

MR. ROCKEFELLER IN COURT

A WILLING, ACCURATE WITNESS

Estimate of Profits of Standard Oil Company of New Jersey During 1903, 1904 and 1905 Close to Figures Given by Secretary of Parent Corporation—Strong Plea Made by Counsel to Have It Omitting Expenses of No Avail—Greater Part of Stock of Union Tank Line and Indiana Company Owned by Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

Chicago, July 6.—John D. Rockefeller, president of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, occupied the witness stand in the United States District Court to-day. Judge Landis called him to the witness stand and asked him questions regarding the financial strength and business methods of the corporation of which he is the head.

Mr. Rockefeller was a very willing and equally unsatisfactory witness. He was ready to tell all that he knew, but he said that he knew practically nothing. The net result of his examination was that he believed that during the years 1903, 1904 and 1905, the period covered by the indictments on which the Standard Oil Company of Indiana was recently convicted, the net profits of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, were approximately 40 per cent. of an outstanding capitalization of \$100,000,000.

The investigation held to-day by Judge Landis was instituted by him for the expressed purpose of determining whether or not the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, which was convicted of violation of the law, was really owned by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey; whether the Union Tank Line, whose cars were used for the shipments made in violation of the law, was similarly owned, and also to obtain a list of the financial resources of the convicted corporation in order to inflict a fine proportioned to the offense and the assets of the convicted company.

OWNS CONTROLLING INTEREST. It was stated by officers of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey that it owned the greater part of the stock of both the Union Tank Line and the Standard Oil Company of Indiana. Specific figures as to the earnings of the parent corporation were given by Charles M. Pratt, its secretary, and they were close to the estimate given by Mr. Rockefeller.

The prospective appearance in court of the man reputed to be the richest in the world brought a special spectacle of the like of which has never been witnessed in the vicinity of a Chicago court room.

The hour set for the appearance of Mr. Rockefeller was 10 o'clock and an hour before that time the low ceiling of the court room was densely packed with a crowd of all whom were anxious to obtain seats and hear the testimony. A large squad of United States deputy marshals and a numerous detail of police were on hand, but even they were unable at times to control the crowd which was so dense that frequent cries for assistance were heard and people who were jammed against the wall frantically begged for relief from the pressure to which they were subjected.

Mr. Rockefeller was compelled to telephone to police headquarters for further assistance. This was accomplished and from that time on the crowd was held in control. Inside the court room perfect order prevailed at all times except at the immediate opening, when Judge Landis threatened to clear the room if quiet was not preserved.

POLICE FIGHT CROWD BACK.

John D. Rockefeller and William Rockefeller arrived at the Federal building in the automobile of Harold F. McCormick, the son-in-law of Mr. Rockefeller at 9:30. So curious were the people to see Mr. Rockefeller that it was necessary for 20 policemen to use force in pushing back the crowd to make a pathway for him. On the steps of the Federal building the party was compelled to halt, while the police fought with the crowd.

Five local detectives and a number of police officers were crowded closely around Mr. Rockefeller to protect him from possible injury.

Mr. Rockefeller did not seem at all disturbed by the sensation he excited, and after the crowd was cleared, he and William Rockefeller, escorted by the officers, entered the building and made their way to the elevators. Here a car, devoid of lights, was under the special guard of the police, and entered the Standard Oil Company building.

Mr. Rockefeller was quickly taken to the sixth floor of the building and to the court room. He was shown to a seat to the left of the judge's desk and was well up into the gallery before his arrival was noticed. There was considerable excitement among the crowd and some confusion resulted from the efforts made by all the spectators to obtain a quick view of him.

United States Marshal Hoy approached and asked: "Are you comfortable here, Mr. Rockefeller?" "Perfectly, thank you. I am all right," he answered.

OIL OFFICIALS IN COURT.

William Rockefeller, who had been sitting behind his brother, came forward in response to a signal and sat by the side of John D. Rockefeller. Seated around them were C. M. Pratt, secretary of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey; William P. Howe and F. Q. Barstow, assistant treasurers of the company; Charles T. Whitely, assistant secretary; J. M. Moffatt, president of the Standard Oil Company; W. P. Cowan, vice president, and G. W. Stahl, secretary and treasurer of the same corporation. Other witnesses in the group were H. E. Felton, the president, and W. M. Hutchinson, secretary and treasurer of the Union Tank Line; Fred A. Wann, former general freight agent of the Chicago & Alton Railway, and a number of attorneys completed the group.

