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TAFT AGAINST FIELD

Forecast of Battle at National Convention.

CONDITION OF THE UNITED STATES TREASURY.

Review of Dangerous Republican Finance--It is No Wonder that the Bankers are Scared and Want Permission to Issue Emergency Currency.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 3, 1908. Congress has virtually done nothing but talk for the past week...

Table with columns for states and delegate counts: Knox, Pennsylvania 68, New Jersey 24, Delaware 6, etc.

As there are 932 delegates to the Republican National Convention, it will require 497 for a majority...

Some of these favorite sons will get all or some of the delegates from other states, but there is nothing certain about it yet...

Since the Churchill recommendation for a Federal office in New Hampshire was nominated by President Roosevelt and was turned down by the Senate...

There is a factional fight raging in Iowa between the Allison and Cummins factions, with a complication of former Secretary Snaw at tempting to be a favorite son...

The balance of power between the Roosevelt-Taft and the Knox-Hughes factions will be in the hands of the delegates from the Southern States...

There is a chance for unparalleled corruption to play its part in the Republican convention, for delegates from the Southern States have usually been in politics...

counting as so much extra boodle to the winners.

After long delay, Secretary Cortelyou sent to the Senate on Wednesday his reply to the resolution of inquiry...

Dangerous Republican Finance.

The condition of the United States Treasury, according to the official statement for January 23, showed that there was no available cash to pay the current demands...

On January 23d the important items of the statement were as follows:

Table with columns for financial items: Available cash balance, D. post in National Banks, La. Philippine Treasury, Balance.

But some of the items from which the balance is made consisted of the following, that could hardly be considered available cash to pay the vouchers...

Table with columns for financial items: Silver bullion, Subsidiary silver coin, Fractional currency, Minor coin, Total unavailable cash.

With such a condition of the Treasury, how did the Treasurer of the United States pay \$2,010,000 which the official statement for January 23d shows he did pay?

No wonder the bankers are scared and want permission to issue emergency currency so they can repay to the Treasury, part at least, of the cash deposited with them...

This seems dangerously new gambling with the public funds. It is very similar to what Banker Walsh did in Chicago, for which he has just been convicted by a jury...

WILL ENLARGE POSTOFFICE.

New Lock Boxes to Be Installed at Once.

Postmistress E. B. McCain will enlarge the Asheboro postoffice building at once. It is learned that Mrs. McCain has purchased the building occupied by a barbershop...

The postoffice patrons have for some time realized the need of larger quarters and our people appreciate the action of our clever postmistress in meeting the demand.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Ben W. Edwards and Miss Etta Guter, were married at Pleasant Garden last Wednesday.

Mrs. A. N. Scott, of Mebane, died at Clear Water, Fla., last week. Mrs. Scott formerly lived at Greensboro.

The North Carolina Teachers' Assembly will be held at Charlotte June 15th to 20th.

"Bob" Stafford, the well known base ball player, has been elected manager of the team at Danville.

Chief Hayworth, of the police force of Lexington, has purchased a blood hound.

Thos. Z. Pierce, brother of Mrs. W. M. Routh, died in Salisbury on the night of January 30th.

Vance Shoemaker, formerly of Irwell county, died at Spokane, Washington, last Sunday.

Ten cadets have been expelled from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, at Blacksburg, Va., for hazing.

After a lingering illness of several months, Henry Scott, a native of Prussia, who has lived in Statesville for many years, died on Jan. 30th.

Paul Sledge, colored, has been arrested on the charge of setting fire to the residence of Daniel Lawrence, at Tarboro.

Three of High Point's furniture factories resumed operation Monday. At the car factory fourteen workmen were laid off.

Capt. Frisbee and son who sail a sloop from Newbern to points on the Pamlico Sound were drowned during a storm last Tuesday. The bodies were found Friday.

Rev. W. G. Whitaker is under arrest at Springfield, Ohio, for using the United States Mails to defraud the public. The complainant is the Postmaster at Asheville.

While Bob McNeely and his sons were away from home on a visit some one broke in his house and stole some clothing and other articles near Amity in Lenoir county, one day last week.

The Wah-Roe Hosiery Mills, at Tarboro, which was recently purchased by Messrs Wilson and Dawson, has resumed operation. The mill has a capacity of 500 pairs of hose.

While running shredder on his farm near Salisbury, John F. Ludwig, a popular citizen of Rowan county, caught his right hand in the machine and it was badly mutilated. Three fingers were amputated.

A fire at Morehead City last Friday night destroyed the post-office, and fourteen other business houses and residences. The damage is placed at \$30,000, with some insurance.

O. L. Fisher, of Winston Salem, has purchased the business of Penney Bros. & Co., at Greensboro and will continue the business under the name of the Greensboro Horse and Mule Exchange.

A fine pair of black horses belonging to M. L. Jackson of Rowan county were electrocuted at Salisbury recently on stepping on a live electric wire. The horses made one of the best teams in the county.

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Yow, of Thomasville, died of pneumonia on Saturday morning last. She is survived by three children: Mrs. Lem Leach, of Thomasville; Mr. Geo. H. Yow, of Thomasville, and Mr. S. G. Yow, of Bloomington, Ind.

