

THE WEATHER
Forecast For North Carolina Local
Thunder showers Friday and probably
Saturday, continued warm.

THE MORNING STAR

VOL. XCIV—NO. 86.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 25, 1914.

WHOLE NUMBER 18,677.

TWENTY MILLION DOLLAR FIRE SWEEPS SALEM, MASS.

Half of Town Lies in Ruins as Result of Devastation of
Flames—Started by Explosion in Leather Factory and
Swept Entire Manufacturing Section for Miles.
Flying Brands Start Fires in Other Sections.

BLOCK AFTER BLOCK IS BLOWN UP IN
EFFORTS TO CHECK ONRUSH OF BLAZE

But the Wind Whipped Flames Around and New Paths Cut
by Firey Sword—One Thousand Buildings Destroyed
and Ten Thousand Persons Made Homeless With
a Total Damage Estimated at Twenty Million
Dollars—No Deaths Reported

Salem, Mass., June 25.—Nearly half the "Old Witch City" of Salem, rich in historic buildings and tradition, was devastated today and tonight by a fire that caused an estimated loss of \$20,000,000, destroyed one thousand buildings, including a score of manufacturing establishments and made ten thousand of the 45,000 residents homeless. The fire originated in the Korn leather factory on the west side of the city about 2 o'clock this afternoon and swept through the shoe and leather manufacturing district, ruining every building in a curving path two miles long and more than a half mile wide. Burning embers, carried by a strong northwest wind, started fires in two other sections, the fashionable residential district adjacent to the LaFayette street, and a tenement house district on the peninsula bounded by Palmer's Cove, South river and the water front.

Late tonight fire brands carried into the business section started a second fire at North Street. A little later a tank of the Standard Oil Company in the extreme northwest of the city, was ablaze and presently a third fire was leveling the buildings in that vicinity. Millions of Damage Done. No definite estimate of the money loss is possible tonight, but it was placed near \$20,000,000. The burned buildings include the plants of a score of manufacturing companies, among them the big factory of the Naumkeag Cotton Mills, twice as many business places, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church, recently erected at a cost of a quarter of a million dollars, the orphan asylum and more than 200 residences and tenement buildings. Among these residences were colonial houses which artists have declared to be the finest piece of architecture in the country. Several garages were dynamited after a tower in the railroad yard had burned.

The entire district occupied by the Italian and Greek colonies was devastated. Most of the 2,000 persons who had homes in that district were housed temporarily at the Y. M. C. A. building, the State army, police station and other public buildings. The blaze was started by an unexplained explosion in the factory of the Korn Leather Company at Proctor and Boston streets in the shoe and leather manufacturing district in the western part of the city. It quickly jumped to adjoining property.

Fanned by a brisk northwest wind, it swept rapidly through the entire district, destroying more than 20 factory buildings and scores of dwellings and small stores. There was a panic among employes in the Korn factory, but only one person was seriously hurt. The first spread was on the West side of the city, at the front of Gallows Hill. Territory about two miles long and more than half a mile wide, extending from Proctor and Boston streets on the north to Jefferson avenue on the south, was devastated.

Residence District Aflame. In the meantime falling embers started fires in South Salem and the more exclusive residential part of the city. One building after another burst into flames. For several hours the fire in this district was confined to a small oval, but as evening approached it spread in all directions, destroying hundreds of residences, including many handsome homes. The Salem hospital fell next. Patients were removed to safety on street cars. In the excitement a daughter was born to Mrs. Rosette, an inmate.

There was no apparatus here to check the flames, which wiped out scores of tenements and high wooden apartment houses. At the start water pressure was low and then the fight had become desperate a great water main near the Beverly Bridge broke, making the firemen virtually helpless. Meanwhile calls for assistance had been sent to nearby cities and enormous quantities of apparatus responded.

A Manchester, N. H., engine undertook to pump water from the ocean. Boston, Lynn and other cities sent apparatus and details of police. But the combined efforts of the great aggregation of fire fighting machines were futile and when darkness fell dynamite was used. Several blocks in the path of the flame were blown up in the hope of checking their progress, but a fierce wind carried the destruction in a new direction.

