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Leads all North Carolina Daily Papers in Both News and Circulation

A GREAT CONVENTION OF THE TOBACCO GROWERS.

A Splendid Response to the Call of President Cunningham.

A COMMITTEE OF FIVE

To These Will be Intrusted the Labor of Organizing the Tobacco Growing and Allied Interests in Solid Phalanx Against the Assaults of the Trust.

(Special to News and Observer.)
* Rocky Mount, N. C., Dec. 19.—We have had a great meeting. A thousand people were present and great interest was manifested. A strong committee was appointed to organize the State.
* JOHN S. CUNNINGHAM.
* *****

The Work of the Convention

Rocky Mount, N. C., Dec. 19.—The convention of the Association of Tobacco Growers of North Carolina, which was held here was a splendid success. Great numbers of people were in attendance and the interest manifested was intense. Hon. E. S. Daughtridge, member-elect of the Legislature, introduced Colonel John S. Cunningham, president of the association, who made a forceful and logical speech, pointing out the necessity of a thorough organization of the tobacco growers and allied interests. This address created a deep impression. [This address will be published in full Sunday.]

Resolutions were then adopted by the convention appointing a committee of five who shall have general supervision and control of the organization of the tobacco interests in North Carolina.

No more fit place than Rocky Mount could have been selected by the Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina for their convention, situated as it is in the very center of the Bright Tobacco belt of the State, whose leaf has gained a world-wide reputation. Yes, in the heart of the country where grows to perfection the bright golden leaf, on the main line of the South's great system of railways, the Atlantic Coast Line, with branch lines extending out in every direction the beautiful, progressive town of Rocky Mount, the product of two counties, is most accessible.

Again, the selection is most fit, for the people of Nash and Edgecombe counties are exceeded in hospitality by no people on the globe. Because of their splendid railway facilities, their beautiful Opera House, where the convention was held and their several excellent hotels, the wisdom of President Cunningham was fittingly demonstrated in calling the convention to be held at Rocky Mount.

Since last evening prominent citizens, representing the tobacco growing industry of the State, among them manufacturers, warehousemen, buyers and growers, have been pouring into the city, all of which is an evidence of the intense interest uppermost in the minds of the people.

The gigantic clutch of the tobacco trust has fastened upon the vitals of the tobacco growing life, and the future of the tobacco farmer, under existing conditions, is anything but a bright and promising picture. As a result of the merger of the Imperial and American Companies, those who, for sundry reasons, failed to sell their tobacco have seen a rapidly declining market, many holders having felt severely, a drop of from 25 per cent to 33 1-3 per cent in the price. With these trusts the apparent masters of the situation, controlling as they do, the manufacturing markets of the world, buying up by force and otherwise tobacco manufacturing industries the world over, they begin to show that their infant days are of the past, controlling both the raw as well as the manufactured product, with the manufactured product higher while yet the raw product is lower, lower, lower. To meet these conditions at the instance of certain of the largest and most successful growers of the weed in the State, President John S. Cunningham of the Tobacco Growers Association, issued the call for a convention. Every important movement takes on the character of the initiative, hence, the work of today is but the beginning of a determined effort on the part of the tobacco growers of the State to protect their interests. The war against the trust is on.

Not forgetful of the victory won in the fight against the oppression of the Jute Bagging Trust, the tobacco farmer, backed by the warehousemen and the independent manufacturer has taken courage and his great weapon—brain—is preparing for the fray. Will he succeed? On the principle, in union there is strength, if the farmer will organize and there be hearty co-operation on the part of every grower, warehouseman, manufacturer and sympathetic interest, success is assured.

It is the purpose of the convention that organization be close and complete, and to that end it is proposed to employ or select the best material in the tobacco growing counties, one man in each

township who will enter at once upon the work and perfect township organization, educate the people along the lines mapped out and report to a State convention to be held early in January. Then a general discussion of what these reports contain and convey will be had and any needed legislation will be formulated.

It is estimated that two hundred and fifty representative farmers from Edgecombe, Nash, Pitt, Maxton, Wilson, Wayne, Lenoir, Wake, Franklin, Orange, Halifax, Person and Granville, are in attendance.

Among those in attendance are: Col. John S. Cunningham, J. Bryan Grimes, J. J. Laughlin, R. R. Cotton, R. R. Ricks, Dr. H. F. Freeman, T. E. Keel, J. E. Pogue, O. L. Joyner, Thos. B. Parker, W. H. Moore, L. Berkley, Mr. Brinkley, of Maxton; J. P. Smith, Walter Woodard, H. D. Edgerton, J. O. W. Graveley, Geo. L. Wimberly, J. B. Phillips, T. B. Braswell, Dr. Harris and Mr. Fountain, of Pitt; Dr. R. H. Speight.

