

Charlotte Observer logo and address information.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1904.

INCREASED FIRE LOSSES.

The fire loss in the United States and Canada during the month of November, according to The Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin, was a total of \$11,575,000—about \$2,000,000 less than November of last year, but \$1,000,000 more than that of the same month in 1902. The total loss in 1903 was \$149,260,850; in 1902, \$145,165,000, and for the 11 months of 1904 \$122,941,700. The heavy increase this year is largely due to the Baltimore and Toronto conflagrations, but says The Journal of Commerce, were these losses deducted the 1904 aggregate would still heavily exceed that of 1903. This fact reflects little improvement as a result of fire-proof construction and fire-fighting appliances. It would appear therefore that the destructiveness of the flames keeps pace with the efforts to subdue them, and the only way for the property owner to hold his own is through insurance. Therefore, it is agreeable to learn from the same source from which the above figures are secured that notwithstanding the serious drain on underwriting capital, quite a number of fire insurance institutions will close this year with as large surpluses as at its beginning, because of a fairly good underwriting experience, during the latter half of 1904, coupled with increases in security values. The fact that burned property is covered by insurance, however, does not change the result so far as the country at large is concerned, for it is so much value swept away without any return; the nation is that much poorer, although the actual loss is divided among all those who held insurance policies. The Baltimore and Toronto conflagrations should, by their magnitude, teach some valuable lessons to municipalities, both in the matter of regulating construction so as to make outbreaks less frequent, and in providing proper modes of fighting the flames after they gain headway.

MR. LOEB AND THE LYING CORRESPONDENT.

Secretary Loeb took occasion some days ago to deny a story to the effect that the Roosevelt children had tortured a Thanksgiving turkey. The statement was sent out by the Associated Press, with the exception of the closing paragraph, which is as follows: "The correspondent of the Boston Herald has deliberately invented and the editor has commented upon incidents which are not only untrue, but which have not the faintest foundation in fact. This is not exceptional; it marks the culmination of a long series of similar falsehoods, usually malicious, and always deliberate, which have appeared in the news columns of The Boston Herald. Until further notice the departments will exclude the individuals responsible for this series of misstatements from all facilities for information." This is somewhat extreme, but it cannot be said that it is unjust. If the Boston newspaper representatives are guilty of the action charged, they are not being treated any too harshly by having their privileges of news-gathering curtailed. It would have been better, however, if Secretary Loeb had named the penalty in connection with some other offence than the statement that the sons of the President had chased a turkey over the White House grounds, especially since the fowl in question was a dressed one.

RANSOM'S LOFTY LETTER.

"An Oasis in Those Days of Bitterness and Bickering." Atlanta News. Some time since The News published a letter from the pen of John C. Ransom, then printed for the first time, in which he dwelt with eloquent conviction upon the value of patriotism and the disinterested discharge of duty. It was in keeping with the known character of the great South Carolinian, and attracted a great deal of attention throughout the country, where it was read and applauded. A son of General Ransom, and nephew of the late Senator Matt. W. Ransom, has kindly furnished us with another letter, scarcely less important, which has just appeared in The Charlotte Observer for the first time, written by Senator Ransom to his brother at a time when certain opposition to him was being developed in the eastern part of the Old North State, and breathing the spirit of tolerance and charity to a degree which makes it an oasis in those days of bitterness and bickering. It is an inspiration to the youth of the South, and strikes at the heart of the man who for so many years whom he represented in field and forum. We give the letter in full: "United States Senate Chamber, Washington, April 12, 1889. "My Dear Brother: "You recall I did not design to censure you in any interference in politics. I knew your good sense would keep you aloof from all such entanglements. But I desired to anticipate your devotion to me in taking up at any time my defense against any attack that might be made on me. "I see plainly the underwork to defeat me in '82. I am watching it closely. I shall destroy it utterly. I shall try and do so much for the State in her improvements everywhere. I shall demonstrate my power here to the satisfaction of our people; I shall be no consideration, so fair and so kind to my enemies even; I pray to make my superior usefulness so conspicuous, that my foes shall be completely silenced. If my health is spared, I will do this. If it does not improve, I do not wish to stay here. I only wished you to study to be extremely forbearing and generous in all your words and acts to all of our people. "North Carolina has been so good to me that I studiously deprecate difference or criticism with any of her citizens. Magnanimity, high conduct, a grand dignity superior to trifles and to small or bad men, are inevitable with North Carolinians. Every time an opponent, or any of his actions, presents a strike at me, I intend to answer the complaint by some new service to our State, by greater and more manifested generosity to my adversaries, and by showing an utter indifference to the lies that may light about my horns.

