

# NORTH STATE HAPPENINGS

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

### CONFEDERATE REUNION.

**Major General Carr, of the North Carolina Division, Gives Notice of the Nineteenth Reunion to be Held at Memphis, Tenn.—Camps Urged to Pay Their Dues.**

General Orders No. 39: The major commanding the North Carolina Division of the United Confederate Veterans announces that the nineteenth annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans will be held at Memphis, Tenn., on the 8th and 10th of June, 1909, and it is hoped that the gallant old Tar Heels will attend in full force and make a display worthy of our good old State. Those who had the pleasure of attending the reunion held at Memphis in 1901 know from past experience what a delightful occasion this next reunion will be, and what a hospitable reception awaits them from the public spirited citizens of Memphis.

Although no official announcement has yet been made as to the railroad rates for this reunion, yet it is expected that the usual low rate of one cent a mile will be given as has heretofore been given at all our reunions. The rate from any railroad station can be learned by inquiring of the local agent. The entertainment committee at Memphis will furnish free meals and lodging to all veterans who cannot pay for the same.

All the camps in this division are earnestly requested and urged to pay without further delay their annual dues, because no camp is entitled to a vote or voice at the reunion meetings that is in arrears for its dues. Many camps fail to pay their dues from inadvertence and neglect and are thereby deprived of representation, thus reducing greatly the vote to which our State is entitled. This is a matter of much importance and every camp is urged to send its dues at once to Gen. W. E. Mickle, 824 Common street, New Orleans.

The division is fortunate in having as its sponsor at this reunion Miss Lena Everett, a granddaughter of our gallant comrade, Capt. J. L. Everett, of Rockingham.

By order of J. S. CARR,

Major General.

H. A. LONDON, Adj. General and Chief of Staff.

Durham, May 3, 1909.

### Young Lady's Close Call.

Asheville, Special.—Miss Pressly, a young lady of the town, narrowly missed a serious accident Saturday morning about 7 o'clock by being carried down 12 feet below the surface of the street at the corner of Blair and Charlotte by a cave-in occurring just as she was attempting to cross the streets. A portion of the macadamized street 12 or 15 feet square caved in as a result of the undermining of the street by a washed drain Friday night. Miss Pressly went down probably 12 or 15 feet and was rescued by persons nearby who threw a goods box down into the hole and with Miss Pressly standing on this succeeding in dragging her out. The young lady was rescued from her perilous situation just in time. An instant after she was removed from the cave-in a piece of curb stone of great weight and a large quantity of concrete fell in. The storm Friday night was one of the most intense that Asheville has experienced in years. At one time during the progress of the storm one of the lines of the Asheville Street Railroad Company was put out of commission by the washing out of the track of a quantity of dirt and debris.

### Negro Convict Drowned.

Elizabeth City, Special.—A negro convict was drowned last week while swimming in the river near the convict camp on the outskirts of the city. The current was extremely strong and the negro getting too far became exhausted and sank before help could reach him. He was a "trusty" and had about served his term of three years.

### Spray to Erect Y. M. C. A. Building.

Spray, Special.—Attractive premiums have been offered by the civic association to those housekeepers who best adorn their yards with vines and flowers and who look with special interest after the sanitary conditions surrounding their homes. The civic association has also gotten plans on foot towards building a \$15,000 Young Men's Christian Association building for the benefit of the mill operatives, both men and women. The plans and blue prints have already been submitted by Messrs. Hook & Rogers, of Charlotte.

### Higher Than in Years.

Elizabeth City, Special.—As a result of a severe southwest storm, which has raged here all Saturday the tide of Pasquotank River was said to be higher than since 1879. All water front property was flooded, and in several storage warehouses much damage was done. A large quantity of wood from the wood yard on the water front was washed out.

### Officers Destroy Prosperous Outfit in Wilkes.

Elkin, Special.—Friday Deputy Collector Gus Aiken, accompanied by Yandy Whitaker, of Elkin, raided an illicit distillery near Clingman, Wilkes county, nine miles southwest from Elkin. When the officers arrived they found the plant with a full head of steam on and in charge of a colored man who was turning out booze to beat the band. The officers approached the place so cautiously that they had the negro a prisoner before he realized his predicament. The negro gave several names, at first claiming his name was only Chuck, later he said his name was Prince Hickerson, but after the officers had "chucked" the "Prince" into the Wilkesboro jail, he wrote a letter to his wife and said she knew him as Prince McBryde. The outfit captured consisted of a hundred gallon copper still, cap, worm, wood doubler, fermenter, 800 gallons of beer, a quantity of whiskey and low-wines, all of which were destroyed.

