

Charlotte Observer
In the Year of 22 South Church St.
Subscription, Established in 1869.
OWNERS—Curtis B. Johnson,
R. Sullivan, President.
Paper receives Complete Reports of
and News, and also maintains special
bureaus in Washington, the State
at other important State news centers.
Post Office as Second Class Mail Matter.
RATES (Payable in Advance):
Daily and Sunday.
1.00 1 Month 1.75
1.00 3 Months 5.00
1.00 6 Months 9.00
1.00 1 Year 16.00
Semi-Weekly.
1.00 1 Month 1.40
1.00 3 Months 4.00
1.00 6 Months 7.50
1.00 1 Year 14.00
Singles Foreign Advertising:
5 Flats, New York, Chicago, Phila.

AND MAGAZINE PAGE
DAY, MARCH 26, 1917.

CREDIT FOR THE ALLIES

New York and other important
country are very much interested in
that the Government tender the
the sum of one billion dollars. It
week the Government of France
negotiate a loan for \$99,000,000 in
was faced with the necessity of
rate of interest. The New York
interested in the matter and made
The World advocates the declar-
of a loan of a billion dollars di-
the proposition advanced several
Mr. Harding of the Federal
a billion-dollar loan to the
meeting with popular favor,
a strong probability that Con-
to act on this proposition as
Mr. G. M. Cassatt, president
Chamber of Commerce in Lon-
ment given to Daily Financial
the establishment of a billion-
this country to be drawn upon by
for the purchase of supplies,
at the large manufacturers, who
position to do so, form a joint
wish their products at a small
to the amount of this credit. Mr.
that our aid take this form rather
undertaking to send an armed ex-
to fight in the Allied trenches.
led by Mr. Harding has the en-
James S. Alexander, president
Bank of Commerce of New York,
that it is now our duty to do
our power to assist the Allies
and otherwise. Our interests,
and with theirs, and our finan-
be made available to them.
any financial plans for
assistance that are proposed by
will no doubt be fully supported
and others. Financial Amer-
who favor the immediate grant-
dollar credit say that if this Gov-
the obligations of Great Britain
issued against them its own notes
Allies would be substantially as-
that they would be borrowing
credit, but that of the United
has grown enormously wealthy
of the world war and unques-
in a better position in its his-
in sums undreamed of a few
Congress convenes in extra-
month the decision will
are to take an active part in
hope or portray the role of an
Germany after the style of
to cost this country a sum
already expended is but an
people will have to pay the
after about which there need be
against which complaint is use-
Financial America: "While
that we are fighting humanity's
the future generations that
our victory, nevertheless the
must bear its share of the
many ways are open but the
uration. Today we have an
bread over worker and shirker
and the spender pay pro-
To alleviate the arising of
this tax should be re-allo-
strain can be borne by those
Let the shirker pay for the
producer be free to keep the
turning while the thrifless-
of thriftlessness—which war is."
opposition—if only there
ers in this country big
ing. But such as there
made to feel the heavy
ector. But the United States
involved in the war. We
but let us hope we must not
Financial America appears
our children may be free.
to be equalized, because, as
th means more than any
the end can be attained
ured of more stability
maintains, and in this
troubles when we are
are building our des-
action, not explana-
only retard righteous
time when the rich and
this station, whether with
the plough or the forge."

MOVES FOR PREPAREDNESS.

The Government is moving along with the ar-
rangements for preparedness. It will be seen that
the country has been divided into six military dis-
tricts, instead of the four which have heretofore
existed, and that North Carolina is included in
one of the newly created districts, of which Gen-
eral Wood is chief, with headquarters at Char-
leston. There is also a call for additional men
for the Navy, the authorized strength of which is
brought up from 84,000 to 87,000. The ac-
tual strength of the Navy in men at this time is
but 62,999, and the Government has sent out
urgent calls for recruits. There is a recruiting
office in Charlotte, and young men in this section
of the State will find this a convenient point for
enlisting.

