

STOCKHOLDERS AND DIRECTORS OF ASHEVILLE TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH CO., OUTLINE PLANS FOR \$125,000 PLANT

Important Meeting Held at the Battery Park Hotel Yesterday Morning Holds Promise of Giving to Asheville a Telephone Service Second to None in the Country—Erection of Handsome Building

TELEPHONE WIRES ARE DESTINED TO GO UNDER THE GROUND

Installation of Proposed System Would Abolish the Style of Calling "Central" Now in Vogue—"Drop Lights" to Take Place of Present System—Another Meeting Scheduled for Atlanta Soon

An important meeting of the stockholders and directors of the Asheville Telephone and Telegraph Company was held at the Battery Park hotel yesterday morning at which plans for the erection of a new telephone exchange in this city were discussed.

In handling the same number of calls will be materially reduced, which fact would obviously result in more efficient service.

Mr. Genery, Mr. Carson and Mr. Maupin arrived in the city Wednesday evening and registered at the Battery Park Hotel.

Handsome New Building. The erection of a handsome and thoroughly equipped brick building at Walnut and Penland streets forms the nucleus of the plans discussed yesterday morning.

Underground System. The system under consideration for this city is known as the "common battery, central energy, underground system."

Better Service Assured. In the operation of the proposed switchboard the labor of each operator in handling the same number of calls will be materially reduced.

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TRAIN PLUNGES INTO RIVER; FIFTY PERSONS ARE DROWNED

Open Draw Cause of Frightful Wreck on Seaboard—Passengers Pinned in Cars Die by Scores While a Hundred are Injured

Norfolk, Va., Aug. 17.—Owing to the inability of Engineer D. L. Rieg to control his air brakes, an excursion train on the Atlantic Coast Line from Kingston, N. C., bound to this city, plunged through an open draw in a bridge over the western branch of the Elizabeth river at Bruce station, 8 miles from Norfolk this afternoon and half a hundred persons, mostly negroes, were drowned.

A large number of physicians from this and nearby cities have gone to the scene. Among the victims, the only white ones were Edward Jolieffe, manager of the excursion, and Edward Forbes, who assisted him, both of Greenville, N. C.

YELLOW JACK IS SPREADING

Many Centres of Infection Reported From Louisiana Points

SEVERAL CASES FOUND IN MISSISSIPPI CITY

Fever Existed in That Town Before Its Discovery in New Orleans

YESTERDAY'S RECORD. New Orleans, Aug. 17.—Official report to 6 p. m.: New cases 77. Total to date 1,223. Deaths 4. Total deaths to date 180. New sub-feels 14.

New Orleans, Aug. 17.—While the daily number of new cases of yellow fever in New Orleans has risen during the last three days, reaching 77 today, the deaths are still few.

Rather alarming news from outside of New Orleans continue to come in. LaFourche parish health officers report widespread infection in the Levee fishing settlement at the mouth of Bayou LaFourche, eight miles south of the city.

Chance of Compromise. The only chance is now compromise. Russia to yield Sakhalin and Japan indemnity. Neither will yield both and perhaps Japan, at the final show of hands, will yield neither.

Mississippi Perturbed. A dispatch from Gulfport says that there are four new cases at Mississippi City, making thirteen now under treatment.

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PEACE ENVOYS IN DEADLOCK

Russians and Japs at Portsmouth Fail to Agree on "Reimbursement"

QUESTION OF INDEMNITY BONE OF CONTENTION

Neither Side Shows Disposition to Yield "and There You Have It"

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 17.—The crisis in the peace conference has been reached and pessimism is again the note. The darkest hour is just before the dawn and there is still hope.

No Progress. The pessimism tonight is based upon the fact that no progress was made today. The exchange of views at the morning session upon article 9 (remuneration for the cost of the war) were as far apart as possible and it was passed over.

Question of Position. The intention was to place the monument near the Lafayette road in one of the most prominent positions in the park.

