

## CONVOCA- TION OF EDENTON SESSION ENDS

### Delightful Occasion

The 155th Meeting of the Convocation Was Held in Old St. Thomas' Church, Bath, Wednesday and Thursday.

### AUXILIARY ORGANIZED

The 155th meeting of the Convocation of Edenton was held in historic St. Thomas' Church, Bath, on Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

The opening business session took place on Wednesday morning, with Rev. Claudius F. Smith, Dean of the Convocation, presiding.

Morning prayer was said at 11 o'clock by Rev. Messrs. Luther Eborn, C. F. Smith, W. J. Gordon, C. D. Malone and J. W. Fulford, and the sermon was delivered by the dean.

At the afternoon session reports were had from the various members, regarding conditions in their respective charges, and Judge Francis D. Winston reported for his parish in the absence of Rev. Jno. B. Gibble.

An hour was then allotted Mrs. Jas. G. Station, of Williamson, for the purpose of organizing a branch of the Junior Auxiliary among the young people of the congregation of St. Thomas'. After this had been accomplished, the Committee on Revision of Constitution and By-Laws made its report through Rev. Wm. J. Gordon, the changes suggested by that committee being, after discussion, adopted.

Evening prayer was said at 7.30 and Rev. Claudius F. Smith preached most admirably upon the subject of prayer, his text being "Lord, Teach Us to Pray." This sermon was particularly helpful, and made a distinct impression upon the congregation.

At the close of this service Rev. Jos. W. Fulford read an essay relating to "The Missionary Problem of Our Lower Counties," and this was discussed, at its conclusion, by Judge Winston.

The final business meeting was held on Thursday morning, and in the afternoon "The Woman's Auxiliary and Parochial Society" held its session, presided over by Mrs. Jas. G. Station, vice-president for this Convocation. Several excellent papers were read by the ladies, covering various phases of missionary work at home and in foreign lands.

Thursday evening Rev. Wm. J. Gordon spoke upon the subject of laymen's work as embodied in the idea of the "Laymen's Missionary Movement."

The Convocation was fairly well attended, and was a helpful gathering. The people of Bath displayed the finest of oldtime hospitality, and made each delegate and visitor, feel thoroughly comfortable and at home. The only disappointment seemed to be that more delegates had not appeared.

The officers of the Convocation are as follows: Dean, Rev. Claudius F. Smith, Elizabeth City; secretary, Rev. Jno. M. Gibble, Windsor; treasurer, Jno. G. Bragaw, Jr., Washington.

## Alarm of Fire Yesterday Afternoon

Yesterday about 2 p. m. the alarm of fire was turned in. It proved to be the manufacturing plant of the Washington Buggy Company, owned and operated by Mr. George Haykney. The fire was first discovered in the engine room on the dry kiln side. How it caught is not known. Quite a number of poplar boards were consumed. Mr. Haykney places his loss between three and four hundred dollars. The fire was extinguished before the department reached the scene. They started up work this morning on regular schedule time notwithstanding the damage.

### REGULAR SERVICES.

There will be regular services at the First Presbyterian Church Sunday morning and evening at the usual hour. The pastor, Rev. H. B. Seagriff, will preach at both services. Sunday school, 9 p. m. The public cordially invited to be present. Excellent music.

### SUNSHINE ATTENTION.

The members of the Sunshine Society of the First Baptist Church are requested to meet at the church Monday afternoon at 3:45 o'clock.

## WATER STILL IN THE CITY AND GAINING

### Looters Are Shot

The Seine is Still Rising and Spreading—The City Now Rests on Water and Hundreds of Buildings Are Undermined.

### TOURISTS' QUARTERS SAFE

Paris, Jan. 27.—The flood situation today grew worse hourly. Rains began as the weather turned warmer, releasing ice that had formed on the upper branches of the Seine and its tributaries. Rising steadily the water ate into the dykes that had been thrown up, and, with no relief in sight, began a new stage of the calamity.

The breaking of the banks of previously immune country districts resulted in slight diminution of the flow through the city about 9:15 and the water became stationary. Later it began to rise again.

One hundred thousand men—troops, police, and civilians—today struggled to beat back the gaining waters, and save the quarters that had not been inundated.

The Seine, at 4 p. m., was rising an inch and a quarter an hour. It was raining heavily. The Ile St. Louis is threatened with complete inundation which may sweep away ancient landmarks upon it, whose foundations are already undermined.

Five looters were shot today in the flood-stricken districts of the city, after orders had been issued to the troops to spare none found in abandoned homes.

