

THE STATE IN EPITOME

News, Comment and Incidents as Reflected in North Carolina.

Firemen's Insurance Co. Twin City Sentinel: Capt. James D. McNeill, president of the State Firemen's Association, is visiting several North Carolina towns in the interest of the Firemen's Insurance Company, and everywhere he goes he finds much enthusiasm over the proposition. He expects his company, which is to have behind it the moral, and in a very considerable measure the financial, support of the firemen of the State, to rank among the leading business getters in fire insurance in North Carolina.

Traveling Men at Charlotte. Charlotte Observer: Elegant in all its appointments, and abounding in pleasurable features from beginning to end, the annual banquet tendered by the Charlotte Council, United Commercial Travelers, last night at the Stonehall hotel was one of the most memorable ever given in the city. The menu prepared by the management of the Stonehall brought forth luxurious dishes and covered the table with a most attractive spread. The german given the traveling men immediately after the banquet was well attended and proved to be vastly enjoyable by those who remained to indulge in this feature of the evening's programme. The menu card was of lovely design, the outer covering containing a New Year's greeting and a calendar for the coming year. The monogram of the U. C. T. S. headed the interior page on which the menu was printed. This display of art was only a specimen of the loveliness manifested by the management of the Stonehall, Charlotte's newest and one of her most liberally patronized hostleries.

ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.

M. T. Bowman, Son of Prominent Cleveland Man Dies Shooting. Kings Mountain, Dec. 31.—An attempt to end his life Mr. Morris T. Bowman, son of Mr. J. T. Bowman, cashier of the Shelby National bank, now lies in a critical condition with a bullet lodged somewhere in or near his brain. Mr. Bowman is about 25 years of age and has been stopping at the Mountain View hotel for several days and his actions have caused a strict watch to be kept upon him. It is understood that he has been in bad shape mentally for some time following a severe attack of fever and that his family has kept him under surveillance for some time. It was for the purpose of allowing him to recuperate that he came to Kings Mountain.

Just about noon today he was seen to leave the hotel and walk up the railroad and when he reached the deep cut near the Dilling mills, it is said that he walked back and forward for some time, before committing the deed. There were no witnesses to the shooting, but he was found unconscious almost immediately afterwards. He was carried into the mill office, where a cot was prepared and medical assistance procured. Dr. B. R. Hunter, who attended, reports that recovery is almost impossible and that death may be expected at any moment.

Mr. Bowman, the unfortunate young man who in a moment of aberration so far forgot himself as to attempt to take his own life, was brought to the Charlotte sanitarium last night by two Kings Mountain physicians, accompanied by his father. He was carried immediately to the operating room and the effort was made to give him what relief science could afford. It is hoped that the operation was successful, though at an early hour this morning it could not be positively determined. The young man is in a desperate condition, primarily from the wound itself and then from his physical status prior to the attempt yesterday afternoon. Mr. Bowman has relatives in Lynchburg and Richmond, Va., and elsewhere.

LOW PRESSURE AT NEWBERN.

Running of Water Pipes Embarrassed Fire Department. (Newbern Journal.) Household may have been distressed Thursday and Friday because of cold weather and bursting water pipes. But how much more the anxiety of city authorities, who must see to it that provision against any fire pressure gauge, 20 to 26 pounds has been the registration for two days. Think of such a pressure in case of fire, and worse, that this pressure has only been kept by the full working of the engines at the water works. To be prepared the authorities have for two nights had the steam fire engine ready to run out at the first alarm; horses and men ready to start at first signal.

Yesterday was a busy day cutting out leaks, when reported. Every household should take individual action in this weather. For the present no freezing danger exists. But on any further threatened cold weather, water should be cut off, not let faucets run, for while this running may here and there save a pipe, several thousand of such running faucets means a waste that the water works cannot overcome. It means possible immense loss if fire breaks out, for there will be no water pressure, and with the engine working night and day at full steam, and 25 pounds pressure only at city hall, as shown Thursday and Friday, the peril is great. If the householders waste water from unreported leaks and running faucets, they imperil the city. The apartment are helpless. This is a personal matter for every household to see to.

FAMOUS MULE DEAD.

