

The News and Observer.

Leads all North Carolina Daily Papers in Both News and Circulation

INTRENCHING ON THE HEIGHTS BACK OF LA GUAIRA.

All Venezuelans Able to Bear Arms Offer Their Services.

HOPE FOR PEACE LIVES

It is Stated That Our Minister at Caracas Has Been Asked by Venezuela to Serve as Arbitrator--The Prospect Dark.

(By the Associated Press.)
La Guaira, Venezuela, Dec. 12.—The defensive preparations at the strategic points on the heights back of the town are being vigorously pushed forward. The deposits of powder in the fortresses of La Vigia and San Carlos have been removed. Great patriotic demonstrations are being made, an every one capable of bearing arms is offering his services.

The Allies Cut Off From the Capital.

(By the Associated Press.)
Caracas, Thursday, Dec. 11.—The government has taken preservative measures at La Guaira. All the deposit of coal at the navy yard, and all the British cars on the L Guaira Railroad have been brought here, rendering impossible the transportation of the allied troops by rail. General Ferrera, the Minister of War, spent all of today in the choosing of spots in the mountains where trenches are to be dug.

Yesterday, after a long conference with President Castro, Minister Bowen obtained an order for the liberation of the remaining British and German subjects who were held prisoners, and an hour later all had been released. Minister Bowen and Secretary of Legation Russell went to the jail five times and assisted the poor colored British subjects and those who were ill. It is said on the authority of an official near to President Castro that the President has allowed Minister Bowen to communicate with the Berlin and London governments through the State Department at Washington, this being the only hope of avoiding a serious conflict. It is reported that the plan of the British and German forces is to secure the ports of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello.

It is stated on good authority that the Venezuelan government has asked United States Minister Bowen to act as arbitrator in the controversy with Great Britain and Germany.

PROPOSAL FOR ARBITRATION.

The United States Has Small Hope That it Will be Favorably Received

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 12.—A cablegram received at the State Department today from Minister Bowen, at Caracas, states that the Venezuelan government has requested him to propose to Great Britain and Germany that the difficulties arising out of the claims for alleged damages and injuries to British and German subjects during the civil war be submitted to arbitration.

In conformity with the understanding already reached with the representatives of the British and German governments here, this proposition from President Castro will be duly laid before those governments, the State Department acting merely as a channel of communication, of much hope is entertained of the favorable reception of the proposition, as it is felt that the difficulty has progressed too far for a settlement by the peaceful methods of arbitration. The reprisals made by the Venezuelans for the destruction of their navy, in the seizure of British ships and the arrest of British and German subjects, practically have developed the relations between the countries into those of real war, although technically the principals prefer to designate it as something less.

The Venezuelan proposal was communicated to the British and German Ambassadors this afternoon and by them cabled to London and Berlin. It is probable that replies will be received over night and will be sent by the State Department to Minister Bowen, who will inform the Venezuelan President.

It is certain that the State Department would be willing to go any reasonable length to settle the difficulty in Venezuela in any manner that shall be honorable and satisfactory to all parties. Therefore Secretary Hay today replied to Mr. Bowen's cablegram, authorizing him, in his discretion, to use his good offices to secure arbitration. He was, however, made to understand that in the arbitration, if one should follow, he would represent not the government of the United States, but that of Venezuela, at its request.

If there is an attempt to possess themselves of all the customs receipts on the part of Great Britain and Germany, protests might naturally be expected to follow from a nation such as France, which holds claims aggregating more than the combined claims of England and Germany and which has it is understood, already arranged for their payment upon an installment plan out of Venezuelan customs receipts; an arrangement that may

be disturbed by the British and German program.
It is evident here now that the allies have been obliged to proceed upon Venezuela far beyond the point where their original program ceased. The evidence shows that there was not the least apprehension that Castro in his resistance would make it necessary for Great Britain and Germany to go beyond a peaceful blockade and it is the understanding that the London and Berlin authorities are now obliged to prepare a new program for execution in case Mr. Bowen's efforts at arbitration fail.