Dawn today found the flood from the river Seine still spreading devastation. Sewers blew up at intervals, shattering the roadways and causing walks to collapse.

The thirty thousand troops ordered into the city have begun to arrive, bringing relief to the worn out soldiers who have been struggling to save the city since the Seine first began to rise.

Many were taken to hospitals, exhausted or stricken with pneumonia. Thousands of others were given their first real respite in days. At their barracks, however, they were compelled to sleep on the floors, the beds were given over to refugees.

Not an hour passes without fresh reports of saving sewer or subways. Paris today rests on water and hundreds of buildings are undermined. Half the streets and squares of the entire city today are submerged. The rest, for the most part, had been eaten into beneath the surface and were unsafe even for pedestrians.

The roar of collapsing streets and bursting conduits shook whole quarters and spread panic widecast.

The quays and the streets along the embankment are submerged at scores of places, yet the flood is by no means confined to them. Sewers, subways, conduits, have been turned into pipes through which the racing river forces its way to the more distant regions.

Paris without gaiety would be beyond imagination, but today Paris is as forlorn as the gay capital ever can be.

The life of the boulevards is suspended save for a few streets. Many of the best known cafes have been forced to close. The theaters make but a pretense of keeping open. The shops are crippled; few of their employes can reach them, and still fewer customers brave the flooded streets.

In the Latin quarter there is sorrow and gaiety commingled. Compelled, except for a few hardy souls to remain cooped up in the upper floors of their buildings, the students make the best of it and hold feasts such as have not been seen since the days of the siege.

There is no jollity in the outlying regions, however. Thousands there are cramped in camps that give little shelter; there are still many who have not been rescued from their isolated homes. As fast as the authorities can save them, fresh encroachments by the water increase the number.

The tourist quarters, though, are among the safest in the city, and there is no anxiety felt for the safety of American visitors. Some of the members of the permanent American colony have been seriously inconvenienced, but there is slight danger for them, except for a few living near the river. Many visitors are fleeing, however.

### STILL QUITE ILL.

Mrs. Rosa Willis, mother of Messrs. D. R. and E. K. Willis, is still quite sick at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John P. Willis. It is to be hoped she will soon be on the road toward recovery.

## SWAIN COURT HOUSE WRECKED; ONE KILLED

### Dynamite Plays Havoc

Omar Conly Dead; Barrett Banks and Register Francis Mortally Hurt by Explosion—Bradley Is Beyond Hope.

### BRYSON CITY SHOCKED

Asheville, Jan. 27.—A special from Bryson City to the Gazette-News tonight says:

"The Swain county court house was perhaps totally wrecked and Omar Conly instantly killed, Barrett Banks probably fatally wounded and Register W. L. Francis seriously hurt as the result of a dynamite explosion in the courthouse at 7 o'clock tonight. The whole town was terribly shaken, many windows shattered and the shock reached for more than a mile.

"The explosion occurred in Register of Deeds Francis' office and the miracle is that he escaped instant death. The room was totally wrecked and all the windows and doors of the lower floor of the courthouse blown out.

"It is feared that daylight will reveal the fact that the building is practically demolished, and beyond repair. The courthouse is practically new and has only been completed about a year at a cost of \$75,000.

"All of the men injured are prominent, Omar Conly, son of County Commissioner W. T. Conly, being 18 years of age. While the cause of the accident cannot be ascertained it is presumed that the three men were thawing out the sticks for killing fish in the river. The whole town is in an uproar of excitement and still trembling from the effects of the explosion.

"Only recently an explosion of dynamite in the river, presumably to kill fish, shocked the whole town.

"This is one of the worst accidents ever known to occur in this section of the State, especially as the public building was so badly damaged."

### ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

Asheville, Jan. 28.—By the accidental discharge of a stick of dynamite in the county courthouse at Bryson City tonight Omar Conly was instantly killed, Barrett Banks lost both eyes and was otherwise seriously injured, and Lee Francis, registrar of deeds of Swain county, was fatally injured.

Conly and Banks were thawing dynamite on the radiator of the registrar's office in preparation for a fishing trip. One of the sticks of dynamite, it is said, fell to the ground and exploded with such force as to shatter the doors and windows of the office and seriously damaged the entire west end of the courthouse. Many valuable county records and legal papers were destroyed. Register Francis was working at his desk when the explosion occurred. Late advices tonight state that he and Banks have little chance for recovery.

## ITALIAN BOYS GREAT SUCCESS

### One of the Best Performances of Lyceum Course.

The closing number of the Lyceum course, The Italian Boys, at the public school auditorium last evening, is pronounced today by those competent of judging, the best attraction of the series. Although the weather was unpropitious a goodly number were present and they were simply carried away with every number. The Italian Boys under the direction of Mr. Albert Foland, were here last season and they pleased our people so well the management of the course decided to have them make a return date.

