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HOW CONVICTS WERE SECURED.

The last issue of the Lumberton Robesonian contained an editorial that will require an explanation from the officials in charge of the State Penitentiary.

A railroad is being built from Lumberton to Hope Mills, in Cumberland County, and the promoters have been badly in need of labor. As early as last January, and again in February the officials of the road applied to Mr. J. S. Mann, Superintendent of the Penitentiary, for convicts to work on their road, offering to make the same contract as did other parties who had secured convicts from the State. They were told that no convicts were available; that all had been hired out that could be spared. The railroad officials then asked if they could secure some convicts as soon as the contracts they were then hired under expired.

The authorities at the penitentiary replied that all the convicts that could be hired out had been contracted for. The railroad got some of the State's convicts, but they had to contract for them through a Florida syndicate, and pay that syndicate a big profit. We copy below a part of the Robesonian's editorial on the subject:

"About ten days ago convicts to the number of fifty were obtained and they are now at work on the Virginia and Carolina Southern, but, mark you, these convicts were not obtained from officials of the State prison; they were obtained through non-resident contractors—Florida contractors—who charged this railroad 15 per cent advance on what they pay the State; in other words, these non-resident contractors get the convicts from the State—the State furnishing guards, clothing and food—for \$1.50 per day, and for these same convicts the Virginia and Carolina Southern Railroad, which is being built by home capital and which will mean much to this section, must pay these non-resident contractors \$1.72 1/2 per day, at a total profit of \$800 per month for the contractors. And at the time these non-resident contractors hired these convicts to this railroad they proposed to promise any number from 50 to 100.

Although the officers of the Virginia and Carolina Southern offered in January and February \$1.50 per day for convicts, and were repeatedly told by the State Prison Superintendent that it would be impossible to obtain them since all the convicts had been contracted for, convicts have since been allowed to work on railroads for stock in the roads, the value of said stock being an unknown quantity and perhaps worthless.

If what Mr. Mann stated to the railroads here be true, how could he furnish convicts to other roads? Why cannot citizens of the State get convicts except through non-resident contractors, at a bonus of 15 per cent? Why could not the Superintendent of the State Prison furnish convicts to the railway here when non-resident contractors could furnish any number from 50 to 100, ordering them sent here, too, direct from the State prison? How could convicts be furnished to other roads for stock when the Virginia and Carolina and Southern could not hire them for cash, at the prevailing price?

We have gone into this matter at some length because it is a matter that is of concern to the people of this section. We should very much like to have these things explained.

This is a peculiar situation, to say the least, and one that should be explained to the people of the State. How is it that a Florida syndicate can get as many convicts as they want from the penitentiary, and home enterprise hardly treated with courtesy when they make application for convict labor to work on their road?

The Wilmington Messenger suggests that Col. N. A. McLean, the representative of the road who made application for the convicts was a member of the last legislature and was in opposition to the Winston-Jackson faction in that body, and is persona non grata with the powers that be.

Is it true that peanut politics played a part in the situation, or is it true that the penitentiary officials made a secret deal with the Florida syndicate so they could farm out the convicts at a great profit to themselves? The people have a right to know.

Our columns are open for any satisfactory answer to the situation.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

For many weeks the Peace Commissioners have sat together at The Hague and only one measure has been passed and unanimously adopted. They seem to be as a hung jury on nearly every proposition laid before them. The one resolution which has secured the unanimous favor of the national representatives is one applying to maritime warfare, the same rules and regulations that were made operative in land warfare by the Geneva convention in 1864. Henceforth this international law will make immune from capture hospital ships or those used exclusively to aid and succor wounded, sick or shipwrecked persons in time of war. The two United States Commissioners have worked hard but seemingly to little purpose, for two measures proposed by them. Mr. Choate gained only a two-thirds vote in favor of his motion that the private property of a belligerent, if not contraband, shall be exempt from seizure at sea. Great Britain, France, Russia and Japan opposed the motion; but its discussion has probably paved the way for its future passage. Gen. Horace Porter's proposition to limit the existing practice of collecting, by force, debts due to the citizens of one power by the government of another, has not yet come up for final treatment, but the chance for success is very small. But the conference, with all its limitations and small failures, is a great institution, and as the years creep by its influence will be widely felt. The very contact of the representatives is doing much to rub off the hard edges of national antagonisms. The Peace Conference may yet dictate the policies of the world if small politics is not allowed to creep into its sessions.

Since the above was put in type the Peace Conference has adopted the resolution of the Conference of 1899 regarding the limitation of military burdens, amendments to the Convention of 1899 regarding the laws and customs of land war and the prohibiting of throwing of explosives from balloons, the bombardment of undefended towns, etc., were unanimously adopted.