Uncle Sam Has the First Word.

(By the Associated Press.)
Paris, Dec. 12.—A Foreign Office official made the following statement today to a correspondent of the Associated Press:
"No exchange of views has occurred between the European powers concerning the Venezuelan situation, and no such exchange is intended, as it is definitely held that the affair is one in which the United States should be left free to take the initiative in mediation."
This statement was called out by the suggestion of the Temps that it was time for Europe to speak in the interest of universal peace. The official added: "It is fully recognized here and at the other capitals that the United States is the only power in a position to act as an intermediary. Hence there is no intention on the part of the European powers to take concerted or individual action."
The release of the French steamer Osson, seized by the Germans at La Guaira, has not yet been reported to the Foreign Office, but the officials accept (Continued on Second Page.)

PAYNE TO SIMMONS

The Postmaster General Expresses His Regret for the Article in the Star.

(Special to the News and Observer.)
Washington, Dec. 12.—Senator Simmons has received the following letter from the Postmaster General:
"My Dear Senator: The following article appeared in the Washington Evening Star of the 9th instant. (Here follows the Star article in full):
"Probably this article was written because of a short conversation I had with a representative of that paper. There are some parts of it however which are so far from reflecting my sentiments that I cannot refrain from dropping you this note to correct the impression which I am sure the article might make upon your mind.
"One sentence of the article reads: 'The place for such objection to be made is in the Senate when nominations are sent there and it is rather an unheard of proceeding for a Democratic delegation to visit the Postmaster General and proclaim its opposition to a man for an office.'
"I assure you that there is no such feeling as the two sentences quoted from the article would imply. It is not unusual for this department to inquire of you and of other members of your party in Congress regarding the character and capacity of men who have been proposed to us for office in your several States and we expect to continue to do so where we expect we can obtain information of value in determining the character and standing of persons applying for office.
"I regret the publication of that part of the article which would give the impression that the administration of this department has any feeling of resentment regarding the action of your delegation or that we criticized your action in this case which was clearly within your right and duty. Looking at the question involved from your standpoint although your point of view does not concern itself to my judgment as the correct one."
"Very truly yours
(Signed) "F. C. PAYNE,
Postmaster General."

The entente cordial having been fully restored, Postmaster General Payne and Senator Simmons enjoyed a very friendly and pleasant chat, or, as Mr. Payne called it, heart to heart talk in the private room of the Postmaster General at the Postoffice Department.
The Postmaster General very frankly told the Senator that he thought the action of the North Carolina Democratic delegation in the Wilson postoffice controversy was chock full of politics, while the Senator with equal frankness told Mr. Payne that he regarded the action of his colleague in the Senate in attempting to construe certain certificates of character given by a few private citizens into a Democratic endorsement of a negro for office as a purely political move, and that the Democratic delegation did not intend that there should be any doubt cast upon the position of the party on that question.
Ex-Judge Thomas N. Hill, late candidate for Chief Justice, is here. It is learned that Senator Pritchard will introduce the judge to quite a number of Republican Senators. Is the judge after a notice as a reward for the use of his name in the late campaign, or is he up to help Senator Pritchard in his numerous troubles, with his "Lily White" Independent Republican party?

Bank Robbed of \$30,000.

(By the Associated Press.)
Santa Fe, N. M., Dec. 12.—The bank at Hillsboro, was held up in broad daylight today and robbed of \$30,000, according to a report received here.

THUNDERED INTO A TRAIN AT A SWITCH

Both Engines Leaped Into the Air.

A CRASH AT HIGH POINT

The Switch Had Been Left Open--The Engines Were Badly Broken and Six Persons Were Injured--A Brakeman's Mistake.

