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THE FINAL ROUT OF ROAD GRABBERS

Judge Simonton Read the Order and Put the Court's Approval on the State's Solar Plexus Blow.

AS DUMB AS OYSTERS

The A. & N. C. Railroad Now in the Hands of the President and the Board of Directors, While McBee Pays all Expenses of Receivership While Finch and His Surety are Saddled With the Court Costs.

It was a very simple transaction on its face. But out of sight the people could see the greivous corps of an unholy conspiracy strangled in its infancy by justice.

So complete it was that while the assemblage in the Federal court room waited for developments there had come and gone without a ripple. McBee was untroubled of his authority at the rustling of a pen. None were here to show open grief, but Chargin lurked behind the eyes of some who had given aid and comfort.

The return of the A. & N. C. Railroad to the authorities legally owned by those in whose charge he roared is placed by law was made upon a program mapped out the night before. There were absolutely no dramatic incidents in the proceedings in the Circuit Court and the great throng that gathered at ten o'clock could only think "What came we out to see?"

Judge Thomas B. Purnell, of this city, who had granted the receivership, sat with Judge Charles H. Simonton, of Charleston, S. C., in the hearing and his expressions of indignation on the day previous, coupled with the intimation conveyed that he proposed in open court to reprimand men who had imposed upon the court over which he presided, had led to the belief that something of deep interest would occur. But it didn't.

Judge Purnell's only remarks in the matter were that he had waited for the open court in which to sign the order dismissing McBee from his receivership. Having done this the routine of reading the dismissal order came next and this being done by Judge Simonton it was signed by him and by Judge Purnell and the receivership of the A. & N. C. was at an end, McBee was once again a jobless promoter of railroad hold-ups, and the road grabbers had been bounced out of court.

The hearing had been set for ten o'clock yesterday morning, and a great audience had gathered. The benches were being shown. Within the bar every seat was occupied and the chairs about the judge's desk was occupied by many. In the court room there was a distinguished gathering, in addition to the counsel who represented either side of the case. It was prominent State officials, Judges of the Supreme Court of the State, Directors, and officers of the road in dispute, leading lawyers of the city and State, men who had made bids for the lease of the road, prominent visitors to the city who had come to attend the meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee, a delegation from New Bern whose deep interest in the transaction had brought many gentlemen to Raleigh, and many of the leading citizens of Raleigh.

And close to the door, back against the wall, occupying as little space as possible, his eyes fixed on the page of a letter he never turned, sat V. E. McBee, a "bunch" of sadness.

The minutes past, but the court failed to open, and then more minutes past. "What's the matter?" was passed from lip to lip. "Say, I tell you," said one, "Judge Simonton is waiting to have the creases ironed out of his court gown," and then there was a smile that smiled out loud as the news went round that "Judge Simonton is having his official robe ironed."

But an end came at last and the stentorian voice of United States Marshall H. C. Dockery was heard, announcing the approach of the "honorable the court" and bidding all rise. At this the folks all mounted on their hind feet and looked, as two black robes paraded before them and Judge Simonton, followed by Judge Purnell, each daintily holding up his flowing garment, ascended the dais and were seated. Then the folks in the room were allowed to sit down once again.

"Open court, Mr. Crier," said the Marshall and Crier Rowan Rogers in thrilling voices elicited: "O yes! O yes! O yes!" The honorable, the Circuit Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina is now in session, or words to that effect, ending with the prayer "May God save the United States and this Honorable Court."

Judge Purnell coughed, and then gave a ruling in the Cigarette Company case vs. Wright, overruling the demurrer of the defendant, and then there was a pause. Everybody waited, everybody watched, everybody listened and Judge Purnell next remarked:

"In the case of Finch vs. the A. & N. C. Railroad Company I have a decree and order which was rendered last night by the attorneys in this case which I declined

upon the peace and dignity of the State and had conspired to do hurt to its property.

And ex-Receiver McBee went out.

Here is the summary of it all.

