

THE TWICE-A-WEEK DISPATCH

A PROGRESSIVE REPUBLICAN NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE UPBUILDING OF AMERICAN HOMES AND AMERICAN INDUSTRIES.

VI

BURLINGTON, N. C., MARCH 6, 1914

BLEASE AROUSED

On Floor of House While Presenting Special Message Governor Offers to Fight.

Used Strong Language

Columbia, S. C., March 4.—Wild scenes in which Governor Cole L. Blease was the central figure marked the session of the House this evening, the Governor at one stage throwing off his coat and saying he would whip any man who tackled him. This occurred on the floor of the House. Members rushed wildly about and the speaker called for order.

Perhaps in the history of South Carolina, since the memorable Carpetbagger days there has never been enacted a drama such as was staged in the House of Representatives to-night. Governor Blease started a precedent when he appeared on the floor of the House to present a personal message in connection with the statements made in the House this afternoon by Representative W. F. Stevenson and others in regard to the recent asylum investigation.

The Governor had got only a few moments into discussion when he had words with Representative P. T. Youmans, which however, ended pleasantly, Mr. Youmans apologizing and the Governor accepting the apology with remarks as to Mr. Youmans' joining the benedict.

Holding a copy of the local afternoon paper in his hand Governor started an attack on Representative Stevenson of Cheraw, by saying at first "the gentleman from Cheraw," and then correcting "No, I mean the member from Cheraw."

Governor Blease had not proceeded very far when Representative Stevenson said he was misquoted by the afternoon paper and said he had been reading from the record of the asylum investigation at a point where the newspaper quoted him as speaking. Governor Blease had said that if Mr. Stevenson made the statement attributed to him "in his Bible" Mr. Stevenson had said what was untrue.

The governor used strong language at times, and said he was prepared to meet Mr. Stevenson or others outside. The particular point reported this afternoon to which Governor Blease objected was the purported statement that Doctor Saunders was going to be dismissed to make way for Mary Baker Blackburn.

Mr. Stevenson explained tonight that he was reading from the record. Following the explanations during which Mr. Stevenson asked the Governor to withdraw his remarks, the incident appeared to be closed, and Governor Blease stated that if Mr. Stevenson was misquoted he was ready to state statements made a short while before.

Soon the clouds began to gather again when the Governor started to say something about Representative Barnwell of Charleston, another who spoke this afternoon on the asylum matter. Mr. Barnwell arose and stated that the Constitution gave the Governor the right to send messages to the General Assembly on the condition of the State and like matters referred to in the Constitution, but that the Governor was dealing in personal matters.

At this point the Governor said: "Towards hide behind technicalities." Representative Barnwell started toward the Speaker's rostrum from which the Governor was speaking, and for a few moments it looked as if a personal encounter would ensue. But the sergeant at arms and members intervened, and this part of the night's stormy events was a closed incident.

Then Governor Blease told the Speaker he would launch into his message under the ruling; and then spoke of not having the opportunity as he said, to present his views to the people through the newspapers. "I have stood just beyond the railing and heard sarcastic remarks, abuse and ridicule heaped upon me. I have stood it as long as I intend to."

The Governor stated he had come to the House tonight with the idea of sitting, going to the Beyond himself or to jail, and that he had read remarks about himself as false as the hinges that swing on the gates of hell. Finishing his message, the Governor left the House, moving toward the (Continued on Page Eight).

MURDERER CAPTURED

The Negro Known to Have Threatened The Barber Junction Merchant Is Captured.

Aroused Much Interest

Salisbury, March 4.—Sid Finger, a negro, alleged murderer of L. Preston Lyerly at Barber Junction Feb. 24, was captured by ex-Chief of Police J. F. Miller, of Salisbury, Deputy Insurance Commissioner W. A. Scott, of Raleigh and Deputy Frank Tolbert, of Salisbury, last this afternoon.

The capture was made on the farm of Scott Shoaf, six miles north of Salisbury, where Finger was employed. While stoutly protesting his innocence at first and attempting to implicate another negro before reaching Salisbury, Finger is said to have made a partial confession of the crime to Mr. Miller and the other officers who assisted in the arrest. The keys, watch and other articles identified as belonging to Lyerly were found in Finger's possession when arrested. As a matter of precaution by Sheriff McKenzie Finger was rushed off to Raleigh in the care of Deputy Tolbert.

Taking up a thread of evidence brought out at the coroner's inquest held at Barber's Junction in which it was shown that Finger had made serious threats against Lyerly, Deputy Scott worked the case to a finish. In this he was ably assisted by Mr. Miller, who remained on the ground, carefully noting every particle of evidence tending to bring to justice the man who murdered the merchant, robbed him of what money and jewelry he had and then fired the building in which his body was burned to a crisp.

