

FRAUDULENT CITY BONDS

MR. GUTHRIE TALKS OF THEM

Member of Council For City Tells How the City Bonds Were Being Forged by Polish Jew in New York by Name of Citrone—Actual Loss Now Estimated Only to \$125,000—Believed That the Forger's Conviction is Practically Assured—Thought to Have Accomplished Among Lithographing Establishments Which Engraved the Valuable City Papers.

The trial of a Polish Jew named Citrone for the alleged forgery of Charlotte bonds will be held this morning in New York. Assistant District Attorney Bosler appearing in the prosecution and Mayor T. S. Franklin, Chairman G. G. Scott, of the finance committee, and Mr. Arthur E. Wearn, city clerk and treasurer, being witnesses. Numerous others will take the stand against the fellow, both the lithographing establishment which engraved the bonds and the brokers through which they were negotiated being interested in the case and willing to assist in the conviction of the defendant. Mr. T. C. Guthrie, of the city's counsel, returned from New York yesterday morning, where he went with Mayor Franklin and Mr. Scott, being satisfied that the district attorney's office would prosecute the case fully.

CITY'S LOSS IS SMALL

The early discovery of the operations of the forger prevented any loss of consequence to the city, only \$125,000 having been paid on the fraudulent coupon by the Bank of Commerce in New York to which it was presented. It is understood that there is a special law in New York which will secure the bank against the loss of money by this means, otherwise the city would lose nothing. Speaking of the matter, Mr. Guthrie had this to say to an Observer man:

"Several days ago Mayor Franklin received information that a fraudulent coupon on bond No. 1, amounting to \$125,000, had been presented to the Bank of Commerce in New York for payment and had been paid. This was due July 1st, 1908. It was of the issue of bonds under that name which consisted of 100 bonds, bearing numbers from 1 to 100, and each valued at \$1,000. Upon checking up it was found out in the office of the city clerk and treasurer that there were two coupons of bond No. 1, one of which was fraudulent.

TWO OTHERS PRESENTED

"Additional information was received that coupons on bonds Nos. 2 and 3, due January 1st, 1909, and July 1st, 1909, had been presented to another bank in New York for discount. Mayor Franklin wired back immediately ordering the arrest of the man presenting the coupons, alleging that they were spurious. Citrone, the Polish Jew, was arrested and the Charlotte officials being duly notified left Thursday night for New York. The request for their immediate presence came from the office of the District Attorney. The case is under the charge of Assistant District Attorney Bosler and after an interview with him, it was thought necessary to have the city clerk and treasurer and Mr. Wearn left Saturday night for New York. The nature of his testimony will be an affidavit as to the number of coupons issued, it sometimes being the case that a few extra coupons are issued by the lithographing company to duplicate any that might become defaced and injured in any way.

GENUINE BONDS ON HAND

The genuine bond has been located in the office of a large trust company in Philadelphia and it is expected that this will be produced in the trial of Citrone, which is set for Tuesday morning. So far only one bond is involved and it is believed that the evidence is ample to convict Citrone of expelling this forged instrument, knowing it to be forged, which is a felony under the New York statute.

"The spurious coupon is evidently from the same plate as that from which the genuine bonds were made and the existence of the fraud is explainable only upon the assumption that one or more blank bonds were extracted from the lithographing establishment which engraved them. It is believed that there will be no further trouble in the matter as the case against Citrone is being vigorously handled. The firm of brokers through which the bonds were negotiated, the engraving house and the office of the District Attorney seem to be very much interested in pressing the case. The conviction of the alleged forger may be considered as practically assured.

LOOKING FOR ACCOMPLICES

"The New York detective force is looking very thoroughly for Citrone's accomplices in the transaction, but so far no satisfactory information has been secured. Some of the employees of the lithographing establishment live in the same tenement in New York as that in which Citrone lives and an acquaintance between them is suspected. It is also suspected that the Polish Jew was employing used as a tool by which the bonds could be disposed of for the benefit of others. The matter as it stands amounts to little, but it might have become serious in the course of further practices."

SMALL BLAZE YESTERDAY

Overheated Flue Sets Fire to Adjacent Piece of Wood and Small Commotion Results.

A small blaze in the basement of the building occupied by Mr. A. H. Warburn, No. 15 North Third street, excited quite a commotion in the business section of the city yesterday morning about 9:15 o'clock. A piece of wood lying too close to an overheated flue had become ignited and smoke was oozing through cracks into the main body of the store. One of the occupants of the building rushed into the street to turn in the alarm and dashed head-on into the arms of Fire Chief Orr who was passing by in his chemical buggy. Chief Orr took immediate command of the situation and the result was that the blaze was out in a jiffy. He rushed down into the basement with his hand extinguisher, and the chemicals were at once turned on. No alarm was ever sounded by the bell although the department was summoned by telephone. The damage by fire was confined to the scorched walls while that by smoke was inconspicuous. But for the timely appearance of Chief Orr on the scene there might possibly have been another such catastrophe as that which befell the Queen City Printing Company last spring.

