

NORTH STATE HAPPENINGS

Occurrences of Interest Gleaned From All Sections of the Busy Tar Heel State

Not Thought a Loan.
Raleigh, Special.—Considerable interest is being manifested in official circles here in the bill recently introduced in Congress to require the States that participated in 1836 in the distribution of the surplus in the United States Treasury during Jackson's administration to repay these loans to the government. It seems that North Carolina received about \$1,500,000, and that it was variously invested in banks, railroads and other stocks, and the whole thing swept away as a result of the Civil War and subsequent corrupt Reconstruction administrations. A small part of the money was spent in digging the "Club Foot" Canal, connecting East Carolina sounds. The State has absolutely nothing to show for the loan, which it has never considered in the light of being a fund that would have to be repaid to the National Treasury. The old Cape Fear Bank and the Wilmington and Weldon Railroads were among the enterprises that received some of this fund in the way of stocks purchased by the State. The bank collapsed and the railroad stocks were exchanged by the State for State bonds in reducing the State indebtedness.

Killed by Felling Timber.
Wilmington, Special.—E. M. Gregg, a well known merchandise broker, while talking to a friend on the street here Monday morning was caught under a collapsing pile of brick and building material on the site of the new Woolvin building, near Third and Princess streets, and instantly killed. The accident occurred as Mr. Gregg was on his way down to business and stopped for a talk with Mr. John Hand at the Woolvin building. Mr. Gregg was standing with his back to the pile of debris when, for some unknown reason, it gave way and came crashing down. Mr. Hand jerked his associate to one side but was too late. A heavy window frame on top of the brick struck Mr. Gregg on the back of the head, killing him instantly. Mr. Gregg was about 55 years old and belongs to a leading South Carolina family. He leaves a wife and one little daughter.

Charlotte Invites Governors.
Charlotte, Special.—The central committee which is directing the programme of exercises to be held here on the twentieth of May in celebration of the 134th anniversary of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, has invited the Governors of the Thirteen Original States to come to Charlotte for the three days' festivities. Governor W. H. S. Draper has accepted. The people of Charlotte are preparing to give Mr. Taft the greatest reception ever accorded a President of the United States in a Southern city. Local officials of both the Southern and Seaboard railroads have given the assurance that ample train accommodations will be provided and that reduced rates will be enforced.

Big Month's Work at Spencer.
Spencer, Special.—The Spencer shops of the Southern Railway turned out during the month of March 88 locomotives for service on the five divisions running into Spencer, which is said to be the largest month's work in the history of the shop. Of the 68 engines leaving the shops 36 were in for heavy repairs, costing in some instances \$2,000 each. The force of employes at Spencer has been greatly increased and it is said every man worthy of work is being employed. In the boiler department the force is the largest in the history of the Spencer shops. The monthly payroll at Spencer is said to be \$150,000.

Work on New Electric Line.
Burlington, Special.—The work of grading the line for the Burgham Interurban Company, which will connect Burlington, Graham and Haw River, and convert them, virtually, into a triple city of from 15,000 to 20,000 inhabitants, is progressing nicely.

Farmer Kills Self.
Fairmont, Special.—C. A. Ammons, who lived near Fairmont, near Frank Faulk's, committed suicide Friday night at a barn near his home by shooting himself in the head with a shotgun. His body was found Saturday morning. It was evident that the deceased had placed the muzzle of the gun against his chin and pulled the trigger with his toes. The lead entered under his chin and came out on the left side of his head, tearing his left ear off.

Fugitives Recaptured.
Raleigh, Special.—Deputy Sheriff John Wilkins brought from Cleveland county Monday two escaped convicts to be recommitted to the penitentiary. They are Will Limrick, a white man, who was serving one year for larceny, and was recaptured on a stolen horse and will, therefore, have to serve fifteen months' additional time, and Charles Williams, colored, who will resume a ten years' sentence for burglary.

Thrown Under Moving Train.
Greenville, Special.—George Cherry, the 12-year-old son of Mr. G. E. Cherry, came near being killed by an Atlantic Coast Line passenger train here Tuesday afternoon. The boy went to the station to mail a letter, and being late the train had begun moving before he reached there. He ran up to put the letter in the mail car and taking hold of the car was jerked down and thrown under it. He was thrown far enough under the car to miss the track and thus the wheels did not run over him. As soon as he fell the boy grabbed an iron rod underneath the car and was dragged on the cross-ties until the train could be stopped, which was done as quickly as possible. One leg was broken and the boy was also badly cut and bruised about the head and body. Catching the iron rod is all that saved his life.

