

WADESBORO SWEPT BY A DISASTEROUS FIRE

**Believed to be Work of Incendiary
—Loss, \$100,000—Men Caught
With Blockade Whiskey Suspected of Crime.**

Wilmington, N. C., Feb. 10.—Fire, believed to have been of incendiary origin, caused a property loss of \$100,000 early today at Wadesboro, N. C., the insurance being about half. Several months ago two men driving a wagon load of blockade whiskey were surrounded by a posse on lands owned by J. D. Horne, a prominent merchant of the town. The wagon, team and whiskey were seized and sold under the internal revenue laws, but the men escaped before the fire of the posse, one of them being wounded. Recently Horne was threatened for his part in the raid and although he had taken every precaution, fire was discovered in his store just before light this morning and the odor of oil was apparent.

The losses are: J. D. Horne, building and stock, \$12,000, insurance, \$5,000; Liles Department Store, stock, \$60,000, insurance, \$30,000; J. A. Hardison, building, \$10,000, insurance, \$2,500; Blacklock Hardware Company, C. S. Wheeler and other stores adjoining, damage by fire and water. No arrests have followed the fire.

Go South, Young Man!

Columbia (S. C.) State

In the good old days when Horace Greeley was telling the farmers and the school-teachers what to do ambitious men used to grope their way into the West and take up quarter sections, arranging at the same time a proper defense against the Indians and paying nightly that in good time railroad would pass near their property and enable them to market whatever their lands could be persuaded to yield. "Go West, young man!" met with a hearty response and despite many and great obstacles the West was won and most of those who went into the new country eventual wealth and prosperity.

Some people think that with the passing of the opportunity in the West there is no further chance to emigrate. Yet the South offers opportunities incomparably better than any the West ever did or could offer. We have no lands to give away, it is true, but it is possible to buy a fair acreage in the South for about what the trip West used to cost. Moreover, the land that would be obtained in the South is good land, capable of producing the finest crops, and so situated that these crops can be easily marketed. The climate here is far and away better than the climate in the West, and there are just about as good people in the South as can be found anywhere in the world.

Worth Street to be Opened.

In the United States circuit court Monday at Greensboro Judge Boyd rendered his decision in the case of the Southern Railway Company against our city, granting the city the right to extend Worth Street across the North Carolina Railroad track near the water tank. The Railroad Company appealed from Judge Boyd ruling. Among the attorneys appearing in this case was Mr. D. Fonville of Charlotte, son of Mr. Lindsey Fonville of this city.

Mr. Thomas Russell Died.

Mr. Thomas Russell died in the home of his daughter Mrs. Florence Martin near Plaid Mills Feb. 8th 1911, aged 60 years, 10 months and 3 days. After several months sickness with lung trouble. He leaves 3 brothers 4 sisters 3 sons and 4 daughters and 15 living grand children. The funeral was conducted in the home on the 9th by Rev. J. D. Andrew and the body laid to rest beside his life in Pine Hill Cemetery.

Answering Civil Questions.

Ohio State Journal.

There is a bill before the Missouri legislature which makes it a misdemeanor for a railroad agent to refuse to answer a civil question; meaning probably an uncivil answer to a civil question. It would be so hard to enforce such a law that it would be better not to have it at all. But the bill doubtless has its origin in a situation. There are many, many uncivil answers to questions asked by the traveling public. Many of them are no doubt so simple and unnecessary as to arouse the impatience of the agent and so he sputters out a swift and unsatisfactory answer. One cannot altogether blame him, for we would all do about as he does if we were in his place.

