

TORREON'S SUBURBS ARE ATTACKED

ARTILLERY POURS TERRIFYING FIRE INTO THEM.

Villa Rides Up and Down in Frenzied Excitement Encouraging His Troops.—He Expects to Capture the two Suburban Points by Tonight.—Reported that Rebels Have Captured the Towns of Haragosa and Matamoros.

Lerdo, Durango, Mexico, March 23.—Simultaneous attacks by General Villa's constitutionalists is in progress on Lerdo and Gomez Palaco, two strongly fortified suburbs of Torreon. Upon their fate hangs that of Torreon. The Lerdo attack was made early today. Several batteries of artillery poured their terrifying fire into the town. Villa was in frenzied excitement during the attack, riding about and encouraging his troops. He several times stopped and instructed them in private in the use of the rifle. The rebels attacked Gomez Palaco with a number of about four thousand. Villa expects to capture the two suburbs of Torreon by tonight. Advances from other field commanders indicate uniform success. General Bonavides reported that the rebels have occupied the towns of Haragosa and Matamoros.

MR. POE GETS LETTER FROM PRESIDENT WILSON

Approves Movement for Legalized Primary in the State—100 Democrats Have Signed Call.

Raleigh, N. C., March 23.—Clarence Poe, of the committee calling progressive Democratic convention, this morning received from President Wilson a letter approving the movement for a legalized primary in North Carolina, and expressing amazement that such a progressive commonwealth had not already taken this step in bringing the government nearer to the people. About one hundred Democrats from all parts of the State, have signed the call for a convention, the date of which is not yet set. No Congressmen, Senators or elective State officials were asked to sign.

Bishop Kilgo to Be in Salisbury.

Salisbury Post.
Bishop J. C. Kilgo, one of the most prominent men in Southern Methodism, is coming to Salisbury for two days next week. He will be accompanied by several members of the Western North Carolina Conference, including Rev. Frank Siler, the conference missionary secretary; Rev. Plato Durham, presiding elder of the Charlotte district; Rev. T. F. Marr, of Charlotte; probably Rev. E. K. McHenry and others.
Bishop Kilgo is now conducting a revival meeting in Charlotte and has decided to conduct a six-day evangelistic campaign at its close. He and his party of co-workers will go to Greensboro for Wednesday and Thursday, Salisbury for Friday and Saturday and probably Statesville for Sunday and Monday.

Trial of Opium Smuggling Case.

San Francisco, Cal., March 23.—Eighteen customs officers and others, whose arrest on charges of conspiracy in opium smuggling created a big sensation last August were arraigned for trial today before Judge Dooling in the United States District Court. The arrest of the eighteen men was brought about through the efforts of special officers of the Treasury Department. United States Attorney John W. Preston, who is conducting the prosecution, will endeavor to prove that the defendants were members of a gigantic smuggling ring that has defrauded the government out of hundreds of thousands of dollars during the past few years.

Death of Mrs. W. J. Brafford.

Mrs. W. J. Brafford died Friday night at the home of her son, Mr. Will Brafford, in No. 2 township, near Pitts school house. Mrs. Brafford was the widow of the late W. J. Brafford and lived for a number of years at Brafford's mill. She was about 70 years of age and is survived by several children. The funeral was held Saturday morning and the interment was made at Cold Water cemetery.

A message from Mr. A. R. Howard states that the condition of his brother, Dr. Pat Howard, who is seriously ill with pneumonia in New York, is very much improved. Dr. Howard is an interne in Bellevue Hospital.

THE DEBATE HERE.

Concord Loses to Statesville But Won in Salisbury.

The most interesting event in the school year is the annual debate. Friday night an enthusiastic audience assembled in Central auditorium to hear a discussion of the question: "Resolved that the Constitution of North Carolina should be amended as to allow the Initiative and Referendum in State-wide Legislation."

Mr. F. L. Blythe, principal of Concord High School, in a few well chosen remarks explained the origin and purpose of the North Carolina Debaters' Union. This was organized last year by the Phi and Di Societies of the University of North Carolina.

At the same hour the students of one hundred and fifty high schools of North Carolina were debating the same question.