McKay Must Hang.
Raleigh, Special.—Friday, May 21, has been fixed by Governor Kitchin for the execution of Junius McKay, at Lumberton, Robeson county, for the murder of Alex. McKay. The conviction was at the November term of Robeson court, 1908, and the murder was during the previous February. The body of Alex McKay was found in a side street of Rowland, thrown into a hole, and Junius McKay had during that same evening repeatedly threatened to kill him as a "liquor spy." Justice Brown in writing the opinion of the Supreme Court affirming the conviction in consequence of which the hanging day is set, declared that there was the strongest sort of evidence of murder in the first degree, and that the finding of the jury and the courses pursued by the trial judge were regular and correct in every way.

Locomotive on Fire.
Fayetteville, Special.—The citizens of Raeford were startled Tuesday by seeing an engine on the Aberdeen and Rockfish railway rush through that growing town at a rate of fifty miles an hour, with a great sheet of flame issuing from its tender. The wood in the tender caught fire and the engineer and fireman were unable to extinguish it. They cut the engine from the rest of the train, and ran it some little distance up the road. Before the engine could be brought to a standstill the fire became so hot that both engineer and fireman had to jump to keep from being roasted alive. The engine, left to itself, rushed madly onward, and did not stop until it had cleared Raeford some little distance.

Rocky Mount Postoffice.
Rocky Mount, Special.—For the fiscal year closing March 31, the postoffice in this city has showed a net gain in receipts over the same time last year of \$896, according to a report just sent in to the department at Washington. For the year just brought to a close the receipts were \$18,396.86, but including the money orders receipts which has about doubled over the same time of '07 and '08. Whiskey orders have played their part in the large increase in the receipts in the money order department.

Wadesboro Station Next.
Wadesboro, Special.—Mayor Brock has received a letter from President Garrett of the Seaboard Railway stating that work will begin on Wadesboro's new passenger depot in about three weeks' time. Wadesboro has waited patiently since July, 1907, for this action.

Receipts From Insurance Department.
Raleigh, Special.—State Commissioner of Insurance Young paid into the State Treasury Tuesday \$14,198.10 receipts of the department for March. The fiscal year runs from April and the total collections were \$234,482.63, a gain of \$10,000 over previous years.

New Staff For Penitentiary.
Raleigh, Special.—The new board of directors of the State prison Wednesday in compliance with a suggestion from Governor Kitchin, elected J. J. Laughinghouse, of Pitt county, superintendent, to succeed J. S. Mann; T. W. Fenner, of Halifax, clerk, to succeed T. M. Arrington; T. P. Sales, of Raleigh, warden to succeed Capt. J. H. Fleming; Dr. L. G. Riddick, of Youngsville, physician to succeed Dr. J. R. Rogers. Both of the new and old boards were in session Wednesday for a formal transfer of the affairs of the prison.

New Court Opens.
Salisbury, Special.—With Justice B. B. Miller on the bench, and Kerr Craig representing the State, Rowan county's new court, established by the last Legislature, opened here Monday. The opening of the court attracted a large crowd, including the members of the Salisbury bar. Five cases were disposed with by Judge Miller in the first session of the court.

THE RIGHT OF WAY.



—Cartoon by Robert Carter, in the New York American.

WAR ON RECKLESS DRIVERS OF AUTOMOBILES

Judge in His Charge to the Grand Jurors Expresses a Belief That the "Scorchers" and "Joy Riders" Have Found a New Method of Committing the Old Crime of Manslaughter.

New York City.—There is no mistake about it this time; public indignation against the "scorchers" and the "joy rider" is thoroughly aroused and they are going to be vigorously dealt with.

The newly formed Highways Protective Association and the Automobile Club of America, representing sane and responsible owners and drivers of automobiles, are prepared to aid in prosecuting offenders. They are resolved to demand infliction of the severest penalties, and the magistrates and judges seem to be impressed with the necessity for vigorous action.

So much for the offenders when caught, and the arrangements for catching them are more widespread and complete than ever before. As a result of the organization of the special squad of policemen mounted on bicycles, motor wheels and some in automobiles scores of offenders are being arraigned before the magistrates and in the courts.