When the Standard Oil investigation was called the attorneys for the company together with those of the government stopped forward to the front of Judge Landis' desk. Here Attorneys Miller and Rosenthal, counsel for the company, made an earnest plea that Mr. Rockefeller be excused from the stand. They declared that he could in fact tell nothing of what the judge desired to know. The judge, however, refused to vacate the subpoena and insisted that Mr. Rockefeller should take the stand. A half hour later Harry B. Felton, president of the Union Tank Line, took the stand and testified that the capital of the Union Tank Line company was \$2,500,000, but that it had not paid dividends since 1901.

"Is that due to the mismanagement of the company?" "No, sir. It is due to the fact that

ALBEMARLE'S FEAST DAY

COOL J. S. CUNNINGHAM SPEAKER

He Speaks on a Large Number of Subjects, From Theology to Courtship, to an "Acres of People"—The Occasion the Annual Picnic to the Occasion of the Wisconsin and Edith Cotton Mills, Given by the Owners—Among the Things to Satisfy the Lamer Man was a Carload of Watermelons—Music by the Wisconsin Band.

Special to The Observer. Albemarle, July 6.—Col. John S. Cunningham spoke here to-day to what he called "acres of people" and if he had called for a hand primary in which he is supposed to be deeply interested, a gubernatorial contest, he would have taken all the votes of a crowd too immense to guess at.

It was the occasion of the Wisconsin-Edith Mills annual picnic. Always on these occasions, the Messrs. Cannon and Edith secure speakers for the intellectual portion of the people and feed their sheep on a large scale. A solid carload of watermelons came down the Yadkin for the picknick yesterday and the table was laden with them in several directions had them piled up above the knees of its many legs. Barrels of lemonsade flowed like the fabled streams of bread and ice cream put up by the modern undertaker to be half eaten, half guzzled but wholly devoured—all these were given to the great throng so thick as to be impossible. This was the arrangement of State Senator J. S. Edrad and Joe P. Cannon, secretary of the Edith and Wisconsin Mills, respectively. They did nothing that was not on a colossal scale and the day was a day of feast.

At 11:30 Professor R. L. Smith introduced Colonel Cunningham. He gave the Person farmer-politician a big send off and offered him an opportunity to praise the farm and farmer. This he did by playing all of his trump cards before he got through. He talked theology, courtship, technology, the Cannons, the Whitneys, the Vances, Pettigrews, and Glenn, prohibition, temperance, Yadkin Valley Fair and ended with a tribute to the great and interesting event known as the "War Path".

THE SPEAKER IN PINE HUMOR. The speaker by holding up a paper purporting to contain his written remarks. These he said were for the newspaper reporters who, like lawyers, were not always truthful. He said, "I was always too good to be a lawyer, but I was not good enough to be a preacher. My mother wanted me to be a preacher but I told her I wouldn't do it. I would be a lawyer."

He praised North Carolina's climate and people. "I welcome such men as Mr. Whitney to 'The Land of the Free and Home of the Brave' to the State which fought the first battle of the American Revolution and the last at Guilford Court House," and then the crowd drifted into plain agricultural talk.

He started to say something about Senator Overman, Governor Glenn and himself at Shelby last year, but got lost in prohibition. "The Governor is a teetotaler, he never touches a drop and you must not either. There is an old Confederate soldier 100 years old who never took a drop in his life. I congratulate you my friend—and then he began to eulogize the ladies. He declared that he had been a courtship instructor for 40 years and was finally accepted. "Let me tell you, ladies, don't you ever take a man the first time he asks you. Make him ask 50 times like my wife did before she finally took me. Thank God! A girl who takes a man the first time he asks her is no account. Kick the fellow out the first time he asks you and if he comes back throw him out the window, a-bye the next time sick of him and on him. He was born in 1861 and fought for four years in the Infantry. I am proud of Lee, Jackson, Johnston, Pettigrew, Hoke and Pender. I hope that God will be with us when we meet again."

amount. He stated forty per cent. "I think that was correct, your honor. That was the average." "Do you remember the net earnings of the company during these 3 years?" "I do very clearly, your honor. I think for the first year they were \$31,300,000 approximately. This was 1903."