### Children in Court.

Fayetteville, Special.—Mrs. Victoria Burney produced the three children of her daughter, Mrs. Carrie McDonald, for whose production in court a writ of habeas corpus was issued by Judge Adams, of the Superior Court, that they might be turned over to their father, Don McDonald, who was Monday given a divorce from his wife. The children had been spirited away by their mother and are believed to have been secreted in an upper story of the latter's house, four miles from this city. McDonald last spring shot Henry Bruner in this city on account of domestic troubles.

### Solution is Reached.

Newbern, Special.—Saturday afternoon Receiver Woolcott and Superintendent Foster, of the Norfolk and Southern, and Agent Meeks for the Atlantic Coast Line, met the truckers in a special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce to consider the better handling of the truck business. Receiver Woolcott stated that the Norfolk and Southern was doing everything possible, being handicapped by the Albermarle Sound. It was agreed to run a truck train in Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and oftener if necessary, to Goldsboro, where the Atlantic Coast Line would take it to its destination on schedule to suit the truckers. A meeting will be held here Monday with the Atlantic Coast Line officials to settle on schedule. This is a satisfactory solution, and seems to satisfy all concerned.

### Bad Wreck on Southern.

Mt. Airy, Special.—The Southern had a bad wreck at Haw River, this side of Greensboro a few days ago. Six cars went into the river and their contents were either ruined or badly damaged. Two cars were loaded with fertilizer, two or three with goods and the other with coal. The bridge was also seriously damaged. Luckily the locomotive broke loose from the cars and did not go down into the stream with the cars, otherwise the loss of property would have been much grater, and besides it is quite likely Engineer Clark and his fireman might have lost their lives.

### Mrs. Monroe Awarded \$3,000 Damages.

Fayetteville, Special.—Mrs. W. M. Monroe, of this city, was awarded \$3,000 damages Saturday in the Superior Court in a suit against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad for injuries received by falling into a turntable pit in the railroad yards.

### New Halifax Court House.

Halifax, Special.—For quite a while the county commissioners have had in contemplation the building of a new court house. Tuesday being the regular monthly meeting of the board they have concluded and ordered built a handsome forty thousand dollar court building. The work is to begin as soon as the plans and specifications can be arranged.

### Rev. Thomas Dixon Dead.

Raleigh, Special.—Rev. Thos. Dixon, father of Thos. Dixon, Jr., the playwright, and Rev. A. C. Dixon, a minister of Chicago, died here Saturday night in his ninetieth year, having been born in South Carolina, December 25, 1820. He was in the active pastorate of Baptist churches in and around Shelby, N. C., for more than sixty years. He had been here several weeks in the home of his daughter, Dr. Dora Dixon Carroll, and had been gradually sinking several days simply under weight of years.

### Lightning Strikes Church Steeple.

Troy, Special.—The long dronth was broken Friday night by one of the heaviest rains and severest electric storms that has visited this section in a long time. The rainfall last night is estimated at about four inches. During the storm the steeple of the Methodist church was struck by lightning and badly demolished and would doubtless have set fire to the church had it not been for the heavy downpour of rain.

## OPTOMETRY BOARD

### Examiners Appointed by Governor Kitchen For Five Years.

Raleigh, Special.—Governor Kitchen Friday appointed the State Board of Examiners in Optometry, in compliance with the optometry act of the last Legislature. The appointees are: for five years, Fred N. Day, Winston-Salem; for four years, Frank M. Jolly, Raleigh; for three years, J. D. Hathaway, Elizabeth City; for two years, J. W. Taylor, Greensboro; for one year, S. H. Eaton, New Bern.

The act creating this board defines optometry to be: "The employment of any means, other than the use of drugs, medicines or surgery, for the measurement of the powers of vision and the adaptation of lenses for the aid thereof.

It is now unlawful for any person to practice optometry in this State unless he shall first have obtained a certificate or a copy thereof with the clerk of court of the county in which he practices.

The most important features of the act are as follows:

"Every person, before beginning to practice optometry in this State after the passage of this act, shall pass all examination before said board of examiners. Such examination shall be confined to such knowledge as is essential to the practice of optometry. Any person having signified his desire to be examined, and before beginning such examination, shall pay to said board for the use of said board the sum of ten dollars, and if he shall successfully pass said examination he shall pay to the said secretary for the use of said board a further sum of five dollars on the issuance to him of a certificate: Provided, any candidate presenting himself for examination and failing to successfully pass the board shall have returned to him the ten dollars fee required in this section. All persons successfully passing said examination shall be registered in the board registry, which shall be kept by said secretary, as licensed to practice optometry, and he shall also receive a certificate of registration, to be signed by the secretary and president of said board.