Honored Asheville Citizen Goes to His Reward. (Asheville Citizen.) "Kit" is dead. The famous mule, owned for nearly thirty years by Mr. and Mrs. H. L. King, passed away last Friday full of years and honors. As mule (years ago, "Kit" was no spring chicken for she gracefully owned up to 39 years. She was a familiar figure on the streets of Asheville more than a quarter of a century ago, and venerable old gray beards of today recall the day when "Kit" made her debut in mule society. They were boys then, and the mule grew apace and waxed wise with them. Mrs. King's father, Silas Stroup, presented "Kit" to her in March, 1873, and the mule never disgraced her ownership. Kind and gentle always, she never evinced any of those traits which are usually found in mule circles. She lived a quiet and refined life and it was fitting and proper that when the time came for her to pass to the happy hunting grounds, "Kit's" journey thereto was made as easy as possible. She went by the chloroform route and her end was peace.

Nearly every man, woman and child in Buncombe county had a special acquaintance with the old mule and the news of her death will cause general regret, especially in juvenile circles.

CHARGE AGAINST POLICE.

Rocky Mount Citizen Claims Store Was Invaded and Himself Beaten. (Rocky Mount Record.) Mr. T. A. Davenport appeared and explained to the board that in an attempted arrest made the night before Christmas by Mr. W. P. Harrington that he had been imposed upon and that he asked that the officer be disciplined by his dismissal from the police force. Mr. Davenport stated that language extremely disrespectful had been used by the officer that a pistol had been placed in his face and snapped three times, and that he had been struck by a billy while being held by another officer; the affair having occurred in Mr. Davenport's place of business after he had forbid the officer entering the store without a warrant. The matter grew out of the firing of torpedoes and an effort on the part of the officer to collect a bond for Mr. Davenport's appearance at court.

GEORGE M. GALES PROMOTED.

He Has Been Elected President of the National Cigar Stands. (News and Observer.) His friends in Raleigh, and the friends of his father and grandfather in North Carolina, will be gratified to learn that at a meeting of the directors of the National Cigar Stands held in New York this week Mr. George M. Gales, a native of Raleigh, was unanimously elected to the presidency. This was in recognition of the valuable services and great business ability of Mr. Gales. Mr. Gales is one of the ablest of the young men who have gone forth from Raleigh to win their way in the business world. He is a son of the late Seaton Gales, Esq., one of the most gifted men Raleigh has produced, and a descendant of Joseph Gales, the first great editor in Raleigh who, with Mr. Seaton, composed the great firm of Seaton and Gales, who made the National Intelligencer, published at Washington, the most influential national journal of the day, and all others who rejoice at the success of a Raleigh boy, will be gratified to learn of Mr. Gales' deserved promotion.

BANKRUPT ARRESTED.

Charged With Concealing Assets of His Estate. (Asheville Citizen.) Taken into custody and held under \$500 bond was a new development in the bankruptcy case of O. Keener yesterday. Mr. Keener filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy several weeks ago alleging his own insolvency, and Mr. Vonno Gudger was appointed trustee in bankruptcy and took charge of the stock of goods in the Keener's Depot street store. Keener's creditors allege that part of the stock had been secretly shipped away and concealed before the petition was filed, and put detectives on the case. As a result of their investigations, Mr. Gudger yesterday swore out a warrant for Keener's arrest, charging him with concealing assets. Deputy Marshal McElroy served the warrant, and Commissioner McCall held Keener under \$500 bail pending a hearing next Monday.

WILL PROSPECT IN TEXAS.

Number of Charlotte Business Men to Investigate Lands. (Charlotte Observer.) Mr. S. W. Dandridge, of this city, sales agent for the McClung Realty Company, and his brother, Mr. John B. Dandridge, a prominent attorney of Chicago, Ill., will conduct a party of Charlotte gentlemen to Pecos, Texas, January 17th for the purpose of prospecting in that region of the great State. Mr. J. B. Dandridge is largely interested in an irrigation concern with headquarters in Chicago and for several years has held the purchase of huge tracts of land around Pecos in mind. A plan has been formed by which any man who takes the trip and makes a purchase at that point will be given the railroad fare free and a good number of Charlotte business men have taken advantage of this opportunity and will go on this trip. The purpose is to develop the town of Pecos which is situated in a thriving section of Texas and by purchasing the lands now, the opportunity for realizing heavily on the investment is very promising.

Regular Interest Period. At the People's Savings Bank January 1st. Deposits made on or before Monday the 3rd, will bear interest from the 1st. Dec. 31-3c.

THE TRANSCONTINENTAL

Bond Issue of \$50,000 Authorized at Meeting in Asheville.

(Special to News and Observer.) Asheville, N. C., Dec. 31.—At a meeting of the stockholders and directors of the South Atlantic Trans-Continental Railroad here today a bond issue of \$50,000, first mortgage bonds on the Continental Railroad, was approved and bonds and mortgages ordered printed in French and English.

