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LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY, JULY 21, 1913.

WHOLE NO 2881

UNION DEPOT CONFERENCE

Superintendents of Three Railroads that Enter Lumberton Will Meet With Town Commissioners Thursday Night to Discuss Demand for Union Depot.

Superintendents W. A. Gore of Hamlet, of the Hamlet-Wilmington division of Seaboard; C. Lane of Marion, S. C., of Raleigh & Charleston, and J. P. Russell of Lumberton, of the Virginia & Carolina Southern, representing the three railroads that enter Lumberton, will hold a conference Thursday night with Mayor White and the town commissioners in regard to the demand of the town for a union depot. It will be recalled that one of the things Mayor White recommended in his address upon assuming office in May was that the railroads be required to maintain a union depot in Lumberton, and this would seem to indicate that the matter is being pushed.

DROWNED IN LUMBER RIVER

Ben Todd Could Not Swim — Nor Could Father, Who Saw Son Go Down — Drowned Thursday Afternoon and Body Recovered Saturday.

Ben Todd, about 16 years old, of East Lumberton, Dresden Cotton Mills, was drowned in Lumber river Thursday afternoon about 4 o'clock, about half way between town and the plant of the Kingsdale Lumber Co. There were several boys in bathing at the time. Young Todd could not swim and got in over his depth. His father was watching the boys in bathing and was powerless to aid when he saw his son go down, as he also is a stranger to the art of swimming.

Persistent efforts to recover the body were fruitless until Saturday morning, when it was found about 50 yards below where it went down.

Slapped Wrong Man.

A Lumberton man's patience snapped Saturday morning at what he considered insolence on the part of a telephone employe—his anger stood up in him when the telephone man gave him some slack—so he hung up the phone, hastened to the central office, and administered feeling rebuke in the shape of some vigorous slaps or blows upon the headpiece of a man whom he was sure was the offender, having taken the precaution before beginning operations to ask for the long-distance operator and going for the only other man in the room, whom he naturally supposed was the man he was after. But when too late it was discovered that the wrong man had been made the goat. Which may bring on more talk—and maybe not.

Cannons Have Arrived — Will Be Placed on Court House Square.

The two cannons which Secretary of the Navy Daniels agreed to lend to the town of Lumberton at the request of Mrs. A. W. McLean have arrived. They will be placed in the court house square, on the north and the south sides of the Confederate monument. They will be mounted on concrete foundations under the direction of Mr. Elwood Whaley. The balls have not yet arrived but are expected soon.

These cannons are automatic dogs of war and are apparently up to date. They could knock anything smaller than a church into the middle of next week. With these on guard this good town on the banks of the Lumbee need fear no harm.

Small Son of Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Cox of Marion, South Carolina.

Thomas, 21-2 year-old-son of Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Cox of Marion, S. C. died Saturday night at 10:30 o'clock at the home of his parents. The child had been sick for about two weeks and for a week death had been expected most any time. The remains were taken yesterday morning to Rowland, where yesterday afternoon at four o'clock the funeral and interment took place. The funeral was conducted by the pastors of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches of Rowland.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox were formerly of Lumberton, moving a year or so ago to Marion, where they have since resided. They have here a host of friends and relatives that will regret to learn of their bereavement.

Mr. Frank A. McLeod, Misses Emma and Laura Norment and Mrs. Mollie R. Norment were among those from here who attended the funeral. They made the trip in an auto.

—Mr. Wallace Norment has accepted a position as clerk at the Waverly hotel. He began work Saturday. Mr. Norment is a hustling young fellow and will no doubt make an excellent clerk.

WOMAN KILLED BY TRAIN.

Mrs. Fidelia Blackman Walked Upon Track in Front of Engine and Received Fatal Injuries—Accident Apparently Due to Carelessness and Absentmindedness.

While crossing a perfectly clear track with nothing to obstruct the vision for two or three miles either way, at the National Cotton Mills, about 2 miles west of Lumberton, Friday morning about 9:30 o'clock, Mrs. Fidelia Blackman, 66 years old, was struck by the engine of a passenger train and sustained injuries from which she died two hours later without regaining consciousness.