The homes of three prominent citizens of Statesville were broken into one night last week. The robbers got a pocketbook and \$3.00 in money and a gold watch at Mr. Wade Harrison's; at Dr. C. B. Motts they got a Parker shot gun. At Mr. J. R. Morrison's the thief was discovered and ran before getting anything.

A heavy cyclone passed over the Southern part of Mississippi last Friday. The cyclone passed through Georgetown, Martinsville and Center Point, where many homes were destroyed. The people were warned of the danger, but eleven were killed. The damage to property was heavy.

THE NEW RATE LAW

Full Text of Act Bearing on Passenger Rate.

CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVES NO POWER.

Review of the Railroad Legislation of the General Assembly of the State Convened in Extraordinary Session--of Value to the State.

The Legislature adjourned at 2 o'clock on last Saturday. The railroad rate bill, as passed, changes the flat rate of 2 1/4 cents to 2 1/2 cents. There is no reference to mileage books of a thousand miles at 2 cents or mileage of 500 miles at 2 1/4 cents...

The bill to prevent the merger of parallel competing lines of railroads was passed to keep large railroad systems from swallowing up weaker systems. If we had such a law as this when the old Yadkin Valley Railroad was dismembered and the part below Sanford taken by the Atlantic Coast Line...

The rate bill as passed carries out the principles of the agreement between the Governor and his council of state and attorneys and railroads, but it does not leave the change of the passenger rates to the corporation commission after next January.

The rate bill as passed carries out the principles of the agreement between the Governor and his council of state and attorneys and railroads, but it does not leave the change of the passenger rates to the corporation commission after next January. As the law is enacted now, the matter being left as the State Legislature arranged it, under the law of the land there can be no taking of the rate question into the Federal courts...

The Rate Bill.

Section 1. That no railroad company doing business as a common carrier of passengers in the State of North Carolina shall charge, demand or receive for transporting any passenger and his or her baggage, a charge exceeding a weight two hundred pounds from any station on its railroad in North Carolina to any other station on its railroad in North Carolina a rate in excess of 2 1/2 cents per mile, and for transporting children under 12 years and over 5 years of age one-half of the rate above so specified, and for transporting children under five years of age, accompanied by any person paying fares, no charge whatever shall be made. Provided that when the amount of the ticket at the prescribed rate would amount to any figure between two multiples of five, the price of the ticket shall be the multiple of five which is nearest to the price of the ticket at the rate above mentioned, or in the event that the amount is equidistant between two multiples of five, the price charged for the ticket shall be on the basis of the higher of these two multiples of five. Provided further, that no charge of less than ten cents shall be required; Provided further, that independently owned and operated rail road companies in North Carolina whose miles of road in said State is one hundred miles or less may charge a rate not exceeding three (3) cents per mile. Provided further, that independently owned and operated railroad companies in North Carolina whose mileage of road in said State is one hundred miles or less may charge a rate not exceeding three (3) cents per mile. Provided further, that independently owned and operated rail road companies in North Carolina, whose mileage of road in said State is two miles or less may charge the same rate which is now in existence on said roads. This provision shall not extend to branch lines of railroad companies controlling over one hundred miles of road, whether charted in or out of the State, also, that new constructed railroads or the portion of railroads which may be constructed shall be exempt from the operation of this act for two years after completion, to the extent that they may charge a rate in no case to exceed three cents per mile...

It is said that J. Elwood Cox, a leading citizen of High Point, will be the next candidate on the Republican ticket for governor of North Carolina.

A charge of fifteen cents may be added to the fare of any passenger when the same is paid on the train, if the ticket might have been procured within a reasonable length of time before the departure of the train.

That the North Carolina Corporation Commission, its employees and assistants, shall have no authority to fix, change, or to in any manner enforce the provisions of this act fixing the passenger charges on railroads at 2 1/2 cents per mile, or to fix, change, or in any manner enforce the rates permitted to be charged by this act...

Section 2. In the case that any railroad company operating as a common carrier of passengers in the State of North Carolina is owned, controlled, or operated by lease or other agreement by any other railroad company doing business in the State, the rate for carrying passengers thereon as prescribed by this act shall be determined for said railroad company by the rate prescribed by this act for the railroad company which owns, controls or operates the same.

Section 3. That any railroad company violating any of the provisions of this act, or employing, ordering or directing any employee, agent or servant to violate any provision of this act by charging, demanding, or receiving any rate greater than that fixed by this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction be fined not less than \$50 and not more than \$5,000, and any agent, servant or employee of any railroad company who shall violate this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be imprisoned, or fined, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Section 4. That any person or persons, except those permitted by law, who accept free transportation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be fined or imprisoned, or both, in the discretion of the court, and any railroad or its employees or agents giving free transportation of any kind whatsoever, except that permitted by law, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction, shall be fined a less than \$500 or more than \$2,000 for each offense.

Section 5. That an act entitled "An act prescribing the maximum charges railroads in North Carolina," ratified on the 2nd day of March, 1907, be and it hereby repealed.

