

THE MONROE JOURNAL

VOL. 19. No. 45.

MONROE, N. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1913.

ONE DOLLAR YEAR.

THE TEXAS FLOODS.

Brazos River Becomes a Rushing Torrent Three to Five Miles Wide—Loss of Many Lives.

Tremendous floods on the Brazos and Colorado rivers are causing death of many persons and the destruction of untold amounts of property. Up till Sunday night the death list had grown to 61, and was continually increasing. It is not expected that the floods sweeping down the rivers will reach the gulf till tomorrow.

Bryan, Texas, Dec. 5.—A death list of more than 50 with scores of flood refugees spending tonight in imminent danger, and possibly a thousand others marooned and suffering from hunger and cold, was indicated by tonight's reports from the flooded Brazos river bottom in this section of South Central Texas. For over 50 miles the Brazos was three to five miles wide and running with mill race speed.

The known dead in Texas floods numbered 33 before reports from the inundated territory in this district began coming in late today, brought by men on horseback, which is about the only reliable means of communication. The couriers' reports indicated at least twenty more lives lost. About two-thirds of the drowned were negroes.

The riders' reports indicated that the property loss would total \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000 when the damage along the Brazos is added to that in other portions of the State.

Henry Martin, vice-president and general manager of the International and Great Northern Railroad, was drowned at Valley Junction near here late today while attempting to rescue marooned flood victims. Mr. Martin went to Valley Junction to personally direct the road's relief forces and was attempting to navigate a boat alone when the frail craft was upset. His body has not been recovered. Six members of the Galveston Life Saving crew and a train load of motor boats from Houston, which were to have come to Bryan were stopped by high water at Navasota. The boats were launched at that point shortly before dark and tonight started up stream over the flooded bottoms to rescue persons reported clinging to trees and housetops.

Cutting Off the Preacher's Baccy.

Rev. E. L. Bain of Winston-Salem, former presiding elder of the Statesville district, offered the following resolution at the Charlotte session of the Western Conference, which was adopted:

"Whereas, We believe the use of tobacco in any form during the period of adolescence is detrimental to the person, and whereas, we believe that the parents who patronize our institutions of learning would prefer that their sons should have thrown around them at this time of life every wholesome restraint, therefore be it resolved, that we recommend to the faculties and boards of trustees of all the schools in which we have property interests that they take action in a way necessary to eliminate within two or three years the use of tobacco from the students and faculty."

A lively discussion resulted on the report of a committee recommending that all candidates for the ministry be required to promise to abstain from the use of tobacco. Strong opposition was offered by G. T. Rowe, Plato Durham, W. R. Ware and A. W. Plyler, and the resolution was defended by J. F. Kirk, C. H. Ireland, E. Myers and others. The sentiment was overwhelming for the resolution and it was adopted.

Trouble in Barnwell.

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 4.—Scott Madison, Mitchell Story and Gilbert Miller, three Barnwell negroes, are being rushed to the penitentiary for safe keeping. They are charged with the murder of E. P. Best, at Barnwell last night, which came near to causing a lynching there today.

The negroes were held by a coroner's jury for trial in general sessions court. It is said that the Barnwell county grand jury will meet in special session and special term of court held to try the negroes.

With the departure of the officers with the negroes, Barnwell grew quiet.

The calling out of the military company at Barnwell, and the prompt instruction to preserve order given to Sheriff Morris by Governor Blease, averted a threatened lynching of negroes arrested on suspicion of being implicated in the shooting.

At a late hour it was reported that the crowd had disappeared and that everything was quiet.

Over two score negro suspects are under arrest charged with the shooting, but there is an impression that the killing was accidental, probably by a pistol fired in a crowd of negroes who were standing on the street a few feet below where Mr. Best was killed.

Sidna Allen, the noted Virginia murderer, was under bond to appear at the present term of Federal court in Greensboro to answer a charge of blockading, but inasmuch as Sidna is serving a 30-year term in the Virginia State prison for murder he couldn't well appear and Judge Boyd released his bondsmen.

