

**THE WEATHER**  
Fair Saturday and Sunday.

# THE MORNING STAR

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 13, 1913.

**SANTA CLAUS**  
Is in hiding just around the corner. It's up to you to tip the people off that he will be here. These classes are a part of the talk to 15,000 of them through the Star.

VOL. XXXIII—NO. 71. WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 13, 1913. WHOLE NUMBER 13,506.

## REAR ADMIRAL FLETCHER THREATENS TO OPEN FIRE ON FIGHTING MEXICANS

Commands Both Factions to Cease Fighting, With Promise of Shells From the Gunboat Wheeling, if His Demands Are Not at Once Complied With.

## FOREIGNERS ARE TOLD TO GO ABOARD SHIPS

Or Seek Refuge on Water Front, Where Guns of His Ship Could Afford Them Protection—Will See That Citizens of All Nations Are Protected From Firing of Both—Northern Federals Surrounded.

Federals Hold Center of the Town But Several of the Suburbs Were in the Hands of the Rebels When the Order Came from American Admiral to Cease All Warring—Should Rebels Fire Oil Tanks City Would be Destroyed.

Mexico City, Dec. 12.—Rear Admiral Fletcher, commander of the American naval forces in Mexican waters, today ordered the rebels and Federals fighting at Tampico to cease firing, threatening to open upon them with the guns of the gunboat Wheeling if his order is not obeyed. Both sides complied with the order.

This information is contained in a dispatch received tonight by Sir Lionel Carden, the British minister, from Rear Admiral Sir Christopher Craddock, of the British cruiser Berwick, which is lying off Tampico.

The Federals hold the center of the town of Tampico and the water front. Rear Admiral Fletcher has ordered foreigners to take refuge on board ships or to congregate on the water front, where they will be under the protection of his guns.

No message to Washington. Washington, Dec. 12.—Instructions to Rear Admiral Fletcher had been of a general character and he has been expected to use his discretion in protecting foreigners and their property. Secretary Bryan had retired when the press dispatches telling of Admiral Fletcher's action at Tampico were received.

Up to midnight no significant wireless messages had been received from Rear Admiral Fletcher by the Navy Department.

Confidence in Fletcher. Baltimore, Dec. 12.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels, a guest at the dinner here tonight of the North Carolina Society, when shown the dispatch from Mexico City said he had received no word from Admiral Fletcher and would make no comment until he did.

The Secretary of the Navy had been kept in Mexican waters beyond his time because President Wilson and the Secretary had almost confidence in the admiral's discretion.

Federals Awaiting Advance. Mexico City, December 12th.—Two thousand Federals at Tampico protected by the shells of the gunboat Bravo, more than by their own efforts, were waiting late today for a forward movement of the rebels or some other maneuver that might decide the fate of the town.

The fighting which began two days ago, was then continuing, and the best indications were that it might last another day, or even longer.

How many rebels are engaged in the attack is not known, but it is estimated that the number is at least twice that of the Federals and the reports indicate that they expect reinforcements from Victoria on the north.

The rebels in possession of the railroad yards and shops and large stores of material and equipment have detailed from their lines sufficient men to undertake spreading their lines north and west from Tampico toward Victoria.

Repairs to the road southward from Victoria, also are being rushed, and it is not improbable that the rebels will be able to transport fresh troops and additional artillery supplies to Tampico before the government can get reinforcements to the port.

Occasional shells fell in the heart of Tampico during the day and bullets from rifles and machine guns were numerous enough to make it advisable that all residents not engaged in the operations seek cover. For the most part the firing was limited to the artillery of the rebels and the guns of the Bravo.

The rebels hold the area between Tampico proper and the coast, including Dona Cecilia and Arbol Grande, suburbs, where are located the storage oil tanks of the Waters-Pierce Company, the Cowdry interests and the Huastec Company.

Property Not Damaged. According to reports received here the rebels have not damaged any property, but the firing endangers the tanks and the refinery of the Waters-Pierce Company.

Trains entering Tampico from the west cross a draw bridge which the Federals are keeping open. No rebels have yet appeared on that side of the city. Two train loads of refugees were taken out of the town today. Failure of the rebels to throw out of commission on this line, which extends to San Luis Potosi, enabled the government to materially strengthen the fortification of Tampico.

## BURNED TO DEATH

Miss Fossie Barnes, of Maxton, Victim of Flames

Nurse in Maxton Hospital Breathes Flames That Devour Her Clothing—Was Well Known in Robeson.

