the Charlotte Observer.

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PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT

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Advertising rates are furnished on application. Advertisers may feel sure that through the columns of this paper they may reach all Charlotte and a portion of the best people in this State and upper South Carolina. This paper gives correspondents as wide latitude as it thinks public policity permits, but it is in no case responsible for their views. It is much prefewed that correspondents sign their names to their articles, especially in cases where they attack persons or institutions, though this is not demanded. The editor reserves the right to give the names of correspondents when they are demanded for the purpose of personal satisfaction. To receive consideration a communication must be accompanied by the true name of the correspondent.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1908.

THE COUNTRY'S HUGE FIRE TAX. The National Board of Fire Underdepartment equipments and effective ship in the good roads election yesterday and we have decided to refer the matter in the good would thank you kindly to you and would thank you kindly to you and would thank you kindly to publish your opinion in The Observer. Why world suffers such heavy loss through writers, which works for better fire world suffers such heavy loss through fire as the United States. Last year, according to figures given, the destruction was \$199,383,300, while the lotal for the last five years stands at \$1,257,716,955, or an annual average of over \$251,000,000. To each 1,000 manual terms and the registered votes in this election is 380 and the votes polled for good roads are 279; there are 25 votes cast against good roads and 85 did not vote at all good roads and state of the registered votes are as follows:

The facts are as follows:

The act authorizing this election requires a majority of the qualified electors of the township, which of course means the registered vote in this election is 200 and the votes polled for good roads are 279; there are 25 votes cast against good roads and state of the township. The registered vote in this election requires a majority of the qualified electors of the township. The act authorizing the section requires a majority of the qualified electors of the township. The act authorizing the registered votes in this election is 200 and 200 are 200 a population in American cities there are 4.05 fires, against .86 in Europe. for the last five years the average rosus appreciate it.

Very truly yours.

VOTERS. For the last five years the average six European countries, including Germany, France and Austria. The losses without impairing its prosperity very materially.

the water to let fire risks take care been 84.50. of themselves. Consciously or unconsciously, the average citizen looks money, to the extent of the payment, dividual or corporate loser's exclusive standpoint, but the fact of deproperty has paid for the right to Carolina is an easy second. protection. If he has, an insurance, company takes the burden upon its filled from the pockets of the public. Thus society, which cannot protect itself, protects the individual. The destruction of property exists unextremely beneficial result of this arrangement is that loss becomes dis-

which was possible only because past lives. experience had been carclessly disregarded-insurance companies necessarily threw large blocks of securi upon the subject of fire losses before made progress toward chlighten ment. That great destruction of capital gave the whole country a perceptible burden and was felt abroad. Beyond any question it formed one industrial depression. Since then there has been wholesale destruction in Chelsea, Mass., (Boston) and half a dozen other cities. To have properly valued at two hundred millions of dollars go up in smoke year by year heavily handicaps even a country like this: only the reckless waste of our natural resources can bear comparison with it. All reasonable should receive general support. We hope that as time goes on American fire losses will be brought down to a very much less enormous multiplicand of those of Europe.

It is worth noting that expenditures in the building trade for July year. This makes the first gain yet reof 1967. Very large expenditures in loose in the direction of Texas. New York City represent most of the upturn, but, after all, New York City find fresh cause for encouragement. looks that way at this distance, Nobody has ever discovered a way to keep this country from growing, and than rapidly for very long at a time.

West and Middle West, Mr. Kern's billion article in sight? hiskers should prove more potent

Uncle Adial Stevenson can be deing for the Republicans in Illi-

THE SITUATION IN OHIO. Several things are evident from the cent conduct of the Taft managers n Ohio. They regard the State as entirely safe and Senator Foraker's influence as neither large nor needed. Both Senators Foraker and Dick and their once all-powerful machine are being treated with very cold courtesy and ignored to the largest feasible extent. From the present outlook, next March will see the end of Mr. Foraker's senatorial career, Boss Cox, of Cincinnati, whose wholehearted enmity Mr. Taft incurred several years ago by effective denunciations in a State campaign, is admittedly a power still, but his sort, knowing their power to rest upon worship of party regularity, never encourage bolts. The Ohio Republi-question, but they have had years since the decision of the can campaign, which opens at Youngstown September 6th with Governor Harris, of Ohio, and Senator Beveridge, of Indiana, the chief speakers, is regarded by the Taft men as little more than a central country. In this they may be overbold, but the chance of anything exreally seems negligible. With fully a dozen States to fight for, either well if they waste no more ammunition on Ohio than appearances de-

THE MAJORITY IS \$4.50. The Observer is in receipt of the following inquiry from Oraham, of

date the 7th: To the Editor of The Observer:

be a majority of the registered votes and not a majority of the votes cast.