(Special to the News and Observer.)
High Point, N. C., Dec. 12.—People living in the eastern part of town were startled by a terrific noise this morning at 5:20 o'clock. No. 39, one of the fast passenger trains running between Washington and Jacksonville, Fla., collided in a head-on collision with a northbound freight standing on the siding within the east yards.

A switch had been left open and the giant engine, with its six Pullman cars loaded with human freight, swerved to the left and went crashing into the freight. Both engines were raised from the track, their tenders telescoped and their machinery bent and twisted into scrap iron. A car load of lumber adjoining the engine of the freight was hurled 100 feet down an embankment and two other cars splintered into kindling wood.

The tender of the passenger train went crashing through the baggage car and stopped within two feet of the baggage master, who was in the rear end and who escaped from the wrecked car with slight bruises.

Six persons were wounded. Engineer Rowzie, of the fast passenger train, and Engineer Sweeney, of the freight, and their firemen, and two passengers who received bruises about the face. Engineer Rowzie suffered a broken leg and possibly his ankle is crushed so badly that it will have to be amputated. Engineer Sweeney also had his leg broken.

The two firemen are severely bruised and cut about the face.
After the wreck the passengers were all congratulating themselves on their escape and praising Engineer Rowzie for his bravery.
It was due to his presence of mind in applying the emergency brake and shutting off the steam so quickly that many lives were saved. He stuck to his post, and even after his leg was crushed, seeing he could do nothing else for his train, crawled out of the cab window.

The open switch was not accounted for until 9 o'clock this morning when a note was handed the superintendent of this division, who was on the scene, from the head brakeman of the freight train, giving the information. It told of the engineer going to the depot after orders and he (the brakeman) thinking the freight was going to Hill Tap, beyond Jamestown, to meet o. 35, he threw open the switch and went to the bottom of the embankment for a few moments. Shortly afterwards the crash came. The brakeman sent the note by some one and closed it with: "I wish I'd never seen the d—n railroad and I'm done with it."

Superintendent Coopman, of Greensboro, was soon at the scene with the wrecking crew and by nine o'clock the track was clear. Doctors of the town were sent for and attended to the wounded, who were, soon as the track was cleared, were carried to Greensboro.
This is the most disastrous wreck that has ever occurred here and gave hundreds who were at the scene, to see a wreck for the first time.

TO GIVE HIMSELF UP.

It is Believed That Bishop Will Surrender to the Authorities at Once.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 12.—I now seem certain that Arthur Bishop will give himself up before tomorrow morning. A friend of the Bishop family is here and has retained Col. H. C. Jones and Mr. E. F. Cansler, two of the most prominent criminal lawyers in North Carolina, to defend Bishop. It is said tonight that Bishop will not claim the reward, nor will he allow any of his friends to accept the \$400 offered by the State for his arrest.

DR. A. W. ATWATER DEAD.

He Was a Son of Ex-Congressman J. W. Atwater--A Life Sketch.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Knap of Reeds, N. C., Dec. 12.—Dr. Alfred S. Atwater, eldest son of ex-Congressman J. W. Atwater, died at his home here yesterday morning of consumption. His death was not unexpected, for he has been a sufferer for nearly two years. He graduated at the "Medical College" at Nashville, Tenn., in 1883, and has practiced medicine at Durham and other places, but for the last twelve years he has been a resident of this place. He married Miss Cena Roberts, daughter of the late J. V. Roberts, about thirteen years ago, and shortly afterwards bought a home here.
In his death the community has lost one of its best men, the church an efficient and loyal member, and the people a lasting and faithful friend. It was his faithfulness in work, when he was unable, that hastened his death. No man ever yielded to his friends more than he. His church membership is

with the M. E. church of this place.

His funeral will be conducted from his home this afternoon by the Rev. W. H. Puckett, his pastor. His remains will be interred here. Among his relatives that are expected here today are Mrs. J. T. Burroughs, his sister, of Chapel Hill; Mr. Will Atwater, of Gastonia, a brother; Mr. C. B. Atwater, of Rialto, a brother; Dr. Farrington, of Winston, an uncle, and Mrs. Charles Gregory, of Mariana, Ark. The last named sister will not arrive here in time for the burial, and it is somewhat doubted whether she will come.