Concord had the affirmative and was represented by Miss Lillian Estelle Holt and Mr. Buford Blackwelder, while Statesville had the negative and was represented by Miss Margaret Louise Kirk and Mr. Henry Cowles Bristol.

All the speeches showed deep thought, much research and a wonderful amount of careful preparation. The delivery was almost faultless and would have done credit to students of maturer years and much wider experience. Certainly each school has cause to be proud of the showing made.

Not until the votes were counted could the result be known. The result was 3 to 2 in favor of Statesville. Judges: Dr. J. M. Grief, Prof. W. G. Caswell, Mr. J. F. Goodman and Mr. G. Ed Kestler.

A most enjoyable part of the programme was the music. This was furnished by Miss Atkins, Misses Janie and Nannie Lee Patterson, and Messrs. Brower and Patterson.

After the decision of the judges was announced the high school students made a bee-line for the long distance office to await the news from Salisbury, where Lena Hall Fisher and Walter Eugene Furr represented the negative for Concord. It soon came unanimous in favor of Concord. The Statesville team heard that their home team had won in Statesville, and they will go to Chapel Hill.

Saturday the happy Statesville team left for home on 36. We will be glad to have them back again.

Many of the high school boys and girls met their victorious team who came in on 37 from Salisbury.

SPRING TEMPERATURES PROMISED THIS WEEK.

Frosts First Part of the Week, However, in the East, Gulf and South Atlantic States.

Washington, March 22.—A gradual return this week to normal spring temperatures, with generally fair skies was predicted by the weather bureau tonight for all parts of the country east of the Rocky mountains. "There will be frosts the first part of the week, however," said the bulletin, "in the east gulf and South Atlantic States, except southern Florida."

"There is nothing to indicate marked storm activity over the country. A disturbance of moderate intensity will appear in the northwest Wednesday or Thursday, cross the middle west about Friday and the eastern States near the end of the week. This disturbance will be attended by local areas of precipitation and be followed by a change to cooler weather in the northern States."

CITIZEN DROPS DEAD.

Real Estate Man Dies Suddenly While Making Social Call.

Salisbury, March 21.—Charles B. Jordan, a well known real estate dealer, for fifteen years resident of Salisbury, dropped dead while making a social call at the home of Mr. Joseph Carson here this afternoon. He had been on the streets as usual during the day and death came without warning. He was sixty-two years old, and was a native of Roanoke, Va., and is survived by a sister, Miss Emma Jordan, of Salisbury, and one brother, Dr. John Jordan, of Bennettsville, S. C. He was prominent in church work and universally liked.

Repeal of Tolls Bill Expected This Week.

Washington, March 23.—President Wilson characterized the Panama tolls repeal squabble as a fight within the Democratic party. He told callers that he expects the House to pass the repeal bill this week. He denied that he had demanded a rule limiting debate on the tolls question.

The condition of Mr. Cletus Bost, who underwent an operation at Dr. Long's sanatorium in Statesville last week, is reported as improving nicely.

NO CHANGE IN MEXICAN AFFAIRS

PRESIDENT MADE THIS PLAIN TO CALLERS TODAY.

The Conference at Vera Cruz Between Gov. Lind and Foreign Minister Rojas Productive of No Real Plan to Cause Hope of Any Change.—The Result of the Torreon Engagement May Have a Bearing on the Matter.—Fifteen Armed Mexicans Held Prisoners.

Washington, March 23.—The conference at Vera Cruz between Gov. Lind and Foreign Minister Rojas were productive of no real plan that would cause President Wilson to hope for any early change in Mexican affairs. The President made that plain to callers today. He indicated that the result of the Torreon engagement may have a bearing on this government's future action. If Villa wins it will indicate a general forward constitutionalist movement to Mexico City, which would mean that renewed precautions would have to be taken in safeguarding Americans and other foreigners in the fighting zone.

The President emphasized his confidence in Charge O'Shaughnessy and said if he should resign it would be solely on account of ill health.

Fifteen armed Mexicans attempting to enter the United States across the Rio Grande at Zapata, Texas, were held prisoners by the border patrol, according to a war department dispatch from General Bliss. The Mexicans claimed to be refugees to escape from the rebels.