NATIONAL AND STATE NEGLECT.

The Chinese are to honor the memory of John
Hay, the man who opened the door to China, by
the erection of a monument in the Central Park
of Peking. This has brought forth the suggestion
that there should be "an American testimonial of
appreciation in the shape of a monument to Hay
in Washington." That there is no such monument
is a standing evidence of American negligence. We
have an evidence of North Carolina negligence in
the discharge of a patriotic duty in the absence of
any kind of a monument to Senator Ransom. We
are often led to wonder how long this neglect is to
stand as a reproach to the people of the State.

A FEW PRETTY PENNIES SAVED.

The average interest rate throughout the whole
country is estimated at 7.4 per cent. The Federal
Reserve Board has made the calculation that un-
der the operations of the flat rate of five per cent,
which has been adopted, the farmers of the United
States will be saved as much as \$100,000,000
every year in interest alone. This saving will in-
crease as the volume of money loaned increases.
All of which indicates, to some degree, the vast
benefit the farm loan system will prove in this
single direction to the farmer.

THE DIVINE RIGHT.

The Romanoffs seem to have been mistaken
about their "divine right" to rule. Can it be pos-
sible the Hohenzollerns and the Hapsburgs made
a similar error?

BERLIN'S EXPLANATION.

Berlin's explanation of the retreat in France is
that von Hindenburg has something up his sleeve
which he is keeping under his hat.

A GERMAN VIEW.

Considering our sedulous precautions for Count
von Bernstorff's safety, it's no wonder Germany
looks upon us as a decadent Nation.

MECKLENBURGIZED.

The "hornet" fleet to destroy U-boats gives dignity
to the name of an insect that has hitherto been
noted for sheer pestiferousness.

THE PESSIMIST

The display of pessimism since the war situa-
tion began taking on an ominous look has been of a
character to try the patience of all patriotic Ameri-
cans. The pessimist is disposed to exaggerate all
possible dangers and to minimize all conditions of
safety. The characteristics of this pest—the pessimist
is nothing short of that—have been treated in a
delightfully keen and incisive way by The Christian
Science Monitor, which says that one of his favorite
processes of arousing his countrymen to a true sense
of their peril is to tell them that the coasts of the
country are not protected, which is not true; to tell
them that the coasts of the country are not defended,
which is not true; to tell them that the Navy would
be useless in case of war, which is not true; to tell
them that, for want of a great, organized, trained,
disciplined, efficient army, the country would be
at the mercy of an invading foe, which is not true;
and to tell them that the President, his Cabinet,
Congress, the military and naval commanders, the
National Guard, the people, are unfit to meet a
great crisis, because they are not uniformed, hel-
meted, accoutered and iron-crossed, which is
miles and miles from the truth.

In an analytical mood, our Boston contempo-
rary finds the underlying trouble with the pes-
simist to be that he does not understand, and
seems incapable of comprehending, that "the United
States was never intended to be, is not now, and
never will be, while the ideals of its founders
survive, a warlike or a warring Nation. Funda-
mentally, its institutions are based upon concep-
tions of government which are the very antitheses
of militarism. Nothing could be farther from its
aspiration, more remote from its purpose, than
that it should wax powerful through strife, or be-
come the mother of a race of swashbucklers."

RAVAGES OF PARALYSIS.

They are just now beginning to realize the real
terror of infantile paralysis with the publication
of the data in a report by the New York Com-
mittee on After Care of Cases. It is found that
out of 9,003 cases of infantile paralysis in that
city last Summer, 2,398 cases were fatal, and 6,-
755 are in need of after-treatment. Of those that
survived, only 102 have been discharged by clinics
as cured. In other words, there are over 5,000
children in the big city yet undergoing treatment
for a disease which attacked them last year, and
which may leave them cripples for life. The re-
cord shows that only one in ninety victims are
cured. The country may well be apprehensive of
a return of this plague, but it is reassuring to
know that New York has taken every known pre-
caution to guard against such a calamity.