That those in charge made no mistake goes without saying. The company was composed of Mr. Albert Foland, manager and director; B. Desimone, violin; B. Sbermano, cello; G. Franzini, clarinet; G. Pesce, harp, and Travis Walsh, soprano. The program consisted of instrumental music by the entire company, instrumental solos, vocal solos and impersonations. The climax of the entertainment was reached when "A Night in Venice" was presented. This is the outcome of Mr. Foland's ingenious mind and it showed that he possesses enviable talent in this capacity. No part of the program was more enjoyed than this. His imper-

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

All Cordially Invited to Attend All Services Sunday.

There will be regular services at the First Baptist Church Sunday morning and evening, to which the public is cordially invited. The pastor, Rev. J. A. Sullivan, at the morning hour will preach from the text: "The Higher Life." At 7:30 the topic of the discourse will be "A Night in the Desert." Sunday school meets promptly at 9:45 a. m. and the subject of the lesson will be, "Some Laws of the Kingdom."

Good music, all services. Polite and attentive ushers. Seats free.

### THUNDERSTORM

Washington was visited yesterday afternoon with a rain and thunder storm. The rainfall was considerable. Bonations were rendered in a way to captivate and please.

## GUARDIAN OF COOK'S RECORDS

### The Young Sportsman Now in Asheville

Asheville, N. C., Jan. 28.—The man to whom Dr. Cook entrusted his records at Etah to bring to this country, Mr. Harry Whitney, is in Asheville.

Mr. Whitney is at the Manor where he came to spend a few days with friends who have Orchard cottage for the season, arriving here from Jacksonville and intending to leave today for New Orleans.

"I haven't even a guess," said Mr. Whitney laughingly when asked where he thought Dr. Cook was now, and he firmly declined to express any opinion on the Cook-Pearry controversy.

"Oh, that is dead now," said he. "I have said all I could about it and have put it out of mind."

"Do you suppose that Dr. Cook is dead also?" he was asked.

Mr. Whitney laughed but declined to make an answer to this.

"Are you going again to the Arctic on a hunting trip?" was next asked of the athletic young New Haven sportsman of wealth who was at Etah hunting when he met Dr. Cook and the latter entrusted his records to him although he was aware that Mr. Whitney intended to proceed northward before returning to America.

"Not soon," replied he, "but I may go there again in the future."

"Is there good hunting in the Arctic?" he was asked.

"Oh, yes," he replied. "Plenty of polar bear, seals, deer, foxes."

"And is the cost of a hunting trip there very expensive?" he was asked.

"Oh, no," said he, "the principal expense is in getting there, and I did not have this because I went with Peary. But I had to pay for the boat which was sent after me."

"And that cost some money," it was suggested to him.

"Yes," he said with a laugh, "but not very much."

"There is nothing in the Arctic for which one can spend much money," said Mr. Whitney in reply to a question.

"It was suggested to him that it was said the Esquimaux had become aware of the value of their services and would make exorbitant demands on explorers and hunters.

"Oh, no," he replied. "Not the Esquimaux I encountered on my trip. Those at the stations in Labrador where many Caucasians come have grown wise but those at Etah and in Greenland generally are the same childish persons they always were."

It was suggested to Mr. Whitney that Arctic explorers spoke of the necessity of having sometimes to make a meal of the dogs used to draw the sledges and in view of the prevailing high prices of meat in this country he was asked if dogs were very edible. Mr. Whitney said that fortunately he could not speak from personal experience. "Those dogs are not dogs as they are denominated in this country," said Mr. Whitney. "They are more like wolves. They are very strong, it being considered that the average Esquimaux dog will draw 100 pounds on a sledge."

"Does one feel the intense cold very much?" Mr. Whitney was asked.

"Yes, at times greatly," he replied. "You see there is no method of artificial heat save the oil lamps and when one gets cold he stays cold. The only way to get warm is by exercise."

"Don't you have to stay cooped up in a hut during the Arctic night?" he was asked.

"Yes," he replied, "except when there is moonlight, which exists 14 days a month on the average. But when the moon disappears it is time to make for a hut because that is no country in which to be lost in the dark."

### OLD FEUD ENDS IN FATAL SHOOTING.

Asheville, N. C., Jan. 27.—As the result of an old feud, Bas Browning, an Allen Creek township farmer of Haywood county, was shot and killed in the Bank of Waynesville by Allen Green, also a farmer of the same county, at 11 o'clock this morning. The killing took place in the presence of the bank officers, at a time when the bank was filled with people, and created much excitement.