Federals Kill 14 Men and Hang Nine From Tree Limbs.

Engle Pass, Texas, March 22.—Mexican Federal troops which several days ago evacuated Las Vacas, opposite Del Rio, Texas, returned today and reoccupied the village after exterminating the constitutionalist garrison of 14 men, and either killing or taking prisoners the half dozen civilians who moved into the town when the rebels took possession of it. The bodies of nine of the men killed were hanged from trees on the bank of the Rio Grande, in plain view of residents on the American side of the river.

Late today several hundred Constitutionalists were reported moving on Las Vacas and a battle is expected tomorrow. The strength of the Federal force now at Las Vacas is not known.

Three days ago the federals moved to Don Carlos, 25 miles inland, on approach of a body of rebels, which occupied Las Vacas and left only 14 men as a garrison.

Baptist Women's Missionary Union.

With reports showing the largest total of contributions in the history of the organization, the Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina, auxiliary to the Baptist State Convention, will hold its twenty-fourth annual session Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week with the First Baptist Church at Hendersonville.

The organization comprises 1,072 societies and the total amount contributed in the union's fiscal year ending February 28, was \$40,200. This amount is apportioned among the three causes—home, State and foreign missions.

1913 Cotton Crop Most Valuable Ever.

Washington, March 23.—The 1913 cotton crop was the most valuable ever grown and the second largest in point of quantity. Statistics announced by the census bureau today indicated it amounted to 7,383,557,500 pounds with a total value, including seed, unofficially estimated roundly at more than a billion dollars.

There was a total of 14,127,356 500 pound bales of line and 639,795 bales of Inters. North Carolina had 789,944 bales; Virginia, 23,409.

Famine in Japan.

In the grip of hunger and cold for North Japan winters are severe—the people round about Hirosaki, which lies in the northwestern portion of Nippon, are in extreme need. Letters from the native pastors in this and adjacent towns bring heartrending stories of destitution and despair. A much larger number of people are effected by this famine than by the recent eruption of Sakurajima.

Mrs. Hugh Propst returned from the Statesville Hospital, where she has been for treatment. Her condition is much improved.

THE CIVIC LEAGUE.

Public Meeting of Women of the Town to Be Called—Other Matters in Regard to the Work.

Mrs. J. F. Cannon, president of the Civic League, presided at a meeting in the library last Friday afternoon. The progress reported in raising the amount necessary to defray the expenses of Miss Van Buren, was satisfactory and there is reason to hope that it will be contributed without aid from the town council, which was liberally promised, if it should be needed—it is thought well to reserve their generosity for future needs, which will surely arise. The situation at present was thoroughly discussed. It was proposed that the office of treasurer be separate from that of secretary and on motion, Mrs. Kennett was chosen treasurer, and the secretary requested to inform her, and later reported that Mrs. Kennett accepted the appointment, which is most satisfactory. The subject of calling a public meeting of the women of the town was brought up by the president and a little discussion resulted in unanimous approval. The date for the meeting was fixed for Wednesday, 25th, at 4 o'clock p. m., in the auditorium of Central graded school building. Rev. Mr. MacLaughlin has kindly consented to address the meeting, explaining the object of this movement. It is earnestly urged upon every woman of Concord to be present at the meeting and show her interest in this most important work. Though started by club women, it was never intended or desired to limit to that circle, the high privilege of working for the improvements so plainly needed. The call was given first to the clubs because it was easier to reach them than the public generally. But now that a working organization has been effected it seems time for every woman interested in this good cause to bestir herself and show herself and "show her faith by her works." It is greatly to be desired that every seat may be filled on Wednesday afternoon.

CHAIRMAN PUB. COM.

SCHOOL BUILDING AND PROPERTY DAMAGED

Cold Water School House and Equipment Badly Damaged.—An Ostrageous Act.
One of the most despicable depredations ever committed in Cabarrus county took place Thursday night when a party or parties attempted to tear down Cold Water school house a short distance from town. The house was found yesterday morning to be all but wrecked. Doors were torn from the hinges, window lights were smashed, the stove was thrown into the yard and broken up and the building was otherwise damaged.