(Special Star Telegram.) Maxton, N. C., Dec. 12.—This morning at 1 o'clock, Miss Fossie Barnes, a nurse in the Maxton hospital, was burned to death. She had been packing her trunk preparatory to a trip to Richmond, and after preparing for bed was standing before the fire warming. Her night clothes became ignited and before help could reach her they had been burned off.

When she noticed the fire, she lost her presence of mind and ran screaming about the hospital and the other nurses could not catch her and smother the flames. Dr. A. B. Croom, resident physician, was called and he had breathed the flames and died in great agony in a short while.

Miss Barnes was an orphan and was raised by her uncle, Mr. Alfred Britt, of Buie. She is survived by a brother, who is a medical student at Wake Forest College, and by several other relatives.

Mr. Britt came up from Buie this morning and carried the remains to Pembroke, from where, awaiting the arrival of her brother from Wake Forest, they will be carried to Buieville, her old home, for interment. The funeral services will take place tomorrow from the home of her uncle, Mr. R. Barnes, who was about 23 years old and only last September received her diploma as a nurse.

Miss Barnes was well known in central and southern Robeson, where she had a host of friends. She was a girl of charming personality and by her smile and always cheerful disposition, they were little more than a baby and her mother followed him to the grave a few years ago. She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Ambrose Townsend, of Buie, and Mr. F. W. Furness, of Wake Forest. Her parents were representative of two of Robeson county's leading families.

Whether she consented to play in Robeson is not known, but President Charles E. Ebbetts believed that the \$10,000 consideration offered to the shortstop will alter his announced determination not to play baseball a player. It is also the first recorded instance in which a player

## NATIONALS MAKE THREE BIG TRADES

Shortstop Joe Tinker is Sold to Brooklyn for \$25,000.

ANNOUNCED AT MEETING

Other Changes Will Put New Blood in Several Old Teams—Tener Appoints Committees on New Rules.

New York, Dec. 12.—Three of the most important baseball trades made in the National League, in recent years were consummated here tonight.

Joe Tinker, recently disposed as Cincinnati's manager, was bought by Brooklyn for \$25,000. He agrees to play with that team he will receive \$10,000 of the sum, the remainder going to the Cincinnati club.

Charley Herzog, third baseman, and Grover Hartley, catcher, New York, go to Cincinnati in exchange for "Bob" Bescher, outfielder.

Edward Konetchy, first baseman; H. H. Mowry, third baseman, and "Bob" Harmon, pitcher, of St. Louis, go to Pittsburgh in exchange for John Miller, first baseman; J. O. Wilson, outfielder; Arthur Butler, infielder; Albert Dolan, third baseman, and J. H. Robinson, pitcher.

The trade here the outcome of negotiations carried on by National League club owners during the recent annual meeting.

The sale of Tinker, whose services had been eagerly sought by at least three major league clubs, disposes of an 11th-year major league player.

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## MORE EVIDENCE GIVEN OF GRAFT

Officials of Construction Co. Tell of Contributions.

"HIGH COURT AT ALBANY"

Contribute Large Sums to the Democratic State Committee to Keep Contracts From Being Held Up and Pay Blocked.

New York, Dec. 12.—James E. Flood and John B. Davis, president and treasurer, respectively, of the Flood & VanWirt Engineering & Construction Co., of Hudson Falls, N. Y., testified today at the John Doe inquiry into highway graft that their corporation had given \$4,500 to the Democratic State committee because they feared that contracts the concern had with the State Highway commission and the canal board would be held up.

The commissioner of highways, who was then Gordon Reel, and the superintendent of public works, Duncan W. Peck, were described by Davis as the "high court at Albany."

Flood and Davis were called to supplement previous testimony by Dudley E. VanWirt, vice president of the concern, that at the solicitation of Everett P. Fowler, alleged Tammany boss, he had given contributions amounting to \$3,000 to the Democratic State committee and one of \$1,500 at the request of William J. Morrissy, deputy superintendent of public works.

Davis said VanWirt had told him that Morrissy had "advised" him to contribute \$1,500 contribution in October, 1912.

"You regarded it as a demand, didn't you?" asked District Attorney Whitman.

"Yes," said Davis. "Why did you give?" "To give is strong with the parties over us—the Democratic State committee."

Flood's Evidence. Flood gave similar testimony. He added: "We were afraid our contributions would be held up."

Several other road builders testified today that they gave contributions in connection with their contracts.