Green and Browning were neighbors, their farms adjoining, and were related by marriage. Green, who is a constable in the Allen Creek section, surrendered to the police and is now in jail at Waynesville awaiting preliminary trial.

The many friends of Mrs. W. F. Sparrow, who has been seriously ill for several weeks, will be pleased to learn that her condition is much better and that she is now on the road to recovery.

## COMET OUT TO BE NEW WANDERER

### Receding From Sun

This is the Statement of the Scientist But Its Direction is Not Determined—Seen Right After Sunset.

### ITS ORBIT NOT KNOWN

Boston, Jan. 27.—The new comet first seen in South Africa January 14 is now known to astronomers as "Comet A of 1910," although at Kiel it called "Alpha 1910," and as it is now visible all over Europe and the United States, Professor Pickering, of Harvard, has told the unscientific person where to look for the stranger.

"It should be looked for in the western sky, just about the setting of the sun or 4:15 p. m.," he said. "It is apparently receding from the sun and is gaining in brilliancy every night. We are now thoroughly convinced that it is an absolutely new comet, as we can not identify it with any other known in astronomical records."

The new comet has been photographed at the Harvard astronomical observatory. When the celestial wanderer was first seen, at Johannesburg, Africa, it was supposed to be the Rates comet, but Professor Woodworth has announced that it is a new edition to astronomical knowledge.

Professor Kobold, of Kiel University, has determined its orbit, according to a dispatch received at the observatory yesterday afternoon. His observations show that it passed perihelion January 17, and is now receding from the sun.

The two observations made at the Harvard observatory, together with those made at other observatories, furnishes sufficient data for Professor Kiel scientifically to determine the orbit of the comet.

Five exposures, lasting from 2 to 5 minutes, were made, the shortest proving the most successful. The focal length of the lens was 13 inches. Since the camera was used without a clock regulator, the pictures of the comet, Venus and neighboring stars, appear as streaks, but the regular astronomical clock could not be used because the comet was so long on the horizon.

Professor Jacoby, of Columbia University, has given in more detail than Professor Pickering instructions as to where to find the new comet. He says:

"Look toward the southwest at sun set or just after, and unless the sky be overcast Venus will serve as a landmark to the lay observers. The planet will appear about 30 degrees southeast ward of the sun as men in general reckon the points of the compass, according to the geographical direction in which they stand.

"The comet will appear just about half-way between Venus and the sun, and in early a straight line between the two, or about 15 degrees from Venus and same distance from the sun.

"While not so bright as Venus, perhaps, it will be nowise dim, and anyone with ordinary eyes should have no trouble in seeing it once he knows where to look for it. It will be brighter than most of the stars, and show before they come out.

"The comet must be looked for very soon after the sun sets, though, for it will not remain above the horizon even until after dark has completely fallen.

"These directions will not hold good long. We do not know the comet's orbit, and we can not say which way it is traveling or where it will be in a few days."

### LIBERALS HOPE TO GAIN VOTES

London, Jan. 28.—Further gains by the Unionists, in spite of the better showing made yesterday by the Liberals, were recorded in the first returns received today. The weather was mild and rainy today, and gave promise of comparatively heavy polling in the 19 constituencies voting.

At noon the party totals stood: Unionists, 261; Liberals, 255; laborites, 39; nationalists, 74.

The first unionist gains were at Watford, Hertfordshire; East Grinstead, Sussex, and North Northamptonshire.

Today is the last day of the general election, save for a few scattered constituencies and postponed contests. The Liberals this morning hoped for a sudden wave in their favor which would give them an actual majority over the unionists, who led by a handful of votes. The chances of such an eventuality seemed slight.

The Liberals today took up the difficult task of attempting to stave off the threatened nationalist split, which would prove, if not fatal, at least a grave menace to the government program. If the Liberals can not rely upon the Irish votes in the new parliament, the fate of the budget is a matter of conjecture.

The announcement in his paper that William O'Brien, who has a following of 10 or less Irish members, will fight the budget tooth and nail because of its heavy tax on Irish whiskey has brought rejoicing to the unionist leaders and something in the nature of consternation to their opponents. O'Brien, however, throws on affiliation with either of the English parties. Efforts are being made, however, to induce him and Timothy Healy to use their influence on John Redmond, the chief Irish leader, in an attempt to slash the government coalition.

The government has fought this attack, however, by similar means, and the Irish leaders are, between two forces, but holding the whip hand if they remain firm.