H. R. Neikerson, of New York, was elected a vice president, and A. H. Beary, of New York, assistant secretary. Two men, said to be representatives of MacL. Arthur Beach, contractors, who are said to have contract for building the road, and the election of C. J. Harris, of Dillsboro, and Dr. E. B. Glenn, of Asheville, directors.

It was stated that arrangements have been made with French bankers to float the bond issue and that the construction work would begin in the spring. Regarding the elections in the eastern counties Col. Jones stated that in some instances technicalities had rendered necessary a call for a new election; that when bonds were voted the road would begin the work of construction.

As to whether Buncombe would be called upon to vote additional bonds depended upon whether the differences between the Trans-Continental and Appalachian Interurban could be adjusted. The following is the statement issued today by Col. Jones, president of the Trans-Continental: "The South Atlantic Trans-Continental Railroad stockholders and directors met here this morning and confirmed the bond issue to the French Bank for construction money and ordered mortgages and bonds printed in French and English, and early in the year work will be started. One delay has been the Interurban matter which seems favorable to settlement, otherwise a new bond issue will be called."

TWO BURNED TO DEATH.

Fire With Fatal Results at Elizabeth City.

(Special to News and Observer.) Elizabeth City, Dec. 31.—A most horrible fire occurred here this morning at 7 o'clock in which two colored children were burned to death, and several others narrowly escaped with their lives.

William Billups, and aged negro grandfather of the children burned, arose early and made a fire in a room in the lower floor, thinking that the family, sleeping on the upper floor would find the rooms warm and comfortable. The family, including a son and wife and children, however, continued to sleep, and when they awoke the house was in flames. A four-year-old son was thrown from the window and saved, but one child, about two years old, and another, an infant, perished in the flames. The firemen and spectators viewed the bed containing the helpless children, but were powerless to render aid. It was a most horrible sight.

ONSLOW IS THIRD.

Sheriff Summerville Pays in Taxes to State Treasurer.

(Raleigh News and Observer.) Onslow comes under the wire as the third county in North Carolina to pay up its taxes, with Harnett first and Johnston second on the list. Yesterday Sheriff E. W. Summerville, of Onslow county, was here, and he paid over to the State Treasurer \$7,301.15 which settled in full the account from Onslow. It is a county which is making progress and it is indicative of its spirit that its sheriff comes forward as the third in the list of counties paying in taxes.

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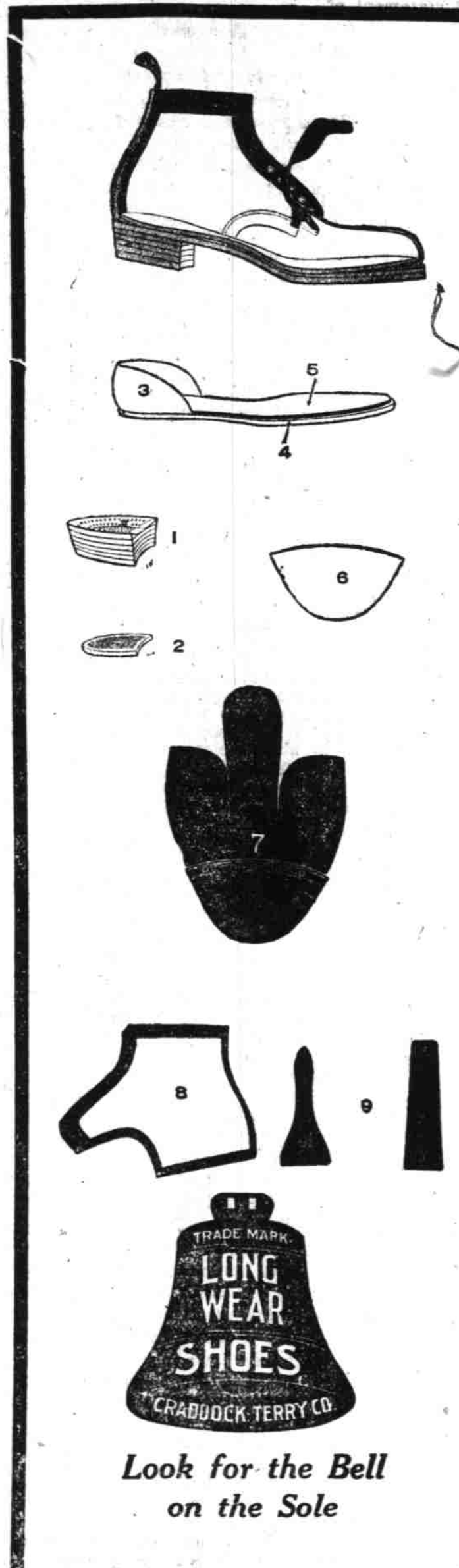
Blood Poison can never be cured with mercury or potash. You might as well know this first as last. Medical authorities say so. The most these drugs can do is to drive the blood poison back into the system and another fit for several years. Then when you think you are cured, pitiful mercury symptoms will break out, and you find that your bones have been eaten all the while. Your teeth will begin to loosen and your tissues, glands, brain and vital organs will show the terrible destructive power of the mercury and potash. Locomotor Ataxia, Paralysis, Imbecility and Premature Death are then almost inevitable. Any medical authority will corroborate these statements. The remarkable vegetable Obbac Treatment does not drive the