Many other relatives from Durham and other places are expected.
He leaves a wife and four children, father, two brothers and two sisters to mourn his departure.

SEVEN MEN SAW THROUGH STEEL BARS TO FREEDOM.

Two of the Seven Who Break Jail at Marshall are Under Charge of Murder.

(By the Associated Press.)
Marshall, N. C., Dec. 12.—Seven men escaped from jail at this place at midnight by sawing out the steel bars in the cell windows. The escaped prisoners include Henry Murray and Rice Hagan, both of whom are under charge of murder. There is yet no trace of the men.

Frank Lewis Hanged.

(By the Associated Press.)
Middlesboro, Ky., Dec. 12.—Frank Lewis was hanged at Harlan court house, Harlan county, Kentucky, today. The execution was witnessed by about 5,000 people. Lewis killed his father-in-law, Henry Dixon, May 20, last.

PENSION BILLS GO

The House Clears the Calendar, Passing one Hundred and Seventy-Three.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—The House devoted the day to the consideration of private pension bills. The calendar was cleared, 173 bills being passed. None of them was of especial interest. The bill to appropriate \$1,000,000 for the eradication of the foot and mouth disease in New England, was made a special order for next Tuesday with the understanding that only the legislative features of the bill would be considered, and that the appropriation would be reported from the Appropriation Committee. Mr. Maddox (Ga.) objected to the consideration of the bill today until he had had an opportunity to examine it.

What are Their Claims, De Armond Asks.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—Representative De Armond (Mo.), offered a resolution in the House today requesting the Secretary of State to inform the House of the nature and extent of the claims of Great Britain and Germany against Venezuela, whether the claims are disputed by Venezuela and what effort, if any, and by whom, has been made to settle peacefully, by arbitration or otherwise, the matters subject of controversy, and with what result, if any, with full particulars.

Further inquiry is made of the State Department as to what has been said or done by the United States with relation to the Monroe Doctrine and its due and respectful observance in the transactions with reference to the British and German claims against Venezuela, and to what extent the United States has been consulted or conferred with us to the substance or application of applicability of the Monroe Doctrine, and with what result, and further, what has been done by this government to insure respect for that doctrine together with any results of such action.

The Secretary is asked further to inform the House whether, in his judgment, the United States can, by a firm assertion of the Monroe Doctrine, bring about or aid in bringing about a peaceful and fair adjustment of the disputes between the nations involved, so as to have fully respected the principles of the Monroe Doctrine and to preserve the governmental and territorial integrity and independence of Venezuela. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

John Barrett Declines.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—Secretary Hay has received a cablegram from John Barrett, dated at Calcutta, India, today, stating that he regarded it as his duty to continue his connection with the St. Louis Exposition, and declining the Japanese mission, which had been tendered to him.
It is understood that Lloyd Griscom, Jr., now Minister to Persia, who was charge d'affaires at Constantinople, and in that capacity did much to effect a settlement of the American claims, will be the successor to the late Minister Buck.

A Colored Physician.

Another colored physician has located in Raleigh, this being Dr. P. H. Williams, a graduate of the medical department of Shaw University in 1901. He is a son of the late Thomas Williams, who was a well known colored man doing carpenter work for the late Mr. Thomas H. Briggs. Dr. Williams stood high in his class work.

AGAINST STATE AID FOR THEIR SCHOOLS

The Baptist Convention Passes This Resolution.

A SPIRITED DISCUSSION

Messrs. Bailey, Hufham and Blackwell are the Leaders--Report on Home Missions.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Durham, N. C., Dec. 12.—The meeting of the Baptist State Convention was a genuine love feast last night but today it resolved itself into a very warm meeting, and several of the prominent members of the convention were drawn into a contest that was not expected up to a few minutes before it was participated in.

