

THE PRESIDENT TO BE INVITED

He Will Be Asked by Senator Overman and Messrs. Carr and Duncan to Go to Durham.

NO DANGER, IT IS SAID, OF SUIT AGAINST STATE

Mr. Pou Drops Out of Stancil Fight, Leaving Butler and Morehead Alone in Their Factional Row.

Gazette-News Bureau, 46 Post Building, Washington, March 31.

President Taft is to be invited Saturday by E. C. Duncan, Julian S. Carr and Senator Overman, to go to Durham in May to deliver an address at the laying of the corner stone of the National Chautauqua and Training School for the colored race.

Senator Newlands of Nevada has informed Senators Simmons and Overman today that all the best sentiment in that state is against the acceptance of the gift of the repudiated North Carolina bonds by New York speculators.

Congressman Pou has given out the following with reference to the Stancil matter:

"Because of the mention of my name in connection with charges filed against J. C. Stancil, postmaster of Smithfield, I think I ought to say that I have not at any time filed any charge against Stancil and am not opposing his confirmation by the Senate.

"When Stancil's name was first sent to the senate I asked Senator Overman to hold up the confirmation until I could have opportunity to talk with the president, thinking that possibly the president had forgotten a conversation last summer with Messrs. J. D. Parker, James A. Wellons, J. A. Naron and myself relative to the appointment of a postmaster at Smithfield.

"I have never thought that Stancil ought to have been appointed. Until recently he has not been a resident of Smithfield. I do not believe that a resident of Smithfield should be permitted to move to Benson, for instance, and receive the appointment of postmaster there.

"In my conversation with the president, I made no mention of a visit of Mr. Stancil to my office during the March court of last year. While his friends admit that his conduct on that occasion was improper, and while I know it was improper, I have never said to any one that he offered me a bribe.

"I might never hear the matter mentioned again."

JUSTICE BREWER'S BODY IS SENT TO KANSAS

Funeral Services Were Simple and Unostentatious, as He Had Wished Them to Be.

Washington, March 31.—Funeral services, simple and unostentatious, as he wished them, were held today for Justice David J. Brewer of the United States Supreme court, and an hour later the body was on its way to Leavenworth, Kan.

President Taft, the members of the Supreme court, representatives from the house and senate attended, and a few intimate friends were present besides them. The train bearing the body is to arrive in Leavenworth Saturday where, after funeral services, the body will be interred beside that of Justice Brewer's first wife.

Racing at Acqueduct Track.

New York, March 31.—There will be no spring race meeting at Jamaica this year. The twelve days Jamaica meeting will be run off at the Acqueduct track, making twenty-four days consecutive racing, beginning April 14.

SURVEY OF STATE FROM THE CAPITAL

Much Interest Is Felt in the Proposed Celebration at Old Home of Daniel Boone.

INCH OF RAIN HAS FALLEN IN RALEIGH THIS MONTH

Magistrate Who Issued Warrant For Policeman Was Not Permitted to Try the Case.

Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, March 31.

No little interest is felt in the celebration at the old home of Daniel Boone, in Davidson county, April 20, and J. H. McRary of Lexington, who has been so active in the formation of the Boone Memorial association, has every reason to be proud of his work.

Governor Kitchin has been specially invited to be present at this very unique celebration. The Boone home, at which the cabin has been reproduced, is in a very picturesque spot, on the Yadkin river and the cave, which is 80 feet deep, and of solid stone, is about as high as one's head. It is at the mouth of this cave that the exercises are to take place. It is commonly known as the Devil's Den.

A large number of relics of Boone are promised to be shown at this celebration. Interest in Boone and the story of his life has never abated here or in any other country, and he will always be one of the greatest popular heroes. Daniel Boone spring is being re-walled with stone. Every effort will be made to make the place as much as possible as it appeared in Boone's time, and fortunately a great deal of the forest remains. It is certain that Judge Pritchard and Congressman Page will be among the speakers. The gift by the people of Rowan county of the arrow monument which is to stand 12 feet high, is very appropriate, for the place used to be in Rowan county. On one side of this monument will be carved an Indian tomahawk.

After More Funds.

The most earnest efforts are being made to secure more funds for the North Carolina Children's Home society, which has done such a splendid work in North Carolina in placing children in real homes, nearly 400 having been so disposed of. The past two years have been very hard ones on this society, and the need of money is urgent. It handles a class of children which cannot be placed in orphanages.

