

State News.

A report from Greenville, N. C., says that town is to have the largest cotton mill under one roof in the United States and one of the largest in the world.

John H. Burke, of LaGrange, Lenoir County, twenty-three years old, while standing on the porch of his home suddenly fell to the ground and broke his neck.

The army worm has made its appearance in Wayne County and, according to reports given by some of the farmers of that county, is playing havoc with the hay crop.

The North Wilkesboro Hustler says a patient at the Wilkes Hospital, who was to have been operated on, jumped out of the window the night before the operation and departed.

Charlie Graham, of Mecklenburg County, was caught under a falling tree and almost instantly killed Saturday morning while he was assisting in clearing up the head of a dredge near Charlotte.

Forty dead deer have been found on Vanderbilt's place near Asheville. Authorities say they are dying from tomatis, a disease that swells their tongues and throat so the animals cannot eat or drink.

At the session of the Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union at Chattanooga, Chas. S. Barrett was re-elected president. C. C. Wright was made a member of the executive board for North Carolina.

A big barn belonging to T. S. Eanes at Lexington was destroyed by fire Sunday morning during the church hour. Three horses and a quantity of hay were consumed in the flames. The loss is estimated at more than \$3,000.

Wednesday afternoon at Linville, the eighteen-months-old baby of C. P. Moore, fell on a piece of broken glass bottle and severed the artery in its leg and bled to death in thirty minutes, despite medical attention.

In a meeting at Graham Monday the rural mail carriers of Alamance County decided they would furnish the split log drag to be used on the public roads if the county commissioners would see that the drags are used.—Statesville Landmark.

President John T. Woodside, of the Woodside Mills, gave out the statement that at a meeting of the board of directors the management was authorized to increase the plant from 85,000 spindles and 2,024 looms to 112,000 spindles and 2,650 looms, making it the largest textile plant in this country under one roof.

The North Wilkesboro Hustler says: "Mr. H. W. Horton has at his office an old flint lock rifle carried by Capt. Nathan Horton at the execution of Maj. Andre during the Revolutionary War. Such old relics are interesting and Mr. Horton wishes to get as many as he possibly can together and place them on exhibit at the Wilkes County Fair."

Judge Cook holds that property of a church is subject to taxation. The specific case is that of city of Salisbury against the First Presbyterian Church of that city, which was in reference to the city's rights to tax the church for some very valuable real estate owned by said church, which consisted of two blocks of city property. This has no reference to the church building.

The Sanford Express is informed that 27,000 acres of land near Hoffman, Richmond County, has been purchased by Mr. Walter Page, editor of World's Work, New York, and Mr. John D. Rockefeller. They propose to turn this land into a number of small farms and establish a colony on it. A number of nice dwellings will be erected.

Willie Hilderbrand, of Morganton, committed suicide Friday by jumping into a reservoir at a cotton mill near the town. The young man was nineteen years old and clerked in a drug store at Morganton. The water in which he drowned was only eighteen inches deep and it appears that he lay in the water until he strangled to death. He had not shown any signs of insanity recently but acted peculiar at times in his younger days.

One Taft Elector and One Roosevelt Elector in Eighth District.

The Republican Congressional Convention for the Eighth District, which assembled in Statesville Tuesday afternoon, was a sort of double-barrel affair. G. D. B. Reynolds, of Stanly County, was nominated for Congress. T. O. Teague, of Alexander, who represented that county in the last Legislature, was nominated for elector by the Taft people, while R. V. Tharpe, of Statesville, was nominated for elector by the Roosevelt people. Everything was harmonious and by agreement.—Statesville Landmark.

Note.—Mr. Doughton has challenged Mr. Reynolds for a joint debate and Mr. Reynolds has accepted.

WILL TAKE NO PART.

Former Judge Bynum Too Busy With His Law Practice to Speak For Taft.

(Special to The Observer.)

Greensboro, N. C., Sept. 5.—"I am too busy with my law practice to take any part in the North Carolina campaign this year," stated former Judge William P. Bynum, Republican nominee for Presidential elector, when seen in his law office to-day Judge Bynum was asked if it was true that he would direct a letter to the State Committee declining to allow his name to remain on the Taft ticket and he replied:

"No, I would hardly do that, since I consider the nomination a purely functory one, but I will not be able to make any campaign, if such is the purpose of the convention which nominated me."

Judge Bynum did not attend the convention at Charlotte, though he was named as one of the two Taft delegates from Guilford County. He has not attended any conventions this year, county, district, or State, and though admittedly a staunch supporter of President Taft and eligible to meet all requirements of the Republican committee, he does not propose to let politics disturb his law practice.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Why Progressive Republicans Can Not Follow the Taft Machine.

Lincoln Times.]

When Taft was nominated at Chicago by open fraud we announced our purpose to not support him. Since that time and up to the present we have worked and hoped for harmony among the Republicans and Progressives in State matters. By private letter we urged upon Chairman Morehead the importance of this course and had his assurance that notwithstanding the action of the State Committee in declaring only Taft supporters would be allowed to participate in the Convention, he would favor a harmony program.