The main fight was between Dr. Calvin S. Blackwell, of Wilmington, Dr. J. D. Hufham, of Henderson, and Mr. J. W. Bailey, editor of the Biblical Recorder. The report of the Committee on General Education, which was presented by Mr. J. W. Bailey, recommended, among other things, that the Legislature be petitioned to so increase the appropriations for public schools that all schools may be run four months in each school district.

Mr. Bailey made a talk on the report and said that the forces of the State, both political and religious, were pledged to primary education of the masses, and the consolidation of the school districts means that the secondary denominational schools will retrograde and finally die out. "Communism in education is driving out denominationalism in secondary schools," he declared. He referred to the fight of the brethren in Great Britain against contributing to the Episcopal schools, and commended them for such action. He believed that the church was called upon today, as never before in the annals of Christianity, to educate and to patronize their own schools, of all grades, "for we are today facing a crisis in this matter."

Mr. J. D. Hufham, of Henderson, also made a very earnest talk and regretted to see Mr. Bailey disposed to take a gloomy view of the situation. He said that he did not believe there existed any crisis. Instead he would call it a great opportunity. North Carolina, he said, has too broad a spirit of catholicity to allow the dangers Mr. Bailey feared to befall us. "He who laid the foundation of Wake Forest College," he said, "was a graduate of the State University, which great institution has a faculty with six of the members Baptists. James Hall and others, who helped to lay the foundation of our Baptist empire were educated at the University. The spirit of catholicism is in our State and no one will try to throttle the spirit of education, such as we desire to see fostered." He believed that Wake Forest, the Baptist Female University, the excellent schools at Oxford, Murfreesboro, Mars Hill, Buie's Creek, Bethel Hill and others would continue to flourish and accomplish a great and good work.

At the conclusion of Dr. Hufham's talk Mr. Bailey was on his feet in a moment. The fight was on and the State aid to the University was really the bone of contention. He expressed surprise at some things Dr. Hufham has said in his plea for State education. Dr. Hufham expressed the opinion that there was a field for all, he said, but he, for one, wished it understood that we are not to depend on State institutions for the sources of our inspiration and power. At this point Dr. Calvin S. Blackwell, of Wilmington, came into the fight with flying colors. He deprecated the aid certain schools, regarded as denominational, were receiving from the State. He declared, with emphasis, that it was unwise, un-Baptistic, and fraught with grave complications. The position of Baptists has been known for generations, he declared, as unalterably in favor of separation of church and State "and here we are," he said, "furnishing the Roman Catholic with ammunition to hurl at us when they begin their aggressive campaign in the near future for a division of the school fund. He was in favor of washing the hands of the denomination of State aid absolutely."

Mr. Bailey engaged in a colloquy with Dr. Blackwell and called on him to desist in his talk. Dr. Blackwell said that he would not, and continued his talk. Finally Mr. Bailey brought the matter to a head by introducing a resolution reaffirming the purpose of the convention to discourage State aid for Baptist schools, and expressed regret for the necessity of such action. The resolution was passed by the convention.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Hume, of the University, was recognized and expressed approval of the position taken by Dr. Hufham. He said that what we need above all things is Christian men in our schools. He believed in the correlation of the schools as proposed in the report of the committee. The report was then adopted.
The fight was a warm one and during the time that it was on there was much interest in what was going on. Several times during the colloquy between Dr. Blackwell and Mr. Bailey President Marsh called upon them to desist and said "One at a time, one at a time."

The convention opened this morning with devotional exercises and the minutes of yesterday's meetings were read by Secretary Broughton and found to be correct. Then there was some miscel-

laneous business transacted and the fight over the report of the Educational Committee came up.

