# Charlotte Daily Observer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: $8.00 PER YEAR. CHARLOTTE, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 22, 1907. PRICE FIVE CENTS.


## OFFICERS SEIZE TOBACCO

### VIOLATION OF SHERMAN LAW

**Custom Authorities at Norfolk Attach Shipment of Leaf Tobacco and Cigarettes From Durham and Consigned to British-American Tobacco Company, Great Britain—Department of Justice Issues Statement, Charging Violation of Sherman Anti-Trust Law—Proceeding Against Property Itself and Not Against Any Individual—First Time Proceedings Have Been Taken to Enforce Section.**

Norfolk, Va., Oct. 21.—A shipment of leaf tobacco and cigarettes said to be valued at $7,000, from Durham, N. C., consigned to the British-American Tobacco Company, of Great Britain, has been attached by the government here and is now being held by the customs authorities. The action was brought following a conference here last week between Collector of Customs Hughes, United States District Attorney L. L. Lewis, and a representative from the Department of Justice at Washington.

Washington, Oct. 21.—The Department of Justice to-day issued the following statement concerning the tobacco seizure at Norfolk this afternoon:

"The collector of customs at Norfolk, Va., under direction of the Secretary of the Treasury at the instance of the Attorney General, and in conjunction with the United States attorney for the eastern district of Virginia, has seized 175 cases containing 8,750,000 cigarettes, valued at $7,272.50, which were in transit from factories of the British-American Tobacco Company, Limited, located in Petersburg, Va., and Durham, N. C., to New York and foreign countries.

FORFEITED TO GOVERNMENT.

"This seizure was made under Section 6 of the Sherman anti-trust law, which reads as follows:

"'Any property owned under any contract or by any combination, or pursuant to any conspiracy (andn being the subject thereof) mentioned in Section 1 of this act, and being in the course of transportation from one State to another, or to a foreign country, shall be forfeited to the United States, and may be seized and condemned by like proceedings as those provided by law for the forfeiture, seizure, and condemnation of property imported into the United States contrary to law.'

"The information on the seizure will be filed to-day at Richmond and will state the cause of seizure to be that the property was owned under a contract entered into in 1901 by two American tobacco companies, that is to say, the American Tobacco Company and the American Cigar Company, with three great English concerns, namely, the Imperial Tobacco Company, of Great Britain and Ireland, Limited; Ogdens, Limited, and the British-American Tobacco Company, Limited, in which contracts it was agreed substantially that the American and English companies should not compete with one another in the territories given to each. In this contract the corporations named in effect divided up the world among them, so far as the tobacco business was concerned. The information also contains counts charging that the tobacco was owned by a 'combination in restraint of trade' and 'pursuant to a conspiracy in restraint of trade,' which is a mere variation of the language of the charge stating the causes of forfeiture.

"This is a proceeding in rem, that is to say, against the property itself, and not against any individuals. If the owners of the property want to make defense, they must come into court and claim the property, and file their written pleadings, denying the charges set out in the information, and show that the unlawful combination in restraint of trade charged in the information does not in fact exist.

"This is the first time that proceedings have been taken to enforce this section of the Sherman law."

FIRST ATTEMPT TO ENFORCE PROVISION.

If the administration follows up its seizures of tobacco owned by trusts as it goes from State to State or as it is listed for foreign shipment as the law requires there is good reason to believe that something will rally be done to the trusts after all. The seizure to-day of 175 cases of cigarettes belonging to the American Tobacco Company, consigned from Durham to New York and to Great Britain is the first attempt to enforce this provision of the Sherman anti-trust law, passed seventeen years ago.

The company whose goods are seized must go into court and prove that it is not a combination in restraint of trade. Nearly all the output of the Durham concern, for instance, is shipped out of North Carolina, and if the government officials follow up their method in this case to-day they will soon have a large quantity of tobacco and the American Tobacco Company would soon be put out of business unless it can show to the satisfaction of the courts that it is not a trust.

The new tactics of the administration is causing considerable discussion here to-night and further proceedings are looked forward to with interest. It is a puzzle to know whether the Department of Justice attorneys have been merely ignorant of such a plain provision of the law all these years or have been wilfully neglecting to do their plain duty and enforce the law.

### WILL NO LONGER CLEAR.

**National Bank of Commerce Serves Notice That it Will No Longer Clear for Knickerbocker Trust Company.**

New York, Oct. 21.—Late to-night the National Bank of Commerce gave 24 hours' notice to the clearing house association of which it is a member, that after to-morrow it would no longer clear for the Knickerbocker Trust Company. The directors of the National would not comment upon their action. The National has for some time acted as clearing agent for the Knickerbocker.