"Now for 1904?" "For 1904 as near as I remember I should say they were \$1,500,000." "And in 1905?" "A trifle over \$57,000,000 as near as I can remember."

capita represented by the outstanding stock amounting under \$100,000,000 of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, employed in the refinement, distribution and sale of the products of petroleum?" "Oh, your honor, the properties are worth that."

"That is what the capital is employed in is it?" "It is."

"Can you tell me what part of the capital stock of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey owns?" "The Standard Oil Company of Indiana stock as I understand it your honor, is held by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, very largely."

"How much of it?" "A very large proportion."

"What proportion of the stock of the Union Tank Line Company is owned by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey?" "I do not recall the proportions, but I think it controls a majority of the stock."

Mr. Rockefeller here rose from his seat and walked with a business air toward the gate of the Standard Oil Company. The direction of the chambers of Judge Landis. It was his apparent intention to leave the room and he had pushed the gate half open when the billiard spied him and instantly pushed the gate shut with Mr. Rockefeller sitting on it. The two men stared at each other for an instant, but no word was spoken. Mr. Rockefeller then turned and walked back to his seat.

The crowd recalled Mr. Wann, of whom he asked a few questions regarding freight rates and schedules, and after obtaining the desired information, turned to the attorneys for the defense and asked: "WILL REPLY MONDAY."

"Is there anything you would like to introduce?" "Absolutely nothing, your honor," replied Attorney Rosenthal.

BURGLAR CAUGHT IN HIS HOUSE

A Burly Negro Invades the Home of Mr. C. E. Nowell and is Captured After an Exciting Scuffle—The Intruder Has a Bad Record.

Asheville, July 6.—Judge Spears Reynolds in city court this morning ordered that Charley Miller, a burly negro, charged with burglary, be remanded to jail without bond to await the action of the grand jury at the next term of Superior Court for the trial of criminal cases. The charge against Miller is a capital offense and, if the grand jury returns a true bill, he will have to stand trial for his life. A scuffle occurred last night at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Nowell on Southside avenue last night and the evidence against the man, according to the testimony of the two prosecuting witnesses, is conclusive.

The negro, it seems, effected an entrance to the Southside avenue residence by means of a rear window. Mrs. Nowell was awakened by his presence against the side of the bed where she slept and screamed, waking instantly Mr. Nowell, who sprang from the bed and grappled with Miller. A scuffle ensued, but the negro was overpowered. A telephone message to police headquarters brought officers, who took charge of the negro. Miller is an old offender and is well known to the authorities. He recently completed a sentence on the chain gang.

TROOPS WRONGFULLY ACCUSED. Colonel Thompson, of Second South Carolina Regiment Corrects Report That He Had Been Arrested on "War Path" at the Exposition—He Declares That His Regiment Not Only Did Not "Throw off all Discipline," but That He Had at All Times During the Trip Completely Observed the Rules of the Exposition.

Columbia, S. C., July 6.—Col. Henry T. Thompson, commanding the Second South Carolina Regiment at the Jamestown Exposition, returned to Columbia to-day with his regiment and made a statement concerning the trouble on the "War Path" on the night of July 3d, in which he says that he reports sent out from Norfolk, Virginia, and other places in some particulars incorrect. He declares that his regiment not only did not "throw off all discipline," but that he had at all times during the trip completely observed the rules of the Exposition.

One of the great numbers of convicts at the Wilkesboro-Jefferson turnpike, being quartered at Jefferson. The work is almost done and they will probably be released this month. The convicts are now being taken to the State penitentiary for the purpose of being employed on the South and Western Railway construction work. There are not a great number of convicts now in the penitentiary on life terms.

A charter is granted the Driving Park Company, Mount Airy, to conduct fairs for the display of live stock, etc., capital stock \$25,000. Samuel G. Bann and other stockholders. There is certainly remarkable little talk about the meeting of the Democratic State Committee here Monday night. It is called for the main purpose of electing a chairman to succeed Senator Simmons, who has declared that he would positively retire at that time. Many persons have expressed the wish that he would hold on until the State convention next year. Some of the committee have been heard to express themselves. Only one or two persons have been known to object to his retirement.

Up to about 60 days ago the number of charters issued this year to corporations was keeping well up with the last year's high figure, but since that time there has been quite a falling-off.

