

## CHIEF OF POLICE ROBERTS SUSPENDED FROM DUTY

W. H. McDEVETT  
IS CHIEF PROTEM  
IN MEANTIME

Action Was Taken By The Police Committee Last Night Failed to Notify Superior Officer As To Threats.

Chief of Police Richard J. Roberts was suspended as head of the police department of Washington until the next regular meeting of the Board of City Aldermen, which meets on the first Monday night in June. The suspension of the chief was the result of a meeting of the police committee at the City Hall last evening. This committee consists of J. F. Buckman, chairman, and Aldermen R. L. Jones and C. G. Morris. In consequence of the suspension of the chief by the police committee, Mayor Kugler this morning named Street Commissioner W. H. McDevett as chief pro tem. Mr. McDevett as chief pro tem. Mr. McDevett will hold his office until a final decision is made by the aldermen at their June meeting. The charges upon which the police committee suspended chief Roberts are that he failed to notify his superior officer as to the threats made by the late Benjamin Ormond against Joshua W. Mills. As the readers of this paper recall Mills cut to death Ormond in the barber shop of Edmund Edmunds on Saturday night following the day in which Ormond was heard to make his threats.

## LEAST KNOWN UNITED STATES HOLDINGS

Washington, D. C., May 20.—Lower California, Mexico's isolated peninsula, the coast of which the Pacific fleet of the United States is now patrolling, is one of the least known territories in North America. The following facts concerning this area of land, which projects about 800 miles southeasterly from the southern border of California, were given out by the National Geographic Society at Washington, D. C., today.

The width of the peninsula varies from about 30 to more than 100 miles, and its irregular coastline, over 2,000 miles long, is bordered by numerous islands. Being mainly a mountainous, desert region, it is thinly peopled and presents many sharply contrasting conditions. Low sun-scorched plains, where death by thirst awaits the traveler, lie close to the bases of towering granite peaks, belted by forests and capped in winter by snow; desolate plateaus of black lava look down on valleys assumed with green bordered streams. At the time of its discovery in 1533 by an expedition sent out by Cortes in search of a fabulously rich island, it is estimated to have been inhabited by 25,000 Indians, who viciously resented the intrusion and prevented the newcomers from getting a foothold for more than a century. The Jesuites then came in and were wonderfully successful in exploring the peninsula and establishing missions. They established three main trails, one along each coast and the third down the middle, which serve as the regular routes of travel today. The Indians have vanished from all parts of their former territory, except a few in the extreme northern end.

During the last half century all parts of the territory have been visited mainly by Americans, in search of mines and other natural resources but little of the knowledge gained has become available to the public. Gold, silver, copper, iron and other minerals and much fertile land have been found, but the scarcity of water, fuel, forage, and the difficulties of transportation have united with other causes to bring about failure to develop the resources.

The climate of lower California in general is hot and arid. Northern conditions are closely like those in adjoining parts of southern California; in the middle they are more arid; but the extreme southern end, though arid tropical, has more reg-

ular summer rains. The peninsula suffers long periods of drought, during which no rainfall sufficient to start vegetation occurs over large areas for periods of from three to five years. These dry periods may be succeeded by torrential rains, which sweep the country and roll great floods down to the sea. Surface water is scarce and limited mainly to isolated water-holes in the rocks or to springs from which small streams flow a short distance. The Rio Santo Domingo is the one living stream within the peninsula, which flows on the surface from its source to the sea throughout the year. These conditions have resulted in the development of the richest and most extraordinary desert flora in the world. The bird and animal life, however, is closely related to that of Southern California. The plains abound with small desert mammals, such as rabbits, pocket mice, kangaroo rats and others. A large number of the smaller desert mammals never drink water, it having been found impossible to teach some of them to take water in captivity. Antelope, mountain sheep, mule-deer and mountain lions are the only large game animals.