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MONUMENT MAY REMAIN HERE

Memorial to 60th N. C. Volunteers May Not go to Chicamagua

DISPUTE ARISES OVER LOCATION FOR SHAFT

Park Commissioners Will Not Allow Claims of Local Committee

I have been learned that the handsome monument, which was to have been erected at the Chicamagua national park to mark the spot nearest the enemy's line reached by the 60th N. C. Volunteers in the battle of Chicamagua, Sept. 26, 1863, may not be placed in the park owing to a dispute between the park commission and those having the erection of the monument in charge.

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WOMAN'S EXCHANGE WILL HAVE A LARGE BUILDING ON BATTERY PARK HILL

MORE TROUBLE IN CANAL ZONE

Rumors of Financial Difficulties Circulating Freely at Panama

OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED

Chairman Shonts Says Suspension is Due to Sanitary Reasons

Panama, Aug. 17.—It is currently reported here that the suspension of engineering operations on the canal is owing to the exhaustion of the congressional appropriation, although the reason officially given is that the suspension is due to the desirability of undertaking the improvement of sanitary conditions in the canal zone.

SHONTS EXPLAINS RECENT ACTIONS

New York, Aug. 17.—Replying to the report that the suspension of digging operations on the Panama canal had been caused by the exhaustion of the congressional appropriation for constructing the Isthmian waterway, Theodore Shonts, chairman of the Panama canal commission, today said:

"It is not true that there has been any shortage, or that our plans for forwarding the work on the canal were curtailed for lack of money. The question of funds has not interfered with our plans at Panama in any way."

TAGGART'S LETTERS GIVEN IN EVIDENCE

Waco, O., Aug. 17.—"We shall close our case by proof by the defense's own evidence that Captain Taggart, after all the wrongs to which he has been subjected, still bore in his heart a tender affection for his wife, and pleaded with her to return to him."

RECIPROCITY CONFERENCE CALLS FOR A MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM TARIFF LAW

Chicago, Ill., Aug. 17.—The reciprocity conference, called to devise means of bettering the trade relations between the United States and foreign countries, finished its work today, arranged for a committee of fifteen to prosecute the plans of the convention and formed a permanent organization, to be styled The American Reciprocal Tariff League.

SUICIDE LEAVES LETTER CHARGING A BROTHER WITH GROSSEST CRUELTY

Philadelphia, Aug. 17.—Confessing that he had lived under an assumed name for a quarter of a century, and revealing the fact to his family and friends that he was related by blood and marriage to prominent and wealthy people of Pittsburgh, Joseph A. Thompson, of this city, today swallowed cyanide of potassium, laid himself on a bench in Fairmount Park and died. His body was found by a man who was strolling through the park.

HANDSOME THREE STORY STRUCTURE TO BE ERECTED BY THE COXE ESTATE

WOMAN'S CLUB IDEA MAY BE DEVELOPED

SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS WILL BE WELL SUITED FOR THIS PURPOSE

The Coxo Estate has prepared plans for a fine three story brick building to be erected on Battery Park hill opposite the Y. M. C. A. building for the use of the Woman's Exchange.

The building will be constructed of the pattern lime brick made by the French Broad Granite brick company whose white color will give a pleasing and striking exterior, and its interior will be designed especially for the uses to which it is to be put by the Exchange.

The plans of the Board of Managers of the Woman's Exchange indicate an advance in ideas and scope which are significant of the progress being made by Asheville and if carried out will make the Exchange here a most notable organization.

The arrangement of the building in respect to site will be such that the dining room will be on a level with the driveway to be constructed in the rear and entrance at both front and rear will be as it is to the Asheville Club.

The Woman's Exchange has been so wonderfully successful in the accomplishment of the work it is doing for women in aiding women to help themselves and the management, which is by prominent women of the city, has been so thoroughly capable that little doubt is entertained that arrangements will be made for the lease of this building, which in such case will be promptly begun.

LYMAN HALL DIES. Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 17.—A special from Danville, N. Y., announces the death of Captain Lyman Hall, president of the Georgia School of Technology. His death was due to nervous prostration, brought on by over-work.



Uncle Sam—Gosh darn! When I was a boy them weeds never grew with such rapidity as they do now!