Elsewhere in this issue we copy an article from the Charlotte Observer stating that the Postmaster General is in favor of a parcels post system being established by the government and also postal savings banks, and will make recommendations to Congress for the establishment of a system which he will work out. We hope the Postmaster General will work out his system in time to make recommendations to the next Congress. THE CAUCASIAN has been advocating this system for a good many years. Of course the Express Companies will fight the parcels post, but if it can't be made to apply to the whole country we hope it can at least become effective on the rural routes. This would be a great boon to the farmers, enabling them to get many of their necessities at a cheap cost without having to go the city for them. It would also increase the business on the rural routes and come nearer making them self-sustaining.

The New York Sun states that the Brooklyn Democratic Club has called off the dinner which it had planned for August 26, and which was expected to be of considerable political interest. This course was decided upon after Gov. Glenn decided to take the advice of his friends and stay away from the dinner.

Just as we thought. The dinner was first gotten up for the purpose of having Mr. Glenn present to tell about his fight for the new rate law. They considered the Governor's decision a political one, and they intended using Mr. Glenn for political purposes.

An exchange wonders that the papers have stopped publishing scandals in connection with the work on the Panama Canal. The reason is obvious. Certain reporters think they must always write sensational stories, and when the news at home is dull they write up fake stories about the Panama Canal and other places so far away that the people at home will never be any wiser, even if the stories are not true. But just now with railroad injunctions, case of the Standard Oil, the Jamestown Exposition, and Kitchin's race for the governorship, are giving the newspaper reporters all the real news that they can handle.

The "Graham Tribune" has ceased as a weekly and is now published daily. We wish this new Republic daily much success.

"The Durham Herald cites Gov. Glenn's course as refutation of the charge often made that the man who is employed by a railroad or accepts a favor from it is owned body and soul by such road. Governor Glenn was attorney for the Southern Railroad, and the statement has frequently been made by friends of Major Stedman that Southern Railroad influence secured him the nomination. No one can charge that the Southern is running the office of Governor or has undue influence over the occupant of that office."—Wilmington Messenger.

Some one has suggested that possibly the United States Senate looks larger to the Governor than an attorneyship with the Southern Railway.

Roosevelt once said there are "good trusts and bad trusts." After experience in sorting them out, he will please tag the good ones."—Wilmington Star.

The Star is in error. It was ex-Judge Parker who said there are "good trusts and bad trusts." The Judge didn't want the voters to think he was in favor of the trusts and neither did he wish to offend the trusts and keep them from contributing to his campaign fund—so he straddled the fence.

"We were speaking with one of the most prominent Democrats of Randolph County about railroad matters. He thought the State had not treated the Page road right, and the people of that country will not stand for such treatment."—North State.

We venture the assertion that this indignant "prominent Democrat" and his political friends will vote for the same crowd again next fall. Oh, yes, they will stand such treatment.

Mr. Frank Stroud, of Hickory, has leased the Davie Record published at Mocksville, and in the future will be its editor and manager. Mr. Stroud is a practical printer and was editor of the Hickory Hornet for some time. We wish him success in his new field.

"The New Bern Sun says that 'it the business of the people to make the politicians quit preaching demagoguery.' The Sun is right, but then how is it to be done?"—Wilmington Messenger.

That's easy. Just don't put any political demagogues in office. That's a sure cure. Try it.

What has become of the reformatory for youthful criminals? Young boys are still being sent to the penitentiary to associate with the hardened criminals. And there has been no arrangements made to remedy this situation.

If Jefferson Came He Would Have to Bring His Politics With Him.

Washington Post.
Somebody has wondered what Thomas Jefferson would do if he came to America in 1907, and the best answer is that he would have to make a political party before he could get into the political swim. Yet everybody, except Mr. Roosevelt, traces his politics back to Jefferson. Mr. Bryan will prove to you that Lincoln got his politics from Jefferson, though Lincoln recruited some millions of soldiers and shot to death on the field of battle the "Resolutions of '98," as perfect a Jeffersonian idea as the Sage of Monticello ever delivered himself of.

Mr. Jefferson was the father of the Democratic party that lived 100 years and went out of the political business in 1896, just a century after Jefferson's first race for President. The Democratic party was created to combat paternalism in government, and the party of Jefferson was true to that doctrine all the days of its life.

This new Democracy, that is nothing if not paternal, like the devil quoting scripture, claims to hold its estate under title coming down from Jefferson. If there was anything for which Jefferson distinctly stood, it was jealousy of Federal power; but this new Democracy, so far from that, seeks to augment Federal power to an extent that Alexander Hamilton never dreamed of.

