PRICE FIVE CENTS.

North Carolina Dailies in News and Circulation

BLADES OF KOREA GUILTY, SAY THE JURY MARCHED UP HILL WILL FLASH BARE

Seventeen Thousand Troops, Drilled Into the Machine-Like Methods of European Soldiers, to be Ordered into the Field.

THEY GO WITH JAPAN

Gibraltar of the Orient Again Shaken by the Thunder of an Engagement, a Japanese Squadron Advancing and Drawing the Fire of the Russian Batteries. For Forty Minutes the Rocks of Port Arthur are Reverberant With the Roar. Belief That the Japanese are Preparing for a Landing.

(By the Associated Press.) Ecoul, Feb. 26 .- The Korean government has decided to order the Korean troops to join the Japanese in the field. The Port of iju was opened to foreign trade last night. The taxations to be

placed on trade and other incidental matters wil be passed later. This action necessitates a harbor, so Yongampho has been decided upon.

Stateman's year book for 1903, gives the following details of the Korean The standing army now consists of about 17,000 men with European methods. In 1896 it was taken in hand by a Russian colonel with three com missioned and ten non-commissioned officers, who retired, however, in 1898. A royal body-guard of 1,000 men was formed and has been well drilled, and periodically a draft of well trained men is transferred from it to the other regiments of the standing army.

OUR GOVERNMENT BACKS HIM. Declares Captain of Vicksburg Acted Right at Chemuipo.

partment today received a cablegram from sians is denied. Commander Marshall of the Vicksburg. at Chemulpo, saying that he was among brief dispatch from the commander of the first to offer assistance to the Russian one of the torpedo boat destroyers, says sailors aboard the Variag and Korietz, ing that no lives and no warships were The following bulletin was posted at the lost and that no damage was inflicted by Navy Department:

the Russians. Pending the receipt of the Navy Department:

"A dispatch from Commander Marshall, official report of Vice Admiral Togo, the commanding the U. S. S. Vicksburg, states Naval Department declines to make any that he sent medical aid as well as boats, announcement regarding the affair. o the assistance of the Variag."

The five merchant vessels which were Touching the Russian complaint that prepared for sinking were the Jinsen to the assistance of the Variag.'

VICE ADMIRAL ITO, SAID TO BE IN SEARCH OF THE VLADI-

VOSTOK SQUADRON.

short time before the opening of hostilities he disappeared, and at the same

time several warships of the Japanese navy are said to have left Nagasaki.

Since then nothing has been heard of him, and there is a theory that he is

hunting the powerful Vladivostok cruiser squadron. Ito was the hero of the

Yalu river sea fight during the Chino-Japanese war, being in command of the fleet which put practically all the Chinese vessels engaged out of com-

mission. He is sixty years of age.

Vice Admiral Yuko Ito is one of the most popular men in Japan. A

Captain Marshall did not join with the other foreign captains in protesting against the Japanese attack upon the Variag and Korietz in a neutral harbor, it is declared at the Navy Department that the officer certainly would not be upheld by his department in meddling in such a matter. It is the first time that either the Navy or State Departments ever has been seriously asked to oblige a foreign power to bserve neutrality, and it is pointedly stated that it was Russia's business to look to Korea for redress if that country had not maintained the neutrality of its

TOGO'S ATTEMPT A FAILURE. No Lives Lost and Vessels Destroyed Were of Small Value.

(By the Associated Press.) Tokio, Feb. 26.-Vice Admiral Togo's ttempt to bottle up the Russian fleet at Port Arthur by sinking a fleet of stoneladen merchant steamers in the mouth

of the harbor evidently failed, though the venture caused no loss of life and the vessels lost were not of great value. Five ships were prepared by Vice Admiral Togo for the attempted blockade. Four are reported to have been sunk, but the fate of the fifth is unknown here. It is presumed that it withdrew with the other Japanese vessels. The five vessels were filled with stones so as to make the

obstruction permanent and were manned by volunteer merchant crews. It was imossible to select naval officers and sail rs on acount of their great rivalry to articipate in the daring venture. Accompanied by four battleships, nine ruisers and numerous vessels of the torbedo flotina, the stone laden steamers reached Port Arthur on Wednesday. While

the steamers made a dash for the mouth of the harbor, directly under the Russian Details f the attack have not been received, but it is evident that the Russian's fire sank the steamers befort they reached the points' planned for their

the fleet engaged with the shore batteries

foundering by the Japanese. It is said that all the crews of the four vessels escaped in boats and were picked up by the Japanese torpedo boat destroy-(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 26.—The Navy Deboat destroyers were sunk by the Rusers. The report that two of the torpedo

