12,500; total, \$37,500.

State Normal and Industrial College, Greensboro—Annual appropriation, \$25,000; to pay indebtedness of \$25,000, build practice and observation school and additional dormitory and recitation rooms, annually for four years, \$15,000.

North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Raleigh—Annual appropriation, \$10,000; annually for 2 years to pay debts, \$10,260.82; annually for 2 years to build textile building, \$10,000; total, \$30,260.81.

Colored Agricultural and Mechanical College, Greensboro, annual appropriation, \$7,500; annual increase, \$5,000; total \$12,500.

State Hospital, Raleigh—Annual appropriation, \$71,500; annually for 2 years for iron stairways and repairing, \$1,250; annually for 2 years to pay indebtedness, \$5,000; total, \$77,750.

State Hospital, Morganton, annual appropriation, \$100,000; annually for 2 years to pay indebtedness, \$10,000; annually for 2 years, to complete present buildings and erect new ones, \$55,000; total, \$165,000.

State Hospital, Goldsboro, annual appropriation (1901), \$47,500; (for 1902 increased to \$50,000); annually for 2 years, to erect new buildings, \$25,000; total, \$72,500.

Provision. None but indigent insane to be admitted to hospitals free. All others to pay as directed by Board of Directors. Officials violating act guilty of a misdemeanor.

Provision. Money to be used exactly as appropriated. No buildings to be commenced that would require more money to complete them than is appropriated, the Board of Directors to determine this.

Provision. Unlawful for any governing official to incur any debt except as provided by law, unless in extreme emergency and authorized by Council of State.

An Attempt to Blow up the Czar.

London, March 26.—An attempt was made to blow up the palace of Emperor Nicholas at Zarskoe Selo, 17 miles south of St. Petersburg. A mine filled with the highest explosives was accidentally unearthed. Had the mine been exploded the palace would have been blown to atoms and every one including the Emperor killed. Several officials and nobilities are implicated in the plot to assassinate his Majesty. Arrests of important personages are expected to-day. The Russian press has been forbidden to publish the news of the discovery of the plot.

An Evening World special cable says that the Czar is broken down under the strain of facing possible assassination and is a physical wreck. The doctors want him to go away and leave the Empire in the hands of the Imperial Council. It adds that the gravest events are impending and that all Europe is trembling.

The War on Illiteracy.

Atlanta Journal.

It is wonderful how the movement to bar illiterates from the ballot box is growing.

Within the last five years Louisiana, Mississippi and both the Carolinas have embodied its principle in their organic laws. The Maryland Legislature has ordered the submission of an amendment on the same line, but it differs in one important essential from the amendments which the other States named have adopted. While they have disfranchised illiterate blacks they leave the way open for illiterate whites to vote by the provision that their amendment shall not apply to persons or their descendants who were qualified to vote on January 1, 1867.

The proposed Maryland amendment makes no distinction between whites and blacks. It is estimated that the amendment would disfranchise 18,000 white men and 35,000 negroes.

The indications are that both Alabama and Tennessee will soon establish a literate qualification for the suffrage. Virginia may also do so at her forthcoming constitutional convention.

At a recent caucus of the Democratic members of the Tennessee Legislature a resolution in favor of a call for a constitutional convention was adopted by a large majority.

The convention will certainly be called, and it is likely that it will embody in its constitution the Louisiana plan of negro disfranchisement.

The demand for similar restrictions is very strong in both Alabama and Virginia. We believe that this movement will finally extend to all the states and include both white and negro illiterates.

In the opinion of many of our people Connecticut has the best franchise law in the country. It not only requires that every voter shall be able to read and write, but he shall be able to do so in the English language.

Safe Breakers Foiled.

Raleigh, N. C., March 25.—The safe of the Southern Express Company was blown open to-night shortly before 11 o'clock by safe crackers. The concussion was so great that it knocked out a plate glass window and foiled the robbers in their efforts to get money and valuables. The office of the company is on the principal street and the report of the explosion brought a large crowd to the office at once.

