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STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

A valuable soapstone quarry near Wilkesboro is to be worked, says The Chronicle.

The Concord Times says that the Odell Manufacturing Co. paid a semi-annual dividend of ten per cent. It is one of the best managed mills in the south.

Two negroes—man and wife—were found to have smallpox at Wilmington Thursday. They were sent to the small-pox hospital, and suspects were isolated.

A Pitt county man had stolen from him the license which he had procured to marry the lady of his choice. This tops all the mean things that we have heard or read about.

The Wilkesboro Chronicle says that the escape of six prisoners from Wilkes jail was due to the carelessness of the negro charge of the jail. One of the prisoners has been captured.

The safe in Hart's warehouse at Louisville was broken into Wednesday night and about \$113 in money taken out. It was quite a neat job and there is no trace whatever of the man who did it.

The jury in the Greer case at Durham against the Durham Water Co., for turning water from Eno river and stopping this mill, the supply left being insufficient to run it, awarded Greer \$1,600 damages.

A young man named Marlow, living at Hickory, on Wednesday suffered a very serious accident. He was amusing himself by shooting a "poke-stalk" gun when the barrel burst and a large piece of the metal struck him on the head and penetrated to the skull. Marlow is in a precarious state.

Friday morning near Tarboro as the work train was coming to the depot it struck Mrs. Mark Denton, her young son and John Manning on the Norfolk & Carolina bridge. Mrs. Denton was killed almost instantly, but the others escaped with terrible bruises. All the parties were on their way to town and were caught by the train on the bridge.

The executive committee of the Teachers' assembly met in Raleigh Friday. State Superintendent Mebane was elected secretary in place of Prof. W. T. Whitsett, resigned. The assembly will meet the second Tuesday in June, which falls on the 12th. Morehead City is to be the place of meeting, provided satisfactory hotel and railroad rates are secured.

Oxford Ledger: We regret to learn that the store at Townsville owned and occupied by Mr. J. S. Royster, formerly one of our excellent county commissioners, was burned on the night of Jan. 20th. Loss \$2,000, insurance \$1,000. The fire originated in an adjoining building used as a postoffice, which was also consumed, with a loss of \$300. No insurance.

The board of health of Winston has decided to employ four physicians to make a house canvass. Each doctor will be accompanied by an officer and those found without a certificate of vaccination or an excuse will be vaccinated at their homes. If any refuse to comply with the law they will be arrested and made to pay a fine of \$50 or go to prison for thirty days.

Hal Ayer, of Raleigh, who was elected a delegate to the national anti-trust conference by the executive committee, has declined to attend, and gives as his reason that he is not in perfect accord with the views of those who have called the conference. Ayer says that "wherever any good may exist in these combines that good should be unqualifiedly and generously admitted."

The fisheries of North Carolina give employment to more than 10,000 persons, and yield an annual product valued at more than a million dollars. One per cent. of that sum, or \$10,000, is appropriated annually by the legislature for the purpose of employing a fish commissioner and provide him with assistants and means to protect the fishery interests of the State and develop them.

In an interview in The Citizen, ex-Attorney General Theodore F. Davidson announces himself a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor. He is a firm believer in the constitutionality of the proposed suffrage amendment. He says it is a significant fact that although the same provisions have been in successful operation in other states no organization has ever declared them in conflict with the constitution of the United States or of a state. Mr. Davidson's announce-

ment is responsive to many letters from all parts of the State urging his candidacy.

Raleigh News-Observer: Mr. E. J. Best, one of counsel for the supervisors of State farms who were bounced by Capt. Day before their terms expired, said yesterday that no agreement had been reached with the executive committee of the State prison board. It will be remembered that at the recent meeting of the prison directors claims were presented through their attorneys for amounts as follows: W. R. Dixon, \$321; T. E. McCaskey, \$331; J. T. Pope, \$475. The matter was referred by the directors to the executive committee for settlement and a compromise of \$100 to each was offered and rejected.

Laurinburg Exchange: A distressing accident occurred a few miles north of town Saturday in which a little fellow ten years of age lost his life. The particulars as we have gleaned them are as follows: The two little sons of Mr. J. L. Holland, aged 10 and 12, were gunning in the woods near their father's house. The older brother was carrying the gun in his hand by his side while the other was walking directly in front of the muzzle. In some way the hammer became entangled in a bush and the weapon discharged, the whole load taking effect in the back of the little 10-year-old brother's head. We understand that death was instantaneous.