The Naval Department has received a

2,943 tons; the Hokoku Maru, 2,776 tons; the Buyo Maru, 1,600 tons, and the Bunshik Maru, 1,390 tons. Each carried five men, two steering and three firing and running the engines. Again Fighting at Port Arthur. THE EAR

(By the Associated Press.) St. Petersburg, Feb. 26.-A dispatch received here from Port Arthur dated February 26th, says:

"At one o'clock this morning several Japanese torpedo boats were sighted from here with their sails set for the purof disguising their characters battleship Retvizan and the shore batteries opened fire on them and continued firing und daybreak without any visible result. After day break a Japanese squadron, apparently convoying transports was sighted. At a quarter past eleven this squadron came nearer and an engagement which lasted forty minutes, ensued. There was no damage. Few shells fell in

"It is expected here that the Japanese will attempt a landing soon. "An inspection of the Japanese fire ships sent into this harbor February 24, dicted" was the verdict announced by have been distributed among the heirs

Port Arthur.

hibits they were allowed, with the counsent of counsel, to take to the jury room, but Justice Pritchard said that to permit them to go over the transcript of the evidence would amount to a retrial of the case in the jury room and their request as to this was denied. They did not again communicate to the court until their verdict was reached.

Machen, Lorenz and the Two Groffs Wholly (Special to News and Observer.)

DRAMATIC SCENE

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 26 .- "Guilty as in-

Unprepared.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY HOME.

Four Houndred Thousand Dollars Distributed Among Springs' Heirs.

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 26 .- James A. Jones, a Charlotte contractor has secured the contract for the building of the new county home. Mr. Jones' bid was \$15,722.79 and in a bond of \$2,000, guarantees the completion of the home by the first day of October 1904. Three other contractors submitted bids. It will be seen by the above that Mr. Jones' bid is \$2,257,21 lower than the next lowest bid and \$8,145.21 lower than the

Up to the present date over \$400,000 show they were loaded with coal and Carl Petersen, the foreman of the jury in cf the late H. G. Springs by the trustees.

Comic Opera Scene in A. & N. C. Grab in Federal Office and Park Hotel That Left Chagrin Behind.

AND DOWN AGAIN

notified and the remains were taken to an undertaking establishment.

President J. C. Keller, of the National Letter Carriers' Association, arrived in the city yesterday afternoon, accompan ied by his wife. The local carrier asso ciation was planning to have a supper in Mr. Keller's honor and have the president address the gathering, but on arriving here Mr. Keller found a telegram calling him to Washington and he left this afternoon for that city. Mr. Keller is a resident of Cleveland and is a letter car rier in that city. He expressed regret that his stay here was cut short and said that he hoped to be back here again

TAR HEELS

Congressman Kitchin is folded itself as follows: Prominent In Naval Bill Debate.

(Special to News and Observer.) ashington, D. C., Feb. 26.-Each day's proceedings in Congress now seem to justify the prediction as to an early adjournappropriation bills, and today the House completed consideration of the Naval Appropriation, which makes the seventh of its thirteenth appropriation bills that are now out of the way. Monday it will begin on the eighth. The best opinion eems to be that Congress will adjourn rom April 15th to May 1st.

In its selection of officers today, the

southern branch of the National Dental Association, which is in session here, conferred three places upon North Carolina dentists: President, Dr. Charles L. Alexander, of Charlotte; Corresponding Secretary, Dr. J. A. Gorman, of Asheville. Dr. V. E. Turner, of Raleigh, is a member of the executive committee. The convention ended today and tonight and tomorrow those attending i will return home. During consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill in the House, Congressman W. W. Kitchin, who is a member of the Nava 1Committee, ook a prominent part in the debate and always with great credit to himself and usually with applause from his party colleagues. Mr. Kitchin is recognized by his fellow members on both sides of the chamber as a man of strong character and well versed in any subject about which he attempts shortly after 8 o'clock tonight, stating at \$200,000 were sent to the heirs this being to speak; hence he always has the close the proceeds of the recent sale of stocks attention of the House.

Senator Overman has returned from as to all four defendants, August W. which \$214,000 was realized. Several hun- North Carolina, where he has been for the past two weeks attending court. Mrs. Charles A. Moore, who has been criously ill with pneumonia for several At the March term of Mecklenburg days, died this morning about 8 o'clock. Superior Court the damage suit of Orr Her death had been expected for severagainst the Southern railway will cer- al days. The remains will be taken to cainly be tried. This suit is to recover her old home at Mt. Tirzah for burial. 50,000 damages for the killing of Andy The deceased was a daughter of Mr. Orr, the deceased being an employee George Moore, of erson county. She left of the road, filling the position of engi- a husband and three children besides a neer. The plaintiff will be represented large number of other relatives.

> MIGHT HAVE BURNED MILLIONS. Fire in Yards of Newport News Ship-

> > building Plant.