Following the action of the National, or coincident with it, there was a conference of the directors of the Knickbocker Trust Company at an uptown hotel. The conference was continued long after midnight and in the meantime nothing of what was being done was given out. It is understood, however, that Charles T. Barney, president of the Knickerbocker, placed his resignation in the hands of the directors, who at once decided upon A. Foster Higgins to succeed Mr. Barney in the presidency of the institution.

## NO ADVERSE DEVELOPMENTS.

**Tension of Banking Community Considerably Relieved—Clearing House Comes to Assistance of Banks.**

New York, Oct. 21.—The recent tension of the banking community was to-day considerably relieved and the day passed with no adverse developments of a serious character but with much that was reassuring. At the same time there was evidence that some of the banks most affected by recent events were still in need of assistance but the promptness with which the clearing house accorded it did much to allay further alarm. The general improvement was reflected in the buoyancy of the stock market and the steady advance in prices from previous levels.

The clearing house was called upon to get debit balances of the Mercantile and the New Amsterdam banks to the extent of upwards of $2,000,000, of which the Mercantile owed about $1,200,000 and the New Amsterdam $200,000. The debit balance of North America amounted to $850,000. While there was said to have been some discussion between the clearing house committee and the officers of the latter bank as to the necessity of giving it any support it was not found necessary to do so.

On the stock exchange the improved banking conditions resulted in a rally of pronounced proportions, the more active issues advancing 2 and 3 points with greater gains in some of the specialties.

Part of this advantage was lost later by a flurry on call loans, the rate for which advanced to 9 1-4 per cent.

On the curb the feature was heavy selling at severe declines of Consolidated Steamship bonds, which at one time sold at 12 7-8, a decline of 5-8 points from the high. The net loss for the day was 2 points. The Consolidated Steamship Company is controlled by Charles W. Morse.

One development to-day which did not tend to ease the prevailing conditions was the application for a receiver for the firm of Otto Heinze & Co. Argument on the motion was deferred until Wednesday.

## PENSION AGENT SURRENDERS.

**Was in the Posse Which Fired on John Brame—Others to Do Likewise—In Hospital From Burns—Policeman Undergoes Operation.**

Special to The Observer.

Greensboro, Oct. 21.—Pension Agent P. H. Goethe went to the office of 'Squire D. H. Collins to-day and surrendered and was put under a $5,000 bond for his appearance next Monday at 2 o'clock. The bond was readily given. Mr. Goethe was a member of the posse of revenue officers who engaged in the shooting scrape two weeks ago in which John Brame, an alleged distiller, was wounded so badly that he died. Deputy Collector John T. Shepherd, who was a member of the party, is in Asheville on a brief business trip. He will follow Mr. Goethe's example upon his return and United States Marshal J. M. Millikan, who is visiting in Indiana, will do likewise.

Manley Maness, a white man, is a patient at St. Leo's Hospital under treatment for serious burns he suffered one night last week by the explosion of a gasoline lamp in his tent on the midway at the fair. He will not be able to leave the hospital for several weeks.

Policeman D. W. Marsh became very ill last night and was taken to St. Leo's Hospital. He underwent a serious operation, but is reported to be resting very well this evening.

Mr. J. M. Hobbs has been appointed a member of the police force, succeeding Mr. J. R. Jeffreys, who has been subbing for Policeman S. N. Ridge. The latter's health continues very poor.

## ESCAPED NEGRO CAPTURED.

**He is Found at Danville, But a Bullet is Necessary to Stop His Flight—Remaining Fourteen Who Were Injured in Wreck Expected to Recover.**

Special to The Observer.

Greensboro, Oct. 21.—Herman Sellars, one of the three negroes who broke out of jail here Saturday evening, was arrested in Danville, Va., yesterday. The officers at Danville had been notified of the jail delivery and they saw Sellars get off a freight train in that city. When they advanced on him he fled and the officers fired at him, hitting him in the leg and inflicting a painful, though not serious, wound. Sheriff Jones went to Danville and brought back the fugitive, who is in jail pending an appeal in a case in which he was convicted and sentenced to two years on the roads for stealing a horse. Nothing has yet been heard from the other two negroes, both of whom were in jail on trivial charges.

A revival started last night at the Walker Avenue Christian church, and the pastor, Rev. L. F. Johnson, is being assisted by Rev. W. C. Vicker, whose sermons are attracting large crowds.

Mrs. S. L. Gilmer has issued invitations for a reception to be tendered Thursday evening complimentary to Misses Margaret Merrimon, Elizabeth Sparger and Cammie Lindley.