BUSY DAY WITH NEWSPAPER MEN CLIMAXED BY INSPIRING ADDRESS

EDITORS OF STATE
HONOR MR. HAMMER

Elect Him President of Press Association

O. K. THE AMENDMENTS

Proposed Changes in State Constitution are Endorsed—Also Adair Bill in Congress—Discussions and Auto Drive

The election of officers for the ensuing year, the endorsement of the proposed constitutional amendments to the State constitution, and also of the Adair bill now before Congress, granting inter-State transportation by railroads in exchange for newspaper advertising, were the principal features of a lengthy business session of the North Carolina Press Association yesterday morning.

Hon. W. C. Hammer was unanimously elected as president and Mr. James H. Cowan, of Wilmington, was made first vice president. Mr. J. B. Sherrill, of Concord, for the 27th time was elected secretary of the organization.

Preceding the election of officers and the adoption of a number of resolutions there were several papers read on subjects of particular interest to the editors. A free-for-all experience meeting on cash and credits was the most interesting feature. While the election of officers was largely a matter of endorsing those already holding office or simply elevating others who have already held the office, the resolutions on the constitutional amendments and on inter-State transportation was productive of some heated argument and showed conclusively the earnestness, anxious to serve the public.

Officers Elected. The officers elected to serve for the coming year are as follows: President—Hon. W. C. Hammer, of Ashboro, editor of the Ashboro Courier and United States District Attorney.

First Vice President—James H. Cowan, of Wilmington, editor of the Evening Dispatch.

Second Vice President—Bion H. Butler, of Raeford, editor of the Raeford Journal.

Third Vice President—E. E. Britton, of Raleigh, editor of the News and Observer.

Secretary and Treasurer—John B. Sherrill, of Concord, editor of the Concord Daily Tribune.

Historian—B. H. DePriest, of Shelby, Editor of The Highlander.

Orator—Sanford Martin, of Winston-Salem, editor of the Journal.

Poet—William Laurie Hill, of Charlotte, of the Presbyterian Standard.

The executive committee is composed of the president and secretary and the following members: Mr. H. G. Braxton, of Kinston, advocated a cash basis. Mr. Hammer thought that the newspaper men would not be taken away from them. The Heppburn bill was an imputation of the honesty of the editors of the country, he thought, and while he knew that he could not enter into an agreement with the railroads on an exchange basis.

Mr. H. B. Varner also endorsed the explanation of these two gentlemen. Mr. W. J. Dowd explained that such arrangement as was suggested was perfectly legitimate and he did not see that it was extending the corporation's special privilege. He advocated it strongly and vigorously, and engaged in a warm running fire debate with Mr. Beasley and Mr. Hammer. When the question was called for the resolution was adopted.

Constitutional Amendments. The resolution on the Constitutional amendments which was also adopted after a warm debate between Mr. Hammer and Mr. M. L. Shipman, commissioner of labor and printing, is as follows:

"We favor the enactment of such laws as will give the people a full and free expression of their will in naming candidates for office, and the enactment and rigid enforcement of laws that will prevent the use of money or any corrupt or improper influence to control primaries and elections."

"We endorse the constitutional amendments now pending and urge their adoption by the people."

Mr. Shipman opposed the resolution because he thought that it was a partisan matter and he did not think that politics should be injected into the press organization.

Mr. Hammer stated that while he had not studied all of the amendments it had been his observation that

Honor Guest of N. C.
Press Association



Mr. Norman Hapgood, Editor of Harper's Weekly, New York, Who Last Night Delivered the Principal Address for the State Press Convention at Wrightsville Beach. His Subject Being "The Southern Editor's Big Job."

Johnson, R. R. Clark and H. B. Varner.

Transportation and Advertising. Upon the conclusion of the discussion of business problems and the election of officers Mr. Clark presented the report of the committee which included a number of resolutions.

In presenting the resolution of inter-State transportation which provoked such heated discussion by the editors Mr. Clark explained that personally he was opposed to the resolution, but did not think it worth while to present a minority report. The resolution which was finally adopted by a big majority is as follows:

"Whereas, There is now pending in the United States Congress a bill introduced by Mr. John A. Adair, of Indiana, relative to granting inter-State transportation by railroads in exchange for newspaper advertising."

"Be it further resolved, That the present law prohibiting newspapers from entering upon such contracts is in restraint of trade and an injustice to both parties; and the Adair bill amending the Heppburn inter-State commerce act is entirely in favor of the Adair bill, which grants the right of free citizenship."

Mr. R. F. Beasley was opposed to the resolution because he thought that there is no consistency in advocating taking away from railroads special privileges and yet accepting privileges from them. Mr. H. G. Braxton, of Kinston, advocated a cash basis. Mr. Hammer thought that the newspaper men would not be taken away from them. The Heppburn bill was an imputation of the honesty of the editors of the country, he thought, and while he knew that he could not enter into an agreement with the railroads on an exchange basis.

