

The Only Associated Press Newspaper in Western North Carolina

NEWBERRY IS SWEEPED BY DISASTROUS FIRE; LOSS OF PROPERTY IS GREAT

Twenty-Two Residences, Ten
Stores and Two Churches
Were Destroyed.
ANSWER TO PRAYER
CAUSES DISCUSSION
Widow Prays That Her Home
Be Spared and House Mir-
aculously Escapes.

LIEUTENANT GREER PRINCIPAL WITNESS BEFORE COMMITTEE

Testimony Throws Little Ad-
ditional Light on Browns-
ville Affair.

WILL SOON TAKE RECESS

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 29.—Fire
at Newberry, a thriving little city of
4,000 population, today destroyed
twenty-two residences, ten stores and
two churches, entailing a loss esti-
mated at between \$150,000 to \$200,000,
with insurance of about \$5,000.
The range of the fire was from Adams
street to Calhoun, east and west and
from Friend to Main or Pratt, north
and south, on the one side and about
one block on the other side of Main
street.

A portion of the buildings
burned were negro shacks, and in
their place will rise modern build-
ings.

It is related that Mrs. Humbert,
widow of a former Methodist minister,
whose house escaped, although sur-
rounded by fire, prayed that her home
might be spared and the way that her
prayer was answered is a subject for
discussion tonight.

Policeman T. G. Williams rescued
two old ladies who had been almost
overcome by heat. The officer himself
had a narrow escape from falling debris.

A check in the water supply for
an afternoon, caused much
alarm, but the defect was soon re-
paired.

The fire originated in the main
three-story wooden building occupied
by R. C. Williams, dealer in wagons
and buggies. A new and handsome
two-story brick building owned by R.
H. Williams, and occupied by Shelley
& Sumner, furniture dealers, was in
the path of the fire and from there
the conflagration spread. Among the
most prominent buildings destroyed
were the residences of O. L.
Schumpert and Henry Kinard, two of
the handsomest in the city, also the
Presbyterian parsonage, occupied by
Rev. J. L. Williamson. The large resi-
dence of James E. Todd, was also de-
stroyed together with E. H. Leslie's
residence, both on the same block.
Alvigh Presbyterian church, a hand-
some wooden building, is a total loss
as is the old Associate Reformed
Presbyterian Church, which would
have been torn down shortly to be re-
placed by a handsome one. The
other buildings destroyed are small
shops of brick structure, some of
which would have been torn down in
the near future to be replaced by
more substantial buildings.

BROTHER'S PROPERTY SAFE.

Dr. S. D. Pelham of Asheville re-
ceived a telegram late last night from
his brother W. E. Pelham at Newber-
ry saying that his property is not in
the fire zone. He is on Main street.

REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE CONFERENCE

(By Associated Press.)
STANTON, Va., March 29.—Bishop
Hannan presided today over the Bath-
more Methodist Conference. Dr. E. B.
Chappel of Nashville, Tenn., spoke in
the interest of Sunday schools. Dr.
R. J. Lamar of the Nashville Publish-
ing House, spoke in the interest of the
church periodicals, and said that all
objectionable advertising had been
eliminated from Sunday school litera-
ture. Rev. W. H. Joyce spoke of the
important work among the students
of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.
Professor J. Kern, professor of Van-
derbilt University, sent greetings and
reports.

ST. LOUIS BREWERY EMPLOYEES STRIKE FOR INCREASED WAGES

(By Associated Press.)
ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 29.—Brew-
ery workers to the number of 2546,
said to involve workers from every
brewery in St. Louis, went on strike
today for increase in wages ranging
from 5 to 60 per cent. The boss
of the brewery workers to strike, decid-
ed to offer a flat advance of \$1 per
week in wages. This offer was quickly
rejected by the representatives of the
workers, but not in time to pre-
vent the walkout.

affects all employees, including drivers,
cellermen, engineers, and firemen,
wash-house men, oilers and bottlers.
It is estimated that the strike will cause
a loss in material to brewers if it con-
tinues for any length of time of more
than \$100,000. The total increase in
wages is estimated at \$500,000 a
year.
The boss brewers state that they
hope that their offer of a flat increase
of \$1 per week will be considered by
the workers notwithstanding the
strike and that it will lead to some
proposition which may be taken up
for arbitration.