The remaining fourteen victims of the wreck of train No. 34 at Rudd are reported to be getting on very nicely at St. Leo's Hospital, and though some of them are seriously injured it is thought they will all recover.

## A PHYSICIAN SUICIDES.

**Dr. Benson Harrison, of South Carolina, Lets Financial Losses Lead Him to Self-Destruction—Was Member of a Prominent Family.**

Special to The Observer.

Greenville, S. C., Oct. 21.—News reached the city to-day of the suicide Sunday morning of Dr. Benson Harrison, a well-known physician and planter of the Fork Shoals section of this county. Brooding over financial losses sustained in the last few months is supposed to be the main cause. He was a member of a well-known family of his name in the upper State and a man of culture and education. His health had been bad for some months, adding to his trouble. He was 60 years of age and was a native of this county. The interment took place to-day. It is understood that he took an overdose of digitalis.

## SPARTA NEWS NOTES.

**Confederate Veterans Hold Reunion—Mr. McNeill's Death Mourned in Alleghany.**

Special to The Observer.

Sparta, Oct. 21.—The news of the death of John Charles McNeill caused great grief here among his numerous friends and admirers. A brilliant writer is gone; another Avery has died.

The Confederate veterans of Alleghany county had a reunion here Saturday. A large crowd of people came to do honor to the 75 veterans who were present. Addresses were made by Mr. R. A. Doughton, Prof. S. W. Brown, Rev. J. B. Doughton, Attorney J. C. Bower and others.

## INTERESTING RUMOR OUT

### SUPREME COURT AGAINST LONG

**Rumor Has It at Raleigh That the Decision of the Supreme Court Will Be Adverse to Judge Long in the $30,000 Fine Case—Conference of State Counsel Set For To-Day Postponed Indefinitely—Corporation Commission Makes Its Report on Freight Discriminations—Cases Are Ordered Brought Against Norfolk & Western, Big Four and Louisville & Nashville Railways—Rates to Durham and Winston-Salem Are Too High—Wake Court in Session—Raleigh News of a Day.**

Observer Bureau,
The Holleman Building,
Raleigh, October 21.

A rumor was afloat to-day that the Supreme Court of the State would decide adversely to Judge Long, of the Superior Court, in the matter of the $30,000 fine he imposed last July on the Southern Railway for violating the new State law as to passenger rates. How this rumor got abroad is not known. Of course, the justices of the Supreme Court could not be questioned about such a thing. A decision in the case has been looked for any time during the past two weeks. Wednesday is opinion day and, of course, everything will be watched with very keen interest.

Governor Glenn said this evening that the final conference of the State attorneys regarding the Southern Railway rate case will not be held to-morrow evening, as expected, but is deferred somewhat indefinitely. Ex-Governor Aycock, one of the leading counsel, is called out of the State. The Governor hopes the conference will be held next week.

PROMINENT DOCTOR DYING.

Dr. James W. McGee, Sr., one of the leading physicians of this city, is dying at his home here, aged 68 years. He is a native of Duplin county.

A three-weeks' term of Superior Court began here to-day, Judge Long presiding. There are several divorce suits and an unusually large number of suits against railways. One case on the docket, against the Seaboard Air Line for the death of Engineer Maxwell between here and Hamlet, was compromised and so will not be tried. Another case from this county is peculiar, this being one in which a woman sues her brother-in-law for buying her husband's farm from him while he was drunk. She desires the sale set aside on the ground of fraud.

A telegram from The New York Herald to-day to your correspondent gave notice of the balloon race from St. Louis and asked that prompt notice be given of the landing of any balloons in North Carolina.

Grand Secretary John C. Drewry, of the Grand Lodge of Masons, has a petition for a new lodge at Wentworth, in Rockingham county, and the dispensation will be granted in a few days. It is said Masonry is growing very rapidly in this State and this year will show a decided increase in the strength of the order. He believes the increase will reach 1,500 or 2,000, which will give close to 20,000 Masons in the State.

Secretary Bruner, of the Agricultural Department, had a better night and his condition to-day was regarded as somewhat improved, Commissioner Patterson stated.

Rev. Dr. Daniel Albright Long, pastor of the Christian church, will soon take a tour in Europe, especially in seeing the Holy Land.

BIG SUM FOR "RIGHTS."

The Assistant Attorney General had a talk with the Treasury Department people to-day regarding a washing machine company, which is selling rights in this State all the way from $125 to $5,000. It is said to be a sort of an endless chain arrangement. The company pays no tax and is said to be coining money. The State manager had the nerve to write to the Attorney General and Treasurer asking for endorsements as a defense against what he terms "the talking public." The officials, of course, declined to write any such recommendation.

RELIC OF OLD-TIME POLITICS.