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HAPGOOD DEFINES
EDITOR'S BIG JOB

Says Next Big Industrial Expansion Will Be in South

GET SPIRIT OF THE AGE

Which is to Make Success and Virtue Identical and Truth Basis of Business—This Southern Editor's Task.

Predicting that the next big industrial expansion will be in the South, Norman Hapgood, in his address before the North Carolina Press Association last night at the Oceanic Hotel, Wrightsville Beach, defined the task of the Southern editor as being to catch the spirit of the age to make success and virtue the same thing, to make truth the basis of business and to take the lead in setting the intellectual pitch of the community in which they live. He paid high tribute to President Wilson's administration, stating that he doubted that if any previous administration had done as much to focus the ideas of the day into action as his has done.

The address was simple, clear-cut and concise and was heard with close attention by practically all the editors who had gathered for the convention as well as by many people from the city. The address was delivered with that same grace and sincerity that have made Mr. Hapgood's editorials the most widely read in this country.

With a trip down the Cape Fear river today as the guests of the Southern Commercial Club and of Capt. John W. Harper, the clever master of the steamship "Wilmington" in a recent session of the North Carolina Press Association will come formally to an end.

A few of the members left last night for their homes, but the majority will take the trip down the river today. Special cars will leave the Oceanic Hotel at 8:15 o'clock to take the guests to the boat at the foot of Princess street.

Introduced by Mr. Poe. Mr. Hapgood was introduced to the audience by President Poe, who declared that he would not discuss the subject of the day in any other point in the country; and I want to say to you that as a matter of fact the signs of a very strong business revival are becoming more and more evident from day to day.

"Business men have a feverish and apprehensive condition in this country for more than ten years; I will not stop to point out the time at which it began, but I do know that it has been more than ten years' business has been the object of sharp criticism in the United States, a criticism growing in volume and growing in particularity. Mr. Hapgood has declared to be a man of vision without being a visionary.

Spirit of the Age. Mr. Hapgood, in beginning his address, said that he had come down to talk face to face with the editors and that he proposed to discuss his subject, "The Southern Editor's Big Job," from the standpoint of one who was interested in the development of the South. He would try to boil down in a few sharp points some of the great principles of history. The spirit of the day is shown so much, he declared, in subject or subjects as it is in an atmosphere. "I am glad that this is the era in which we are able to work and live," he declared, "and that President Wilson's administration is doing more to focus the ideas of the present age into action than any previous one has done as declared that he was not a partisan, but a man of vision without being a visionary.

Why Wilson is Radical. Some have defined Wilson as a progressive scholar, he said, but he preferred to look upon him as a scholar as a natural radical. In fact, no man could study the past with vision and hope without being a radical. Continuing the speaker stated that the followers of Wilson have wavered, not because he has failed to do what he has intended to do, but because he has done the very things that the platform of his party called upon him to do. People have gotten so used to the old platform that they have not seen that there are never enacted into laws and definite policies, he declared, that they look with some distrust upon a man who takes a different view of the matter.

Illustrating the message he would bring to the editors, the speaker showed how Thomas Jefferson when he came to write the epitaph for his monument did not mention the fact that he had been President or Vice President or any of the positions that he had held, but only named two things, the first being the fact that he had penned a document in favor of the freedom of the human spirit and that he had founded an institution to help freedom and truth to live. This was the first and the most striking thing in the life of this great thinker and political leader.

The Cost of Freedom. "Freedom banners streams against the wind" was one of the striking things that he saw in the life of this great thinker and political leader.

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WILSON ADDRESSES VIRGINIA EDITORS

Scribes of Old Dominion Visit White House.

FREEDOM FOR BUSINESS

President Declares That Trust Legislation Will be Passed by Congress and Predicts Great Business Boom.

Washington, June 25.—Under a "new constitution of freedom" for business, given by anti-trust legislation soon to be passed by Congress, President Wilson today promised the country the greatest business boom in its history. This was the President's final answer to opponents of trust legislation at this session of Congress and to prophets of evil times, delivered with determined expression and every word emphasized with clenched fist. "We know what we are doing," said the President; "we propose to do it under the advice of men who understand the business of the country, and we know that the effect is going to be exactly what the effect of the currency reform was, a sense of relief and security."