If you will, therefore, give us your opinion as to what the majority for good Nancy

The registered vote being 389, an affirmative vote of 195 would have board submits that no country, how- been sufficient to have carried the ever rich, can suffer such gigantle bonds. They received, it appears, 279 votes, 25 votes lieling cast adversely and 85 not east at all. The Beyond question, there is entirely vote being against the registration too much disposition on this side of books the majority seems to have

upon the payment of insurance Ray Stannard Baker, writing upon This, of course, is true from the in- the oldest State college in America. Mr. Baker has been imposed upon. No such claim can be made for the struction has a far greater signifi- Georgia institution, which is not old had was their very simple household cance. Values have disappeared, at all unless two different schools, furniture. capital has been obliterated, the one neither of college grade nor conmuch poorer. Society suffers the loss gether. "The oldest State college in \$200 worth of personalty. No details in any event; the only question is America" is the University of Pennwhether the owner of the destroyed sylvania, and the University of North

The Baltimore Sun says that "Mr. shouldsrson lt pays from a pocket Taft's managers now have 'hopes,' they declare, of leading Georgia and North Carolina into the Republican camp. According to their statements lessened by a penny; the sole though Dixle. If they should succeed in getting the electoral vote of any rocktributed with comparative evenness for Mr. Taft they would, indee I. among many people and so crushes bring about a political revolution of tremendous Importance." All of which is important if true, but they cisco earthquake-fire-a conflagration were never more mistaken in their

> In view of the promised revision of the tariff a citizen of Charlotte in of cotton manufacturers on the subject. These views would probably only increase the laterest of the furniture.

expectation of carrying Illinois this year they could have done nothing better calculated to contribute to that Adial E. Stevenson for Governor. He is highly popular in that State as well as in the country at large and and cow." if any Democrat can carry it in this year of grace he can.

Concerning the Young Turks' suggestion that the Sultan divorce and exempt from taxation. dismiss all the ladies of his harem but one The New York Tribune points out how embarrassing it would be as reported to Bradstreet's were 15.5 to Turkish society to have such a per cent, over those for July of last number of merry grass widows turned loose. However, The Houston Post corded over the corresponding month | might arrange to have them turned

The French press is said to unite is part of the country and leads the in the opinion, based upon the seroway up or down as often as not. plane demonstration of Saturday, Moreover, out of the total of fifty-one that the Wright brothers, the Americities reporting gains are shown by cans, are at the head in the matter twenty-eight. In these figures we of aerial navigation. It certainly

Mr. Bryan's estimate that a halflikewise nobody has ever discovered million campaign fund is needed a way to keep it from growing less seems high, but the proportions of the country should be considered. Have we not reached the day of twe With the fight centering in the billion Congresses, with the three-

The Sultan and the Shah nov know about how the Czar felt two or three years back. Meantime the ded upon to make it at least in- Ahkoond of Swat, the Moodir of Moosh and all the other small fry are hing low.

(Continued from Page One.)

other indictments pending in this court against the defendant.

"ROBERT P. DICK,

"U. S. Judge."

"Concurred in. Covington, Asst.

MOTION COMES TOO LATE.

