

TAR HEEL TOPICS

Items Gathered From All Sections of the State

Crazy Man Suicides.

Greensboro, Special.—Tuesday afternoon about 2:30 o'clock one of the prisoners in the county jail here was horrified upon passing the cell of a fellow prisoner to see him swinging by the neck from the top of his cell. The horror-stricken man gave a lusty yell which soon brought the jailer to the scene. He round upon investigation that the man who was swinging from the cell was John Monett, a demented white man, who had been placed in the jail a few days ago for safekeeping until he could be taken to the asylum. He was hurriedly taken down and efforts made to resuscitate him, but it was useless. The physician who was summoned stated that he had been dead at least half an hour when discovered. The means used by Monett in taking himself from this world were provided by the use of his suspenders, which he fastened to the bunk near the top of the cell. He did not have room to swing clear and so determined was he to depart from this world that he actually drew his feet up under him in order that he might strangle. Monett was brought here from his home near Julian on last Friday night. It is said that he was at times wild and disposed to be violent, but he did not give the officers who went after him any trouble. Since being put in jail he had been heard to mutter that they were not going to hang Old Johnnie yet. He was about 60 years of age, and is survived by a wife and two daughters. The body was taken to the undertaking establishment of E. Poole and prepared for burial. It will be taken to Julian for interment.

Awful Crime in Thomasville.

High Point, Special.—One of the most diabolical crimes in the history of the State was perpetrated at Thomasville, the particulars of which have just been learned here by the bringing of the little girl here on the afternoon train. The facts in the case are about as follows: The 4-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Fields, of this place, was visiting the family of Mr. and Mrs. H. Shoaf, relatives of the Fields, at Thomasville, and while under the influence of morphine and whiskey, they unmercifully beat the little girl and when found she was almost dead. She was found wrapped up in a tow-sack with the left arm broken, the skull crushed in and bleeding at the nose and mouth. Her right leg and left foot were badly bruised also, besides other bruises on the body. When the dastardly crime was learned in Thomasville, a correspondent learns that there were serious threats of a lynching, but it was averted. Both parties were arrested and placed under bonds in the sum of \$500 each. The little girl was brought to her home here, and great crowds gathered around to look and listen to the awful story, and there are many muttering of what should have been done to such people as the fiends who would so unmercifully treat a child.

Brakeman Leonard Released on Bail.

Greensboro, Special.—Wednesday morning the mother of H. C. Leonard, the brakeman who was arrested for having caused the wreck at Rudd by negligence and placed under a \$1,000 bond for his appearance, arrived in the city and signed the bond for her son's appearance at the next term of Superior Court. Then they returned to their home at Lexington.

Convention of Anglers.

New York, Special.—With the object of uniting more effectively for the preservation of the game fishes of America, a call has been issued for a convention of the anglers of the United States and Canada, to be held at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, beginning November 11.

Drunken Man Shot.

Wadesboro, Special.—Friday night about 10 o'clock John Tucker, a white man living near here, was shot near the heart and the wound may prove fatal. Tucker was drunk when he came up town and made the announcement. His first story was that he received the ball at the street fair during business here now, but later he declared that he was near the depot when shot. He does not know or has not told who shot him. He went immediately to Dr. Bennett's office, and after examination the doctor advised him to go to a hospital.

Railroad Bonds Carry in Transylvania County.

Brevard, Special.—Returns from Transylvania county show that out of a total registration of approximately 11,000 at least 675 have voted for bonds for the trans-continental railroad, giving a majority of 300 for bonds and as returns from some of the precincts are incomplete, it is probable that this majority will be increased.

Two Postoffice Clerks Removed.

Charlotte, Special.—Messrs. W. E. Junker and N. M. Jones, night clerks at the postoffice, were summarily suspended Tuesday afternoon by Post-office Inspector Barclay. This followed the preliminary hearing of Mr. John B. Benton, who was bound over on the charge of trifling with the United States mail. The case of Junker and Jones is in the hands of United States District Attorney Holtzman, of Winston-Salem. No warrants have as yet been issued for them and it is not known what other steps will be taken.