AMERICAN AERONAUT EXHIBITS TROPHY.



Lieutenant Frank Purdy Lahn, U. S. Army, who won the handsome Bennett trophy by his great balloon ride from Paris to the north of England, has brought home his prize. The winner's father was given a cup to be contested for by aeronauts and the first trials will be held at the Jamestown Exposition, later contests having been arranged for at St. Louis in October.

BRYAN GIVES HIS VIEWS ON THE RAILROAD QUESTION

(By Associated Press.)
BOSTON, Mass., March 29.—H. M.
Whitney, a prominent Massachusetts
democrat, and former candidate for
lieutenant governor tonight made
public a letter he had just received
from W. J. Bryan, dealing with the
railroad question. The letter was in
response to one from Mr. Whitney, in
which he asked:
"Whether in your judgment there is
any danger of regulation being car-
ried to a point preventing a reason-
able return on money invested in the
railroads of the country, and whether
in case of adoption of government
ownership by the nation or by the sev-
eral states, the stockholders could ex-
pect to receive a price equal to the
value of the physical railroad prop-
erty?"
Mr. Bryan writes in part as fol-
lows:
"I am in favor of both national and
state regulations, and I also believe
that public ownership is the ultimate
solution of the railroad question. In
my discussions on this subject I have
pointed out that because of the dan-
ger of centralization in ownership by
the federal government of all the
lines, I prefer a system in which the
federal government will be confined
to the necessary trunk lines and the
ownership of the rest lines be left
to the states. This, however, is an
immediate question; at least I am not
sure that the people are ready to con-
sider the question of public owner-
ship, and until they are ready to con-
sider that question the interest is
centered in regulation. As an advocate
of regulation of the strictest sort,
I can say to you that there is no dan-
ger whatever that this regulation will
be carried to the point of preventing
a reasonable return on money invest-
ed in the railroads of the country. And
I also assure you that whenever public
ownership is adopted by the states or
by the nation, the stockholders may
expect to receive a price at least equal
to the value of the physical property
of the roads; but no such assurance
ought to be necessary, because the
public has shown no disposition to
reduce railroad earnings to a point
which would deny a reasonable re-
turn."
"I have contended that the present
value of the railroads should be as-
certained by the Interstate Commerce
Commission and the commissions of
the various states in order that invest-
ors may know when they are buying
stock of intrinsic value and when they
are being cheated."
"I think I can speak for those who
believe in regulation and I know that
there is not and never has been dan-
ger of injustice to the owners of the
railroads, and if I can speak for those
who believe that the ultimate solution
of the railroad is to be found in pub-
lic ownership, I can say that there is
no disposition to confiscate a railroad
property even if the courts would per-
mit it."

REPORT THAT MARVIN BOY HAD BEEN FOUND PROVES INCORRECT

Rumor Circulated That Mis-
sling Boy Had Been Seen
Near His Home.

STILL ANOTHER CLUE

(By Associated Press.)
DOVER, Del., March 29.—The re-
port that Horace N. Marvin, Jr., had
been found in a woods near the home
of his father at Kitis Hammock, upon
investigation by the detectives, was
found to be incorrect.
Late tonight word was received
here saying that the boy had been
found and the detectives who have
been working on the case for almost
a month, started for the Marvin home.
When they arrived there they found
that the rumor was baseless.
The report probably gained circula-
tion from the fact that the Logan
school house, near the Marvin home,
was broken into last night by some
unknown persons. This is the school
at which Miss Lucy Killen, the young
woman who was held up on Tuesday
night by two men, whom she came
upon suddenly, is the teacher. Pinned
to the blackboard in the school room
was a note which bore a skull and
cross bones, and read:
"Beware, you told —"
When Miss Killen came upon the
two men they were talking about the
kidnapping of the Marvin child. They
drew revolvers and threatened to kill
the girl if she breathed to any per-
son the conversation she had over-
heard.
The detectives tonight got a state-
ment from Miss Killen and they pro-
ceed to believe that the two strangers
knew something about the missing
child, if they are not the actual kid-
nappers.

