

VADE MECUM HOTEL BURNS

THE GUESTS NARROWLY ESCAPE

The Originating in One of the Bath Rooms of the Popular Resort Hotel Destroys the Structure and Its Contents, Including the Personal Belongings of Many of the Guests. The Total Loss Estimated at \$15,000.

A fire which started in one of the bath rooms of the Vade Mecum Hotel, a popular resort hotel, destroyed the structure and its contents, including the personal belongings of many of the guests.

Winston-Salem, July 24.—The main building of the Vade Mecum Hotel, about 40 miles above here in Stokes county, was destroyed by fire at 5 o'clock this morning.

There was a number of guests in the building at the time, but they were quickly aroused, although many of them did not have time to get any of their belongings.

Mr. John T. Simpson and wife, of this city, were among the number who failed to save anything.

The hotel this year has been under the management of Dr. H. P. McKnight and was doing a splendid business. An estimate of the loss has not yet been secured.

The total loss including the building, furniture and guests' belongings is estimated at \$15,000. There was no insurance at the time, the policy which had been carried having been dropped a few weeks ago.

Mr. Taft in New York. Spends a Day with City and State Leaders Who Assure Him That All Will Give Him a Warm Reception.

New York, July 24.—The Republican leaders of the city were fully alive to their opportunity to-day to make the personal acquaintance of the candidate for the presidency.

So far as Mr. Taft now intends this will be his last visit to the city until after election. He will reach Cincinnati to-morrow shortly after noon.

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WORK OF THE STORM

County Commissioner Clayton, of Buncombe, Had a Thrilling Experience—Lightning's Queer Freaks in Asheville.

Asheville, July 24.—News of damage as a result of the electrical storm yesterday morning is drifting in. County Commissioner R. C. Clayton, who resides at Fletcher's, ten miles from here, was in town this morning to purchase material with which to repair his residence which was struck by lightning.

Mr. Clayton and family had a thrilling experience during the progress of the storm. A bolt of lightning struck the house and ripped great rents in the outside pebble-dash and the inside plastering.

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NEWS OF CAPITAL CITY

HEARING IN THE REGISTER CASE

Acad Convicted Sentenced For Life From Columbus County For Being an Accessory to a Murder For Which His Son Was Hanged, Will Make a Charge For Freedom To-Day.

Consider the fact that the officials in the office through the Secretary of State think the number of charters granted to corporations holds up very well this year as compared with last year.

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THE SULTAN SURRENDERS

WILL CONVOKE A PARLIAMENT

Turkish Ruler Takes the Reins Into His Own Hands and Restores the Constitution of 1876—Announcement of His Decision to Convoke a Parliament Causes a Sensation Throughout the Empire—Abdullah, His Son, Hopes for the Re-Establishment of the Sultanate.

Constantinople, July 24.—Startling as was the sudden dismissal of Ferid Pasha from the grand viziership and the appointment of Enver Pasha in his place, this step was as nothing compared to the sensation created in all quarters this morning by official announcement that the Sultan had decided to convoke a parliament.

It was felt that in view of the general revolt in the army unprecedented in the history of the Turkish Empire, some change was inevitable, and that far reaching measures of reform in the central government were bound to be inaugurated.

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SUBSERVICENCY OF MR. TAFT

NO SURPRISE TO WASHINGTON

That the Candidate Should Announce That His Speech Would Be Censored by His Preceptor and Boss Causes No Comment at the Capital.

Washington, July 24.—It is not surprising that Judge Taft, the Republican candidate for presidency, should rather "My candidate," should go to Oyster Bay, as he did yesterday, to submit his speech of acceptance to his political father, preceptor, and boss.

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TWO OPINIONS HANDED DOWN

Circuit Court of Appeals, Sitting at Asheville, Decides Interesting Cases—District Court Finds For Defendants in Case of United States vs. Freeman and National Surety Company.

Asheville, July 24.—In United States Circuit Court of Appeals to-day two opinions were handed down, the remainder of the session being given over to a conference by the court as the cases heretofore argued. Judge Pritchard and Judge Boyd constituted the court this morning with Deputy Clerk Claude M. Dean in attendance. The two opinions handed down follow:

United States vs. Freeman and National Surety Company. Special to The Observer. Asheville, July 24.—In United States Circuit Court of Appeals to-day two opinions were handed down, the remainder of the session being given over to a conference by the court as the cases heretofore argued.

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FIGHT ON FREIGHT RATES

PRESIDENT ASKED TO ASSIST

Receivers and Shippers' Association Asks President Roosevelt If He Decreased Several Years Ago in Rate to Be Enforced That Suits Be Brought at Once Against Roads Which Have Anticipated an Increase in Rates—Declares That There is Politics in the Matter But That the Violators Are Barring the People in an Unlawful Manner—Roosevelt Has Ignored the Mandates of the Courts.

Cincinnati, O., July 24.—Brushing aside all intermediate modes of action, the Receivers and Shippers' Association of Cincinnati has carried its war against a general increase in freight rates directly to the President of the United States.

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