

NORTH STATE HAPPENINGS

Occurrences of Interest Gleaned From All Sections of the Busy Tar Heel State

Trying a Puzzling Case.

Raleigh, Special.—A great many people were in the Superior Court room watching a trial for murder, which is certainly unique here—that of "Boots" Brown, the negro who seven years ago shot his paramour at the door of her home on Carroll alley in the southern part of this city. She walked into the house after she was shot and there fell dead and Brown disappeared. The supreme question is whether the man on trial is or is not Brown. He is very fat and smiles nearly all the time. It is said that Brown was by no means a large negro and that this man has really no resemblance to him. On the one hand it has been said that Brown's brothers had not been near him while in jail, on the ground that they felt certain he was not their brother; but on the other hand it is said they did not go to see him because they were convinced he was not Brown at all. The jurors were asked whether they had formed an opinion that the man was or was not "Boots" Brown. Around the streets there was no end of argument as to whether the man was or was not Brown and a number of business men who knew Brown said the man on trial was not the criminal. The most interesting feature of the day was the testimony of the prisoner himself. He swore that his name was Willis Wright, and that he left his home at Ivor, not far from Suffolk, Va., when he was 21 years old and that he had not been there since except to pass through on a train. The woman who claims to be his mother swore the same thing. Everybody admits that the case is not only novel and sensational in the extreme but also very puzzling and newsworthy. It is a matter of identification of the man.

Serious Shooting Affray.

Washington, N. C., Special.—A shooting affray on the dairy farm of S. Fleming, about one mile from this city, early Friday morning came very nearly resulting in a murder for one of the parties. Two white men employed on the farm, by name of William Haddock and John Williams, became involved in an altercation over a hog, and Haddock went to his residence nearby, returned with a shotgun and fired two loads of No. 8 shot into Williams' breast. It seems that there was bad blood existing between the two for some time and this was the final outcome. Williams fell in his tracks and other parties notified Sheriff Ricks of the shooting. The Sheriff met Haddock on the road to town and arrested him, bringing him to this city, where he was given a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace A. Mayo, where he waived all the evidence and pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon. He was bound over to next term of court and remanded to jail.

For Supplemental Libraries.

Raleigh, Special.—The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is sending cards of notification to the various counties, showing how many original and supplementary rural school libraries each is entitled to. In addition to what they have received out of the appropriation for 1907-08. They must apply before November 20th. There are now 1,925 libraries. Each county is entitled to six original and six supplementary libraries each two years. Every county has now some of these libraries, though some counties have very few.

State News in Brief.

Federal court convenes at Newbern Monday, October 26th. There is a large number of cases on the docket, many of which are blind tiger cases. The cyster supply at Newbern just now is practically nothing. Very few cysters have been brought in to that market and they have brought a high price. The retail price at present is from 40 to 50 cents a quart.

Yet Another Victim Dies.

Salisbury, Special.—W. Fletcher Stafford, who was fatally hurt in the powder magazine explosion at Spencer last week, died at a hospital here Friday from the effects of his injuries, which resulted in blood poisoning, this being the fourth death among the victims of the accident. He was frightfully torn by the flying debris from the magazine, his body being pierced in several hundred places. Mr. Stafford was 33 years old and is survived by a wife, two children, three brothers and two sisters. The interment will be at Graham, Alamance county.

Killed Negro Who Waylaid and Assaulted Him.

Rockingham, Special.—John McInnis was shot and killed by Sam Harrington Friday morning. McInnis had been out after wood and was returning when he was waylaid and first assaulted by Harrington, who drew a pistol on him. McInnis reached for a gun, which he had with him in the wagon, and fired. Harrington died in a little while. Both parties are colored.

Spontaneous Combustion.