LONDON STANDS AGHAST.

Terrible Defeats for the British. Warren Walked Into the Jaws of Death and His Men Were Mowed Down by Thousands. Forced to Abandon the Position After Suffering Heavy Losses.

London, Jan. 27.—Berlin papers say that the Boers captured seventy guns of the British at Spion Kop, Gen. Buller was defeated at Tugela river and that the Boers surprised and routed the British at Chieveley.

Warren Abandons Spion Kop.

London, Jan. 26.—The war office today posted the following dispatch from Gen. Buller, dated Spearman's Camp, Jan. 25, (noon): "Gen. Warren's garrison, I am sorry to say, I find, has this morning abandoned Spion Kop."

London is aghast at the news from Spion Kop. Yesterday there was great rejoicing over the news of the capture of Spion Kop by Gen. Warren, but today the feeling of depression is almost universal.

Warren Caught in a Death Trap.

London, Jan. 26.—Harassed by hours of heavy fire from the Boer guns, Gen. Warren was forced to evacuate Spion Kop, which was taken Wednesday night, after holding it a day under heavy fire, which was so incessant and accurate that the British troops were mowed down by the hundreds.

Gen. Warren's fight cost thousands of dead and wounded on both sides, the fire being heavy and steady, shells flying thick and fast.

The kopje captured by Gen. Warren proved to be only a small part of the Boer defense, and only a half-hearted fight was put up by the Boers to hold it. This indicates a wily plot to lure Gen. Warren into a trap where his troops would be cut to pieces, and this without any risk to the Boers. No sooner had Gen. Warren settled down in the captured trenches than the Boers unmasked their guns, which had been hidden five days, and fierce preliminary fighting from the high plateau dominating the captured kopje broke loose in a terrific trench tornado of shell and shrapnel. The Boer gunners had the range to an inch.

Gen. Warren was helplessly in a trap. No guns had been or could be dragged up the steep hill and retreat before daylight was impossible.

Cotton Market.

The following is the New York market at 12 o'clock:

New York, Jan. 27.—January, 7.70; March, 7.63; May, 7.59; June, 7.59; August, 7.57; October, 6.86.

How to Cure a Cough.

If a man has a cold on the chest, get Casey's mixture for man or child, put him in bed, slap a mustard plaster on him that'll keep his mind employed and save him from a cough. May the best man win. If the patient's alive in the morning, he'll not have strength to cough. —"Mr. Dooley" in Ladies' Home Journal.

The Best Prescription for Chills

and Fever is a bottle of GAY'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price, 50c.

BRYAN ENDORSED

For the Presidency by the Pennsylvania Democratic Committee. Bryan Given an Enthusiastic Welcome.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 25.—The state Democratic committee set the pace for the Democracy of other states today by making Col. William Jennings Bryan its choice for the presidency in 1900. This action was taken by the committee while Col. Bryan was on his way to Harrisburg from New York to attend the meeting and confer with the party leaders. This is probably the first time in the party's history that the Democrats of Pennsylvania have indicated their choice for president in advance of the state convention.

There was a large attendance of Democrats from all over the state to meet Col. Bryan and hear him discuss the issues on which the coming campaign will be waged. The state convention will be held in this city on April 5th and will adopt a platform along the line laid down by the Nebraska orator in his speech tonight before 5,000 people at the Kelker Street Hall. The platform will endorse the Chicago declaration of principles, denounce trusts and imperialism, advocate ballot reform and pure elections and condemn machine politics. The convention will also nominate candidates for auditor general, congress at large, the presidential electors and elect eight delegates at large to the national convention.

Col. Bryan reached here at 3 o'clock and was escorted to the board of trade rooms, where the state committee was in session, by a committee representing the state and local Democratic committees. He was introduced to the assembly by State Chairman Rilling and made a short speech, which was received with much enthusiasm. At the close of the meeting he held an informal reception at the Commonwealth hotel and, later, he was the guest of Mayor Pritchey at a dinner party at which Col. Guffey, Chairman Rilling and other party leaders were present. After tonight's meeting he attended a session of the local lodge of Modern Woodmen, of which he is an active member at his home in Lincoln.