FRED L. MERRITT.

(By the Associated Press.) Newport News, Feb. 26 .- Fire of unknown origin broke out in the angle-iron counse?' shed of the ewport News Shipbuilding Company's big plant tonight and totally destroyed the building, the only frame

The fire fighting facilities of the yard spreading to other buildings total loss is estimated at \$15,000, the loss is covered by insurance.

A \$70,000 Fire.

(By the Associated Press.) Decatur, Ala., Feb. 26.-Fire which block early today caused a loss of \$70,000; partially covered by insurance. A detective flue caused the fire. Several stores and residences were destroyed.

(By the Associated Press.) Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 26 .- John Armis-

Alphabet Robinson Slated for Attorney of A. & N. C. and Bill Day as High Muck-a-Muck Counsel of Federal Made Receiver---Elect "Bunch"

A RUSSELL REDIVIVUS

Things that are serious have oft a omic side, and this was never more fully demonstrated than last night.

Time of Fusionism.

McBee Makes it Look Like the Old

It was in some incidents in the appointing of a receiver for the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad that this came about, and the ending last night was fit for an opera bouffe performance scene, in which "The King of France with forty thousand men, marched up the hill and then marched down again." The plot un-

The train from Goldsboro yesterday afternoon brought to Raleigh ex-Judge W. S. O'B. Robinson, a shining light in Republican pow-wows and an old-time side partner of Dan Russell, once by grace of Fusionism a Governor of North Carolina. He hurried from the depot and barely taking time to cast his grip into the hotel was soon in consultation with the counsel who played the chief part in ment. Yesterday the Senate passed two the railroading in of Receiver-elect Mc-Bee to take charge of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad. He has been added to the advisory board of lawyers coaching McBee, which before W. S. O'B. was signed, consisted of Day and Bell,

and Col. John W. Hinsdale. After seven o'clock last night the exjudge with a large section of the alpha-Hinsdale, was in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court on the topmost floor of the postoffice building. Deputy Clerk Tonnoffski was present, as were also Deputy U. S. Marshal John Sharp and Deputy John Dockery, who were present to receive the papers to serve on James A. Bryan to oust him from his position as President of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, and put Receiver Mc-

Bee in possession The bond of Mr. McBee, in the sum of \$50,000, for his performance of the duties of receiver for the road, had been approved by Judge Purnell in Norfolk yesterday orning, and with his approval stamp on it became a matter of record in the clerks office. This being entered, the original and duplicate Finch complaints, Purnell orders, and McBee bonds were all certifled and the time for action had arrived. But just before the party was ready to move, a colored hack driver appeared in the room.

"A gemmen ask if you is ready," said he to Co!. Hinsdale. "Who is it?" asked Col. Hinsdale. The negro hesitated. Then some one

aid: "Its Mr. McBee, isn't it? "Yes, sir," was the reply and the driver was told to go below and announce, to the waiting receiver-elect that the "gemmen" above would soon join him.

"Will you have the papers served on Mr. Bryan in New Bern tomorrow?" was asked Col. Hinsdale. "No," was the reply. "He is in town

tonight and the papers will be served on him here. On the early train the United States Deputy Marshal will go to New Bern with aCptain McBee and serve the papers on Superintendent Dill, as well as on other officials of the road." Then downstairs started the party. At

the lower door Judge Robinson was "Are you now one of Mr. McBee's

"Yes," he answered. "I am now with Messrs. Day and Hinsdale."
"Are you to be the attorney for the Atlantic and North Carolina?'

"It would be assumacy on my part to say so," he laughed, and added as he and Deputy Marshal Dockery headed for the carriage in which sat Captain McBee. "My modesty forbids that I should say From this it is inferred that it will soon be the job of Atlantic and North Carolina attorney that W. S. O'B. Robinson is holding, unless there is a slipping of cogs.

As Messrs. Robinson and Dockery entered the carriage to join Captain Me-Bee the city fire bell began the fire alarm. Was it an omen? Did the bell ring out that the "grab" was about to be consummated?

There was a large crowd in the lobby of the Park Hotel when the door opened and Col. W. S. O'B. Robinson entered. Following him came Deputy Marshal John Dockery with the papers in his pocket to serve on President Bryan. The

Death of Bank President.

(Special to News and Observer.) Asheville, N. C., Feb. 26.-A negro court room was packed when Judge named Justice dropped dead in the bot-Pritchard immediately after convening tom on the other side of Smith bridge this court charged the jury and about eleven afternoon shortly after 1 o'clock. The

Armored Cruiser Rossia

Armored Cruiser Gromovol.

RUSSIA'S POWERFUL VLADIVOSTOK CHUISER SQUADRON

kerosene and that electrical infernal ma- the now famous postoffice conspiracy trial Yesterday afternoon checks for over chines had been placed in the midst of this cargo."