Dr. Smith Coming Back to Mecklenburg

The following from The Salisbury Post will be of interest: "Dr. E. R. Smith, of Richfield, who was in Salisbury to-day, announces that he will return to Mecklenburg shortly to resume practice. He has been urged to return and his consent is to locate again in a field in which he enjoyed a handsome practice."

The Majestic Manufacturing Company, of St. Louis, Mo., have a man at the Southern Hardware Company store this week, showing the Majestic Range in actual operation, baking and serving in the city.

A \$15,000,000 MORTGAGE

Transaction of Almost Incomprehensible Proportions Recorded Yesterday at the Office of the Clerk of the Court.

A mortgage of almost unprecedented value was recorded in the office of the register of clerk of the court yesterday, representing a loan from the Central Trust Company of New York to the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company, the latter giving a first mortgage on its property as security to the issue of \$15,000,000. This includes two tracts of land in this city.

It set forth in the mortgage filed here that whereas the company for the purpose of refunding outstanding indebtedness and for other proper corporate purposes has determined by proper resolution of its board of directors and holding of a stockholders' meeting to execute and issue the bonds of the company limited to a total principal of \$15,000,000 at any one time outstanding, to be known as its first mortgage 15-year 5 per cent gold bonds, to be dated November 2d, 1908, to be payable December 1, 1923, to bear interest from November 1st, 1908, at the rate of 5 per cent a year, payable (after the first installment of one month's interest to December 1st, 1908), semi-annually, both principal and interest to be payable in gold coin of the United States in the present standard and weight and fineness, at the office or agency of the company in the Borough of Manhattan, City of New York, * * * this deed of trust and mortgage of property and of franchises is given:

The mortgage further sets forth that the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company has, in consideration of the loan, and to secure the bond issue in question, bargained, granted, sold, aliened, remised, released, enforced, conveyed, pledged, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents does bargain, grant, sell, alien, remis, release, enforce, convey, pledge, assign, transfer and set over to the trustee, party of the second part, the following described property which is hereinafter referred to as the trust estate. Here the mortgage gives a detailed description of all properties and holdings of the company in Alabama, Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia and other States, upon which mortgage is given to secure the trust company in the loan made to secure the \$15,000,000 bond issue.

HACKMAN TO JAIL

Rob Miller Unable to Give Bond on Double-Barreled Charge Relating to Revolver.

Failing to produce \$100 bond on the charge of carrying a pistol and another of equal amount on the charge of assaulting with it a negro man named Henry Ross, Rob Miller, a colored hackman, was yesterday committed by the recorder to Mecklenburg's common jail. There he will abide until in Superior Court his case is tried.

Will Send Boxes to Orphans

It is requested that the children of the Sunday school of the First Presbyterian church will meet this afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Sunday school rooms of the church. They will pack boxes to be sent to the Barium Springs Orphanage, near Statesville. This is an annual custom, regularly observed.

Dr. Allan Resident Physician

His friends will be glad to learn that Dr. William Allan, one of Charlotte's youngest doctors, has been appointed resident physician of the Alexander Rescue Home. Dr. Allan has been in Charlotte only a few months, but is considered a physician whose prospects are exceedingly bright.

Read the Southern Hardware Company's advertisement in this paper and you will not wonder why they have such crowds every day.

Special Christmas Offerings

- No. 1. Stieff Up, beautiful figured mahogany... \$375
No. 2. Stieff Up, dark mahogany... \$500
No. 3. Shaw Up, beautiful figured mahogany... \$325
No. 4. Shaw Up, dark mahogany... \$200
No. 5. Kohler Up, beautiful figured mahogany... \$275
No. 6. Kohler Up, beautiful figured mahogany... \$250
No. 7. Foster, art finish mahogany... \$250
No. 8. Lester, mahogany... \$250

SLIGHTLY USED PIANOS

- No. 9. Stieff Up, dark mahogany... \$325
No. 10. Shaw Up, dark mahogany... \$275
No. 11. Ivers & Pond, figured mahogany... \$275
No. 12. Kohler Up, figured mahogany... \$225
No. 13. Kohler Up, dark mahogany... \$200
No. 14. Kohler Up, dark mahogany... \$175

SECOND HAND PIANOS

- No. 15. Stieff, in elegant condition, fine tone... \$275
No. 16. Marshall & Wendall, figured mahogany... \$200
No. 17. Everett, forest green... \$175
No. 18. Everett, oak... \$150

SQUARES

- No. 19. Mathushek, most excellent piano... \$125
No. 20. Groveteen & Fuller, excellent condition... \$85
No. 21. Groveteen & Fuller... \$75
No. 22. Bacon & Raven... \$25

HOW TO CURE A COLD

Be as careful as you can you will occasionally take cold, and when you do, get a medicine of known reliability, one that has an established reputation and that is certain to effect a quick cure. Such a medicine is Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It has gained a world-wide reputation by its remarkable cures of this most common ailment, and can always be depended upon. It acts on nature's plan, relieves the lungs, aids expectoration, opens the secretions and aids nature in restoring the system to a healthy condition. During the many years in which it has been in general use we have yet to learn of a single case of cold or attack of the grip having remained in pneumonia when this remedy was used, which shows conclusively that it is a certain preventive of that dangerous disease. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy contains no opium or other narcotic and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult. For sale by W. L. Hand & Co.