Spencer, Special.—Upon an official investigation by the management of the Southern Railway, spontaneous combustion is assigned as the cause of the great powder magazine explosion in Spencer last week, when three lives were lost and twenty or more employees injured. It is certain that there was nothing but metal in the construction of the building which contained the explosives, and the exact cause of the explosion will probably never be known. It is the opinion of some that a supply of the explosives tumbled down inside the building, causing the powder to ignite.

New Corporations.

Raleigh, Special.—The Bank of Huntersville, Mecklenburg county, was chartered with \$10,000 capital. Charles F. Cline, of Greensboro; B. L. Cheat, C. F. Alexander and others of Huntersville, are the incorporators. The bank will do a savings and commercial business. The Southern Stock and Farming Company of North Carolina, Inc., has received a charter. The principal office is at Brevard, Transylvania county. The capital is \$125,000 authorized and \$30,000 subscribed by B. G. Estes, Charles M. Doyle and others, for farming, gardening, fruit growing, stock raising and general agricultural business, including the sale of farm supplies.

Gins Not Protected.

Raleigh, Special.—It was learned from a very widely known insurance man that insurance companies are not liable for the burning of gins by night-riders or that sort of gentry, who are classed as rioters, a special clause in all policies referring to this matter. The insurance man went on to say that gin owners who are counting on protection of their property by insurance companies had better look after their gins. This is a very fair warning to the people to protect their gins and to meet any night-riders with their own weapons in effect; that is, to use bullets and shot against firebrands. This is very plain advice.

Waterworks for Lenoir.

Lenoir, Special.—At a special meeting of the town council last week the contracts were awarded for installing a water and sewer system in Lenoir. The successful bidder was Guild & Co., of Chattanooga, Tenn. The two systems will cost approximately \$60,000. The contract for a 500,000-gallon reservoir was awarded the Piedmont Construction Company, Atlanta; for the valves and hydrants to the Fairbanks Company, Baltimore, and for the piping to the Dimmick Pipe Company, Birmingham. J. J. McCreary & Co., of Atlanta, were selected for the city engineers.

W. C. T. U. in Session at Reidsville.

Reidsville, Special.—The North Carolina Woman's Christian Temperance Union opened its twenty-sixth annual convention in the Main Street Methodist church Wednesday night, and the convention will hold three daily sessions, until Sunday night. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Mary E. Carland, of Greensboro, the vice president of the State organization. Mayor Robert S. Montgomery in gracious terms welcomed the convention to Reidsville.

Reprisals by Servia.

Vienna, By Cable.—Servia is retaliating for Austria's occupation of the Austro-Servia frontier by seizing roads and bridges on the Bosnian border, where Austria is yet unprepared to offer resistance. Lieutenant Field Marshal Oskar Potiorek has been appointed commander of the Austrian army.

Items of State Interest.

Mr. G. W. Garrow, of Valdese, Burke county, has succeeded Mr. R. L. Poplin, resigned, as superintendent of the Statesville Knitting Mill. Mr. Garrow has been employed by the Mayo Machine and Needle Company, of Franklin Falls, N. H., and is an experienced mill man.

Mr. H. L. Bush, of Newport News, Va., has become manager of the Postal Telegraph Company at Newbern, succeeding Mr. H. L. Kellogg, who has returned to his home in Washington, D. C., where he will be connected with the Postal.

The trustees of Rex Hospital, Raleigh, has arranged to build a new hospital, largely of concrete, to cost \$36,000. Dr. Hubert Royster will make a gift to it of \$1,000 when the first brick is laid and he pledges \$1,000 for the other physicians of Raleigh.

Senator F. M. Simmons has purchased from Mrs. W. P. Burrus the Burrus home on East Front street, Newbern, the consideration being \$9,000.

CENTENNIAL WEEK OPENS

Hundredth Anniversary of Founding of City of Greensboro Being Celebrated.

Greensboro, Special.—The celebration of Greensboro's one hundredth anniversary was opened Sunday with special services in the city churches. The pulpits were occupied by distinguished sons of North Carolina. All the choirs had prepared special music for the occasion and the congregations were unusually large. In fact, it is doubtful if so many people ever before attended divine services in Greensboro in one day.