Owing to the damage to the building the school was not started yesterday morning. The house is being repaired and it is planned to resume school work Monday.

This is one of the most malicious and wanton infractions of law ever reported in this county. It evidences a spirit of anarchy and disrespect for law and public institutions that should not be tolerated. The duty of the authorities vested with the enforcement of the law is plain. The citizens of that community built Cold Water school. The people of North Carolina have ever said that the protection of school property and school funds was a sacred trust and when either is willfully destroyed there should be no stone unturned until those responsible for such an act are known and brought to the bar of justice to answer for such a deed.

ARE KILLING RABBITS TO SAVE CABBAGE CROP

Bunnies Are Shipped in Quantities to New Orleans and Disposed of in the Markets.

Newton, Miss., March 21.—Perhaps the largest bunch of rabbits ever collected at once in the state was brought here and sold to J. O. Walton & Co. and shipped to New Orleans. Altogether there were between 750 and 800 packed in ten barrels. One man out of 48 shots killed 30 rabbits, four quail and one snake.

After finding a market for the rabbits Mr. Walton advertised for 10,000 and, while not anticipating that many, was surprised at the number he did get.

One idea in having these rabbits killed was to save the cabbage crop from destruction, a very large cabbage acreage being planted this week in this vicinity. N. Doolittle, known as the "cabbage king," will have in about 100 acres, and several others 40 or 50 acres each.

Mr. B. L. Umberger is spending the day in Charlotte on business.

CATHOLICS THROWN INTO A PANIC

"NO POPE" WRITTEN ON HOME OF CHURCH LEADERS.

Shots Were Fired Into the Homes of Many Catholics at Londonderry.—The Wildest Excitement Prevailed in the House of Commons.—Chancellor of Exchequer Lloyd George Was Jeered.—Secretary of War Has Extended Conference With King George.

Londonderry, March 23.—Catholics at Londonderry were thrown into a panic of fear when the words "No Pope" were found written on a number of homes of church leaders. Shots were fired into the homes of many Catholics.

The wildest excitement prevailed about the House of Commons before the session at which Seely was scheduled as speaker regarding the Ulster situation.

Chancellor of Exchequer Lloyd George was jeered. Unionists sympathizers shouted "Limehouse" when he appeared. It was at Lime Stone that Lloyd George made the statement that the government would compromise with Ulster.

London, March 23.—In the midst of a special cabinet meeting regarding the Ulster situation, War Secretary Seely was suddenly called to Buckingham Palace. After an extended session with King George Seely returned to the cabinet meeting, which adjourned shortly. It is believed that Seely submitted to the cabinet the King's approval of Seely's statement to be made this afternoon.

N. S. FLAGMAN KILLED

C. G. Hutcherson Was Thrown From a Work Train Near Wadeville.

Mt. Gilead, March 21.—C. G. Hutcherson, a flagman on the Norfolk Southern, was thrown from a work train near Wadeville, this morning, and received injuries from which he died an hour later. He fell between the rails and was passed over by several cars. His body was fearfully mangled. He was brought to Mt. Gilead immediately, where medical aid was secured, but nothing could be done for him. His home was at Sandy Ridge, where the remains will probably be carried for interment.

W. J. Swink's Residence Burglarized.

China Grove Record.
Some slick thief entered the residence of W. J. Swink Tuesday night while all were asleep and carried off a number of articles. Wednesday morning when Mr. Swink's son, William, arose early he found the electric light in his room had been tampered with and would not light. He then found that 60 cents he had in his pants pockets was gone, which with the way things were scattered about made him believe some one had been in the room and Mr. Swink was notified. Mr. Swink did not realize the truth of the statement, but found that a small sum of money had been taken out of his pants, then it was discovered that some money, about \$15, that belonged to Mrs. Swink, was gone, and then Mr. Swink's new overcoat is missing. These losses and the scattered condition of things convinced Mr. Swink that his home had been visited during the night by a shrewd sneak thief. It is believed the party entered by a side window on the front porch, which was left partly open for ventilation, and the exit was through the back porch, fifteen cents, which had been dropped, was found there. Mr. Swink heard some noise during the night and looked about a little, but did not pass through where the thief was, so, as he believes, avoided being shot or having had a desperate battle with an unknown antagonist.