It appears from the records of this court that a similar order to the one taken above in the Breese case was taken in separate cases against each of the other defendants, Dickerson and Peniand, so that the three defendants were each arraigned, plead ed not guilty and had the benefit of the order just quoted. The district attorney insists that this motion to quash comes too late. There is much ground for this insistence. The fendants not only have waited for more than ten years to make this cult Court of Appeals in the Breese case on this subject. But assuming Governor Hughes, of New York; without deciding, that this motion to quash is made in apt time, I do no believe that upon its merits it can be sustained. In the motion as filed it was urged that three jurors, James Davis, Jr., A. R. Couch and N. W. costrum from which to address the Blackburn, members of the grand jury finding this bill, had failed to pay taxes for the preceding year. The motion was abandoned cept a reduced Republican majority hearing as to Davis, and abandoned upon the hearing as to Couch, and is only urged now as to N. W. Black-It appears from the record burn. offensively or defensively, the Dem-that no taxes were listed or assessed ocratic campaign managers will do against N. W. Blackburn for 1896. the year in question here in the County of Forsyth, where he lived at that time. It may be gravely questioned from the decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals in the Breese case, supra, in which this question was passed upon, whether he ruling was not restricted to taxes regularly "assessed" against a citizen who afterwards becomes a juror. The court referred many times in Quite a discussion has arisen here with opinion to "taxes assessed," and there regard to the majority of Graham townargument of the district attorney that was the intention of the court to restrict the ruling of jurors against whom taxes had been listed or assessed. Be this as it may, I am thornighly satisfied that the juror Blackburn was not liable for any taxes for the year 1896. Under the statute of North Carolina (Revisal 1905. Vol. Page 5223) he was entitled to an exemption on \$25 worth of personalty and evidence has been submitted as to what property he really had during the year 1896.

In 1890 Blackburn and his wife Blackburn, conveyed this case we will greatly Mrs. Blackburn's son and Blackburn's stepson, Charles W. Brinkley, a piece of real estate in Forsyth county, taining seventy acres more or ontemporaneously therewith, Brinky executed a bond 10 which he reed to "take good care of the said W. Blackburn and his wife, Nancy Blackburn, during their natural furnish them with ood and clothing, and all that is essary for their comfort and pay all medical expenses necessary, and at their death to furnish them a decent burial, and all other matters necessary for their comfort." The vidence shows that after this, Blackburn and his wife continued to live on the place conseyed to Brinkley in their old home, and Brinkley built a In 1894 Mrs. Blackburn new house. The evidence also shows that prior to her death they had disposed of a cow and horse and certain farming utensils and it is satisfactorily

Affidavits have been introduced that Blackburn had on June 1st, 1896. have been in their statements, the contents of the affidavits are general to be given any great weight. One of the affiants, J. T. Boyer, was put on the stand by the district atstatement made in his affidavit. The most valuable witness in this

matter was J. H. Tesh, who was in-troduced by the government. He was mature years who lived near Blackburn, and he testified that after his wife died Blackburn began to sell off his things. He further testified that Blackburn lived in a simple leghouse with a back room, and the substance of his testimony is that there were only a very few cheap articles in the house. He said when they had a sale of Blackburn's things after his wife's death, they did not bring more than \$15 or \$20. was claimed that Blackburn had organizations in the world, some feather beds of considerable A new clothing and men value, but this witness says that at the sale of one of them sold for 50 from the testimony will show the this old man had after the cow and horse and wagon were sold? A.

"Q. He retained that after he made the trade with Brinkley? A. Yes, sir, after his wife died he began to sell that off.

"Q. What did he have: do you Twin City Citizen Has a Harrowing now? A. He had some beds and Adventure. tables, and something like that-all old property.

year 1896, as he had not more than

whether a man was liable for taxes or not, if he was not on the tax returns he would not be a competent juror. I do not think the Circuit Court of Appeals would have decided on the subject of tax returns indicates The court in this opinion says: "The statute in question requires the clerks of the boards of county

commissioners to lay before them 'the tax returns for the preceding year.' So far as we have been enabled to discover, there is no statute requiring the tax collectors to make a 'tax re-turn' showing the names of the taxpayers. Where the lax collector de-sires credit for taxes assessed against insolvents he must return a list of such insolvents. But we have found no provision requiring a return of a list of citizens who have paid all or a part of the taxes assessed against them. In practice, as we are led to believe, the statute in question is in great measure disregarded by the boards of county commissions, etc."