It was stated that the articles he is charged with having taken will not exceed \$2.50. They consist of a can of coffee, a dollar watch, a razor and a few other insignificant things. His bond was fixed at \$250 and his trial will probably be held at the December term of Federal Court. The penalty for such an offense is said to be a fine and imprisonment for not less than three months. Jones and Junker were suspended upon statements made previously by Benton. Their homes were searched and a number of small articles found, all of which were alleged to have been taken from the mails. The list consisted principally of magazines. The defendants are all young men and none of them have been employees of the local postoffice for any great length of time. Benton was chief night clerk. Wednesday afternoon it was learned that District Attorney Holtzman, of Winston-Salem, had telegraphed to Charlotte, instructing the deputy marshal here to proceed with the serving of the warrants in the case of Jones and Junker.

The South is Strong.

Wilmington, Special.—Fifty leading merchants, manufacturers, and business men of this city telegraphed Gov. Glenn of North Carolina, now in Atlanta, Ga., for the purpose of considering with the governors of two other States railroad litigation in the South, the following message which he has been requested to read at the meeting: "Southern crops are plentiful and Southern commercial and industrial conditions never intrinsically sounder. Agitation has ruthlessly depressed values, causing congestion and inability to move crops with expedition. Restoration of confidence essential for the South to realize full values for its great products. We believe it is in the power of the conference to restore confidence in a great measure, by an equitable adjustment of the rate controversy. The South can save the situation by wise action at this juncture. You are appealed to as patriots and statesmen who have deeply at heart the well being of the whole people."

Mistrial in Damage Suit.

Statesville, Special.—The damage suit case of Mrs. Lula Canup vs. the Southern Railway Company, in the Federal Court, resulted in a mistrial. The case was given to the jury at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning with three issues as follows: First, was the railroad guilty of negligence; second, was the man guilty of negligence; third, what damage, if any? The jury disagreed on the first issue, and after being out nearly seven hours they reported their disagreement and a mistrial was ordered. Mr. Canup was killed by a train about a year ago at a crossing west of Salisbury.

Municipal League Convention.

Philadelphia, Pa., Special.—A highly attractive programme has been outlined by Secretary Clinton Rogers Woodruff, of this city, for the coming joint convention of the National Municipal League and American Civic Association, which will be held in Providence, beginning November 19. Secretary Charles J. Bonaparte is president of the convention.

Work on S. & W. Suspended.

Charlotte, Special.—It will be a matter of some interest to people in this section to know that the president of the South and Western Railroad, Mr. George L. Crater, has issued an order that all heavy work on this road be suspended until further notice. The road which is being built from the coal fields of West Virginia, to the Carolina Seaboard, has attracted wide attention in the South. The tightness in the money market is assigned as the reason for this order emanating from the president of the road.

Child Killed by Fall Into Well.

Winston-Salem, Special.—The two-year-old son of Jesse Templeton, who resides near Wilkesboro, fell into a well a few days ago and was killed instantly. An oilcloth had been spread over the well to keep out leaves and trash. The little boy left the house unnoticed and attempted to run across the oil cloth. He screamed as he started down and workmen saw him disappear.

MET AN AWFUL DEATH

Employee of Southern Power Company Meets Tragic End at Bessemer City Tuesday Being Instantly Killed by Electric Current.

Charlotte, Special.—News of a fatal as well as a most distressing accident near Bessemer City, reached the city Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from Gastonia.

Mr. Will Templeton, "trouble man" for the Southern Power Company, while at work one-half mile this side of Bessemer City, about 10:30 o'clock, was instantly killed by an electric current, while he stood on the ground, and a hole about four inches in diameter was burned through his body, about midway of the trunk and from side to side.

When the first physician reached the dead man, Dr. D. A. Garrison, of Bessemer City, arrived, he found him still clinging to two telephone wires, while the current, it is supposed, was still passing through his body, burning a great hole from side to side.

Mr. Templeton was testing the private telephone line of the Southern Power Company, the wires being strung along below the large transmission wires when the deadly current struck him. It is supposed that one of the telephone wires came in contact with one or more of the transmission wires, carrying their high voltage current and that this current was transmitted over the telephone wires in the dead man's hands, resulting in instant death, although there was no one with him when he fell to the ground, with the deadly current going through his body.