BOARD WOULD NOT GIVE THE NEGRO PERMIT

Committee's Report on Re-
quests of Martin and Mr.
Murray Not Endorsed.

COURT OF APPEALS MAY COME TO CITY

Government Asks Bitulithic
Paving—Poles in City
Must Be Green.

The board of aldermen held an in-
teresting session last night. The city
fathers passed an ordinance requiring
the telephone, telegraph, light and
street car companies to paint all their
poles green for a distance of ten feet
from the ground. T. B. Rollins made
the statement that if the city would
pave the streets surrounding the fed-
eral building this city would probably
be made the permanent meeting place
of the federal court of appeals for this
district. The special taxes on street
lights were remitted so that the Engine
may hold their street carnival here
next month.

Those Permits.

The feature of the meeting was
the refusal of the aldermen to endorse
the recommendation of the street
committee that permits be granted
Geo. R. Murray and K. R. Martin, the
negroes.

First, the committee reported that
the corporation counsel had decided
that the board could not legally pre-
vent Mr. Murray from building the
stable at his place on Pearson Drive,
therefore recommending that the per-
mit be granted. A number of aldermen
objected to the erection of the barn
at the proposed site because it is too
close to one of the houses there and at
the last meeting the matter was re-
ferred to the committee. Members of
the board refused to move the adop-
tion of the report so that Mayor Bar-
nard ordered that it be filed.

Another report was then read from
the committee on buildings and pub-
lic safety saying that the corpora-
tion counsel had advised that the
board could not prevent the negro
barber, Martin, from building the
house on Fulton street in a respect-
able white neighborhood. The com-
mittee for this reason was forced to
recommend that the permit be grant-
ed. When Mayor Barnard asked what
should be done with the report, silence
was supreme. Each alderman
was busy writing at his desk and this
recommendation like the other was
filed. Martin was present and walked
out with a grin at this time.

If Murray and Martin insist on
building the barn and house without
permits, they may or may not be in-
dicted for doing so. From the state-
ment of the corporation counsel, it
would appear that the city is destined
to lose the suits should they be
brought. Mayor Barnard stated to the
board that indictments might be
brought for "maintaining a public
nuisance" should either building
prove to be so, but such action, of
course, could not be taken until they
are erected. Residents of the district
into which Martin hopes to live have
promised in a number of ways to
make it interesting for him.

Both matters were again brought
up under new applications for per-
mits but no action was taken in re-
gard to them when the others were
granted.

To Bring Court to Asheville.

T. B. Rollins appeared before the
board on behalf of Judge Pritchard.
He said that it is planned to
make Asheville the permanent
place of meeting of the federal
court of appeals. He said that the
authorities were in favor
of holding the sessions in Asheville all
the time instead of once or twice a
year at present. The principal ob-
jection, however, he said, was that
the federal building here is surround-
ed by brick paved streets, causing
such a noise as to interfere materi-
ally with the proceedings of the court.
He said that there was little doubt
that the court could be brought here
if the city would pave the streets with
bitulithic. He said that the cost of
repaving would be very small com-
pared to the benefits to be derived
from holding the court here, and that
possibly the government might be in-
duced to pay part of the expense of
repaving. Mayor Barnard said that
the government had even refused to
be assessed for the original paving
of the street. The matter was re-
ferred to the street committee.