It was known that Finger had had trouble over an account due Lyerly, that in a magistrate's trial he made serious threats, was sent to jail at Salisbury, gave bail and repeated his intention to get even with Lyerly. It was impossible for the officers working on the case to eliminate Finger from connection with the crime.

It was a clever piece of work on the part of Messrs. Miller, Scott, Tolbert and Shoaf in catching Finger today. By previous arrangement made by Mr. Miller Mr. Shoaf hired Finger to do some chopping on his plantation. Messrs. Miller, Tolbert and Scott left Salisbury early today, ostensibly to take a hunt on the farm. Shortly after noon the hunters reached the place, found Mr. Shoaf at home and Finger together with one other negro, Joe Maxwell, chopping cordwood.

The officers were face to face with Finger before he realized he was in the clutches of the law. He made a move as if to run, but found himself looking down the gun of Mr. Miller.

The capture has aroused more interest than any one thing in Rowan since the murder. Leaving the negro in the hands of Deputy Tolbert, Messrs. Miller, Scott and Shoaf, visited the home of Joe Maxwell, where Finger had been staying. Searching the house they found Lyerly's watch and keys carefully wrapped in a shirt and crammed into a crack in the house. These articles were positively identified by Miss Bertha Alexander, fiancée of Lyerly, as the property of the dead merchant.

Sheriff J. H. McKenzie, Deputy Krider, Deputy Tolbert and all the other county officers have worked hard on the case since the crime, spending almost all their time trying to run down the alleged murderer. Much credit is also due Scott Shoaf for his part in bringing Finger into the hands of the law.

Deputy Scott has spent much of his time in Rowan since the fire, tracing every clue and doing all possible to capture the guilty party. Frank Miller, who is well known as ex-chief of police of Salisbury, recently appointed revenue agent for western North Carolina, with keen insight as to crime, spared neither time nor expense in running down the alleged criminal. He is being roundly complimented upon the success of his efforts.

Sheriff McKenzie, who has worked day and night on the case for 10 days, states there is no fear of a lynching now or later.

ROOSEVELTS PROSPECTS

Republican Progressives Not in Sympathy With Movement to Place Him at the Head Again.

Sufficiently Progressive

Judging by their present attitude progressive Republican Senators, no less than conservatives, will refrain from encouraging any movement having as its ultimate object the nomination of Col. Theodore Roosevelt for the presidency in 1916. With the sole exception of Senator Miles Poindexter, of Washington, the only Bull Moose Senator in the collection, none of the Republican Progressives is at this time in sympathy with the Colonel heading the national ticket again, and, of course, the average conservative is decidedly against it.

The subject of Roosevelt's relation to the Senate has been given momentary life by Senator Borah's sarcastic reference in his speech at Columbus last Thursday to the attitude of third-party leaders and his scorching reply to George W. Perkins' criticism of that speech. The so-called Progressive group in the Senate comprises Senators Cummins, Kenyon, Borah, Norris, Crawford, Clapp, Brislaw and Sterling.

Senator Cummins believes that the Republican party is sufficiently progressive for the needs of the country when its voters are given an opportunity to control its policies and finances. Senator Kenyon entertains the same ideas, expressed in rather more radical language. Senator Norris has declared the formation of the third party to be a mistake, and has been guillotined by the Roosevelt Progressives in his State, so far as they have been able to carry out this patibulary substitute.

Senator Borah sent forth his opinions of Colonel Roosevelt and his third-party backers in quite frank fashion in the Columbus speech, although he is thought to believe that Colonel Roosevelt will make his next campaign on lines more in harmony with the traditional principles of the Republican party.

Senator Bristow was given the unhandy choice of lining up with the Roosevelt crowd or the Republicans in Kansas, and in starting his campaign for re-election he allied himself with the Republicans.

Senator Crawford is now absent from the Senate making a campaign for nomination in South Dakota as a Progressive Republican and not as a Roosevelt follower. Senator Clapp is frankly opposed to the trust regulatory schemes proposed by the third-party platform. Senator Sterling was elected as a Republican and is still in the fold.

The third party movement is so largely dictated by personal adoration that it is believed the party would fall apart if Colonel Roosevelt were to turn Republican. Those voters who would return to the Republican party would be in a minority, and therefore probably incapable of bringing about his nomination as a Republican. His own party is manifestly incapable of electing a President as long as the Democratic hosts cling together.

The Progressive Republican group would oppose Colonel Roosevelt if he appeared as a candidate for the Republican nomination, their present attitude indicates, and would oppose both the Colonel and his party if he decided to remain chief of the third-party movement.

Death of Mr. J. W. Slaughter.