Col. Bryan will go from here to Smyrna and Wilmington, Del., and from there to Washington to meet the national leaders.

A large crowd greeted the Nebraskan at this afternoon's meeting. He contended that the young men were growing to see that Republican principles of monopoly kept down all but the very few and added:

"We appreciate the odds eastern Democrats have to contend against. It is easy to be a Democrat in the south and it is easier to be a Democrat in the west than it used to be. I believe the time will come when Chicago platform Democracy will be as popular in Pennsylvania as it is out in Nebraska. While no Republicans can remember what was in the Republican platform of 1896 and while no gold Democrat can repeat the Indianapolis platform, every Democrat and Republican can remember the Chicago platform. The Democrats ought to make progress in this state because the Republican party is more corrupt in this than in any other state in the union. Unless the people have forgotten to think and act for themselves they ought to rise up and wipe the Republican party out of existence. I believe we are going to win in the campaign of 1900."

Decided Against Crawford.

Washington, Jan. 25.—It is ascertained unofficially that the sub-committee of the house on elections considering the Crawford-Pearson case have decided to report in favor of unseating Crawford and seating Pearson.

Free of Charge.

Any adult suffering from a cold settled on the breast, bronchitis, throat or lung troubles of any nature, who will call at Temple Marston Drug Co., will be presented with a sample bottle of Boschee's German Syrup, free of charge. Only one bottle given to one person, and none to children without order from parents.

No throat or lung remedy ever had such a sale as Boschee's German Syrup in all parts of the civilized world. Twenty years ago millions of bottles were given away, and your druggists will tell you its success was marvelous. It is really the only Throat and Lung Remedy generally endorsed by physicians. One 75 cents bottle will cure or prove its value. Sold by dealers in all civilized countries.

Artistic job work is the kind you get at THE FREE PRESS OFFICE.

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Proceedings of Yesterday Afternoon. Addresses by Prof. Rhodes and Dr. J. O. Kilgo Last Night.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention met, with Rev. F. D. Swindell in the chair. Religious services were conducted by Rev. C. O. Durant, of Craven circuit, who, continuing the subject of the morning, said that one great hindrance to administering discipline in our churches was due to the fact that pastors could not get their official boards to act with them in the matter of dealing with offending members—would report such members, but "did not desire their names mentioned in the matter."

On the same subject, Rev. Mr. Noyle said that preachers who were faithful in discipline sometimes had their necks broke, and were kept on the move by the presiding elders, who listened to wealthy members who were not living right. Others had had similar experience. To succeed in administering discipline, the pastor must have the sympathy and aid of both his church and presiding elder.

Rev. C. P. Snow said he had two members who were distilling liquors. He put them on trial. They said: "We pay \$50 of the \$80 you get at this church, and if you turn us out you can't live, and the church will go down." He told them that he and the church would choose to die once rather than go to heaven on a whiskey barrel. He turned them out, and God gave \$90 at that church that year. One of the men sent the presiding elder \$10, and he sent it back to him, saying that he was in the same boat with his preacher.

The subject of missions was next considered, the pastors being asked concerning their methods of raising their collections. The most successful method was that by which the largest number of members could be reached for a contribution. During the past conference year decided advancement was made in missionary collections, and every legitimate means will be used not only to sustain last year's income, but if possible to make advance. Conference adjourned to meet Saturday at 9:15 a. m.

NIGHT SESSION.

Rev. J. M. Rhodes and Dr. Jno. C. Kilgo spoke on "The 20th Century Movement." Mr. Rhodes made an able plea for female education, asking that in our thank-offerings we remember the noble girls all over our land who are yearning for an education. He said that all girls educated at church schools were more loyal to Christ and the church than others.

Dr. Kilgo informed the congregation that he would not be able to deliver his lecture, the "Twentieth Century Educational Movement," but that he would instruct the preachers of this district, assembled for the purpose of conferring together to take steps to carry out the plan formulated, how to collect the educational fund. Nevertheless Dr. Kilgo did not disappoint the people assembled to hear him lecture. His remarks had a good deal of humor in them. The points made were strong and clear, and his address was highly enjoyed by those in attendance.