The congregation at West Market Street Methodist church was addressed by Rev. Wilbur F. Tillett, D. D., dean of the theological department of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., and a brother of Mr. C. W. Tillett, of Charlotte, who chose for his theme, "The Place of Religion in the Making and the Mission of a Christian Nation." He discussed the connection between a nation's prosperity and its recognition of God and laid down the proposition that perfect prosperity is possible only when all the people are God-fearing. The speaker discussed in a most learned and interesting manner the influence of the Christian religion in the civilization of the world, saying that in no country has the relation between Church and State been adjusted so happily as in the United States.

Great Sermon by Dr. Smith.

The sermon at the First Presbyterian church was delivered by Rev. Samuel M. Smith, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Columbia, S. C., who spoke with great eloquence and power from the passage of Scripture reading: "Except the Lord build a house, they labor in vain that keep it; except the Lord keep a city, the watchman waketh in vain." Dr. Smith spoke of the wonderful progress of Greensboro, with special reference to the esprit de corps exhibited by the citizenship in religion, business and society.

In addition to these great sermons there was a splendid sacred concert at the auditorium in the afternoon and special religious exercises again at night in all the city churches.

The War Department sent the Twelfth Cavalry, a detachment of artillery, several hundred flags and several companies of infantry to participate in the exercises. Tuesday the battle of Guilford Court House will be reproduced. United States troops State militia with two gattling guns and a detachment of artillery will participate. Another important feature is the good roads congress, to which Governors of all the Southern States, chambers of commerce and other organizations have made reports.

Japanese Acrobat Slain.

Newton, Special.—F. Kikuchi, a Japanese acrobat, was murdered in the woods two miles from Newton Sunday by another Japanese, Henry Yamagata. The two belonged to a show. The scene of the tragedy was three hundred yards from the house of Mr. George Sigman. Mr. Sigman heard six shots and went into the woods to investigate. As he came to a deep gully, Yamagata was coming up the bank. He pointed down the gully and seemed to say, "A dead man down there." As Mr. Sigman started in the direction indicated, the man ran off through the woods. Mr. Sigman found a pile of boards in the gully and protruding through them a man's coat, and came to town and informed the sheriff.

A large crowd soon gathered and when the sheriff removed the boards a dead body was found. The murderer hurried to the show tent, changed clothes and made his escape before Mr. Sigman reached town to inform the sheriff. He was arrested in Hickory at 8 o'clock Sunday night and brought here to jail.

The man killed has a special feature with the show in connection with two little Japanese girls and the man who killed him was manager of the troupe. All were working under a Japanese booking agent in Buffalo, N. Y. The show people know nothing as to the motive of the murder. There were found five bullet holes in the man's back.

Will Speak at Salisbury.

Salisbury, Special.—The coming of the Republican presidential candidate Judge William Howard Taft, to Salisbury next Saturday morning, the 17th inst., is being looked upon as a great occasion by this entire section. That this distinguished visitor will be accorded a grand reception by both Democrats and Republicans is assured, and already plans have been inaugurated to give Judge Taft and his party a royal welcome to the Old North State. A reception committee composed of the leading men of the city, two bands of music, and a line of automobiles will meet the distinguished party upon their arrival on a special train over the Western North Carolina Railroad at 9:30 o'clock Saturday morning. They will then be driven to the public square at the intersection of Main and Innis streets, where a grandstand will be erected to accommodate one hundred and fifty people, and here Mr. Taft will make a speech, dealing at length upon the issues of the campaign. The party will spend three and a half hours in Salisbury, and at the close of the speech-making a

ASPECTACULAR FALL

Aeronauts Experience a Drop of Two Thousand Feet

LAND WITH BUT SLIGHT INJURY

American Balloon Conqueror Bursts at the Height of 4,000 Feet, Precipitating the Aeronauts to the Roof of a House in a Berlin Suburb.