KITCHIN AND THE CREDIT.

Leader Kitchin is quoted as expressing confi-
dence in the fact that the Democrats will be able
to organize the new House and elect Clark to the
speakership. But he does not talk so assuredly as
to his own position on the important matter of
voting a billion-dollar credit to the Entente Allies.
He "lacks official information" on that matter and
all he will venture to say is that he "is not pledged
to such a program." The Democrats have had
obstructive trouble with Mr. Stone, who has been
honored with the chairmanship of the Foreign
Relations Committee, and it is to be hoped that
Leader Kitchin is not contemplating embarrassing
the Administration at this critical time, when it is
the duty of all statesmen to place duty to country
above mere personal prejudices and beliefs.

THE AMERICAN POLICE.

The greater part of the fortune left by the late
Oscar G. Murray, formerly president of the Rail-
more & Ohio Railway, is devoted to the establish-
ment of a home for widows and orphans of the
company's employes. It was a beautiful act by
a man who had attained eminence in the railroad
business for the families of the railroad men who
had not attained eminence and a competence. In
no other country do the rich men do as much for
the aid of the needy, for relief, for education, for
religion, art, public parks and all means of re-
lieving suffering, and promoting the good of the
community.

WILJING TO BITE.

There is something suspicious in the Germans'
systematic abandonment of territory in France.
Military observers feel sure there is a trick in it
somewhere, but the Entente seems entirely willing
to bite.

THE AMERICAN POLICE.

The disclosure of the Zimmermann note, and the
exposure of what seems to have been a serious con-
spiracy in League Island, and the arrest of Ger-
man plotters in New York, engaged in more than
one conspiracy, should reassure Americans regard-
ing the vigilance of our Government. Our
police methods are not so severe as those of Russia
and Germany, but they are likely to be sufficient.

MECKLENBURGIZED.

The "hornet" fleet to destroy U-boats gives dignity
to the name of an insect that has hitherto been
noted for sheer pestiferousness.

THE RED CROSS

Charlotte will be incorporated into an important
unit in the great scheme of the American Red
Cross in preparation for the eventuality of war.
It is an elaborate plan, providing, as it does, the
services of nurses for an army of a million men.
There are already enrolled for active service in
this country almost 3,000 graduate nurses and
over 10,000 doctors and surgeons. These are or-
ganized and ready for work. This organization of
doctors and nurses will be augmented by the vol-
unteer associations now springing up all over the
country, Charlotte being one of the bases of or-
ganization. In addition to the graduate nurses
there is a large body of "apprentices," holders of
elementary certificates, who can be pressed into
service as assistants, so that even now there are
7,000 nurses available for hospital and field. The
general scheme of organization, as explained in
The New York Post, indicates that 25 base hos-
pitals, each of 500 beds, have been organized in
various cities. Their total cost is between \$300,-
000 and \$400,000. Twenty of these are ready for
service, completely equipped and fully manned.
These units will call for 1,250 nurses and 599
nurses' aids. All Red Cross nurses, surgeons, and
nurses' aids have received, or are now receiving,
immunity treatment for typhoid fever. All have
also passed physical examinations. In addition
to these army hospital units, the Red Cross is now
organizing 31 Navy detachments of 20 nurses
each. Emergency detachments of nurses are also
planned, which can be sent to relieve units on
service or to meet special needs. In case of war
all these units will be taken over by the Govern-
ment and become parts of the medical depart-
ments of the Army and Navy. Until then they
must be maintained entirely at the expense of the
American Red Cross.

There is no known influence which so exerts it-
self to alleviate the horrors of war as the American
Red Cross. It has performed a noble service of
humanity, particularly in the war now going on in
Europe, and it will be in position to render a vast
greater service to our own people in case of war
with Germany. That this organization is perfect-
ing its plans on a larger and more effective scale
than ever before undertaken must be regarded as
one of the mitigating circumstances of an antici-
pated time of need.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels is to ask Congress
to make an increase of five dollars a month in the
pay of all enlisted men. This would enable such
as have families to send home a larger amount,
and besides, would have a tendency to accelerate
the work of enlistment, which has been increasing
at a satisfactory rate within the past few weeks.