Invite Tobacco States to Organize.

(By the Associated Press.)
Richmond, Va., Dec. 19.—A Rocky Mount, N. C., special says: "Colonel John S. Cunningham, of the North Carolina Tobacco Growers' Association, held a great meeting of the tobacco growers in Rocky Mount today. Over one thousand farmers were present at the opera house, and great interest was manifested. The farmers will immediately organize every county in the State, and invite the tobacco States to organize."

HEAD CUT FROM BODY

A Man Killed by an A. C. L. Train Near Goldsboro.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Goldsboro, N. C., Dec. 19.—A north-bound freight train on the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, which passed here about noon today, killed a white man at the 72nd mile post, about three miles north of this city. The man was lying with his head on the rail and the wheels passed over his neck, severing the head from the body. The engineer did not see the man until the body rolled over into the ditch. The train was stopped and the conductor notified the section master, who took care of the remains and notified the coroner who held an inquest this afternoon.

Mr. Dempsey, the section master, says that the man had just passed him about an hour before he was struck by the train. He said his name was K. L. Brock, and that he lived about three and a half miles south of Mt. Olive. Mr. Dempsey says he told Brock, that he had nothing for him to do and that he soon left and went on up the railroad.

Mr. Dempsey says he noticed that the man had a bottle of whiskey in his pocket, but he did not think the fellow was drunk. It is not known whether Brock lay down and went to sleep or whether he intended to commit suicide. The fact that his head was lying across the track is evidence in support of the suicide theory.

GOT THE WRONG GIRLS.

Bonnie Jones and Marie Kuykendall Still Evade the Searchers.
(Special to News and Observer.)
Asheville, N. C., Dec. 19.—It is learned that the girls arrested yesterday at Columbia thought to be Marie Kuykendall and Bonnie May Jones were not the girls wanted. Reported now that they are at Pickens, S. C., and the police have gone there for them.

Katie Briggs who was brought here yesterday to answer the charge of abandoning her infant has been released. She promises to care for the child.

AN ENDOWMENT OF \$200,000.

Secured From Northern Sources for the Lincoln Memorial Institution.

(By the Associated Press.)
Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 19.—President Larry, of the Lincoln Memorial University, at Cumberland Cap, Tenn., announces he has secured from Northern sources an endowment of \$200,000 for that institution, also a number of scholarships. The benefactors are not made known. The Lincoln Memorial institution was founded largely through the efforts of General O. O. Howard. It is for the mountain people.

Stabbed to the Heart.

(By the Associated Press.)
Charleston, S. C., Dec. 19.—A special to the News and Courier, from Laurens, S. C., says: "This morning, on J. H. Kennedy's place, two miles north of this town, Joe Davis stabbed Tom Harris to the heart, killing him instantly. Both are negroes. They quarrelled last night and Harris attacked Davis with a gun this morning, striking him on the head. Davis finally drew his knife and used it. He did not attempt to escape and was promptly arrested."

New Pastor Arrives

(Special to News and Observer.)
Louisburg, N. C., Dec. 19.—Rev. H. H. Meshburn, pastor of the Baptist church, who arrived this week from Louisville, Ky., accompanied by his bride, will hold his regular services in the Baptist church next Sunday.

THE HOUSE PASSES THE PURE FOOD BILL

The Fowler Banking Measure Favorably Reported.

THE CANAL TREATY WAITS

The House Committee on Inter-State Commerce Has Ordered a Favorable Report on the Department of Commerce Bill.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—The House today passed the Pure Food bill by a vote of 72 to 21. There was not a quorum present, but the point was not raised by the opponents of the measure. The speakers today were Messrs. Richardson (Ala.), Hepburn (Iowa), Gaines (Tenn.), and Schirm (Md.), for the measure, and Mr. Candler (Miss.), against it. As soon as the first section of the bill was read for amendment under the five-minute rule, Mr. Adamson (Ga.), moved to strike out the enacting clause. His motion was defeated, 12 to 53.

The bill prohibits the introduction into any State or territory, or the District of Columbia, from any other State, or territory, or the District of Columbia, or from any foreign country, or the shipment to any foreign country of any article of food or drug which is adulterated or misbranded; and the prohibition lies against any one shipping, delivering or receiving within the regions named any such food so adulterated. The bill defines in detail what shall constitute adulteration and provides that any article of food or drug that is adulterated or misbranded and is transported or being transported from one State to another for sale shall be liable to confiscation by a process of libel for condemnation in the United States courts; but such goods shall not be sold in any State contrary to the laws thereof.

