



FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR.

CHARLOTTE, N. C. THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 29, 1909.

FIVE CENTS A COPY.

## 100,000 WILL BE HERE 20TH

Much Interest in Washington in the Big Celebration in Charlotte.

NAMES AND STATES OF OFFICERS TO BE HERE SECURED BY RED BUCK

President Taft Has Been Studying Up on the Event and Has Had Ample Matter on the Subject—Congressmen Webb and Morehead Are Coming—Senator Overman Doing Much to Help Local Committee—List of Officers of the Battalion of Infantry and Troop of Cavalry.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—Great preparation is being made here for the Mecklenburg Twentieth of May celebration. President and Mrs. Taft are busy getting ready their best bibs and tuckers for the occasion. Early in the month the President expressed a desire to have more information about the famous North Carolina historical day, and before the sun went down the proof of the Charlotte event was on his private desk, where he could read at his leisure. A few days later more matter arrived. Senator Overman made Mr. Taft a present of a book written on the Mecklenburg Declaration by Dr. Geo. W. Graham of Charlotte. I caused to be delivered to the chief of the White House a copy of a paper by Sallier Heriot Clarkson, of the Mecklenburg district. It might be of interest to Colonel Hemphill, and his friend, Sallie, of Charleston, to know that Mr. Clarkson is a descendant of the Marions of South Carolina, and that he is a great believer in the Twentieth of May event.

On leaving here, the 19th, the Tafts will go to Petersburg, Va., where the President will take part in the unveiling of a monument, and from there to Charlotte.

Representative Webb will be among those who go to the State for the occasion, and Representative John M. Morehead may be there. Senator Cummins of Iowa, who is of the blood of the Flenickens, of Mecklenburg, has expressed a desire to go. Many others may go if their services are not demanded here.

Recently I asked Senator Overman to secure for The Chronicle a list of the officers that have charge of the troops which will be in Charlotte, and in reply to a letter to the War Department he received the following:

"In reply to your letter to the Chief of Staff of the 23d instant, requesting the names and addresses, and States from which appointed, of all commissioned officers of the army who will participate in the celebration at Charlotte, N. C., on the 20th of May, I have the honor to state that the list of officers desired, furnished by telegraph this date from headquarters, Department of the Gulf, showing their addresses, and the States from which appointed, is as follows:

- Officers of Battalion, Seventeenth Infantry.
- Major Frank B. McCoy, appointed from Georgia.
- Captain Lucius L. Durfee, appointed from Ohio.
- Captain Adolphe H. Huguet, appointed from Louisiana.
- Captain Charles L. McKain, appointed from the army, born in Pennsylvania.
- First Lieutenant Henry M. Bankhead, appointed from Alabama.
- First Lieutenant Charles H. Danforth, appointed from Maryland.
- First Lieutenant Roy W. Ashbrook, appointed from the army, born in Ohio.
- First Lieutenant Louis Solielac, appointed from New York.
- First Lieutenant William E. Holliday, appointed from the army, born in Missouri.
- Second Lieutenant Frederick J. Ostermann, appointed from the army, born in Ohio.
- Second Lieutenant John H. Hester, appointed from Georgia.
- Second Lieutenant Edmund R. Andrews, appointed from the army, born in California.
- Second Lieutenant Allen M. Burdett, appointed from Georgia.
- Officers of Troop E, Eleventh Cavalry.
- Address, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.
- First Lieutenant Edmond A. Tompkins, appointed from South Carolina.
- Second Lieutenant Emmet R. Harris, appointed from the army, born in Virginia.
- First Lieutenant Louis Solielac has been ordered transferred from the Seventeenth to the Twelfth Infantry.

(Signed) F. C. AINSWORTH, Adjutant General.

Senator Overman is doing everything within his power to help the local committee in carrying out its elaborate programme. His efforts at this end of the line have borne fruit. Representative Page, who returned here from the State last week, said that everybody in his district was talking about going to Charlotte for the big day. He expects to be present and answer to the roll call of outsiders.

If the reports that come this way are to be relied upon close to 100,000 visitors will flock to the Queen City to hear and see Mr. Taft and help the native celebrate. There is a rumor to the effect that even the brilliant editor of The News and Courier, of Charleston, will be at the uncer-

## BIG GRANITE CONCERN

Salisbury Companies Merged Into \$1,250,000 Concern.

2,000 MEN WILL BE EMPLOYED IN QUARRIES

The W. A. Esson Company an Amalgamation of the Balfour Pink Granite Company, Rowan Granite Company and American Stone Company—Will Have Many Branch Offices and Compete for Foreign Trade—Lutheran Synod Meets at Faith—Other Salisbury Notes. Special to The Chronicle.

