THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCHES

The Asheville Gazette News.

LAST EDITION 4:00 P. M.
Weather Forecast: FAIR.

VOL. XV. NO. 240. ASHEVILLE, N. C., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 15, 1910. 3c PER COPY

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DECLINE IN THE PRICES OF MEAT REPORTED FROM MANY SECTIONS

Fresh Pork Products Show Greatest Drop, While Best Grades of Bacon and Ham Are Little Changed.

PRICES OF VEGETABLES, TOO, REPORTED SOMEWHAT LOWER

The Market Men Attribute the Declines to the Enormous Corn Crop and Lower Feed Prices, They Declare.

NEW YORK, Nov. 15.—Reports from various parts of the country indicating a fall in the price of meats is reflected by similar reports from local dealers. They say the decline has already begun. The wholesale price of beef went down three-fourths of a cent in the last week. One of the leading dealers said that sirloin steak that brought 24 cents a pound was now selling at 22 cents. Porterhouse steak was down three cents a pound, selling now at 27 cents.

Fresh pork products show the greatest drop. Roast cuts are selling at 18 cents a pound, that previously sold at 22 cents. The best grades of ham and bacon show little change.

Market men attribute the lower prices to the enormous corn crop, combined with lower feed prices.

Reductions in Chicago.

Chicago, Nov. 15.—The prices of beef and pork are falling. Since the recent electi n the price of beef has been reduced four and five cents a pound by meat packers. The price of pork has declined three cents from the usual price of 18 and 20 cents. Other products of pack houses will take a downward turn within the next few days.

MEAT AND VEGETABLE PRICES IN BOSTON TAKE A TUMBLE

Beef Down About Five Cents, Poultry Five Cents, and Pork Products Two or Three Cents a Pound.

Boston, Nov. 15.—There has been a fall in prices of meats and vegetables in the markets here averaging 10 to 15 per cent. Beef went down near five cents poultry fell off a like amount, while pork products declined two or three cents.

Two to Three Cents a Pound Lower.

Columbus, O., Nov. 15.—Nearly all meats are two to three cents a pound lower here. Poultry has been reduced two cents per pound. Turkeys are quoted dressed, at 28 cents against 31 cents Saturday. Pork is 18 cents against 20 cents Saturday. A further decline is predicted.

Prices Show Downward Tendency.

St. Joseph, Mo., Nov. 15.—Prices in nearly all food products show a downward tendency.

Reduced About Two Cents a Pound.

Kansas City, Nov. 15.—A reduction of one cent a pound in the retail price of the cheaper grades of beef is announced today.

Meat Cheaper at Wholesale.

St. Louis, Nov. 15.—The retail markets bought fresh meat two to three cents a pound cheaper today than a week ago. The consumer has received the benefit of the decline, according to retailers.

Lower Prices in Cleveland.

Cleveland, Nov. 15.—Declines in all meat prices are reported on the live stock market. Hogs have dropped $1.50 per hundred. Cattle, veal, calves, sheep and lambs have also declined. Retail prices are lower. Pork chops are three and four cents cheaper per pound; ham, steaks and roasts two cents lower. Turkeys are selling at 17 and 18 cents a pound, with prospects of a plentiful Thanksgiving supply and lower prices.

Further Decline Predicted.

Omaha, Nov. 15.—There has been a drop of two cents a pound in the prices of all fresh meats in the Omaha market. A further decline by January 1, of five cents on pork and other fresh meats is predicted.

10 to 20 Per Cent. Lower.

Milwaukee, Nov. 15—Food products are from 10 to 20 per cent. below prices of last fall.

Some Things Higher.

Cincinnati, Nov. 15.—Meat prices have dropped sharply in the last few days, bacon leading with a decline of five cents a pound. Other pork products are cheaper. The housewife can get sirloin stead at 12½ cents a pound. Coffee, potatoes and eggs are steadily going higher.

Testing High Explosives.

Fort Monroe, Va., Nov. 15.—In an experiment to test the effect of the unconfined explosion of high explosives, nitro glycerine, the monitor Puritan was badly damaged in Hampton Roads after two charges of 200 pounds each were exploded against her after turret, today. In a sinking condition the vessel was rushed to the Norfolk navy yard.

Exner, Art Professor, Is Dead.

Copenhagen, Nov. 15.—Julius J. Exner, a widely known art professor, died today, aged 85.