But when the convention met this week the doors were closed against every Roosevelt delegate. The people were ignored and a little machine robbed the great rank and file of the voters of a voice in the convention. They further demonstrated their disloyalty to the people who compose 80 per cent of the Republican party by injecting the liquor into the campaign. They nominated Tom Settle for Governor on a local option platform. This action should satisfy the Woodrow Wilson Democrats, for Wilson and Settle are together on this question. But it does not satisfy the people.

We have heretofore been unwilling to sever allegiance to the Republican party and have declared we would not do so unless the machine kicked us out. This they have done.

There are two courses left to us, one is to smother conscience, desert principle, endorse high-handed fraud and support the Republican ticket. The other is to stand by our convictions and retain our loyalty to the people's cause, and support the only party that represents the real and true principles of Democracy, namely, the Progressive party. This course we have chosen. Henceforth we are Progressive.

We shall do all in our power for both the National and State Progressive tickets, which shall appear at our mast-head in next issue. Let the people rule.

Lumberton Minister Commits Suicide

A Lumberton, N. C., dispatch of September 10th says:

This entire community was greatly shocked this afternoon when it was announced that Rev. E. E. Steele, pastor of the Presbyterian Church here, had died at 2:35 p. m. today as the result of taking some poisonous drug.

Mr. Steele had been sick for several days, but no one thought of his taking his own life. He is said to have preached an unusually strong sermon last Sunday week.

Mr. Steele came here from Spencer a year or two ago to assume the pastorate of the Lumberton church. He was for a number of years chaplain in the United States Navy. Mr. Steele is survived by his widow, four daughters and one son.

Overman a Small Caliber Politician.

Lincoln Times.]

Senator Overman had himself interviewed at Salisbury one day last week in reference to the amount of money the Democratic Congress appropriated during the year. Senator Overman says if the pension bill, the rivers and harbor bill, and the post-office bill are not counted the present Congress spent \$37,000,000 less than last Congress. But he did not tell the whole truth, that counting these bills he admitted the present Congress instead of decreasing expenditures for general expenses, actually increased it \$9,000,000.

It is strange that Mr. Overman in telling of these expenditures should leave off the above item in order to show a "saving." Of course, he could have made the "saving" still larger by excepting a few more of the larger appropriations.

That interview was given out for no other purpose than to deceive the people, and it brands Overman as a small caliber politician.

General News.

Senator Jonathan Bourne, of Oregon, has announced that he will support Col. Roosevelt for the presidency.

Near Brooksville, Fla., Sunday afternoon, a band of armed negroes rescued eleven negro prisoners from officers by firing on them. The prisoners had been arrested for gambling at a turpentine camp.

Senator Bourne, chairman of the Senate Committee on Postoffices, is giving general distribution to copies of the new parcel post law, besides literature on foreign parcel post laws and the rates under them.

All the candidates for the Democratic nomination for President before the recent Baltimore convention have been appointed the advisory committee of the Democratic National Committee with William J. Bryan as chairman.

Some Democrats in South Carolina are raising a fund to conduct an investigation of alleged election frauds in the recent primary where Colo. Blease was renominated for Governor. Only a small sum has been raised at this writing.

Thirty girls were forced to leap out of second story windows of a dyeing and cleaning establishment in Chicago to escape death Wednesday when an explosion caused by benzine vapor wrecked the building. The foreman of the establishment was crushed to death and many of the girls were hurt.

At Newark, N. J., Sunday afternoon, Eddie Hasha, of Waco, Texas, holder of several world's records for motorcycle racing, plunged over the rail of the course at the new Newark motordome into a crowd, causing the death of six persons, including himself, while six were critically injured and thirteen badly injured.

Gordon White, father of Nita White, the girl who was raped at Bluefield, W. Va., Thursday and for which Hobert Johnson, a negro, was lynched at Princeton, W. Va., was arrested Saturday, charged with murder. He is alleged to have fired the first shot at Johnson, who is now believed to have been innocent. Other arrests will follow, it is said.

Reports that Greece, Bulgaria and Serbia are planning a combined attack on Turkey were seriously accepted at Constantinople Saturday. A member of the cabinet said unofficially that the government would not be sorry to fight as things could not be much worse in Turkey than they were and a successful war would clear the atmosphere.

It is announced from Washington that the new battleship Pennsylvania, the only one authorized by Congress at the last session, will be fully as large as the great battleship which the British government has just ordered, according to plans to the naval general board. Its displacement will exceed 30,000 tons which is about equal to the addition of a good-sized cruiser's displacement to the biggest ship the United States now has afloat.

J. P. Goodwin, county supervisor of Greenville County, S. C., died this week as a result of the recent campaign. While campaigning for reelection Goodwin at one appointment, was howled down by the opposition, who refused to hear him. As a result of the excitement he was stricken with apoplexy. The fact that he was defeated at the election further tended to depress him and death followed.—Statesville Landmark.

Big Crop Cotton, But Money Less.

(New Orleans Dispatch, 5th.)