SALISBURY, April 29.—An amalgamation of the Balfour Pink Granite Company, the Rowan Granite Company and the American Stone Company, three of the biggest granite companies in the South, was effected this week when A. H. Price Esq., an attorney of this city, applied to the State of North Carolina for a charter for a new concern to be known as the W. A. Esson Granite Company. The paid-in capital of the new company is \$1,250,000 and more than 2,000 workmen will be employed in developing the quarries three miles south of Salisbury. The main offices will be in this city, while branch offices will be established in New York, Philadelphia, Toronto and many other important cities.

More than 500 men are now in the employ of the three companies which have operated under separate charters and which have been doing a mammoth business in the granite line. It is stated that the concern will compete for foreign trade. Mr. W. A. Esson, a native of Scotland, who has been in this city for the past two years, is the prime mover in the organization of the big granite concern. He is an expert in his line.

With more than 60 ministers and lay delegates in attendance the 106th annual session of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church convened yesterday at Faith, Rowan county. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. V. Y. Boozer, of Cabarrus county, who is president of the Synod. The Synod will remain in session two days.

Elaborate preparations have been made for the unveiling on May 10 of a handsome monument in honor of Rowan's Confederate soldiers in this city. Among the distinguished visitors will be Mrs. Stonewall Jackson, of Charlotte, and Gen. Robert F. Hoke, of Raleigh. The principal speaker of the occasion will be Gen. Bennett H. Young, of Louisville, Ky. Jos. A. Linn, for 10 years foreman of the freight repairs department of the Southern Railway shops at Spencer, has resigned to accept a similar position with the El Paso & South Western Railway, at Douglas, Ariz. He will leave for that place in a few days. He was, with the exception of W. H. Burton, foreman of the paint department, the oldest member of the "cabinet" at Spencer. His successor has not yet been named by the Southern officials.

## MR. TAFT TO WITNESS THE YACHT RACES.

Eastern Yacht Club Makes Announcement of International Races in September.

BOSTON, April 29.—The Eastern Yacht Club announced to-day the assurance that President Taft would witness from the deck of the Mayflower the international Sonder class yacht races off Marblehead the first week in September, and that he consented that the grand prize be known as the President Taft cup.

## A \$29,000 DEAL.

Retail Store Occupied by C. H. Robinson & Co. Purchased by Mr. C. W. Tillett.

Mr. C. W. Tillett purchased yesterday from Mr. E. B. Gresham the retail store, at No. 12 North Tryon street occupied by C. H. Robinson & Co., for \$29,000. The property fronts 24 feet on Tryon street and has an extension of 140 feet. It will be recalled that Mr. Gresham purchased property only a short time ago for \$25,000. The deal was made through Mr. A. G. Craig for the Charlotte Trust and Realty Company.

## Bank Statement Called For.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—The Comptroller of the Currency to-day called for a statement of the national banks at the close of business, April 28.



## BILLINGS FALLS DOWN

Supreme Court Decision in Libel Suit Favors The Observer.

SUIT OF PREACHER MAY BE TRIED AGAIN

Status of Case of Rev. C. N. Billings Versus The Observer Company—Washington Whitaker, Alleged Assailant of Mrs. W. R. Collins, Proves an Alibi—The Raleigh Republican Waxeth Hotter and Hotter—Jumps All Over Prohibitionists—A Battledle Poom.

CHRONICLE BUREAU, RALEIGH, April 29. In a list of ten appeals disposed of with opinions and otherwise by the Supreme Court is ruling vs. Charlotte Observer Publishing Company, from Rockingham, in which the appeal by the plaintiff is dismissed. This is the case in which Rev. C. N. Billings sued for damages because of a news article printed in The Observer involving charges against the character of Billings through compromising relations he was alleged to have had with a negro servant, conduct at Blackville, S. C., and Waynesville, being specified. At the trial last June the jury found that the charges as to Blackville were true as published, but that the Waynesville charges were not true, the jury fixing a damage verdict of \$5,000 against The Observer. Judge Ward ruled that the damages allowed were excessive and ordered a new trial on that score. At the same time counsel for the plaintiff moved to set aside the finding against the plaintiff as to the Blackville charges being true. This was overruled and the plaintiff appealed. It was this appeal that is now dismissed, Justice Hoke writing the opinion, the ground for dismissal being that the appeal was premature. Under this ruling The Observer Company will come in for the new trial on the question of damages as to the publication of the Waynesville feature of the charges against Billings.