SPEAKERS AT FARMERS' INSTITUTES. Next Wednesday the first party of field workers will start out to conduct farmers' institutes. It will begin at Elm City, Wilson county. There will be various parties in the fields and some capable ladies to conduct the institutes. The following men will be among the instructors: State Veterinarian Dr. Tait Butler; T. B. Parker for the Farmers' Alliance; W. J. McLendon, of Anson; F. L. Stevens and C. M. Connor, of the A. & C. College; State Horticulturist W. N. Hunt; R. J. Deding, ex-director of the Georgia Experiment station and probably the best authority on cotton and the application of fertilizer; State Entomologist, Franking Sherman; J. A. Conover, expert chairman of the United States Agricultural Department; T. E. Brown, of Hertford

NEWS FROM STATE CAPITAL

LOCATING THE NEGRO SCHOOL

Improvements to be Made at the Methodist Orphanage—Fine Peaches on the Market, Some of Which Are Sent to Jamestown—White Girl a Public Drunkard—Special Term of District Court Ordered at Beaufort—Coast Line Double-Tracking Its Road From Wilmington to Weldon—Capable Men to Conduct Farmers' Institutes—Other Live Items.

Observer Bureau. The Hollaman Building, Raleigh, July 6. There has been some hitch at Fayetteville as to the location of the colored State Normal School, but everything is now settling down. John Ducket goes there Monday to dispose of the old property and get the deeds for the new. The old site contains 25 acres, but is not well situated, there being no water facilities and no drainage. The new site purchased cost \$3,500, but of this the negroes gave \$1,000. It is located near the flouring mill and there is a water supply and excellent drainage. Later arrangements will be made for the erection of the necessary building, under an appropriation by the Legislature.

Superintendent Cole, of the Methodist Orphanage here, is planning to make the grounds what they ought to be. The location is admirable in every way and very commanding. The orphanage will no doubt later be able to give some of its pupils to a course at one of the business colleges.

The general tobacco outlook in this section seems to be pretty good. East of here the crop looks well. The weather now is quite favorable for it. Corn is making head and tobacco seem to make the best showing of all the crops this season.

To-day Frank Simpson, the new chief of Raleigh's fire department, held his first meeting with the Board of Fire Commissioners. J. A. Simpson, who for 30 years has been one of the teachers at the State school for the blind here.

The State printer, E. M. Uzzell, is moving into his new building here, the "Farm, Home and the News" and Observer, where he will occupy three floors, the fourth being rented by the Secretary of State as storage place for public documents and books. It is owned by the Company K, of the Third Regiment, at Raleigh, may be disbanded. It did not parade at the ceremonies here May 20th.

To-day the finest peas seen here in years were let with the red Carmen from Southern Pines and the yellow St. John, clingstone, grown by L. J. Penny, five miles south of Raleigh. Secretary Brunner, of the Board of Agriculture, bought some of the St. John peas and took them to the Jamestown Exposition for display in the North Carolina section.

WHITE GIRL JAILED. A white girl, aged about 19 years, was lodged in jail to-day charged with public drunkenness. She has served several terms at the county work house. She was found drunk at her home in the city.

Judge Purcell orders a special term of the United States District Court at Beaufort, beginning August 6th, to try the Pitt county peonage cases, of which there are several.

There are now 23 convicts at the State farm on the Roanoke river near Weldon. The cotton crop there is not promising, though it is as good as, if not better than, the cotton on private farms in that section. The board of directors of the State farm this season, be somewhat reduced.

COAST LINE DOUBLE TRACKING. The Atlantic Coast Line Railway is double-tracking between Weldon and Wilmington, and three gangs of State convicts are engaged in this work, these being now in camp at Weldon, Burgaw and Wilmington. There are 224 in the three gangs.

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NAVAL HEADS IN THE DARK

IGNORANT OF PACIFIC CHIEFS

Engaged Only in Routine Work of Department and Making no Unusual Preparation for Great Undertaking—Department Appears in Usual Summer Session—Construction of Guns For New Ships Progressing Well and Will Be Ready in Time—Few Signs of Abnormal Activity in Washington Appears on the Surface—Plans of Chiefs are Awa.