It Was Amusing.

One of the most amusing circulars ever received at the office of the governor comes from Havana, Cuba, and contains the picture of Antonia Ojeda. This young man was a student at the tri-state college at Angola, Ind., and left there to go to Cuba nine months ago, since which time his people have had no information regarding him, and so any one who knows anything regarding his life or death is asked to give notice to the governor of Havana, so his distressed father can be informed. A reward of \$25 is offered for information about the young man by his father, A. Ojeda. Here is the way the Cuban puts this in English:

"Photograph of the young Joseph Anthony Ojeda—Cuban. Estudante en el TRIT-STATE COLLEGE de Angola, Indiana, E. U. To go out of the college for go to wars to Cuba in the month of June of the last year, and not had more news of him. Say and not which know of his life or death, gives notice to the Governor Provincial, of Havana, Cuba, very acknowledged his alarms fathers. (Is to gratify with \$25 which gives notice for he)."

An Inch of Rain.

Only an inch of rain has fallen in Raleigh during March, this breaking the record since the weather bureau was established here. The month has not been windy, and almost every day has been favorable for farming.

Not to Try Case.

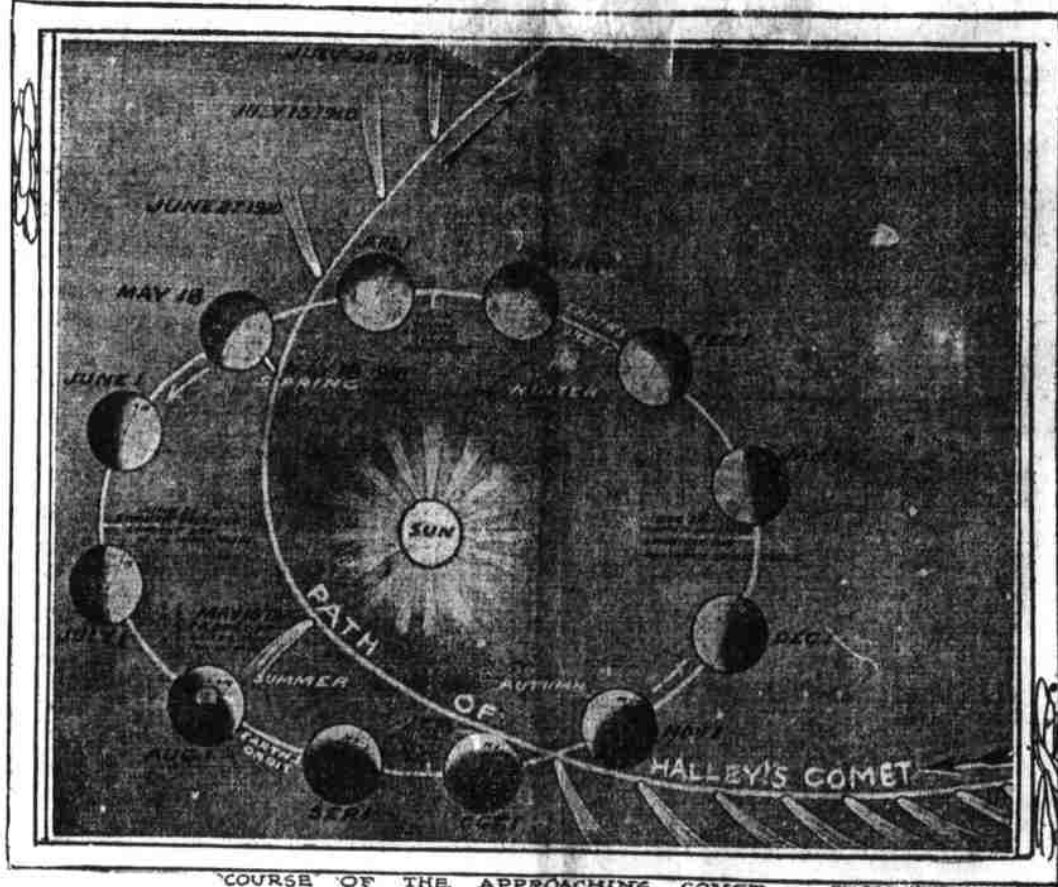
The justice of the peace who issued the warrant for the police officer here who entered a house after thieves, without having any warrants for their arrest, was not heard by another case, but it is giving the matter justice, and he is giving the matter a very careful consideration. If he decides against the officer the case will go to the Supreme court and in case the latter should stand by his decision the next legislature will be asked to give the police ample authority, for very frequently houses have to be entered without a warrant.