Owners of automobiles are warned in the address by Judge Swann to the Grand Jury in the General Sessions, telling them that the owner of a car who employs a driver known to be reckless should be found equally guilty with the latter for any crime committed through carelessness or overspeeding. In short, there is a general awakening to the demands of the situation and to the serious responsibility that rests upon those who drive automobiles, more particularly through a city's streets.

Where the driver instead of stopping and caring for an injured person claps on speed and runs away the presumption is that he is guilty, and by making sharp discrimination on these lines this heartless practice can be stopped.

The community in general and the prudent and responsible owners of automobiles, who are taking an active part in the present crusade, are to be congratulated upon the prospect of a successful issue.

Judge Swann in his charge to the April Grand Jurors in Part I. of General Sessions expressed his opinion of automobile speeding, which he called

"a new method of committing old crimes." He said:

"Within the last month many crimes have been committed by men possessed of the speed mania. They run down women and children on our streets. Women and children and the infirm and the aged are entitled to the use of the streets as much as the strong. No man has an exclusive right to the streets. Even the man who devotes his time to speeding this modern engine has no more right to the public street than the weak and infirm."

"Men who do these acts recklessly and without regard to the rights of others, and who either maim or kill, are guilty of either manslaughter or other grades of crime, and it seems to me that it would be a proper and fitting thing that, if such a case comes before you, you should not hesitate to indict if the evidence warrants it; and that you should not hesitate to indict for the crime of manslaughter if you think that that crime has been committed."

"This is just about the time, it seems to me, for the Grand Jury of this county to call a halt on such extreme selfishness as is evidenced by those possessed by the abominable speed mania."

"It is further provided by Section 29 of the penal laws that a man who aids and abets in the commission of crime is equally guilty with the man who commits the crime. The owner of an automobile will sometimes take deliberately a chauffeur who has been known to be reckless in his driving. The minute that the owner of the automobile puts such a chauffeur upon his machine in the public streets the law presumes that the owner knows the ordinary act that the chauffeur is going to commit. A man is presumed to intend the ordinary and usual results of his own acts, and the owner who puts a reckless chauffeur in an automobile and sends him through the streets could be properly found by you to be equally guilty with the chauffeur of the crime, whatever it may be, that may reasonably be expected to be committed by that chauffeur."

DOGS RACE 412 MILES IN 82 HOURS.

Alaskan Teams Start in Arctic Blizzard For Exciting Dash From Nome to Candle.

Seattle, Wash.—In the most grueling race of dog teams Alaska ever has known, the plucky malamutes, owned by Al Berger, carried off first and second honors in the All-Alaska sweepstakes for \$11,000, and annexed in addition the Suter Gold Cup. The race was from Nome to Candle, a distance of 412 miles, and much of it was run under conditions as put the animals to a bitter test of strength and endurance.

No American Derby ever enlisted in the United States a keener popular interest than this flight of dogs across the stretch of country between the starting and finishing points. From the time the racers were sent away on their exacting contest business at Nome was practically at a standstill.

The focal points for the townspeople were at the stands of the book-makers. At these thousands of dollars were wagered on the result, the biggest single bet having been placed on a Siberian team. A pool of an even \$100,000 was put up that these animals would score a victory. One wager of \$10,000 was made that the race would not be finished within ninety hours. This bet was lost, the time of the winners being eighty-two hours and ten minutes.

All Nome watched the start of the race. The dogs got away in a blinding snowstorm. Thermometers were registering fifteen degrees below zero. A strong wind swept the snow and ice clad hills. The dogs did not mind the

cold, but the wind tossed flakes of snow plainly gave them distress. With all the zest of the chase they moved off at the word, while the crowd cheered and the drivers waved goodby, not certain they would come out of the contest alive.

The Berger malamutes No. 1 and No. 2 teams, driven by "Scotty" Allen and Percy Blatchford, respectively, finished in the order named. A mixed team of hound and bird dogs driven by George Fink came in third in the race.

The Siberian dogs, which were the favorites and heavily backed, became snow bound and were hopelessly out of the race. Their driver was forced to turn back. The fate of some of the other starters is still unknown. Teams are straggling back to Nome, some of them in pitiful condition. It is estimated that \$200,000 changed hands.

Prohibition Law Held Valid.
The Supreme Court at Montgomery, Ala., declared the State prohibition law valid, all the judges concurring in the opinion. This is the second time the court has upheld the State wide act of the last Legislature. It was attacked on several constitutional grounds.

Anarchist Commits Suicide.
John Mercadante, an Anarchist, whose wife had left him, killed himself in New York City.