The two larger parties will be represented on terms so nearly even that supremacy lies in the hands of the Irish.

There are other complications, however. The labor socialists, act

## FRIENDSHIP WITH THE U. S. IS STRONGER

### States Minister

Baron Komura, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Made Statement to Japanese Diet Yesterday That Friendship Was Stronger.

### IS FIRM AND ENDURING

Tokio, Jan. 27.—Baron Komura, minister of foreign affairs, addressed the diet this afternoon upon the subject of diplomatic relations, laying special stress upon Japan's relations with Russia, China and the United States. Regarding Russia, he said that the international relations had been regarded recently with a feeling of suspicion due to groundless rumors. He said:

"I assure you with perfect frankness and sincerity that the bonds of amity between the two countries are being constantly strengthened, and there is absolutely no cause for apprehension or concern. Both governments are dealing in a spirit of mutual accommodation, which policy will be maintained firmly in the future. I confidently expect a further consolidation of these cordial relations."

"The friendship between Japan and the United States," continued the Baron, "stands firm and enduring upon the foundations which are essential to the best interests of the commercial relations of the countries. Both governments are directing their best efforts to obtain the object in view."

"The United States government recently proposed a plan regarding the neutralization of Manchurian railways. The imperial government with regret was obliged to announce its inability to consent to the proposal. I trust that the United States will appreciate our position and that the other powers will equally recognize the justice of Japan's attitude."

Following Baron Komura's speech M. Otsuki, mayor of Tokio, a prominent member of the conservative party, unsparingly criticized the haste and curtness with which he assented to the government proposal for the neutralization of Manchurian railways.

## ASKS STATE TO AID IN THE GOOD ROADS

### Desire Appropriation

Ask That Not Less Than Quarter of a Million of Dollars for Helping the Different Counties Be Granted.

### COUNTIES TO RAISE DOLBLE

Raleigh, Jan. 27.—More than one hundred citizens from every part of the State, from Wilmington to Asheville, assembled here today for the good-roads conference called by State Geologist Joseph Hyde Pratt, under the auspices of the North Carolina Good Roads Association, of which he is the secretary. The conference adopted a series of resolutions calling on the next session of the general assembly to appropriate an ample amount of money for providing through the highway division of the geological and economic survey adequate road engineering assistance to all the counties in the construction of good roads and bridges, also calling on the legislature to appropriate not less than \$250,000 annually to assist the counties in road building, the counties aided to raise twice the amount received from the State, the moneys thus raised to be spent only on roads whose location and specifications are approved by the State highway engineer.

There is also a clause of the resolution declaring that it is the sense of the meeting that the best use that can be made of the State convicts is in the construction of good roads and that counties desiring to secure such convicts have the first right to use them for this purpose, provided they pay to the State a stipulated amount per day for each convict, the State to bear all expense of maintaining, care and guarding the convicts; and that in allotting convicts counties that do not maintain chaingangs shall have first preference in leasing convicts.

Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt presided over the conference and the discussions were animated and of great interest in road building.

## THE LAYMEN WILL SPEAK

### A Most Interesting Program Has Been Arranged.

Everybody is cordially invited to attend the Laymen's movement at the First Methodist Church Sunday evening. At the morning hour at this church the pastor will speak from the topic "The Death Legacy." At the Laymen's movement at night Messrs. Samuel Carty, M. F. McKee and C. G. Morris will speak. They are to give reports of the recent State convention of the Laymen in Greensboro. The choir will render special music.

The following program has been arranged: Ten-minute address, "A Description of the Great Greensboro Convention." Samuel C. Carty.

Ten-minute address, "What the Great Meeting Meant to Me." M. F. McKee.

Ten-minute address, "The Inspirational Power of the Laymen's Meeting in Greensboro." C. G. Morris.

Remarks by the pastor, Rev. M. T. Plyler.

Don't blame the cat. No doubt a canary bird looks as good to him as a watermelon does to a country boy.

of the government block, are laying their plans to force the appointment of one of their members to the cabinet. There will probably be a great storm before a socialist enters the ministry.

### New Advertisements

in Today's News

J. K. Hoyt—Hair Turbans.  
Washington Drug Co.  
Washington Light and Water Co.—Welsbach Lights.  
Garfield Clemmons—Barbecue.  
C. D. Parker—Insurance.  
Miona.  
Crystal Ice Co.  
W. J. Rhodes—News Stand.  
Gem Theater.  
Gaiety Theater.  
Capadine.  
Vick's Remedies.  
Jas. E. Clark Co.—The Overstocked Sale.  
Chesapeake Steamship Co.