No Settlement in Sight.

Chicago, Nov. 15.—Settlement of the strike of 40,000 garments workers in this city is apparently not in sight.

EUGENE ELY FLIES FROM BATTLESHIP

Drawing Aviator in Curtiss Biplane Flew Across Lower End of Chesapeake Bay.

RAIN AND HAIL CAME NEAR CAUSING A POSTPONEMENT

One Propeller Blade Split When Machine Struck the Water—Ely Won Prize of $5000.

Fort Monroe, Va., Nov. 15.—Aerial navigation proved yesterday that it is a factor which must be dealt with in the naval tactics of the world's future, if the successful flight made by Eugene B. Ely in a Curtiss biplane from the deck of the cruiser Birmingham can be taken as a criterion. From Hampton Roads, the scene 45 years ago of another epoch in the history of naval warfare when an ironclad proved its superiority over the former type of fighting vessels, the aviator yesterday flew across the lower end of Chesapeake bay, landing on the opposite side from this fort.

In weather conditions unfavorable for flying the daring birdman, after 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, glided from the platform erected on the front of the big, black cruiser, swooped down like an immense bird of prey until he touched the water, then rose rapidly into the misty air of the lower bay and was off in the direction of the broad Atlantic. Five minutes after having taken his sudden farewell of the Birmingham he was a lost speck on the eastern horizon and had landed safely on Willoughby Spit. The impact with which the big machine struck the water after its 27 foot drop from the front of the cruiser caused one of the propeller blades to be jagged as though a coarse saw had gone along its edge and a small piece was split from the blade. But not for an instant was the speed of the aeroplane lessened, and it darted away with express train rapidity on its victorious flight.

Bad Weather Conditions.

Intermittent rain throughout the day, several small hail showers, and continuous fog almost compelled the aviator to postpone his flight, but he was determined to prove, as he said after the flight, that he could accomplish more than had been expected of him. Furthermore, he did not wait for the Birmingham to get into motion, which would have added to his momentum and have been a great help to him, but seizing an opportune moment between showers he was off before those who were on the ship with him and on the other vessels stationed at various points nearby to follow and assist him in case of need, were aware that he was ready for his wonderful flight, the first of its kind the world has ever seen.

Ely proved that it is possible to fly safely from a ship, and after having done this, asserted with emphasis that it would be an easy matter for an aeroplane to alight on a vessel either while the latter was moving or at a standstill. Aviation experts who witnessed the flight expressed their belief that the navies of the world in the future must take the aeroplane into consideration when mapping out plans of action.

Captain Washington I. Chambers, who has been detailed by the navy department as a chairman of a board for aeronautical investigation, declared that the flight was more than he had anticipated, and he is convinced that the time is near when all scout cruisers will be equipped with a number of aeroplanes. "They would not do for battleship use," he said, "but for scout duty in connection with the work of the scout cruisers of the navy. When Mr. Ely flew with such ease from a standing ship," he said, "it showed beyond doubt that his task would have been much simpler if the Birmingham had been moving."

Used Curtiss' Machine.

Starting out from the Norfolk navy yard at 11:30 yesterday morning on the Birmingham, closely followed by the two torpedo boat destroyers, Roe and Terry, and by the torpedo boats Bailey and Stringham, it was full four hours before Mr. Ely's machine was working to his full satisfaction. The machine in which he flew was the one in which Glenn Curtiss sailed through the air channels of the Hudson river valley from Albany to New York. It had seen two previous cross-water flights, one over Lake Erie from Euclid Beach to Cedar Point and back, a distance of 70 miles; the other by Mr. Curtiss himself across the Atlantic ocean off Atlantic City when it covered a distance of 50 miles.

The distance which Mr. Ely flew was nearly five miles. The Birmingham was lying in the roads only a quarter of a mile from the Hotel Chamberlain, but making his flight to Willoughby Spit he flew in curve so that while the exact distance could not be determined it was said that he covered almost five miles. It was 3:16 o'clock when he took the air, in five minutes he was safe on the solid soil of Virginia, a few miles north of Norfolk. Mr. Ely, after being brought back on a launch and placed

(Continued on page 4)

LOOKS LIKE FIGHT WITH MEXICANS

It Is Reported 300 of Them, Armed, Are Marching on Rock Springs, and People Are Ready for Them.