The correlation of the secondary schools of the denomination as told in this correspondence several days ago, came about when the report of the committee was adopted this morning. The general idea is that each school will remain in its own field and not encroach on another and that the students will be educated with an idea of sending them to Wake Forest and the Baptist Female University.

President Marsh announced the appointment of the new educational committees with Mr. J. W. Bailey as chairman. At this point Dr. Marsh announced that the report of the Committee on Home Missions was the special order of the hour. Rev. W. D. Hubbard read the report.

MORE FOR HOME MISSIONS.

The report indicated great prosperity throughout the field recommended an aggressive movement, as opportunities were many and great throughout the South. Mr. Hubbard made an earnest talk on the subject and expressed the hope that the high tide reached last night regarding foreign missions would again be reached in naming the amount for home missions this year.

Dr. F. G. McConnelly, of Atlanta, secretary Mission Board, was introduced and made an earnest plea for the cause. His address was eloquent and forcible. At the conclusion of the address the amount fixed for home missions was ten thousand dollars instead of six thousand, as last year.

The afternoon session of the convention was devoted largely to a report of the committee to nominate the different boards for the year. This committee reported on missions, Sunday-schools and (Continued on Second Page.)

TREATY WITH CUBA

A Dispatch Says the Protocol Was Signed at Havana Thursday Night.

(By the Associated Press.)
Havana, Dec. 12.—The protocol of the commercial treaty between Cuba and the United States was signed at 11 o'clock last night.

Washington, Dec. 12.—"Treaty signed at 11:15 last night," was the message which came to the State Department today from General Bliss, at Havana, confirming the press report of the conclusion of a reciprocity arrangement between the United States and Cuba. The officials here are puzzled to know just what has been signed. They thought that a protocol or protocols had been prepared, but General Bliss' message carries the inference that he has actually concluded a definite reciprocity treaty. If he has done so the President will accept it and forward it to the Senate for its action and the offices of Minister Quesada here will not be required to give effect to the convention.

The State Department does not feel at liberty to make public the details of the arrangement, in fact some of those will not be known until the Havana mail reaches here for General Bliss undoubtedly has made some changes in the duties on American imports into Cuba originally proposed.

WYMAN CHOSEN PRESIDENT.

American Public Health Association Meets Next at Washington.

(By the Associated Press.)
New Orleans, Dec. 12.—The American Public Health Association, after a four days' convention here, concluded its work this morning. The following officers were elected:

- President—Dr. Waller Wyman, Surgeon General of the United States Marine Hospital service.
- First Vice-President—D. F. Wilkinson, New Orleans.
- Second Vice-President—John L. Leal, New Jersey.
- Treasurer—Dr. F. W. Wright, of Connecticut.
- Secretary—Dr. C. O. Probst, Columbus, Ohio.

Executive Committee—John L. Fulton, Maryland; John Amyet, Toronto; Jose Ramirez, Mexico.
Washington, D. C., was chosen as the next place of meeting. Resolutions were adopted favoring a sanitary exhibit at the coming St. Louis Exposition, and urging that illuminating gas be placed under municipal control.

A resolution by Dr. E. L. McGhee prevailed, asking for legislation that would require railroad and steamship companies and hotels to furnish pure drinking water.

Hester's Cotton Statement.

(By the Associated Press.)
New Orleans, Dec. 12.—Secretary Hester's statement, issued today, shows the world's total visible supply of cotton to be 3,574,165 bales, against 3,463,243 last week and 3,794,947 last year. Of this the total of American cotton is 2,999,165, against 2,942,243 last week and 3,285,947 last year, and of all other kinds, including Egypt, Brazil, India, etc., 575,000, against 521,000 last week and 509,000 last year.
Of the world's visible supply of cotton there is now afloat and held in Great Britain and Continental Europe 1,623,000, against 1,905,000 last year; in Egypt, 163,000, against 184,000 last year; in India, 183,000, against 124,000 last year, and in the United States, 1,602,000, against 1,582,000 last year.

Take two thoughts for every word you speak.