THE RIGHT OF SEARCH.

A detective, or "plain clothes man," stopped a minor son of Mr. James J. Higginson, of New York, while walking along a public highway, and compelled him to disclose the contents of a bundle which he carried under his coat. That is, he was seized and subjected to a search while going in an orderly manner about his legitimate pursuits. Mr. Higginson, Sr., claims that this proceeding was improper and illegal and has instituted a civil action against the officer. "The police," we are told, "justify such invasions of a citizen's privacy on the theory that every man is a potential law-breaker and that an individual with a package may be a thief escaping with his booty." The Sun says "the police daily require men and women to explain why they are abroad in the streets and the source whence they obtained goods that they carry. In this way thieves are frequently captured, and stolen goods recovered." And the paper quoted says in conclusion: "Should Mr. Higginson's suit end in a verdict against the policeman all policemen would be likely to give up the practice, even when they might be justified in following it. If, on the other hand, the courts should affirm the right of a policeman to stop any citizen, examine his person and require him to give an account of himself, the abuses to which it might lead are obvious. For these reasons the litigation will be watched with much interest by the officers of the municipality and by all its citizens."

The problem is a knotty one. It appears to be something of an outrage for an officer to hold up an honest and orderly citizen and interrogate him as to where and how he got the package which he may be carrying, while on the other hand he may, by carrying too far his regard for the feelings of people permit a thief whom he suspects, to escape detection and the punishment which is due him.

At the recent General Convention of the Episcopal Church, held in Boston, Bishop Horner, of North Carolina, said, as reported by The Churchman, that the white people in the South were not given sufficient credit for what they were doing in behalf of the negro. "In the last 40 years," he declared, "the white people of the South have given \$100,000,000 for the education of the colored race in the South. There are men all over this land who think that one race is trying to exterminate the other in the South. But for every life sacrificed unlawfully in that land a thousand have been nursed from infancy and sickness into manhood. We need institutes like Tuskegee for the Anglo-Saxon people in the South, which is the only place in this land where the white race has not an opportunity to get an ample education." Bishop Horner did well to have spoken up at that presence for his own people, and he said truly that the South is the only part of the country where the white race has not an opportunity to get an ample education. Yet it is steadily increasing its educational advantages and we hope that none of those who heard the bishop construed his remark as an appeal for help.

General Kelfer, a Congressman-elect of Ohio, continues to talk about the way he intends to secure legislation to prevent disfranchisement of voters in the South, but is apparently attracting little attention. The general may secure reduced representation for Southern States, but it is idle for him to talk about legislation to prevent disfranchisement. That is a matter which the Southern States have fixed for themselves, and it will in all probability remain fixed.

WILL HONOR REQUISITION.

Rowan Officer Will Go After Young Risdon—Death of a Well-Known Farmer—County Officials Take the Oath of Office.

Salisbury, Dec. 5.—A telegraph message from Governor Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania, this afternoon declares that he will honor the requisition papers for Hugh C. Risdon, badly wanted in Rowan, Risdon is a smooth boy and stands charged with embezzlement, swindling and false pretensions towards the China Grove Furniture and Material Company. As a matter of fact he has not made way with any considerable amount of China Grove money, the victims of his scheme having spent much more for his capture than they lost by his operations. Risdon, the plausible promoter, did not claim to have fabulous wealth himself, but was acting as middle man, a gentleman, named Brown, of course, from Chicago, had the kepeks to wage upon the new business and Risdon brought him to North Carolina. It is said to-night that Risdon received not more than \$150 for his work and the loss to stock-takers will not exceed \$300. He is expected in Salisbury about Wednesday.

MOVEMENT TO ABOLISH TIPS.