Survival of the Fittest in a Scramble For Jobs.
New Haven, Conn.—The superintendent of the Carlyle Johnson Manufacturing Company, of Manchester, advertised, one day only, for twenty men to whitewash the inside walls of the new factory. Over 300 men out wash brushes next morning. The superintendent threw twenty white men scrambled for them. The twenty who were fortunate enough to get the brushes got the job of whitewashing the place.

Brewers Join Forces With the Anti-Saloon League.
Cincinnati, Ohio.—The brewers, the Anti-Saloon League and the Municipal Reform League will unite in an effort to put the bad saloonkeeper out of business. Through the efforts of the Ohio Brewers' Association the State Legislature passed a law designed to suppress illegal selling. One brewing company at Hamilton announces that it will not sell beer to any saloonkeeper who persists in keeping his saloon open on the Sabbath day.

VOICE OF NIAGARA MUTE

Falls Frozen Over From Bank to Bank—Damage Exceeds \$1,000,000.
Buffalo, New York, Special.—The voice of Niagara was mute Sunday for the second time in the memory of man. The first time was late in February, when following a severe northerly blow, the falls ran dry. Now, following a severe southwester, the river is frozen solid from bank to bank.

On Wednesday of last week the worst gale of the season and the most violent in the history of the weather bureau for April was recorded. The solid ice fields of Lake Erie were churned from end to end and piled in a huge conglomerate mass at the lower end of the lake.

Unable to escape by its natural channels the level of the river rose by leaps and bounds. The highest flood level recorded from previous years is 23 feet above the normal. Friday night the river was 40 feet above normal.

Conservative estimates place the damage at \$1,000,000.

All the estimates of ultimate damage are conditioned by what the weather may have in store. The best that can be hoped for is a succession of calm, warm days. Then the ice will meet gradually and subside bit by bit. For the moment the upper reaches of the river are running clear, but as far as the eye can see the white mantle of the frost blankets the lakes. If that great mass should be driven down onto the jam below, the damage would be inconceivable.

NEGRO LYNCHED IN FLORIDA.

Assaults White Lady Who is Saved From the Worst—Negro Taken From Officers While Trying to Save Him.

Arcadia, Fla., Special.—John Smith, the negro who Saturday dragged Miss Mary Steel Ewing from her buggy, two miles from Arcadia, in an attempt at criminal assault, was taken away from the sheriff and his deputies at an early hour Sunday morning and hanged to a tree.

The monster attacked the woman as she was driving peacefully along the road, dragged her from her buggy into the bushes where he choked her into weakness while she begged and even offered him \$100 if he would go home with her for the money. When he was about to accomplish his foul purpose the girl with desperate effort attracted passers by and she was saved and taken home. The negro was hounded and caught. While the sheriff was taking him away for greater safety Sunday morning a mob in automobiles caught them and overpowering the officers executed the culprit with deaf ears to his pleading for mercy.

The identification was complete and positive, the young lady showing the rends she made in his clothes while struggling for freedom.

Six Die in Lenox Blaze.

Lenox, Mass., Special.—Six persons lost their lives, three others badly burned and property loss of between \$200,000 and \$300,000 was caused by a fire in the heart of the business section of this town early Sunday. Four business blocks, two dwellings and two other structures were destroyed in a section bounded by Franklin, Main, Housatonic and Church streets. The fire is believed to have started in the Clieord Building from spontaneous combustion.

The dead: Edward C. Ventres, electrician; Mrs. Edward C. Ventres; Miss Leslie Ventres, aged 12 years; Miss Alice French, book-keeper; Miss Isabel Cook, book-keeper; Miss Mary Sparks, school teacher.

Injured: Mrs. Catherine Root and her two sons, George and Arthur, severely burned.

Oklahoma Indictments Quashed.

Tulsa, Okla., Special.—Federal indictments against Governor Charles N. Haskell, of Oklahoma, and six other prominent Oklahomans, charged with fraud in Muskogee town lots, were quashed Saturday by Judge John A. Marshall, of Utah, of the United States Circuit Court.

The court quashed the indictments on technical grounds.

Virginia Home Burns and Child Loses Her Life.

Richmond, Va., Special.—A special to the Times-Dispatch says that at Lawyers, Campbell county, early Saturday morning the home of Armistead Yuille was destroyed by fire and his 8-year-old daughter was incinerated. Yuille and his wife were awakened by the fire and in the excitement of attempting to extinguish the flames forgot the child, asleep in the building until the roof crashed in. Rescue was then too late and it was not until the flames had died out that the charred body of the child was found under the ruins.