A Newnan, a sick man, was grant-
ed a free license to peddle jewelry on
the streets.
Aldermen Francis and Lipinsky
were absent.
Asks Damages.
Jesse R. Starnes appeared for Mr.
Glenn, who asked damages for the
change of grade near his property on
Central Avenue. The street commit-
tee was absent.

MEETING HELD BY COMMITTEE IN CHARLESTON

Committee of Inland Water-
way Assn. Have an Inter-
esting Session.

CONGRATULATIONS SENT TO ROOSEVELT

Express Approval of His Ap-
pointment of Nat. Water-
way Commission.

(By Associated Press.)

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 29.—A
meeting of the executive committee of
the Inland Waterway Association was
held at the Charleston Hotel this af-
ternoon. There were present J. H. Es-
till, Savannah, president of the associa-
tion, and James Chadbourne, Wil-
mington, N. C.; Edward B. Taylor,
Columbia, S. C.; John H. Small, Wash-
ington, N. C., members of the com-
mittee.
The resignation of C. J. Forest, sec-
retary, was accepted, and H. R. Jack-
son of Charleston was elected.
The next meeting of the associa-
tion will be held in Charleston Wed-
nesday, November 6, 1907.

The president and executive com-
mittee were authorized to prepare for
this meeting. It was resolved that Mr.
Small prepare a brief setting forth the
advantages and the necessity of the
construction of the chain of inland
waterways along the entire Atlantic
seaboard; and further that such mem-
orial should be submitted to the Na-
tional Commission on Improvement of
Waterways, recently appointed by the
president.

On Motion of Mr. Chadbourne,
President Estill of the association,
expressed the following telegram to
the president of the United States:
"Charleston, S. C.—President, Wash-
ington, D. C.
The executive committee of the
Inland Waterways Association, in ses-
sion in this city, directs me to con-
gratulate you upon the personnel and
the purposes of the commission ap-
pointed by you to consider the vital subject
of the improvement of our waterways.
I am also directed to call your at-
tention, and through you to the com-
mission, to the importance of the con-
struction and maintenance by the
United States of the chain of inland
waterways along the seaboard from
Boston, Savannah and the Gulf, and
partial waterway from Norfolk to
Beaufort Inlet, which will avoid the
dangers of Cape Hatteras and Dia-
mond Shoals.

"J. H. ESTILL, President."
The executive committee extended
congratulations to commercial in-
terests of the country upon the fact
that congress recently made an initial
appropriation for the construction of the
inland waterway between Norfolk and
Beaufort Inlet of \$550,000.

TRIES TO THROW BABE INTO SEA

NEW YORK, March 29.—Crazed
by illness Mrs. Filomena Aquila, a pas-
senger on board the steamer Konig
Albert, which arrived here today
from Naples, threw her infant daugh-
ter into the sea last Wednesday, where
it perished. The woman tried to fol-
low the infant to death, but was re-
strained.
The steamer was stopped for half
an hour while search was made for
the child.

MURDERER OF MRS. MORGAN IS HANGED

(By Associated Press.)
SPARTANBURG, S. C., March 29.—
Thomas Harris, a young white man,
formerly a Baptist preacher, was
hanged in the jail yard at Gaffney, S.
C. today for the murder of Mrs.
Horriene Morgan, an aged white wo-
man, last November.
Before the black cap was adjusted
Harris preached his own funeral ser-
mon.
He killed Mrs. Morgan by cutting
her throat, after which he took \$500
from her clothes. Harris narrowly es-
caped being lynched at the time of his
arrest, and was brought to Spartan-
burg for safe keeping.

DERAILMENT OF PASSENGER TRAIN THE WORK OF WRECKERS

(By Associated Press.)
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., March
29.—Passenger train No. 1, of the
Choctaw Oklahoma and Gulf rail-
road, from Memphis, for Amarillo,
drawn by two engines, was partially
derailed today at Council, eight miles
west of Oklahoma City. Both engines
were badly wrecked, and the mail
and baggage cars were turned over,
but the coaches remained on the
track. One engineer and an unknown
negro were killed. Fireman Overton
was fatally injured, a porter seriously
hurt and seven passengers suffer-
ed bruises.
Investigation shows conclusively
that the derailment was caused by
wreckers. Bolts had been removed
from the connection rods that move
the switch.
Bloodhounds have been taken to
the scene in an attempt to trace the
culprits.
Fireman Overton died after being
brought to this city.