Washington, July 6.—Heads of naval bureaus manifest a singular ignorance of the plans of the administration to send the battleship fleet to the Pacific, notwithstanding the official confirmation of the reports that had been so frequently denied at the beginning. These bureau chiefs claim that they are engaged only in the routine work of the Department and that they are making no unusual preparations for the great undertaking. They also assert that they have had no orders to do otherwise. And on the surface there are few signs of abnormal activities in Washington; many of the chiefs have been available, which is a board is scattered, and the proportion of subordinate employes are on leaves of absence, and the War and Navy Departments appear to be in the usual summer lethargy.

But it is not so. The plans of the Department workers for this particular summer fit in very well with the exigencies of the moment. In the matter of coal supply, for instance, it is said that the movement of this fuel to the far East and the Pacific coast is simply equal to the average demands of the naval service. In fact it is said that the coal would be forwarded before this had the money been available, which it was not until the beginning of the new fiscal year. Then the supply of reserve naval guns and ammunition and of torpedoes is found to be much shorter and it would not be surprising if it has never been before at this season of the year.

GUNS FOR THE NEW SHIPS. The construction of guns for the new ships is progressing very well and without doubt the armament will be found in readiness by the time the contractors have laid the keels and fittings of the ships. Headway has been made in the fabrication of the great guns for the two big 20,000-ton battleships, although the contracts for these have not been finally signed.

Only the routine expenditures under the ordinary heads of appropriation for construction and repair and on account of the yards and shops are being made on either the Atlantic or Pacific coasts, according to the officials here, but as Secretary Metcalf pointed out, one of the items is a dry dock at the naval station at Puget Sound and it would not be surprising if a special effort were made to dredge out the channel at the Mare Island Navy Yard, so as to make the dry dock accessible to the deep draught battleships which are now being built.

SKILLED WORKERS NEEDED. Last year the Navy Department found it impossible to spend all of the money that Congress had appropriated for the building and operation of a machinery plant in the Bremerton Navy Yard. That was because the contractors could not readily be had, but a more serious difficulty was the lack of trained mechanics and skilled labor. As this is the only dock on the Pacific coast now ready to handle a big battleship, some special arrangement must be held out by the Department to get trained navy yard workers to make their homes in Bremerton, and it is believed that steps have already been taken in this direction.

Altogether, notwithstanding the total absence of any appearance of hurry or anxiety among the few officials who remain in the world, a big effort is being made to put into the navy but the army coast defenses in as good condition as the appropriations made by Congress will permit.

NEGRO SHOOTS HIS STEP-SON. High Point to Have Tallest Building in the South—Mass Meeting Tonight in Its Interest—Fire Fighters Clear House of Sum of Money—Peculiar Matters.

Special to The Observer. High Point, July 6.—Last night in the eastern part of the city Ed Willis got mad at his step-son and fired a load of No. 8 shot into the negro's back. Willis left the house with his double-barrel gun saying he would shoot the fellow dead before morning. The officers went to the scene of the shooting and kept their eyes open for him, but he is yet unapprehended. The shot negro is badly wounded, but may recover.

High Point's new bank building is completed it will be, it is said, the tallest building in the State. Mr. Cross, the contractor in charge, has been treating the people to a free ride to its dizzy height. When completed the First National Bank will have one of his handiwork, as well as the tallest buildings in the South. By fall the building is expected to be in use.

Dr. Clayton, of Florence, S. C., will move to High Point and associate himself with Dr. H. Pitts in the dental business. The style of the firm to be known as Pitts and Clayton.

A great mass meeting of the citizenship will be held Sunday night at 8 o'clock in the graded school auditorium to raise money and formulate plans for the successful carrying on of the work of the hospital here.

Rev. O. L. Powers, pastor of the First Baptist church, of this city, who has gone to New Orleans in response to a telegram announcing the shooting of a brother by a negro reports that the ball has not been located.

The fire companies of the city cleared \$115 from the sale of cream and soft drinks here the Fourth of July, which will go towards paying their expenses at the State Firemen's Tournament next month.

TOOK LAUDANUM-PAREGORIC. Accused of Breaking Into a Hardware Store and Driven From His Paternal Roof, Fred Glosom, at Spencer, Attempts Suicide and May Die.

Special to The Observer. Spencer, July 6.—Fred Glosom, an employe of the Southern Railway Company at Spencer, attempted to end his life to-night by drinking two bottles of laudanum and a quantity of paregoric. He was accused of breaking into a hardware store here Thursday night and it is said was driven from home by his father, which is given as the cause of the rash act. When arrested by Chief of Police J. R. Cross he was brought to the office of the State's attorney. He is still in a precarious condition.