Judge Charles H. Simonton came to Raleigh from Charleston to hear the demurrer and answer of the State to the complaint of Finch, and to hear argument for the vacating of the McBee receivership. Before he reached here the conspiracy was unfolded before Chief Justice Clark and the McBee-Finch Combine finding their schemes exposed, their conspiring laid bare, their brazen game of bluff called simply "laid down" and begged for mercy. They proposed to get out and get out quickly, and the State, without a pledge of any kind to ease up the situation, agreed to have an order drawn vacating the receivership and returning the property of the A. & N. C. to its lawful owners. Judge Purnell declined to sign the order till Judge Simonton came, and when he did come he simply read the order agreed on, signed his name and McBee was a "bunch."

That erstwhile receiver of other people's property came into court yesterday morning as the crowd was gathering. He looked around, found a seat in the corner just inside the railing behind the door and sat down. He opened a letter and kept looking at it.

People waited to see the King Bee of the affair and many were the inquiries as to where he was. One anxious man, leaning on the railing, just as the King Bee said to a friend nearby: "Where is McBee?" "That individual heard, and raising up, he said: "Here I am."

Whereupon the speaker, after informing, asked pardon for his curiosity. "How did McBee look?" Well, you've seen a kid, a little fellow who has lost his new Barlow and is seeking for it in the sand that's been kicked up. At the hearing before Judge Clark he was nervous and fidgety. Yesterday he had a "far, far away" look in his eyes and was evidently thinking of some other "happy land" besides North Carolina.

The attorneys in the case for the complainants McBee and Finch were: Ex-Judge W. S. O'B. Robinson, of Goldsboro; Capt. W. H. Day and Col. J. W. Hinesdale, of Raleigh; M. W. W. Clarke of New Bern. The State and the A. & N. C. Railroad was represented by Attorney General R. D. Gilmer and Mr. C. M. Busbee, of Raleigh; Mr. C. W. Tillet, of Charlotte; Mr. A. D. Ward, of New Bern; and Mr. W. C. Munroe, of Goldsboro.

President Bryan and the Board of Directors take charge at once by order of the court. President Bryan telegraphed yesterday to the banks not to say any more checks for the receiver, notified the men on the road and also wired the express company not to deliver any packages of money unless on his order. The banks informed Mr. Bryan that \$18 for an account bill and \$30 for a telegraph bill of McBee's had just been paid.

It is said that McBee will go to New Bern this morning, when President Bryan goes in order to be checked out and show up on his bond. This is doubted, as he is not needed in New Bern, and as he brought with him when he came as a prisoner two grips, with his effects in them. He may have others, however. It is said by the officers of the road that McBee need not show up in New Bern, as he could transfer to President Bryan here.

Last night President Bryan said that the status quo of the A. & N. C. Railroad would be resumed and that Mr. S. L. Dill would go back to his duties. He will also put the workmen discharged from the shops back at work.

By order of the Governor the Board of Internal Improvement, Messrs. B. C. Beckwith and B. W. Ballard, with three other gentlemen to be named, will thoroughly investigate the departments of the road and report on this. All parties who have complaints or charges to make are invited to present these.

It is reported that Mr. Ed. Chambers Smith has received \$2,000 on this Finch note, and that it came from Finch. Mr. Smith says he has the \$2,200, but the public is wondering how Finch, of the Free Lunch Duett, came to get that amount.

The prosecution of McBee on the charge of conspiracy in a matter to come before the Wake county grand jury the last of this month. The matter will then be in form for action by Solicitor Armistead Jones. The action yesterday does not concern McBee or Finch from criminal prosecution, as the latter matter will be sent up regularly to the criminal court.

REJOICING IN NEW BERN.
Much Gratification Over the Dismissal of the Receiver.

(Special to News and Observer.)
New Bern, N. C., March 17.—The news received here today of the dismissal of the receiver of the A. & N. C. road and the re-establishing of President Bryan was received with universal satisfaction and gratification. It is generally believed that the work that was stopped in the shops will be resumed at once, better to equip the road to handle the business of the trucking season.

Foundation for New Bank.
(Special to News and Observer.)
Lumberton, N. C., March 17.—The work of building the foundation for the new bank building was begun today. When completed it will be one of the handsomest buildings in town.