Mr. George W. Polk sends me a very interesting relic of old-time politics. It is a satin badge bearing the following inscription: "North Carolina Delegation, Young Men's National Convention, May 4, 1840." Below this inscription is an engraving, a portrait of President William Henry Harrison, surmounted by an American eagle from whose beak flies a streamer with the words, "Harrison and Reform." Below is a log cabin, upon the door of which is the inscription, "Hard Cider." These log cabins were carried all over the country in that great campaign and one was brought to Raleigh all the way from Salisbury, through the country. Below the cabin is this quotation, "Union of the Whigs for the Sake of the Union." Mr. Polk's father was a native of North Carolina and a son of the famous Col. William Polk, who was buried in the old cemetery at Raleigh. He is a grandson of Col. Thomas Polk, one of the signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. Mr. Polk writes that he found this badge among his father's papers. His home is San Antonio, Tex. The badge has been placed in the Hall of History in the State Museum.

Cashier Henry E. Litchford, of the Citizen's National Bank here, talked very interestingly to-dap about his twenty-five years of service there and what had happened during that period. It is remarkable what changes have occurred in that period of time in the business life of a city. Not a business house here is under the same direction as it was 25 years ago and only one merchant is now doing business who was then in business for himself. In the same bank there is only one man who was then an employe, this being Mr. Joseph G. Brown. Only one physician is now practicing, Dr. W. I. Royster; only four lawyers, Richard H. Battle, S. G. Ryan, Thomas M. Argo and R. T. Gray. Twenty-five years ago Raleigh had no water supply, sewerage system, electric lights or street cars. The bank in which Mr. Litchford is now the cashier then did a business of $200,000 a pear, while now it is a million.

Charters are granted the Setts Lumber Company, of Concord, capital stock $50,000, and the Woodside Furniture Company, also $50,000.

CASES ARE ORDERED BROUGHT.

The corporation commission to-day announced the result of its investigations into the inter-State freight rates from the West to North Carolina points, the result being an order that a case be brought against the Norfolk & Western Railway, the Big Four Railway and the Louisville & Nashville Railway for the correction of such rates to Winston-Salem and Durham. The investigation by the commission began with the Norfolk & Western and with these two cities, because that road was the only one which reaches these points on its own railway from Cincinnati, and its route from that city is the shortest. The investigation is continued as to other rates and other roads.

The commission finds that the rates from the West to Winston-Salem and Durham are unreasonably and unjustly high, discriminatory and unlawful and that this results partly from the fact that the Norfolk & Western treats the Winston-Salem and Durham branches as independent roads, whereas the tariff of rates should be made on a basis of a continuous haul. The rate from Chicago to Roanoke, Va., is 72 cents per 100 pounds and the Norfolk & Western adds the local rate, 51 cents, from Roanoke to Winston-Salem. The commission concludes that the rate from the West to Winston-Salem and Durham should be the same as to Roanoke, Lynchburg and other Virginia points, and that the contention made by the Norfolk & Western that its rates to Virginia points are unreasonably low and cannot be sustained in view of the heavy earnings of the road is without foundation. The earnings were shown by the last annual report to be $11,639,604, a sum sufficient to pay the interest, dividends and for work. The principal part of these earnings accrued from the low rates to Virginia points.

The Supreme Court is at work this week on the docket of appeals from the ninth district.

The superintendent of eduction in Columbus county notifies the State Superintendent that three school districts there have just voted for special tax, making the total number 23.

PRESSING TICK FIGHT TO A FINISH

State Veterinarian Butler reports that the campaign against cattle ticks is being pressed to a finish in the ten counties in which it was so actively prosecuted during the summer and early autumn. The government appropriation ran somewhat low and about ten of its experts had to be dropped. The State had a force of six in the field, of which two have been dropped. It is regarded as certain that ten counties will be added to the free territory this year, and this is very justly regarded as being an excellent result.

The colored State Fair is in progress this week at the State Fair grounds and Wednesday and Thursday great numbers of negroes are expected to be here. The fair last year was one of the best they have ever held and the secretary says this one will be an improvement.

## AMERICANS ARE RELEASED.

**The Three Americans Who Were Arrested Because of Their Association With Finnish Party Are Released—Officials Express Regret at Arrest—Suffered No Especial Discomforts.**

St. Petersburg, Oct. 21.—William English Walling, of Indianapolis, his wife and his wife's sister, Rose Strunsky, who were arrested and taken to jail last night, because of their association with the members of the Finnish Progressive Party, were released this evening. The police found nothing among the papers of the trio to warrant detaining them. No conditions are attached to the release, but Mr. and Mrs. Walling and Miss Strunsky intend to leave St. Petersburg on Wednesday. They say they have practically finished their work in Russia. All their papers and manuscripts have been restored to them.