The Charity Association.

In the early summer some of the ladies of the town met in Central Methodist church and organized a United Charities Association. A president, vice president and secretary and treasurer were elected, and committees were appointed to canvass the town and secure members for this organization. The plan was to secure as many members as possible, men and women, who would be willing to pay one dollar each a year. A hundred members would have meant a hundred dollars in the treasury. Five hundred members would have meant five hundred dollars. Every case of need and destitution in the town was to be reported to this organization, investigated and provided for out of this fund. A committee was appointed to search out all such cases, and the ministers, physicians and policemen were asked to report to the chairman of this committee, Mrs. G. M. Beasley, any case coming under their observation.

Monroe is large enough for an organization of this kind but it has not met with the help and encouragement that it should. We earnestly request that every citizen of the town help us in this work. If you have not become a member just drop in at the English Drug Store and Mr. S. O. Blair will be glad to take your name and your dollar. If you have given your name and have not paid the dollar please hand it to him at once or to Mrs. D. B. Snyder, who is treasurer.

Winter is coming and we shall need it to respond to the many calls for help. Anyone knowing of cases of need will please report them to Mrs. G. M. Beasley.

The United Charities is trying to raise an empty stocking fund—a fund for filling the stockings of the children whose stockings would otherwise be empty on Christmas eve. No one is soliciting for this. It is a free-will offering, but if you want to gladden the heart of some child at Christmas send your contribution to the Monroe Journal as soon as possible. The Journal has kindly consented to receive the funds and a committee of ladies from the various churches of the town has been appointed to invest this money, and it will be judiciously expended for fruit, confections, and such things as usually fill the Christmas stockings. The purchases will be made at least a week before Christmas, so send in your offering promptly. If anyone prefers giving toys, fruit or confections instead of money, they may send those things to The Journal also.

THE UNITED CHARITIES.

Report of North Carolina's Crop for the Year.

North Carolina's harvest this year in value will equal the assessment for a taxation of all her farm lands, estimates Commissioner Graham in his report to the State Board of Agriculture. In spirit of floods in some sections, drought in others and storms of unusual severity and duration, he says, there will be gathered, so far as the market price is concerned, the most valuable crops ever harvested in this State.

The assessed value of farm lands is \$230,597,000; the crops Major Graham estimates to be worth \$232,082,199 and this does not include by-products. The chief crops and their estimated yields follow:

Corn, including forage, \$55,000,000; wheat, including straw, \$10,000,000; oats, including straw, \$4,000,000; hay, \$6,000,000; tobacco, \$30,000,000; cotton and seed, \$80,000,000; Irish potatoes, \$2,000,000; sweet potatoes, \$4,000,000; peanuts, \$5,000,000; peas and beans, \$2,000,000; hogs, pork and stock, \$17,000,000; horses and mules, \$1,500,000; cattle, \$2,000,000; rye, \$500,000; apples, \$600,000; dairy products, \$1,787,245; poultry and eggs, \$8,094,954. Total, \$232,082,199.

This does not include berries, canned goods, vegetables, truck, buckwheat, honey and molasses.

This remarkable exhibit, says the commissioner, has been produced by the adult farmer, and is the result in a large measure of the teachings of the Department of Agriculture through its institutes and demonstration work. Mr. Graham then states that the minds of this class of citizens are fully developed and must be appealed to through the "show me" methods, or object lessons.

After the customary tribute to the State as a farming section which has few equals, Commissioner Graham makes the statement that if "the farmers ever learn that buying on credit is a bad custom and to produce the supplies necessary to run the farm, they should certainly prosper. Rural cash is much more to be desired than rural credit."

It is stated that woman suffrage clubs have been organized at five points in the State—Asheville, Morganton, Charlotte, Winston-Salem and Bakersville.

A. P. Bump, about 60 years old, living near Wilmington, committed suicide by shooting himself. He left a note in which he assigned failing health as the cause.

