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Any kind of an Engine,
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TABLETS**

RUTHERFORD COUNTY COURT HOUSE BURNED.

Many Valuable Documents and Records Destroyed—Will Take \$60,000 to Replace the Building and Bonds Will Have to Be Issued.

At 3:30 o'clock this morning the Rutherford county court house was found to be on fire, but the discovery was not made till the blaze had got beyond all control and the stately colonial structure is now nothing more than a smoldering mass of debris; only the thick brick walls remain intact. The loss to the county is reckoned at about \$60,000, so far as money goes, but the loss in papers and documents is irreparable.

Last night the graded school children of the town gave an entertainment in the auditorium of the building and it is supposed that the blaze was started by a cigar or cigarette stump or the careless handling of matches. Early in the night the wind was high but fortunately for this place it had quieted down by 3 o'clock, this alone saving the business section from being wiped entirely out. As it was, it was a hard task to save the nearby buildings, especially the Levi department stores immediately south of the court house, the Mills-Dickerson Building and the Morrow Building on the north, and Mrs. R. R. Simmons' building just across the street. These are all new structures, having been erected since last December, when this section of town was burned out.

The offices of the sheriff, the county treasurer, the board of commissioners and the board of education, together with all records, were destroyed. The offices of the register of deeds and clerk of the court were not so unfortunate, as they were some two years ago fitted up with fireproof vaults and it is thought that these will be found intact, with the contents preserved.

The burning of this building is a heavy blow to the county. Only two years ago \$10,000 were spent in repairing and putting the court house in fine shape, and conservative estimate places the amount required to replace the structure at \$60,000, and in order to raise this amount it will be necessary to issue bonds, the county not having the money to pay for the replacing of the building. There will also be untold inconvenience both to the county officials and the public within the new court house is constructed and ready to be occupied.

There is no town of its size within the State that has had more fires than Rutherfordton and yet it is absolutely without means of fighting fire, having no waterworks or fire department. After each conflagration there is a sharp agitation for such facilities, but in a few weeks enthusiasm dies out and nothing is done. However, it seems likely that this state of affairs is no longer to exist, the fire this morning having shown so effectually the need of a system of protection to life and property that waterworks will be installed and a fire department equipped.

In addition to the loss to the county the Rutherfordton Cornet Band was completely put out of business. All its instruments, which were purchased only recently at an outlay of some \$500 or \$600, were in the building, where the band practiced, and not a one was saved from destruction.

Extra Session Almost Certain.

Asked as to the progress of the railroad rate litigation and the trend of events leading up to the assembling of the general assembly in special session to ratify the pending compromise, Governor Glenn said this morning he was expecting almost any tick of the clock to mark the arrival of communication for which he was waiting before taking the important action in the matter.

He added: "I don't consider there is really any doubt about the assembling of the legislature, the only question being just when the call will be issued and for what date."

It depends upon the pill you take. DeWitt's Little Early Risers are the best pills known for constipation and sick headache. Sold by Burke Drug Co.

THREATENS TO SUE STATE.

New York Attorney Is Informed by Governor Glenn That State Will Not Pay Ancient Bonds, Which Were Twice Repudiated by the Legislature.

Gov. Robert B. Glenn, of North Carolina, in a letter received today replying to a communication from Edward L. Andrews, who represents holders of \$11,000,000 of special tax bonds of the State of North Carolina, which matured three years ago and were never paid, declared that the legislature has twice repudiated the bonds, and that the state would not pay one cent for them.

Governor Glenn declares that North Carolina has acted fairly with its creditors, but that it will not pay for bonds "conceived in sin and brought forth in iniquity."

Mr. Andrews urged that a settlement be effected, stating that arrangements were being made to donate \$3,000,000 of the bonds to a foreign government for the purpose of a suit, since, under the law, individuals cannot sue a state.

The question of payment of the bonds has been the subject matter of interminable litigation. The payment of the bonds was declined because it was urged that the agent who disposed of the bonds failed to make proper return to the state.