The officials this evening expressed regret at the arrest, which they say was ordered upon the report of an over zealous spy who had been shadowing the Finnish revolutionists with whom the Americans had been associated. The two women prisoners were confined for the 24 hours in a prison overcrowded with young women revolutionists. They were conducted to a small cell, 8 by 10 feet, but they said this evening they had suffered no especial discomfort during their arrest. They told amusing tales of the laxness of Russian prison discipline.

As soon as it was rumored in the institution that two American women had been brought in they began receive visits from the other prisoners. They held a regular reception in their cells and related the latest history of the outside world to the curious and eager women, who crowded to see them. As soon as the order for their release was received this evening the news became known throughout the entire prison and the two sisters were given a great ovation as they took their departure.

Mr. Walling was assigned to a separate cell in the detention prison. Nominally he was not permitted to communicate with anybody, but he found no difficulty in getting a letter out to the American embassy, making use of the "underground" postal service maintained by the prisoners who were aided in this practice by several subventioned warders.

## SECURES POSTPONEMENT.

**As Result of Conference of Attorneys Fish Secures Adjournment of Stockholders' Meeting Until December 18th.**

Chicago, Oct. 21.—Stuyvesant Fish early to-day secured a postponement of the Illinois Central stockholders' meeting until December 18th. The Hariman people agreed to the adjournment, although they had previously been anxious to push matters as rapidly as possible.

The decision to adjourn the meeting was the result of a conference held at 3 o'clock this morning between William Nelson Cromwell, for Harriman, and former Judge E. H. Farrar, for Mr. Fish. The overtures came from Mr. Cromwell, who sought out the Fish people and declared that he wished to come to some sort of an agreement. He was informed by Farrar that the only agreement that could be reached was to accept the terms of Mr. Fish, which would be the adjournment of the meeting until December 18th, and a decision of court, if the Harriman people so desired, to determine the right to vote the 286,721 shares of stock, against which a temporary injunction was issued by Judge Ball a week ago. After an extended conference, Mr. Cromwell assented.

Although none of those directly interested would give specific figures, it was evident that Mr. Harriman was beaten unless he could bring into the contest some portion of the 286,721 shares against which Judge Ball issued the injunction.

Mr. Fish this morning declined to discuss the situation, but was apparently highly pleased at the terms of the agreement.

**Train Strikes Hand Car, Killing Three and Injuring Five.**

Versailles, O., Oct. 21.—Big Four train No. 38 early to-day struck a hand car on which were 19 Greek laborers, killing three and injuring five of the others. The train was immediately stopped to care for the injured, whereupon the uninjured Greeks attacked the train crew, but were overpowered.

## PRESIDENT AT VICKSBURG

### HEARTY AND NOISY WELCOME.

**Bronzed and Vigorous After a Fortnight in Canebrakes, President Roosevelt Visits Vicksburg and Makes a Speech—Bluffs Lined With People to Welcome Him—Cotton Bales Form Arch Which Read, "Mississippi Greets the President"—Congressman Williams Introduces Him to an Immense Throng—Pays Glowing Tribute to Confederacy's President and Mexican War Veterans.**

Vicksburg, Miss., Oct. 21.—After a fortnight spent in the canebreaks, President Roosevelt, bronzed and vigorous, paid a flying visit to Vicksburg and made a speech this afternoon. The President arrived at Delta, just across the Mississippi river at 1 o'clock. He was met by the steamboat Belle of Bends, with a reception committee of 100 citizens on board. The President immediately embarked and, followed by a dozen boats and yachts, made his entry into the city. The bluffs overlooking the river were lined with people, who gave the Chief Executive a hearty and noisy welcome.

President Roosevelt entered the forward carriage at the pier and with Mayor B. W. Griffith and General Stephen D. Lee, headed a party which passed through the principal streets to the national cemetery.

The President was received with enthusiastic acclaim. The streets were packed with people, who cheered the visitor at every opportunity.

GREETS OLD SOLDIERS.

At Cherry and Clay streets the procession was halted and General Lee, commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Veterans, told the President that several hundred union and Confederate veterans stood before him. The President arose in the carriage and cordially shook hands with the old soldiers.

Arriving at the national cemetery, the party drove slowly through the grounds, the President evincing a lively interest in the historic place. From the cemetery the party drove to the court house square, where an immense crowd had gathered to hear the speech making. President Roosevelt was introduced by Congressman John Sharp Williams, who elicited tremendous applause when he said:

"You cannot in the history of any country, ancient or modern, find a succession of 25 kings, emperors or even prime ministers the equals in intelligence, culture, courage or character of the 25 Presidents of this great republic from Washington to Roosevelt, inclusive. Of these, I, a Southern Bourbon-Democrat, have an American pride and pleasure in saying that 'the last is by no means least.'