Section 6. That no railroad company, agent, servant, or employee of any railroad company, shall be held liable to any person or found guilty of any offense in any action, civil or criminal, whether heretofore or hereafter instituted or begun, by reason of anything done or attempted to be done in violation of said act mentioned in the preceding section hereof, or of any provision thereof.

Section 7. That section 2618 of the Revision of 1905 is hereby repealed and all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 8. That this act shall be in force from and after April 1st, 1908.

WHITNEY REDUCTION COMPANY FAILS.

Receiver Appointed by Judge Pritchard at Asheville.

Upon petition of A. O. Brown & Co., of New York, Judge J. O. Pritchard has appointed Col. John S. Henderson, of Salisbury, receiver of the Whitney Reduction Co., which concerns building a mammoth power plant at Whitney on the Yadkin. The company is capitalized at \$10,000,000. It is alleged that \$5,000,000 has been expended on the plan. That it has obligations to the amount of \$5,000,000 in notes and bonds, and on May 1st an interest item of \$150,000 will mature in the payment of which the company will default.

Col. Henderson will continue the work of development for the project. Further than this Col. Henderson has made no statement.

WORK OF ASSA-SINS.

Royalties of Portugal Attacked--King and Crown Prince Killed.

King Carlos and the Crown Prince of Portugal were assassinated last Saturday while returning to the royal palace. The royal carriage was attacked by a mob heavily armed. Three of the mob were killed and three were arrested. This is believed to be the beginning of a revolution, which has for its end the overthrow of the throne and the establishment of a republic. The feeling of unrest has existed for months.

Smith Brothers in Jail.

Frank and Fletcher Smith, brothers of Jim Smith, of Smithtown, are in jail at Greensboro, charged with distilling, and the government believes them valuable witnesses against their brother who is charged with killing Deputy Collector J. W. Hendrix. The Smith boys were arrested in North Dakota, just after they "shot up" the town of Stanley.

Elwood Cox for Governor.

It is said that J. Elwood Cox, a leading citizen of High Point, will be the next candidate on the Republican ticket for governor of North Carolina.

BIG MATINEE TODAY

Afternoon Session of the Fiddlers' Convention.

MORE THAN SIXTY WILL PARTICIPATE.

Big Crowd Expected Tonight--Matinee This Afternoon for the Benefit of the Children--Hear the Geography Chart.

The managers of the Fiddlers' Convention have decided to give a matinee performance at the Graded School Auditorium this afternoon from three until four o'clock. This arrangement is made for the benefit of the children and others who will not be able to attend the night performance. The Geography Chart will also be a feature and every child should hear it.

FIDDLERS' CONVENTION.

Music of the Old Time--Geography Charts--A Big Time for All.

The Fiddlers' Convention will be held at the graded school building tonight. The convention opens at 7 o'clock, sharp, and promises to be the most interesting and amusing performance ever held in this section.

The program is varied, and will introduce the fiddle, organ, banjo, and other instruments, besides the "Geography Chart" by Prof. Wm. Stevenson, a teacher of the old school, and who has taught school in Randolph county for half a century. Many who have heard Mr. Stevenson declare this to be a treat in itself.

There are enrolled more than fifty fiddlers, who are recognized masters of the bow in this section, and those who fail to attend the convention will regret it.

The admission is 25 and 50 cents and the proceeds will be turned over to the Woman's Betterment Association.

ASHEBORO A RESORT.

Will Be Made Famous For Its Valuable Mineral Water.

Several weeks ago the Courier noted the discovery of a mineral spring on the property of Capt. A. E. Burns in North Asheboro. Mr. Burns secured a partial analysis of the water which disclosed many medicinal properties many people visited the spring and several who felt the need of mineral water through curiosity, took some of the water which disclosed many medicinal properties many people visited the spring and several who felt the need of mineral water through curiosity, took some of the water which disclosed many medicinal properties many people visited the spring...

Mr. Burns has opened the spring to the people of the town and it is said that nearly five hundred people are using the water in Asheboro, and are being benefited.

It has been suggested to Mr. Burns that he erect a hotel and cottages on the place, which would accommodate summer tourists, and advertise it as a resort. The fame of the springs has already penetrated the Piedmont section of the state and persons in Asheville, High Point and Salisbury have made inquiries, learning that a resort has been suggested. There is little doubt that Asheboro will soon be recognized as the best watering place in the State. The chemicals in the water are blended in such a way as not to vitiate the taste, but it is cool, palatable and refreshing. It is a great aid to the digestive fluids of the system, increases the appetite, gives strength to the body and is the talk of the town.

WANT GRADED SCHOOL.

People of Liberty Will Ask to Hold an Election.

The people of Liberty seem determined to have a graded school. County Superintendent E. G. Coltrane returned from there Monday and reports that it is a question of only a short time before the matter will be settled. It is expected that the board of education will petition the board of education to call an election in the district for the purpose of voting a special tax to erect and maintain the institution.

While the plans have not fully matured it has been suggested with favor that the building be of modern design, and built of brick at a cost of not less than \$7,000.