THE RANCH FOLKS ARE ANXIOUS FOR HOSTILITIES TO COMMENCE

Armed with Rifles and Revolvers, They Pour into Rock Springs, Ready to Meet Invaders.

Rock Springs, Tex., Nov. 15.—As the result of a report that 300 armed Mexicans were marching upon this town cowboys and ranchmen from the surrounding country, armed with rifles and revolvers are pouring into Rock Springs this morning. The ranch people of this section are so anxious for a combat with the Mexicans that they probably will start on a march this afternoon to meet all invaders.

A telephone message from Sheriff Hoe stated that he has an armed force ready to meet any hostile movement made by the Mexicans.

He says there are no indications of any such movement at Rock Springs, but upon hearing of the reports he immediately made preparations to be ready for any emergency. "Everybody is on guard and not a Mexican in sight," is the way he described the situation.

PRICES OF MEATS NOT LOWER HERE

Except That Pork Is "Temporarily" Down, Market Men Have no Good News for Asheville People.

Dispatches from New York, Boston and Chicago, are to the effect that the prices of meats and poultry are off from two to five cents a pound, beef about five cents, pork from two to three cents and poultry five cents. This is interesting from the fact that every man, woman and child is at this time very much concerned over the prices of these products, and any little reduction is always gladly received. A few days ago also, Mr. Armour predicted a fall in these products.

However, a visit to three or four of the local meat stalls brought out the information that there was practically no change in local prices with the exception of pork which was temporarily off about two cents, due to the cold weather and the large amount of pork thrown on the market as a consequence. But at no stall was there a reduction in the price of beef since several days ago.

At one stall the managers were of the opinion that the local supply and demand governed the prices in Asheville, and that northern quotations had nothing to do with them.

Another had just had prices from the Armour branch here and said that there was no reduction in the prices quoted, and still another thought that it was a scheme to get southern meat dealers to handle western products and that, this accomplished, the price would immediately rise again.

The conclusion drawn was that there is a great deal of native meat sold here and local supply has more to do with the local prices than the western quotations; that whereas pork might be off a couple of cents now compared with a few days ago, it was likely to go back to where it was and perhaps higher, with a change in weather or other conditions, and that if there should be an abundance of cattle thrown on the market, the price of beef would be lowered to some extent—not to the consumer, however.

If prices in the northern and western markets should continue low or go lower it might react on the local markets and in a measure govern the prices paid for cattle, but so far there is no effect on the local prices.

MISS BLANCHE DAVIS

Death This Morning of Eldest Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Davis After Long Illness.

Miss Blanche Davis, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Davis, 34 Hillside street, died this morning after a long illness. The funeral services will be held at the residence tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock by Rev. J. S. Williams. Interment at West Asheville cemetery.

Long and Short Haul Considered.

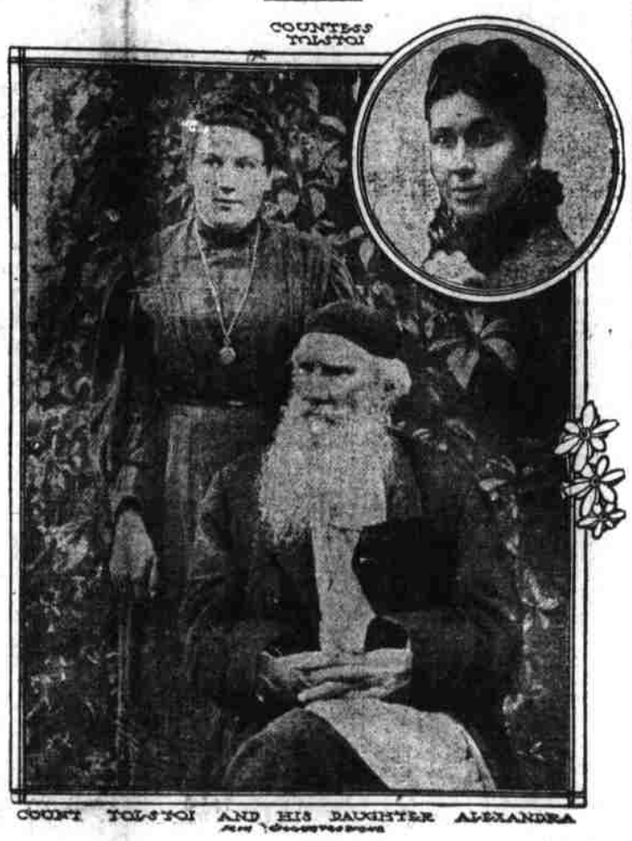
New Orleans, Nov. 15.—The long and short haul clause of the railroad bill enacted at the last session of congress was one of the most important features considered at the joint meeting of the Southeastern Freight association and Southeastern Mississippi association today.

