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SIMMONS' OCEAN MAIL SCHEME

His Amendment Passed With Gallinger Bill

ANTI-BRYANITES BUSY

Rev. J. A. Smith, at the White House Greatly Interests the President in Fort Fisher-Simmons' Bill For Restitution of Back Cotton Tax.

By THOMAS J. FENCE. Washington, D. C., March 20.—The Senate passed this afternoon the measure providing for the establishment of ocean mail lines to South America, which was introduced by Senator Gallinger, and amended by Senator Simmons so that the cost of the service will come from the profits of the ocean mail service to Europe, which are estimated amounting like three million dollars.

The anti-Bryan element in the Democratic party, which has visions of a million dollars, is busy in Washington, D. C., this week. Ex-Senator David Bennett Hill, of New York, and James M. Guffey, the leader of Pennsylvania Democrats, in addition to close personal friends of Senator Simmons, are endeavoring to bring about a change in the movement. They have talked to leading Democrats in the Senate and House, but so far they have not secured a convert who is willing to publicly state that he is with the opposition movement.

The President was very much interested today in the story of the capture of Fort Fisher, which was told to him today by Rev. J. A. Smith of Wilmington, who was introduced by Representative Godwin. Rev. Smith had with him a picture. This represented the minister in the attitude of shaking hands with Benjamin F. Seelye, of New York, at the entrance to the fort three years after the capture. During the conflict Seelye endeavored to buyout Smith, and at the reunion of survivors last year, the two recognized each other, and had their picture taken in a friendly pose at the spot where they tried to take each other's lives.

Senator Simmons introduced today a bill providing for the restitution to the government of back cotton tax. If the bill should pass, some two million dollars would pass to North Carolinians.

Senator Simmons Attends Funeral. Senator Simmons went to Baltimore this afternoon to attend the funeral of the late Senator Whyte, of Maryland.

D. Moore has leased the Central Hotel property from J. A. Hadley and will open that old popular hotel to the public May 1st.

FIFTEEN CAPTURED.

Another of the Belhaven Rioters Arrested and Placed in Jail. (Special to News and Observer.) Washington, N. C., March 20.—Mr. B. A. Jones arrived in the city late yesterday afternoon bringing two more colored men, Ellis and Lee Clark, supposed to have been implicated in the recent race riot at Belhaven, when a mob of fifty negroes and whites shot up the houses of the Greek laborers employed by the Interstate Coopers Company. These two men were captured near Belhaven and brought here by Sheriff Boat. This makes fifteen rioters captured and awaiting trial, fourteen of whom are in jail here, one having given bond.

STEPSONS GIVE TROUBLE.

Deplorable State of Affairs in Iredell Farmer's Home. (Special to News and Observer.) Stateville, N. C., March 20.—The differences of a stepfather and stepsons, and the wife of the home, were aired in the courts this week and the evidence brought out the deplorable state of affairs that exist in the family of Mr. H. P. Sigmon, a farmer of Shiloh township. Crowds of witnesses were examined and each had something to tell about the quarrels, fights, etc., in the Sigmon home. After hearing the evidence and the arguments in the cases, Justice W. R. Sloan, before whom the cases were tried, decided that there was only probable cause for action in the charge of assault with deadly weapon, and he therefore placed Sigmon under a \$100 bond.

WEEKLY REVIEW Activity of Trade Increases and Percentage of Idle Machinery Decreases.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, March 20.—R. G. Dun and Company's weekly review of trade tomorrow will say: Trade reports indicate a little more activity and the percentage of idle machinery decreases, but more reductions in wages and dividends show that the progress of readjustment will take some time.

More business is slowly coming to the steel mills, but expectation of lower prices has postponed many orders that will be placed. Railway interests are slowly increasing purchases of locomotives, cars and other equipment.

BONDS APPROVED. Of Receivers for South Carolina Dispensary Funds—Contempt Proceedings Expected. (Special to News and Observer.) Asheville, N. C., March 20.—Judge Pritchard has approved the bonds of the three receivers appointed by him to take charge of the South Carolina dispensary trust fund of eight hundred thousand dollars and the bonds have been returned to the receivers. It is expected that now the receivers will make immediate demand for the custody of the fund, that this demand will be refused and that the receivers will come here through counsel to seek to have the chairman of the Dispensary Commission attached for contempt of court.

Republican District Convention. The Republicans of this the Fourth Congressional district, will hold their convention in Raleigh on the 23rd of April to elect delegates to the National Republican convention at Chicago which meets the sixteenth of June.