Mr. J. W. Slaughter, one of our oldest and most respected citizens of West Burlington, died Friday morning at his home at three o'clock. He was an honest old gentleman and held in high esteem by his friends and neighbors. He had just passed the three score and ten mile post, being seventy-one years of age, having been permitted to live over twice the average age of man during the present time.

He was the father of a large family, there being six boys and four girls. One of his sons, Rev. B. B. Slaughter, has just finished his course in school and entered the ministry.

The funeral services will be conducted at the home by Rev. D. H. Tuttle.

WILSON'S MESSAGE

Importunity on Panama Tolls Exemptions Will Weigh Heavily—Tells of Great Dangers.

Tells of Great Dangers

Washington, Mar. 5.—President Wilson went to Congress today and pleaded for repeal of the provision of the Panama Canal act which exempts American coastwise shipping from tolls. He tersely asserted that his reason for asking the repeal was because everywhere except in the United States the tolls exemption was regarded as a violation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty and he further asked it in support of the Administration's general foreign policy.

That the President's request will be granted there seemed little doubt tonight, despite the fact that there will be vigorous opposition both in the Senate and the House. Initiative action will be taken tomorrow when the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee will meet to consider the message. It was said tonight that this committee would report a bill to fully repeal the exemption provision. In the Senate today Senator Chilton, a Democratic member of the Inter-oceanic Canals Committee, introduced an amendment to the canal act to give the President authority to suspend or make tolls by proclamation, and to prescribe tolls in cases exempted. This would put it up directly to the President to eliminate the exemption. Aside from the bearing of today's message on the Panama tolls question, some of the phrases used by the President attracted widespread comment in congressional quarters as bearing on foreign relations in general. In some quarters there was a disposition to regard some of his statements in the nature of a warning regarding the difficulties involved in "other matters of even greater delicacy and nearer consequence."

Later in the day the President himself, talking with callers, explained that these phrases had no significance beyond their bearing on the need of rigorous good faith in the Panama tolls question as an evidence of unwavering faith on all other questions and that nothing critical was pending in foreign relations. But the language of the message continued to be commented upon as having an application considerably broader than the Panama question.

Three points in particular were noted:

First—The President's statement that no communication he had addressed to Congress carried "graver or more far-reaching implications to the interest of the country;" second—that everywhere outside the United States the language of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty was given but one interpretation; and third—the concluding statement as to "other matters of even greater delicacy and nearer consequence."

The President further told his callers that while he never had received any formal communications on the subject, he had understood that European Nations generally took the same view as did Great Britain, that the Hay-Pauncefote treaty was violated by the Panama Canal Act. He pointed out that in dealing with foreign affairs Nations which believed the United States did not keep its promise on so important a treaty as the Hay-Pauncefote convention would not be likely to expect sincerity on other delicate questions.

Word has come to the President of a general impression in Europe that the United States was "sailing as close to the wind as possible" in interpreting promises made in its treaties. No pressure had been brought to bear by any Nation but the President felt confident that foreign governments had this feeling on the subject. In this connection, Mr. Wilson revealed the fact that since his talk a year ago with former Assemblyman Bryce which he gave assurance that the tolls question would be taken up at the regular session of congress, no communication, formal or otherwise had passed between Great Britain and the United States.

The President said no particular thing had caused him to read the message except a doubt that had existed (Continued on Page Eight)

STATE CHAIRMAN

Several of North Carolina Delegation Are Backing Thomas D. Warren to Succeed Webb.

Warren's Strong Backing

Washington, March 3.—Several of the North Carolina delegation, it became known today, are backing T. D. Warren, of New Bern, for chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of the State at its meeting in Raleigh on the tenth. Those who favor Mr. Warren predict that A. W. McLean, Col. P. M. Pearsal, J. O. Carr and possibly others who have been mentioned, will not care for the place.

LORTCH WANTS GOLDESBO. Senator Simmons called at the Department today in a further effort to have Marshal W. T. Dortch's official residence in Goldsboro. The Department's first ruling was that the law prohibited the residence of the marshal in a town which has not Federal court, but Senator Simmons maintained that the department has discretion. He has hopes now that the Attorney-General will grant Mr. Dortch's request.

WIND BRINGS BROKEN ARM. Allie Drake, secretary to Representative Gudgey, is nursing a broken arm as the result of the blizzard which has just left Washington. While walking along Pennsylvania Avenue at 12 street Sunday night, Mr. Drake was lifted from the sidewalk by the wind and hurled into the street. Two tendons and perhaps a bone in his left wrist were broken.

BURGIN FOR WEST POINT. Representative Gudgey has recommended Hardy M. Burgin, of Old Fort, to stand the examination for West Point in March. Three from the State have already failed to qualify for this place.

