

# TAR HEEL TOPICS

Items Gathered From All Sections of the State

## Slaves are Charged with Shocking Crime.

Charlotte, Special.—A special from Marion, N. C., says: "Deputy Sheriff Cox has just reached here with 14 Slaves, who are charged with a shocking murder. Fifteen of these foreigners came to camp No. 5 on the South & Western railroad a year ago and have been at work there ever since. According to the officer's story the men quarreled among themselves Thursday, the brunt of the war of words falling upon the member of the little colony who had been serving as cook. The 14 fell upon the unfortunate cook that night and securing him with ropes they led him to a spot in the forest a mile from the camp. There they bound the cook hand and foot and placing him in an upright position against the end of a fill, the crowd stepped off a few paces and began shooting, using the cook as a target. The unfortunate man was riddled with bullets. After satisfying their thirst for blood the murderers dug a shallow trench in the fill and buried their victim. The hastily provided grave and the blood on the ground led to the discovery of the crime by a foreman. The dead man was known to have had \$100 in cash, but no money was found on him. Not one of the prisoners speaks English and though court is convened, the trial can not be held until an interpreter is secured."

## The Birth of a New County.

Sanford, Special.—Pursuant to the statute creating Lee county as amended by the special session of the General Assembly the officers qualified and assumed charge of the county affairs Monday. The board of commissioners was organized by electing J. J. Edwards, of Lemon Springs, chairman. Senator A. F. Seawell was chosen county attorney and Dr. J. P. Monroe, health officer. No special exercises marked the event, but a considerable crowd from all parts of the county assembled at the McKeithen Building to be present at the birth of the new county, the State's ninety-eighth.

The oaths were administered by W. S. Weatherspoon, Esq. The officers are as follows: T. M. Campbell, clerk of Superior Court; T. M. Cross, register of deeds; B. C. Pearce, treasurer; J. C. Watson, sheriff; Dr. H. B. Hoyle, coroner; W. T. Temple, surveyor; J. J. Edwards, John R. Jones, J. Fletcher Jones, J. L. Godfrey, J. P. Womble, commissioners.

## Negro Flung Under Train.

Salisbury, Special.—Monday about 12:30 Will Carr, colored, who says he resides at 105 South Craig street, this city, tried to board No. 33 as it was passing south under Fisher street bridge. The negro missed his jump and was flung under one of the coaches. Both feet were badly mangled and there appears little hope of saving either of them. A large crowd gathered at the scene, but Carr was soon carried to the baggage room where Dr. Whitehead saw him. The doctor ordered his immediate removal to the sanatorium.

## Postmaster at Newton.

Newton, Special.—After several months of waiting Dr. W. H. Everhardt received notification of the confirmation of his appointment as postmaster of Newton. He has been busy filling out his bond, which is signed by many of the leading Democrats of this place, thus testifying to the high esteem in which he is held by all parties.

## Postoffice is Broken Into.

Salisbury, Special.—The postoffice at Granite Quarry was broken into Wednesday night and a quantity of stamps taken. Postmaster Brown has a mercantile establishment in connection with the postoffice and a lot of cheap jewelry is missing. The safe was rolled to the lot in the rear of the store, but not opened. Suspicion points to two strange negroes.

## Much Valuable Property Lost.

High Point, Special.—In the burning of the Southern Car Company much valuable property in the way of patterns and blue prints were lost, the work of the past sixteen years. While the company will get in shape to turn out work in the next month or so it will take several years to get back the patterns and other valuable plates which were destroyed. Mr. Briggs, the secretary and treasurer, said it was a big undertaking, but the difficulties would be surmounted in time.

## Kingston State Bank to Become a National Institution.

Kinston, Special.—Monday afternoon a special meeting of stockholders of the Citizen's Bank was held. A dividend of 50 per cent., payable either in cash or stock, was declared. It was also decided to increase the capital stock of the bank from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and convert it into a national bank. The First National Bank will be its name.

## Mr. Carr Is Continued.

Raleigh, Special.—The executive committee of the board of agriculture met at the Agricultural Department to consider the matter of the secretaryship made vacant by the death of Thomas K. Bruner. Mr. Bruner has been absent abroad or sick since last June and Mr. Elias Carr has been looking after his work. The executive committee considered the whole matter of how it was best to do this work which is so important and which, owing to Mr. Bruner's absence and illness, could not, of course, receive his own attention. His desk and chair were draped in mourning. The committee adopted a resolution regarding its late secretary, in which, after setting forth its regrets at his death in the midst of his splendid work for the State, it says it desires to put on record its very high appreciation of him as a lover of his State and an unselfish worker in advancing the interests of North Carolina, and for his genial, obliging and generous companionship. The resolutions also express sympathy with Mr. Bruner's family.