G. J. E. Rancke, Jr., is visiting relatives in Rowland.
Hon. P. B. Glenn will address the Confederate Veterans at Red Springs March 21st.

Mr. W. H. Harding, who has been with the Kefauver Lumber Company, of Lumberton, is now with the United Lumber Company, of Maxton.
The meeting being conducted this week by the Methodist church under Pastor

Paris and Evangelist E. C. Glenn, is a most successful one. To accommodate the large congregation the court house is being used. Mr. Glenn is a successful evangelist and much good will be done.

The old McQueen residence, corner Elm and 6th Streets, is being torn down. It will be replaced by the handsome residence of Mr. C. M. Fuller.

Miss Daisy Courtney, of Baltimore, the new milliner for Mrs. F. Peterson, arrived yesterday.

Rev. Z. Paris, pastor of the Methodist church, received a severe but substantial pounding Saturday evening. During his stay he has won the love of all denominations, who here he will serve the church here four years longer, if possible.

This week D. R. G. Rozier will move into his new drug store in the Hotel Wansley building. It will be one of the prettiest stores in town.

Republicans Nominate Wilson.
(By the Associated Press.)
Bristol, Tenn., March 17.—The Republicans of the first Tennessee Senatorial District in convention at Johnson City today nominated Joseph A. Wilson for Senator and W. T. Gillis for floater. Resolutions endorsing the administration, the Panama Canal treaty and Congressman W. P. Brownlow were passed, as was also a resolution condemning the Tennessee Election laws as unfair and un-American.

Slew His Friend.
(By the Associated Press.)
Bristol, Tenn., March 17.—In the Huntsing court today Alexander Wright was found guilty of the murder of his friend, John Beckner, and was given three years in the penitentiary for involuntary manslaughter. The murder occurred while Wright was under the influence of liquor.

A LURID MIDNIGHT
Rocky Mount Loses \$25,000 to \$30,000 in Blazing Ice Factory.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Rocky Mount, N. C., March 17.—At this hour, 11:25 the Southern Ice Factory, a 6-ton plant on the outskirts of town, wrapped in red waves of flame, is burning furiously and will be a total loss. Fortunately the building is isolated, and though huge glowing cinders are hurled into the night by the rush of the blast, no other building is in serious danger, it is believed. How the fire occurred is unknown. It is supposed, however, to have caught from the furnace in the boiler room, the plant being in operation.

The value of the plant is estimated at between \$25,000 and \$30,000. The amount of insurance carried cannot be ascertained at this hour.

THREE MEN ARRESTED.
Believed to be the Men Who Robbed the Safes at Kenly.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Smithfield, N. C., March 17.—Three men were arrested here at 6:30 this afternoon who are believed to be concerned in the safe blowing and robbery at Kenly on the 11th instant. In fact it is thought that in one of these men the police have the leader of the gang. The arrest followed information given by Mr. J. R. Egan, of Kenly, who identified the alleged chief of the gang, among other things by his lameness, and his wearing cotton pads upon his afflicted limb.

It will be remembered that the supposed leader of the suspicious parties seen at Kenly the afternoon before the robbery was lame and that the two detectives who were upon the case found at the camp of the gang cotton pads which it is thought were discarded by the lame man.

The whereabouts of the two detectives is unknown here, though it is believed that one is in Goldsboro and the other in Hamlet. The authorities here are now endeavoring to get in communication with them. Meanwhile Kenly has been notified of the arrest and will send parties here tomorrow to investigate the matter further.

GIVES HIMSELF UP.
Absconding Paying Teller Anxious to Go Back and Stand Trial.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Winston-Salem, N. C., March 17.—A white man giving his name as G. W. Valentine walked into the police station here today and informed Chief Crutchfield that he had been a fugitive from justice for more than a year and that he wished to surrender. Valentine claims that while paying teller in one of the branch offices of the Colonial Bank in New York city, during the winter of 1902, he absconded with several hundred dollars of the bank's money. He says that he was under bond, which had to make good the stolen funds. Valentine also says that after leaving New York he went West and later to Mexico, where he has been most of the time. His work in Mexico was herding cattle.