Y.M.C.A. 300 A DAY

Campaign for Increase in Asheville's Membership

John S. Huyler Wins in Court—Mrs. Salina Hemphill Dead—Philadelphia Lawyer is Gracious to Asheville Negro. (Special to News and Observer.) Asheville, N. C., March 20.—At a banquet given by the membership committee of the local Y. M. C. A. this evening, several talks were made by well known association workers and a campaign inaugurated looking to the increase of the association's membership, 300 in one day.

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EXPLOSION SUIT NOW ON TRIAL

Mrs. Holloway Asks \$60,000 of Standard Oil Co.

ALREADY NOTED CASE

Brilliant Array of Counsel and Expert Witnesses on Hand in Durham—Fearful Explosion Caused Death of Mr. Holloway and a Negro Man. (Special to News and Observer.) Durham, N. C., March 20.—The great damage suit of Mrs. Lucy R. Holloway, administratrix of the estate of the late L. Webb Holloway, who was killed in the explosion at the Standard Oil Company, on July 24th, 1906, was started this morning in the Superior Court here. In this action the plaintiff is suing for \$60,000. It looks now as if the case will not reach the jury before Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning of next week.

There is a brilliant array of counsel and expert witnesses, and quite a large number of local witnesses who will testify in the case. For the plaintiff the attorneys are Messrs. Giles & Sykes, of this city, and Col. T. M. Argo, of Raleigh. For the Standard Oil Company there are Messrs. Fuller & Fuller, of this city, and Mr. James H. Fox, of Raleigh. Among the experts here are Dr. F. N. Polman, of Baltimore, expert chemist, who is here for the oil company, and Dr. R. O. E. Davis, of the Department of Chemistry, University of North Carolina, who is also an expert in chemistry, and is here for the plaintiff.

OF COURSE! RIGHT! Mr. Bartlett Says Country Will Soon Return to Control of the Democrats. (By the Associated Press.) Washington, D. C., March 20.—Maintaining that the Democratic representation in the House had steadily increased since the general election in 1894, Mr. Bartlett, of Georgia, today predicted that unless all the signs failed the country would soon return its control to the Democrats.

Mr. Bartlett discussed the recent financial crisis and in that connection said that "the trenchment made, so masterfully wielded, which the Democratic party will, will now grow rusty and must be laid aside, and some other weapon of assault and some other shield of defense must be produced."

Already Famous Case. This case is already of more than ordinary interest on the law books of the State. It is really an action against two parties, the Standard Oil Trust and Mr. Edwin F. Royster, who at the time of the fatal explosion was the manager for the company in this city. He was joined in the action for the purpose of preventing a removal of the cause from the State to the Federal courts, as the oil trust is a foreign corporation. A motion was made to remove the case any way, it being alleged that Royster was included in the complaint only for the purpose of defrauding the Circuit Court of the United States out of its rightful jurisdiction. The motion was denied, appeal taken to the State Supreme Court, and there the lower court was sustained. In the meantime a motion was filed in the Circuit Court for the removal of the case, and Judge Purnell held that it was a case to be tried by the State courts, and it was sent back. It has been continued several times and is now finally on trial.

When the case was called this morning the counsel for the oil company and Royster filed motion with the court to be allowed to withdraw as counsel for Royster and this was allowed. He is not represented by counsel, and while nominally a defendant in the sixty thousand dollar litigation the damages paid, if any, will be paid by the oil company.

Was Fearful Explosion. The explosion that caused the fearful death of Webb Holloway, an employe of the Standard Oil Company, and also the death of a negro, Tom Lunford, at the same time, was a fearful one and the death of the two men most horrible.

od. This, so it is thought, caused the explosion and death. Mr. Holloway died in a few minutes, but the negro lived several days, dying at the hospital.

The damages are claimed because a man ignorant of the contents of the tank should be placed in so perilous a position, and that it was negligence on the part of the company that caused death. In the case of the negro, whose administrator brought an action for \$2,000, the company settled by paying \$750 in compromise.

OFFICERS ELECTED. Rip Van Winkle Played With Natural Thunder and Lightning. (Special to News and Observer.) High Point, N. C., March 20.—The annual meeting of the North State (Independent) Telephone Company was held last night and the following officers elected: President, W. H. Ragan; Vice-President, Chas. C. Mace; Manager, J. F. Hayden; Treasurer, W. H. Townsend. The year's business was very gratifying to the stockholders, showing that the collections had been twelve thousand dollars and the net profits six thousand dollars. A ten per cent dividend was declared.

An unusual thing occurred here last night in presenting Rip Van Winkle by the Edwards Stock Company. When the time arrived for Rip to leave home for the mountains and his long sleep while it is lightning and thundering the real thing was on—that it was lightning and thundering other than by mechanical device when Rip went upon the mountains and also while he slept the sleep of twenty years. The spectators were glad that they witnessed such a strange coincidence.