Such of the whiskey seized in the recent Asheville raids as was fit for medical use was sent to a charity hospital. The remainder, stored in the jail, was emptied into the sewer through a bath tub. As much of the whiskey was in pint bottles it was quite a job to empty it.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Short But Important Was Mr. Wilson's Speech.

President Wilson's address to Congress was short but it has taken hold on the country. The two most important features were his statements regarding Mexico, and his recommendation for presidential primaries. They were as follows:

MEXICO.

There can be no certain prospect of peace in America until General Huerta has surrendered his usurped authority in Mexico; until it is understood on all hands, indeed, that such pretended governments will not be countenanced or dealt with by the government of the United States. We are the friends of constitutional government in America; we are more than its friends, we are its champions; because in no other way can our neighbors, to whom we would wish in every way to make proof of our friendship, work out their own developments in peace and liberty.

Mexico has no government. The attempt to maintain one at the City of Mexico has broken down, and a mere military despotism has been set up which has hardly more than the semblance of national authority. It originated in the usurpation of Victoriano Huerta, who, after a brief attempt to play the part of Constitutional President, has at last cast aside the pretense of legal right and declared himself dictator.

As a consequence, a condition of affairs now exists in Mexico which has made it doubtful whether even the most elementary and fundamental rights either of her own people or of the citizens of other countries resident within her territory can long be successfully safe guarded, and which threatens, if long continued, to imperil the interests of peace, order and tolerable life in the lands immediately to the south of us.

Even if the usurper had succeeded in his purposes, in despite of the Constitution of the republic and the rights of its people, he would have set up nothing but a precarious and hateful power, which could have lasted but a little while, and whose eventual downfall would have left the country in a more deplorable condition than ever. But he has not succeeded.

He has forfeited the respect and the moral support even of those who were at one time willing to see him succeed. Little by little he has been completely isolated. By a little every day his power and prestige are crumbling and the collapse is not far away.

We shall not, I believe, be obliged to alter our policy of watchful waiting. And then, when the end comes, we shall hope to see the constitutional order restored in distressed Mexico by the concert and energy of such of her leaders as prefer the liberty of their people to their own ambitions.

DIRECT PRIMARIES.

I turn to a subject which I hope can be handled promptly and without serious controversy of any kind. I mean the method of selecting nominees for the Presidency of the United States. I feel confident that I do not misinterpret the wishes or the expectations of the country when I urge the prompt enactment of legislation which will provide for primary elections throughout the country at which the voters of the several parties may choose their nominees for the Presidency without the intervention of nominating conventions.

I venture the suggestion that this legislation should provide for the retention of party conventions, but only for the purpose of declaring and accepting the verdict of the primaries and formulating the platforms of the parties, and I suggest that these conventions should consist not of delegates chosen for this single purpose but of the nominees for Congress, the nominees for the vacant seats in the Senate of the United States, the Senators whose terms have not yet closed, the National committees and the candidates for the Presidency themselves, in order that platforms may be framed by those responsible to the people for carrying them into effect.

Revenue Officer J. Frank Miller and others made a raid in Montgomery county a few days ago and found a man and a woman operating an illicit distillery. The man fled to the timber and the woman was taken in charge. A little later a muzzle of a gun appeared in view of the officers and with a demand "turn that woman loose." Demand was not enforced and the officers say the fellow ran again, but that they turned the woman loose when they found out all they wanted to know, which may have been about the time the gun was pointed at them.

Five miles from Winston Tuesday evening Rufus McKinnison was shot and killed by his son, John, 24 years old. The son said he went home and found his father, who was drinking, abusing his mother and sister. He protested and his father threatened to kill the family and got his gun. He took the gun away from his father and shot him twice, reloading the gun to fire a second time. He claims self defence and his mother and sister corroborate him. It is not probable that he will be prosecuted.

END OF THE ASHEVILLE CASES.

Big Blind Tigers Submit and Pay Fines.

SSStatesville Landmark.