The preliminary hearing of Washington Whitaker, the negro charged with entering the home of W. R. Collins in West Raleigh and shooting Mrs. Collins as she ran from him with her little baby in her arms, is in progress before Justice Upchurch. Mrs. Collins testified that the prisoner was the negro, she having seen him distinctly. On the other hand, there were witnesses who testified that Whitaker was with the Marr Carnival, being a musician in the band, until 8 o'clock on the night in question and came down town with a party until past 9 o'clock while the West Raleigh burglary was between 8 and 9 o'clock. Indications are that the negro will be more conclusive than the identification by Mrs. Collins. The Carnival Company now at Tarboro, is standing by the negro who is to rejoin the company in the event he is released.

The Raleigh Republican, the afternoon campaign paper being gotten out under the auspices of the Raleigh Young Men's Republican Club is waxing hotter and hotter from day to day. Besides jumping on the Democratic administration and reform candidates now standing for election it is taking a whack now and again at prohibition in Raleigh. For instance it asks: "Does prohibition prohibit in Raleigh? No, it is a delusion and a snare; a fake and a farce. The rich men and politicians order whiskey by the barrel while the poor have to patronize blind tigers." Another paragraph declares that there are plenty of blind

## CHICAGO HAS \$1,000,000 FIRE

One Man Killed and Many Injured in Blaze Which Destroyed Grain Elevator of Illinois Central Railway—Three Missing Firemen Believed to Be Dead.

CHICAGO, April 29.—One man was killed, three are missing and a score were injured, and property worth \$1,000,000 was destroyed by fire early to-day in a grain elevator of the Illinois Central Railroad.

The dead man is a fireman, who was killed by falling walls. It is thought that three missing firemen were burned by the ruins. The building was filled with wheat, corn and rye. The fire was caused by a stroke of lightning.

## TROOPS TO GO BY AUTOMOBILE

An Interesting Experiment to Be Tried in New York.

NEW YORK, April 29.—The quick transportation of troops by automobiles will be one of the novel features of the second annual automobile carnival beginning to-day. It will be the first time that anything of the kind has been attempted in this country, although several interesting forced marches have been made abroad. The Ninth Regiment has accepted the invitation of the carnival committee to go to Mamaroneck and back to-day for luncheon. In its return to New York the regiment will be reviewed in Washington Square.

This trip, it is considered, will have a practical value in demonstrating the difficulties and advantages of moving troops in this manner, and, besides giving the men a good drill, should indicate the length of time which would be required to mobilize a given number of men and take them to a certain place, in case of a strike or other emergency.

## \$40,000 SUBSCRIBED FOR JEFFRIES-JOHNSON BATTLE.

GOLDFIELD, NEVADA, April 29.—A committee of business men last night called for subscriptions to a purse for the Jeffries-Johnson battle here during the mining congress next September and announced to-day that \$40,000 was subscribed in 12 hours. The town expects to offer a purse of \$50,000.

tigers in Raleigh while the city and county schools are being robbed of taxes and the children compelled to suffer in ignorance and idleness, because the property owners are being taxed to death.

There was received to-day in the office of the Adjutant General of the North Carolina National Guard an original manuscript poem that was picked up on the battlefield of Gravelly Run, on the Boydton Plank Road, Virginia, in March, 1865, by George W. Lenoir, Company K 113 Pennsylvania Infantry and has been kept by him all these years. He writes the Adjutant General that he has just found it among some old papers and it occurs to him that the author or some of his people might be glad to get possession of it. The poem has eight stanzas, is to "My Loving Brother," and written by William Teague of the Forty-ninth North Carolina Infantry. A note on the margin of the manuscript sets out that the lines were written shortly after the death of the author's brother, Wm Isaac Teague, in the Confederate hospital at Petersburg, in 1862. Adjutant General Armfield will undertake to locate the author, or, if he is dead, his people, and deliver the manuscript in accordance with the wishes of the Pennsylvania veterans.

## LUTHERANS IN SESSION

106th Annual Meeting of North Carolina Synod On at Faith.

OLD OFFICERS ARE ALL RE-ELECTED

Large Attendance at the Opening Meeting—Rev. A. A. McCullough Conducts Opening Devotional Exercises—Reports of Officers Received—Rev. Dr. R. C. Holland Conducts Installation Services. Special to The Chronicle.

SALISBURY, April 29.—The annual meeting of the North Carolina Lutheran Synod, which convened this morning in the Lutheran church at Faith, five miles from here, is largely attended both by ministers and laymen. This is the 106th annual meeting of the body and it is said by those familiar with the records of past meetings that the attendance to-day is one of the largest for the first day in the history of the Synod.