## Medical Society Adjourns.

Charlotte, Special.—The sessions of the Tri-State Medical Society closed here on Thursday, the following officers being elected for the year:

- President—Dr. Albert Anderson, Raleigh.
- First vice-president, Dr. R. C. Bryan, Richmond, Va.
- Second vice president, Dr. J. E. Stokes, Salisbury.
- Third vice president, Dr. W. P. Timmerman, Batesburg, S. C.
- Secretary—Dr. J. Howell Way, Waynesville.
- New members of judicial council, Drs. E. G. Williams, Richmond; A. J. Crowell, Charlotte, and A. E. Baker, Charleston, S. C.

## Damage Suit Against Norfolk & Western.

Winston-Salem, Special.—R. F. Overby, of Stokes county, through his counsel, has instituted a \$20,000 damage suit against the Norfolk & Western Railway. The complaint was filed in this county, but the counsel for the defendant company had the case removed to the United States Circuit Court of Greensboro. The plaintiff alleges that he sustained permanent injuries by being struck by a cross tie, hit by a box car of the defendant company while in the employ of the Pinnacle Coal and Coke Company in West Virginia, and injured so seriously that he has been disabled for his work as a miner and unfitted for any kind of manual labor.

## New School For Negroes.

High Point, Special.—Rev. A. J. Tate, a colored minister of this city, who has been engaged in work among his race here for nine years, receiving the endorsement of white as well as colored people, has just completed a new school building, known as Fairview Institute. The building is of brick to the second story and will furnish class rooms and rooms for industrial work on the first floor, while the second floor will be used for dormitories, thus laying the foundation for a good work for the children of his race.

## Violently Insane.

Statesville, Special.—Mr. Jonah Ryan, a farmer about 50 years old, is violently insane at his home in Olin township, and an effort will be made to get him into the State Hospital at Morganton. Mr. Ryan's mind has been impaired for some time, but he did not become violent until a few days ago. He has been a religious fanatic for some years.

## Smallpox in Iredell.

Statesville, Special.—It has developed that there are a number of genuine cases of smallpox in north Iredell and portions of Wilkes and Yadkin counties. Dr. M. R. Adams, county physician, returned from that section, where he had been to meet the county physicians of Yadkin and Wilkes to examine some suspects. The physicians found several cases which they pronounced smallpox. All these and others have been quarantined and disinfections are being used to prevent the further spread of the disease.

## Fatal Riot in Pennsylvania.

Connellsville, Penn. Special.—In a big riot at Dunbar, Pennsylvania, Monday night in which something like one hundred men and women participated, two men were stabbed to death, a score badly injured, and a wagon load carried off by the police are in jail awaiting trial. They are mostly foreigners and the riot originated in jealousy of boarding house keepers.

# FOR INDUSTRIAL PEACE

President's Letter to Inter-State Commerce Commission Made Public—Serious Industrial Disputes in Prospect.

Washington, Special.—Serious industrial disputes in prospect were in the mind of President Roosevelt when he wrote a letter to the inter-State commerce commission which was made public. He says that information has reached him, that on account of the enactment of drastic laws by Congress and by various State Legislatures, it is regarded as necessary by railroad companies to reduce the pay of their employees. He points out that, under the law, either party may demand the services of the chairman of the inter-State commerce committee, and of the Commissioner of Labor, as a board of conciliation. He suggests, therefore, that the inter-State commerce commission wage conditions on various railroads as may relate, directly or indirectly to the possible impending controversy.

## The President's Letter.

The full text of the President's letter is as follows:

"The White House, Washington, Feb. 13, 1903. To the inter-State commerce commission: I am informed that a number of railroad companies have served notice of a proposed reduction of wages on their employees. One of them, the Louisville & Nashville, in announcing the reduction, states that 'the drastic laws inimical to the interests of the railroads that have in the past year or two been enacted by Congress and the State Legislatures,' are largely or chiefly responsible for the conditions requiring reduction.