C. Bradley, of Corning, told of having been asked by Jerry Lynch, of Glens Falls, to give \$1,500 to the Democratic State committee in 1908. Charles S. Bator, of Rochester, of Whitmore, Rauber & Cicinus, Inc.,

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## DEFENDS CAUCUS AS ONLY METHOD

Senator Newlands Makes Vigorous Reply to Hitchcock.

FULFILL PARTY PROMISES

Heated Debate Over the Currency Bill Now Before the Senate—Twelve Men Control the Finances of This Country.

Washington, Dec. 12.—A vigorous defense of the Democratic caucus as the only method of carrying party promises into effect, was made by Senator Newlands during the currency debate today in the Senate. Replying to the severe arraignment of the caucus made last night by Senator Hitchcock, Senator Newlands declared the caucus was the instrument by which "administration measures" representing the results of party counsel could be effective.

Senator Borah assailed the administration bill vigorously. He quoted George M. Reynolds, of Chicago, as having said he was one of 12 men who controlled the finances of the country.

"It is into the hands of these 12 men that Senators now propose to place the control of the issue of currency," declared Mr. Borah. The issues and control of currency, the Senator declared, should not be placed in the hands of private institutions.

Senator Cummins proposed amendments to the Owen bill, providing that the member banks of the Federal reserve banks should elect four instead of six directors, and that the Federal reserve board should elect five instead of eight. He said he believed the people instead of the banks, should be given more power over the money of the country.

To provide for an emergency currency, Senator Cummins would give authority to the government to issue United States notes for a definite period. These notes could be issued by officials, he said, organized into a bureau of the treasury, or into a central bank.

Senator Smoot denied the charge that the banks of the country were "curtailing business in order to bring financial problems for 100 years to come."

"It is unfortunate," he added, "that a political platform declares against the central bank. I feel certain that a great Federal bank with stock owned by people in general, dealing directly with the people, and competing with our present banks. But at present we are not addressing ourselves to that problem. We are attempting to provide institutions in which existing banks may place their reserves with safety and yet have the use of them to a reasonable extent."

"If people in general are permitted to take all the stock, there will be no responsible ownership upon which an efficient double liability may be used. Since the government deposits are to be entrusted to the reserve banks, this responsibility should be compelled. The argument of a 'Bank of the People' sounds most attractive, but every National bank is that already."

Efforts are to be made by the Senate leaders to have general debate concluded as nearly as possible by Monday.

FOUR NEWBERNITES CALL ON SENATOR SIMMONS. Basnight is to Pay Smith's Salary for Time He Was Out.

(Special Star Telegram.) Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—A delegation of four Newberniters called on Senator Simmons today to advance the candidacy of John Thomas for the postmastership. Senator Simmons will make a selection early next week.

J. S. Basnight, former postmaster at Newbern, has been ordered to pay the salary of E. E. Smith, whom Basnight discharged. Smith was out ten days and the money will be taken out of Basnight's personal funds.

Senator Overman said today that he welcomes any charges that any one has to file against W. C. Hammer. "If they have anything against Hammer, let them file their charges with the Department of Justice," he said. P. R. A.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Representative Edwards, in a bill introduced today, proposed that the government refund the cotton taxes collected during and just after the Civil War.

## BAPTISTS REFUSE TO BAR FOOTBALL

Resolution to Abolish It at Wake Forest Defeated

NEXT CONVENTION AT RALEIGH

Discussion of Temperance, Aged Ministers' Relief and Obituaries Features Afternoon Session at Shelby Yesterday.

PROTEST INTRODUCED. Shelby, N. C., Dec. 12.—Two live issues were introduced in the Baptist State Convention here today. Just before it adjourned after having chosen Raleigh as the next place of meeting. One of these was a protest against the method of procedure in regard to reports of college trustees and the other a resolution calling on the trustees of Wake Forest College to abolish football.

After a spirited attack on the custom of adopting the college reports without debate, in which it is proposed to treat the debatable sections of such reports just as all other convention reports are treated, the advocates of the change dropped the matter, stating, however, that the attack would be renewed at the 1914 meeting.

(By T. W. Chambliss.) Shelby, N. C., Dec. 12.—The session this afternoon of the 83rd annual convention of North Carolina Baptists was given over to the discussion of temperance, aged ministers' relief and obituaries. The reports were read and adopted. The aged ministers' relief fund has been increased the past year but still larger offerings are necessary if the proper relief is given the aged men.