The President spoke to a group of Virginia editors at the White House, but his assurances were intended for the country. There was every indication that the speech was meant to be one of the most important of the Administration.

Responsible for Public Opinion. "I think it is appropriate, in receiving you," the President said, "to say just a word or two in assistance of your judgment about existing conditions. You are largely responsible for the state of public opinion. You furnish the public with information and in your editorials you furnish it with the interpretation of that information. We are in the presence of a business situation which is variously interpreted here in Washington, through instrumentalities that are at our disposal and through a correspondence which comes in to us from all parts of the nation and we are perhaps in a position to judge of the actual condition of business better than those can judge who are at any other single point in the country; and I want to say to you that as a matter of fact the signs of a very strong business revival are becoming more and more evident from day to day.

"Business men have a feverish and apprehensive condition in this country for more than ten years; I will not stop to point out the time at which it began, but I do know that it has been more than ten years' business has been the object of sharp criticism in the United States, a criticism growing in volume and growing in particularity. Mr. Hapgood has declared to be a man of vision without being a visionary.

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JAPAN-AMERICAN STORY PUBLISHED

Simultaneously in Washington and Tokio

BRYAN REMAINS FIRM

Last Note Sent to Orient by Secretary of State is Said to Reroute The American Government's Stand as Positive

Washington, June 25.—Diplomatic correspondence between the United States and Japan over the California anti-land law, extending over a period of more than a year, was published today simultaneously in Washington and Tokio by agreement of the two governments. It disclosed that a new treaty was discussed as one way to meet Japan's protest against what her diplomatic correspondence characterized throughout as "essentially unfair and invidiously discriminatory." On June 10th the Japanese ambassador Viscount Chinda, left with Secretary Bryan "instructions" from the Tokio foreign office that the projected treaty would tend to create new difficulties. The Japanese government therefore, the note said, was "disinclined to continue negotiations looking to the conclusion of a convention on the line of the project under discussion, but they prefer to recur to the correspondences which were interrupted and they will now look for a answer to the note handed over by Bryan on the 26th of August last, hoping that in a renewal of the study of the case, a fundamental solution of the question at issue may be found."

The Japanese note of August 26th last which Mr. Bryan was asked to answer, concluded: "The imperial government claims for them (its subjects) fair and equal treatment and are unable either to acquiesce in the unjust and obnoxious discrimination complained of, or to regard the question as closed so long as the existing state of things is permitted to continue."

Two days ago Secretary Bryan replied to that communication, but publication of the note was withheld today because it could not be included in the correspondence made public at Tokio. It is understood Secretary Bryan reaffirmed the position of the United States leaving the subject open for further diplomatic exchanges.

So there the controversy stands, apparently at a deadlock. There are intimations in diplomatic circles that it is being worked around to a stage of arbitration at which a stand arid arbitration treaty with Japan now in force, having only recently been renewed. The proposed treaty halted by Japan's latest attitude is understood to be one of the most important of the naturalization of those Japanese already owning lands. The correspondence in full makes about 30,000 words.

It was possible to carry this great reform on sensible lines. Then advanced the trust programme and again the same dread, the same hesitation, the same urgency, that the thing should be postponed. It will not be postponed because we are the friends of business. We know what we are doing; we propose to do it under the advice, for we have been advised and of security. "Because when the programme is finished it is finished; the interrogation points are rubbed off the slate; business is given its constitution; freedom and its hidden go forward under that constitution. And just so soon as it gets that leave and freedom there will be a boom in this country such as we never have witnessed in the United States."

Agitation Fatal. "I, as a friend of business, and a servant of the country, would not permit such a long continued agitation and uncertainty; and therefore I am sure that it is beginning to be evident that a constructive program at last is not only to be proposed but completed and that when it is completed business can get and will get what it can get in no other way—rest, recuperation, and successful adjustment."

"It is a matter of conscience as well as a matter of large public policy to do what this Congress I am now certain is going to do, finish the programme. And I do not think it is going to take a very long time. I believe that the temper of those engaged in this great thing is admirable, that the various elements sometimes in antagonism in the Congress of the United States are drawing together, and that we shall witness an early statesmanlike result for which we shall all have abundant reason to be thankful."

During the day the President had received a letter signed by Champ Clark, of the House, and all the Democratic Representatives from Missouri, pledging their support in his campaign for anti-trust legislation, and promising they would remain in Washington until the programme was finished. He replied, expressing thanks and appreciation.

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