It seems impossible to account for the tragedy happening as it did on any theory other than that the aged lady, whose hearing was good ordinarily, was deafened and blinded by a sunbonnet she wore and that her mind was busy with matters far away. For it is said that the whistle was blown so long and so loud that the attention of several was attracted, even of some who were in the mill, and the engineer had slowed his train down so much in an effort to stop that when the woman was struck he stopped his engine within half the length of the train, which was a special of Pullman cars bearing excursionists from Birmingham and Atlanta to Wrightsville Beach.

Mrs. Blackman was crossing the track at the crossing in front of the mill. Another step would have taken her across when she was picked up by engine, carried a few yards and tossed to one side. Dr. Archibald Smith of Atlanta, one of the excursionists, was the first physician to reach her. Dr. John Knox of Lumberton happened to drive up in his auto just about the time of the accident and reached her almost as soon as Dr. Smith. Mrs. Blackman was taken to the home of her daughter, Mrs. Eliza Swann, with whom she lived, and soon Dr. W. A. McPhaul, local Seaboard Air Line Railroad surgeon, accompanied by Dr. H. T. Pope arrived and took charge. It was found that Mrs. Blackman's skull was fractured, a rib and her left arm broken, and that she could not possibly survive her injuries. Dr. McPhaul assumed for the company the responsibility of having the body prepared for burial by R. D. Caldwell & Son and the remains were taken Saturday to Bladenboro, near which place they were interred. Deceased was a sister of Mr. Camden Pate of Bladenboro, who came to Lumberton Friday to make arrangements for the interment.

This seems to have been an accident for which the carelessness and absentmindedness of the victim was alone responsible, if the testimony of an eye witness is to be believed. Mr. M. I. Garrell says that he was in plain view of the crossing at the time, that his attention was attracted by the prolonged blowing of her whistle, and that the engineer evidently tried to stop before reaching the woman, who deliberately walked on track in front of the engine, being entirely oblivious, apparently, to her surroundings.

The excursion train was running about 30 minutes ahead of the regular morning passenger to Wilmington and the regular train came up before the special began its journey again after the tragedy.

About two years ago a small boy was killed by a train at almost the same place. The fact that the cotton mill is situated on one side of and close to the track and the mill village on the other side makes this a dangerous crossing, despite the fact that there is a perfectly clear view for some distance each way.

Drainage in Cumberland County.

The Brett Engineering & Construction Company of Wilson, which is doing dredging in Back and Jacob swamps draining district in Robeson, has been awarded the contract to do the excavating work in connection with the drainage of the swamp lands of Flea Hill township, Cumberland county. The work will be begun as soon as the commissioners of the drainage district sell the bonds.

Property will be assessed according to the classification of the lands, which will be made before the sale of the bonds. The Brett Company was given the contract at 6.37 cents the cubic yard.

—Dr. W. W. Parker returned Saturday from Durham, where Wednesday, Thursday and Friday he attended the annual meeting of the State Optical Society. Dr. Parker was elected a member of the executive committee and also a member of the committee on ethics.

EXTRA SESSION LEGISLATURE

Called by Governor to Convene September 24 — To Adjust Freight Rates and Receive Report of Constitutional Commission—Demand For Special Session From All Sections of State.

The General Assembly of North Carolina will convene in extraordinary session in Raleigh on Wednesday, September 24, 1913 for the two-fold purpose of adjusting the relations and obligations between the railroads of the State and people thereof, and to receive the report of the Constitutional commission with the view of submitting amendments to the Constitution.

Governor Locke Craig, with the advice of the Council of State in session in the Governor's office yesterday morning, issued the proclamation calling the law makers in extraordinary session on the above mentioned date. In issuing the proclamation, by way of comment, the Governor in a strong declaration deemed that the representatives of the railroads and Corporation Commission had not reached a sufficient understanding as to delay the call of the extra session. In consequence, he declared that he could not do otherwise than submit questions so vitally affecting the people of the State than consult the people's chosen representatives. The proclamation of Governor Craig, with the seal of North Carolina, affixed thereto, is set forth in the following admirable manner:

Proclamation by the Governor.
"By and with the advice of the Council of State, I, Locke Craig, Governor of the State of North Carolina, in the exercise of the power conferred upon me by the Constitution, and in accordance with the resolution passed by the General Assembly, and ratified on the 6th day of February, 1913, do hereby issue my proclamation on this extraordinary occasion, convening the General Assembly in extra session. I do therefore ratify and request the Senators and members of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of North Carolina to meet in their respective halls, in the Capitol, in the city of Raleigh, on the 24th day of September, 1913, at 11 o'clock a. m., for the following specific purposes:

To Adjust Freight Rates.