NOTED CONVICT RELEASED

Harry Clark, of New York City, Also Fred Moore, the Jew, was Released from the county convict road gang here to-day, having served 18 months for having a concealed weapon, a pistol, in the sensational shooting in the union passenger station here the evening of the visit of President Roosevelt in October, 1905, in which Charles Smith, of Petersburg, was murdered by Robert Lilliston, of Norfolk, all three being members of the same gang.

Clark made three attempts at escape from the road gang, but not knowing the country, was recaptured each time. Moore, who was born in New York and says he goes thence to Canada to join a beauty show.

The corporation commission heard to-day the case of the Asheboro Lumber Company against the Durham and Charlotte Railway for \$124 damages for failure to furnish cars. W. Womack appeared for the complainant and W. A. Gutchie for the railway.

The room on the third floor of the capitol, for many years occupied by the State Library and later by the insurance commissioner, is assigned to the Historical Commission to the work of which Mr. R. D. W. Connor is now devoting his entire time.

TOBACCO MEN ELECT OFFICERS. W. L. Potts, of Rocky Mount, N. C., First Vice President—Selection of the Next Meeting Place Left With the Directors.

Norfolk, Va., July 6.—The Tobacco Association of the United States meeting in seventh annual session at the Jamestown Exposition, adjourned to-day following the election of officers for the ensuing year as follows: President, T. M. Harrison, of Richmond; first vice president, W. L. Potts, Rocky Mount, N. C.; second vice president, T. E. Roberts, Chase City, Va.; third vice president, Dr. W. A. Bradford, Cincinnati; Board of directors—C. D. Larus, Richmond; J. L. Wingo, of Richmond; General S. H. Boling, Petersburg, Va.; John B. Boatwright, Martinsburg, C. A. B. Gorington, Danville; G. T. Beale, of Danville, S. C.; W. T. Clark, Wilson, N. C.; John Coleman, Winston, N. C.; W. D. Collins, Louisville, Ky.; J. A. Clark, Bedford, N. C.; J. F. Meadows, of Roxford, N. C.; and T. S. Williams, Danville, Va.

The selection of the next place of meeting was left with the directors. The feature of to-day's session was an address by Col. Barkeley Carrington, of Danville, in which he told of his recent trip abroad, declaring the association to be the greatest in Europe as the official reporter of the independent growers and manufacturers of tobacco leaf in the world.

Strong resolutions praising the Jamestown Exposition were adopted.

SENATION AT BAMBERG, S. C. At the Point of a Revolver a Strange Man Marches Three Ladies to a Secluded Spot—Some Negroes Frighten the Villagers—Man Believed to be a Bamberg Resident and if Caught He is Likely to be Lynched.

Observer Bureau. 1209 Main Street, Columbia, S. C., July 6. A gentleman who left Bamberg late this afternoon says that town is intensely excited over the actions of a "lunatic" white man who yesterday afternoon, on meeting three ladies out strolling in the suburbs, drew a revolver on them and compelled them to march out of town ahead of him over a wire fence into a pasture, where in a secluded spot he compelled all three to take seats in the grass. At this juncture the strangely acting man was frightened away by three negro wood-choppers passing through the pasture.

The ladies hurried back to the city and gave the alarm. Searching parties have been out all day with hounds, the chase being started last night. The man was finally traced back to the city to-day, and the general belief is that he is a resident of the place. The Columbian is of the opinion that if the man is caught he will be lynched. The ladies say they will be able to positively identify the right man.

NEGRO CAUSES BIG WRECK. Leaps From Freight and Opens Switch in Front of Passenger Train—Two Coaches and Caboose Wrecked—Negro Arrested at Weldon.

Littleton, N. C., July 6.—Seaboard Air Line Passenger train No. 38, from Atlanta to Portsmouth, was wrecked here this afternoon by the deliberate action of a negro brakeman on a freight train, who leaped to the ground while the passenger train was leaving the station and threw a switch open. The train split, the dining car and a day coach were wrecked and the caboose of the freight train on siding was smashed.

The negro, whose name was not learned, boarded a passenger train, but was arrested at Weldon. No one was hurt in the wreck, but the road was blocked several hours. The train proceeded to Portsmouth leaving a day coach, two Pullmans and a dining car.