In the morning session the convention promptly and practically by a unanimous vote tabled a resolution to ask the board of trustees of Wake Forest College to abolish football. The resolution was not discussed at any length. The sentiment was entirely too strong against the adoption.

Sunday School Secretary Middleton, speaking to the committee of the Sunday school committee, urged the organization of the distinctively Baptist Bible classes as provided for in the report. Churches, homes for missionaries, chapels, hospitals and other programs as mapped out for the future Sunday school work. In the United States the Sunday school enrollment is less than 50 per cent of the membership of Baptist churches. In the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention, the percentage rises to 55 per cent, but in North Carolina the Sunday school enrollment is 75 per cent of the church membership. Prof. J. Henry Highsmith, of Wake Forest College, presented the report of the Baptist Young People's work in a splendid address.

The session of the convention for 1914 will be held at the Methodist churches of Raleigh, the invitation from those churches having been accepted. The annual sermon will be preached by Rev. D. T. Carter, D. D., of Newbern, and Rev. G. T. Lumpkin, of Oxford, will be the alternate.

The Judson Fund. Southern Baptists are at work raising a special fund, known as the Judson Centennial Memorial Fund and to amount to \$1,250,000. This fund will be entirely separate from the money given for current expenses in foreign mission work and will be expended in the equipment of foreign mission stations. Churches, homes for missionaries, chapels, hospitals and other permanent work will be done with the money raised as the memorial to Adoniram Judson.

North Carolina has been asked to contribute \$100,000 to this fund and a special committee has the work in charge and Rev. G. T. Lumpkin is in the field for the committee. The report made to the convention shows an increasing interest in the movement and up to this time the churches and individuals of the State have contributed \$60,000.

Misleading Newspaper Report. Leaders in the denomination regret the publication in the Charlotte Observer of December 11th, of the statement that the movement to put Christian Education in the budget of benevolences was in any sense the result of a "fight." The movement has been continuing for several years but was directly the result of the action taken by the convention at Goldsboro in 1912, when direct control of Wake Forest College, Meredith College and Thomasville Orphanage passed to the convention. The colleges before the amendment of their charters this year were controlled by self-perpetuating trustees. Now the trustees must be approved by the convention. This action hastened the advanced step of placing Christian Education in the budget. There was absolutely no opposition to the measure and it was done by unanimous vote. The discussion was entirely as to the methods and the time of making the change. The Observer stated "it is a fight that has been gaining momentum starting some few years ago. The advocates of the plan have been gathering forces until they felt that tonight was the time to place it before the convention and let them fight it out."

One of the most prominent men in the denomination said today that it was to be regretted that such publication had been made especially in view of the fact that there was abso-

## FINAL COTTON ESTIMATE

This Year's Crop Amounts to 13,677,000, With North Carolina Raising 765,000 Bales.

Washington, Dec. 12.—A crop of 6,542,850 pounds of cotton, not including linters, was produced in the United States during 1913-14, the Department of Agriculture announced today. This is third in size, that of 1911, which amounted to 7,459,904,000 pounds being the record, and that of last year, when 6,851,710,000 pounds were grown, being second.

This year's crop probably will be the most valuable ever grown in the United States. At the average farm value of cotton on November 1st, which was 13 cents a pound, it is worth \$850,570,500 for the lint alone. To this about \$125,000,000 probably will be added by value of seed and linters. The previous most valuable crop was that of 1910 valued at \$820,320,000 and with seed and lint at \$963,180,000.

All States except Mississippi, Louisiana, Missouri and Oklahoma produced crops better than the five-year average. Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina produced their second largest crops and Texas its third largest.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The American cotton crop for the season of 1913-14 will amount to 13,677,000 bales of 500 pounds (not including linters) according to the first estimate made by the government this year through the crop reporting board, Bureau of Statistics, Department of Agriculture, and announced this afternoon. This compares with 13,703,421 bales of 500 pounds, exclusive of linters, produced last year, when the total crop inclusive of linters was 14,313,000 bales of 500 pounds, 15,692,701 bales in 1911, which including linters amounted to 16,250,000 bales; 11,608,000 bales in 1910, which including linters amounted to 12,005,888 bales; 10,044,949 bales in 1909, which including linters amounted to 10,315,382 bales; 13,241,709 bales in 1908, which including linters amounted to 13,687,000 bales; and 11,107,000 bales in 1907, which including linters amounted to 11,375,500 bales. The average of the crops 1907-11 was 12,351,000 bales, exclusive of linters.