The Seine Rising Rapidly.

Paris, Nov. 15.—The river Seine rose rapidly today. Official statement is issued that the maximum flood will be reached Thursday. The big project of building a canal to divert the waters in times of flood will be undertaken by the government.

Tolstoi Lies Stricken In a Russian Village

He Appears to Be Succumbing to Fever, Caused by Mental Distress and Exposure, While Deserted Countess Is Reported to Be Dying of a Broken Heart.



COUNT TOLSTOI AND HIS DAUGHTER ALEXANDRA

Tula, Russia, Nov. 15.—Broken down by the hardships of a winter journey, mental strain and a rupture with his family, Count Leo Tolstoi lies with a high fever in the little railroad station at Astapova, barely 30 miles from his home at Yasnaya Poliana. Tolstoi is attended by Dr. Makovetsky, who was his sole companion when he left his peasant hut a few days ago, and who carried along with him medicines for just such emergency. Tolstoi's daughter, Alexandra, is acting as his nurse.

Telegraphic reports of his condition are far from favorable. Indeed they are considered extremely pessimistic. The temperature of the aged writer is 104, indicating probably a serious congestion and of itself an alarming symptom in one of Tolstoi's years. The mental anguish of the patient handicaps the efforts of the physician to reduce the fever. Ever if Count Tolstoi recovers there can be no question of his continuing the journey to the Caucasus, where he hoped to end his life among the Tolstoian colony on the shores of the Black Sea.

People who have known of the family life of Tolstoi are not surprised ed to hear that the stricken old man has crept away to die in solitude.

The conditions of both Count Tolstoi and the countess are reported as critical.

The count appears to be succumbing to fever, while his deserted wife is dying of a broken heart.

WHO WILL SUCCEED SENATOR A.S. CLAY?

Interim Appointment to Be Made by Governor Brown—Hoke Smith May Be a Candidate Next Summer.

Atlanta, Nov. 15.—Much speculation exists among politicians in Georgia as to the next junior senator, to succeed Senator Clay. The interim appointment, which holds good until the legislature meets next summer and elects a successor, is in Governor Joseph M. Brown's hands.

Former Governor Joseph M. Terrell is most prominently mentioned for the place. Governor Brown's appointee will be in congress from the first Monday in next December until next March. Governor-elect Hoke Smith, it is said, may be a candidate before the legislature for the senate seat.

Governor Brown yesterday issued a proclamation ordering all state houses and offices to close on Wednesday during the hours of funeral of the United States Senator Clay of Georgia, who died in a sanitarium here Sunday afternoon. The state flag will remain at half mast for 10 days. The funeral will be held at noon Wednesday from the Methodist church at Marietta. Interment will be in Marietta cemetery. The body will lie in state at the church from 10 o'clock until 12, the family declining the governor's proposal that the body be allowed to lie in state at the capitol Tuesday.

Miss Evelyn Clay, the senator's only daughter, who has been in school at Washington, and Frank Clay, a son, a cadet at the West Point Military academy, will arrive today. It is announced also that the committees from the house and senate appointed to attend the funeral will be augmented by a score of other statesmen, long time friends of the deceased Georgian.

Fourth Division of Battleship Fleet at Brest.

Brest, France, Nov. 15.—The fourth division of the American battleship fleet, comprising the Georgia, Nebraska, Rhode Island and Virginia, arrived today. A series of receptions is to be arranged for the officers of the fleet. Special trains will take the blue jackets to Paris.

Football Claims Another Victim.

Milford, Mass., Nov. 15.—Football claimed as a victim today Edward J. Byrnes, 13 years old, who died as the result of injuries received in a football scrimage three months ago.

COOPER ACQUITTED OF MURDER CHARGE

Jury, by Direction of Judge, on Attorney General's Recommendation, Sets Him at Liberty.