Mr. Templeton had been in the employ of the Southern Power Company during his time of residence in Gastonia, and was a man respected by his fellow employees and holding the highest regards of his employers. He was about 30 years of age and was known to quite a number in this city.

A Tragedy in Wilkes.

Wilkesboro, Special.—News has reached here of a perhaps fatal cutting at Atkin's shop, about 18 miles northwest of here. It seems that last Saturday about 25 men met at Atkin's shop, where a beef cow was shot for in the old-time way, by skilled riflemen. During the evening some of the men drank too much liquor and about dark a dispute arose between Herman Bradley and George Hendrix, Hendrix slashing Bradley with a knife and Bradley using a small hand axe, inflicting several serious wounds, and splitting Hendrix's skull and causing his brains to run out. Dr. Miller was called to treat the men. Both were seriously wounded and Hendrix is not expected to live.

Wilson Lady's Shocking Death.

Wilson, Special.—Tuesday morning about 12, Mrs. Thurman Fulgham was fatally burned by falling into the fire place. Mrs. Fulgham was happily married only last spring and her untimely and shocking death has cast a gloom over our city. Her body was burned beyond recognition. Mrs. Fulgham, who was formerly Miss Pansy Sugg, was very popular and highly esteemed.

Young Boy Killed.

High Point, Special.—The twelve-year-old son of John Peace was instantly killed by a train here Tuesday afternoon on the yards, in front of the Rankin Coffin and Casket Company. Young Peace had just stepped from the northbound to the southbound track when No. 35 struck him.

Tobacco Prices Decline.

Winston-Salem, Special.—Men in a position to know are predicting great declines in the price of tobacco. The prices held up tolerably well, but there was a decline. According to information received, this market paid more for the weed than any other market, being from one to two cents a pound ahead of the Danville market. Five buyers on the local market bought but little tobacco. The shaky condition of the market is given as the reason for the expected slump in the price of tobacco.

Some New Charters.

Raleigh, Special.—Among the new charters are the following: Virginia-Carolina Peanut Company, Williamston; capital, \$100,000; J. G. Goddard, J. G. Staten, E. Gurganus and others incorporators. Orange Telephone Company, Cedar Grove, capital, \$10,000; W. R. Roberts, M. W. Arrowood and others, incorporators.

Railroad Bonds Carry in Polk.

Tryon, N. C., Special.—The Appalachian Railroad bond issue election was carried in Polk county by a majority of from 250 to 300. Every precinct heard from gave a good majority except Saluda, where the vote was 27 for and 140 against. Some of the precincts that have no phone connection have not reported, but their vote will not materially change the result.

A SOLUTION OFFERED

A Plan For a System of Credit Currency Outlined

A SCHEME TO OBTAIN RELIEF

Permanent Relief From the Monetary Stringency, Declares the Chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee of the House, Can Be Obtained Only by That Enactment—He Points Out the Cause of the Present Stringency and Outlines the Real Situation.

New York, Special.—That permanent relief from the present monetary stringency can only be had through a system of credit currency adequate to meet the requirements of trade and redeemable in gold coin was the opinion expressed by Representative Charles N. Fowler, of New Jersey, chairman of the banking and currency committee of the House, which will, at the coming session of Congress, endeavor to have a law passed providing for credit currency issued by the national banks. Until such permanent relief is made possible by legislative enactment, Mr. Fowler asserted, the situation must be met by the issuance of clearing house certificates, cashiers' checks and due bills of business houses and manufacturers.

"The underlying business conditions," he said to the Associated Press, "are essentially sound as evidenced by the increased earnings of the railroads and the fact that the value of our agricultural products this year are \$500,000,000 more than last year (which was the highest year in our history), and are bringing to our people about \$7,000,000,000. But public confidence has been greatly shaken and credit seriously affected; therefore, every patriotic citizen from the President down, should do all in his power to restore that confidence which is essential to national prosperity."

Cause of Stringency.