The State Fair.

Raleigh, Special.—With everything in complete readiness the Great State Fair—the most complete and comprehensive in the history of the fair association—opened on Monday with a record attendance, all parts of the State being represented. The number and completeness of the exhibits surpassed all previous fairs. The grounds are in perfect condition and with almost ideal weather conditions the opening was one splendid triumph. The racing, always an attractive feature, was far above the average, many of the fleetest horses of the country being entered. Altogether the State Fair was one to make every loyal North Carolinian feel proud of his State and her matchless resources and achievements.

Drowned While Drunk.

Durham, Special.—Four miles north of Durham, near Braggton, the body of W. T. Garrett was found dead in a small pool less than two feet in depth and near him his blind horse, whose stumbling into the pool caused his drowning. The unfortunate fellow, who has but one arm and one leg, left here drunk and was last seen about 6 o'clock almost too "right" to make the trip. When crossing a deep fill made by the county roads the horse, unable to see its way, tumbled off into the hole and the two were helpless. The poor fellow had no use of himself at best and being incapacitated by drink was drowned apparently without a struggle.

Barn Burned in Mecklenburg.

Charlotte, Special.—The barn of Mr. William Ryan, situated a half mile below Mulberry church, south of the city, between the church and the river, was burned to the ground Sunday night about 7 o'clock, it is believed by the hand of an incendiary. "Broomhounds were sent for" and a promise of their services was secured from Todd's camp, in Gaston county. There is no clue to the guilty party and his apprehension is a matter of considerable doubt.

Train Kills Drunken Man.

Lumberton, Special.—Will Sanderson, a white man living near Lumberton Cotton Mills, was found dead about two miles east of Lumberton. He had been drinking heavily for several days and it was apparent at the inquest held by Coroner Raneke that he was killed by a passing Seaboard train. He was probably sitting on the side of the railroad track and was knocked off by the eastbound train at 10 o'clock Friday night.

Briefs of State Interest.

There is being made a strong effort to have a reformatory established in the State for colored youthful criminals. High Point will have her chrysanthemum show the 1st of November. An attractive list of prizes will be offered and there will be many competitors. The mayor of Charlotte, together with a large number of influential citizens, made an effort to have Judge Taft speak in that city, but were informed that he could not do so.

The first month of Coolemees High School closed Friday. The attendance has been about 190. The high school department as well as the other grades is doing good work. A camp of the Woodmen of the World has been organized at Canton by E. E. Clement, district deputy, with a membership of twenty. Officers have been elected, and the camp bids fair to enjoy an era of much prosperity.

Mr. C. M. Hauser, who, with Mr. T. J. Gold was appointed receiver for the People's Building and Loan Association of High Point, has resigned, saying he has not the time to devote to it. Judge Jones has been called upon to name some one else.

General Cotton Market.

These figures represent prices paid for spot middling at different points: Charlotte..... \$1-2 Columbia..... \$1-2 Wilmington..... \$3-4 Charleston..... \$1-2 Norfolk..... \$7-8 Savannah..... \$8-60 Galveston..... \$9 New Orleans..... \$3-4 Mobile..... \$8-60 Baltimore..... \$9 New York..... \$9-10 Boston..... \$8-10

Charlotte Produce.

Corn..... \$5 Bacon..... \$11-2 Lard..... \$12 Chickens..... \$25 to 50 Eggs..... \$25 Butter..... \$18 to 30

They have banished the automobile from Bermuda. But they still have the onion, proclaims the Chicago Evening Post.

WATERWAY ENDORSED

Second Day of the Great Waterway Conference Addressed By Colonel Bryan and Others.