The bonds are known in North Carolina as "special tax bonds," and were made during the reconstruction period, the state getting nothing. Many of these have been collected by New York parties represented by John G. Carlisle, Henry H. Melville and L. E. Whitcher, and offers to donate large amounts to various states by these bondholders so as to have suits brought against North Carolina have been rejected.

Edward L. Andrews wrote Governor Glenn to present the matter of paying these bonds to a possible extra session of the legislature, with the request for a constitutional amendment election to let the people vote on paying the bonds, threatening, unless this is done to give three millions of the bonds to a foreign nation so as to have suit brought, as no individual can sue a state. The bonds are considered as fraudulent and twice the legislature has declined to pay them, while once the people in a constitutional election repudiated them.

Governor Glenn wrote Mr. Andrews declining to do anything but to resist any action brought. That he does not believe any state or nation will harass North Carolina about them, and that Mr. Andrews need not write more, as his threats of suits will avail nothing.

Governor Glenn to-night declared that this is the biggest victory for temperance achieved in the state during the year, and will be of immense benefit to the work of prohibition that must be pressed on now with renewed vigor in other parts of the state. This statement by the governor, coupled with his declaration in the Raleigh prohibition campaign, means that it is his purpose now to bring about elections in Winston-Salem, Salisbury and Wilmington, the three principal towns of the state still retaining open saloons. It is understood that he has signified his willingness to contribute as much as one thousand dollars to the prohibition campaign in his home town, Winston, as well as to do his utmost in the way of active campaign work.

The finest Coffee Substitute ever made, has recently been produced by Dr. Shoop, of Racine, Wis. You don't have to boil it twenty or thirty minutes. "Made in a minute," says the doctor. "Health Coffee" is really the closest Coffee Imitation ever yet produced. Not a grain of real coffee in it either. Health Coffee Imitation is made from pure toasted cereals or grains, with malt, oats, etc. Really it would fool an expert—were he to unknowingly drink it for coffee. Bristol & Harbison.

*FOR SALE.—Pure blooded Berkshire pigs.
BROADOAKS SANATORIUM.

Gasoline.

We are now prepared to supply the public with Gasoline in any quantity. Give us your orders.
RHYNE & FLEMING.

*WANTED.—A good cook, male or female. Apply to
BROADOAKS SANATORIUM.

PROHIBITION IN RALEIGH.

Dispensary Voted Out by Large Majority—Election Passes Off Quietly.

Prohibition in Raleigh and will be effective from noon tomorrow when the election board will officially declare the result of the election held today, the majority for prohibition being 547. So the dispensary which has sold nearly one million dollars worth of liquors during the four years it has been in operation will not again be opened to the public. It was closed Tuesday evening for Christmas day and for the election today. It could be opened tomorrow morning until noon, when the result of the election will be officially declared, but it is not the purpose of the management to do so, the clerks being directed to report for duty at nine o'clock tomorrow to carry out whatever instructions the management may give for the disposal of the little stock which remains.

The election today was decidedly quiet. The announcement last night that the church bells would be rung at intervals during the day was not carried out, although there were prayer meetings in a number of the churches by the women.

The prohibitionists began voting early, the big majority of the ballots being cast by nine o'clock. Practically no work was done at the polls by either side. In fact the dispensary advocates were largely dropped out of the contest.

The registered vote was 1,985 and the vote cast was 1,309, so that there were 676 electors registered who did not go to the polls, nearly all of these being conceded to be advocates of the dispensary or saloons who did not care to get into the contest.

The vote for prohibition was 923, for the dispensary 381, for saloons 2.

The prohibitionists secured majorities in every ward ranging from 14 to 106, the prohibition majorities in the wards in their order being seventy-seven, fifty-two, seventy-two, sixty-three, one hundred and five, one hundred and six, fifty-eight and fourteen.