But this, of course, is no excuse. The Bible somewhere commends those who are "not easily provoked," and so the spirit of gentility and kindness should ever be on its guard against those who attack it with ignorant and thoughtless questions. And then it is really a great pleasure, even in moments of provocation to be serene, kindly and submissive. And it should also be remembered that many people travel so little that when they do stray from home they are so suspicious of their own knowledge and ability that they reach out for support in every direction. They are entitled to consideration. They should be tenderly cared for.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY BRINGING EMIGRANTS

Washington, D. C., February 8.—As the result of exhibits made by the Southern Railway and affiliated lines at various fairs and expositions in the North and West last fall, the Land Industrial department of the Southern has the names of several thousand people who are interested in the South with the view of looking for homes. Exhibits were maintained by the Southern and affiliated lines at the Pittsburgh Land Show, the Illinois State Fair at Springfield, the Wisconsin State fair at Milwaukee, and the New York State Fair at Syracuse. These exhibits were viewed in the aggregate by over a half Million people according to reports just compiled by the Land and Industrial Department of the Southern. In addition as large a number visited the exhibit of the South and its Resources made jointly at the Ohio Valley Exposition in Cincinnati by the railroads of the Southeast.

The agricultural possibilities of the Southeast were displayed to magnificent advantage at these fairs, the Southern Railway exhibits receiving most favorable notice at all of them. From 10,000 to 15,000 persons visited the exhibit daily at the Pittsburgh Land Show coming from all the middle states and from Canada. A large number of thrifty German farmers were among those most interested at Wisconsin State Fair. The exhibit of the varied products of the Southeast at the Illinois State Fair and the New York State Fair interested thousands who had previously considered cotton practically the only product of the South. Thousands of pieces of literature were distributed showing the opportunities for profit in other lines of agriculture in the South.

May—Stansell.

In the home of the bride's parents Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Stansell corner of Front and Hoke Streets, Mr. Floyd May and Miss Drucilla Stansell were happily united in the bonds of matrimony at 8 p. m. Thursday Feb. 9th 1911 by Rev. J. D. Andrew. Quite a number of friends were present to witness the ceremony and extended their good wishes for a bright future to this popular couple.

A London editor finds our sailors "thin faced and sad." The ones he saw must have stumbled upon a copy of London Punch by mistake.

ELIMINATE IT, ROOT AND BRANCH

Virginia Pilot.

Hon. J. E. West, member of the House of Delegates of the last General Assembly and now a candidate for the State Senate from the district comprising the counties of Nansemond, Southampton and Isle of Wight, is against the fee method of compensating public officials, but thinks "the system is only an iniquitous proposition in the cities and large counties, where the large salaries are paid under it." With this view the Times-Dispatch disagrees, declaring that "the fee system in its entirety should be wiped out" and that "the principle ought not to be limited in any case."

Our Richmond contemporary is dead right. The fee system operates not only to overpay grossly officials in the larger cities and counties, but woefully to underpay those in the smaller counties. In both cases injustice is wrought—in the former, to the people, who have to pay the bills and are mulcted to the extent of the overpayment; in the latter, to the officials who are not compensated in proportion to the value of services rendered. To remedy the one is no less incumbent upon the State than to cure the other. The only way to do equity to all parties concerned is to eliminate the fee system, root and branch, and place all public officials on a salary basis, covering all fees into the public treasury. This is what ought to be done and what will be done in the not distant future, if the voters will only exercise their inherent right to demand of every aspirant for a seat in the General Assembly how he stands on this important question and then withhold their support from any and all candidates who refuse to commit themselves, in advance of nomination and election, to abolition of the iniquitous system. The situation is one which the people can cure if and when they will. The remedy lies in the ballot, and its application is in the hands of the voter.

Delightfully Entertained.

A party sparkling with wit and boiling over with humor at which those present were tastily dressed was given at the home of Miss Byrd Dailey on last Friday night. The party was composed of single and married ladies, fifty two in number half of which were dressed like boys and all being attired in costumes representing boys and girls from ten to fourteen years of age.

The first prize a large, red striped, pound stick of candy was won by Miss Bessie Holt who acted the boy best. The second prize was awarded Mrs. Singletary who was the prettiest girl and with whom all the boys fell in love at first sight. Refreshments suitable to the occasion consisting of animal cakes, peanuts and red candy was served. These entertainments are given annually and always enjoyed by those present.

Mr. Herman Stansell made a flying trip to Durham Sunday.

All in favor of putting our county officers on Salaries instead of Fees sign the Coupon below and send to the DISPATCH, this means \$5000.00 a year in the pockets of the Tax Payers of Alamance County.

Hon. J. Elmer Long.

