

The News and Observer

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RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 9, 1902.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Leads all North Carolina Dailies in News and Circulation

WASHINGTON HAS A DISASTROUS FIRE

Atlantic Coast Line Freight Depot Burned.

SEVEN CARS DESTROYED

The Losses Will Reach \$70,000, Partially Insured.

COLORED DRAYMAN CRUSHED BY A WALL

He Belonged to the Salamander Fire Company. But For a Change in the Wind the Destruction Would Have Been Greater.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Washington, N. C., Feb. 8.—Fire broke out at five o'clock this evening in the Atlantic Coast Line freight depot, and immediately got beyond control. The fire department could not cope with it. The loss on the buildings destroyed is \$50,000 and on the goods inside \$20,000, a total of \$70,000.

The E. Peterson Company lost \$24,000 on stock with \$9,000 insurance.

Mrs. Margaret Hoyle, owner of Peterson's store \$5,000, with \$1,000 insurance.

W. C. Dudley's bar \$2,000, not insured. Taylor's pharmacy \$1,000 loss, insurance not ascertained.

A. J. Mitchell's bar \$400. E. R. Nixon \$250.

J. B. Moore & Son, damage to office.

In the shed of the Coast Line were eight cars, but one was saved. The freight depot was totally destroyed. The fire company are now throwing water on the coals.

There was a strong northwest wind when the fire broke out, but it shifted to the north and increased. This saved a greater section of the town.

Kegs of powder blew up while the Coast Line building was burning, but no one was injured.

Sub Agent Bland says that while he was sitting in the office about five o'clock, he saw fire up in the ceiling, but did not know how it started. "Before I could get out to call for help," he said, "the whole side of the room was in flames."

One Old Dominion steamer moved up to the dock and helped to get out the goods. The explosion caused them to move off. The men of this line threw a stream on the building.

Telegrams were sent to Rocky Mount, Tarboro and Greenville to send fire engines. They were put on special trains and were ready to start when the home engines got the fire under control.

This fire takes in the section that was not devastated by the fire of 1900. Good order was kept during the conflagration and no arrests were made.

Later—at 9:25 the last falling wall of the Peterson building fell three minutes ago and killed Ed Peed, a colored drayman. Peed belonged to the Salamander Fire Company and was on duty at the time of the accident. He was terribly crushed and died instantly. The fire is now dying down.

Elections Committee Considers the Force Bill

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 8.—The bill supported by a number of Southern Republican Representatives, proposing a strong Federal election law against intimidation, ballot box frauds, etc., was considered today by the House Committee on Election of President and Vice-President.

Beers, Earhord, of Missouri, and Gibson, of Tennessee, who have assisted in framing the proposed bill, were heard on the extent of election irregularities in their States and elsewhere in the South. They explained the alleged partisanship of election boards as made up by the Governors, and also cited recent decisions of the courts, which showed, they contended, that the judicial branch took a rather lenient view of ballot box irregularities.

Mr. Gibson said it was not enough to deny the franchise to the negro, but when the white man also was denied the franchise, the situation became intolerable. This drew a spirited rejoinder from Representative Sulloway, of New Hampshire, who maintained that black and white alike were entitled to protection in exercising the franchise.

The hearings will continue next Thursday.

SHOP SUPERINTENDENT SHOT

Machinist Quarreled With Him About Employing a Non-Union Man.

(By the Associated Press.)

Fernandina, Fla., Feb. 8.—Edward Burton, Superintendent of the Seaboard Air Line Railway shops here, was shot and killed in his office this morning by D. M. Sylvester, a machinist who had until a few minutes previous to the tragedy been working for the company. Burton, it seems, placed a non-union man at work in the shops yesterday, to which Sylvester and one or two other union men objected.

Sylvester leading in the matter, complained to Burton in person late yesterday afternoon and a wordy dispute en-

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THEY GOT NO GOLD

Gang of Bank Burglary Put to Flight by a Brave Watchman.

(By the Associated Press.)

Lancaster, Pa., Feb. 8.—About 2:30 o'clock this morning an attempt was made to rob the Gap National Bank, at Gap, Pa., sixteen miles east of this city, ending in a lively exchange of shots between the towns watchman, David Stamix and the burglars.

Stamix heard an explosion in the direction of the bank and upon proceeding there found three or four men standing in front of the bank building. He demanded to know what they were doing there and was promptly ordered to hold up his hands. Stamix complied, but with a revolver in his hand, and he opened fire on the burglars, wounding at least one, as there were blood marks where they had been standing.

The robbers returned the fire, Stamix backing away towards the home of the cashier with the view of getting assistance.

When the shooting began, two or three other men ran out of the bank building, and joining their comrades disappeared in the darkness.

An examination of the bank disclosed the fact that the men had made an ineffectual effort to enter the front of the vault, and then attacked the rear end. They had bored a hole into the rear plating and had attempted to blow the vault open with dynamite or nitro glycerine, but also without success.

One of the supposed bank robbers, whose wounds was dressed at Argien was subsequently arrested at Parkersburg. He was brought to Lancaster this afternoon. He had a bad wound in the face.

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