Liquor Law For Texas.

Austin, Tex., Special.—The Legislature Saturday finally passed the Robertson-Fitzhugh bill to regulate liquor traffic in Texas, the House concurring in the Senate amendments. The Senate struck out the provisions of the bill prohibiting the sale of liquor to be consumed on the premises, and struck out the uniform high license provisions and the prohibition against the sale of liquors by grocers.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

Items of Interest Gathered By Wire and Cable

GLEANINGS FROM DAY TO DAY

Live Items Covering Events of More or Less Interest at Home and Abroad.

Midland, Texas, had a \$300,000 fire Thursday.

Representative Hillburn introduced a bill in the Florida Legislature Thursday in favor of a constitutional restriction of the manufacture and sale of liquor except for medicinal, scientific and mechanical purposes.

Madame Modjeska, the famous Polish actress, died in Los Angeles, Cal., Thursday, at the age of 65 years, of Bright's disease. The body will at a later period be taken to Cracow, Poland, for interment.

Fred Bell, only six years old, killed Ethel Thomas, three years old, at Union, S. C., Thursday and tried to hide away the body. Fred is in prison charged with murder.

Kate O'Dwyer, a "bad angel," broke the iron shackles from her and sawed herself out of chain gang prison at Athens, Ga., last Sunday night.

Charles N. Haskell, governor of Oklahoma is standing trial charged with fraudulent connection with the Muscogee town lot affair.

The Chesapeake and Ohio canal was opened for navigation Friday.

Crazy Snake is not captured yet, and the pursuit is to be continued.

The Attorney General of Kansas has handed down the opinion that in that State a married woman may or may not take the name of her husband and that he may even take her name.

The Arkansas State Senate Tuesday passed a bill placing a heavy penalty on persons drinking intoxicants on trains in the State or on station platforms. This will probably affect buffet cars, although intended only to stop rowdiness.

Indalecio Alarcon, of Chicago, on last Sunday stabbed himself 12 times about his heart, cut his throat, took carbolic acid and threw himself out of a third story window, but lives to say that he does not know how to account for his condition.

Daniel W. Johnson, 18 years old, attempted to blackmail his Sunday school teacher, Asa G. Chandler, in Atlanta, Ga., recently, but was quickly caught. Trashy novel reading, he says, caused him to do it.

A cruiser of the Pacific Squadron picked up 40 passengers of the wrecked steamer Indiana in the Pacific Monday.

Pope S. Hill, a lawyer of Macon, Ga., Monday was found murdered in a lumber office as the third victim slain in litigation over the Dodge timber lands in Georgia.

Washington Notes.

Diplomatic relations have been strained between the United States and Nicaragua and a crisis is expected.

Representative Murdock of Kansas has introduced a bill in Congress to require amounts of money distributed or loaned to the 26 states under the Andrew Jackson administration to be refunded to the national treasury. It is opening many eyes.

Judge Richard E. Sloan has been selected for Governor of Arizona and all the leading territorial officials will be changed.

The motion to put lumber on the free list was voted down Tuesday by 170 to 176, more than 30 Democrats voting for protection.

An entirely new series of notes, silver and gold certificates and greenbacks is to be issued.

Mr. Payne declares that the department stores are inspiring women to protest against higher duties on stockings and gloves.

Senator Aldrich's committee is putting the finishing touches to the substitute tariff bill and will be ready to report it to the Senate as soon as the Payne bill passes the House.

Senators Raynor, Bacon and Daniel attacked the Republican policy and forced Senator Aldrich to allow Democrats at the hearings of the Senate Finance Committee on the Tariff bill on Tuesday.

The Senate adopted a resolution limiting the legislation at the extra session to the Tariff bill and the Census bill.

A combination of Democrats and Republican insurgents in the House defeated Speaker Cannon and Chairman Payne on the 25 per cent duty on crude petroleum and fixed the duty at 1 per cent.

The House took off all tariff taxes on tea and coffee Wednesday.

Foreign Affairs.

Ex-President Roosevelt arrived at Naples, Italy, on Wednesday and spent several hours. He there left the Hamburg and went aboard the Admiral, which will carry him to Mombasa.

The Krupp Works, Germany, are making a gun especially to fight airships, as the airship when completed seems to be the worst of all battle fighters.