We are satisfied that Mr. Jefferson would have to fetch his politics with him, if he came again to America, or keep out of politics altogether.

Not as Poor as She Seemed.

Some weeks ago Mrs. Rebecca Sanders, of Stony Fork, an aged widow living alone in a one room house, departed this life and to all appearances died in almost abject poverty, leaving one son, Warren Sanders. After her demise a search for her humble quarters was made, and concealed here and there about the room was found \$800 in cash, representing the small earnings of a long life of self-denial. Much of the silver was very much corroded and showed that it had not been handled for many years. The paper currency was nicely preserved, but was, in the main, of very old series. Her much loved cash is now in the vaults of the Watauga County Bank, to the credit of her son, and she is beyond want.—Watauga Democrat.

LIGHTNING STRIKES THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY.



FROM OUR EXCHANGES.

Some Squibs of Interest We Have Gathered With Our Paste-pot and Shears.

It is a fight between the railroads and the politicians with the State to back them up.—North State.

The right will prevail. But that does not refer to the work of the North Carolina legislature.—Raleigh Enterprise.

Perhaps after a third battle the Democratic party will feel, as others know, that it has had enough noise without votes.—Union Republican.

Cigarettes are destroying more boys than liquor is. They are making of them physical and mental wrecks. Not only that, but moral wrecks.—Hickory Mercury.

PARCELS POST FAVORED.

Warrenton goes dry by a big majority. It is said Governor Glenn's speeches did it. He ought to try them same speeches on Winston, his old home, and Raleigh, his new home. It may be the folks in these hometowns know him too well for his speeches to be effective.—Hickory Mercury.

The Greensboro Record is our authority for the statement that there are more young men learning trades in the penitentiary than there are outside. If this be true then there must be something wrong with our schools and colleges who train young men for their life's work and the public sentiment that endorses it. All of our school and college-bred young men cannot expect to live by their wits. The trades and the farms are as important as the professions and should call for a training as careful and thorough.—Union Republican.

Postmaster General Meyer Would Have This and Also Postal Savings Banks—Recommendations to Be Made Congress.

The Washington correspondent of the Charlotte Observer says: The Postmaster General, Mr. Meyer, is in favor of a parcels post system being established by the Postoffice Department and also postal savings banks. While he has not yet worked out the details of the parcels post system he has been thinking along this line for some time, and he expects to make recommendations to Congress for the establishment of a system which he will work out. He has thought more of the savings bank idea, having realized the need of these native working people make sure of saving by buying postal orders payable to themselves which they can cash as they need the money. From this it is ascertained that they prefer to do without interest rather than entrust their money to savings banks, and while Mr. Meyer says it is not intended to run the postal savings banks in opposition to the regular savings banks, he thinks they are needed to encourage thrift. The amount of deposits will be limited and Mr. Meyer will recommend the resumption of the issue of postal orders limited to \$2.50 to \$5.00, payable to bearer only.

Likewise in establishing the parcels post, Mr. Meyer does not wish to establish this in opposition to the express companies but only to meet a public demand.

The department is going to be operated on a more business like basis than heretofore, according to Mr. Meyer. As proof of this he points to the recent order weighing all mail and noting the amount paid for and the amount handled for the government departments, and that franked by Representatives and Senators.

"We are going to ascertain where our deficit lies and see how it can be remedied as far as possible," said Mr. Meyer.

The Postmaster General says that the criticism of the cost of the rural delivery service is unjust. In 1906, \$25,000,000 was expended on it, but the entire postal deficit, which was \$8,000,000 in 1896 when only \$15,000,000 was spent on rural free delivery, had increased to only \$10,000,000.

It is, expected, says Mr. Meyer, that the rural free delivery expenditure for the current year will be \$35,000,000, and that the deficit will not be increased. For the quarter ended March 1st there was no deficit. The rural mail delivery system has proved a decided boon to farmers, says the Postmaster General, and has raised the general standard of living among them.

Sir Walter Raleigh's Greeting.

The following from an address delivered by Edward Eggleston before the American Historical Association, at Boston, in 1900, is of interest to North Carolinians: "All who have seen the ancient maps of North Carolina will remember Win-gin-doo-coe's as its name. This was the first thing said by a savage to Raleigh's men. In reply to the question, 'What is the name of this country?' he answered 'Win-gin-doo-coe.' It was afterwards learned that the North Carolina aborigine said in this phrase, 'Those are very fine clothes you have on.'—Excerpt from Charlotte Observer.