Under such circumstances it is possible that the public may soon be confronted by serious industrial disputes, and the law provides that in such cases either party may demand the services of your chairman and of the Commissioner of Labor as a board of mediation and conciliation. These reductions in wages may be warranted, or they may not. As to this the public, which is a vitally interested party, can form no judgment without a more complete knowledge of the essential facts and real merits of the case than it now has or than it can possibly obtain from the special pleadings certain to be put forth by each side in case their dispute should bring about serious interruption to traffic. If the reduction in wages is due to natural causes, the loss of business being such that the burden should be and is equitably distributed between capitalist and wage workers, the public should know it. If it is caused by legislation, the public and Congress should know it, and if it is caused by misconduct in the past financial or other operations of any railroad, then everybody should know it, especially if the excuse of unfriendly legislation is advanced as a method of covering up past business misconduct by the railroad managers, or as justification for failure to treat fairly the wage earning employees of the company.

Moreover, an industrial conflict between a railroad corporation and its employees offers peculiar opportunities to any small number of evil disposed persons to destroy life and property and foment public disorder. Of course, if life, property and public order are endangered, prompt and drastic measures for their protection become the first plain duty. All other issues then become subordinate to the preservation of the public peace, and the real merits of the original controversy are necessarily lost from view. This vital consideration should be ever kept in mind by all law-abiding and far-sighted members of labor organizations.

It is sincerely to be hoped, therefore, that any wage controversy that may arise between the railroads and their employees may find a peaceful solution through the methods of conciliation and arbitration already provided by Congress, which have proved so effective during the past year. To this end the commission should be in a position to have available for any board of conciliation or arbitration relevant data pertaining to such carriers as may become involved in industrial disputes. Should conciliation fail to effect a settlement and arbitration be rejected, accurate information should be available in order to develop a properly informed public opinion.

I therefore ask you to make such investigation, both of your records and by any other means at your command as will enable you to furnish data concerning such conditions obtaining on the Louisville & Nashville and any other roads, as may relate, directly or indirectly to the real merits of the possibly impending controversy.

## THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

**Bishop Duncan's Condition Somewhat Improved.**  
Spartanburg, S. C., Special.—Bishop W. W. Duncan's condition is somewhat improved. He seems stronger and his mind is clearer. He recognized the members of his family and talked with them. His physicians say that while he is a very ill man there is no immediate danger of the end.

## Bishop Satterlee Dead.

Washington, Special.—Right Rev. Henry Yates Satterlee, D. D., for the past 12 years protestant Episcopal bishop of Washington, died at his residence here Saturday. He was 65 years old. Although threatened with the grip Bishop Satterlee officiated at services last Sunday morning. Shortly afterward his condition became acute and a physician was called in death quickly following.

# POLICE CHIEF KILLED

Fayetteville, N. C., Witnesses Sunday Killing

## DEED OF A WANTON CRIMINAL

For the Second Time Within a Year Fayetteville's First Officer is Murdered.

Fayetteville, N. C., Special.—For the second time in a year Fayetteville's chief of police has been murdered. James H. Benton, the head of the police department of the city was shot about 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon by Sam Murchison a negro 30 years old, and died at 2:45 o'clock, living little more than an hour. The murderer was captured a short time after the shooting occurred and is now safely lodged in jail here.

The circumstances of the murder are aggravated and without palliation. It seems that the murderer, Murchison, had trouble earlier in the day with John Raines, another negro, and Ida Moore, a negro woman, which resulted in his shooting Raines, inflicting a slight flesh wound, and his threatening the life of the Moore woman. The woman, who lives in the neighborhood of Chief of Police Benton's home, fled to the latter for protection, making an outcry as she ran. Chief Benton met her at his back door, and hearing her complaint, was starting out in search of Murchison when the latter appeared on the scene. He and Officer Benton exchanged a few words, when the negro suddenly drew a revolver and fired at Mr. Benton, inflicting a mortal wound just under the eye. Officer Benton staggered and attempted to make his way back into the house, but fell before he reached the door.

Jack Crosswell, a lad, hearing the pistol shot, ran up at once and attempted to arrest the murderer, but the latter snapped his pistol at the boy and broke away. Mr. J. B. Underwood next appeared and the negro fled, firing a wild shot at Mr. Underwood as he ran. Charles Benton, the 17-year-old son of the wounded man, ran to his father's assistance as he fell and caught up the later's revolver as it dropped from his belt. As the negro fled the youth fired three shots after him, one of them taking effect as developed after the capture was made. Officer Benton was carried into his residence, suffering great agony, and lingered for a little more than an hour, passing away about the time his murderer was being placed under arrest.