The man appears to be anxious to return to his native home in New York and stand trial. A telegram was sent to the Fidelity Casualty Company asking if Valentine was wanted, but no reply has yet been received.

WHIPPED INTO IT THEY BAWL HUZZA
How Republicans Use Democratic Thunder.

AND CALL IT THERIS
Driven to Prosecute Violators of the Law. They Claim the Merit. Williams' Strong Personality Shows to Advantage in the Debate.

(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, March 17.—Just before adjournment today Mr. Southwick, of New York, precipitated a brief lively debate by having read an editorial from the New York World giving Republicans credit for anti-trust legislation and the merger prosecution. It was offered by way of reply to Mr. Williams who asked yesterday if the merger decision was to be used by the Republicans as a theatrical political trick. Mr. Williams after the securities prosecution was instigated by Governor Van Sant, whom he styled "a blanket Indian Republican" who refused to consult "headquarters."

The editorial read by Mr. Southwick contained the statement that the anti-trust law was framed by a Republican, passed by a Republican Senate and signed by a Republican President, and that it had remained a dead letter on the statute books during the second term of President Cleveland.

At the conclusion of the reading the Republicans vigorously applauded. Mr. Williams said he was more than delighted to see the Republican majority on the floor cheer the bounds on to hunt down the combines and trusts of this country. He would, he said, be even more delighted if he did not know that "you are very much like the month of March—you come in like lions and go out like lambs" which created laughter on the Democratic side. Already, he continued, Mr. Knox had been careful to be interviewed and to appear in the newspapers "that you are not running amuck" against trusts generally; that the Northern Securities case just settles the Northern Securities case and that it does not mean anything particularly any how and he seems to be fully anxious that the country should understand he does not mean anything particularly anything. One statement in the article referred to, he said, credited this administration as being the author of the prosecution. It happened to be, he declared, "one Van Sant out in the West somewhere, who started the case and he said, 'for very shame, after he had gotten the case upon the docket the administration, prior to an election, could not hold its head up.'" It was the only thing the Republican party didn't stand pat on until after the election, he said, amid Democratic applause, "and you would have stood pat on that if you had dared." Governor Van Sant was a "blanket Indian Republican," he continued, "and he didn't consult headquarters but precipitated the litigation."

Continuing Mr. Williams said he had seen the Republicans before, and had seen them "quell" when the time came, "and," he vigorously declared, "if you dare to attack the men who are furnishing your campaign expenses and carry it far enough to persuade them that you are in earnest, you will be quelled too. If you don't do it you will be quelled by the people." Mr. Williams warned his hearers to continue to prosecute and attack combinations which restrain trade and stifle competition.

Mr. Tawney (Rep., Minn.), stirred up a hornet's nest when he inquired of Mr. Williams if he could state how the Democrats in the Fifty-first Congress voted when the Sherman Anti-Trust Law was up for consideration. He declared that every Democrat voted against it.

The House at once was in an uproar. Mr. Gaines (Dem., Tenn.), gesticulating wildly asserted that every one voted for the bill when it passed the House and that it passed the House and Senate unanimously. His remark was met by laughter and jeers from the Republican side. He stated that the first bill had been introduced by Senator Teller and began to give a history of the legislation when he was interrupted by Mr. Tawney, who said that when Mr. McKinley presented the rule for the consideration of the anti-trust law the Democrats opposed it.

"Ah, get out," shouted Mr. Gaines, amid great confusion.

An inquiry from Mr. Postevnor as to what had become of the Postoffice Appropriation bill partially restored good humor. Mr. Williams, getting the floor, said it was not true the Democrats opposed any legislation calculated to down trusts or combines.

Throughout the day the Postoffice Appropriation bill was under discussion and little progress was made. The minority leader, Mr. Williams, declared the Postoffice Department was rotten from turret to foundation stone and the Republicans were trying to reorganize it on an appropriation bill.

Mr. Williams made a point of order which was sustained against the provision in the bill designating certain postal employees as "cashiers," "night superintendents," etc. He said that it was simply a means of putting favorites into places at salaries higher than they already received.

Mr. Maddox, (Ga.), requested of Mr.