"Every person who had been engaged in the practice of optometry in the State of North Carolina for two years prior to the date of the passage of this act shall within six months thereafter file an affidavit as proof with said board. The secretary shall keep a record of said person and shall upon payment of three dollars issue to said person a certificate of an examination.

"All persons entitled to a certificate of registration under the full provisions of section six shall be exempt from the provision of section five of this act."

### Pictures Presented.

Goldsboro, Special.—In the presence of Thos. Ruffin Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, who purchased the pictures for the school, a number of the board of trustees of the school and citizens and the entire school, drawn up in an imposing body in front of the central building, the presentation of the splendid pictures of Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee to the school was made at noon Wednesday. The exercises were opened with a beautiful prayer by Rev. E. H. Davis, pastor of St. Paul Methodist church. The school then sang in a body "The Old North State," after which Capt. T. W. Slocomb, a veteran of the Gray, who had been chosen by Thos. Ruffin Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, to present the pictures, was introduced.

### Victims of Mad Dogs.

Winston-Salem, Special.—No less than a dozen valuable cows and a number of dogs bitten by a rabid dog, have been killed in this county this week. Two mules bitten by the same dog will be killed if investigation proves that the dog had rabies. The losses sustained already amount to two thousand dollars.

### Out On Bail.

Wadesboro, Special.—Hugh Horne, who has been confined in the county jail since March 12, was released Friday on a bond of \$500. Horne was charged with shooting Fairley Moore as Moore passed his house on the morning of March 11. Horne was adjudged insane and an application was made to the State hospital for his admission for the application was denied on account of the crowded condition of the hospital. The county commissioners ordered him released on bond, in accordance with a petition signed by two physicians.

### Revenue Officers Destroy Two Still.

Durham, Special.—Revenue officers last week took Martin Trice, colored, to Raleigh to stand trial for blockading. Trice was captured in the country with a still, but two white men escaped. No whiskey was found, but a large quantity of beer was poured out. On their return the officers destroyed another still which was running, but not quite so fast as the thugs operating it did when they scented the officers.

## RECLAIM SWAMP LANDS

### Land Owners Organize a Drainage District For That Purpose.

Colly, Special.—There was a notable gathering here Thursday of between 75 and 100 land owners of this section of Bladen and Pender counties for the purpose of considering the question of organizing a drainage district for the reclamation of a large and fertile area of Lyon Swamp from Bleak river, in Pender, on the Cape Fear river, a distance of some 15 miles and from one-half to a mile and a half in width. The meeting was quite an enthusiastic one and interesting addresses were made by Congressman H. L. Godwin, a pioneer in the drainage movement in this State, and Mr. J. O. Wright, the drainage expert from the Agricultural Department at Washington, who went via Wilmington and accompanied by Colly Mr. B. F. Keith, Mr. C. W. Worth, C. D. Weeks, Esq., and others interested in the big development that it is proposed to launch here. Both Mr. Wright and Mr. Godwin were heard with the greatest interest with the result that after the speaking it was at once decided to organize a district to embrace the territory named and the articles of agreement were signed by nine-tenths of the land-owners interested. The plan as recommended by the government engineers who have been on the ground for several weeks, is not only to drain Lyon swamp, but to build a levee at Kelly's Cove, about two miles in length to prevent an overflow from the river. The improvement means much to all this section of the State.

### Deputy "Slips a Cog."

Wilson, Special.—U. S. Deputy Marshall John D. Meares Wednesday arrested a negro, Nathaniel Wilkins, four miles north of Spring Hope, in Nash county on a warrant sworn out by U. S. Deputy Collector M. L. Wood Wilkins was brought to Wilson and placed in jail, where he remained until Thursday afternoon when the case came up before U. S. Commissioner A. B. Boykin. There was not one scintilla of evidence, and the negro was dismissed. Sid R. Wood and C. A. Edwards were summoned as witnesses, but instead of being a drawback to Wilkins they proved him to be a negro of most excellent character. That when they were summoned they were utterly dumb-founded, being the first intimation they had of the serious charge against the man—since a year ago when he was hauled up on the same charge, when he was acquitted no evidence of his guilt being produced.