The calling out of the National Guards in many
States to serve as police for bridges, munition
factories and Government properties indicates the
precautions the Government is taking against de-
predations by spies. The country seems to be in
the midst of war times, even if no declaration has
yet been made.

The Associated Press brings confirmation of the
reported death of Aviator McConnell, the North
Carolinian who had rendered such distinguished
service in behalf of France. The story of his ex-
ploits is destined to take a place among the most
thrilling narratives of the war.

The newspaper accounts of the pacifist meeting
in Madison Square Garden, New York, read like
a report of an aldermanic session in the city hall,
Charlotte.

NEWSPAPER SENTIMENT

THE PARIS BREAD OF 1870.

Many French families still keep under glass a
piece of the black bread on which Paris fed dur-
ing the siege. It was with bread, in which rice
and oats mixed with bran and starch took the
place of flour, that Paris, with a population of
2,000,000 inhabitants, held out for 140 days. The
fuel difficulty was the worst, and it led to the cut-
ting down of the trees and the dragging up of the
asphalt of the streets. These are memories which
make Parisians accept the stale bread and lack of
coal of 1917 with a smile. "We haven't got there
yet," they remark; though Poulbot does make one
of his gamins gleefully say to his grandfather,
"And where do you come in now with your 1870
stories!"

A BEAUTIFUL ACT.

The greater part of the fortune left by the late
Oscar G. Murray, formerly president of the Rail-
more & Ohio Railway, is devoted to the establish-
ment of a home for widows and orphans of the
company's employes. It was a beautiful act by
a man who had attained eminence in the railroad
business for the families of the railroad men who
had not attained eminence and a competence. In
no other country do the rich men do as much for
the aid of the needy, for relief, for education, for
religion, art, public parks and all means of re-
lieving suffering, and promoting the good of the
community.

OPPOSED TO WAR.

In my opinion Russia will soon sue
for a separate peace, and will be given
free passage through the Dardanelles,
and will then become an Ally of the
Central Powers. Then why should our
President force this country into the
conflict, and bring on an endless war
that would be so far reaching in its
consequences? We could easily have
Mexico, Japan and the Central Pow-
ers, including Russia, Finland, Pol-
and, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and
Holland to cope with. What would
we gain by such a contest? Our
young men would be slaughtered or
drowned in crossing the ocean, and
this country would be made to pay
the whole European war debt. It
would be murder on the part of the
Government to force our soldiers to
go to Europe.