The cotton crop of the South for the year ending August 31, 1912, according to statistics compiled by H. G. Hester, secretary of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, exceeded that of the previous year by 4,018,331 bales, yet its money value was \$107,074,225 less. This was due as much to the low grade of the crop as to the decrease in the price resulting from over-production. It was the lowest in grade of any crop for the past ten years. Mr. Hester says that an acreage in cotton larger than ever before combined with favorable conditions resulted in a crop larger by 2,300,000 bales than ever before recorded. A further important factor he says, which contributed towards the success of the monster crop, was that the boll weevil was greatly reduced in numbers over its entire range, and says that notwithstanding the enormous quantity produced every little cotton remained in the Cotton Belt at the close of the season and of that more than one-half was held in stock by Northern mills. He approximates the amount of old cotton left over at 516,000 bales.

Colonel Hester states that during the past year there was the heaviest consumption of American cotton on record, exceeding the previous maximum of 1908-1909 by 1,358,000 bales.

The tobacco report for the month of August has been issued by the Department of Agriculture and more than nine million pounds of first hand sales are recorded.

STRAUS FOR GOVERNOR

Unanimous Choice of New York Progressives to Head Ticket

Followers of Colonel Roosevelt Hold an Enthusiastic Convention in the Empire State—Straus Was Member of Roosevelt Cabinet—Is Praised by Wilson.

Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 6.—Oscar S. Straus, former Secretary of Commerce and Labor in the cabinet of President Roosevelt, was unanimously acclaimed the nominee for Governor of the Progressive party by a stampeded convention this afternoon.

Mr. Straus' nomination came about under circumstances that were not only unexpected but dramatic. The former cabinet member, acting as the convention's permanent chairman, was about to entertain a motion from Former Lieutenant-Governor Timothy L. Woodruff to expedite the roll call on the names of State Chairman William H. Hotchkiss and Comptroller William A. Pendergrast, of New York County, leaped to his chair and demanded to be heard.

"It's 'Suspender Jack' McGee," cried a voice from the gallery. Chairman Straus looked puzzled. McGee, who got his name in the Indian country by riding a broncho into camp with suspenders as reins, moved resolutely toward the platform.

Chairman Straus looked with surprise on the man who with a flaming bandana swathed around his neck and his coat blazing with badges, tossed his rough-rider hat on the floor and demanded the right to make a nomination.

Delegates and spectators hooted and jeered as he began to speak.

But "Suspender Jack" only waved his arm in defiance of the jeers. He paused a moment and then cried:

"I nominate the illustrious and honorable Oscar S. Straus." The delegates seemed stunned, then a few of them cheered. Mr. Straus gave an amused laugh at "Suspender Jack," bowing before him. McGee kept on with his speech and the first few faint cheers from the half a dozen or more delegates gradually grew into a pandemonium that swept the convention hall from end to end. Standards were wrenched from their supports and delegates, yelling and cheering for Chairman Straus, paraded the aisles, turning the convention into a bedlam.

Chairman Straus at first shook his head deprecatingly at the growing ovation. He turned to friends and remarked: "This must not be, I cannot accept." Chairman Hotchkiss left his seat and urged Straus to accept.

Scores of delegates pressed toward the platform to urge Mr. Straus to make the decision. Then Mr. Hotchkiss burst from the group that surrounded Mr. Straus and held up before the crush of excited delegates a sheet of yellow paper on which was written:

He Accepts.

"He accepts." Quickly the word was passed back through the hall and another demonstration followed. All other nominations were withdrawn. Then came a flood of speeches seconding the nomination of the former Minister of Turkey.

"Suspender Jack" McGee was not lost sight of. Delegates pressed about him and proclaimed him the "man of the hour." Later the convention passed a vote of thanks to Delegate McGee of the Fifteenth Assembly District for nominating Mr. Straus.

When the convention had recovered and when Mr. Straus had been chosen unanimously, he was called on for a speech and tendered an ovation as he formally accepted the nomination.

At tonight's session the convention quieted down and the other candidates were nominated by a rising vote.

WILSON PRAISES STRAUS.

Says Nomination of the Progressives is an Admirable One and Will Put Democrats on Their Mettle.

Sea Girt, N. J., Sept. 7.—Strong praise for the nomination of Oscar S. Straus as the Progressive party's gubernatorial candidate in New York came from both Governor Woodrow Wilson and Vice-Chairman Wm. G. McAdoo, of the Democratic National Committee, who were in conference here tonight. "The nomination is an admirable one and will put us on our mettle," the Governor had remarked earlier in the day.

Mr. McAdoo said tonight. "I have known Mr. Straus for a great many years and have the greatest admiration for him personally as well as for his ability. The nomination is both strong and admirable."

The Governor has repeatedly refrained from discussing the Democratic gubernatorial situation in New York State and would not alter his course today. It is known, however, that he is looking forward with keen interest to the outcome of the State Convention at Syracuse on October 1. Not one definite word has escaped him as to his attitude, but some of his intimate advisers are known to hold the belief that his friends in New York would resist any attempt on the part of the Tammany organization or any other to dictate the gubernatorial nomination.

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