"The cause of the currency stringency is that there is scattered broadcast throughout the country, at the mines, in the wheat, corn and cotton fields, in the pockets of the people or locked up about \$1,300,000,000 of the reserve money of the United States most of which under a proper condition would be in the banks, serving as reserve. Temporary relief will be through the forced use of current credit in the form of clearing house certificates, cashiers' checks and due bills of business and manufacturers during the next 90 days. The permanent cure must come through a system of credit currency expanding and contracting with the ordinary demands of the smaller trade, precisely as checks and drafts do in the broader field of commerce.

The Real Situation.

"First—the condition is now general, reaching every nook and corner of the country. "Second—if the gold certificates, the United States notes and silver certificates, or the reserve money which the banks of the country have sent into the wheat fields of the West and Northwest, into the cornfields of the West and Southwest, into the cotton fields of the South and into the country districts of all sections to settle up the year's business, I say—if these reserves now scattered broadcast overland were in the banks where they properly belong—there would have been no money panic this fall.

"The proof of this assertion is conclusive. During the past four months there has been sent from the banks into the country districts approximately \$300,000,000 of currency. Of this amount \$250,000,000 approximately now in the banks, would serve as a basis of more than \$1,250,000,000 credits or loans, and the present crisis would have been averted. This result could have been accomplished without increasing the liabilities of the banks of the country to the extent of one single cent.

Lays Down Challenge.

"I challenge any man to controvert this statement and submit the following as absolutely conclusive proof of the assertion. If the banks of the country in which \$250,000,000 had been authorized as they should have been, to create bank note credits as well as bank book credits, and they had proceeded to convert this \$250,000,000 of bank book credits into bank note credits the banks would not have been affected in any degree or in any way whatever, and the whole country would have been amply supplied with currency with which to transact all the fall business."

"How could this have been done? Simply by authorizing each bank to issue cashiers' checks to bearer, which is a current credit, that is, a credit that passes by mere delivery, requiring no endorsement. By this process credits would have been converted into bank

note credits and as the reserves required for both forms of credits, should be the same, there could have been no change whatever in the situation. The bank debt is the same, the amount of the reserve is the same. It has been only a matter of book-keeping. An issue of current credit adequate to meet the requirements of trade and currently redeemed in gold coin is a principle followed by every civilized country in the world except our own.

World's Banking Power.

"Mark this: The banking power of the United States in 1890 was about \$5,000,000,000 and now exceeds \$16,000,000,000—or equal to the entire banking power of the world in 1890, which Mullah placed at \$15,985,000,000. Today the banking power of the entire world, outside of the United States is only \$21,952,000,000, and of this amount 20 per cent, or more than \$4,000,000,000 is in cashiers' checks or current credits. That is, credit currency—and yet while the United States has three-sevenths of the banking power of the entire world, it has not one single dollar of current bank credit, although the other four-sevenths of the world's banking power has the advantage of \$4,000,000,000 current credits or credit currency.

On the Same Basis We are Entitled.

"On the same basis we are entitled to have \$3,000,000,000 of current credit or credit currency. "If this principle were broadly adopted in this country as it should be, our bank reserves might be increased by an average of 9.92 per cent, to about 20 per cent, and our banking liabilities remain practically the same.

The Cashier's Check.

"Can any one give a single reason why we should use a check book for credits to order and not use a current credit of the same bank upon which to draw our checks? Is not the cashier's check just as good as our check upon the same bank, indeed far better—when protected—as it should be by a guarantee fund deposited with the United States government, many more times ample to insure its redemption in gold coin.

To Back Stamp Letters.

New York, Special.—The plan of back stamping the date of receipt of all letters and first class mail, discontinued for a time in the New York postoffice, will be resumed. It was thought that elimination of the back stamp would result in decreasing the time necessary in handling and delivering mail, but many complaints were made by patrons and the post-office department decided to resume the practice.

THE WAYS OF BIRDS.

Among the many bird pets I have owned at different times owls have always been my favorites. At present I have three tawny owls, which I have reared from the nest. Two I took from an old hawk's nest and one from a hole in the wall of a tumble-down cottage.