He said the 19th century had been especially the poor man's century—poor boys had far greater opportunities for education than ever before. Dr. Kilgo said the poor boys in North Carolina were the ones who were getting an education; that the poor boys were the ones who are being made to fill important positions of trust; that the preachers, the presiding elders, the mayors, congressmen, senators, governors and presidents were poor boys. That the danger of not getting an education was not with the poor boy, but with the rich man's son; that the poor boy was bound to get an education to make a living; that the rich boy had enough to live on without an education, and that, consequently, the rich man's boys were degenerating; that every third generation it required new blood, and poor boys from the country, to step in and run affairs of importance.

Dr. Kilgo next turned his remarks toward instructing the preachers how to go about collecting the education fund it is proposed to raise.

By the "Twentieth Century Movement" the M. E. Church, South will raise about \$1,500,000 for educational purposes. The North Carolina conference is to raise \$75,000, which is its pro rata share.

Bad Men Looking for Trouble.

Austin, Tex., Jan. 25.—Over 2,000 bad men are assembled in Bastrop county, in attendance upon the trial of 16 men accused of complicity in the murder of Arthur Burford, the result of the Reece-Townsend feud. Burford was killed by the Reece faction. Every one of the men here is a partisan. Texas Rangers have disarmed the entire town as a precaution against further bloodshed.

GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

Atlanta will have an electric railway 25 miles long, to Roswell.

Three men were killed and two fatally injured by an explosion of dynamite at Ashley, Pa., Thursday night.

The Seaboard Air Line asks the Virginia legislature for a charter for a railroad from Richmond to Washington.

Atlantic Coast Line company people have chartered a steamship company to run boats between Baltimore and Norfolk, Va.

Gen. Joe Wheeler and his daughter left Manila Wednesday on the transport Warren for San Francisco, via Hong Kong and Guam.

The court of appeals of Virginia has decided that taxes on land accrued during a life tenancy are not a lien upon the land in the hands of the remainder man.

Mr. E. G. Dunnell writes to the New York Times that during the year ending August 31, 1899, South Carolina manufactured 444,000 bales of cotton, or 65,000 more bales than during the year preceding. The increase in North Carolina was about 50,000 bales; that in Alabama 31,600; that in Georgia 13,000 bales. The whole south manufactured 1,399,339 bales, an increase of 170,079 bales.

A dispatch from Peking, China, says that Pu Chun, 14 years old, son of Prince Tuan, is appointed heir to the present Emperor Kwang Su, whose ill health makes his abdication necessary. The new emperor, it is said, will ascend the throne Jan. 31. The dowager will continue her strong power, and no change in the Chinese policy is in view. A dispatch from Shanghai says it is reported that Emperor Kwang Su has committed suicide. It is probable that he has been murdered.

The Pension Roll.

Washington, Jan. 24.—Responding to an inquiry from Senator Gallinger, Commissioner of Pensions Evans sent to him a statement giving the number of pensioners borne on the rolls of the office on account of each of the wars of the United States and giving a brief review of laws under which they were granted. The statement as to the number of pensioners is as follows:

On account of the revolutionary war—Four widows and 7 daughters.

War of 1812—One survivor and 1,028 widows.

Indian wars, 1832 to 1842—1,656 survivors and 3,889 widows.

Mexican war—9,204 survivors and 8,175 widows.

Granted since 1861, under general law, 321,555 invalid and 92,901 widows and other dependents; under law of 1890, invalids, 420,912; widows and dependents, 130,226.



Bald Spots

Without help, a bald spot never grows smaller. It keeps spreading, until at last your friends say, "How bald he is getting." Not easy to cure an old baldness, but easy to stop the first thinning, easy to check the first falling out. Used in time, baldness is made impossible with—

AYER'S HAIR VIGOR

It stops falling, promotes growth, and takes out all dandruff. It always restores color to faded or gray hair, all the dark, rich color of early life. You may depend upon it every time. It brings health to the hair.

\$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

"I have used your Hair Vigor and am greatly pleased with it. I have only used one bottle of it, and yet my hair has stopped falling out and has started to grow again nicely." JULIUS WITT, March 23, 1899. Canova, S. Dak.

Write the Doctor.

If you do not obtain all the benefits you expect from the use of the Vigor, write the Doctor about it.

Address, Dr. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

White's Black Liniment—full size 25c bottle for 15c. It cures pain.

J. E. HOOP.