Wednesday morning 'phone messages were sent to Salisbury and Concord, notifying the officers, and offering a reward of \$50 for the apprehension of the guilty party, or parties.

Death of Mrs. Henry Litaker.

Mrs. Henry Litaker died of pneumonia last night at 11 o'clock at her home near Poplar Tent Church. She leaves her husband, four sons, four daughters, her mother, nine brothers, three sisters and many friends to mourn her death. She was about 42 years of age, and a good woman. The funeral service will be held tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock at Rocky Ridge Methodist Church, and will be conducted by her pastor, Rev. A. L. Coburn, assisted by Rev. W. T. Albright.

LAUNDRY CHANGES HANDS.

Company Headed By Messrs. R. E. Ridenhour and T. D. Mason Purchased Concord Laundry.

A deal has been consummated whereby the Cabarrus Laundry Company has purchased the Concord Laundry Company. A new company will be organized, it is understood, with T. D. Mason, president, and R. E. Ridenhour, secretary and treasurer, and take over the holdings of both companies.

The Concord Laundry Company was purchased several months ago by a stock company headed by Mr. H. M. Propst from Mr. R. E. Ridenhour. A few weeks later the Cabarrus Laundry Company was organized and made arrangements to begin business in Mr. Ridenhour's new building on W. Depot street, and it looked as if two laundries would be operated here. However, negotiations were opened a few days ago by the officers of the two companies which resulted in the sale today.

It is understood that the laundry will be moved into the Ridenhour building and that Mr. J. L. Cannon will be associated with Mr. Ridenhour in the management of the business.

11 INNING TIE GAME.

Collegiate Institute and Belmont Engage in Desperate Diamond Struggle.

The Collegiate Institute opened the baseball season Saturday afternoon with a game with Belmont at Belmont. The game was a thriller all the way the two teams fighting desperately from start to finish but neither was able to chalk up a score the outcome being a tie, 0 to 0. Graham's pitching for the Institute was superb. Eighteen fell as strikeout victims before his shoots and only two safe hits were garnered. The hitting of Cress and the catching of Cornelison were also features.

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| Institute | 0 | 6 | 1 |
| Belmont | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Batteries: Graham and Cornelison; Eichenloub and Bumgardner. | | | |

CIVIC LEAGUE TO MEET WEDNESDAY

All Members Requested to Be at Central School Wednesday Afternoon.

"Line upon line, precept upon precept" is the motto, or at least one of the mottoes of the Civic League, and so we make use of the hospitable columns of the Tribune to remind the women of Concord who are interested in the work of improving our town, that they are earnestly desired to be at the graded school building at 4 o'clock p. m. on Wednesday, 25th. This is the first of the public meetings—a kind of preparation for the appearance of Miss Van Buren on April 1st. If the women who are interested know any who are not, please bring them that they may become so.

CHAIRMAN PUB. COM.

RAPS RUSSELLISM.

Concord Minister Says Russell's Books Are Only Fit for Flames.

At the evening service at Central Church last evening Rev. Harold Turner made an attack on Pastor Russell's books. He declared that Pastor Russell was an agent of the devil and said that he was glad to read the dispatch sent out from Kernersville last week that, following a revival there, many people agreed to burn Pastor Russell's books. He said that he hoped the owners here of such books would do likewise. Mr. Turner also took occasion to compliment a local picture show manager on refusing to show pictures and readings from Russell's works.

GOV. CRAIG WILL BE THERE.

Says Nearly all the Progressive Demands Should Be in Democratic State Convention.

Raleigh, March 23.—Governor Craig said he will attend and participate in the progressive convention to be called here in April. In his opinion almost all the things proposed for the consideration of this convention should be in the next Democratic platform.

BIG RIOT AT BUFFALO.

Several Hundred Used Stones and Bullets, Causing One Death.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 23.—Rioting in which a mob of several hundred participated with stones and bullets caused the death of one youth and the serious wounding of many when an attack was made on a train carrying strikebreakers to the Gould Coupler works.

Miss Maude Brown is visiting friends in Salisbury.