LUNACY BOARD HOLDS SESSION THIS MORNING

May Finish Work Today and
Be Ready to Report to Fitz-
gerald on Monday.

THAW'S ATTORNEYS ARE VERY SANGUINE

Attorneys Will Not be Allowed
to Cross-Examine Any
of Witnesses.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, March 29.—From
sources assumed to be authentic it
was assumed tonight that Dr. Allen
McLane Hamilton, alienist, would be
called to testify tomorrow before the
lunacy commission which is to de-
termine whether Harry K. Thaw is
mentally competent to understand the
nature of the proceedings in his trial
for the killing of Stanford White and
to rationally advise his counsel.
Dr. Hamilton, it was stated, will ap-
pear as a witness at the request of
the commission and will be the only
expert examined.

The declaration that Dr. Hamil-
ton would be called was a sur-
prise, as it had been generally under-
stood that the commission would not
hear any expert testimony as to the
defendant's condition of mind.
It was Dr. Hamilton's testimony at
the trial that precipitated a request by
the district attorney for a lunacy com-
mission.

NEW YORK, March 29.—The com-
mission in lunacy which is examining
the present mental condition of Harry
K. Thaw, may finish its work to-
morrow and be ready to report to Justice
Fitzgerald by Monday. The Thaw
jury will report in court once more at
10.30 o'clock Monday morning and it
is the hope of the presiding judge as
well as the commission that the mat-
ter of the defendant's sanity may be
disposed of by that time. If the com-
mission should submit a report to the
effect that Thaw fully understands the
nature of the proceedings against him
and has rationally advised with his
counsel, Justice Fitzgerald will simply
direct that the trial proceed without
making public the commission's find-
ings. If the report should be against
Thaw Justice Fitzgerald will announce
the decision from the bench and if he
deems the prisoner's release to be dan-
gerous to the public peace and safety,
he will sign an order directing the con-
finement in some state hospital for the
insane, probably Mattawan.

Today being Good Friday there was
no session of the lunacy board and
Thaw spent a quiet day in the Tombs
preparing for a renewal of his mental
test tomorrow at 10.30. The proceed-
ings tomorrow will again be private.
It was understood today again that
neither Thaw's own lawyers or Dis-
trict Attorney Jerome would be al-
lowed to cross-examine any of the wit-
nesses who may be called on to testify
before the commission.

Defense Very Hopeful.
Thaw's attorneys are so sanguine as
to the outcome of the lunacy inquiry
that they were today making plans for
the redemption of the trial next week.
It seems now that if the trial is taken
up again the defense probably will an-
nounce that it rests without further
testimony. Dr. Allan McLane Hamil-
ton, the alienist who examined Thaw
last June and July, was on the stand
when the trial was interrupted. There
is little likelihood that Dr. Hamilton
will be recalled. If Thaw is declared
responsible it should not last more than
three or four days. The attorneys in
their summing up addresses will not
be allowed to refer in any way to the
lunacy commission, for its appoint-
ment and proceedings are not a part
of the trial record.

While the trial was in progress all
of the alienists who had examined
Thaw and who were called to the
stand, paid a tribute to the prisoner's
remarkable memory. It was this mem-
ory, it was said, which served him in
such good stead before the commission
on Thursday and which led to the
Hartidge to make the statement
"Thaw remembered more about the
trial than I did."

PARTLY CLOUDY.
WASHINGTON, March 29.—
Forecast for Saturday and Sun-
day: North Carolina: Partly
cloudy Saturday; cooler in the
interior; Sunday fair Fresh west
to northwest winds.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)