Nashville, Nov. 15.—Robin J. Cooper, charged with murdering former United States Senator Edward W. Carmack, November 5, 1908, was given a verdict of "not guilty" in Criminal court this morning, on recommendation of Attorney General Anderson. Thus was brought to a close one of the most celebrated cases in Tennessee court annals.

Attorney General Anderson stated that he would like to have a jury for disposition of the case, and jury No. 1 was called. Judge Neil stated to the jury that in view of the Attorney General's statement, and the fact that there is no further effort being made to prosecute the case, the jury should return a verdict of "not guilty," which was done.

TORE OUT WOMAN'S EARRINGS AND TOOK HER POCKETBOOK

Two Men Invade a Woman's Shoe Store, with Revolvers—She Fights Them Until She Is Exhausted.

New York, Nov. 15.—Two men held up Mrs. Sarah Schwartz in her shoe store in First avenue today and at the point of revolvers tore her diamond ear rings from her ears and then robbed her of her pocket book, containing $60.

The woman fought them until she was exhausted.

A 46-Story Building.

New York, Nov. 15.—Plans have been filed for the erection of a 46 story building at Broadway and Park place. It will be 625 feet high and cost $7,000,000. The foundations are already completed. The builder is F. W. Woolworth. The new structure will be 13 feet higher than the Singer building.

Wrecked Steamship to Be Abandoned.

Seattle, Nov. 15.—The wrecked steamship Portland, which went aground in Kalalla river, Alaska, Saturday, has been abandoned, severe storms having made salvage operations impossible. The Portland, worth $75,000, was insured for 75 per cent. of her value.

STOUTLY DECLARES HE IS INNOCENT

Sheriff at Asbury Park, N. J., Says the Negro, Thomas Williams, Seems Able to Prove an Alibi.

ATTEMPT MADE TO LYNCH HIM; REMOVED TO ANOTHER COUNTY

Child's Body Is Taken to Jail, and the Negro Swears He Knows Nothing About Her Death.

Asbury Park, N. J., Nov. 15.—Following an attempt by the mob to lynch Thomas Williams, the negro suspected of murdering nine years old Marie Smith, the prisoner was quietly removed today from the local jail and whiskey away to Free Hold county jail. Williams is being held without bail.

Williams' arrest followed the discovery of little Marie Smith's mutilated body in a clump of woods. He was not even removed from his cell for court proceedings yesterday, so fearful were the police of mob violence. A crowd surrounded the jail.

To carry out the requirements of the law the negro was informally arraigned as he stood in his cell, and was held without bail for further examination.

William H. Smith, chief of police of Asbury Park, held a conference with the prisoner and announced afterwards that Williams apparently had established a good abili.

The child's mother is still in a serious condition from grief and shock.

In an attempt to wring a confession from the prisoner the child's body was brought into the jail corridor. The negro was led forth and halted beside it.

"I swear to God I didn't harm the girl. I had nothing to do with it," he said firmly.

"Get down and look into her eyes and say that," he was commanded. Williams leaned forward until he was gazing straight into the dead eyes. His gaze did not waver and he exclaimed:

"God is my witness that I did not kill this girl. I did not touch her. I did not harm her. I do not know who did." Again and again he repeated this while his hand lay on the body. Then he added:

"I think God can say I did not do it. I am sorry for her and sorry for her family, but I had nothing to do with this."

There was a clas hbetween the police and the mob late last night which was precipitated when a newspaper's automobile came dashing up and stopped in front of the jail door. Instantly the crowd jumped to the conclusion that Williams was to be brought out and whisked away to a safe place.

With a yell the crowd surged forward but the police were on the alert and with clubs swinging they drove the rioters back and cleared a working space for 200 feet in front of the jail.

CLARK IS NOT TRYING TO ARRANGE PROGRAM

Says Democrats in Congress Will Have to Get Together Soon to Discuss What They Wish to Do.

Washington, Nov. 15.—Representative Champ Clark of Missouri, candidate for the speakership of the next house of representatives reached Washington last night.

"I have not been commissioned," said Mr. Clark, "to arrange any program for the democratic party and I am not going to try to do it. In the very nature of things, the democrats of the house and senate will have to get together to consult about what they want to do and should do when the new congress organizes."

Hugh Inman of Atlanta Dies in New York.

