

VOL. XIV. NO. 216. ASHEVILLE, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER, 18, 1909. 3c PER COPY

THE BLACK HAND BUSY AT CANTON

W. T. Sharp Receives Letter Telling Him Must, on Pain of Death, Leave \$1000 Under Church.

DYNAMITE IS VERY CHEAP, MR. SHARP IS REMINDED

Rumor is to the Effect That Officials of Champion Fibre Company Likewise Received Threatening Letters.

Special to The Gazette-News. Canton, Oct. 18.—A daring and cowardly attempt at blackmail of W. T. Sharp, one of the wealthiest citizens of this town, and prominently identified with Canton's commercial life, has just come to light, and with it facts which lead to the conclusion that a gang of the "Black Hand" are operating in this town. Since the attempt at blackmail Mr. Sharp has become known, there are rumors afloat, which have received a certain amount of verification, to the effect that officials of the Champion Fibre company have also received letters from the "Black Hand" threatening to blow up part of the plant if they did not obey their wishes in regard to the employment of certain men.

On Oct. 15, before 11 p. m., you place under the S. E. corner of Locust Field church, \$1000 in large bills; failure to do so means certain death to yourself and perhaps your family. Dynamite is cheap; Spies means same thing.

Upon receiving the letter, Mr. Sharp hardly knew what to do, and after several days thought he decided to consult friends, and after a consultation it was decided to lay the matter before government officials.

At the Church. Friday night was the night the money was to be deposited, so late Friday evening two government officials left Asheville, and leaving the train near the high trestle, walked towards Canton by a circuitous route, where a package with two dollar bills was prepared to be deposited at the church.

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SANTO DOMINGO DISTRICT DISTURBED BY REVOLUTION



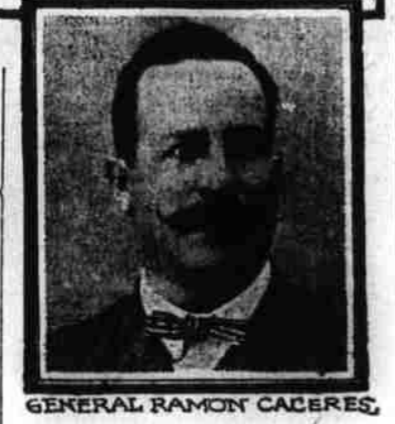
MAP SHOWING DISTURBED DISTRICT

INQUEST WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY

It Is Thought the Death of Williams I. Buchanan in London Was Due to Heart Failure.

London, Oct. 18.—An autopsy was held this afternoon following which it was officially announced that W. I. Buchanan had died of heart failure.

The investigation thus far has failed to throw any light on the movements of the diplomat during the few hours preceding his death. Friends who had seen him during the day say he appeared to be then in the best of health and spirits. He left the hotel just before the dinner hour Saturday.



GENERAL RAMON CACERES

HAD TO LEAVE TO ESCAPE PRISON

Officials of the Zelayan Government Are Given Choice, and Are Banned by Estrada.

New Orleans, Oct. 18.—Several prominent officials of the Zelayan government in Nicaragua have accepted banishment at the hands of General Estrada.

RECEIVERSHIP WILL END NOV. 4TH

Judge Pritchard Issues Decree That the Property Be Turned Over to the Company.

Judge Pritchard will this afternoon sign a decree to the effect that the Seaboard Air Line receivership will end November 4, when it will be turned over to the railway company in accordance with the plan of reorganization which has been approved by the stockholders.

SEABOARD LETS CONTRACTS FOR ENGINES, CARS, ETC.

Will Have 20 New Engines, 1060 Box Cars, 25 Stock Cars, and Other Equipment.

Norfolk, Oct. 18.—The Seaboard Air Line has awarded contracts for 15 passenger and five switch engines, 1060 box cars, 25 stock cars, and one 6000 steam wrecking car, together with passenger equipment.

Berlin, Oct. 18.—Princess Victoria Louise, daughter of the German emperor, was confirmed in the Church of Peace at Potsdam today.

TAFT TO REST FOR FOUR DAYS

Spends Busy Seven Hours in San Antonio Before Setting Out for Charles P.'s Ranch.

WILMINGTON IS PLANNING FOR PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Expects to "Delight and Dazzle" North Carolinians Who Go to See Him on the Ninth of November.