They have been brought up in company with several other bird pets, magpies, jackdaws and hawks, and when quite young it was an exceedingly pretty sight to see them all together on a perch, the owls watching the proceedings of the "jacks" and magpies with an air of absorbing interest.

Sometimes a "jack" would fly up to the perch and give one of the tawnies a friendly dig with his beak—as though he wanted to say: "Wake up, old fellow!"

Whereupon the owl would proceed with great gravity to comb the disturber's plumage with beak and claw, occasionally pausing during the operation to survey his work out of a half open eye, "jack," the while, winking at his mates below with the air of: "It's all right; it pleases the old duffer."

Barn owls, also, I have domesticated, and have found them very amusing pets. I had one which would fly down in broad daylight from his cage and catch a live mouse, and back again to make a meal of it, swallowing it whole by a succession of fearful gulps.

I have seen him swallow three in succession and have no doubt that had he been offered a fourth he would have been equal to the occasion. Incredible as it may seem to those who have never witnessed the feat, he would think nothing of devouring a sparrow, feathers and all.—Rosary Magazine.

The effort in Georgia, not only to pass, but to enforce, a law prohibiting the sale of liquors, says the Christian Register, is a self-denying ordinance, which shows that white men have at heart the welfare of the black race, and are willing to make something of a sacrifice to remove from them temptation to crime.

GOVERNORS CONFER

North Carolina, Georgia and Alabama Executives Meet

RAILROADS ASSURED JUSTICE

After Session Lasting All Day Governors Reach Agreement As to Railroad Rate Law Methods of Procedure in Enforcing Law Agreed Upon.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Through co-operation in methods to be pursued in the enforcement of laws regulating railroad passenger fares in the States of Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina was agreed upon Friday at a conference held in this city, between the Governors of those States. After a discussion which began at 9:30 Friday morning, and which lasted until late in the afternoon, with but a brief interval for luncheon the three Chief Executives reached an agreement and the meeting was adjourned.

In statement given to the Associated Press signed by the three governors, it is said that not only had they arranged to "co-operate in the investigation of facts and law connected with the duty of our States to the public as to transportation companies," but that they would also co-operate with other States which have the same problems.

"We regard the complete recognition of the right of the States to regulate the intra-State business of transportation companies as absolutely necessary," the statement continues.

Friday's conference, which was held at the suggestion of Governor Comer, of Alabama, was participated in by Governors R. B. Glenn, of North Carolina; B. B. Comer, of Alabama, and Hoke Smith, of Georgia; W. D. Nesbit, member of the railroad commission of Alabama; Judge L. D. Wearley and Col. H. G. Selheimer, special counsel for Alabama in the pending rate litigation in that State; a Attorney General John C. Hart, and Special Counsel J. K. Hines and Hooper Alexander, of Georgia.

The declared object of the meeting was to reach an agreement if possible in methods to be pursued in enforcing the rate laws of the States interested and also decide on some rate that would apply to the railroads of those States, the rates at present being widely divergent.

Just what concrete plan was decided upon the Governors refused to state, nor would they give out any of the details of the conference, beyond the statement that it was most satisfactory.

The signed statement of the chief executives is as follows:

"Our conference has been most satisfactory. We discussed conditions in our respective States and we arranged to co-operate in the investigation of facts and law connected with duty of our States to the Companies. We will also co-operate with other States which have the same problems. We regard the complete recognition of the right of the States to regulate the intra-State business of transportation companies as absolutely necessary.

"No injury has been done to any corporation in either of our States by the exercise of the power of regulation. Increased business as a consequence of reduced rates required by our State authorities has in every case where fairly tried compensated the corporations.

"We deplore the fact that the railroad corporations have in some instances been damaged by the effects of their officers to disregard the action of our States. This has happened in every case where they have made allegations in the courts of sensational claims of injury contrary to the facts.

"When the railroad companies cease their false cry of confiscation and submit to the duly constituted authorities, upon which alone rests the right to determine questions of public policy, the railroad companies may expect a rapid return of public confidence and a restoration of normal credits. The authorities of our States are at all times ready to hear from the railroad companies fully and to accord to them treatment not alone just, but liberal.