News of the murder and the escape of the murderer spread rapidly through the city, and excitement became intense. Sheriff Watson and his deputies and thirty police were at once at work endeavoring to track the fugitive, and hastily organized posses of citizens were speedily scouring the suburbs in the vicinity of the scene of the crime. The capture was accomplished by Mr. Howard Smith, who was immediately joined by Messrs. George McNeil, L. A. Williamson and A. S. Hall, and the prisoner was then turned over to Sheriff Watson and his deputies. Public feeling ran high but the sheriff with orders from Governor Glenn to use the militia was enabled to protect the prisoner.

## Ten Killed in Panic at Teheran.

Teheran, By Cable.—Ten persons were killed and a score or more wounded including several ecclesiastics, as a result of a panic in the main streets here Sunday during the passage of a religious procession Muhammadan religious festival, held during the first month of the Mohammedan year.

## Priest Fouly Murdered.

Denver, Special.—Father Leo Heinrichs was shot and killed Sunday by Alio Giuseppe, an avowed anarchist and priest-hater, while the priest was administering the sacrament at early mass in St. Elizabeth's Catholic church. Eleventh and Curtis streets. Kneeling at the altar rail, between two men, Giuseppe pressed the muzzle of a revolver against the body of the priest, after receiving from him the consecrated wafer, and shot the priest through the heart. Exclaiming "My God, My God," Father Leo fell prone in front of the altar and died.

# A SLAYER IS SLAIN

Another Bloody Tragedy Occurs in South Carolina

## MURDER OF BROTHER AVENGED

While on Their Way to a Preliminary Hearing at Lancaster of the Tragedy at Kershaw Last Christmas, Grover Welch Shoots and Kills the Man Who Slew His Brother, Steve Welch.

Roch Hill, S. C., Special.—Grover Welch, brother of Steve Welch, who, with another man, was killed during a row in a barber shop in Kershaw last Christmas, shot to death Berry Mobley Monday night on the train from Camden to Rock Hill, just as it was reaching Pleasant Hill, a station nearly midway between Camden and Lancaster.

It was the first time that Mobley had been able to be out, he having been badly wounded by Steve Welch at the time the latter was killed by Mobley. Both men were on their way to Lancaster for a preliminary hearing of the Kershaw tragedy. Without warning Welch shot Mobley in the back as he fell between the seats four more bullets were fired into his body, death resulting instantly. It was a cold-blooded and cowardly murder and was evidently in revenge of the killing of Steve Welch by Mobley.

Conductor Boxtell who was in charge of the train, turned the dead body of the murdered man over to the coroner at Pleasant Hill, while Welch voluntarily came on to Lancaster and gave himself up to the authorities. Bad blood has existed between Welch and Mobley since the shooting Christmas and this is the first time that Welch had seen Mobley, and he took advantage of his first opportunity, when Mobley had his back turned, to avenge the death of his brother.

Both men are prominently connected.

## Young Man Kills Himself.

Gastonia, N. C., Special.—Telling his sweetheart, on whom he was calling, that he wanted to "show her a trick," John J. Fry, a young man of this place Monday night pulled from his pocket a pistol and shot himself in the head, the wound resulting in his death. It was an accident, there being no motive whatever or indication that it was suicide. About 7:30 in the evening Mr. Fry, day clerk at the Falls House, went to call on Miss Willie Jenkins, daughter of Mr. W. H. Jenkins, at her home in the Jenkins Block. He pulled off his overcoat and walked into the parlor where the young lady was, remarking to her that he wanted to "show her a trick." Simultaneously he drew from his pocket a pistol and, under the full light of the hanging lamp, shot himself, accidentally, it is held by all, in the head, the bullet entering the right temple and ranging upwards, coming out about two inches above the place where it entered. The skull was fractured in three different ways, and after lingering without regaining consciousness the young man died at 10 o'clock.

## Employs and Officials Confer.

Washington, Special.—Committees of the locomotive firemen and of the railroad telegraphers employed on the Southern Railway had conferences Monday with General Manager Ackert on the general question of a proposed reduction of wages on the system. The conferences were inconclusive and it was arranged to further discuss the matter at a later time.

## American Car Stalled in Snowdrift.

Michigan City, Ind., Special.—The American car in the automobile race from New York to Paris left Michigan City at 1:45 o'clock Tuesday morning for Chicago and stalled in an immense snowdrift nine miles west of Michigan City late in the afternoon. Teamsters accompanying the car gave up in despair and returned to Michigan City. The crew temporarily abandoned the car and went to Chesterton, 3 miles further west, for more men and horses.