San Antonio, Tex., Oct. 18.—President Taft spent a busy seven hours here before leaving for his brother's ranch near the southern end of the state, where he is to spend four days resting.

The President's Toast. San Francisco, Oct. 18.—President Taft's toast to the Porto festival has been carried to London, Paris, Vienna, Rome, Berlin and the Hague.

At Wilmington. Wilmington, N. C., Oct. 18.—President Taft, on his record-breaking "swing around the circle" embracing a journey of 15,000 miles across the continent and return, has now reached the Land of Cotton.

The decorations for the Taft visit will be profuse and elaborate. The principal scheme being to emphasize the fact that this is "The Land of the Long-Leaf Pine."

Two Brothers Arrested—Shooting Said to Have Grown Out of a Blind Tiger Case.

Beaufort, N. C., Oct. 18.—Charged with the murder of H. Z. Newberry, mayor of Newport, N. C., who Saturday night was shot to death at the door of his home there, S. J. Sanders today is in jail here, while his brother, B. F. Sanders, also is under arrest as accessory.

The dead man's wife was ill in bed at the time of the murder and his little daughter stood by his side when he was shot.

A SENSATIONAL FLIGHT MADE BY DE LAMBERT

In Wright Biplane He Sails from Juvisy, Circles Eiffel Tower, and Then Returns.

Paris, Oct. 18.—Count De Lambert, the French aviator, made a remarkable and sensational flight in a Wright biplane this afternoon.

ALFONSO IS ANGRY WITH THE PREMIER

Paris, Oct. 18.—A special from Madrid says King Alfonso has had a violent quarrel with the premier because of the latter's failure to give his majesty opportunity to exercise the royal prerogative of pardon in the case of Ferrer.

HOW MR. TAFT WOULD LOOK IF DRESSED BY MEXICAN ART



One of the staff artists of El Heraldo of the City of Mexico has produced the above suggestion regarding a feature of the wardrobe for the use of President Taft when he crosses the international boundary line to be the guest of the Mexican republic and President Diaz.

ELEPHANT TURNED "JUST IN TIME"

Mr. Roosevelt, the Mighty Hunter, Had a Narrow Escape When Shooting His First Elephant.

Nairobi, British East Africa, Oct. 17.—Crosswell, the government engineer at Nairobi, came into Nairobi this afternoon and brought word that Mr. Roosevelt had a very narrow escape when shooting his first elephant bull.

SUPREME COURT TO REVIEW FINDINGS IN M'CUE CASE

This Is Case in Which Liability to Pay Insurance on Life of a Man Who Was Hanged Is Under Test.

Washington, Oct. 16.—The Supreme court announces its determination to review the findings of the lower courts in the case of McCue vs the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company.

MRS. BATENY'S DIVORCE CASE AGAIN UP FOR TRIAL

Two of the Questions to Be Decided Relate to Defendant's Unfaithfulness.

THE WEALTH OF CORPORATIONS

Facts Relating Thereto Are Given in the Annual Report of the State Corporation Commission.

FIGURES ARE PRINTED OF INTEREST TO ASHEVILLE

The Earnings of Asheville Electric Company, Were Larger Than Were Received by Any Other Road in State.

The report of the North Carolina corporation commission, covering the year 1908, which has just been issued, shows many interesting facts regarding the wealth of quasi-public corporations in North Carolina, and also some figures of local interest.

The gross earnings of steam roads for 1908 were \$27,283,329, of which \$7,112,246 came from passenger and \$19,247,048 from freight and \$278,835 from other sources.

SUDDEN DEATH OF JUDGE J. C. M'RAE

Work Has Been Suspended for the Day.

Chapel Hill, N. C., Oct. 18.—Judge James Cameron MacRae, head of the law department of the university, died last night of heart failure, in his seventy-first year.

MRS. BATENY'S DIVORCE CASE AGAIN UP FOR TRIAL

Two of the Questions to Be Decided Relate to Defendant's Unfaithfulness.

New York, Oct. 18.—The second trial of Mrs. Francis Burke Roche Bateny's divorce suit against Auro Bateny began here today. In outlining her case, Mrs. Bateny's attorney told the jury that two of the questions to be decided relate to the defendant's alleged unfaithfulness.

(Continued on page 2.)