Texas Drummers Tired of Being Held Up—Especially by Pullman Porters. Fort Worth, Texas, Special to New York Herald. "A movement is on foot among the traveling men's organization to unite in the effort to break up the tipping habit," said a prominent member of the Travelers' Protective Association, who was in the city. "Of course, we all recognize that this pernicious practice has become so thoroughly fastened on the people of this country that it will take Herculean efforts to stamp it out. I do not believe that any man or set of men acting singly can cope with the problem with any hope of success."

A COSTLY MISTAKE.

Blunders are sometimes very expensive. Occasionally life itself is the price of a mistake, but you'll never be wrong if you take Dr. King's New Life Pills for Dyspepsia, Bile, Headache, Liver or Bowel troubles. They are gentle, yet thorough. 25c at Burwell & Dunn Co.'s Drug Store.

FOR SALE.

New Crop Cotton Seed Meal. New Crop Cotton Seed Feed. New Crop Cotton Seed Hulls. The Southern Cotton Oil Company.

W. D. WITHERBEE, M. D.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. PRACTICE LIMITED TO TREATMENT OF Cancer and Skin Diseases OFFICE 727 DR. REGISTER.

Tivoli's Hofbrau Beer

THIS MONTH It will keep off the blues when only water is plentiful. C. VALER BOTTLING WORKS.

Wall Papers and Decorative Work—Artistic Frescoing.

All kinds of Painting and Finishing. "Period" decoration a specialty. Wall Paper from 3 cents to \$50.00 per roll. Estimates and designs furnished out-of-town customers on application. Japanese, French, English and Domestic Papers. CHARLOTTE FURNISHING & DECORATING AGENCY.

FOR SALE

Ten-room Furnished House, with cellar, situated on car line, Boulevard and Lindhurst avenue, Dilworth. Comfortably planned, handsomely finished. Water, gas and electric light, heated by hot water. Out-house for servants. A corner lot, 100 feet front by 150 feet deep. Most desirable property for family wanting a home. Furniture not included if desired. For terms, apply to MECKLENBURG IRON WORKS.

R. E. DAVIDSON & CO., Merchant Tailors

We have all the newest effects in Weavés and Colorings from the best foreign woolen manufacturers. Special Suitings and Overcoats. R. E. DAVIDSON & CO. Merchant Tailors

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Observer will send A. R. Messenger, without charge, to your place of business or residence for advertisements for this column. Terms: A. D. T. Messages, No. 45; or Observer, No. 78. All advertisements inserted in this column at rate of ten cents per line of six words. No ad. taken for less than 20 cents. Cash in advance.

FOR RENT—Two rooms in Wilkinson Building. Apply Gem Restaurant.

WANTED—Ten miners and strikebreakers; two timbermen. Rudisill Mine, Charlotte.

COTTON MILL superintendent wanted—A man with a record capable of running a course colored goods mill of 30 looms. Apply, naming references, Workman, care Observer.

MILLINERY, dry goods and notion business for sale—Located in one of the best towns in North Carolina. Established twenty years. Satisfactory reasons for selling. Possession January 1st. Invite fullest investigation. Address Box 907, Charlotte, N. C.

LOST—Bunch keys. Reward for return to Wm. N. Maloney, 709 East Fourth street.

WANTED—To rent room for light housekeeping or small home close in. Box 598.

NO GOODS loaned or rented during the holidays. The Little-Long Co.

DOG LOST—Large yellow and white pointer, 20 pounds, named "Fitz," "Mays" on collar. Finder please phone 25.

THE OBSERVER is offering a year's subscription for the best written carrier's address to be used Christmas day as a greeting from the carrier boys of the paper. Contributions must send in copy not later than the 20th instant. There are no restrictions as to number of verses.

FOR RENT—Furnished rooms suitable for light housekeeping. Address P. O. Box No. 553.

WANTED—By young man, position as traveling salesman; Western North Carolina; six years experience. Address George E. Tuggey, Concord, N. C.

WANTED—A first-class Tuler, book-binder and finisher. The Franklin Printing Company, Newport News, Va.

FOR RENT—Five-room house. Apply 17 E. Hill St.

FOR SALE—That desirable dwelling, 307 N. College St. E. M. Andrews.

FOR SALE—Good, heavy draught horse, or will exchange for driving horse. John B. Ross & Co.