The investigation of the illicit liquor sales in Asheville—principally at the Battery Park and Langren hotels and drug stores—which was in progress for several weeks, with Judge Carter of the Superior Court sitting as a committing magistrate, was ended Tuesday when the defendants submitted and paid heavy fines. They agreed to donate the liquor seized to the hospital for charity cases, dismantle barroom fixtures in their possession, and refrain from the sale of whiskey for the next three years. Under the terms of the compromise a fine of \$4,000 is imposed on John H. Lange and Gay Green, the former paying \$2,666.67 and the later being assessed with \$1,333.33; James L. Alexander pays a fine of \$2,000; J. Baylis Rector pleads guilty and judgment is suspended for three years; D. MacKay forfeits his liquor license and agrees never to apply for another, and a similar entry is made in the case of F. H. McMullon. The costs of the investigation, amounting to approximately \$1,500, are divided equally among Mosses, Alexander, Green and Lange. Each of the defendants pleads guilty to two charges of violations of the prohibition laws, judgment being entered in one case and being suspended for three years in the other.

The defendants on whom judgment was suspended—except McKay, who is ill—are described by Judge Carter as the "small fry," who were employed. Judge Carter announced in disposing of the cases that he had been asked on what terms he would allow the defendants to plead guilty and end it all. He dictated the terms and they were accepted. The Citizen says Asheville is really dry for the time; that liquor can't be bought on a physician's prescription. That condition may continue for a few days.

The Real Christian Spirit.

Presbyterian Standard.

The annual meeting of the Western North Carolina Conference has been in session in our city for several days. Charlotte has been host to many gatherings these past few years, but she has never entertained a more consecrated set of men than she is now doing.

They have come from city, town and back-woods, an earnest, self-denying band of workers, such as is rarely, if ever, equalled. In the history of our country they have been pioneers, enduring hardships as good soldiers of Jesus Christ, and emphasizing in their preaching the importance of vital godliness. In the early part of our ministry, when we were filling the role of a Presbyterian pioneer along the Mexican border, we worked often in connection with the Methodist Church. We divided time and occupied the same church building, and often we rode the plains with their itinerant preachers, and were entertained by their faithful members. Since then we have had a warm place in our hearts for the Church, and a great admiration for their self-denying ministry.

Calvin and Arminius are both in heaven and have long since reconciled their differences, and it is a happy thought that their followers on earth have ceased to emphasize those differences, and are now laying special stress upon their points of agreement.

We may smile upon our Methodist brother who has been, as he once said in class meeting, "a Christian off and on for forty years," yet we must confess that when he is "on," he is a fine specimen of a Christian.

Cut Off Huerta's Oil.

Preferring to incur the displeasure of the Huerta government to a very practical manifestation of the rebels' wrath, the producing oil companies of Mexico have cancelled their contracts for supplying the National Railway of Mexico with fuel oil. This is regarded as one of the most serious blows dealt the government because it is likely to bring about early suspension of all railway traffic, which would interfere greatly with military operations and commerce. The rebels had threatened to destroy the oil unless sales to the government were discontinued.

Financial Report.

The various missionary societies of the Union Baptist Association have contributed the following amounts to missions during the quarter ending November 30, 1913:

Monroe, W. M. S., \$80.00; Y. W. A., \$39.00; Sunbeams, \$10.00; R. A., \$2.60; Marshville, W. M. S., \$30.69; Mill Creek, W. M. S., \$7.00; Hopewell, W. M. S., \$7.30; Shiloh, W. M. S., \$10.00; Waxhaw, Y. W. A., \$15.00; total, \$192.50.

MRS. FRANK ASHCRAFT.

Six special trains carrying 1,200 boys and girls from Ohio, members of corn clubs and domestic science clubs in that State, and their friends, making a total of about 2,000 persons, arrived in Washington last week and took in the city.

A lone masked bandit Wednesday afternoon held up the Bank of Montreal branch at Plum Coulee, Manitoba, stole \$10,000 in currency, shot and killed the bank manager, and escaped in a stolen automobile.

