

THE DISPATCH

VOL. I.

BESSEMER CITY, N. C., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1912.

NO. 40.

50 CHILDREN ARE KILLED IN PANIC

CRY OF "FIRE" CAUSED A RUSH
FOR THE EXIT—LITTLE
ONES CRUSHED.

LARGE NUMBER OF INJURED

Operator of Machine Lost Nerve and
Cried "Fire" When There Was
No Reason.

Bilboa, Spain.—A terrible panic was caused by the cry of "Fire!" at a moving picture show here. About fifty children and others were killed. Only one woman was found among the dead. The number of injured is not known, as most of them were taken home by friends.

The scene of the accident is a large circus, which has been converted into a continuous cinematograph show. As the price of admission was only two cents, the building was crowded to its utmost capacity, for the most part women and children.

The operator of the machine lost his nerve when a film ignited and screamed "Fire!" He was able to extinguish the flames himself without difficulty, but the effect of his cry upon the audience was instantaneous. Almost every one in the building sprang up. Police and attendants were powerless to control the panic-stricken people and were swept away by the surging mass which sought to fight a way to the exit.

Scores were knocked down and trampled and many were crushed to death in the passages from the galleries and to the streets.

The disaster caused frenzied citizens to gather outside the building, and the authorities had great difficulty in carrying on the work of rescue and extricating the dead and injured from the piles of wrecked seats.

SHOWMAN IS SHOT DEAD

Americus Linotype Operator Jailed on
Murder Charge.

Americus, Ga.—Charged with first degree murder, W. B. Blakey, a linotype operator employed in a local job printing office, was jailed for shooting a Greek concessionaire connected with the carnival exhibiting here.

The tragedy occurred at a late hour at night, and was witnessed by numerous spectators. The Greek, whose name is not known to the police, was standing upon the platform beside his tent addressing the spectators when Blakey pulled his pistol and shot him through the heart. In the prevailing excitement, Blakey escaped, but was arrested next morning. It is charged that Blakey was intoxicated, and previous to the shooting is said to have been bolstered in the Greek's tent.

REFORM MEASURES CARRIED.

Helena, Mont.—Returns on the initiative and referendum measures submitted to Montana voters at the recent election make certain that the measures providing for party nominations for state officers by direct vote, limiting of campaign expenditures of candidates to 15 per cent of the office salary for one year, providing for the direct election of United States senators, and for a presidential primary, all carried by a margin of 2 to 1.

24 MEN KILLED IN MINE.

Alais, France.—Twenty-four men lost their lives when fire damp exploded in a coal mine. The explosion occurred between shifts. Only thirty-eight men were in the mine at the time. Of these, fourteen were warned by the sudden extinction of their lamps and managed to escape. A rescue party found twenty-one bodies. The other three are apparently in a remote part of the mine.

TWO MEN HIT BY SAME BULLET.

Helena, Ark.—Milton Elix, manager of a pool room, was mortally wounded and Charles Norman, a barber, was instantly killed at Marvell, Ark., when a bullet fired by Robert Davidson plowed through Elix's body and struck Norman. Elix died later. The cause of the shooting could not be ascertained. Davidson, a member of a prominent family, is under arrest.

Foreign Trade Four Billion Dollars.

Washington.—Attainment of a four-billion-dollar foreign trade by the United States in 1912 will be one of the most noteworthy facts for historians to record at the beginning of the new year. In announcing the totals of the export and import trade of the country for the ten months ending with October, the bureau of domestic and foreign commerce stated the foreign commerce would reach this enormous total by the end of December. Its highest former record was \$3,626,000,000 in 1911.

PROF. J. T. PRESTON, JR.



Professor Preston, of the faculty of Wells college, is to marry Mrs. Grover Cleveland.

RAID MADE ON DOCTORS

USING MAILS TO PROMOTE CRIMINAL PRACTICES IS THE CHARGE.

United States Inspectors Make Arrests in Many States—Prominent Men Involved.

Washington.—A nation-wide raid, involving the practically simultaneous arrests of 173 persons in the principal cities of the country, was made by postoffice inspectors and United States marshals upon doctors and drug concerns charged with the misuse of the mails to solicit criminal medical practice, or to dispose of medicines and instruments connected with such practice.

The raid, the most extensive and far-reaching ever made by any department of the government, was under the personal direction of Postmaster General Hitchcock and Chief Inspector Robert S. Sharp of the postoffice department. So carefully had its details been guarded that until the first of the arrests were made

Working with clock-like precision, the inspection force spread over 22 states, carried out the pre-arranged plans and the postoffice department has received word that nearly all of the designated persons have been arrested.

Chief Inspector Sharp and a large part of his force of 390 inspectors had been engaged for seven months, under the orders of the postmaster general in working up the scores of individual cases in which arrests were made.