Overstreet, chairman of the Postoffice Committee, an explanation of an item of \$5,000 for advertising saying:

"As it has been said there are a lot of 'assals' in the department we probably will be a little more particular hereafter." Mr. Overstreet said it was for advertising for bids and the provision was adopted.

Messrs. Maddox, Williams, and others questioned various other items in the bill, and the latter got into a sharp controversy with Mr. Payne, the Republican leader, over Mr. Williams' assertion that the Postoffice Department was rotten from turret to foundation which Mr. Payne characterized as extravagant language. Mr. Williams insisted that Mr. Bristow had practically admitted other divisions needed investigation.

The House adjourned until tomorrow.

Ignore Southern's Weights.
(By the Associated Press.)
Knoxville, Tenn., March 17.—Eighteen leading coal operators of the Jellico district met today at Jellico and adopted an agreement to ignore the weights of the Southern Weighing and Inspection Bureau as to coal shipments. These operators announce that hereafter coal must be settled for according to mine weight or where mines have no weighing facilities, according to the railroad weights at the point nearest the place of shipment. They charge that the Southern Bureau's weights on coal cars at the initial and receiving points have been at variance, causing much confusion.

Ex-Governor of Guam Dead.
(By the Associated Press.)
Washington, March 17.—Commander William E. Sevel, late governor of the Island of Guam, died today at the general hospital, Mare Island, Cal., as a result of intestinal disorders.

CAMBRIDGE IS DEAD
Duke Who Married Burlesque Actress, a Striking Figure, Gone.

(By the Associated Press.)
London, March 17.—The Duke of Cambridge died at 10:35 o'clock this morning. He was a cousin of the late Queen Victoria and was born March 26, 1819.

The Duke died peacefully at Gloucester House, his Georgian residence on Park Lane. He had been confined to his house for some weeks, but until compelled to take to his bed he was about with his accustomed activity, being as was his custom, a constant attendant at functions of a national or official nature.

King Edward and Queen Alexandra had been constant visitors to the sick room, while the Duke's sons, Admiral and Colonel FitzGeorge were almost incessantly at his bedside. Although he was imbued with old-world conservatism he was undoubtedly a popular figure with the masses, and his predilection for the modernization and democratization of the army failed to decrease the affection with which all ranks regarded their old commander-in-chief.

The title of Duke of Cambridge died with the late Duke, his sons being born of a morganatic marriage. His death also places at the disposal of the King a field marshal's baton as well as an Order of the Garter.

It is expected the remains of the Duke will be buried at Kew. An imposing military display will be made at the funeral.

The death of the Duke necessitates the postponement or cancellation of all royal functions as the court will go into mourning for several weeks.

The King and Queen went to Gloucester House this afternoon to offer their personal condolence to the relatives of the Duke.

It is not generally known to the present generation that the Duke of Cambridge's wife was a burlesque actress and dancer named Farelbrother. She was very well known in 1840 or thereabouts and made a great sensation playing in burlesque at the Lyceum Theatre. She died in 1890. Neither the peerage nor other reference books mention her marriage, which was not recognized officially by Queen Victoria, although the latter visited Mrs. Fitzgeorge.

The Duke of Cambridge is supposed to have been wealthy. On the death of his father, the Duke of Devonshire, he received an income of \$50,000 per annum. As commander-in-chief the Duke received a salary of \$22,500 until 1887 and thereafter \$32,160 yearly. As colonel in chief of the Grenadier Guards the Duke received \$11,000 per year while numerous other appointments brought him in good revenue.

Strike of Non-Union Men.
(By the Associated Press.)
Richmond, Va., March 17.—About 800 non-union employees of the American Tobacco Company struck today for an increase in pay.

The strikers are all stemmers and ask for an increase of one half a cent a pound. They say they have very small and fine tobacco to handle and are paid \$2.50 a hundred pounds for stems. They claim that an extra fast hand can make about \$1 a day, but that the slower workers cannot make nearly so much.

The strikers are all negroes.

Private Secretary to Cleveland Dead.
(By the Associated Press.)
Detroit, Mich., March 17.—Henry T. Thurber, a well-known attorney of this city, who was private secretary to Cleveland during his second term, died today. He was operated on for appendicitis two weeks ago.

