

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

FIND  
The stenographer who should have been working for you from the day she first took a position—through persistent Want Advertising.

VOL. XCIV—NO. 86. WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 25, 1914. WHOLE NUMBER 13,677.

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 traditions, 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 fire became desperate a great water main near the Beverly Bridge broke, making the firemen virtually helpless. Meantime 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 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 held by 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 that 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 Raleigh, editor of the News and Observer; Secretary and Treasurer—John B. Sherrill, editor of the Concord Daily Tribune; Historian—B. H. DePriest, of Shelby, Editor of The Highlander; Orator—Samford 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: Editor of the Ashboro Record; H. B. Varner, editor of the Lexington Dispatch and Southern Good Roads; J. H. Caine, editor of the Asheville Citizen; and T. J. Lassiter, editor of the Smithfield Herald.

Interesting Papers Read.

While the first day's session was devoted to a discussion of public affairs, the meeting yesterday was on the more technical side of the work of getting out newspapers. The meeting was called to order in the convention hall of the Oceanic Hotel shortly after 10 o'clock by President Poe. The first paper was one advocating mutual fire insurance for North Carolina newspapers, prepared by Mr. H. C. Martin, editor of the Lenoir News, and read by the secretary, Messrs. H. C. Martin, B. H. DePriest and T. Lassiter. The second was a paper on the question of how to get more money from legal notices and foreign advertising, but owing to the fact that he had recently been appointed postmaster for some other reason was unable to be present. However, he had sent his paper and he requested Mr. H. B. Varner to read it. This was an exhaustive discussion of the question and provoked considerable discussion, resulting in the decision to bring the matter of a graduating scale for charges on legal notices brought before the editorial committee. The paper of much interest was read by Mr. Ora L. Jones, editor of the Brevard News, telling how he had gotten every merchant but one in his town to advertise. Following the reading of these papers the election of officers was taken up. After this came the experience meeting on cash and credit plans, which was participated in by a number of the editors.

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."

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 on 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 the bill introduced by Mr. John A. Adair, of Indiana, relative to granting inter-State transportation by railroads in exchange for newspaper advertising..."

Spirit of the Age.

Mr. Hapgood, in beginning his address, said he had come to face with the editors and that he proposed to discuss his subject, "The Southern Editor's Big Job," in the spirit of a man who is 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."

Some of the things that he said.

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 attempted, but because he has had done the very things that the platform of his party called upon him to do. People have gotten so used to the old order that they are not in a frame of mind to accept new 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 declared 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 banner streams against the wind" was one of the striking things that he said with a flourish. (Continued on Page Five.)

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 had done. The address was simple, clear-cut and concise and was heard with close attention by practically all the editors of the newspapers in the city, 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 quoted 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 steamer Wilmington in the annual session of the North Carolina Press Association will come formally to an end. A few of the members left last night their homes but the last majority will take the trip down the river today. Special cars will leave the Oceanic Hotel at 8:15 o'clock to take the members 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 his subject from a position on a daily newspaper that paid \$5 a week to the editorship of one of the foremost weeklies of the country. He had given that to his private newspaper, but he would not do it for money. Mr. Poe thought that he was the best example today of the personal journalist that is rapidly passing away. His editorials were quoted and his columns were as they appear in Harper's Weekly, but because they are written by Mr. Hapgood, his paper is one of courage and high spirit of politics without demagoguery and Mr. Hapgood declared to be a man of vision without being a visionary.

Mr. Hapgood, in beginning his address, said he had come to face with the editors and that he proposed to discuss his subject, "The Southern Editor's Big Job," in the spirit of a man who is 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."

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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. 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 has been 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 to be so, but I will say that more than ten years' business has been the object of sharp criticism in the United States, a criticism growing in volume and growing in particular against the administration of Mr. Taft. This criticism has increased, business has grown more and more anxious.

Fearing the Operation.

"Business men have become so men do not see that they will have to undergo an operation and are not sure when they get on the table the operation will not be a capital operation, as a matter of fact, but it will be a matter of life and death. I do not think it is too much to say that the diagnosis has progressed it has become more and more evident that no capital operation was necessary; that at the most a minor operation was necessary to remove admitted distempers and evils. "The treatment is to be constitutional rather than surgical, affecting habits of life and action, which have been hurtful. For on all hands it is admitted that there are processes of business or have been processes of business in this country which ought to be corrected, but the correction has been postponed and in proportion to this postponement the fever has increased—the fever of apprehension. There is nothing more fatal to business than to keep postponing from month to month and from year to year whether something serious is going to happen to it or not and what in particular is going to happen to it if anything does. It is impossible to forecast the prospects of any line of business unless you know what the year is going to bring forth. Nothing is more unfair, nothing has been declared by business men to be more harmful, than to keep them guessing. Constructive Correction. "The guessing went on, the air was full of interrogation points for ten years and more. Then came an administration which for the first time has a definite programme of constructive correction, not of a construction correction if admitted—clear programme disclosed so far as possible in a general programme in its particulars, as well as in its general features. And the administration proceeded to carry out this programme. "First, there was the tariff, and the business men said, 'We don't like to go in; the water looks cold,' but when the tariff had been passed it was found that the re-adjustment was possible without any serious disturbance whatever. So that men said with a sense of relief, 'well, we are glad to get that behind us, and it wasn't bad after all.' "Then came the currency reform. You remember with what resistance, with what criticism, with what systematic holding back, a large body of bankers in this country met the proposal of that reform and your knowledge, immediately after its passage they recognized its benefit and its beneficence and how ever since the passage of this reform bankers throughout the United States have been congratulating themselves that

JAPAN-AMERICAN  
STORY PUBLISHED

Simultaneously in Wash-  
ington and Tokio

BRYAN REMAINS FIRM

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

Washington, June 25.—Diplomatic correspondence between the United States and Japan over the California anti-alien 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 the State Department 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 least. A stark and arid arbitration treaty with Japan now in force, having only recently been renewed. The proposed treaty hailed by Japan's latest attitude is understood to be intended to touch on the nationalization of those Japanese already owning lands. The correspondence in full makes about 30,000 words.

It was possible to carry this great reform in sensible steps.

"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 offered enough to obtain 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. "Because when the programme is finished it is finished; the interrogation points are rubbed off the slate; business is given the constitution of freedom and it is hidden 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 have never 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 and protracted bringing on another long period of agitation with every letter in the word a capital letter. The choice is a sober and sensible programme now completed or months upon months of additional conjecture and danger. "I for one could not ask this country to excuse a policy which subjected business to longer 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 wrong to take a very long time. I believe that the temper of those engaged in this great thing is admirable, that the various elements are 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.