House of Representatives,

Raleigh, N. C.

I favor putting our County officers on Salaries instead of Fees, paying them fair and liberal but not extravagant salaries and ask you to have a bill passed making this a law. Signed _____

PROMINENT NORTH CAROLINIAN TO SPEAK IN ATLANTA

Washington, D. C. Feb. 14.—J. Elwood Cox, President of the Commercial National Bank of High Point, will speak for the State of North Carolina, before the Southern Commercial Congress in Atlanta, March 8th, 9th, and 10th. Mr. Cox was appointed a member of the State Committee for this occasion by Gov. Kitchin. He has had honorable connection with business affairs in North Carolina since 1883. His speech before the Southern Commercial Congress will be to the topic "The Solid South of Business." Equally distinguished men from each of the other Southern States will speak to the same topic, thus, bringing together the latest authoritative word regarding the business status of each state in the South. Each of these speeches will later be used for national distribution.

Mr. Cox was born in Northampton county. He received his education in Guilford College, the Business College of Baltimore and at Earlham, and the Friends College of Indiana. He taught for a short time and in 1883 he associated himself with Captain W. H. Snow at High Point in the manufacture of spokes, handles shuttle blocks and bobbin heads. Some years ago Mr. Cox sold out his spoke and handle business, and has confined his factory to bobbin heads and shuttle blocks. Although he has laid the basis of his large fortune in this business, Mr. Cox has been interested financially in many of the successful enterprises of his native City and State. He is a director in the Greensboro Loan & Trust Co. director in the Virginia Trust Company, of Richmond, director in the First National Bank of Thomasville, the Jefferson Life Insurance Company and is Trustee of the Guilford College endowment fund, the latter position carrying with it much responsibility.

In 1891, Mr. Cox with Dr. W. G. Bradshaw, organized the Commercial National Bank, now the largest bank in the county. At the beginning, the capital stock of the bank was only \$50,000, but it has continually grown in strength and usefulness. Mr. Cox has been President of the Bank since it was chartered and has been ably assisted by Dr. W. G. Bradshaw either as Cashier or Vice President. He is President of the Globe-Home Furniture Company and owns stock in other factories.

He is a man of great public spirit, and his acquaintance extends widely outside of his native state, having among his customers and friends many foreign houses.

Being a man of quiet tastes, the new president of the steel trust may be able to worry along on a reduced salary of \$50,000.

Dr. Wiley the Agricultural Chemist says emphatically that he will retract nothing he has said about whiskey. Boil the whiskey!

Back the President.

Philadelphia Record.

President Taft is trying to bring down the cost of living by doubling the area of reciprocal trading in the necessities of life on the North American Continent. The scheme is full of benevolent and beneficent intent. It is the large plan of a large man, who knows that the game of statesmanship is a game of give and take equivalents. We believe that the people of the United States understand the virtue and the value of the reciprocity argument submitted for the sanction of Congress, and that they will stand behind the President to command final approval.

No state in the Union will be more greatly advantaged by reciprocal trading with Canada than Pennsylvania. Our mines and manufacturing are the nearest and cheapest source of supply for the most densely inhabited part of Canada, stretching southward within the enveloping chain of the Great Lakes. No representative of this state in either branch of Congress can raise his voice or cast his vote against the proposed agreement, without treachery to his great constituency. Canada is rich in the products we need. We get from her an equivalent for every concession we grant.

SALARIES FOR COUNTY OFFICERS

News and Observer.

Guilford county saved ten thousand dollars last year by paying salaries instead of fees to county officers. If the pledge made Wake voters in 1906 had been carried out, there would be \$40,000 cash in the Wake treasury or that amount of good roads would have been built. The big county that does not pay salaries to county officers is making a present to them of too much pay and taxing the people too much.

Even if a county did not save a cent by putting the officers on salaries, the accounting system that it requires and secures is enough to warrant its adoption. Where fees are paid no record is kept of many transactions. Where salaries are paid a record is kept of every transaction. It would be a wise thing for this Legislature to pass a general act by which, upon the petition of one-fifth of the qualified voters, the county commissioners should be required to submit the question of "salary" or "fees" for county officers in any county at the next regular election.