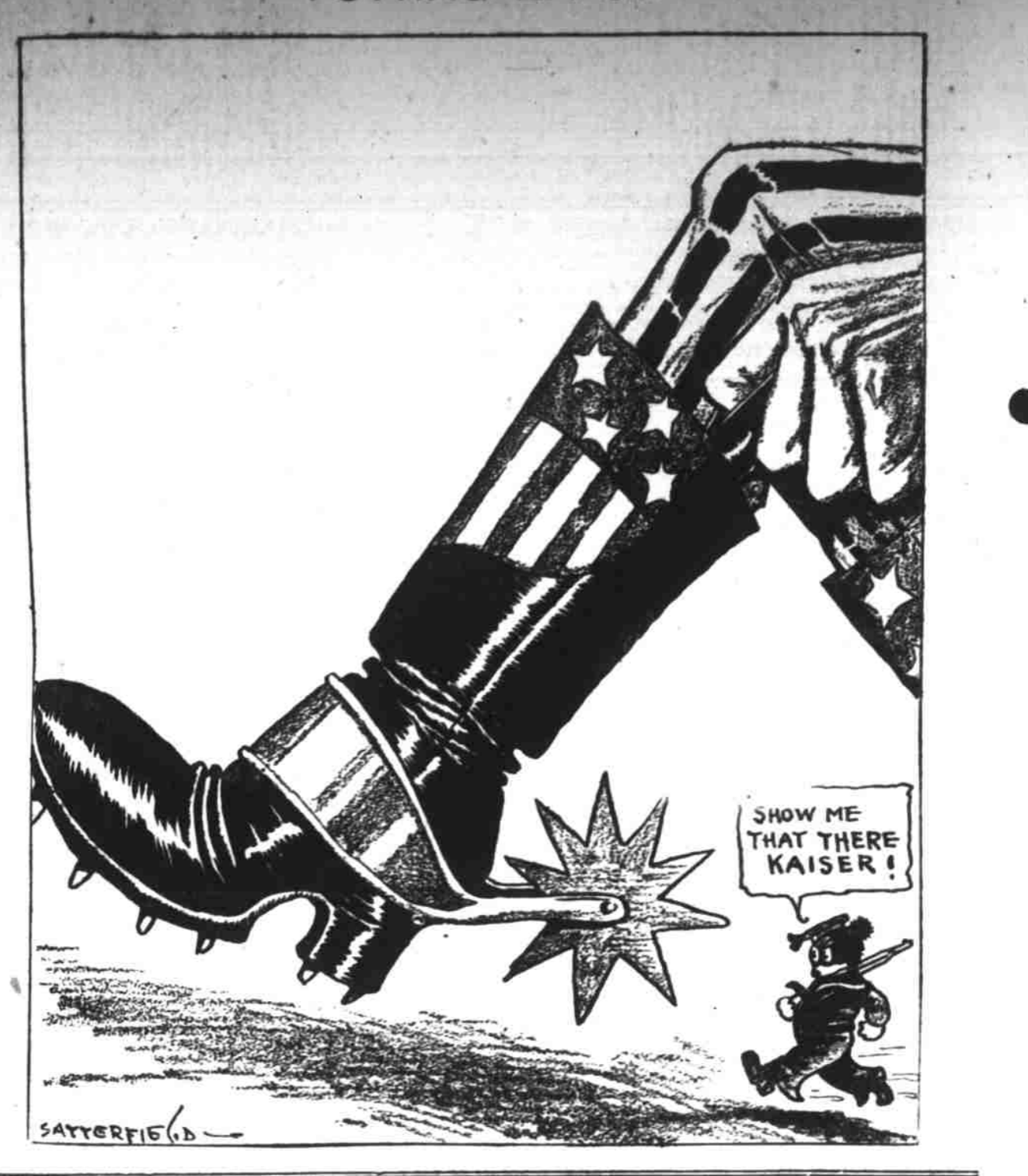
UNDER STATE PRIMARY.

In the future all the candidates
for county offices in Stokes will be
nominated according to the rules and
regulations of the State primary law,
an act to that effect having passed
the Legislature during its last ses-
sion.

LAND DEVELOPMENT IN PROGRESS.

Work on the big real estate devel-
opment in this county by the Vir-
ginia-Carolina Farms Company is go-
ing steadily ahead and the end of the
Summer will probably show remark-

PUTTING 'EM ON



THE OPEN FORUM

"Where All Mortals Vent Their Opinions, State Their Grievance."

CHARLOTTE GOVERNMENT.

Better One Needed With Business Men at the Head.

To the Editor of The Observer: Surely, these be times of war! At home and abroad there is war. Our war department, or the board of aldermen of Charlotte, is up in arms and have issued a proclamation to the people of Charlotte. There is a nigger in the wood pile! some-where.

The present situation shows more than anything else the need of a change in the form of a government. Charlotte is a growing city and every citizen is proud of its growth, but Charlotte can not be run now like it was when the cows grazed on Independence Square. The city should be run on a business principle. How can any one expect an alderman to give so much time to the city when oftentimes he should be giving that time to the person for whom he is working or which he should use in furthering his own business interests?