Big Suit in U. S. Court Settled Yesterday. Special to The Observer. Greensboro, July 6.—A settlement was reached this morning in the case of the Broad River Lumber Company vs. J. Middleby, Jr., which has claimed the attention of the United States Court, Judge James E. Boyd, presiding, since Tuesday morning. The train proceeded to Portsmouth leaving a day coach, two Pullmans and a dining car.

Rev. O. L. Powers, pastor of the First Baptist church, of this city, who has gone to New Orleans in response to a telegram announcing the shooting of a brother by a negro reports that the ball has not been located.

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Engaged Only in Routine Work of Department and Making no Unusual Preparation for Great Undertaking—Department Appears in Usual Summer Session—Construction of Guns For New Ships Progressing Well and Will Be Ready in Time—Few Signs of Abnormal Activity in Washington Appears on the Surface—Plans of Chiefs are Awa.

Washington, July 6.—Heads of naval bureaus manifest a singular ignorance of the plans of the administration to send the battleship fleet to the Pacific, notwithstanding the official confirmation of the reports that had been so frequently denied at the beginning. These bureau chiefs claim that they are engaged only in the routine work of the Department and that they are making no unusual preparations for the great undertaking. They also assert that they have had no orders to do otherwise. And on the surface there are few signs of abnormal activities in Washington; many of the chiefs have been available, which is a board is scattered, and the proportion of subordinate employes are on leaves of absence, and the War and Navy Departments appear to be in the usual summer lethargy.

But it is not so. The plans of the Department workers for this particular summer fit in very well with the exigencies of the moment. In the matter of coal supply, for instance, it is said that the movement of this fuel to the far East and the Pacific coast is simply equal to the average demands of the naval service. In fact it is said that the coal would be forwarded before this had the money been available, which it was not until the beginning of the new fiscal year. Then the supply of reserve naval guns and ammunition and of torpedoes is found to be much shorter and it would not be surprising if it has never been before at this season of the year.

GUNS FOR THE NEW SHIPS. The construction of guns for the new ships is progressing very well and without doubt the armament will be found in readiness by the time the contractors have laid the keels and fittings of the ships. Headway has been made in the fabrication of the great guns for the two big 20,000-ton battleships, although the contracts for these have not been finally signed.

Only the routine expenditures under the ordinary heads of appropriation for construction and repair and on account of the yards and shops are being made on either the Atlantic or Pacific coasts, according to the officials here, but as Secretary Metcalf pointed out, one of the items is a dry dock at the naval station at Puget Sound and it would not be surprising if a special effort were made to dredge out the channel at the Mare Island Navy Yard, so as to make the dry dock accessible to the deep draught battleships which are now being built.

SKILLED WORKERS NEEDED. Last year the Navy Department found it impossible to spend all of the money that Congress had appropriated for the building and operation of a machinery plant in the Bremerton Navy Yard. That was because the contractors could not readily be had, but a more serious difficulty was the lack of trained mechanics and skilled labor. As this is the only dock on the Pacific coast now ready to handle a big battleship, some special arrangement must be held out by the Department to get trained navy yard workers to make their homes in Bremerton, and it is believed that steps have already been taken in this direction.

Altogether, notwithstanding the total absence of any appearance of hurry or anxiety among the few officials who remain in the world, a big effort is being made to put into the navy but the army coast defenses in as good condition as the appropriations made by Congress will permit.

NEGRO SHOOTS HIS STEP-SON. High Point to Have Tallest Building in the South—Mass Meeting Tonight in Its Interest—Fire Fighters Clear House of Sum of Money—Peculiar Matters.

Special to The Observer. High Point, July 6.—Last night in the eastern part of the city Ed Willis got mad at his step-son and fired a load of No. 8 shot into the negro's back. Willis left the house with his double-barrel gun saying he would shoot the fellow dead before morning. The officers went to the scene of the shooting and kept their eyes open for him, but he is yet unapprehended. The shot negro is badly wounded, but may recover.

High Point's new bank building is completed it will be, it is said, the tallest building in the State. Mr. Cross, the contractor in charge, has been treating the people to a free ride to its dizzy height. When completed the First National Bank will have one of his handiwork, as well as the tallest buildings in the South. By fall the building is expected to be in use.