Fees must go, for county officers in the interest of securing proper records and for economy and for the uniform fee bills. This reform should come in every county, big and little, and the sooner the better.

[But our County Commissioners even declined to call a meeting of the tax payers of Alamance, to discuss this question. The Editor of the News and Observer says: "This reform should come in every county, big and little, and the sooner the better." Alamance is a little county in size only, and stands 19th in the 98 counties, as to the amount of State Taxes, there being 79 counties in North Carolina that pay less into the State Treasury than Alamance, still there are some who would make you believe that Alamance is a pauper county].

Church Item.

St. Athanasius' Branch of the Junior Auxiliary was organized at the Rectory, on Tuesday afternoon Feb. 7, at 3:30 with the following charter members:

Misses Gena, Winnie and Nina Squires, Mable and Ruth King, Atha Carter and Master Finley Williamson. The following officers were elected—Leader, Mrs. J. B. Gible, Pres. Miss Gena Squires, Vice Pres. Miss Winnie Squires Sec. Miss Ruth King, Treasurer Master Finley Williamson. The Branch will meet every Wednesday afternoon at 3:00.

ANOTHER RAIL AD

Bill Will Be Introduced in Legislature Tuesday Granting Charter to Proposed Railroad From Winston-Salem to Raleigh.

Greensboro, Feb. 12.—The indications are that Greensboro will have another railroad in another year or so and competitive freight rates. Tuesday a bill will be introduced in the Legislature granting a charter for a proposed railroad running from Winston-Salem to Raleigh, connecting with the Raleigh & Southport at Raleigh and the Norfolk & Western at Winston-Salem. A bill will also be obtained for the proposed line from Greensboro to Manson, Vance county, connecting with the Norfolk & Western at Roxboro and the Seaboard at Manson. Both of the routes will be surveyed and an effort made to secure capital stock for the proposed companies. The Winston to Raleigh line would go from Winston to High Point; thence to Greensboro, and to Burlington. After leaving Burlington it would not touch a point within 10 miles of the Southern until near Raleigh. It would be a shorter route to Raleigh from here by about 10 miles.

Simpson—Miller.

A beautiful marriage was solemnized Thursday evening at 7:30 at the home of Mr. John Rippey of Altamahaw when Margaret Vaughn Rosa Miller became the bride of G. A. Simpson, a noted Farmer at R. F. D. 8. After the vows were spoken by Rev. A. Frank Isley the bridal party drove to the groom's home where they will make their future home. Several of the brides friends were present. The bride was attired in a lovely cream wedding gown with hat and gloves to match. The groom wore a dark navy blue suit. The presents received by the bride are beautiful consisting chiefly of silver. The bride is one of the sweetest and most charming young girl and Mr. Simpson is to be congratulated in winning her hand. Mr. Simpson lived in Burlington some time ago.

Post Office Site Selected.

The Treasury Department has selected the Gant property on Corner of Spring and Davis Street as the site for the Federal building to be used as the home of the Post Office. The lot selected is 120 by 125 feet to cost \$8,500. It is remembered that an appropriation of \$10,000 has been set aside by congress for the purchase of site. The next move will be to get an appropriation for building.

For Your Own Good.

Do this. See Dr. N. Rosenstein at the Burlington Drug Co. Tuesday February 21st, and at Mebane Wednesday February 22nd, at the White House. The service which he renders to all spectacle wearers, and particularly to those who have the most complicated eye troubles, are the very best of which many of the Alamance County citizens can indulge, and his charges are moderate.

South-Atlantic Insurance Co.

The annual statement of the South-Atlantic Life Insurance Company, of Richmond, Va., whose announcement is found in another column, shows the following increase during the past five years: Gross premiums, (increase), \$240,596.52; insurance in force, (increase), \$8,029,422; admitted assets, (increase), \$507,182.83; increase of insurance in force for 1910 over that of 1909, \$1,984,189.

While the standpatters in the Senate continue to oppose the election of Senators by popular vote, the people are electing them without the Senate's permission.

Champ Clark favors an extra session of Congress. So does the small boy favors an earlier Christmas.