IN GREENSBORO
ON JUNE 23RD

Democratic State Convention Meets There.

FIVE DAYS SESSION
Change in Order of Business Will Necessitate This in Order for Proper Deliberation and Consideration of Business.

Almost every seat in the Hall of the House of Representatives was filled last night when Senator Simmons called the meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee to order. Upon roll call by Secretary Alex. J. Fields it was found that sixty-three members were present, over a quorum, and the chairman announced that business was in order.

During the year, Col. David Stone Cowan had died and D. H. McLean, Esq., offered resolutions of regret at his death. He prefaced the resolutions with a brief and eloquent tribute. Maj. E. J. Hale seconded the resolution with a genuine and warm tribute. The resolutions are as follows:

Whereas, Since the last meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee, a vacancy has been made in our body by the untimely death of Hon. Robert Stone Cowan, of the county of Columbus and

Whereas, We, his colleagues on said committee, desire to express our sorrow at the death of this distinguished son of our State, and to pay a tribute to his many excellent traits of character, both of heart and mind, do resolve,

I. That in the death of Mr. Cowan this committee has lost one of its most loyal and efficient members, and the State one of their most valuable sons, who was always faithful to her best interests in the many responsible positions he was called upon to fill in her service.

He loved his State and his friends were his friends. He leaves to his country the priceless example of a noble and honorable life.

Mr. Wm. H. Bernard, of New Hanover, was elected to succeed Mr. Cowan. The members of the committee from that district had unanimously selected Maj. Bernard.

All good Democrats, on motion of Solicitor C. C. Lyon were given the privilege of the floor during the deliberation. The chairman said: "If any person other than a good Democrat is here he will please retire."

Col. Rodman, of Beaufort, moved that the State Convention be called on the 23d of June. Seconded by Mr. Gilliam, of Edgecombe. Mr. J. G. Gordon, of Wilkes, moved as a substitute that the convention be held on the 25th day of May. Col. John R. Webster said that May would interfere with the wheat harvest and tobacco curing, and that June 23rd, would suit best. Substitute lost. Col. Rodman's motion Thursday, June 23rd, was adopted.

Mr. H. A. Gilliam moved that the convention be held in Greensboro. Mr. D. H. McLean nominated Raleigh—the place where the deliberations of the party have been held for many years. He complimented Greensboro and Raleigh hospitalities. Raleigh's hotel once was not good—it had once gone into "innocuous desuetude" (laughter). Raleigh now has new hotel—brand new furniture, brand new negroes to wait on the table, fresh from the country; good cooks who had not gone to a cooking school, but know how to cook good " vittles" for North Carolina folks.

Mr. McLean's speech put everybody in a good humor. It was a capital effort for the capital city and evoked much laughter and genuine applause.

He was followed by Hon. Z. V. Taylor, who had been selected by a delegation of about fifty Greensboro citizens who were present, to present the invitation from the Gate City.

Mr. Taylor's speech captivated the committee, as Greensboro had captured it. Mr. Taylor said:

SPEAKS FOR GREENSBORO.
Ex-Mayor Zeb Vance Taylor, represent Greensboro, in presenting its invitation for the convention to meet there, said:

"Mr. Chairman: I have the honor of extending through you an invitation to the Democratic party to hold its next convention in the city of Greensboro. In extending this invitation I am further honored by being the mouthpiece of every business organization in our city, all of whom have representatives here, embracing the Industrial and Immigration Association, the Young Men's Business Association and the Gate City Business Association and also the county of Guilford and the municipal government of our progressive city.

"I need not tell you that you will be welcomed. The presence of these representatives here is a sufficient attestation of that fact, neither would I prate about the hospitality shown you in the past, for that would seem to me a bad taste. But I do feel that it is permissible for me to say that we are profoundly grateful to you for having once accepted our invitation, and has in giving us the privilege of entertaining that superb body of men who conferred a favor on us which we will not soon forget and for a repetition of that favor you would have our grateful appreciation.

"But, Mr. Chairman, I am not unmindful of the fact neither are those who

(Continued on Page Five.)