In the course of an interview with the state entomologist, Franklin Sherman, regarding the fruit outlook, he said today: "Reports are coming in to me in large numbers and all of them are extremely favorable. I know perfectly well that we will yet have frost to contend with, but barring frosts there is everywhere a pressing for a full crop of apples, peaches, pears and plums in all orchards which have been sprayed. The most dangerous period is from the first to the fifteenth, and fruit is seldom killed after April 20."

The Corn Club.

T. B. Parker, the crop demonstrator of the department of agriculture says that every day large additions are made to the number of Boys' Corn clubs, and that thousands of boys will be in the contest this year. Continued on page three.

WILL THE EARTH BE SWEEPED BY THE TAIL OF THE COMET?



That Is Problematical, as It Has Sometimes, in Previous Visits, Shed Its Caudal Appendage—Anyway It Is Not Worth While to Commit Suicide About It, as a Man in Hungary Did the Other Day—At Present It Is Mostly Tail.

(BY CAMILLE FLAMMARION.)

Our readers have learned of the ghastly experience of that modern Gribouille who, through fear of Halley's comet, committed suicide the other day in Hungary, preferring, he said, to kill himself in advance rather than to be killed by the wandering star. At the moment when more than one person is disquieted by the event of the night of May 18-19 next, and when the attention of the entire world is concentrated on the deeds and actions of the comet, while astronomers are actively studying and vividly discussing the problems of comets, we think it is interesting to review here the suggestions which W. H. Pickering, of the Observatory of Harvard college, has just made apropos of Halley's comet and its approaching meeting with the earth.

The most important question for the majority of the inhabitants of our

planet is to know whether the gigantic tail will be so extended as to sweep the surface of the globe or even to envelop us entirely in its waves of vapor. It is difficult to affirm anything up to the present time, but we can recall that in almost all its previous appearances this celebrated comet has spread in space in elegant tail, sometimes immense, but generally of medium length. Nevertheless, on the occasion of its last visit, in 1835, a remarkable phenomenon occurred; during its perihelion passage, which took place on November 16, the comet lost its tail, so that when it reappeared on the other side of the sun it had the appearance of a round nebula, without an appendage, and it was only later, when it reached the distance of the planet Mars, that a new tail was formed.

The interplanetary wanderer had been found on August 5, 1835, and it

was on October 2 that astronomers began to witness the birth of the first tail.

We see that if things pass as in 1835 it may be possible that the tail will not reach our world, because it will disappear after the perihelion passage, which will take place on April 20. On the other hand, Mr. Barnard, the astronomer of the Yerkes observatory, has already measured the length of the present tail, on February 3 and February 10, and has found that length to be 8,000,000 kilometers. On the same date the width of the head was 267,000 kilometers. The same astronomer remarks as to this fact that the considerable extent of the tail two months before perihelion "gives hopes" that we will be completely immersed in that appendage on the date of May 18.

He who lives will see.

WOMAN IN CASE, SAYS MR. COWARD

Some Interesting Testimony Given in Bribery Investigation Being Conducted at Jackson, Miss.

Jackson, Miss., March 31.—The state senate yesterday afternoon completed the ground work for its probe into the alleged bribery of Senator Theodore Bilbo during the recent senatorial caucus, and incidentally gained concessions from District Attorney McNeill, who earlier in the day, when called upon to present to the senate evidence taken in the grand jury hearing, remarked: "The senate be damned."

Mr. McNeill was the only witness called at yesterday's executive session of the assembly's upper branch. He was before the senate for several hours, and during the time was subjected to a grueling examination by the attorneys for Mr. Dulaney. In substance, the district attorney agreed that the senate shall have a list of witnesses who testified before the grand jury, on whose testimony was based an indictment against Dulaney charging bribery, and that these witnesses may repeat their evidence without violating the grand jury oaths.

Besides this, the adoption of a rule that each of the principals to the investigation shall have two attorneys present and that no person other than counsel shall propound questions except in writing, was as far as the senate proceeded today. Adjournment was taken until tonight.

The question as to whether the stenographic notes of the inquiry shall be at the disposal of the senate is still in abeyance. Mr. McNeill declined to furnish the notes, pending a conference with Circuit Judge W. A. Henry.