"REGULAR AS THE SUN"

Is an expression as old as the race. No doubt the rising and setting of the sun is the most regular performance in the universe, unless it is the action of the liver and bowels when regulated with Dr. King's New Life Pills. Guaranteed by all druggists. 25 cents.

Much the Same.

His Wife—I see by the paper that at a wedding in Oklahoma last week the man promised to obey instead of the woman. I wonder how the marriage will turn out? Her Husband—Oh, about like any other marriage, I suppose. He probably didn't mean it any more than a woman does when she says it.—Chicago News.

"EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW"

says Dr. C. G. Hays, a prominent business man of Bluff, Mo., that Bucklen's Arnica Salve is the quickest and surest healing salve ever applied to a sore, burn or wound, or to a case of piles. I've used it and know what I'm talking about." Guaranteed by all druggists. 25c.

Examinations for A. and M. College.

The next session of the Agricultural and Mechanical College will begin Thursday, September 5th. Entrance examinations will be held at the College in West Raleigh, Wednesday, 9 a. m., September 4th. New applicants for admission will be examined then, and applicants who failed to pass the July examinations at the County seats may try again at the College.

Women's Pains

"I was a total wreck," writes Mrs. Beulah Rowley, of Champog, Oregon, "from pains I had suffered, for 4 years, every month. Sometimes I would be unconscious for 12 hours at a stretch. I did not know that anything could stop the pain entirely, but Wine of Cardui did. I advise all women suffering with painful periods to use Cardui and be relieved."

It does this by regulating the functions and toning up all the internal female organs to health. It is a pure, specific, reliable, female remedy, with a record of 70 years of success. It has benefited a million others. Why not you? Try it.

Sold by Every Druggist in \$1.00 Bottles.

WINE OF CARDUI

FREE ADVICE
Write us a letter describing all your symptoms, and we will send you Free Advice, in plain sealed envelope.
Address: Ladies' Advisory Department, The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

If the Baby is Crying Too Much
Be sure and use that old and well-titled remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children's colic, wind, and all the other troubles for Diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.
Guaranteed under the Food and Drugs Act, June 30th, 1906.
Number 1098.

A man has a good bumper when he only thinks his swear words.

Yes, Yes.
"I suppose," said Mrs. Tarleton, "when you die you expect to see your husbands?"
"You are very rude," retorted Mrs. Mochwede. "When I die I expect to go heaven."—Young Magazine.

THE LIMIT OF LIFE.

The most eminent medical scientists are unanimous in the conclusion that the generally accepted estimation of human life is many years below the attainment possible with the advanced knowledge of what the race is now possessed. The critical period, that determines its duration, seems to be between 40 and 60; the proper care of the body during this decade cannot be too strongly urged; carelessness then being fatal to longevity. Nature's best helper after 50 is Electric Bitters, the scientific tonic medicine that revitalizes every organ of the body. Guaranteed by all druggists. 50 cents.

In a Wonder.

There is hardly anything so exciting to a girl as to wonder if her man in the seat in front of her in a railway car has light or dark eyes.

ENDORSED BY THE COUNTY.

"The most popular remedy in the county, and the best friend of my family," writes Wm. M. Dixon, editor and publisher of the Orange Journal, Gilbertsville, N. Y., "Dr. King's New Discovery. It has proved to be an infallible cure for coughs and colds, making short work of the worst of them. We always keep a bottle in the house. I believe it to be the most valuable prescription known for Lung and Throat diseases." Guaranteed never to disappoint the taker, by all druggists. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

If She Could.

If a woman could use canned postage stamps over again for some sort of preserves she would think she was the best housekeeper in the world.

Arrest It--\$50 Reward.

A small sample bottle of Ecstine will be sent free to every reader of the CAUCASIAN who is suffering with any kind of skin disease or eruption—Eczema, Blood Poison, Fever, Sores, Cancer, Rheumatism, Pains, or any other Germ disease or sore of any name or nature.

\$50 reward will be paid for any case of Eczema that is not promptly cured with Ecstine. Ecstine will heal any sore or cure the worst skin and make it look like velvet. Thousands cured daily. Never mind what you have tried; forget the failures made by other remedies and send for free sample of Ecstine which always gives relief and permanent cure. A \$1.00 bottle cures the worst case. If you are a druggist does not have Ecstine Company, M. Kupermeier, Sales Agent, 115 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

Time to Divide Profits.

Unless all signs fail, cotton will bring fifteen cents at the opening of the season next fall or very soon thereafter. In fact cotton goods have been selling all summer on a basis of fifteen cent cotton. It's about time for a division of profits.—Shelby Aurora.