"1. To provide for the people of North Carolina just transportation rates, and to adjust the relations and obligations between the State of North Carolina and the railroads operating within the territory of this State.

To Receive Report of Commission.

"2. To receive the report of the Constitutional Commission, and to consider the submission to the people of amendments to the Constitution."

Provision for Extra Session.

Referring to the call for the extra session of the Legislature, Governor Craig said:

"The last legislature passed a resolution providing for an extra session of the General Assembly in order that amendments to the Constitution might be submitted to the people. The General Assembly created a Constitutional Commission to prepare such amendments and report them to the Governor. This commission has completed its work. An extra session of the General Assembly is therefore necessary.

Continuing, he said: "The negotiations between the representatives of the railroads and Corporation Commission have not in my opinion resulted in any understanding sufficiently definite to delay the call of the extra session.

Hopes for Adjustment.

"These negotiations will not be interfered with by this call, and before the meeting of the General Assembly on the 24th of September, there is ample time in which to arrive at an agreement. I earnestly hope that there will be an amicable adjustment of our differences with the railroads.

Questions Submitted to People.

"I cannot do otherwise than submit these questions so vitally affecting the people of North Carolina to their chosen representatives."

Following the issuing of the proclamation for an extra session of the Legislature, Governor Craig was asked last night concerning the date on which he had determined to issue the call for vacancies occurring in the House and Senate, since the adjournment of the General Assembly. He stated that full time would be extended in advance for the election of Senators and Representatives. The minimum limit required by law is 30 days and the Governor anticipates the

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SIMMONS DEFENDS BILL

New Democratic Tariff Bill Satisfactory Answer to Demands for Downward Revision — Special Consideration Shown Farmer.

Washington Dispatch, 19th. Debate on the tariff in the Senate began in earnest today with Senator Simmons, chairman of the finance committee, proclaiming the new bill a satisfactory answer to the demands for a downward revision and Senator Cummins, speaking from a progressive Republican standpoint, predicting that it would carry the Democratic party to defeat.

Senator Simmons replied to contentions that the bill discriminated against the farmer. Senator Cummins asserted that the Democratic party had treated the farmer as an outlaw and vigorously assailed President Wilson for his participation in framing the bill. This he characterized as abuse of power that had been "coercive."

Senator Simmons recounted the farm products, the measure would place on the free list, such as wheat, flour, cattle, sheep, swine, sugar, wool, eggs and potatoes and said:

"Every man, whatever occupation, will be the beneficiary in some direction to a greater or less degree of this general system of reductions. In this respect the farmer has been shown special consideration. Practically everything he buys has been put on the free list or the duties have been greatly reduced.

Benefit of Farmer.

For his special benefit, cotton bagging and ties and materials out of which sacks for grain, wool, fertilizer, etc., are made, wire for fencing, and baling purposes and similar articles, of farm consumption, have been put on the free list. For his special benefit, plows, shovels, hoes, rakes, mowers, reapers, planters and agricultural implements of every kind and description have been put on the free list. He will be in a large degree the beneficiary of free listing of building materials used in construction of roads, school textbooks, boots and shoes, low grade blankets, harness, sewing machines and other like products.

"He will share general benefits from the reduction of duty on sugar and its ultimate abolition, and finally he will share benefits of the heavy reductions this bill makes on wearing apparel of every description, crockery, hardware, hardwood and kitchen furnishings and utensils."

Chairman Simmons declared the free list under the present Payne-Adrich law was in the interest of the protected manufacturers.

"Undoubtedly there will be increased importations under this bill. That was intended and provided for in the reductions in rates it makes. You cannot revise the tariff so as to give relief from present tariff burdens, except by enlarging opportunities for importations.

"Undoubtedly on the other hand there will be increased exportations under this bill. That was also intended by its framers and is provided for in such ways as was found possible and practicable.

To this end it untaxes the things the farmer employs in making the products he sells abroad. It untaxes the raw materials of the manufacturer.

Spirit of Comity.

"In short, it seeks in such ways as are open to establish upon a broader basis that spirit of comity on which international good will rests, to remove hampering restrictions, to broaden the basis of international trade and enable the American producer to take advantage, in greater measure than has been possible under existing tariff conditions, of our great National opportunity in the market places of the world."