"It is an honor for you and me, fellow Mississippians, to meet and entertain with an old time, full hearted, Southern hospitality, the Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, an honor flowing at once from his official dignity and from his many excellent traits of private character."

"He is our chief magistrate, America's chief magistrate of the, reunited Dixie land and Yankee land, never so firmly cemented in blood, opinion and sentiment as they are to-day."

Immediately after closing his address, President Roosevelt and party were rapidly driven to the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railway station, where a special train stood in waiting.

At 5:30 o'clock the train pulled out for Memphis, where the President is scheduled to arrive shortly after midnight. The train will be immediately transferred to the Louisville & Nashville Railway and started for Nashville.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS.

In his Vicksburg speech the President said:

"It is indeed an honor for me to be to-day the guest of Vicksburg and of Mississippi, and I was inexpressibly touched by the greeting over the great arch of cotton bales which said, 'Mississippi greets the President.' I should not be fit to be President at all if I did not with all my might and main, with all my heart and brain, seek to be in the full sense the President of Mississippi, the President of every State in this Union. I am glad to be here in this historic city, this city forever memorable of the conflicts in which victor and vanquished alike showed such splendid courage, such splendid fealty, to the light as it was given to each. Even before the civil war Mississippi's sons had shown that they knew how to fight.

"It was from Vicksburg that a company of that famous Mississippi regiment which won undying renown in the Mexican war under the gallant leadership of its colonel, who afterward became the favorite son, not only of Mississippi, but of all the South, Jefferson Davis, came. Think how fortunate we were as a nation that it is possible for the President of the nation to come here to-day to be conducted through your national park by the surviving lieutenant general of the Confederate army, and to feel that every instance of heroism recorded by the monuments alike to the Union and Confederate dead on that battlefield is a subject for just pride to every citizen of this nation, no matter where he lives.

BROKE EVEN WITH THE BEARS.

"It is a good thing for an American President to travel over the country, not for what he can teach, but for what he can learn. I twice have been down in this alluvial delta of the Mississippi. In each case I came primarily for bear."

A voice—"Did you get any?"

"The last time I got 'em; the first time all I can say is that the bears and I broke even. I got as many of them as they did of me. But on each occasion I learned a lot that had nothing to do with the bear hunting.

"It seems to me that no American President could spend his time better than by seeing for himself just what a rich and wonderful region the lower Mississippi valley is, so that he may go back to Washington, as I shall go back, with the set purpose to do everything that in me lies to see that the United States does its full share in making the Mississippi river a part of the sea coast, in making it a deep channel to the Great Lakes from the Gulf.

BOTTOM LANDS CAN BE REDEEMED.

"Mr. Williams, it has been suggested to me that we need to construe the constitution broadly in order to get power to do what I want. I think I heard you mention that you were a good Federalist. The people of Holland took two-thirds of their country out from the under the ocean and they have lived behind the dikes for centuries in safety. With one-tenth of the effort, we, an infinitely greater nation, can take these incomparably rich bottom lands of the lower Mississippi out from all fear of flooding by the Mississippi.

"While I do not like to say in advance what I intend to do, I shall break my rule in this case and say that in my next message to Congress I shall advocate as heartily as I know how that the Congress now elected shall take the first steps to bring about that deep channel way and the attendant high and broad levee system which will make of these all alluvial bottoms the richest and most populous agricultural land on the face of the globe. I think that any policy which tends to the uplifting of any portion of our people in the end distributes its benefit over the whole people. Here we have a policy whose first and direct benefit will come to the man on the plantation, the tiller of the soil.

NO TAINTED POLICY.

"I want, when we start in this epoch making work of improving the Mississippi, to be sure that we start on principles that will prevent mistakes, extravagance, misapplication of effort. I shall have no small difficulty in persuading some people of the wisdom of a policy such as that I advocate, a policy that means the expenditure of an immense sum of money, a policy which must continue over a long course of years. If that policy is tainted in any way by jobbers or folly, it will be immeasurably more difficult to carry it through. What we must look out for is the action of the men, probably well meaning, who, in their anxiety to serve some particular district, will try to divert what should be a national effort to deepen a great national highway into a succession of efforts spread out so thin as to make all ineffective.