Prohibition leaders are elated at their victory, the majority being very much larger than they had anticipated. They were claiming last night only 250 majority.

Southern Still Cutting Force.

Salisbury Post, 26th.

The telegraph operators on the Southern are the latest to feel the effect of the policy of retrenchment decided upon by the Southern several months ago in order to make ends meet, and the men on the Western division from Salisbury to Asheville are being hard hit at a season when their jobs are very precarious. A number of local operators have been let down during the week and it is said that the total of those affected by the cut on the western division is from fifteen to twenty.

There is no little uneasiness even among those who held responsible positions with the Southern in Salisbury and Spencer over the prospect for a still further and more far reaching reduction of the operating force in various departments the first of the year.

It is reported on good authority that when Mr. C. H. Ackert, the general manager of the Southern, conferred recently with the superintendents in Charlotte, he told them that the road would do well to meet its payrolls promptly until matters took on another hue and he advised and implored the strictest economy. In every department the lopping off process has continued for more than 30 days and some of the most capable men in the company's service are on the retired list. Where it has been possible the older men in the service have been retained but even many of these have been reduced in position.

STEAM SHOVEL VS. MEN.

Remarkable Saving of Labor Effected On Panama Canal.

We all understand that the use of modern machinery has resulted in much saving of labor, but it takes such figures as have recently been published in the Canal Record by Mr. Borlich, division engineer in the Culebra cut, to give us an adequate idea as to just how great this saving of labor can be. The figures given are based upon the work accomplished during the final month of the last dry season, when material was taken out at the rate of 18,600 cubic yards per steam shovel per month. A comparison is made between the number of men actually required to do a given amount of work with the use of machines, and the number of men that would be required were the excavation done by hand labor alone. The use of the 70-ton and 95-ton steam shovels requires the services of only 298 laborers, including the men used in moving up the shovel and clearing the track, and the engineer and trainmen. On the supposition that one good man could load six cubic yards in eight hours, to move the 815,270 cubic yards per month would call for the work of 5,456 laborers, a saving of over 5,000 men from the steam shovels alone.

Another important saving in the use of the steam shovel is connected with the question of drilling and blasting the ground into such sizes and weights as men can load on the cars. A man can handle a rock of from 150 to 250 pounds weight; a steam shovel will handle a rock weighing 21,000 pounds. In breaking up the material into sizes that can be handled by men two or three times as much drilling is necessary as to break it up for shovels. While one-third of a pound of explosives will blast out a cubic yard of material suitable for a steam shovel to handle, a pound of explosive must be used to break the same amount for hand labor. Hence, if the loading were done by hand, instead of 700 to 800 men, as at present, it would take from 2,100 to 2,400 men; and instead of using, as in the month of March last, 26,000 pounds of explosive for an output of 815,270 cubic yards, it would have been necessary to use 780,000 pounds.

A tickling cough, from any cause, is quickly stopped by Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. And it is so thoroughly harmless and safe, that Dr. Shoop tells mothers everywhere to give it without hesitation, even to very young babies. The wholesome green leaves and tender stems of a lung healing mountain shrub, furnish the curative properties to Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. It calms the cough, and heals the sore and sensitive bronchial membranes. No opium, no chloroform, nothing harsh used to injure or suppress. Simply a resinous plant extract, that helps to heal aching lungs. The Spaniards call this shrub, which the Doctor uses, "The Sacred Herb." Demand Dr. Shoop's "Take no other." Burke Drug Co.

Shot His Brother.

Salisbury Dispatch, Dec. 27th.

Claude Barber, aged 19 years, son of a well known citizen in Rowan county, was accidentally shot and seriously wounded near his home at Barber's Junction yesterday by a brother, William Barber. The two were hunting and Claude was ten feet in front when William's gun was discharged, the load of shot tearing a large hole in Claude's side. Claude fell in his tracks. He was brought to a hospital in Salisbury and by an operation today the shot was removed from near his heart. His condition is critical.