Sunday School Picnic Tomorrow.

The Lumberton Presbyterian Sunday school will picnic tomorrow at Pages Mill, S. C. It is expected that a great many of the members of this school will take advantage of this occasion for a day of pleasure. The party will leave in the morning about 10 o'clock on the Raleigh and Charleston train and return in the afternoon about 5 o'clock. For the school an extra coach will be attached to the regular train. Dinner will be carried and refreshments will be served. Some good entertainment is expected for those who go. An entertainment committee has been appointed.

—The street sprinkler was on the job this morning before 7 o'clock, notwithstanding the fact that it rained copiously last night and Saturday night. Nothing like keeping up a good habit.

REUNION DATE NAMED.

Robeson County Confederate Veterans to Hold Annual Reunion in Fairmont August 28.

Robeson county Confederate veterans will hold their annual reunion in Fairmont on August 28. As was stated in The Robesonian at the time, the committee of veterans that had the selection of the place decided on Fairmont and it was decided that the date would be left for determination by the people of that town. It is learned from The Messenger that the date named above was selected at a meeting of citizens held last Tuesday.

The Messenger says that Fairmont is going to entertain the veterans royally. Mr. J. D. Andrews has been appointed chief marshal, and other marshals have been named as follows: Fairmont, A. L. McDaniel; Lumberton, H. M. McAllister, W. K. Bethune; Rowland, A. C. Johnson, Angus McKellar; St. Pauls, Dr. C. T. Poole; Red Springs, Douglas McMillan, Will Graham; Maxton, S. B. McLean, D. O. Houser; Marietta, Carl Oliver; Proctorville, Dr. T. B. Ayers; Orrum, Stinson Powell, McDonald, H. S. McLean; Elrod, Jno. McCall; Pembroke, A. M. Breece.

Lumberton Drug Store Closes.

Mr. J. S. McDonald, appointed some weeks ago receiver for the Lumberton Drug Co., closed the doors of the store Friday night and will not reopen again, as the business was being conducted at a loss. The stock of goods, fixtures, etc., of this company will be sold at public auction August 15.

—Mr. Colon A. Britt, who lives right on top of the "Mount," informs "Happy Jack" that he has some corn that easily goes fifteen feet into the air—which is a foot ahead of anything yet reported.

—Saturday was the hottest day in Lumberton, according to the official record kept for the Government by Mr. B. M. Davis, his thermometer registering 101 degrees. The hottest previously recorded this summer was along about the first of this month, 100 degrees.

—Mr. B. M. Davis returned Friday from Rapidan, Va., where he and Mrs. Davis and their daughter Miss Claudia went last week to attend the funeral of Mrs. Davis' mother, Mrs. Mary A. Garnett, whose death was mentioned in last Monday's Robesonian. Mrs. Davis and Miss Claudia will spend some time in Virginia visiting relatives.

—Mr. L. H. Caldwell has moved his gents' furnishings department into the part of his big department store heretofore occupied by crockery, etc., and the door to this part of the store, heretofore closed except during the Christmas rush, now stands open. Messrs. Justin McNeill and C. A. Crump are in charge of this department.

—Miss Estell Bullock of Oxford, Nita Masten of Winston-Salem and Helen Weaver, Richsquare, are guests of Miss Annie Neill Fuller. They arrived Saturday. Miss Mary Dasher of Southport will arrive this afternoon and will also be a guest of Miss Fuller. Miss Fuller will entertain tomorrow evening at home in honor of her guests.

—A little Dickens of a pig, or a Dickens of a little pig, about the size of your two fists, came by express to see Dr. N. A. Thompson Saturday night, but he got lonesome out in the box by himself, after the storm, everything looking bleak like and left the hospital without even saying good bye. Whereat Dr. Thompson is grieved. Pig-gie, peegie, pligpig.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. S. McDonald will leave tomorrow for Bryson City, where they will visit at the home of Mrs. McDonald's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Elmore. Mr. McDonald, who is receiver for the Lumberton Drug Co., will return to Lumberton about a week before the sale of the stock, etc., of this company on August 15. Mr. and Mrs. McDonald expect to continue to make Lumberton their home.