"Ultimately, I believe, there can be an enormous spread of the activity of the national government in the care of our waterways. Ultimately, I believe, the national government can do an immense amount of irrigation through portions of the Southern States not affected by the project for the deepening of the Mississippi. I believe that, through the co-operation of the national government as much can be done in the way of irrigation to relieve the condition in certain Southern States as has already been done by irrigation in the far West.

"It is as important for a nation that there shall be a foundation of material prosperity as it is important for an individual that there should be such a foundation. I distrust the man in private life who is filled with enthusiasm to reform mankind, but who cannot support his own wife and family. With a nation, it is the same thing. We must have a basis of material prosperity in which to build, but woe to the nation which never rears on that foundation the superstructure of a higher life."

## TRIED TO ASSAULT YOUNG LADY.

**Negro Grabs Miss Edna Johnston, of Reidsville, With a Vile Purpose But She Escapes From His Grasp—The Brute Soon Captured and Taken to Greensboro.**

Special to The Observer.

Reidsville, Oct. 21.—Ed Whitsett, a negro, attempted criminal assault upon the person of Miss Edna Johnston, the 18-year-old daughter of the late James Johnston, in the yard of her home early this morning. Whitsett, it is said, had been hanging around the house for the past week or so, but his intentions were not suspected. This morning, as Miss Johnston was in her back yard, he came upon her from some bushes near the yard. The young lady began to scream and the brute put his hands over her mouth. A scuffle resulted and the young lady broke his hold and in doing so injured an arm. She continued her screams and the negro ran away.

A few hours later two officers arrested the negro a few hundred yards south of the residence. He was on a bicycle and no doubt was trying to make his escape. There has been but little excitement, but Mayor Montgomery thought it wise, as a precautionary measure, to send the prisoner to Greensboro to remain until the young lady sufficiently recovers from the fright to appear at the preliminary hearing.

**The Negro Denies the Charge.**

Special to The Observer.

Greensboro, Oct. 21.—Ed Whitsett, a Reidsville negro, was brought here to-night and lodged in jail for safekeeping. He denies the charge against him and says he made no effort to escape, but, on the other hand, was intending to surrender when arrested on the streets of Reidsville.

## MANY CATTLE KILLED.

**Train of Thirteen Cars Derailed Near Canton and 118 of a Herd of 200 Fine Beef Cattle Are Killed—Others Are Injured—Spreading Rails Responsible For the Disaster.**

Special to The Observer.

Asheville, Oct. 21.—A message this afternoon at 2 o'clock from Canton told of a destructive freight wreck about a mile from that place, when a special cattle train of 13 cars was derailed and 188 head of very fine beef cattle were killed, in addition to a number of other cattle that are injured. It is said that the cattle belonged to Messrs. Osborne and Morgan and were being shipped to an eastern market. The cattle were raised in Haywood county and had been in pasture in that county for some time past getting in condition for the market.

They were loaded this morning in 13 cars and started for the eastern trip. Just about one mile from Canton, the rails spread, it is said, and the train was wrecked. Luckily none of the train crew was injured. The 13 wrecked cars contained a total of 200 cattle and of this nnumber 118 were killed, while a number of others were injured.

## TO MEET AT WASHINGTON.

**Chairman Issues Cal For Meeting of Republican National Committee to Be Held in Washington December 6th.**

Washington, Oct. 21.—The formal call for the meeting of the Republican national committee was issued to-day over the signature of Acting Chairman Harry S. New and Secretary Elmer Dover, as follows:

"Members of the Republican national committee are hereby called to meet at the Shoreham Hotel, in the City of Washington, D. C., at 11 o'clock a. m., Friday, December 6th.

"This meeting is called for the purpose of fixing the time and place of holding the next Republican national convention and to transact such other business as may properly be presented, and the session will probably continue through Saturday, December 7th."

## A DARING ESCAPE IS MADE

### GIRLS USE A BLANKET ROPE

**Three Very Youthful Girls, Detained in House of Correction, Gain Their Freedom in a Bold Manner—Two of Them Are Soon Captured, However—One Taken to Caldwell County on Charge of Being Implicated in Robbery and Murder—Asheville Pythians to Have Big Time To-Day and To-Night on Occasion of State Grand Chancellor's Visit—Roosevelt Cannot Come to North Carolina to Hunt Now.**

Special to The Observer.

Asheville, Oct. 21.—Three girls, their ages ranging from 12 to 16 years, made a daring escape from the county home or "house of correction," near Asheville, last night by tearing their blankets in strips, tying the strips together and then casting the rope out the window and over a small shed and going hand-over-hand down the rope to the ground below, a distance of probably 30 or 40 feet. The girls were Mary Lee Rogers, Vance Moody and Birdie Triplett, alias Mag Lewis. The escape of the girls was not made known to the officers until this morning about daylight. The local police went on a search for the fugitives and soon rounded up the Rogers and Moody girls in the Victoria section, a mile or more from the city.