Many of those taken into custody were members of prominent wholesale and retail drug concerns, or physicians well known in their own communities.

BRYAN KEEPS HANDS OFF

Denies That He Would Confer With Wilson About Cabinet.

Waycross, Ga.—Regarding the published reports from Bermuda, William Jennings Bryan denied flatly that he would go to confer with Mr. Wilson about cabinet officers. He said:

"With regard to the statement of Governor Wilson, tendering me a place in his cabinet, I have already answered that question. I do not know why it should be necessary to answer some new rumor every day. The public knows that Wilson has gone to Bermuda to rest and that he is not selecting his cabinet. They ought to let him do the selections and not spend the time in guessing, and if they do guess, I see no reason why I should spend my time discussing their guesses. I have not conferred with Wilson since the election, and have never discussed with him at any time any person in connection with any office. I have no intention of going to Bermuda. This answers all rumors up to date, and I hope I may be able to reach Miami before there is another."

"Dead" Husband Faces "Widow."

Independence, Kans.—Mrs. Eveline Stalaker, suing the Modern Woodmen lodge of Independence, to force payment of a \$20,000 policy on her husband's life, was confronted by Stalaker in the district court here. The case was dismissed with the costs assessed against Mrs. Stalaker. Mrs. Stalaker earlier had taken the stand. She said her husband was the brother of her first husband and that when she married him he was 19 years old and she 40. In 1904, she related, he left her and she claimed he was dead.

POLITICIANS' MAIL COSTS \$3,250,000

MUCH EXPENSE ENTAILED ON THE POSTAL SERVICE ON ACCOUNT OF POLITICS.

7,000,000 POUNDS IN WEIGHT

Abuse of Franking Privilege Accounts for Postal Deficit, Says Postmaster General Hitchcock.

Washington.—Political campaign material transmitted free of postage through the mails accounted, according to postoffice department records, for the difference between a postal surplus and a postal deficit for the last fiscal year, ending June 30. An account of franked mail forwarded for congress, the executive departments and other government establishments, shows that postage at the ordinary rate on this matter would have netted the government nearly \$20,000,000. About \$3,250,000 of this would have been paid on political documents.

The postal service in the year handled 310,245,000 pieces of franked mail, weighing 61,371,000 pounds. This was 3.8 per cent of the total weight of all domestic mail carried.

During the presidential and congressional primary campaign in the last quarter of the fiscal year, as disclosed by comparison with the amounts of free matter sent during corresponding periods of previous years, an extraordinary amount of franked matter was sent through the mails at public expense. This matter consisted of political speeches, reports and documents of all kinds and even of one complete political campaign book, all of which had been made technically frankable by insertion in the Congressional Record. It is computed that the total weight of this franked matter was between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 pounds, all of which was transmitted as first-class mail.

Commenting upon these figures Postmaster General Hitchcock, who has long urged that restriction should be thrown around the use of the franking privilege, said:

"The unusual expense entailed upon the postal service through the transmission by mail of the great amount of political matter in the primary campaign created a temporary deficit for the first time in two years, the total expenditures for the fiscal year of 1912 aggregating \$248,525,000, while the total revenues amounted to \$246,744,000. Had it not been for the cost of carrying franked political mail, the postal account would have shown a surplus of more than \$1,000,000. Instead of a deficit of \$1,781,000, and this surplus indicated would have been developed notwithstanding the fact that the compensation of postal employees was increased during the year by an aggregate of \$6,000,000."

SCHRANK ADJUDGED INSANE

Allienists Unanimous as to Condition of Man Who Shot Roosevelt.

Milwaukee, Wis.—John Schrank, who shot Col. Theodore Roosevelt on the night of October 14, in Milwaukee, is insane, and was committed by Municipal Judge A. C. Backus to the Northern hospital for the insane, near Oshkosh, until cured.

Before being led back to jail to await preparations for the trip to the asylum, Schrank said:

"I had expected they would find me insane, because it was in the papers two days ago. I want to say now that I am sane and know what I am doing all the time. I am not a lunatic and never was one. I was called upon to do a duty and have done it. The commission has sworn away my life. Each member went upon the stand and said I was incurably insane. They can bury me alive if they see fit. I don't care what happens now."

Commitment was pronounced following the presentation of an exhaustive report by a commission of five alienists, in which the defendant was unanimously adjudged insane and following the introduction of prima facie evidence of several witnesses.

Fund for Roads Open to All States.

Washington.—The \$500,000 appropriated by the last session of congress for improvement of roads will be distributed equitably among the states that co-operate with the Federal government in this work. The question has been under discussion by the cabinet, and it has been agreed that the amount shall be allotted among all the states on the basis of \$10,000 to each state that agrees to spend on its part \$20,000 of its own funds. A number of states will be able to raise the required amount.

JAMES H. MOREHEAD



James H. Morehead is the governor-elect of Nebraska.