There should be a government with business men at the head of it—men who have proved themselves capable of running a business. And they should be paid a salary commensurate with their ability and with the ability it requires for a business of this size—the business of running a city of 50,000 population.

No doubt, the different boards of our city are doing the best they can with the time and finances they have to expend. But the people of a city of Charlotte's size should be willing to pay good men to run their affairs, and not expect business men to take their own time and receive no stipend for same. Business is business, and there is nothing else to it.

Why should anyone be opposed to a change for the better. There is no saying that there should not be a change of the present form of government. Even its friends will admit that it is not what it ought to be.

Now the question is—If one of the present forms of government proposed to be voted on is not what it should be after so much time and talk has been wasted on it—what is the matter with the men behind these move-ments or is there a nigger in the wood pile?

It's all right to be proud of the spirit of the men who suggest a Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, but you can't run this city now like it was in those days of long ago—unless you want the city to stand still and the continual turmoil and strife that has been seen in our city affairs for the past few years.

L. T. BERGER. 306 South Cedar Street, March 24.

MR. MILLER HAS SOME DECIDED VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT.

To the Editor of The Observer: In my opinion Russia will soon sue for a separate peace, and will be given free passage through the Dardanelles, and will then become an Ally of the Central Powers. Then why should our President force this country into the conflict, and bring on an endless war that would be so far reaching in its consequences? We could easily have Mexico, Japan and the Central Powers, including Russia, Finland, Poland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Holland to cope with. What would we gain by such a contest? Our young men would be slaughtered or drowned in crossing the ocean, and this country would be made to pay the whole European war debt. It would be murder on the part of the Government to force our soldiers to go to Europe.

If the Allies lose I can readily see that the securities held by those who are financing this war will be worth only about as much as a Confederate bond. But these people took the risk. Let them take the loss. Our young men should not be sacrificed for their benefit.

At a pacifist meeting last night in New York, it was clearly shown how easy it would be to cause a revolution in this country, thus bringing on inter-neine war here at home. Instead of it being a pacifist meeting it developed into a pass-a-hat meeting, and could easily have been worse.

The pro-Ally people in this country have been lambasting the Hon. William J. Stone and those who stood with him against war, as traitors. I want to say that these men were heroes and patriots, and will go

LOOKING BACKWARD

Items of Interest Concerning People of Charlotte and the Carolinas, From The Observer of This Date, 1907 and 1897.

TEN YEARS AGO

The Woman's Home Mission Board of Tryon Street Methodist Church heard Mrs. J. R. Moose speak on Korea. Mrs. Moose has just returned from that country where she has been as a missionary.

Vandals last night broke into the rooms of the Charlotte Drum Corps and destroyed \$200 worth of property. The drums and other instruments and uniforms were cut to pieces. West-ern Union messenger boys are sus-pected to have been the guilty parties.

The water board will hold forth to- night after several postponed meet-ings.

Invitations for the commencement of the North Carolina Medical Col-lege are out. The exercises will be held in the Academy of Music on the night of April 16.

The Southern Power Company's plant at Great Falls has been com-pleted. The water was turned into the big dam ten days ago and now the engineers are making minor re-pairs and getting the machinery in shape. The plant will produce 32,-000 horsepower. There is a growing demand for electrical power.

John Caton, a well known carpen-ter, dropped dead this morning on South Tryon street, between First and Second streets as he was going to work.

Will Torrence, the negro who broke into Efrid's and stole a pair of trousers and who later struck Policeman Jim Johnson, was fined \$50 yesterday morning by the recorder.

The board of aldermen last night sold the \$175,000 funding bonds. The two firms purchasing them were McDonald, McCoy & Co., and John Nuyven & Co., both of Chicago. The bonds sold at par and a com-mission of 2 1/2 was allowed.

The first meeting of the committee raising funds for the new W. C. A. building met yesterday and announced that \$7,000 had been raised for this work.