LATEST NEWS IN BRIEF.

A new French cabinet was formed yesterday but the newspapers predict a short life for it.

President Wilson expects the Senate to pass the currency bill by the 20th, and that it will become a law in time for the Christmas holiday.

According to a report from the Currency Bureau, only six National banks failed in the United States last year.

The death list of the Texas flood, elsewhere described in this paper, has now reached 150, and the danger is not yet over.

Virginia cities deny that they oppose the reduction in freight rates lately agreed upon between the North Carolina legislature and the railroads.

A special train over the Seaboard yesterday went by from Raleigh, loaded with Baptists on the way to the State Convention which meets in Shelby this week.

No news of importance comes from Mexico, and everything, so far as this country is concerned, seems to be settled down to the President's policy of "watchful waiting."

In opening court in Greensboro yesterday Judge Shaw instructed the grand jury to investigate the "men higher up," in the liquor selling business.

Miss Nancy Lee of Archdale, this State, who was a missionary in Mexico, has been forced to leave that country with other missionaries and the party arrived in Brownsville, Texas, yesterday.

John T. Oliver, who was recommended for the post office at Reidsville, but whom Senator Simmons refused to allow confirmed by the senate, yesterday withdrew from the race.

Several candidates have quickly bloomed out for the Newbern post-office since the post office department dismissed the Republican postmaster, who had two years to serve, because he refused to reinstate a clerk whom he had dismissed.

President Wilson yesterday went to the Capitol unobserved and took a stroll about the rotunda before any one knew that he was there, and managed to get lost in the building just like some man from Monroe would have done.

The House yesterday passed a resolution directing President Wilson to co-operate with the plan of Mr. Churchill, head of the British navy, in a plan for the nations to take a holiday of one year in building battleships.

Manly McDowell of Burke county who was said to have been promised the appointment as marshal for the western district to which Chas. A. Webb of Asheville was appointed, is reported to be preparing, with the aid of his friends, to make a mighty protest.

The family of Mr. P. A. Koontz of Davidson county were in the field picking cotton yesterday. The oldest boy had his gun along. The dog jumped a rabbit and the boy seized the gun to go for it, stumbled and fell, and the gun was discharged. The mother and little girl were shot and may die.

The Gathering of the Old Slaves.

The gathering of the old slaves in Monroe Saturday was a most enjoyable occasion with them. One hundred and sixty wore badges of blue ribbon on the coat, marked "Ex-Slave," but there was a good many more. Besides the old ones there were enough of the younger colored people to fill the court house when the speaking was going on. Addresses were made by Messrs. W. H. Phifer, Ney McNeely and B. C. Ashcraft, who told of the devotion of the slaves during the war, and of the intimate and friendly relations of master and slave before the war, and gave good advice as to the present, all of which was most heartily cheered and appreciated by the colored people. Rev. Ellerbe of Raleigh, who is the leader in the movement, made a good speech. He says that North Carolina was the first state to organize the old slaves and that the movement is spreading all over the South.

After the speaking a dinner was served on the square to all who had badges. The dinner was prepared by Mr. H. J. Hinson by direction of Capt. W. C. Heath, Messrs W. L. Howie and W. H. Phifer, and one hundred and sixty dinners were set upon the table. There was plenty for all and the old people who enjoyed it were loud in their appreciation. After the dinner Capt. Heath went through the crowd with boxes of cigars and a good deal of puffing was indulged in. Capt. Heath was chaperoned by Uncle Nelson Hough, who stated that "I raised dis here boy an' is proud o' de job." A brass band composed of colored men from Mineral Springs, gave the crowd music. It is hard to tell which were the happier, the colored folks or the white ones who stood about and watched them.

The sixth report of the ginning of the cotton for this season was issued yesterday, showing number of bales ginned up to December first. The number is 12,081,100. Last year to the same time the figures were: 11,854,541. North Carolina has ginned up to December first 622,748.

SHOT HERSELF TO DEATH.