STEADMAN'S COTTON EXCHANGE BILL. Representative Steadman introduced a bill in the House today to require all cotton exchanges in the United States doing an interstate or foreign trade, to keep a record of all sales made, and to require buyers of cotton to specify the grades they are to receive, the seller to deliver the grade specified by the buyer. The bill is one of many that have been proposed to regulate the cotton exchanges.

YOUNG'S RURAL CREDITS PLAN. Insurance Commissioner James R. Young, of North Carolina, has filed a letter with the Joint Committee on Banking and Currency of the Senate and House in behalf of a plan for rural credits. The plan urged by Mr. Young is an adaptation of the principles of building and loan associations, the farmers to be backed by a rural credit reserve association formed by the government.

TWO ON STALLED TRAINS. General Julian S. Carr, of Durham, and Vice-President Marshall both intended guests of Mrs. Dimmocks at a dinner in Washington last night, were on stalled trains and each failed to arrive. General Carr was coming North, Mr. Marshall coming south.

Judge and Mrs. W. B. Council, of Hickory, passed through Washington from New York today and are on a visit to their son in Annapolis.

Business Meeting and Social Hour by Organized Classes of M. P. Church.

The organized classes of the Methodist Protestant Church met in their respective class rooms Thursday night for a business session, after which they assembled in the Philathea room for a social hour. Light refreshments were served. The Baraca and Philathea Hattion hymn were sung. A quartet was rendered by the Baracas. About forty were present to enjoy the occasion.

His Belated Discovery. An Atchison man who thought he had a hard row to hoe has just found out that the only thing the matter is that he doesn't like to hoe.—Atchison Globe.

COBB ELECTROCUTED

Halifax Man Loses in Appeal for Clemency—Sweetheart Writes and His Mother Is Here.

Could Not Loose Him

Raleigh, Mar. 6.—R. W. Cobb, the Halifax murderer of Thomas Shaw, dies today in the electric chair after a long fight for commutation of his sentence.

His mother has been here to make personal appeal to Governor Craig, but must have changed her mind. She never appeared at the governor's office. His father has also been here and Governor Craig has received from his sweetheart a letter begging for further indulgence.

Cobb's case was the only one that seemed to have no talking points. His murder of the Halifax merchant was assassination and was committed to shield a robbery. Shaw was a merchant who used to bring home his money after winding up the week's work. Cobb knew this and let drop a suspicious remark that he knew where "there was a good thing."

The young fellow's accomplice, a man named Gherkin, told enough of the circumstances of the killing to make impossible disassociation of Cobb with the crime. The two rode bicycles the night of the murder and Cobb's wheel was rolled to the vicinity of Shaw's house. When the merchant came home, Cobb was lying in wait for him. The murderer was on the front porch. As the man and the money appeared, Cobb drew his gun and ordered the tradesman to throw up his hands. Shaw said: "Quit your foolishness," and Cobb shot him.

The dead man lived long enough to talk about the shooting, but did not recognize his slayer. His little son with him did not. The money bags, holding \$400 or more, were on the ground. The murderer did not get his treasure. He fled and mounted the bicycle. The bloodhounds trailed him, wherever there was a track and several were made on the road where the machine stopped and the rider had to get off. After joining Gherkin, Cobb changed wheels and the hounds were lost completely.

Cobb's defense was ineffective, the circumstances being so thoroughly linked together as to give the jury no room to doubt. The case is one that has recommended itself to the sympathy of very few. It was a murder for robbery, a slaughter in commission of another felony. Judge H. P. Lane tried the defendant and Chairman E. L. Travis, of the Corporation Commission, assisted in the prosecution, which was conducted by Solicitor John H. Kerr.

The electrocution will take place this morning at 10:30. Governor Craig has not said he will not interfere under any circumstances, but he decreed of the courts. He gave Cobb has not seen any way to change the a respite in kindness to his attorneys who had hoped to bring out some new matters not developed at the trial. It will be the first execution under the Craig administration.

Sacred Concert With Connective Readings.

The church choral class of the First Baptist Church will give a sacred concert with connective readings in the church on Thursday evening, March 12, which promises to be a treat for the music lovers. Both music and readings are grouped around a story of the time of the Christ which is deeply touching. The choral class consists of some forty-five voices who are under the instruction of G. Scott-Hunter. The reader for the evening will be Mrs. A. M. Woodall, teacher in elocution at Oxford college, Oxford, N. C. Miss Elizabeth Hancock, a graduate of the same college, will be the soloist for the evening. Mrs. Scott-Hunter will preside at the piano and Mrs. J. L. Scott will be the organist for the concert. The concert will begin at 8 o'clock. There will be no charge for admission but opportunity will be given for making a free will offering. The public at large is cordially invited.

He Does Happy and master of himself who can say as with day passes on, "I have lived" as matter whether tomorrow the Great Father shall give us a clouded sky or a clear day.

PRINT