Popular Salesman Drowned.

Sylva Special, 26th, to Charlotte Observer.

John C. Buchanan, of Webster, was drowned Saturday night while trying to cross the Tennessee river, two miles below Bushnell. The stream was greatly swollen by heavy rains and in the effort to ford it Mr. Buchanan was carried away in the torrent and with no help near, rescue was out of the question.

The dead man was a popular traveling salesman for the Odell Hardware Company, of Greensboro. He is survived by a wife, six children and a brother, Mr. Theodore Buchanan, of Sylva. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows and Masons, and had \$8,000 insurance on his life in one of these orders.

At 6 o'clock this afternoon, despite earnest efforts, the body had not been recovered.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*

Is your baby thin, weak, fretful?

Make him a **Scott's Emulsion** baby.

Scott's Emulsion is Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites prepared so that it is easily digested by little folks.

Consequently the baby that is fed on **Scott's Emulsion** is a sturdy, rosy-cheeked little fellow full of health and vigor.

ALL DRUGGISTS, 50c. AND \$1.00.

DEBUT COST \$100,000.

Miss Mary Paul Bows to Philadelphia Society—Scene a Gorgeous One—Horticultural Hall Transformed Into a Magnificent French Garden, Where Imported Butterflies Flutter Amid Flowers, For Which \$35,000 Was Expended.

Miss Mary Astor Paul, daughter of James A. Paul, Jr., of the Drexel firm, made her debut to-night at Horticultural Hall at a ball that for grandeur, costliness, and general unusualness, eclipsed the famous "Ball of the Four Seasons," with which four years ago he introduced his elder daughter.

The flowers alone cost \$35,000, and for the occasion a brand-new rose, a cross between the American Beauty and the Sofrono, which took nine years to develop, was introduced. The favors were very costly.

At a certain hour 600 brilliant butterflies, gathered from Brazil, Peru, and even India, were let loose over the guests. These butterflies flitted everywhere amid the cries of delight from the diners. Costly silken and painted butterflies formed one of the motifs of the decorations also. The living insects hovered over the women, bumped into the lights, and fell into the plates, but they were very effective.

All the Drexels were there, and, in fact, everybody really prominent in Philadelphia society. Col. Anthony J. Drexel, his wife and daughter, Miss Margaretta, came over from the London court on purpose. Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Vanderbilt had been invited, but didn't attend.

The ballroom was turned into the exact replica of a French garden, copied from the Louis Quinze period. Sixteen boxes, fashioned of plaster of Paris, lined the room, and had been built especially for the occasion. A great fountain also had been built in one end of the room.

Conservative estimates of the total cost were given as \$100,000.

When the Stomach, Heart, or Kidney nerves get weak, then these organs always fail. Don't drug the Stomach, nor stimulate the Heart or Kidneys. That is simply a makeshift. Get a prescription known to druggists everywhere as Dr. Shoop's Restorative. The Restorative is prepared expressly for these weaknesses. Strengthen these nerves, build them up with Dr. Shoop's Restorative—tablets or liquid—and see how quickly help will come. Free sample sent on request by Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. Your health is surely worth this simple test. Burke Drug Co.

