

Weather.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—Forecast for North Carolina for tonight and Wednesday: Fair tonight and Wednesday, colder on the coast.

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CHAIN OF EVIDENCE BECOMES STRONGER

Cotton and Holderfield Are Bound Over to Court Without Bail

ED CHAVIS TELLS OF TRIP TO ROCK QUARRY

Murder Trial Resumed at the Court House Today at Request of Attorneys—Judge Badger Said He Didn't Like to Go Back After Indignity Offered His Court, But Would Do So to Accommodate the Attorneys—Ed. Chavis on the Stand—Tells of Hauling Man Out to Quarry.

The unravelling of the Smith murder mystery was concluded today at 12:50 o'clock and Cotton and Holderfield must reside in jail until superior court convenes in January.

Upon the conclusion of the state's evidence Solicitor Armistead Jones arose and asked the court to hold the two defendants without bail.

The sensational disclosures of the day were made by Ed. Chavis and Winslow Kelly. The former told of the trip to the rock quarry, and the latter testified that Red Hopkins came into his restaurant and got a bottle, the contents of which was proven to be chloroform, and that when he returned he asked Kelly, "If anything goes bad tonight, for God's sake keep quiet about this or it's all 'kitty barred' with me."

Chavis unblocked his horse and got in his carriage and was told to turn around and drive out Davis street.

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Smith's dead body was found in the quarry next day, Sunday. On the same morning Cotton sent the watch, chain and ring over to Depot Belle to hide.

This strange chain of facts and circumstances point to a diabolical crime, but whether the defendants can be convicted of murder or not is for the court to decide.

The eager throng began to assemble (Continued on Second Page.)

D. A. TOMPKINS MAKES ADDRESS

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Washington, Dec. 8.—Charles Hall Davis, president of the Petersburg, Va., chamber of commerce, presided and made an address at the fourth session of the southern commercial congress, at the New Willard Hotel this morning.

Addresses were also made by Edwin C. Eckel, of Washington, on "The Iron Industry of the South"; Dr. C. W. Hayes, chief geologist of the United States geological survey, on "General Mineral Wealth of the South"; Hon. D. A. Tompkins, of Charlotte, N. C., on "Cotton Monopoly and Cotton Manufacture."

Permanent officers will be chosen at this afternoon's session, which will be presided over by Judge George Hillyer, of the Atlanta chamber of commerce.

William J. Oliver of Knoxville, Tenn., will deliver an address on "Building Materials of the South," and Clarence H. Poe, of Raleigh, N. C., on "The Agricultural Revolution."

POWDER PLANT BLOWN UP TODAY

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Carthage, Mo., Dec. 8.—The Independent Powder Company's plant, four miles west of Carthage, blew up at 10:45 this morning and a man named Bennett was killed and another named Brooks seriously injured.

The explosion blew many plate-glass windows in the up-town district. There are sixty employees in the mills and great anxiety prevails for their safety.

HOSTS ASSEMBLE FOR BAPTIST CONVENTION

(Special to The Times) Wilson, Dec. 8.—Every train arriving here is loaded with delegates to the State Baptist Convention, which will be in session here this week.

Wilson has thrown wide open her doors to the hosts of visiting Baptists and the 800 visitors will be pleasantly entertained while here.

PANAMA CANAL RECORDS WANTED

Representative Raney Wants to Make Thorough Investigation of Matter

WHERE DID MONEY GO

Will Inspect the Records Carefully and See How Much of the \$10,000,000 Paid by the Government Went to the American Syndicate—Some of the Records of the Purchase Are Said to Be in Panama and Raney Will Also Ask For These.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Washington, Dec. 8.—Following the introduction of his bill in congress yesterday to conduct a far-reaching investigation into the purchase of the Panama Canal property, Representative Raney, of Illinois, has made a demand on the interstate commerce commission to see the records of the purchase.

Mr. Raney says he will inspect the records carefully and see if they show how much of the \$10,000,000 paid by the government went to the French company, and if any of it was paid to Americans.

BIG FIRE IN NEW YORK

In Building of the Western Union Co.

The Fire Threatened an Entire Block of Business Houses and Warehouses—High Pressure Water System Saved Millions of Dollars—Loss Estimated at From \$200,000 to \$500,000.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Dec. 8.—Fire started in the supply building of the Western Union Telegraph Company, a seven-story structure at 152-154 Franklin street, at 4:15 o'clock this morning, threatened the entire block of warehouses and business houses bounded by Franklin and North Moore streets and Verrick and Hudson streets, and had it not been for the high pressure water system the loss might have run into the millions.