Rev. H. A. McCullough, of Albemarle, secretary of Synod, conducted the opening devotional service, after which Rev. V. Y. Boozer, president of Synod, preached.

Recess was taken at 12:30 and the ladies of the church served an excellent dinner on the grounds of the church.

The first business of the afternoon was the formal convening of Synod, after which the president read his annual report. This was followed by the reports of the executive committee, the treasurer and the secretary.

The officers of last year were re-elected for another year and were duly installed. Rev. Dr. R. C. Holland, of Charlotte, conducting the installation service. The officers are the following named: President, Rev. V. Y. Boozer, of Concord; vice president, Rev. J. E. Sheenk, of Concord; secretary, Rev. H. A. McCullough, of Albemarle; treasurer, Mr. J. D. Hellig, of Albemarle.

One of the most important acts of Synod to-day was the election of a motion picture by which the presentation of the credentials of the lay delegates at the session of Synod will entitle them to the privilege of enrollment, even if they are not present.

The Lutheran church is growing in North Carolina, and church buildings are soon to be erected at Mooreville, Greensboro and Kannapolis. Daily business sessions of Synod will be held until Saturday, with preaching services every night. The sermon of to-night will be preached by Rev. R. L. Patterson, pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran church, Charlotte. The community at Faith is extending cordial hospitality to the visiting ministers and laymen.

## MRS. J. LEE SLOAN DEAD.

Prominent Lady of Davidson Passes Away at Presbyterian Hospital.

Mrs. J. Lee Sloan, who was critically ill at Presbyterian Hospital for one week, died this morning at 3 o'clock. Mrs. Sloan underwent an operation last Wednesday. She was very weak at the time and never rallied. She had been in ill health for some time and came to the hospital three weeks ago for treatment. Mrs. Sloan is survived by her husband, two daughters, three brothers, and one sister. Her husband and daughters were with her at her death. Mrs. Sloan's mother is Mrs. Banks Withers, of Davidson. Her daughters are Miss Louise Sloan, a student at Peace Institute, Raleigh, and Mrs. G. H. Currie, of Clarkton. Her brothers are Messrs. Rutledge Withers, of Davidson, Prof. Alphonso Withers, of the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh, and Dr. Banks Withers, of Enochsville, Rowan county. Her sister is Mrs. Goode Cheatham, of Henderson.

Mrs. Sloan was Miss Ida Withers and was married to Mr. Sloan in 1885. The remains were carried to Davidson on the early train this morning. The funeral services will be held there tomorrow afternoon.

## MURDER OF CHRISTIANS UNABATED

Fire and Sword Sweep Over Asia Minor—Village of Bakjek is Completely Destroyed—Murders in Adana District Alone Reach 35,000—Starvation and Sickness Set in.

MERSINA, April 29.—The Christian village of Bakjek has been completely destroyed by Mohammedan mobs. The inhabitants were nearly all Armenians. It is believed that only those who fled early in the fight escaped. The torch was applied to the town and scarcely a house remains. Reports from Hadjin say the situation is desperate and no relief is in sight. Murders throughout the Adana province alone are estimated at 35,000. Local troops sympathize with the Moslems and the slaughter may continue until the invading army comes from European Turkey.

ANTIOCH, April 29.—Massacres are still sweeping north and east. The authorities are charged with assisting the Mohammedans. Multitudes of widows and orphans are swarming into the Christian missions at Aleppo for shelter, many horribly wounded and mistreated. Starvation and sickness have set in and conditions are most pitiable. Hardly a Christian family escaped without the loss of one or more members.

## NEW SULTAN FIRES A FEW THOUSAND

Will Reorganize Turkish Court After European Model—Institutes Government Economies—May Court Martial Abdul Hamid.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 29.—The first real evidence of reform in Turkey came to-day with the announcement that the new Sultan intends to reorganize the Turkish court. It will be remodeled on the western European style, to be economical and without the extravagant luxury which has heretofore marked the Oriental government. Several thousand persons from the court and various departments were summarily dismissed to-day. The saving to the government by this action will reach millions of dollars a year. When the news was made public it was universally approved. It is reported to-day that the young Turks intend to eventually court martial Abdul Hamid. It is believed, however, that the threat is for the purpose of making him disgorge a few millions of his private fortune which is secreted here and in European countries. It is believed if he surrenders the larger portion his safety will be assured.

## MISS WATKINS CHAPERONE.

An Interesting Trip Abroad is Being Planned for This Summer.