New York, Nov. 15.—Hugh Inman, an Atlanta financier who came to New York several weeks ago to be treated for a nervous breakdown, died last night in a private sanitarium. Mr. Inman's illness was not regarded as serious until pneumonia developed last week. His widow and daughter start for Atlanta today with the body.

Mr. Inman was born in Jefferson county, Tenn., 63 years ago. He spent a large part of his life in Atlanta and was identified with many of the financial enterprises of that city. In former years he was interested in municipal government and held several public offices. He was also greatly interested in church work.

Woman Shoots Husband and Herself.

New York, Nov. 15.—Dr. Theodore R. Burgtoff was shot and killed by his wife, Anna, in their home here. The woman then turned the revolver on herself, the bullet entering the abdomen. The cause of her acts is unknown.

W.N.C. CONFERENCE OPENS TOMORROW

Gathering in Winston-Salem Will Represent a Church Membership of 89,631 People.

CONFERENCE IS 21 YEARS OLD, AND HAS GROWN VERY RAPIDLY

Membership Includes 255 Preachers in Full Connection and 13 Young Ministers on Trial.

Special to The Gazette-News.

WINSTON-SALEM, Nov. 15.—The clerical and lay members of the Western North Carolina conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, who are assembling to attend the annual meeting of that body, which opens tomorrow, will represent a church membership of 89,631 within the territory of this conference. Last year there was added to the membership 5529 on profession of faith and 5579 on certificate, and it is expected that the reports of the pastors to be submitted this week will show a decided increase for this year. Among the most interesting features of the business to be transacted during the conference sessions are the reports of the preachers concerning the spiritual condition of the church, and the reports of the boards and committees of the conference with reference to the contributions to the various interests of the church. The total amount contributed in the conference last year was $474,571. Of this amount, $146,150.66 was paid to the salaries of the preachers in charge, $18,175.47 on the salaries of presiding elders; $20,413.19 to foreign missions; $14,223.49 to domestic missions; $9008.29 to the childrens' home; $7,537.43 to church extension; $10,046.86 to conference claimants; $2,689.90 to bishops' fund; $687.67 to the American Bible society; and $238,119.89 to other purposes.

A Strong Conference.

This conference is one of the strongest in the church, and on account of the healthful territory included in its bounds, it is one of the most popular of the 45 conferences in the church. The conference was organized in 1890, and during the 21 years of its history it has grown rapidly. The membership at present consists of 255 preachers in full connection, and 13 young ministers on trial. There are 14 who will ask for admission on trial at this session. There are also 12 local preachers who are acting as supplies in the conference. The lay membership consists of 44, each district being allowed four lay representatives. There are 11 districts in the conference, and there is a probability that a new district will be formed at this session, thus adding one more member to the cabinet. If the new district is formed, it will likely be made from a part of the Winston and a part of the Mount Airy districts.

HOTEL MAN IS MISSING; DISAPPEARED FROM SHIP

S. M. Mason Last Seen Aboard the City of Columbus, at Sea, Last Sunday Evening.

New York, Nov. 15.—S. M. Mason, one of the best hotel men in the south, who recently lived in Augusta, Ga., disappeared from the steamer City of Columbus, shortly after 6 o'clock Sunday evening, 250 miles from Savannah, and just a little south of Hatteras, on the way here. The vessel arrived today.

One of the passengers stated that the missing man had been attending the Savannah automobile races. Mason was 28 years old.

The missing man was last seen Sunday evening when he ordered a meal sent to his stateroom. Before Mason started to eat he excused himself to the steward and said he was going to another room for a moment. Mason failed to return and search revealed no trace of him. Mason boarded the steamer at Savannah.

Child Burned to Death.

We learn that the dwelling of Avery Yount, a worthy farmer living near Granite Falls, was burned last Monday and with it his youngest child, a baby about 10 months old. It seems that while the father and mother were in the field at work some distance from the house, leaving three children at the house, the eldest being only four or five years of age, the house was in some way set on fire by the children playing about and before the parents could be summoned the fire gained such headway that it was impossible to save the baby or anything left in the building. —Lenoir Topic.

Population of Maine Is 742,571.

Washington, Nov. 15.—The population of the state of Maine is 742,571, according to the thirteenth census, an increase of 47,905 over 1900.

THE WEATHER.

For Asheville and vicinity: Fair tonight and Wednesday.

For North Carolina: Fair tonight and Wednesday.