The peninsula is thinly peopled and enormous areas remain uninhabited. The most populous section is the region south of La Paz, where rains are more regular than further north. A few small towns and wide by scattered communities along the coast, with a limited number of villages, ranches and miners' camps in the interior, cover the population. Lower California has a territorial form of government, and owing to its great length, is divided near the middle into a northern and a southern district, Esenada and La Paz being the respective capitals.

### AT SINGLETON SCHOOL HOUSE

Mr. Lonnie Fodrey will preach at the Singleton School House next Sunday at 11 o'clock. All are cordially invited to be present.

## DEATH CALLS ANOTHER TO HER REWARD

Another one of Washington's oldest citizens in the person of Mrs. Winifred Elizabeth Fortescue, relic of the late Moses Fortescue, passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George V. Styron, corner of Third and Respass streets this morning at 5:45 o'clock. The deceased has been an invalid for the past several months and while the end was not unexpected it was a shock to those nearest and dearest.

Mrs. Fortescue was a native of Martin county, and for the past quarter of a century has been a resident of this city where she enjoyed the esteem of her neighbors. For the past thirty years she has been a consistent member of the Methodist church. Three children survive her, being Mrs. George V. Styron, Mr. George Fortescue and Mr. Samuel Fortescue. The funeral will take place from the residence of her daughter, Mrs. George V. Styron, tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock, the services being conducted by Rev. E. M. Snipes pastor of the First Methodist church. The interment will be in Oakdale cemetery. The sympathy of the community goes out to the grief-stricken children.

## PARTY GOES TO TARBORO FOR RACES

Messrs. Frank H. Rollins, Fred C. Mallison, A. L. Bowers and Dr. Joshua Taylor of this city, and George Barker of Philadelphia, left this morning in the automobile of Mr. A. L. Bowers for Tarboro, N. C., where they are to witness the races in that town today. The party expect to make the return trip tonight.

## OFFICIALS OF N. S. RAILWAY VISIT CITY

Mr. M. J. Perry, chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Joseph H. Young, president, Mr. C. H. Hix, ex-president, W. B. Rodman, general solicitor, E. D. Kyle, traffic manager, J. T. Avery, assistant secretary, J. M. Shea, superintendent of Northern division, J. C. Lewis, superintendent of the Central division, C. I. Millard, president of the Roper Lumber Co., and F. L. Nicholson, chief engineer of the Norfolk Southern Railway, arrived in the city yesterday afternoon on a special train. After spending about an hour here the party left for New Bern, Oriental, Raleigh and Charlotte. The officials are now engaged in making a tour of inspection of the Norfolk Southern system. They will return to Washington Saturday at which time they are expected to spend several hours here. The tour of inspection is for the purpose of acquainting the new president of the road Mr. Joseph H. Young with its workings, etc.

## MONEY BAG THE PROGRAM FOR TONIGHT

The Russell-McKinley Musical Comedy Company gave a great performance at the New Theater last night promising the laughable farce appreciation by hearty applause. Billy Russell and Billy Ward, the comedians cannot be improved upon. They not only act but what they say is but a point for those attending to begin to laugh, which is kept up as long as these two artists are before the footlights. The program for tonight promises the laughable farce entitled, "The Money Bag." This attraction is reputed to be one of the best the company presents and the outlook is for a large number to attend. The Russell-McKinley Company is making good in Washington and they are having increased patronage nightly. No attraction during their engagement here will be repeated—there will be an entire change each evening. Miss Kitty McKinley will render some of her popular songs tonight. This stunt within itself is well worth the price of admission. The New Theater should be a mecca for after supper pleasure seekers tonight.

### CARD OF THANKS.

I wish to take this method of expressing to all who so kindly and thoughtfully came to our aid and did so much towards making our great sorrow easier when death entered our home and took our companion and mother, our sincere gratitude. But for the thoughtfulness of our neighbors and friends, indeed we did not know we possessed so many, the shadows now hovering around our home would be darker. We can never forget the good people of Washington and the memory of their acts will never fade. We are glad to know that we reside among such a people. Words are inadequate to express our appreciation. J. D. O'NEAL and family.

### LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining uncalled for in this office for the week ending May 16th, 1914:  
Gentlemen—Bailey, Eugene; Bonser, W. H.; Clark, George; Carman, Carr; Ellinger, W.; Ellison, H. M.; Guilford, Wm. P.; Jones, Doctor; Martin, Jesse; Martin, Simon; Quilley, R. J.; Ryland, W. S.; Reid, Sam C.; Shans, J. E.; Tomson, Rev.; Taylor, Oscar; Washington Mfg. Co.; Wilson, Green; White, John S.  
Ladies—Bonser, Mrs. Maud; Emery, Mrs. Fannie; Helme, Mrs. E. L.; Johnston, Mrs. E. H.; Robertson, Mrs. Eleanor; Styron, Mrs. H. L.; Smith, Mrs. Sally; Tobron, Miss Nanale; White, Mrs. Lucie L.  
These letters will be sent to the dead letter office June 1st, 1914, if not delivered before. In calling for the above, please say "advised" giving date of list.  
HUGH PAUL, P. M.

## WASHINGTON VS PLYMOUTH THURSDAY AFT

Tomorrow afternoon at the Fleming Park on West Third street a great game of baseball is scheduled to take place. Washington is to cross bats with the strong team hailing from Plymouth, N. C. The price of admission will be 15c and 25c. Ladies admitted free.



### BROWN WARNING UP.

The battery for Plymouth will be: Jones and Brown, while the locals will trust their luck to Brown and Davenport. This will be the first game of the season so far as Washington is concerned and no doubt the contest will be hard fought from start to finish. Washington has always made a good record on the ball field in years gone by and there is no reason why history should not repeat itself. The game will be called promptly at four o'clock.

Thirteen Sacred Number. Thirteen was the sacred number of the Mexicans and ancient people of Yucatan. Their week had 13 days and they had 13 snake gods.

Do Your Share. If you want it to be a sunny world stop wearing a cloud on your brow.—Florida Times-Union.

## ALLEN SHOW WILL VISIT HERE SOON

The most proficient minstrel band in the United States will appear in Washington soon when the A. G. Allen Big Minstrel Show gives a performance under their tent. More than two-thirds of the members of the band have been playing together day after day for more than fifteen years. When this company comes if you can't sleep you need a good laugh and if you see the attraction no doubt but what your desires will be fully met.

"Plea" in the Legal Sense. In the legal sense the word "plea" is grossly abused. One reads that the lawyer during a trial "delivered an eloquent plea to the jury." He did nothing of the sort. He delivered to the jury an argument or an entreaty that may or may not have been eloquent. A plea is properly used only of the pleadings or arrangements before a trial, not of the "argument" at the trial. A plea is invariably addressed to the court; an "argument" may be addressed either to the court or the jury. The same applies (still in the legal sense of the words) to the verbs "to plead" and "to argue."—New York World.

## TWO CASES TRIED TODAY

Mayor Frank C. Kugler had two cases before him this morning at the City Hall for trial. Those disposed of were as follows:  
John Hardy, Drunk, Guilty and fined \$5 and cost.  
Charles Bell, A. D. W. upon Guy Bright. This case was bound over to the Recorder for final disposal.

## BIDS OPENED CITY BONDS ON JUNE 17

Mayor Frank C. Kugler and the City Improvement Committee are just in receipt of a letter from Mr. Gilbert C. White, the engineer in charge of the city improvements to the effect that bids will be opened on June 17th next for the contract to install the city sewage, the enlargement of the electric plant and the improvements contemplated to the water system of Washington.

As soon as the contract is let for this purpose work will begin as soon thereafter as practicable.

RETURNS HOME. Mrs. William Payne of Middleton, N. C., who has been the guest of her parents Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Weston, returned home yesterday.