An interesting trip abroad is being planned in which several Charlotte people are contemplating joining. This tour is conducted by the Eager Tours, of Baltimore. The trip will be chaperoned by Miss Mildred Watkins, of the faculty of the Presbyterian College. The itinerary includes visits to Gibraltar, Naples, Pompei, Sorrento, Capri, Rome, Florence, Venice, Milan, Lake Maggiore, Stresa, Martigny, Teta Noire Pass, Champanix, Geneva, Montreux, Chillon, Interlaken, Murren, Lake Brienz, Brunig Pass, Lucerne, Heidelberg, Bingen, The Rhine, Cologne, Paris, Versailles, Brussels, Amsterdam, London, Windsor, Oxford, Stratford and Dover.

The party will sail from New York on June 5, via the North German Lloyd steamer, Princess Irene, landing in Gibraltar on June 14, returning leave Dover on the Red Star Line steamer, Vaderland, August 7, arriving in New York August 15. The trip is arranged to suit those wishing to go abroad during the summer vacation.

## Davie and Yadin Farmers Come May 15.

The Lexington Dispatch of this week announces that the special train of Davie and Yadkin county farmers will not come to Charlotte before May 15. As on a previous occasion Editor Varner is conducting a contest by which he will bring to Mecklenburg many of the leading farmers of these two counties. The object of the trip is to study good roads and improved farming methods in which this county excels.

## Speakers at Founders' Day Celebration of Pittsburg Institute.

PITTSBURG, April 29.—At the Founders' Day celebration of the Carnegie Institute, to be held here to-night, Alfred East, president of the Royal Society of British Artists, in London, will be the principal speaker. Mr. East is a landscape painter and a member of the Royal Academy and was elected by the English artists to represent them on the jury at the international exhibition of fine arts that is being held here.

## Storm Scared Him to Death.

DOUGLAS, KAN., April 29.—A tornado swept Butler county to-day, demolishing many farmhouses. Ten residences in the southwestern part of Douglas were blown down and five persons are reported seriously injured. Louis Ayers, aged 70, died of heart failure from alarm.

## Balloon Trip a Success.

NORTH ADAMS, MASS., April 29.—The moonlight balloon trip of A. Holland Forbes and Clifford Harmon was a success. They started at 2:35 this morning and landed at Waterbury, Conn., and during the flight attained an altitude of 4,000 feet.

## ANNUAL MEETING BOARD MANAGERS

Of Thompson Orphanage Held Here Yesterday—Reports Show that the Institution is in Excellent Condition—Ladies Offer to Aid in Erecting New Buildings.

The annual meeting of the Thompson Orphanage board of managers was held in the city yesterday, there being present the Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Cheshire, who is president of the board, Rev. A. D. R. Meares, of Baltimore, Rev. E. A. Osborne, this city, Maj. A. J. Smith, of Ansonville and Mr. J. G. Shannonhouse, the treasurer of the board.

The report of the superintendent, Rev. W. J. Smith, showed that the present time the orphanage is caring for 60 children, and there is a balance of over \$1,336 on hand in the treasury. The trustees of the endowment fund, Mr. J. G. Shannonhouse also presented a report in which was shown that the endowment now amounts to over \$11,318.

At the close of the business session services were held at which eleven of the children were confirmed. There was a well-timed address on the meaning of confirmation in the church delivered by Rev. Mr. Meares. The election of the officers resulted in the re-election of Rev. W. J. Smith as superintendent, Mr. J. G. Shannonhouse as secretary of the board and treasurer of the endowment fund and after a vote of thanks to Dr. Myers Hunter, he was re-elected physician to the institution.

An interesting feature of this meeting was the appearance of a committee of ladies representing the Federation of Guilds, calling upon the meeting to grant them permission to proceed with the work of collecting funds to be used for the erection of new buildings. This committee was composed of Mrs. Vinton Liddell, Miss Emma Hall and Mrs. R. E. Little. A committee from the board consisting of Rev. Mr. Osborne, Mr. Shannonhouse and Mr. Smith, were appointed to co-operate with the ladies in their good work, and thanks were likewise extended to the ladies for the interest they are displaying in the important work of securing new buildings.

## MUST BUILD FREIGHT DEPOT AT MORGANTON.

Corporation Commission Issues Order to Southern Railway. CHRONICLE BUREAU, RALEIGH, April 29.

The Corporation Commission orders the Southern Railway to erect a more adequate freight depot at Morganton, with a location more accessible. It must be on the north side of the tracks so that drays will not have to cross the freight yards in driving to and from town. The order is in compliance with the demands of the Morganton Merchants' Association. The Southern resisted on the grounds that business conditions are such just now as to preclude the possibility of expending revenues on such improvements.