The safe crackers, of whom there were three, were frightened away, though a large sum of money was within easy reach. It was the most daring attempt at robbery ever made here. Bloodhounds from the penitentiary farms have been sent for. The manager of the company left the office about forty minutes before the explosion occurred.

A Great State.

North Carolina is a great State. It is long, too. From Currituck to Cherokee is 500 miles. Take a cord and put one end at Currituck county and the other end at Cherokee, and holding thumb on string at the former and turning the string directly northward it will put you in Lake Champlain, New York. It has 48,580 square miles of land and 3,670 water area—total 52,250 square miles. It has some fifty rivers and with its numerous sounds and lakes it is as well watered a State as any in the Union. Robeson county is largest with 1,043 acres; Bladen second, 1,013; Cumberland third, 1,008; New Hanover has but 199 square miles. Clay has 185, and Chowan is smallest with 161. Camden is very small also with 258. The 79 counties average something over 500 square miles.—Wilmington Messenger.

The State department views with unkindness Russia's position in Corea on account of America's interests at stake there. It also opposes Russia's attitude toward China and may demand that Russia ease down in regard to the Manchuria affair.

GENERAL NEWS.

A Partial List of the Week's Happenings Throughout the Country.

Robbers took \$10,000 from the Bank of Columbus, O., yesterday.

A full ticket of women has been nominated by the Prohibitionists of Denver, Col.

After blindness of 28 years, Valentine Batts, of Baltimore, Md., had his sight restored.

Andrew Carnegie's fortune is estimated at \$300,000,000 with an annual income of \$15,000,000.

A dispatch from Havana, 22d inst., says Cuba will accept the demands made by the United States.

The opening of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, N. Y., has been deferred from May 1 to May 20.

The Minnesota Legislature has passed a bill prohibiting the manufacture, sale or giving away of cigarettes in that State.

Grover Cleveland is leading a movement to endow a chair in Washington & Lee University in honor of William L. Wilson.

After saturating her clothing with coal oil, Miss Eliza Burrus, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., committed suicide by setting her clothing on fire.

Gen. Funston has gone to Isabella province with 10 men and a company of native scouts on a daring attempt to capture Aguinaldo.

The worst blizzard in years prevailed over Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming Tuesday. Trains are snow bound in Wisconsin and eastern Nebraska.

Michigan lawmakers want their salaries raised to \$1,000 a term, and will submit to the voters a constitutional amendment to sanction the increase.

Two hundred and eighty-four convicts in the Kansas penitentiary mine, near Leavenworth, Kan., mutined and are holding their guards as hostages.

Last Saturday the "Korea," one of the largest ships in the world was launched at Newport News. She will ply on the Pacific between San Francisco and Hong Kong.

The Maryland Legislature has passed the new election bill, having for its object the practical disfranchisement of most of the illiterate 50,000 illiterate voters of the State.

Millions of dollars worth of oranges in California are rotting in the packing houses and on the grounds of the groves because of lack of transportation facilities to move the enormous crop.

One hundred girls in the plug department of Lorillard's tobacco factory in Jersey City, which is controlled by the Continental Tobacco Company, quit work rather than submit to a cut in wages.

Mrs. Carrie Nation has dissolved partnership with Nick Chiles, her colored publisher. She will hereafter endeavor to edit and have printed her paper, the Smasher's Mail, without his assistance. The trouble grew out of the suppression by Chiles of an editorial written by Mrs. Nation, scoring District Judge Hazen, before whom she has appeared a number of times.

In the lower House of the Pennsylvania Legislature Representative Roth has introduced a bill to encourage early marriage. The bill provides that a male citizen of Pennsylvania over 40 years of age making application for a marriage license shall pay to the clerk of courts a license fee of \$100, which is to be turned into the State treasury for the purpose of maintaining homes for old ladies over 40 years of age who have not had suitable opportunity or offer of marriage. Any bachelor over 40 years who shall go outside of the State for a wife shall pay \$100 to the State treasury.