FOR RENT—New 5-room cottage, East Eighth street. Modern conveniences. John B. Ross.

SPLENDID COTTAGE FOR SALE—In good neighborhood of Charlotte. Address Cottage, care Observer.

IF YOU WANT A HOME in one of the best neighborhoods in the city and convenient to business write me. E. M. Andrews.

WANTED—Office boy; must be intelligent and willing. Apply in own handwriting. P. O. Box 592.

FOR SALE CHEAP—\$175.00 cash register, adder. Address "You," care Observer.

HOUSE FOR RENT—Park avenue and Boulevard, Dilworth. Possession given at once. O. A. Robbins.

I WILL SELL that large, desirable residence, 267 N. College St. E. M. Andrews.

WANTED—A few boarders. Apply at 228 North Tryon.

A PORTION of a warehouse for rent cheap. Apply Observer office.

FOR RENT—Fred Oliver residence, 408 B. Tryon street; furnished, furnace heat, all modern conveniences. Apply to J. R. Holland.

WANTED—For U. S. Army, able-bodied, unmarried men, between ages of 21 and 35, citizens of United States, of good character and temperate habits, who can speak, read and write English. For information apply to Recruiting Officer, 15 West Trade St., Charlotte, N. C.; Southern Loan and Trust Building, Greensboro, N. C.; Postoffice Building, Winston-Salem, N. C.; 40 Patton Ave., Asheville, N. C.; or Cleveland Building, Spartanburg, S. C.

WANTED—A young man with two or three years' experience in the drug business. L. W. Hart, Norwood, N. C.

WANTED—Good, all-round printer; state salary and if single or married. Lock Box 186, Statesville, N. C., Dec. 3, 1904.

DON'T LOSE SIGHT OF THE FACT

That we are the oldest Plumbing firm in the city and that our work and goods are up-to-date, and that we employ only experienced workmen. Call around and let us show you our goods and get our prices. A. R. Willmann Pl'g Co.

A Chance for a Safe Investment.

A limited number of shares for sale in Molee Knitting Mill. Mill to begin operation January 1. Situated on one of the finest water powers in Richmond County. For particulars write E. J. INGRAM, Mt. Glead N. C.

Belmont Hotel

Several Elegantly Furnished Rooms to rent with or without Baths. Apply to Mrs. H. C. Eccles

Don't Take

A notion that we can't sell Building Material as cheap as you can buy the same grade of material elsewhere, but take

Our Advice

And let us make you an estimate before placing your order, then give the order to the lowest bidder.

B. F. WITHERS, 202 South College Street, Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Little-Long Co.

DEPARTMENT STORES, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

IMPORTANT SALE OF

BLANKETS TO-DAY

Right in the nick of time when there is a demand and when the Blankets will be of most service we are conducting one of our best blanket sales.

A special lot of Blankets consisting of all sizes from crib to 12-4 sizes will be offered to-day at prices that should appeal to everyone in want of these goods.

The prices are \$1, \$2, \$2.48, \$2.98, \$3.50, \$3.98 and \$5.50. Everyone a bargain. Don't overlook this favorite opportunity to provide the necessary bed covering for the winter.

The Special Offerings in Coat Suits

is attracting much attention. In the lots at \$3.98 and \$5.00 are Suits that sold as high as \$20.00 to \$30.00. These are not new styles, but at the prices are very great values. The skirts alone are more than worth what we ask for the Suits. In these two first lots are also some of the new styles. The lot at \$8.95 are very great values, made up of last spring Suits and this season's Suits. All alterations will be extra. Also a splendid line of Misses' and Children's Cloaks at 10 Per Cent. Off. Splendid values in Ladies' Cloaks.

THE SALE OF FURS

will undoubtedly be one of the most enthusiastic events of the season at the Big Stores. Remember the sale lasts only two days—Thursday and Friday. A representative of one of the largest Fur establishments will be here to tell you of the merits of the goods. A CHRISTMAS STORE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. Already buying has begun. Our holiday sections were well patronized yesterday. People are learning to buy early and avoid the usual holiday rushes at the wind-up. We have the master Christmas display of many seasons.

No Goods loaned or rented during the Holidays.

The Little-Long Co. DEPARTMENT STORES, CHARLOTTE, N. C.