VISITING EX-MAYOR. Mrs. Archie Smithers and children of Richmond, Va., are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Stewart at their home on East Second street.

## CO. VETERANS BACK FROM THE REUNION

Messrs. R. R. Warren and W. H. Stancill have returned from Jacksonville, Florida, where they attended the reunion of the Confederate Veterans. A News man this morning in talking with Mr. Stancill learned that the reunion was one of the greatest held in the south since the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. North Carolina was one of the states largest represented by the boys who wore the gray. Mr. Stancill in speaking of the reunion said that it required 500 gallons of coffee 1600 loaves of bread, 2200 pounds of meat and 500 dozen eggs to feed the veterans per day.

Jacksonville entertained the veterans royally and the citizens did all within their power for the visitors.

### PIC NIC TODAY.

The class of Mrs. Andrew Betts, of the Washington Public Schools, which is Sixth B, are today picnicking at Washington Park. Between forty and fifty are enjoying the breezes at this well-known summer resort.

### HERE TODAY.

Mr. A. R. Cutler of Jessama, is here today enroute to his home from Wilmington, where he has been attending the Council of the Diocese of East Carolina; Miss Vivian Swindell and Miss Olga Smith of Belhaven are here today. Miss Arlene Joyner of Greenville, is a welcome visitor.

### VISITING MRS. STILEY.

Mr. J. D. Meredith of Tarboro, N. C., and Miss Violet Meredith of New York, are the guests of Mrs. Thos. Stiley at her home on East Second street.

### UNNAMED HEROINES.

When war with the Indian tribes of the northwest broke out in 1790 the white settlers joined the army of Governor Arthur St. Clair, who was appointed general in chief. Among those were about a hundred women who accompanied their husbands rather than stay at home, with the prospect of being surprised and tortured by savages. The records say that most of them were killed fighting bravely, but not a single name has been preserved.—Detroit Free Press.

### HAVE MOVED.

W. R. Sawyer and family have moved from 219 Bonner street to 304 East Main street. Mr. Ernest Pillel has moved to the house formerly occupied by Mr. Sawyer.

## MEDIATORS IN SESSION TODAY AT NIAGARA FALLS

### VISITORS TO CITY.

B. C. Roper of Sidney; Misses Willie Bell and Mildred Winfield of Bath, daughters of Rev. W. O. Winfield, Thomas G. Moore of Richmond; Mrs. P. E. Price of Bath; Mrs. W. T. Marsh of Belhaven, are Washington visitors.

### PRAYER MEETING

There will be prayer meeting services in all the different churches of the city this evening at the usual hour to which the general public has a cordial invitation to attend.

## ATTRACTIVE PROGRAM FOR TRINITY COL.

This paper acknowledges receipt of the following invitation:

The Senior Class of Trinity College requests the honor of your presence at the exercises of Commencement Week, June 7th to 10th, 1914, Durham, N. C.

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM  
Sunday, June 7, 8:30 P. M.—Baccalaureate address, Rev. Plato Tracy Durham, Charlotte, N. C.

Tuesday, June 9, 11 A. M.—Bacca laurate Sermon, President Henry Churchhill King, S. T. D. L. L. D. Oberlin College.

Tuesday, June 9, 1 P. M.—Alumni Dinner, Address, the Hon. Daniel Calhoun Roper, Washington, D. C.

Tuesday, June 9, 8 P. M.—Graduating Orations.  
Wednesday, June 10, 10:30 A. M.—Commencement Address Dean do Baron Russell Briggs, Litt. D. L. L. D., Harvard University. Conferring of degrees.

## ALL LAWS SHOULD BE MANURED

Washington, D. C., May 20.—Even though the lawn has not been seeded during the early spring, it is well worth while to apply seed to it later. This, however, should not be done during a drought. All laws should have some application of seed in the spring that they may appear well during the rest of the season, according to the U. S. Department of Agricultural's landscape gardener.