### Another Unloaded Pistol Victim.

Greensboro, Special.—Wednesday night while Buster Hallie and Cleary Langley, colored employes of the Southern Railway, were "fooling with an old unloaded pistol" in their shanty car near the coal chute, the weapon went off and the bullet went in Hallie's abdomen. The wounded man was taken to St. Leo's Hospital, where he died Thursday morning. Buster went to the police station after the death of his friend and gave himself up. Pending investigation he was locked up. There were four men in the car when the shooting took place. The two not engaged say that Buster and Hallie were enjoying a friendly wrestle for the possession of the "old gun" when she went off. The dead man came from Sanford and Buster lives at Spencer.

### Norwood Inn Burns.

Albermarle, Special.—Tuesday just after noon fire broke out in the Norwood Inn, at Norwood completely consuming the excellent building. Mr. J. D. Lee was owner of the property. He sustained a great loss in the destruction of this building. The fire is supposed to have caught from a fire while dinner was cooking.

### Mr. Colwell Resigns.

Greensboro, Special.—E. Colwell, Jr., who helped to organize the Greensboro Life Insurance Company, and has been its general manager ever since, has resigned from the position. It is being rumored that Julian Price, at present the general agent in Virginia, will be his successor. The Greensboro Life has had a most successful career and does a very large business in this and other States. It was organized about three years ago and some became one of the biggest among home insurance companies.

### Berry Shipments Unchanged.

Rocky Mount, Special.—Berry shipments continue about as usual, and about thirty-eight cars were sent North Wednesday. There is a steady demand for the fruit, and while the shipments thus far this season are several hundred cars behind what had been sent North at the same time last year, it is expected that the total will equal or surpass the season's totals last year.

## MR. TAFT'S MESSAGE

### President Not Satisfied With Affairs in Porto Rico.

### INCAPABLE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT.

### Situation of Unusual Gravity in Porto Rico—The Island Without Support After June 30 Next—Time Has Proven That the United States Has Gone Too Fast in Extension of Political Power in Islands.

President Taft Monday sent to Congress a special message recommending legislation at the present extra session, amending the Foraker act under which Porto Rico is governed. The President directs the attention of Congress to affairs on the island laying particular stress on what he terms "a situation of unusual gravity" developed through the failure of the Legislative Assembly of Porto Rico to pass the usual appropriation bills, leaving the island without support after June 30 next.

Porto Ricans have forgotten the generosity of the United States, the President says, in the desire of certain of the island's political leaders for power, and he adds that the present situation indicates that the United States has gone too fast in the extension of political power to the Porto Ricans. He concludes that the absolute power of appropriation should be taken away from "those who have shown themselves too irresponsible to enjoy it."

The President suggests to Congress the wisdom of submitting to the appropriation committees the question of qualifying some of the provisions of the fundamental act as to the respective jurisdictions of the executive council and the Legislative Assembly. But no action of this kind, the President says, should be begun until the Foraker act be amended so that when the Legislative Assembly shall adjourn without making the appropriation necessary to carry on the government, sums equal to the appropriations made in the previous year for the respective purposes shall be available for the current revenues, and shall be drawn by the warrant of the auditor on the Treasurer and countersigned by the Governor. Such a provision applies to the Legislatures of the Philippines and Hawaii and "it has prevented in those to countries any misuse of the power of appropriation."

The President reviews the establishment of the present government for Porto Rico by the Foraker act. He says the status directing how expenses of the government are to be provided leaves some doubt whether this function is not committed solely to the executive council but in practice the Legislative Assembly has appropriated for all the expenses other than for salaries, fixed by Congress, and the President adds, "it is too late to reverse that construction."

The President says that ever since the institution of the present Assembly the House of Delegates has uniformly held up the appropriation bills until the last minute of the regular session and has sought to use the power to do so as a means of compelling the concurrence of the Executive Council in legislation which the House desired. In the last regular Legislative Assembly the attitude of the Executive Council in refusing to pass bills led the House of Delegates to refuse to pass the necessary appropriation bills.

Mr. Taft discusses the acts of the Legislature and of the council in detail and says the facts recited demonstrate the willingness of the Representatives of the people in the House of Delegates to subvert the government in order to secure the passage of certain legislation.

The question whether the proposed legislation should be enacted into law was left by the fundamental act to the joint action of the Executive Council and the House of Delegates as the Legislative Assembly. The House of Delegates, says the President, proposes itself to secure this legislation without respect to the opposition of the Executive Council, "or else pull down the government."

This growing spirit shows that too great power has been vested in the delegates. The message presents an exhaustive economic review of conditions on the island, its trade and its wealth, its improved educational facilities.