I do not believe that the Court of Appeals would have held on this question that a citizen who was an intelligent man and of good moral character, because he was poor and did not own more than \$25 worth of

THEY MUST BE TRIED AGAIN GIFT TO MONUMENT FUND

CAPT. FONDA'S GENEROUS DEED Union Veteran, Now in Charge of the Beautiful Federal Cemetery at Salisbury, Makes a Donation to the Confederate Monument Fund—Suit Instituted to Have a Permanent Receiver Appointed For the Gold Hill Copper Company—Brief History of the Enterprise—Negroes Form a Business League a la Booker Washington—Brief News Items From Rowan's Capital.

ectal to The Observer. Salisbury, Aug. 10 .- Capt. W. F Fonda, an ex-Union soldier and superintendent of the Federal Cemetery in this city, has made a subscription to the Bowan Confederate monument fund. It was during the recent Confederate re-union here that Captain Fonds and Capt. John A. Ramsay, the Confederate artilleryman, stood in the foreground with hands clasped while a photograph of the veterans was taken. He says ! gives him pleasure to contribute in honoring these good and brave men though they fought against him.

Notice has been given that an acperior Court of Rowan for the ap-pointment of a permanent received for the Gold Hill Copper Company B. B. Miller, Esq., having been name last week as temporary receiver. The defendant company is summoned to appear before Judge Webb at Salisbury on Monday, August 31st, and answer to the complaint. The order naming B. B. Miller as receiver is returnable before Judge Webb at Lexington on August 20th. It was Walter George Newman, of New York, who several years ago acquired these mines and large tracts of land and formed a company capitalized at \$5,000,000. Shortly thereafter Mr. Newman gave up the work as head of the company, which became the a million dollars, and he took unsecured notes. He also loaned the company, he says, \$52,000. He also says a mortgage has been given on the property without his knowledge. The plaintiffs in the case are Walter George Newman and John M. Julian, are represented by Burton Craige, Esq.

COLORED BUSINESS LEAGUE. A local branch of Booker T. Washington's National Business League has been organized here by a number of colored men. They announce that among the possibilities of the league are a bank, building and loan association, department store and other business enterprises.

The farmers' institute held in the

court house to-day was attended by a hundred or more of our most gressive farmers, and the speakers were given the closet of attention. A double term of horses belonging to Mr. Hugh Saunders caused a considerable excitement to-day, when they ran the entire length of North Main street. Fortunately no damage

was done except to the rig.

L. H. Clement, Esq., president of the North Carolina Bar Association. and his son, Dr. E. B. Clement, of Philadelphia, are enjoying a three-weeks' trip through Canada.—Capt. W. Murdock Wiley is at home from New York for a few days.-Whitehead Kluttz, Esq., and Donald Clement are back from Atlantic City.
The cement walls under the railroad at

the National Cemetery were completed some time ago. Now a force of hands has begun preparation for placing the iron bridge. As soon as this is completed the government roadway from the cemetery to Main street will be com-

of North Char-Mr. Arthur B. Scercy. lotte, and Miss Rosa B. Stiller, of Roware given in these affidavits and they are in almost the same language, and noon at Mr. Thomas L. Harris,' on South certainly the same handwriting. Attributing no bad motive or wrong to ing. After the ceremony the couple anyone, it is still true that these affi- drove to the bride's home in the country, davits are entitled to little probative where a big wedding supper was served. Senator Overman is off for the week speech-making in the eastern part of the

Double daily mail service was inaugurated on the Yadkin branch of the Southern Railway yesterday. The new torney, and modified very much the mail will be a great convenience for people along the line

A BUSINESS CHANGE.

Mr. P. N. Peacock, who has been teller at the Salisbury branch of the Wachovia Loan & Trust Company for the past three years, is now with the Simpson-Peacock Wholesale Grocery Company. Mr. W. M. Johnston, of the bank force, has been promoted to teller and is succeeded by Mr. Marvin Snider. The Modern Woodmen of America has included North Carolina in its jurisdiction and deputies will be put to work at once organizing camps in this State. This is one of the largest fraternal insurance

A new clothing and men's furnishing store is to be opened in the room recently vacated by The Salisbury Drug Com-The following brief extract pany by Mr. Jacova, who comes here

Miss Marguerite Brittian will be fat substance of what this witness said: Miss Marguerite Brittian will be "at "Q. What was the value of the home" to-morrow evening in hopes of her guest, Miss Dument .- Miss Nancy Johnson returned to her home in Kenvary a good deal but that fact would He had his household and kitchen tucky to-day, being the last of Miss Katherine Overman's charming house party to leave.—A number of young people go on a moonlight picnic to Fisher's mill to-night.