Fowler's Bill Reported.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 19.—The House Committee on Banking and Currency today favorably reported the Currency bill introduced by Chairman Fowler.

On the vote to report the bill the four Republican members voted in the affirmative, the two Democratic members present refraining from voting.

The Bureau of Labor Included.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 19.—The House Committee on Inter-State Commerce today ordered a favorable report on the Department of Commerce bill. The vote on reporting it stood 5 to 3. The provision for including the Bureau of Labor in the new department was retained on a tie vote.

The bill, as it will come from the House committee, will embrace within the proposed Department of Commerce the Lighthouse Board, the Lighthouse Service, National Bureau of Standards, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Bureau of Immigration, Fish Commission, Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department, Bureau of Foreign Commerce of the State Department, Fur-seal and Salmon Fisheries, Bureau of Labor and Census, and three new bureaus—Insurance, Manufactures and Corporations.

The Panama Canal Treaty.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 19.—Confirmation of the Panama Canal Treaty with Colombia has again been moved into the future and it is now said that no treaty can be expected before Christmas and probably not until the beginning of next year.

FIVE THOUSAND IS PLEDGED.

If the Methodist Protestants Will Locate Their College in Greensboro.

(Special to the News and Observer.)
Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 19.—At a meeting of citizens in the court house last night the sum of five thousand dollars was subscribed to the proposed Methodist Protestant College, provided it is located at Greensboro. The meeting adjourned until tonight, when the Industrial and Immigration Association meets and it is expected that ten thousand will be pledged without any difficulty. Strong speeches in favor of the college were made by Dr. C. D. McIver, J. Van Lindley, J. T. Murphy, J. Norman Wills, E. P. Wharton, C. G. Wright, Chairman W. H. Osborn and others.

Lynchburg Man Promoted.

(By the Associated Press.)
Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—Charles Oter Gwatkin, formerly general eastern agent of the Wisconsin Central Railway, has been appointed general manager of the Guatemala Northern Railroad with headquarters at Guatemala City, Guatemala. Mr. Gwatkin is a native of Lynchburg, Va. He entered the railway service in 1880.

'T WAS A REIGN OF VIOLENCE, THEY SAY

Non-Union Men Tell of Their Alleged Wrongs.

SNUFFLES PECKSNIFFIAN

One Non-Union Man Sheds Tears as he Testifies—They Say They Were Boycotted, Stoned, Dynamited, Roughly Used Generally.

(By the Associated Press.)
Scranton, Pa., Dec. 19.—Non-union men, some of their relatives and others, to the number of thirty, appeared before the Anthracite Coal Commission today and told their stories of alleged boycotts, intimidations, dynamiting and violence in various forms, during the late strike. Each witness called was a sufferer in one form or another at the hands, they alleged, of union men. Four witnesses said attempts were made to blow up their houses; many of the witnesses were threatened with bodily harm; several were beaten; one was shot in the leg, and everyone stoned, boycotted or hanged in effigy.

One school teacher testified to having lost his position because his father did not strike. One man was asked to resign from a Catholic temperance society, and another was expelled from a local lodge of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, because they were classed as "unfair workmen."

Joseph H. Duggan, the man who was requested to give up his membership in the temperance society, remained at work, doing repair work and acting as a watchman. He went on the witness stand as he told how they ordered him to leave after many years of pleasant associations with its members. He said he had been stoned and otherwise badly treated, and added that a good clubbing would not have hurt half as much as the action of the society in throwing him out of the organization.

Chairman Gray asked the witness if he remained at work so that the pumps could be kept in good repair and thus keep the mines from being destroyed, and he said he did. Mr. Darrow asked him how long he worked, and examined him in such a way on the subject as to bring the statement from Chairman Gray that men will work fifteen hours or more to help save a neighbor's burning house.

James Mitchell was the man who was expelled from the Hibernian Society. He said he worked during the strike as a repairman, and did not consider it unfair, because he did not mine any coal. He had been a member of the Society 25 or 28 years, and at a meeting one night during the strike the question of his unfairness came up and every member present voted to expel him.

A Polandier named Max Lasar, who did not quit when the strike was inaugurated, told of how a man threw a quart bottle of giant powder, to which a lighted fuse was attached into the parlor of his home. He extinguished the fuse. The powder was shown to the commission.