Mrs. John Hill, Mother of thirteen Children, Wearing of Life a Account of Sickness and End of it all With a Pistol Last Tuesday Night.

Suffering with pellagra, with her mind weakened by the disease, Mrs. John Hill of Weddington, blew her brains out with a pistol. The deed took place at the home of Mr. William Hill, a brother of her husband. Mrs. Hill had been sick a long time, and it was known that her mind had become weakened, and the family had been watching her. On Tuesday she slipped away and went to the home of her brother-in-law, about two miles away, followed by her eldest daughter and her two younger children. Just after dark as the family were sitting around the fire she got up and left the room for the yard. In a moment the pistol shot was heard and all rushed out to find her shot through the temple. She died immediately. It is supposed she had slipped the pistol of Mr. Hill from its place in the house and concealed it in her dress, as no one saw her have it. No inquest was deemed necessary and Coroner Plyler was not summoned. Mrs. Hill's maiden name was Haywood, and she was the mother of nine children, all of whom, with her husband, survive.

RED CROSS SEALS HERE.

Every One Should Get a Supply This Christmas and Help the Good Cause.

Red Cross seals are now on sale at every drug store in town. Mrs. F. G. Henderson, who is managing the sale, will also appoint other ladies to aid in selling them. The seals are sold at one cent each, and the money goes to help fight the battle against the great white plague, tuberculosis. Every one should buy at least a few of the seals and use them on packages and letters.

Two hundred cities and towns in North Carolina are selling this season the Christmas seal of the Red Cross Society. With the exception of Florida and Nevada, Red Cross seals are on sale in one or more cities of every State in the Union, and also in Hawaii and the Canal Zone. In most of the States the sale has been organized in every city, village and hamlet. Every conceivable method of conveyance is being employed in shipping the seals from the various State headquarters to local agents, on the ex-train in pack-burro in Colorado, to the express train and the automobile in New York. These holiday seals are even being sold in mountain hamlets, where the snow will prevent the receipt of returns for months after the first of the year.

Jurors for December Court.

The county commissioners have drawn the following jurors to serve at a term of one week Superior court, beginning Monday, December 15th, for the trial of civil cases:

Wilson N. Edwards, Henry Myers, J. D. Biggers, G. T. Winchester, G. E. Benton, S. G. Griffin, G. B. McLelland, H. B. Marsh, Geo. S. Lee, M. L. Davis, J. L. Rowell, R. S. Deese, E. J. McManus, J. T. Marks, H. D. Walters, S. C. Thomas, J. F. Thompson.

Edison Talking Pictures the Real Thing.

Like every remarkable invention, Edison's Talking Pictures have aroused a host of skeptics who believe the inventor is using the antiquated methods which proved a failure long ago—that of taking an ordinary phonograph record and then having the actor to act out the scenes to fit the record.

Such, however, is not the case. Edison Talking Pictures are the result of an invention which permits the making of films and records at one and the same time. The doubting ones need not reflect a moment in order to correct their erroneous impressions. In the first place, would so busy a man as the late Mayor Gaynor have made a phonograph record of his speech and then rehearsed his speech over and over again until he had learned to move his lips in time with the record? Would he then stand up before the camera and go through a meaningless pantomime? Of course not. The Mayor and his Department Heads simply repaired to the Edison Studio and delivered their speeches and while the camera photographed their movements, the phonograph, placed above the camera, recorded every word.

Another proof of the genuineness of the Edison Talking Pictures lies in the minstrel shows and comedy sketches in which a large cast appear. While it might be possible for a single player or even two players to fool the public it is obviously impossible for a large number of people to perform with such absolute precision as to make the illusion perfect. No other method than that of simultaneous photography and recording could give the wonderful results which Edison obtains in the Talking Pictures.

They have been hailed as the greatest vaudeville attraction of the year and have proved their claim to the title in all the big cities of the country. The people of Monroe will have an opportunity to judge of the genuineness of the Edison Talking Pictures when they appear at the Opera House on Saturday Dec. 20th.