In the meantime the sheriff of Caldwell county had paid a visit to police headquarters, seeking information relative to a girl about 18 years of age, for whom he had a warrant charging her with being implicated in a highway robbery and murder in Caldwell county some time ago. The description of the girl, whose name the Caldwell county officer gave as Mag Lewis, fit the description of the girl "Birdie Triplett" in the house of correction, and Patrolman Young, after learning that the girl had escaped, went on the search for her. He found her in town and, placing her under arrest, escorted her to the railway station, where the Caldwell officer, preparing to take his departure, identified her as the person he wanted. The woman was turned over to the Caldwell officer.

It is said that the woman was implicated in a robbery and murder in Caldwell, for which two men tried some time ago at Lenoir were convicted and given long sentences in the State prison. It is alleged that the girl Mag Lewis has since admitted that she was mixed-up in the affair and that she got part of the money. She was sent to the county home or house of correction for 30 days from the city police court and her term would have expired to-day. The other two girls were sent to the home just last Saturday. One of them is scarcely 12 years of age. She is Mary Lee Rogers and is a very pretty and attractive girl, wearing her hair in a plait down her back. They were sent to the home for disorderly conduct.

PYTHIANS TO HAVE BIG TIME.

Pisgah lodge, Knights of Pythias, of Asheville, is planning a big event for to-morrow afternoon and evening when State Grand Chancellor W. C. Crist, of Winston-Salem, will be here. There will be four sessions of the lodge to-morrow. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon the second rank will be conferred on six candidates; from 7:30 to 8 o'clock in the evening regular routine business will be transacted and at 8 o'clock there will be work in the first rank, when sixteen candidates will take this in amplified form. At 9 o'clock there will be a banquet. George L. Hackney, of Asheville, will be toastmaster. Former Mayor A. S. Barnard, of Asheville, will welcome the grand chancellor, when Mr. Crist will respond to the toast: "Pythianism Over Our Domain." Other toasts to be responded to are:

"What is Expected of Our District," J. A. Winn, district deputy thirteenth district; "What is Expected of Pisgah Lodge," Edwin L. Brown, Jr., chancellor commander Pisgah lodge, No. 32. "The Purpose of Pythianism," C. A. Webb; "Pythianism as a Character-Builder," Judge T. A. Jones; "Pythian Honor," J. E. Swain; "Pythian Friendship," R. R. Williams; "Pythianism Socially," Dr. Clemenger, chancellor commander Asheville lodge, No. 106.

Asheville Pythians claim that Pisgah lodge now has the largest membership of any K. of P. lodge in the State. On September 1st it had 236 members and since that time a number of others have been admitted to membership.

ROOSEVELT CANNOT COME

President Roosevelt, through Mr. M. C. Latta, has expressed to Mr. J. L. Alexander, of the Toxaway Inn, his appreciation of Mr. Alexander's invitation to visit the sapphire country and hunt bear and deer, but regrets that circumstances will not permit him to prolong his present visit South and that he is unable to accept the kind invitation. Mr. Latta says, however, that the President would be pleased to accept the invitation later in the season. Mr. Alexander a short time ago sent a message inviting the President to Toxaway and Saturday evening received the following reply:

"Mr. J. L. Alexander, Toxaway, N. C.

"Dear Sir—Your telegram of the 16th has been received and is greatly appreciated, but the President will not be able to prolong his present trip, owing to impending engagements; but he will be pleased to accept your kind invitation later in the season.

"Most cordially yours,
"M. C. LATTA,
"For the President."

It is feared, however, that the President will not, this year at least, find time to accept Mr. Alexander's invitation, owing to the near approach of the opening of Congress.

**Twice-a-Week Tar Heel Falls By Wayside.**

Special to The Observer.

Greensboro, Oct. 21.—The Twice-a-Week Tar Heel is to be discontinued and the affairs of the company will be adjusted at once and the corporation dissolved. The plant will be sold at auction Saturday, November 23, if not previously by private sale. This is the paper which was started two years ago by the Blackburn faction of the Republican party and it has traveled over a rocky road.

**Bryan Cancels Engagement to Speak at Negro Fair.**

Macon, Ga., Oct. 21.—Hon. William J. Bryan, who was under engagement to make an address at the negro State fair here on the opening day, October 30th, canceled his engagement by telephone from Atlanta Saturday and Governor Hoke Smith, who was instrumental in having the disfranchisement law passed, has been trying to the negroes and accepted the invitation to speak in Mr. Bryan's place.