Special to The Observer.

Winston-Salem, Aug. 10.-Mr. J. *22. Would you estimate it at over \$25? A. No, sir, not what I saw day on his narrow escape from death as after he sold his horse and wagon Wednesday while attempting to cross Cedar creek, Davie county, in an open national committee, has drawn upon the services of Editor Hemphill, of The forrential rains had swollen evidence that this juror, N. W. Black-burn, was not liable for taxes for the began to float while Mr. Yates was driv-well, of The Charlotte Observer. The ing across the ford. Mr. Yates cut his \$25 personal property and this was horse loose and it swam to shore. Mr. act in force at the time this grand jury was drawn which has been quoted above, that jurors could only the hours in the creek. The hours in the creek. Yates was rescued by a colored man who ed above, that jurors could only be found next morning a mile away, unin-selected from the tax returns for the jured. The buggy was recovered after preceding year, and that consequently great difficulty in a damaged condition.

property, could not be a competcht juror. It seems entirely probable, however, that Blackburn's name was obtained as a juror from a former

Blackburn died in 1902 and his testimony cannot be had. The evidence obtainable fails to satisfy me of Blackburn's dihqualification as a grand juror, but on the contrary sat-isfies me that he was competent. As I reach the conclusion that the grand juror, Blackburn, was not disqualified even under the law as it stood at the time the indictment was returned, it is necessary to consider the effect of the act of the Legislature of North Carolina, 1907, (Public Laws of North Carolina, 1907, page 62) providing that motions to quash for the cause suggested here should not be sus-tained, or its applicability to the

present motion.

The motion to quash the indictment on the ground that Blackburn was not a qualified juror must be overruled and denied, and it will be

DONKEY AND GANDER.

Baltimore Sun.

The mind of the editor of the esteemed Charleston News and Courier should now be relieved of the great weight that has been pressing upon it. His mouth should be filled with laughter and his tongue with joy. The Hong Kong gander and the Chittygong hen that went forth bearing good seed have returned again in tygong hen that went forth bearing good seed have returned again in joy, bringing their sheaves with them. The editor of the esteemed News and Courier has been oppressed with the sense of humiliation caused by the apparent reluctance of the South Carolina people to respond to the Macedonian cry for campaign funds for Mr. Bryan. He has reproached the Palmetto State by a reiteration day by day of the humiliating fact that the entire sum contributed by the Palmetto State to elect the "Peerless Leader" fell short of \$100. The Hong Kong gander and the Chittygong hen have saved the day. They have been raffied off and have added \$25 to the campaign fund of the national to the campaign fund of the national Democracy. In the contest for the possession of these incomparable birds, which came originally from The Charlotte Observer, virtue triamphed. The editor of The News and Courier, the exemplary Colonel Hemphill, describes that national event in a letter to Editor Caldwell, of The Charlotte Observer, in the following well-been real-beauty and control of the charlotte of the charlotte observer, in the following well-been real-beauty and control of the charlotte observer. lowing well-chosen sentences;

"The Hong Kong gander and the fat hen contest closed to-night. The gander was won by Philip H. Gadsden and the fat hen came to that loyal supporter of the great Nebraskan whose name need not be mentioned. The contest was managed by the Hon. Thomas I. Neville and the the Hon. Thomas J. Neville, and the winners were selected by Richard Francis Britton, who is inclined to the Presbyterian faith. The contest resulted in a fund of \$25, only 100 competitors out of a possible 300 having come across."

It is necessary to say that the "loyal supporter of the great Nebras-kan whose name need not be mentioned" was no other than our esteemed contemporary himself? spiteful suggestion has been made that because the contest was managed by a gentleman inclined to the Presbyterian faith, and the winner was confirmed in that faith, the result was predestined. suspicion should not find a place in any loyal breast.