The special house committee appointed to inquire into the alleged bribery also was in session during the afternoon. The principal testimony before this body was given by Representative J. O. Coward, who was also a witness before the grand jury last week. Mr. Coward stated that he "approached" and that a woman had acted as the "go-between." Other than this, nothing concerning his testimony was learned.

Large Fire Loss.

Rome, N. Y., March 31.—The entire business section of Sittville was wiped out by fire today with a loss of \$50,000, half insured.

TRIAL OF E. E. POWELL IS BEGUN AT HALIFAX

He Claims His Mind Was a Blank When He Fired Shot That Killed Dunn.

Halifax, N. C., March 31.—The trial of E. E. Powell of Scotland Neck, the merchant charged with the murder of Policeman Charles W. Dunn at Scotland Neck March 4, when he shot Senator Travis and Assemblyman Kitchin, began today before Judge Ward in Superior court.

A hard legal battle is in prospect. A hundred witnesses will appear. Powell claims his mind was a blank when he fired the fatal shots.

TOBACCO WORKERS STRIKE.

Two Thousand Employees of Louisville Plants Are Out, and Others Expected to Quit.

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 31.—Eight hundred negro men, women and children employed in one of the American Tobacco company's stemmeries, struck today for an increase of half of one cent per pound for stemming. Two thousand tobacco workers are now on strike, and other walkouts are expected.

THE WEATHER.

Forecasts until 8 p. m. Friday, for Asheville and vicinity: Partly cloudy weather tonight and Friday; cooler Friday.

Robbers Had Designs on Other Southern Boxes

New York, March 31.—The completeness of the burglar's outfit, and memoranda about various southern banks, found in possession of Franklin Cunningham and Frank Chester, charged with plundering the Richmond, Va., postoffice, indicated the well laid plans the burglars had for a wholesale raid on the strong-boxes of the financial institutions in the southern territory.

May Pass Bill to Prohibit Dealing in Cotton Futures

Washington, March 31.—The Scott bill, prohibiting dealings in futures in the grain markets of the United States, with amendments so as to ap-

SOME GOSSIP OF POLITICAL NATURE

Will Name of Mr. Pearson Go Before the Republican Convention to Be Held Saturday?

Will Those Resolutions Also Be Introduced?

Congressman Grant Writes His Friends a Letter in Which He Sounds a Warning.

Very little is known very certainly respecting the republican congressional convention to be held Saturday. The two questions frequently asked are first, will the name of Mr. Pearson go before the convention, and second, will a resolution be offered criticizing, in a measure, the attitude of the president toward North Carolina republicans in the matter of democratic appointments? Most of the talk is that no formal plans have been made for introducing the name of Mr. Pearson into the convention proceedings, but it is freely admitted, should the name of that gentleman go before the convention at the right time and in the right way there is no telling what would happen; something might have to give.

As to those resolutions, it seems certain that the convention will have to deal with something of the kind. It is known that Congressman Grant is alarmed, and that he has written letters to close friends giving them a warning as to what to expect, and saying that while he does not approve of all of the president's acts he thinks that, viewing the conduct of the administration as a whole, it should be endorsed. Mr. Grant and his friends will probably be told that, if they do not approve of all the acts of the president, they should have the courage to say so. The Grant side, it is realized, will hardly go to the extent of defending the Connor appointment, for example, and yet it is realized that they cannot afford to allow even a suggestion of criticism of the president. Still on the other hand those republicans who will favor such a resolution maintain, and will maintain on the floor of the convention, that it is the one course that will permit republicans to save their faces and their self-respect.

RUMOR OF SETTLEMENT OF THE TROLLEY STRIKE

Neither Company Nor Strike Leaders, However, Will Admit Concessions.

Philadelphia, March 31.—Rumors of a settlement of the trolley men's strike are current today, although neither the Philadelphia Rapid Transit company nor the leaders of the strikers will admit any change in their "stand pat" policy.

The car service is curtailed in the northeastern part of the city, which has been the storm center of the strike disturbances.

STORE AND HOUSE BURNED AT NANTAHALA

Special to The Gazette-News. Nantahala, March 31.—The Dewees general merchandise store and a large residence belonging to Mr. Dewees were totally destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon about 8:30 o'clock. It is said the damage will reach \$3000, with only a small amount of insurance.

Had it not been for the effective fire fighting of the citizens a large column mill, located about 100 feet away, would have caught fire. The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE PILOT MOUNTAIN BANK, STATE INSTITUTION, CLOSED

Allegations Made That Management Was Jeopardizing Depositors' Interests.