FIGHT OVER JURISDICTION.

cil Brothers.

(Special to News and Observer.) Wilson, N. C., Feb. 26 .- The preliminary trial of Sam and Dick Stancil for the killing of Mr. Harrison, on the latter's farm, near Moyeton, was held before Magistrate W. R. Wood at 3 o'clock to day. Counsel for the prosecution produced affidavits from witnesses stating that the affair took place in Greene coun ty and claiming that the trial should be there. The defense argued that the warrants were sworn out in Wilson county and that the defendants live there and the trial should be there. The magistrate ruled that he would hear evidence in the morning at 10 o'clock and decide the question of jurisdiction later. The entire afternoon was consumed by arguments of counsel as to jurisdiction.

Told to Vote for Teddy.

(By the Associated Press.) Roanoke, Va., Feb. 26.-The Republic cans of the Fifth Congressional District met in convention at Martinsville to day. The Henry county delegation was contested, there being two factions led by C. P. Smith and J. B. Anglin. Smith stood for the State organization and was seated. Delegates were elected to the National Convention and were instructed o vote for Rocsevelt.

Italian Steamer Ashore.

Miami, Fla., Feb. 26.-The Italian steamer Mongibello, Genoa, to New Orleans, is ashore near Alligator Light house. She is laden with a miscellaneous cargo, principally lemons. Her condition is reported critical.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 26.-Colonel James

the same time that this was the verdict and bonds at the county court house at ared thousand dollars had been distri-Machen, late general superintendent of buted among the heirs previous to the the rural free delivery division; George above mentioned. At the Preliminary Trial of the Stan- E. Lorenz, of Toledo, O., and Samuel A. and Diller B. Groff, of this city. The jury had been out mine hours, although the verdict was reached in eight hours

and twenty-five minutes. In the dimly lighted room sat the four efendants who, after the case was given to the jury had beer placed in the custody of the United States Marshal and onfined to the limits of the City Hall.

With impressive dignity the jury as man rose and as the words "guilty as ndicted" fell from his lips the defendants and their counsel seemed appalled. The defendants had giver expression to the belief that each hour the jury spent in discussing the case brought them nearer o an acquitttal. There was very general stonishment that the jury had included n the conviction Samuel A. Groff, the Washington policeman and inventor of the Groff fastener as to whom Holmes Conrad, special counsel for the government. yesterda yinformed the jury he did not expect a conviction and that he personally aid not believe in his guilt.

Five ballots in all were taken. On the est ballot the vote stood 7 to 5 for conriction, on the second 8 to 4, on the third dfth the vote was unanimous. Immediately after the verdict was ren-

ered. Charles A. Douglass, in behalf of all four defendants, filed a motion for a new trial, for an arrest of judgment, and also for an appeal for the purpose of having the defendants admitted to bail. Bail was then fixed at \$20,000 each, the bond of Lorenz and the two Groffs being increased from \$10,000 to that sum. Bonds were furnished and the defendants released from custody.

Intense interest was taken in the events of today about the court house. A Pugh, a veteran newspaper man and the first president of the Virginia Press has dead.

A Pugh, a veteran newspaper man and about forty-five minutes when they came about forty-five minutes about forty-five minutes when they came about forty-five minutes when they came about forty-five minutes about forty-five

by Col. Hamilton C. Jones and Mr. C. W. Tillett. The Southern will be repre ented by Chief Counsel Henderson Vashington, Capt. Charles Price divisen counsel. Capt. Geo. F. Bason, and

The Boyd and Atkinson Property in Rockingham Destroyed.

(Special to News and Observer.)

A BLOCK IS BURNED.

). K. Pre the local counsel.

Rockingham, N. C., Feb. 26.—The entire structure in the ship-yard. Boyd and Atkinson block on East Main Street was destroyed by fire this morn were sufficient to prevent the flames ng about two o'clock. The Boyd build- from ings were frame strutures and occupied by negroes. His loss is several thousand dol-2 to 3, on the fourth 10 to 2, and on the lars with no insurance. Atkinson's saloon vas a new two story frame building. This was the last to burn and consequently a good deal of the stock was gotten and moved. His loss is about \$1,500 with \$500 insurance. The fire when discovered was making good headway in the pool room of broke out in a large two story frame "Free and Easy." No one seems to know building next to the Echols Opera House low it originated.

o'clock sent its members out to deliberate man had been engaged in ditching, and o'clock sent its members out to deliberate man had been engaged in ditching, and after eating his noon day meal had reon the evidence. They had been out only after eating his noon day meal had reon the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when they came a surred his noon day meal had reto the evidence when the evidenc

Negro Drops Dead.