But we ask right here, Does this

award end the career of the Hong Kong gander? We trust not. We trust that the noble bird will continue its work by collecting a campaign fund and saving the Democratic party. What more appropriate than that this fine old gander should be hitched in a double team with the spright and intelligent Democratic donkey to draw the party charlot to victory? such a we's matched team, intellectually if not physically, progressed through the land it would arouse boundless enthusiasm, and then after der might be sent to repose on the plains of Nebraska, in the vicinity of Lincoln, along with the Wisconsin mule which is there at this time filling itself with alfalfa.

If this plan does not commend it-

self, there is another. self, there is another. Send the gander to the Hon. S. S. Field, in Baltimore, to be raffled off here for the benefit of the campaign fund. are pained to confess that South Carolina is not the only State in which Democratic tight wads find a dwell-So tight have been some liberal commissions being offered to loosen them have been circulated. Now let the historic Democratic ganto Baltimore to swi ceive the widest publicity possible.

A Safe Haven For the Embezzler. To the Editor of The Observer:

In your editorial leader of to-day, "What Fronts the Embezzier," you well say that the progress of invention and civilization has left no place for the scoundrel and rascal has robbed honest men, widows and orphans of their all to hide, not even in remote Africa. You forget one place of nearly absolute safety. Be it said to their shame that if the rascal and thief has reached deeply into the trust funds placed in his keeping, and is well connected, the safest place the world over for him is in our courts of justice. only stay at home, hire the best and most resourceful legal talent, surrender to the law officers. event he has left any gaps down and he is about to be prosecuted, which frequently is not the case, get out and finally escape fine and imprisonment. No, Mexico and Honduras are unsafe; Zululand innospitable to the these. wanderer fleeing from justice; but let the embezzler seek the safe harbors of our law courts and, surrounded by legal iron-clads bearing 13inch guns, they are certainly reasonably safe for a long season, if not Is it not about time for our courts

to be put in line with the progress of science and invention and the legal fraternity be shorn of some of its power to delay justice and pro-tect criminals? How is this to be done in a land where the lawyer is such a political power?
ONLOOKER.

August 8, 1908. Bygones Now Bygones.

well, of The Charlotte Observer. The duty of these gentlemen upon that committee is to devise the best plans and execute them when possiblefor the election of Bryan and Kern. We confidently anticipate the pleasure of commending their sealously intelligent efforts.

Mr. Moore's Appointment a Wise One. To the Editor of The Observer:

Having known something of the history of journalism in Charlotte for the last forty years, I wish to say that from every standpoint the selection of Mr. C. C. Moore, as circulation man-Mr. C. C. Moore, as circulation manager of The Observer publication, is one of the wisest stops ever made in a newspaper stepping forward in the city of the freshest and the best news.

Mr. Moore is immensely popular, not only because of personal worth, but because he always succeeds.

S. M. DAYIS.

Caroleen, Aug. 9th, 1908.

To the Editor of The Observer: I have had it on my mind for to.

ask you a question. But you have
been so busy locating the birthplace
of certain deceased North Carolinians and conducting that South Carolina raffle, I dassent. Is old Scroogo—
the bold had man of "A Ghristmas
Carol"—the triginal of scrouge, to
push the other fellow out of the
way? If you dan't know perhaps
The Norfolk Landmark does.

R. W. WINSTON.

Durham. Aug. 10, 1808.



learance

'All summer stuff must go to make room for the New Fall Goods that are coming in daily.

PARASOLS

All Fancy Colored and White Parasols, while victory is won the donkey and gan- they last at exactly one-half the regular price. First

Arnold's Swiss Applique, the 25-cent quality; colors, Tan and Brown; can be worn late in the season.

BORDERED LAWNS

New Persian Bordered Lawns, White and Tan grounds, with pin dots. Regular price 15 cents. Special, the yard.....9c.

SPECIAL

All 10-cent Figured Lawns go on the 5-cent counter on bond, work up sympathy after the long delays of justice produced by sharp lawyers, who run our courts, Tuesday morning. You'll find some good values among

SPECIAL NO. 2

All 5-cent Figured Lawns on sale at both stores at the yard.....3c.

GINGHAMS

Fancy and Staple Dress Ginghams, regular 121-2c. and 15c. quality. Special price, the yard 10c.

ROMAN STRIPE CREPON

This season's most popular Kimono goods. Price,