The best and most widely used mixture for seeding a lawn is one of Kentucky blue grass and red top, equal parts by weight. On absolutely bare soil a pound of seed should be sown to every 200 square feet. Only one-fourth of that amount is necessary on moderately good lawns. Only the very best seed should be used. Seed that is furnished by a reliable seedsmen is likely to be good. Thin places should be heavily seeded, and when there are considerable areas almost without grass, it is advisable to sow white clover seed in addition to the mixture already recommended.

Poor preparation of the soil is much more often the cause for poor results than the quality of seed. Where the surface of the ground is not loosened up and well pulverized so that the grass seeds may come in contact with the soil, the best of seed will not germinate. There should also be plenty of vegetable matter (humus) in the ground for the seed to give the best results.

Sometimes bad weather conditions as drought, will affect results, even though the seed is good and the soil has been well prepared; nor is a quick rain at the time of sowing an undoubted blessing, for if such a rain just causes the seeds to sprout and is then followed by dry weather, the weed seeds, already plentiful in the soil, will also sprout and being stronger to resist the dry weather than the grass seed, will crowd out the latter. The seedman in such an instance may be blamed without reason for selling an inferior product.

## EYES OF WORLD IS CENTERED ON THE CONFERENCE

Results of Conference Not Made Public Until Permission Is Given By The Diplomats So To Do.

Niagara Falls, May 20.—The eyes of the world are centered on this city today for the first conference of the three South American Peace Mediators and the representatives of Mexico and the United States which was begun this morning.

The principals of these meetings are the diplomats Romulo S. Naon of Argentine, Domingo De Gama of Brazil, and Eduard S. Mujica, of Chile.

The United States delegates are Justice Joseph R. Lamar and Frederick W. Lehmann, former Solicitor General of the United States. Neither Justice Lamar nor Mr. Lehmann have had any experience in diplomacy but both are distinguished lawyers. President Wilson has had other names under consideration and the possibility is that he may add others to the number of American delegates.

Neither Secretary Bryan nor the representatives of the two countries will make public any of the results of the conference until permission to do so is given them by the diplomats, but it is generally understood here that the American forces will not be withdrawn from Mexico until a permanent settlement of some sort is effected.

Gratified at the success which so far has attended their efforts and confident of the ultimate success of their peace program, the South American mediators spent today quietly waiting for the formal inauguration here of their proceedings.

The impression was gained by those who talked with the mediators that they expected a speedy as well as a satisfactory settlement of the problem before them.

The mediators have great faith in the broad patriotism of the Mexican delegates and feel that while they come nominally as representatives of the Huerta government they have at heart the interest of the Mexican people as a whole and will listen to any proposals which aim to give their country a stable government.

A big conference room with its two ante-rooms in the hotel here overlooking Niagara Falls is ready. A large squad of American, Canadian and foreign newspaper correspondents arrived today, prepared to flash the news of the conference to all parts of the world over half a hundred specially installed wires.

## LATE PRES'T OF COUNCIL REMEMBERED

The Council of the Diocese of East Carolina now in session at Wilmington, N. C., elected Rev. Dr. Drane of Edenton as president to succeed Rev. Nathaniel Harding, of this city, who was unable to be present. Rev. C. D. Malone, rector of Trinity Parish, Chocowinity, is chairman of the committee on new parishes. Mr. John G. Bragaw, Jr., is a member of the committee on the General Clergy Relief Fund. Mr. Bragaw is also elected a delegate to the Provincial Synod.

Before taking up the routine business of the Council a telegram of affectionate remembrance was sent to Rev. Nathaniel Harding, rector of St. Peter's Church, this city, who has served for several years as president of the Council and who was unable to attend the session. Visitors are attending the council from all the Eastern counties of the State.

### PASSES THROUGH CITY.

Rev. Howard Allgood, rector of St. James Episcopal church, Belhaven, was here today en route to his home from Wilmington, N. C., where he has been attending the Council of the Diocese of East Carolina.