Just what the loss to the Western Union will be is a question. One estimate is \$200,000. Another is \$500,000. The adjoining buildings, both big whiskey houses, were saved from destruction, however, and the fire which for a time seemed to doom every building on the block was confined to the four walls in which it started.

Daughters of the Confederacy. The Johnson-Pettigrew Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy will meet tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock with Mrs. W. I. Royster. A large attendance is desired.

MAD PACE SET BY BICYCLE RIDERS

Six Day Riders Continue Their Efforts to Win the \$300 Prize

SMASHING THE RECORDS

Spectators Weary With Watching, Cheer Wildly at Pace Set by Races Early Today—Racers, With Several Smashed Records Behind Them, Tear Off the Miles Frantically—At Seven o'clock This Morning the Racers Were Three and a Half Miles Ahead of the Record.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) New York, Dec. 8.—Risking their lives to win a \$300 prize, offered by Larry Waterbury, the polo player, to any rider who would gain a lap, the six-day bicycle racers in Madison Square Garden began today the maddest pace yet set in the grilling contest.

The racers, with smashed records behind them, tore off the miles frantically. Bobby Walthour went out to regain the lap he and his partner Eddie Root lost, and when the gray of dawn began to filter through the smoke-filled avenue he started a spurt that lasted until the eleven other men riding with him were worn and panting.

ROW BETWEEN BANKERS

Failure of One Bank Causes Trouble

One Banker Shoots Another in a Discussion Over the Financial Condition of the City—The Cause of the Trouble.

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Springfield, Ill., Dec. 8.—Excitement incident to the closing of the National Exchange Bank here was aggravated when W. O. Oldham, cashier of the State Savings Bank, tried to shoot H. B. McDaniel, president of the National Exchange Bank.

During the recent financial stringency the National Exchange Bank absorbed the Springfield Trust Company, a large concern. Several officers of the Trust Company went to the National Exchange Bank in an official capacity.

Diamond in Chicken's Claw. (By Leased Wire to The Times) Bristol, Tenn., Dec. 8.—Dr. George J. Wiley yesterday found a diamond valued at \$250 in the claw of a chicken.

THE METHODIST HOSTS ASSEMBLE

Members of North Carolina Conference Now In Durham

WILSON WILL PRESIDE

Seventy-second Annual Session of the North Carolina Conference Will Meet in Durham Tomorrow, With Bishop Alpheus W. Wilson Presiding—Durham the Stronghold of Methodism and Homes of City Are Wide Open to the Members of the Conference—Work of Conference.

(Special to The Times) Durham, N. C., Dec. 8.—The seventy-second annual session of the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is assembling in this city today, and will hold its first session tomorrow morning at 9:30 o'clock, with Bishop Alpheus Waters Wilson presiding.

THE PRESIDENT SENDS LAST REGULAR MESSAGE

The Last Regular Message of the President Read in Both Houses

MESSAGE A VERY LENGTHY DOCUMENT

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Washington, Dec. 8.—The census bureau report shows 11,610,864 bales of cotton, a record for the country, compared with 8,343,396 for 1907; 16,027,868 for 1906; 8,689,663 for 1905. The proposition of the last three crops ginned to December 1 is 75.5 per cent, for 1907; 77.2 for 1906 and 82.8 for 1905.

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(By Leased Wire to The Times) Washington, Dec. 8.—Attendance in the senate and house was large at noon today, both on the floor and in the galleries in the expectation of the reading of President Roosevelt's message. Both houses were called to order at noon and after the preliminary routine work the president's secretary was announced and the reading clerk immediately began the reading of the message.

The president's message is one of unusual length. We give below a very brief synopsis of it, touching on the principle subjects he discusses.

Finances. The financial standing of the nation at the present time is excellent, and the financial managements of the nation's interests by the government during the last seven years has shown the most satisfactory results.

BARGE SINKS SEVEN DROWNED

(By Leased Wire to The Times) Halifax, N. S., Dec. 8.—Swamped by heavy seas, the United States barge No. 101, founded off Seal Island on Thursday morning and seven men who manned her were drowned.

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