Blood Poison but drives it out. It positively contains no mineral poisons whatever, so that once cured by the Obbac Treatment you never run the terrible risk of having your bones soften, your nerves collapse, your teeth fall out, your kidneys degenerate or your hair become brittle. The Obbac Treatment is a marvel, producing remarkable changes in only 30 days. This is why we offer to any blood poison victim living, no matter how bad a case, a 30-Day Treatment FREE.

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Look for the Bell on the Sole

These are the Reasons Why Craddock Shoes Wear Longer

We have no copyright or patent on making the best shoe ever offered for \$3.50 and \$4.00. Any manufacturer who can afford to use the same high grade of leather and put the same high grade of making into his shoes that sell at this price can compete with us. But no other manufacturer can afford it and no other manufacturer does it.

There are plenty of \$3.50 - \$4.00 shoes, but, too, there are a hundred and one shoemaking tricks. Take sole leather, for instance—there are as many grades of sole leather as there are breeds of cats. The Craddock sole (4) is made of old-method tanned steer's hide. There is nothing better to be had even in \$7 and \$8 shoes. This is a fact.

Take the inner sole—the very life of the shoe. Some makers use thin and spongy flank leather here. The Craddock insole (5) is as heavy and as stout as some makers use for outsoles. It is tough and smooth and pliant.

A cheap heel will soon wreck a good shoe. Some heels are half leather and half strawboard. The Craddock heel (1) is made of sole leather and the top lift (2) alone costs more than the whole heel of some shoes that sell at this price.

If the counters and the toe boxes are weak the shoe won't wear well. Craddock counters (3) are made of a single piece of solid grain leather; they are as good as those used in any shoe at any price. Some counters are made of two pieces and others of soft leather stiffened with glue. One good wetting will ruin them.

Vamp leather must be tough, yet yielding to every movement of the foot. Craddock vamps (7) are cut from the best part of the best skins we can buy. The vamps of many shoes of this grade are cut from seconds—skins that are imperfect, sometimes burned in the tanning. Craddock tops and quarters (8) are cut from special upper stock. Many shoemakers economize on linings—a good grade where it shows, a cheap stock away down inside, and this is often in two pieces stitched together. We use the best quality of duck, and there is no seam in the toe to gall the foot.

Craddock back-stays, outside and in (9), are cut from selected pieces of the same leather we cut our vamps from. Everything that makes for good shoemaking is employed. Every stitch is an honest stitch. The finishing, the findings, everything is of the best.

All these statements are true and unvarnished. Our location, "know-how" and manufacturing facilities make it possible for us to make this shoe in the South and sell it in the South at this price. We have an advantage over every other maker of \$3.50 and \$4.00 shoes and we make the most of it for ourselves and our customers by making the Craddock Shoe the best shoe ever sold for \$3.50 and \$4.00.

There's a Craddock dealer in your town.

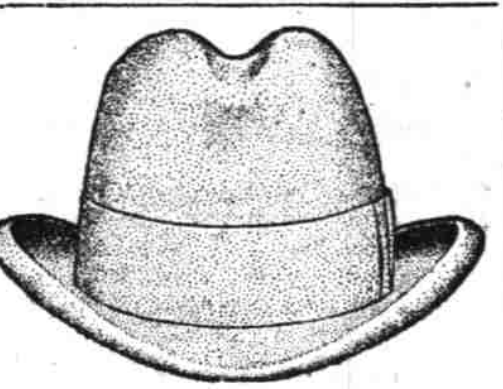
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