Thomas Kennedy, aged 15 years, said he worked in a drug store in Carbondale. His father was an engineer in the employ of the Delaware and Hudson Company and did not quit work when the strike started. The manager of the drug store, he said, was requested by a committee from the union, to discharge him and rather than have the store boycotted, the druggist told the boy to quit. The father corroborated the story, and added that he had to keep his children from the public schools as they were being abused.

An Italian named Frank Fidati, who was a striker, but who was hired by a coal operator to watch the home of a non-union man, was shot in the leg by other strikers because he would not stop protecting the man's house. The non-union man who lived in the house and subsequently quit work, was next called and produced a letter written by President T. D. Nicholls, of District No. 1, in which he stated that the witness had quit work and was a good union man, and that all union men should treat him in a friendly manner "so long as he behaved himself accordingly."

John Conlin, a mine boss and president of the school board of Plains, near Wilkesbarre, testified that a committee of a local union called on him and asked that school teachers whose relatives were working in the mines be not reappointed as teachers.

Other witnesses testified to having been hung in effigy once or more times, that grocers, butchers, milkmen and ice-men refused to serve them because they were afraid their business would be boycotted, and that they were severely beaten and socially ostracized.

The commission will meet at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning and will adjourn at 11:45 o'clock for the holidays.

A. and M. Boy Wins Appointment.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—Mr. S. H. Beck, a graduate of the A. and M. College, class '98, has accepted an appointment as marine engine and boiler draughtsman in the Bureau of Steam Engineering, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., having qualified in the examination in Philadelphia last month. Mr. Beck stood second in the examination, and the two highest were appointed here

in the Bureau of Steam Engineering, where a very small percentage of the government's draughtsmen work.

Against Kissing the Bible.

(By the Associated Press.)
Richmond, Va., Dec. 19.—In the State Senate today, Mr. McIlwaine offered a bill to prohibit the kissing of the Bible upon the administration of oaths in the courts of this Commonwealth. Mr. McIlwaine stated privately that he was induced to offer this bill because of the uncleanliness in the miscellaneous kissing of the Book, and the danger of the spreading of disease. The bill was referred to the Committee on Courts of Justice.

Ellen En Elects Old Officers.

(By the Associated Press.)
New York, Dec. 19.—The directors of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company held their annual meeting in this city today and re-elected all the outgoing officers. No other business was transacted.

The Condition of Vanderbilt.

(By the Associated Press.)
New York, Dec. 18.—There is no reported change in the condition of Cornelius Vanderbilt tonight. It was announced at Mr. Vanderbilt's house that no bulletin would be issued during the night. Dr. Janeway said at midnight: "Mr. Vanderbilt is in no immediate danger."

SHE BROKE MY HEART

Pupil of Voltairine Le Cleyre, Anarchist, Shoots Her on the Street.

(By the Associated Press.)

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 19.—Voltairine Le Cleyre, a noted anarchist and a teacher of languages, was mysteriously shot and mortally wounded today by Herman Helscher, a former pupil. The woman is dying in a hospital and Helscher is in custody. Unrequited love is said to have prompted the deed. When arrested Helscher's only explanation was the following: "We were sweethearts, she and I. She broke my heart and deserved to be killed."

Miss Le Cleyre is 36 years of age and her assailant is 24. The shooting occurred on the street in broad daylight and was witnessed by a score of persons.

Miss Le Cleyre was standing at a street corner awaiting a car. Helscher, who had disguised himself by means of a false moustache, approached her from the rear, and accosted her. Almost at the same moment he drew a revolver from his pocket and pointed it at the woman who turned and attempted to run away. She had gone only a few steps when Helscher began firing upon her. After discharging five shots at the fleeing woman, three of which took effect, he replaced the pistol in his pocket and started to walk away. He made no effort to escape and was immediately arrested.

Miss Le Cleyre ran a short distance and then sank, exhausted upon a doorstep. She was carried into the house and from there removed to a hospital. In her statement to a magistrate she denied acquaintance with Helscher, but when he was brought before her minus the false moustache she at once recognized him. She declined, however, to accuse him of having shot her, but asked the police if he had admitted it. Neither would she state the nature of her relations with Helscher.

Two bullets took effect in the woman's right side, below the shoulder, and another imbedded itself in the right side of the chest. The physicians hold out no hope for her recovery.

Miss Le Cleyre has attained widespread notoriety through her anarchistic utterances and her intimacy with Emma Goldman and other anarchists. She is an accomplished linguist and musician and has written much anarchistic literature and many erotic poems.

CONSOLIDATION OF I. O. O. F. LODGES.