## Mr. Thom Asks For Early Hearing.

Washington, Special.—Attorney A. P. Thom, of the Southern Railway Company, entered a motion in the Supreme Court of the United States for the advancement of the docket of that court of the cases involving the Virginia passenger rate law. He stated that the opposing council concurred in the motion and asked that a hearing be had before the end of the term in May.

## Will Build Dam at Cherokee Shoals.

Washington, Special.—Bills were passed by the House Monday permitting the building of a dam across Savannah river at Cherokee Shoals, and also authorizing the Secretary of War to furnish four condemned cannon and cannon balls to the Confederate monument association at Franklin, Tenn.

# SEN. LATIMER DEAD

South Carolina's Junior Senator Passes Away

## THE END WAS NOT UNEXPECTED

Junior Senator From the Palmetto State Dies From Effects of an Operation For Intestinal Trouble.

Washington, Special.—Senator A. C. Latimer, of South Carolina, died here Thursday morning at 9:30 o'clock following an operation for intestinal trouble several days ago. The members of his family were at his bedside when the end came. Arrangements for the funeral have not been made.

Senator Latimer was taken desperately ill Sunday night and was placed in Providence Hospital, where an operation was performed. He showed signs of improvement Monday and Tuesday, but complications set in early and his death soon followed.

## Senator Latimer's Career.

Senator Asbury Churchwell Latimer was 57 years of age. He was a native of South Carolina, having been born in Abbeville county, near the small town of Lowndesville. His boyhood and early manhood were spent on the farm. His first active political office was that of county chairman of the Democratic party of his county in 1890. When the Tillman movement in South Carolina began to take shape in the early 90's Senator Latimer allied himself prominently with the reformers and was nominated for Congress, to which he was elected over Col. George Johnston, of Newberry. He served in the Fifty-third, Fifty-fourth, Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh Congresses.

He was a candidate to succeed Senator John L. McLaurin in the warm campaign of 1902 and was elected by a majority of 17,700 over former Governor John Gary Evans, ex-Congressman George Johnstone and William Elliott, ex-Senator John J. Hemphill and State Senator D. S. Henderson. His term as Senator would expire March 3, 1909.

## The News in Columbia.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—The news of the death of Senator Latimer is received in Columbia, where the Legislature is in session, with evidence of sorrow and regret on all sides. Those opposed to him politically join with his political friends in speaking of him.

Governor Ansel has not as yet been officially informed of the death. As soon as he is, he will send a message to the Legislature, which will adjourn for the day or night, as the case may be, and appoint a committee to attend the funeral.

In view of section 17, of the revised statutes, which says a senatorial vacancy occurring during a sitting of a Legislature must be filled by the Legislature "on the second Tuesday after the Legislature has organized and has notice of such vacancy," it is likely that the Legislature will have to remain in session 10 days after Sunday, the day fixed for adjournment, in order to choose a successor to Mr. Latimer. If the Legislature were not in session Governor Ansel would have the appointment to make.

The death of Senator Latimer is of great political importance. It is certain that had he lived he would have had half a dozen opponents in his campaign for re-election next summer.

## Avowed Candidates.

Those already in the race against him were, ex-Governor John Gary Evans, of Spartanburg; ex-Congressman George Johnstone, of Newberry; ex-State Senator D. S. Henderson, of Aiken; Col. John J. Dargan, of Sumter, and State Superintendent of Education O. B. Martin, of Greenville. Governor Ansel was spoken of, but some time ago declared his desire to offer for another term for Governor. It is also thought that E. D. Smith, general organizer for the Southern Cotton Association and possibly ex-Governor Heyward would have been in the race. Senator Latimer's death it is thought, will decide ex-Governor Heyward to run.

## Prospective Candidates.

Among the prospective candidates who have developed for the unexpired term to be filled by the Legislature are Representative E. Marion Rucker, of Anderson; ex-Speaker of the House Frank B. Gary, of Abbeville; Senator LeGrand Walker, of Georgetown. Speaker Whaley has been urged for the place, but has very positively declined to enter the list.

## Seaboard Cuts Salaries.

Norfolk, Va., Special.—W. A. Garrett, chief executive officer for the receivers of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, issued the following: "Effective February 1st, all officials are working under a 10 per cent. cut. Those getting between \$6,000 and \$5,000 per annum, inclusive, are working under an 8 per cent. cut."