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S.S.S. FOR BAD BLOOD

The most important part of the human system is the blood. Every muscle, nerve, tissue, bone and sinew is dependent on this vital fluid for nourishment and strength necessary to maintain them in health and enable each to perform the different duties nature requires. Even the heart, the very "engine" of life, receives its vigor and motive power from the blood. Since so much is dependent on this vital fluid it can very readily be seen how necessary it is to have it pure and uncontaminated. If we would enjoy the blessing of good health, Bad Blood is responsible for most of the ailments of mankind; when from any cause it becomes infected with impurities, humors or poisons, disease in some form is sure to follow. Muddy, sallow complexions, eruptions, pimples, etc., show that the blood is infected with unhealthy humors which have changed it from a pure, fresh stream to a sour, acid fluid, which forces out its impurities through the pores and which break out on the face, often from a very insignificant bruise or even scratch or abrasion. If the blood was pure and healthy the place would heal at once, but being loaded with impurities, which are discharged into the wound, irritation and inflammation are set up and the sore continues. Bad blood is also responsible for Anemia, Boils, Malaria, etc.; the weak, polluted circulation cannot furnish the nourishment and strength required to sustain the body, and a general run-down condition of health results. S. S. S. is nature's blood purifier and tonic; made entirely of healing, cleansing roots and herbs. It goes down into the circulation and removes every particle of impurity, humor or poison that may be there, restores lost vitality, and steadily tones up the entire system. It adds to the blood the healthful properties it is in need of, and in every way assists in the cure of disease. S. S. S. neutralizes any excess of acid in the blood, making it fresh and pure, and permanently cures Eczema, Acne, Tetter, and all other skin diseases and eruptions. S. S. S. cures Rheumatism, Catarrh, Sores and Ulcers, Malaria, and all other diseases or disorders arising from bad blood. Book on the blood and any medical advice desired free to all who write.

THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.

The Morganton Grocery Company has passed through the experimental stages and is ready to serve its patrons with the best goods of the market at prices that are in line with all the best goods of the market at prices that are in line with all legitimate competition.

WE STAND BEHIND EVERY GUARANTEE WE MAKE

On these terms we solicit your business. Shall we come for your order, or will you send it to us? We wish to thank all our friends who have stood by us in making Morganton a leading wholesale market.

Respectfully,
MORGANTON GROCERY CO.,
Wholesale Distributors

FARMS FOR SALE!

- 1 Farm, 163 acres, 3 miles from Morganton. \$15 per acre.
 - 1 Farm, 100 acres, 4 miles from Morganton. \$10 per acre.
 - 1 Farm, 101 acres, 4 miles from Morganton. \$10 per acre.
 - 1 Farm, 90 acres, 4 1/2 miles from Morganton. \$10 per acre.
 - 1 Farm, 100 acres, 4 miles from Morganton. \$15 per acre.
 - 1 Farm, 3 1/2 miles from Morganton, 150 acres. \$15 per acre.
 - 300 acres, 25 bottom, 75 acres cultivated; 8 miles from Morganton, 3 miles from Glen Alpine; 250,000 feet merchantable timber, 4-room house, barn, crib, &c. Easy terms.
 - 1 Farm, 80 acres, 2 miles from Glen Alpine. \$37.50 per acre.
 - 1 Farm, 100 acres, 2 1/2 miles from Morganton. \$37.50 per acre.
 - 1 Farm, 318 acres, 8 miles from Morganton, good dwelling and mill on premises. \$3,750.
- Also some nice town property—houses and lots and building lots

These are bargains, and will be sold on easy terms.

MANLY McDOWELL,
MORGANTON, N. C.

WE OFFER FOR SALE:

- 17 acres of bottom land near new cotton mill. Price \$70 per acre.
 - 22 acres of finely located land 4 1/2 mile west of Drexel; 8 acres of bottom land, mostly in meadow. Price \$550.
 - Farm of 160 acres 7 1/2 miles south-west of Morganton and 2 miles from Glen Alpine. About 60 acres cleared and 10 acres bottom land. Tenant-house. Price \$1,050.
 - Farm of 80 acres, 5 1/2 miles south-west of Morganton; 35 acres in cultivation with 5 or 6 acres of creek bottom. Good house, etc. Price \$1,000.
 - Farm of 176 acres in Smoky Creek township; 40 acres in cultivation, 8 acres good bottom land. Good pasture, fenced. Orchard; 4-room house, barn and other buildings. 150,000 feet in timber. Price \$3,000.
 - Place of 11 acres adjoining Morganton. This is probably the best gold-mine proposition in this vicinity. Price \$5,000.
- We also have for sale several good town properties.

REALTY LOAN & GUARANTY COMPANY.