—"No Fool Like an Old Fool," Selig, and "The Filibuster's Ship," Pathe, will be shown at the Pastime theatre this evening. Tomorrow evening another great feature film will be but on in two reels, the title being "The Wizard of the Jungle," produced under the personal supervision of Capt. Jack Bonavita, the world's most famous lion tamer. The most sensational animal picture ever produced in two reels. An additional regular service reel will be run giving a three-reel show, but the prices will be as usual.

BRIEF LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

—Cotton today, 12 cents.

—Mr. Frank Gough spent Friday in Greensboro with his sister Mrs. J. H. Johnson, who is very sick in a hospital there.

—Special Meeting of St. Albans Lodge No. 144, A. F. & A. M. tomorrow night at 8 o'clock for all degree work. A full attendance desired.

—Miss Rosamond Waddell of Wilmington began work last week in the up-town office of the Lumberton, Dresden and Jennings Cotton Mills as stenographer.

—The Indians will have their annual picnic at Union Chapel, near Buie's, Saturday. It will be an all-day picnic and everybody is invited to attend and carry a basket.

—Mr. W. H. Stalvey, who for several months had been in a barber shop at Mullins, S. C., has returned to Lumberton. He began work today in the City Barber Shop, Fourth street.

—Mr. H. F. Bissell, who lives down Orrum way and who always raises nice melons, had loads of nice cantaloupes for sale in Lumberton Friday and Saturday and sold out readily.

—Lucy Thompson, colored, about 60 years old, who lived on Mr. J. G. Prevatt's place in Raft Swamp township, died Thursday as a result, it is thought, of being overcome with heat in the field Tuesday.

—Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Varner and little daughter, Lillie Sneed, expect to leave Wednesday to visit relatives in Gates county. They will probably be away a week or more. They intended to leave yesterday, but Mrs. Varner has been unwell since Saturday.

—A terrific wind and electric storm struck this devoted town about 7 o'clock Saturday evening, lasting for an hour or more, but no serious damage was done. Some limbs were broken from trees in town and some trees were blown down in the country.

—Miss Altie Marsh of Red Springs has accepted a position as bookkeeper in the office of County Treasurer M. G. McKenzie. She will begin work August 1st. Miss Marsh was formerly bookkeeper for the Bank of Red Springs.

—Rev. J. M. Fleming left Friday night for Clement Baptist church, Sampson county, where he will assist Rev. T. J. Baker in a revival meeting this week. Next week he will be in a meeting at Elizabethtown and the week following at White Oak church, Bladen county.

—Fairmont Messenger, 17th: Mr. M. B. Sutton, the well-known concrete contractor, was in town Monday making arrangements to go to work next week putting down more cement sidewalks. The most of the work will be done on Main street from Mr. A. C. Thompson's store to the new Baptist church. Just keep your eye on Fairmont.

—Mr. C. M. Fuller of Lumberton, arrived in town Friday afternoon enroute to Jackson Springs, Troy, High Point, Greensboro and other points beyond here. Mr. Fuller spent the night here with his brother, Mr. A. J. Fuller, continuing his journey Saturday—Hoke County Journal, 17th. —Mention has already been made in The Robesonian of Mr. Fuller's return home.

—"At the Risk of Her Life," shown at the Pastime theatre Thursday night, is three reels of the most absorbingly interesting and thrilling motion pictures that ever happened. It's a story like one of these books that grip you with the opening sentence and hold you enthralled to the end, only of course the action is much more rapid in the story as told in pictures than as told in written word.

—Mr. James Cowan, who for some time had held a position in the McAllister Hdw. Company's store, has resigned, his resignation being effective Saturday night. He will be with his father in the insurance business until early in the fall, when he expects to go away to school. Mr. Cowan is succeeded by Mr. James Barker, who resigned a position with Mr. Geo. M. Whitfield to accept this one. Mr. Barker began work this morning.

—At a meeting in Laurinburg last week of the East Carolina Dental Association, composed of the counties of Robeson and Scotland in North Carolina and Chesterfield, Marlboro, Dillon, Darlington and Florence in South Carolina, Dr. R. T. Allen of Lumberton was elected vice pres. Dr. Allen and Dr. J. D. Regan were the Lumberton dentists who attended the meeting. Dr. J. E. Funderburk of Cheraw, S. C., was elected president, Dr. R. L. Spense of Bennettsville, S. C., secretary-treasurer.