GRABBERS CAPTURE POLICE STATION

FOR HOURS MANIAC HOLDS POLICE FORCE AND THE COURT OFFICERS AT BAY.

Terror Reigned in Los Angeles Police Headquarters and in the City Jail.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Armed with an infernal machine, containing enough dynamite to destroy an entire city block, a bottle of nitroglycerine and a 45-calibre revolver, a masked man took possession of the Central police station, and held it for more than an hour, while hundreds of occupants of the building and those for blocks around, panic-stricken, sought safety.

When Detective James Hosick knocked the man unconscious with a leather "billy," after slipping up behind him, the fuse of the infernal machine was automatically ignited, but Detective Samuel L. Brown grabbed the box, with its fuse sharply spluttering, and hurled it into the street. Sticks of high power dynamite scattered over the pavement, while hundreds of spectators stood apparently paralyzed by fright. Through a freak of chance, there was no explosion, and Brown continued kicking the sticks of dynamite and jumping on the fuse until he had broken the connection and extinguished the fire.

Manacled to a cot in the receiving hospital the would-be dynamiter, who gave his name as Albert Henry Davis, is suffering with several severe scalp wounds, but the police surgeons say his injuries are not serious.

\$142,000 Given Mission.

Lynchburg, Va.—The annual session of the Virginia Methodist conference, which has been in session, ended after the annual appointments. The last business was the report of the board of missions, which showed collections for the year amounting to \$142,000 for home and foreign work. Of this \$90,000 was raised through the churches, the remainder being from women's and children's work. This eclipses all missionary offerings of this conference and it is said it will be the largest report in southern Methodism this year. The conference meets next year in Danville.

Man Beaten to Death.

Raleigh, N. C.—With his head battered up, unconscious and in a dying condition and with his clothes saturated in kerosene oil and his body partly cremated, P. A. High identified as a railroad employee of Durham, was found in Logan Greener place on West Lenoir street. The man died a few hours later at Rex hospital without regaining consciousness. High was about 30 years old and his murderer, Logan Greene, negro, gave his age as 77 years.

Terrell Buried at Old Home.

Greenville, Ga.—The body of Joseph Meriwether Terrell, former governor and United States senator, who died in Atlanta, was buried in the old cemetery here. The interment was attended by hundreds of Georgians who had known and honored Mr. Terrell since his early manhood and had watched his love and interest his rise in life. The funeral was held in the Greenvill Baptist church. Among the pallbearers and the honorary escort were many Atlanta friends who accompanied the body from Atlanta.

SENATOR RAYNER HAS PASSED AWAY

DISTINGUISHED MARYLANDER AFTER LONG ILLNESS, DIES IN WASHINGTON.

THE EFFECT OF HIS DEATH

Will Be Succeeded By a Republican, Which May Give That Party Control of the Senate—Had Been Sick For a Long Time.

Washington.—Isidor Rayner of Maryland, one of the leading Democratic members of the United States Senate and a man whose name was offered to the Baltimore Convention by William J. Bryan as a suitable candidate for the presidential nomination died here following a long illness, resulting from continued attacks of neuritis.

Senator Rayner had been in a comatose state nearly a week, with only one or two slight rallies. His severe illness covered a period of about six weeks, dating from the efforts made in the joint political debate with Bourke Cockran at Baltimore, last September. Physicians compelled him to retire from the campaign immediately after that and he returned to his Washington home, where he died.

For over five years Senator Rayner had been a sufferer from neuritis. His death creates a vacancy in the Senate that probably will be filled by a Republican through appointment of Governor Goldsborough of Maryland. While the Legislature of that state is Democratic it does not meet this winter and the Republican Governor's appointment will hold through the opening session of the next Congress.

The control of the United States Senate after March 4 may hinge upon the death of Senator Rayner.

Senator Rayner was one of the striking figures of the Senate. He had been a member of that body for almost eight years and was one of its strongest debaters and a recognized authority on constitutional law.

Before he entered the Senate he had attained a National reputation because of his vigorous conduct of the late Admiral Schley's case before the Naval Court of Inquiry that investigated the action of American officers in the battle with Admiral Cervera's Spanish fleet.

Senator Rayner was a native of Baltimore and was 62 years old.

John Schrank to Asylum.

Milwaukee, Wis.—John Schrank, who shot Col. Roosevelt, was taken to the Northern hospital for the insane near Oshkosh, Judge Backus having committed him to that institution after a commission of alienists had adjudged him insane. Schrank has not changed in demeanor since sentence was pronounced. His disease, pronounced chronic paranoia, and probably incurable, may result in his spending the remainder of his life in the asylum.

Cannot Return First Degree Verdict.