The Woman's Club has secured an exhibit of more than 40 pictures which are being shown, free to the public, in the Carnegie Library. These pictures were done by the best known American artists. The public should not miss this opportunity.

down in history as such, while the war lords will be the most hated of mortals.

What do the men who do the actual fighting get out of war? Why the get death, widow and orphan, wooden legs and taxes.

The original settlers who came to this country (and my people on both sides were among them) came here for religious liberty and fought Eng-land for our independence. We have both now, but if we go into this war will we have either?

JASPER MILLER. Charlotte, March 25.

TAR HEEL PRINTS

News and Comment From the Papers of the State.

A Louisburg Ruling. (From The Franklin Times.) We understand that the board of graded school trustees of Louisburg, has made a ruling that in the future there is to be no more choking or hitting about the head of any pupil by the teachers.

Under State Primary. (From The Danbury Reporter.) In the future all the candidates for county offices in Stokes will be nominated according to the rules and regulations of the State primary law, an act to that effect having passed the Legislature during its last ses-sion.

Land Development in Progress. (From The Beaufort News.) Work on the big real estate devel-opment in this county by the Vir-ginia-Carolina Farms Company is go-ing steadily ahead and the end of the Summer will probably show remark-

THE MARRIAGE OF FRANK SHUMAN AND ANNIE WEDDINGTON WAS SOLEMNIZED LAST NIGHT AT THE BRIDE'S HOME.

The marriage of Frank Shuman and Annie Weddington was solemnized last night at the bride's home.

The Woman's Exposition will open on May 4.

Sheriff Smith returned last night from Hamlet where he went to get Jim Douglas, the escaped convict.

A large crowd is expected to gather at Derita today for the races. The horses booked to enter are, Jennie Brown, Texas Bill, Maud S, and Mr. Cochrane's horse. A foot-trace is also booked for the afternoon.

Cotton is still selling at 7 cents. There were 112 bales on the market yesterday.

Garibaldi & Bruns are going to it on wheels. Mr. Garibaldi is riding a Columbia bicycle and Mr. Bruns is riding a Rambler wheel.

Mrs. John VanLandingham, secretary of the board of the Charlotte Convocation, expects to go to Raleigh the latter part of April.

The Workingman's Democratic Club will meet tonight at 8 o'clock in the court house. All Democrats are invited to attend.

Manager Barnie, of the Brooklyn baseball team, had his men out yesterday for a fine afternoon's practice.

A large number of women assem-bled in the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon when plans for the Woman's Exposition were discussed.

A year ago yesterday the Methodist chapel in Dilworth was opened for services. Arrangements for an anni-versary service has been made and it will be held next Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock.

The bicycle races to be held here May 29 and 31 will be the best ever held in this section of the country. The professional riders, the fastest in the United States, will pass through here on their regular route and will take part in the races. No such opportunity will ever be offered again to see such bicycle riders in action.

RICHMOND COUNTY BOOSTS.

(From The Piedmont Dispatch.) One of the young United States Army officers now stationed in China is a Richmond County boy. A grand-son of Richmond County is now cap-tain of one of the crack companies in the British Army. Another grand-son of Richmond County was one of the three commissioners that built the Panama Canal. One of the shrewdest politicians and ablest ministers in Oklahoma is a native of Richmond County, and one of the ablest pupil orators in the northwest is a Rich-mond County man by birth. A mil-lionaire commission merchant of Memphis, Tenn., was born and reared in Richmond County. A half dozen of Charlotte's best lawyers were born and raised in Richmond County, and one of Raleigh's biggest lawyers was drafted from Richmond County.

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT PROPOSED FOR WASHINGTON STATE.

(From Short Ballot Organization Bulletin.) A proposal to convert the Wash-ington Legislature into a single member house of 15 members has been put forward in that State. It has the sym-pathy of the short ballot forces, but will probably not be brought forward prominently until the Constitutional Convention, which, it is hoped, will be held as a result of the vote of the people next November.