BILL IS QUASHED Famous Case Against Gaston County Commissioners

Notice of Appeal to Supreme Court is Given—Purpose to Make a Test Case of It—Barnes Gets Ball. (Special to News and Observer.) Charlotte, N. C., March 20.—Judge Fred Moore this afternoon sustained a motion to quash the bill of indictment of the famous case against the county commissioners of Gaston County against whom no action had been instituted to compel them to make certain repairs to the court house of the county. An appeal of the case to the Supreme Court of the State was taken for the purpose of having that body say just what will have to be proven against the commissioners in order to make a proper indictment possible, etc.

The bottom of the whole matter is declared to be in effect that Gastonia wants the court house in place of Dallas, and it is also said that the quashing of the bill is in accordance with the desire of Gastonia people, although this, of course, had nothing to do with the court's decision. Gastonia hoping to elect a new board who will favor removal of the county seat to that town.

S. O. Barnes charged with the killing of George Gifford who was stricken three weeks ago and lived with a crushed skull until yesterday attending to his business a part of the time, was had some five fractures and there was a sum of six thousand dollars after being remanded without bail by the coroner. Judge Moore heard the habeas corpus proceedings. The case as the facts become known, grows almost stranger than fiction. The injured man had some five fractures and there was direct communication between the brain and the exterior through one of these. Gifford suffered from intense headaches but otherwise suspected no serious trouble until he was seized with a convulsion followed by a score more, when he died.

ALTERNATING EMPLOYEES. System to Be Inaugurated in Spencer Shops—W. H. Shannon Southern Railway Agent—Operation on C. F. Griffith. (Special to News and Observer.) Spencer, N. C., March 20.—Mr. W. H. Shannon, who has for a year or more been in the employ of the Southern Railway Company at Spencer, has been appointed agent of the company at this place and has assumed the office. Mr. L. B. Brooks has also been employed in the freight department. Mr. C. F. Griffith, a well known foreman on the Southern here, was operated at a Salisbury hospital yesterday for appendicitis. He is reported as doing well today, though his condition was at first critical.

NORTH CAROLINA CIRCUIT OF FAIRS

Greensboro, Winston and Salisbury Organize

THE CAROLINA LEAGUE

Will Play 97 Games, the First at Greensboro With Winston—The Street Pavement Suit—Two Important Banquet Occasions. Other Gate City News. By ANDREW JOYNER. Greensboro, N. C., March 20.—The North Carolina Circuit of Fairs embracing Salisbury, Winston and Greensboro, was organized here last night by the adoption of a constitution and by-laws and the election of the following officers: W. N. Reynolds, of Winston-Salem, president; A. H. Bayden, of Salisbury, and John L. King, of Greensboro, vice-presidents; Garland Daniel, of Greensboro, secretary; S. T. Dorsett and M. L. Jackson, of Salisbury, and G. E. Webb, of Winston-Salem, executive committee. The Circuit voted to leave the arranging of purses and classes to George Dwire and Garland Daniel.

A committee from the board of aldermen, appointed by the mayor at the last meeting of the board, with the assistance of a contractor who has had an extensive experience with concrete work, yesterday made an examination of the pavement on South Elm street, the object being to gather evidence to be used in court to show that the construction company that secured the contract to lay the vitrified brick pavement did not comply with the specifications in the contract, both as to depth of the cement and the quality of brick used. The case will be tried at a special term of the United States Court here next week for that purpose.

Yesterday afternoon in the banquet hall of the Elks' Home, the Gilded Daughters of the Confederacy entertained in royal style, the event being the yearly social reunion of the one hundred and fifty members of this patriotic body of women.

A large Confederate flag was draped over the president's desk, and many small ones floated from chandeliers, mantels and windows. Mrs. Foushee, Mrs. T. J. McAdoo and Miss Tate added to the charm of the afternoon by their sweet singing, and cream and cake was served.

Two Stores Bankrupt. A Most Peculiar Circumstance For Which There is No Law. (Special to News and Observer.) Tarboro, N. C., March 20.—Two of Tarboro's leading stores went into bankruptcy yesterday. These were Morris-Kaufman Co., one of the leading dry goods and millinery stores in Edgecombe county, which has been doing business here for a number of years, and the general merchandise store of Deans & Brown, which firm was formed here two years ago. James R. Gaskill has been appointed referee for the former, and W. O. Howard receiver for the latter.

A most peculiar circumstance was discovered here yesterday by Chief of Police F. P. Pulley, when it became known that a child born to Ella Price Sunday, and which died early Monday morning, remained unburied for three days because the husband did not have sufficient money to pay the funeral expenses and did not make any effort to have the dead body buried. While the father's conduct has been most reprehensible and cruel, the authorities have found no law under which he can be punished.