Salem, Mass.—John Ettor and Arturo Giovannitti, who pleaded that they were sent to the electric chair if found guilty of the murder of Anna Lopitz in the Lawrence textile strike cannot be convicted of murder in the first degree. Judge Quinn in charging the jury instructed that the evidence in the case did not warrant a first degree verdict. If guilty was the verdict he said it must be in the second degree.

Congestion of Cars Causes Inquiry.

Washington.—Congestion of freight cars and the extent to which cars are distributed from the possession of the owning lines is the subject of an inquiry begun by the interstate commerce commission.

Eighteen Hurt in Collision.

Montreal.—Eighteen persons were injured in a collision between two suburban trolley cars near here. A heavy snow storm prevented one of the motormen from stopping at a switch to let the other car pass.

Issues of Peace on Slender Thread.

London.—The anxiety manifested by the European Governments to deny reports of warlike preparations and to represent the political situation as peaceful and satisfactory in itself indicates on how slender a thread the issues of peace and war in Europe now hang. The danger arises not alone from the conflicting interests of Austria, and other Powers, but from the possibility that Turkey, following the traditional policy of profiting by the embroilment of the great Powers, may adopt an irreconcilable attitude.

FROM THE TAR HEEL STATE

Latest News of General Interest That Has Been Collected From Many Towns and Counties.

Fayetteville.—A syndicate of capitalists headed by A. P. McGuire of this city forwarded to Raleigh application for a charter for a state bank to be established here.

High Point.—A general 10 per cent advance in furniture by manufacturer to dealer will be a result of a conference held here by about 100 representatives of furniture manufacturing plants in the Southern, Northern, New England and Middle Western states.

Durham.—The completed settlement of Sheriff Harward shows that he made an even better collection of the county and state taxes than the first reports indicated. He asked for only \$2,006 out of a total of almost a quarter of a million taxes turned over to him for collection. In other words he collected over 99 per cent of the total taxes.

Reldsville.—So far four entries have been made for the contest for the postmastership here. Mr. S. F. Terry, Col. J. N. Craig and Messrs. R. S. Montgomery and John T. Otter having entered. The contest promises to be lively, all the candidates having friends who are warm in their support. Postmaster Joyce is one of the "holdovers" and his successor will probably be appointed soon after the next meeting of Congress.

Chapel Hill.—Prof. N. W. Walker and Prof. E. K. Graham returned from Spartanburg, S. C., where they were in attendance upon the meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools, which convened in Spartanburg last week. Prof. Walker, state inspector of secondary schools, and Prof. E. C. Brooks, of Trinity College, are members of the commission on accrediting schools.

Siler City.—Little Frank Brooks, the 10-year-old son of Mrs. G. F. Wise, was dangerously shot here while at the home of W. S. Durham and, with Mr. Durham's little boys, playing with a small rifle. The little boys did not know that the rifle was loaded and carelessly pulled the trigger. It was fired and Frank was shot at close range, the ball going entirely through his leg. The little fellow is feeling fairly well under the circumstances.

Washington.—It is predicted in Washington political circles that North Carolina will have the post of commissioner of internal revenue under President-elect Wilson. This prediction is based upon the fact that the position generally goes to a Southerner and that it is North Carolina's time to have it. Royal E. Cabell, a Virginian, has it now. He succeeded John G. Capers of South Carolina who succeeded John W. Yerkas of Kentucky.

Kenasville.—The farmers of Duplin are happy over the high prices of tobacco and cotton. The schools are reported to be in fine condition. The holly dealers are out now with contracts to all with this beautiful evergreen to be sent to northern cities for Christmas decorations. This county grows a great variety of evergreens as well as vegetables and fruits. All of these things bring in a large dividend each year.

Kinston.—George Pollock, superintendent of the large farm valley plantation at Falling Creek was horribly burned by fire which destroyed the big gineries of the place. The blaze originated in one of the gins, from a cause which cannot be determined. Suddenly sheets of flame flashing out of the machine filled the room, driving the inmates from it. Pollock was burned so badly in making his exit that his condition is considered dangerous.

Raleigh.—The local committee on entertainment, headed by Mr. J. M. Templeton, of Cary, has completed the plans for the annual session of the North Carolina Farmers' Union, which will be in session in the new auditorium here December 10, 11 and 12, with Dr. H. Q. Alexander as president, presiding. President Chas. S. Barrett, of the National Farmers' Union is to attend and will deliver one or more addresses. There will also be a special address by Editor Clarence Poe of the Progressive Farmer.

Raleigh.—A charter was issued for the Ridgeview Hosiery Mills Company of Newton. The capital is 100,000 authorized and 21,000 subscribed by J. A. Gaither, G. A. Warlick and L. F. Long for general knitting mill business.

Statesville.—A fire alarm was sounded in L. R. Bristol's cotton gin and when the fire department reached the scene a small fire was looted in the seed cotton house, near the gin; but owing to the prompt action of the fire department there was very slight damage. It is thought the fire was caused by electric light wires.