Special to The Gazette-News. Winston-Salem, March 31.—The Pilot Mountain Bank and Trust company, a state institution at Pilot Mountain, was closed today by State Bank Examiner Doughton, upon allegation that the management was jeopardizing the interests of depositors. J. G. Key is president of the bank.

Situation Imposing.

Liverpool, March 31.—The German cruiser, Sperber, has left Cape Palmas, upon orders of the Liberian authorities, according to the latest advices. The situation between the natives and Liberian troops is said to be improving.

Mr. Taft Attends Dance.

Washington, March 31.—President Taft last night sustained his reputation as a dancer at the Charity ball at the navy yards. The president danced with his sister-in-law, Mrs. Louis Moore.

COAL DIGGERS WILL STRIKE

Pittsburg Dispatch Says Forty Thousand of Them Will Quit Work in District No. 5.

MORE WILL STRIKE IN BITUMINOUS FIELDS

Two Hundred Thousand of These Men Are Scheduled to Lay Down Their Tools Tonight at 12 O'Clock.

Pittsburg, March 31.—At midnight tonight approximately 40,000 coal diggers will strike, in district No. 5. At that time the wage contract for 1908-1909 expires. As yet the operators have not signed new agreements. The differences in the Pittsburg district between the miners and operators are over the working hours, the use of certain permissible explosives, and the demanded increase of five cents per ton in the run of the mine coal.

In Bituminous Fields.

Indianapolis, March 31.—Two hundred thousand miners in the bituminous coal fields of the United States will strike at 12 o'clock tonight, and will stay away from the mines until the operators consent to pay an advance of five cents per ton, according to an announcement from the headquarters of the United Mine Workers.

Six Miners Killed. Wilburton, Okla., March 31.—An explosion in mine No. 2 of the Great Western Coal and Coke company today killed six men.

WIROGRAPHS

Late Afternoon News Stories in Condensed Form of World's Big and Little Events.

Four Thousand Out of Work.

Lorain, O., March 31.—Four thousand men are thrown out of work through the shutting down of the National Tube company today.

Twenty-Five Burned to Death.

Bombay, March 31.—Twenty-five women and children burned to death in a fire destroying the state cotton warehouse at Buhlwara today.

Two Killed, One Injured.

Stanton, Pa., March 31.—Two men were killed and another was injured by an explosion in the Rushdale powder works at Jermyntown today.

Myra Kelly Dead.

London, March 31.—Myra Kelly (Mrs. Allan Macnaughton), the American author-educator, died today.

Dorando and Longboat to Race Tonight.

Pittsburg, March 31.—Dorando and Longboat are matched to race 20 miles tonight at Exposition hall. The Italian and Indian are considered an even team.

Escaped Murderers Caught.

Norfolk, March 31.—Elijah Rouse and Thomas Noel, condemned negro murderers, who escaped from the Norfolk county jail Tuesday night, while the death watch slept, were captured this morning in a negro's house in Norfolk's black belt.

Erie's Employees Decline Offer Made Them.

New York, March 31.—The Erie railroad's employees have declined to accept the company's offer of six per cent. increase in wages, provided the men withdraw their demands.

Big Canal Work Contract.

Lynchburg, March 31.—The Lane Brothers company of Altavista, Va., is awarded a \$1,300,000 contract for Erie canal improvements.

Discussing Liability Law.

Washington, March 31.—The senate devoted its time today to the bill amending the common carriers liability law. No conclusion was reached.

Arkansas Democratic Primary.

Little Rock, Ark., March 31.—Returns from the democratic primary indicate that Governor Donaghue is re-elected by a large plurality.

Eruption Becomes More Serious.

Catania, Sicily, March 31.—Mount Aetna's eruption increased in intensity today. Lava is flowing in the direction of Borrolo at the rate of 112 feet an hour.

Rubber Mill Shuts Down.

Bristol, R. I., March 31.—The National India Rubber mills shut down today. Fifteen hundred workmen are affected.

Extradition for J. Ogden Armour.

New York, March 31.—Requestion papers for the extradition of J. Ogden Armour of Chicago, indicted for conspiracy in controlling prices of meat products, were filed with Governor Fort today.

Richmond Man Drinks Carbohic Acid.

Baltimore, March 31.—O. B. Tate of Richmond attempted to commit suicide here by drinking carbolic acid. He will probably recover.