The Capital and the Manteo Lodges Merge Into One.

Capital Lodge, No. 147, and Manteo Lodge, No. 8, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, will be consolidated, after the proposal to consolidate had been unanimously agreed upon by both lodges it was referred to the Grand Master, who approved it. Capital Lodge is the youngest lodge of Odd Fellows in Raleigh, while Manteo is the oldest.

New Officers for Christian Church.

At the church conference of the Hillsboro Street Christian church, the following officers were elected:
Finance Committee: F. O. Moring, W. B. Mann, J. A. Mills, J. L. Foster, R. V. Bagwell.
Ushers, Morning Service: W. B. Mann, F. O. Moring, W. H. Bland.
Evening Service: J. A. Mills, G. G. Banks, R. V. Bagwell, W. B. Mann.

Vance County is Second.

The first county to get a clear receipt from the State for its taxes was Johnston, and yesterday the full returns from another county were received. This is from Vance county, which comes in as second on the list. Sheriff E. A. Powell, of Henderson, who was here yesterday, paid up everything in full, the sum total being \$9,302.82.

POWERS FAVOR THE PROPOSAL TO ARBITRATE.

But of Conditions and Safeguards There are Many.

DELAY IS UNAVOIDABLE

And the Danger of Delay in the Face of a Blockade Crippling Neutral Commerce and Inviting Collisions With Venezuela, Can't be Overestimated.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—Secretary Hay has received partial responses from the governments of Great Britain, Germany, and Italy, respecting the proposal to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulties. Great Britain is favorable to arbitration with proper safeguards; Germany accepts arbitration in principle, but finds a multitude of small adjustments to be made before entering into the agreement; Italy, as the junior partner of the allies, declares that she is favorable to arbitration, but will be bound probably by the action of the senior partners.

To secure these results, the American Embassies at London, Berlin, and Rome have been working energetically to carry out the instructions of Secretary Hay to ascertain how the proposal would be received. As far as England is concerned, the safeguards referred to are believed to relate to the question of guarantee, which is full of difficulties. In this connection, some consideration is again being given to the feasibility of the assumption of responsibility for any award assessed against Venezuela by responsible private agencies, and the United States government is determined not to allow itself to be placed in the position of a guarantor. In this case, the president once established, which requires the United States to become the guarantor of all South and Central America. However, if private concerns can be induced to enter the field the United States government will do what it can to reduce their risks.

Secretary Hay, Sir Michael Herbert, the British Ambassador, and Senator Dewey were in conference today, and it is suspected that this phase of the case was touched upon, although no confirmation can be had at this time. The German position presents the greatest difficulties for not only does it involve a demand for apologies which are extremely repugnant to Venezuelans, but also presents so many points requiring adjustment that it is evident that many days or perhaps weeks must elapse before that adjustment can be effected and the case prepared for arbitration. And the danger of delay in the face of a blockade which seriously cripples neutral commerce and invites hostile collisions with the Venezuelans cannot be over-estimated. The efforts of the United States, therefore, must be directed toward hastening Germany's action on the arbitration proposal.

The Italian position is, of course, of less concern than that of the other allies. The Italian Ambassador here, in his intercourse with the State Department, has been extremely moderate and considerate, giving Secretary Hay the impression that he is well-disposed to second any effort of the United States to terminate the present dangerous situation.

The French government has served notice that, without abating her claims, the payment of which have been arranged, she also claims the right to have the claims of French citizens which have arisen since the adjustment above spoken of, considered by the joint tribunal which will adjust the Venezuelan debts, on a basis of equality with those of the other nations. This contention is strongly resisted by some of the allied powers and is one of the points which is likely to lead to the consumption of much time and which must be disposed of before a final arrangement can be made to arbitrate the case.

The Cabinet Approves Hay's Course.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, Dec. 19.—Secretary Hay laid before the Cabinet meeting today the latest phases of the Venezuelan situation. After a thorough discussion of the subject the Cabinet gave its unqualified approval to everything that had been done by Secretary Hay and also to his plans for the future so far as they were outlined. It is gathered that the attitude of the United States is for the present a waiting one in the hope that the three allies will soon be able to agree upon the basis upon which they are willing to accept arbitration. So far, no notice of the projected blockade of Venezuela has been officially served on our government.

The Acceptance by Germany.

(By the Associated Press.)
Berlin, Dec. 19.—The answer to Germany to the arbitration proposal in behalf of Venezuela, received through the United States government, is its acceptance. The delivery of this reply to the United States for transmission to Minister Bowen is delayed for a day or two for tactical reasons, probably through

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