Chicago, Special.—Addresses by William J. Bryan and Gifford Pinchot the latter being chairman of the national conservation commission, the reading of a letter from James J. Hill, short addresses by delegates, and a big reception at the Coliseum at night were the features of the second day of the convention of the Lakes-to-the-Gulf Deep Waterways Association. Mr. Bryan, who spoke earnestly in favor of deep waterways, not only from the lakes to the gulf but in all other parts of the country, where increased transportation facilities were needed, was an enthusiastically received, as was William H. Taft when he opened the convention the previous day.

Mr. Bryan's Address.

In addressing the convention Mr. Bryan said in part: "You cannot give the people too good facilities for transportation of their merchandise. If you tell me you want to improve the Mississippi I tell you that is all right, I will help you improve it just as far as you please, and make the canal as wide as you please and as deep as you please, and when you get to improving the Mississippi I will start out all alone if necessary to improve every river that empties into the Mississippi. Water transportation is the natural transportation. God made the rivers, man made the railroads. When you finish a river sufficiently deep for commerce, or a canal upon which boats can float, you make it possible for a man with large capital to get to where there is a river any man who can build a boat can engage in transportation, and if he cannot build a big boat he can build a little boat and if you have a large number of little boats the big boat will have to meet the rate that the little boat fixes. You will find it much easier to regulate rates on water than on land because competition can be much more active on water than on land. We are an exporting nation. We send our agricultural products to foreign markets, and when our wheat or our cotton reaches the London market its price is fixed there by the competition which it meets. If a bushel of wheat sells for a dollar in London and it takes fifty cents to get it from the farm to London the farmer gets fifty cents a bushel for his wheat. If you can so improve transportation that the farmer can get his wheat from his farm to Liverpool for twenty-five cents you have added twenty-five cents to the farmer's price for his wheat. It is a fact that is admitted that the railroad cannot carry freight as cheaply as the boat can, and therefore every farmer is interested in establishing water communication wherever water communication is possible.

Believer in Waterways.

"I believe in improving the waterways everywhere, no matter whether these waterways are the rivers that run down the mountainsides into the ocean and the West or the waterways that converge in the Mississippi valley and carry their floods to the gulf. I believe that it is the duty of those charged with the business of government to develop these things upon which a nation's prosperity depends. "If the work should be done, and I believe that it should, then you people who believe it should be done should agree upon the best methods by which to do it. But I repeat that you must not be frightened because it may require an investment. At St. Louis last fall they resolved that \$500,000,000 spent in improving the waterways of the Mississippi valley would bring an interest in the way of decreased cost of transportation amounting to \$180,000,000 a year. Why, my friends, if it only saved \$50,000,000 a year it would be ten per cent. interest on the investment. "I believe that the plan should be commenced now. I believe that it should be a comprehensive plan; that it should deal with the entire subject and that it should be a permanent plan; that we should begin now to lay the foundation for the future greatness of this country, in the development of these natural resources, these God-given water courses of ours."

Russia Getting Her Fleet Ready.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—Fearful that Austria intends to take advantage of the commotion in Servia to deal the boldest blow of all—annexation of Servia—the Czar has ordered the mobilization of the Black Sea fleet. Russia still insists upon an international conference to completely revise the Berlin treaty, while the latest word from England is that she has not receded from her position that only existing issues must be considered.

Will Retire Colonel Stewart.

Washington, Special.—The army retiring board which has been investigating the conditions of the health of Col. William F. Stewart, the so-called Fort Grant "exile," concluded its work and while the result was not officially made public, it is quite well understood that the board found Colonel Stewart to be so seriously afflicted with valvular disease of the heart as to incapacitate him for active service in the army.

To Increase Bank Examinations.

Washington, Special.—Comptroller of the Currency Murray has decided to increase the number of national bank examinations, in many cases from twice to three or four times a year. It is not his purpose, he says, to examine all national banks four or even three times a year, but the new rule will be made to apply to all national banks that have in the past shown a disposition to violate or evade any provisions of the national banking laws or the regulations prescribed by the Comptroller of the Currency.