It points out that "there never was a time in the history of the island when the average prosperity of the Porto Ricans has been higher, his opportunity greater, his liberty in thought and action more secure." For the first time in its history, "The President points out that if the Porto Ricans desire a change in the form of the Foraker act this is a matter of congressional consideration, dependent on the effect of such a change on the real political progress on the island.

be an occasion for surprise, not in dealing with a whole people can it be made the basis of a charge of ingratitude."

"When we assumed guardianship over them and the guidance of their destinies we must have been conscious that a people that had enjoyed so little opportunity for education could not be expected safely for themselves to exercise the full power of self-government and the present development is only an indication that we have gone somewhat too fast in the extension of political power to them for their own good.

## GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER

### Verdict Rendered in the Case of Capt. Haines, Who Killed Wm. E. Annis.

Flushing, N. Y., Special.—After four hours' deliberation, the jury in the case of Capt. Peter C. Haines, U. S. A., charged with the murder of William E. Annis on August 15 last, brought in a verdict of guilty of manslaughter in the first degree Tuesday afternoon. The maximum sentence is twenty years' imprisonment.

Quickly following the young army officer's conviction, his counsel announced that they would produce affidavits to show that the jury had not been properly guarded during the trial and upon this allegation, will urge that a new trial be granted. These affidavits will be submitted Monday, the time set for passing sentence and for any motions that the defendant's counsel desires to make. There will, of course, be the usual motions to set aside the verdict as against the weight of evidence and contradictory to law, but the unguarded jury feature is the only departure from the stereotyped procedure looking to a new trial.

### Night Riders Convicted.

Waverly, Tenn., Special.—A verdict of guilty was returned late Tuesday afternoon in the case of the fourteen alleged members of the night-riders' organization charged, with whipping Esquire J. M. Reese on October 15, last. The punishment was fixed at 10 days in jail and a fine of \$500 for each. They were remanded to jail under strong military guard, to reappear in court Wednesday, when a motion for a new trial was made.

After the verdict was announced, the defendants shook hands with each other and secured a band and music and dancing were heard in their cells. The names of the men convicted are Wyatt Cowart, Charles Pitea, Leo Warren, Walter Warren, Jim Diviner, Charles Hopper, Walter Gordon, George Hodge, Harry Marshall, Jim Murrell, John Moran, Wylie Sanders, Sam Dickerson and Frank Estes. The indictment on which they were tried contained four counts—going masked through towns and villages with unlawful purpose in view; going in disguise upon the premises of another with intent to do him bodily harm; assault with a deadly weapon while wearing a disguise, and assault and battery while masked.

### New Orleans Celebrates.

New Orleans, La., Special.—For the double purpose of celebrating the first passage of a big modern warship up the Mississippi river to a point as high as Natchez, thus giving great impetus to the deep waterways movement and also a public reception to the officers of the battleship Mississippi, the citizens of New Orleans entertained at an elaborate banquet Tuesday night in the palm garden of the St. Charles Hotel.

The battleship started for Natchez, Miss., Wednesday morning and the banquet was made the occasion of several addresses, expressive of the good will of the people of the Mississippi valley and best wishes for a successful trip up the river.

### Postal Employees Strike.

Paris, By Cable.—The Chamber of Deputies, after a stormy session of four hours Tuesday, adjourned on the debate on the interpellations on the postal situation until May 13. The response of the postal employees was quick and decisive. Within half an hour the Federal committee had issued an order for a general strike, and the railway mail clerks walked out in a body. An hour later a meeting of 6,000 postal employees at the Hippodrome took up the cause of battle and unanimously voted to strike. There was no great enthusiasm shown, but determination and resolution to force the hand of the government were apparent.

### Kills a Rhinoceros.

Nairobi, British East Africa, By Cable.—A bulky bull rhinoceros is the latest prize wrested from the jungle by Colonel Roosevelt. From the ex-President's camp near Machakos word was brought down Monday that the luck of the Roosevelt party continued, and that fifteen variations of game, including the big rhino, have been bagged on the last expedition. The rhinoceros was charging Mr. Roosevelt when the hunter fired.

### Ambushed by Africans.

British West Africa, By Cable.—Lieut. D. A. Vairenne, associate resident general administrator of a district in northern Nigeria, three other Englishmen, and thirty-five native police were ambushed recently by natives at a point 50 miles northeast of Zunguru. The lieutenant and twelve of the policemen were killed. A British force has been despatched to the locality to punish the natives.