"The details of our conference we do not consider it desirable to make public at this time."

R. B. COMER,
Governor of Alabama.
R. B. GLENN,
Governor of North Carolina.
HOKE SMITH,
Governor of Georgia.

Attempt at Double Suicide.

Springfield, Mass., Special.—Lying in a precarious condition from bullet wounds near their hearts are a couple who registered as R. W. Kerwan and wife at the Highland Hotel. They were victims of a double shooting affray. It is learned that the woman fired a shot at herself in an attempt at suicide. The man then seized the revolver and shot himself.

Late News In Brief

MINOR MATTERS OF INTEREST

Mary Donnelly, 9 years old, was assaulted and murdered at Renova, Pa. Henry Kreiss, of New York, worried so about his wealth he committed suicide.

Advising fist fighting rather than hazing, the president of the North Carolina Agricultural College started a series of pitched battles under official regulation.

Lieut. George C. Rockwell's exact answers to examination questions tied up promotions of second lieutenants for months while his case was being investigated.

Representative Gillespie declares that Cortelyou has discriminated against the farmers in favor of "stock gamblers."

Mr. Bonaparte in a Supreme Court argument upheld the Erdman law, which prohibits the discharge of employees for belonging to labor unions.

One of the scientists at the aeronautical congress stated that a temperature of 111 degrees below zero had been recorded at a height of 46,680 feet.

The Union Pacific Railroad dropped several thousand men from its construction forces, but the Pennsylvania Railroad Company denied a report of wholesale discharges.

Rev. Dr. George C. Houghton will hereafter refuse to marry runaway couples in the Little Church Around the Corner.

Mrs. Mary Scott Hartje fled her answer to her husband's brief asking to have the divorce case reopened, and makes sensational charges.

A student in an Illinois school obtained a verdict of \$14,000 damages against five others for hazing him.

"Uncle Joe" Cannon's Presidential boom was launched in Chicago. Chicago divorce suits last week amounted to 15 per cent. of the marriage licenses.

Judge Grosscup was indicted on a charge of being responsible for a trolley wreck in which 18 people were killed.

Will street caught its breath again, the recovery from the scare being more marked than on any previous day.

Judge Grosscup, of Chicago, with officers of a trolley company, was arrested on a charge of manslaughter following a serious wreck.

Five hundred Kentucky tobacco growers started a march to force others into an agreement not to raise a crop in 1908.

Town officials were blamed for not enforcing the speed law by a coroner's jury which investigated the deaths of four automobile passengers in Pottstown, Pa.

Wall street began to feel the effect of the battle against the contraction of credit, and the movement of wheat, tobacco and cotton is relied on to bring large quantities of European gold.

Efforts are being made to get Emperor William to testify in the Haradin libel suit in Berlin.

Earthquakes in Italy made thousands homeless and are estimated to have killed from 20 to 120 persons.

The Lusitania broke her eastbound record by making the voyage in 4 days 22 hours and 46 minutes.

Seattle has declared war on rats, as the result of the discovery of a case of bubonic plague.

Contractors paid \$100,000 to the postoffice department for failure to maintain the standard of paper required in stamped envelopes and wrappers.

Enrique C. Creel is to retire soon as Mexican Ambassador to the United States.

After traveling through 11 states and hunting in the canebrakes for two weeks President Roosevelt returned to Washington.

Samuel Gompers and Judge Grosscup, of Chicago, were among the speakers at the National Civic Federation's trust conference.

The German balloon Pommern, which descended at Asbury Park, N. J., is believed to have won the great race. Two balloons landed in Maryland.

Confidence was largely restored in Wall street as the result of action taken by J. Pierpont Morgan, Secretary Cortelyou and others.

Work on a big copper smelter at Coram, Cal., has been stopped until the price of copper goes up.

The Evangelical General Conference resolved to appoint a committee to arrange details for union with the United Evangelical church.

Policeman Eugene F. Sheehan of the Lower Bowery, New York, was shot and killed by William Morley, member of a notorious gang, who fired at two other officers.

Maya Indians surprised a detachment of Mexican soldiers, killing seven and a lieutenant and looting their camp.