Two Grades Eliminated.

New Orleans, Special.—Directors of the New Orleans cotton exchange announced that they had eliminated two middling grades and strict low middling grades from the list of tenderable grades. So much discussion resulted from the change that the directors have called a special meeting of the members of the exchange for next Monday to get their opinion on the matter.

RIOTERS ARE FOILED

Abortive Attempt to Lynch at Spartanburg, S. C.

MILITIA PROTECTED PRISONER

Infiltrated Mill Operatives Make Determined Effort to Lynch Negro Who Assaults Young Lady—Deputies and Officers Exchange Shots and Several Are Wounded.

Spartanburg, S. C., Special.—In the heart of Spartanburg with its 20,000 population, a mob of infuriated citizens, at times numbering a thousand or more, fought Saturday and Sunday night with the military and civil authorities for the possession of John Irby, a negro who is alleged to have attempted to ravish Miss Lillie Dempsey earlier in the day while the young woman was on her way here from Saxon Mill village, three miles away. Four persons were wounded, one of them seriously, and John Sparks, a restaurant keeper, was arrested and held without bail on the charge of shooting Sheriff Nichols, who was slightly wounded in the exchange of shots between the mob and the authorities who were protecting the prisoner.

Beginning about noon the crowd, sullen and bent on vengeance on the negro, roamed about the court house square, approaching at times the very gates of the high wall enclosing the jail. Late at night the situation became alarming. The crowd was augmented by 500 people from Greenville. There was some shooting in the street and the mob moved into the public square.

The first shot came from a window of the jail and it was followed by others from the same quarter. An answering shot was fired from the crowd. This broke a window in the jail and slightly wounded Sheriff Nichols. Sparks was accused of the shooting and immediately taken into custody. His attorneys offered \$1,000 bail but this was refused.

Girl Identifies Negro.

Irby's arrest was effected shortly after the commission of his crime and close to the scene of his attack. He was captured by mill operatives, was taken before the young woman, who immediately identified him, and was then carried into the woods. His captors were about to lynch him when mounted police arrived and wrested him from the crowd, not, however, before the negro had been badly beaten. The negro was taken to the jail and almost immediately the storming of the jail began. Sheriff Nichols swore in a number of deputies and the militia was ordered out. The mob tried to gain ingress by means of step ladders, but that, too, was ineffectual. Sunday and Sunday night passed off quietly with nothing in the way of a disturbance.

N. C. & St. L. Detective Killed.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Special.—T. J. McElhane, special detective for the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway, was shot and killed early Sunday while on duty in the yards of the railroad company at Cravens, two miles from the union station. W. S. Smith, who was until recently employed as a detective for the road, is in jail charged with the crime. Bloodhounds were put on the trail and tracked Smith to his home. The men, it is said, had been on bad terms for some time. McElhane leaves a wife and seven children.

Quiet in the Near East.

London, By Cable.—Belgrade, the storm center in the present Balkan situation, has quieted down. After a long secret session, the National Assembly has taken no definite action with regard to making war upon Austria-Hungary. The city itself has quieted down, the people apparently realizing that war would mean the destruction of Servian nationality.

Missionary Convention Holds Big Mass Meeting.

New Orleans, Special.—At a mass meeting in the Athenaeum Cephias Shelbourne, of Dallas, Tex., preached to a large audience attending the international missionary convention of the churches of Christ. Mr. Shelbourne took as his theme the fact that an inscription was written on the cross of Christ in three languages and developed from this incident an argument showing how modern churches of all creeds are pushing aside denominational barriers in favor of more intimate relations with each other.

Marked Falling Off in Greater New York Registration.

New York, Special.—Registration for the first three days in Greater New York as shown by corrected figures reveals a marked falling off from that of four years ago. For the three days the corrected figures show for Greater New York a registration for 540,095 as compared with 573,523 four years ago—a loss of 33,428.