The average total production, exclusive of linters, for the five years from 1907 to 1911 was 12,351,000 bales. The value of the crop, including seed, for the same period averaged \$803,460,000, while the 1912 crop, line and seed, was valued at \$920,630,000, the value of the lint being \$732,240,000; the 1911 record crop, \$859,840,000, the lint being valued at \$742,420,000; and the 1910 crop, \$963,180,000, the most valuable ever produced the value of the lint being \$820,320,000.

The estimated production, exclusive of linters and stated in 500 pound bales, by States, with comparisons, and the aggregate value of the crop with linters and seed, follow:

Virginia: Total production, 25,000 bales, compared with 24,398 bales last year. (Continued on Page Eight.)

## ACCIDENT ON BOARD VERMONT

Battleship Returning to Hampton Roads With Three Compartments Flooded.

Washington, Dec. 12.—With her starboard main shaft broken and several of her compartments flooded, the battleship Vermont is limping toward Hampton Roads on her return from the Mediterranean cruise, under convoy of the battleship Delaware, and the colliers Orion and Jason. The accident occurred at 3:45 Monday.

At 3 o'clock last night the Vermont was 1,100 miles from Hampton Roads and 600 miles from Bermuda, a radiogram to the Navy Department from Rear Admiral Badger, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, describing the accident, said there was no cause for alarm. The Vermont is proceeding to Hampton Roads under her port engine making eight knots in comparatively smooth sea.

The battleships Wyoming, Arkansas, Florida and Utah, of the returning Mediterranean squadron, are continuing toward New York, where they are expected to arrive next Monday.

The Connecticut, Kansas and Ohio are proceeding toward Guantanamo, en route to Mexican waters.

## OUTLINES

The battleship Vermont, returning from the trip to foreign ports, happened to an accident. She is limping toward Hampton Roads with her main shaft broken and several compartments filled with water. Monday, Senator Newlands in the debate on currency, defended the Democratic caucus as the only method to successfully pass administration measures.

The first cotton crop estimate by the government issued yesterday gave a boost to the price of the staple. In New Orleans the price advanced two dollars a bale.

Rear Admiral Fletcher, in charge of the American fleet in Mexican waters, yesterday demanded both the rebels and the Federals fighting at Tampico to cease firing. Promising that if his demand was not immediately complied with to open fire upon both parties with the guns of the gunboat Wheeling. Foreigners were warned either to take refuge aboard ships or on the water front where they would be under the care of his guns.

Spot cotton quiet, middling uplands 13.40, gulf 13.65. Money on call easier 2 1/2 to 4 1/2, ruling rate 4 1/2, closing 3 3/4 to 4. Time loans steady. Wheat barely steady. No. 2 red 100 to 101. No. 1 Northern Duluth 98 1/2. Corn easy. Flour firm. Turpentine steady. Rosin quiet.

## NATIONAL G. O. P. CONVENTION

Congressional Campaign Committee Favor Holding One to Reorganize Representation.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The National Republican Congressional campaign committee went on record here today as favoring a special National convention of the Republican party next year and suggested the plans for a full recognition of the primary laws of the various States pertaining to the election of delegates and members of the National committee, and the time when the latter shall take office and to such other matters as may seem desirable.

This resolution will be submitted to the Republican National committee which meets here next Tuesday, together with the plans for re-apportionment of delegates.

The present apportionment of delegates provides for four delegates-at-large from each State, two delegates-at-large for each representative district in Congress, and two delegates from each Congressional district.

The present delegate representation is 1,062. The first suggestion of the Congressional committee which would make the total delegate representation 1,044, is as follows:

For each of such districts in which the vote cast for the Republican candidates for Presidential electors in 1908 was not more than 40 per cent of the total vote cast for Presidential electors in such district in such election, one delegate for each of such districts in which such Republican vote was 40 per cent, but not more than 60 per cent, two delegates for each of such districts in which such Republican vote was more than 60 per cent, three delegates. In any State where a re-apportionment act has not been passed to provide the full number of Congressional districts, such State shall be entitled to delegates-at-large for each representative district in Congress at the above ratio, comparing the full vote of the State with the total Republican vote in the State.

Upon this basis representation from the Southern States will be diminished. For example, Alabama would be reduced from 24 to 15 delegates; Georgia from 28 to 18; South Carolina from 18 to 11; and other Southern States accordingly.

New York would be increased from 90 to 102; Massachusetts from 36 to 44; Illinois from 58 to 61, and so on. (Continued on Page Eight.)