CHAS. M. STIEFF

Manufacturer of the Stieff and Shaw, the pianos with the sweet tone. Southern Wareroom 5 West Trade Street. C. H. WILMOTH, Mgr. CHARLOTTE, N. C.

Soda Crackers that crackle as good Soda Crackers should. Uneeda Biscuit. With meals—for meals—between meals. 5¢ In dust tight, moisture proof packages. Never sold in bulk. NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

BUSTER KNEW THE FACE. A Preacher Who Used to Be Here is Doing Some Big Advertising in the West. "That looks like Rev. Walt Holcombe," said Buster Brown, as the boys in the city editor's office studied a large, half-page display advertisement, bearing the announcement of a big revival meeting to be held in a Western city and the likeness of a well-known evangelist who made the walk with his eloquence here a few years ago.

BRUSHES. Our showing of Brushes is surprising. Until you looked it over you wouldn't suppose there were so many different kinds of brushes for the same purpose or so many similar brushes for different purposes. Shaving Brushes, Hair, Tooth, Flash, Nail, Clothes, Shoe, Hat, Bath—long handles, crooked handles; fine bristles coarse bristles; stiff colored bristles, white bristles, bristles looped in through the wood and bristles wired in, wood backs, rubber backs and metal backs. Come and see them all; you'll enjoy looking over the collection and you'll find exactly what you want. We will take great pleasure in showing them to you, whether you are fully decided to buy or not. We enjoy showing our brushes anyway. They are on display to-day. Take a look at them. It's an opportunity not to be passed. We want you to come to see us every day. We want you to get it at

Let Us Clean the Belts and Ties. —the dainty neck pieces, and the other dainty articles of wear you will be wanting to wear during the holidays. We'll make your old ones look as clean, fresh and neat as new ones would—and the cost will be just a mere trifle. Besides—think of the time and bother this service will save you from. It's worth while.

Hawley's Pharmacy. TRYON AND FIFTH STS. 'Phones 13 and 260. Academy Advance Sale.

Golden Glory Talks. NUMBER FOUR. Cotton seed oil is a clean, pure, wholesome product of the soil, free from the contamination of the slaughter house.

Wiley's Waxine for Kitchen and all other Wood Floors, Linoleum and Oil Cloths. Torrence Paint Co. 10 NORTH TRYON.

WE MAKE PICTURE FRAMES. Bring in your pictures to be framed now, the Christmas rush will soon be here. Make a visit to our new Art Room; you will find many suggestions for Xmas.

"Congo" The Only Roofing Backed by a Guarantee BOND IN EVERY ROLL. Guaranteed to last as follows: One-Ply for 5 years. Two-Ply for 7 years. Three-Ply for 10 years.

Golden Glory Oil for fancy frying. Brannon Carbonating Co. Distributors.

Stone & Barringer Co. Book, Stationery and Art Store.

THE MATCHLESS MILTON PIANO. The best Piano for \$250.00 that is made. Easy payments if desired. No deviation in the price. Interest at 6 per cent, when time is wanted. See some of the new styles.

PARKER-GARDNER CO. TABLES OF QUALITY. No doubt you will entertain your Friends and Relatives on Thanksgiving and will want the Dining Room in order. We show some very attractive Dining Room Suites at low prices. For your convenience we have them attractively arranged on first floor. If it is only a Rug or pair of Curtains we have them at lowest prices.

PARKER-GARDNER CO. B.F. WITHERS. Distributor, Charlotte, N. C.

Gifts of Silverware. We carry a handsome line and such a variety as to make a selection easy. Look, too, at our beautiful new Chafing Dishes. No handsomer gift than one of these. WEDDINGTON HARDWARE CO.

A GOOD STOVE. In a comfort and joy. We have one for you, either a base burner, a hot blast, an oak stove or any style for coal, wood or oil. Let us show you. J.N. McCausland & Co. "THE STOVE MEN," 221 South Tryon.

AN OVERCOAT that fits—not tight, and not loose, but just right. For style, quality, fit and right price, ours are the coats you want to see. Overcoats Raincoats Top Coats in all the correct colors and in all weights.

Special Big Line of Serviceable Coats at... \$10.00. Don't miss the opportunity of seeing the immense line of coats we have now.

ED. MELLON CO. Remember, Mellon's Clothes Fit.

PARKER-GARDNER CO. THE MATCHLESS MILTON PIANO. The best Piano for \$250.00 that is made. Easy payments if desired. No deviation in the price. Interest at 6 per cent, when time is wanted. See some of the new styles. PARKER-GARDNER CO. TABLES OF QUALITY. No doubt you will entertain your Friends and Relatives on Thanksgiving and will want the Dining Room in order. We show some very attractive Dining Room Suites at low prices. For your convenience we have them attractively arranged on first floor. If it is only a Rug or pair of Curtains we have them at lowest prices.