

Double the Number of Paid Subscribers in the City of Raleigh of Any Other Newspaper.

VESUVIUS IS NOT IN THE SAME CLASS

Can't Compete With Ex-President as an Object of Attraction

ROME GETS READY

Rome Excited Over the Coming of Roosevelt—He Will Arrive in That City Sunday and Will be Welcomed in Gala Style—High Honor Will Also be Paid Him in Naples—Will be Given an Opportunity to Visit Mt. Vesuvius if He Wishes to do so—Naples Already Crowded With Tourists—50,000 Strangers Are Expected There.

(By Cable to The Times.)

Rome, March 31—Interest in the threatened eruption of Mt. Vesuvius has given way to the excitement over the coming of Theodore Roosevelt, and when the ex-president of the United States arrives here Saturday the city will be en fête.

High honor will be paid to the returning hunter in Naples on his way to Rome, when he will meet the King and Pope. The plans for his welcome were rounded into shape today in order that there might be no hitch when the steamer Prinz Heinrich arrives here from Alexandria.

According to one plan broached today Colonel Roosevelt will have an opportunity to visit Mount Vesuvius and inspect the crater if he wishes to do so. Although the Roosevelt party will have little time to spare before leaving for Rome, where they are expected Sunday, these plans to welcome him would like to include a trip to Mt. Vesuvius, which, coincident with the eruption of Mt. Etna in the last few days has been emitting steam and smoke in large volume. Solfatara, the volcanic peak on the shore of the Bay of Naples, lying about as far west of the city as Vesuvius lies east, today gave many signs of activity, the most alarming being the opening of a new mouth, sixteen feet in diameter. Solfatara, one of the most noted sights in the famous Phlegrean fields, had its last recorded eruption in 1198. The present indications, therefore, are that Mr. Roosevelt will have exceptional scenic opportunities.

Naples is already crowded with tourists, and every train today swelled the crowds of foreigners. Many inhabitants of the surrounding country are expected to come to the city to participate in the reception to the former president, and judging from the influx, fully 50,000 strangers will be in Naples to honor him.

The former chief executive of the country to which thousands have emigrated from Italy is a strong (Continued on Page Five.)

ERUPTION OF ETNA STILL VERY SEVERE

(By Cable to The Times.)

Catania, Sicily, March 31—The authorities today again ordered the evacuation of the outer districts of Belpasso and Nicolosi, on which lava streams are advancing rapidly. Many of the inhabitants refused to leave, despite the fact that destruction threatened them.

The eruption of Mt. Etna, although fluctuating in severity, continued today with 30 craters active.

Frank Perrett, the Brooklyn volcanologist, who has proved himself the most daring of the scientists studying the eruption, today predicted that it would probably last for six months and be the most serious in the history of the volcano.

There was another heavy rain of ashes from the volcano during the night.

Beri Beri At Charleston.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Columbia, S. C., March 31—Eight cases of beri beri, the deadly nutritional disease, have been found among the negro convicts at Charleston by state health officers. They are the first cases met of the Mississippi experts say.

COLLEGE PRESIDENTS

Discuss Matters Of Interest In Woman's Education

Opening Session of Association Held at Meredith Last Night—Addresses of Welcome Made—Mrs. W. N. Hunt and President Vardell Found Note of Reform in Their Addresses—Complimentary Concert and Reception Tonight.

The members of the Association of Presidents of the Woman's Colleges of North and South Carolina met in room 2 of Faircloth Hall at Meredith College this morning at 9 a. m. There are present at the meetings 18 of the 36 presidents represented in the association. There has been outlined for their consideration and help a program of interesting addresses on subjects of vital interest in their work.

The only public meeting of the association was held last night in the college auditorium. The other meetings are all private and it has never been the custom of the association to have them reported as the subjects which are to be dealt with are of an intimate nature concerning college work.

The program for today was as follows:

THURSDAY, MARCH 31st.

9:00 to 10:50 a. m.

1. Organization.

1. Stimulating better preparation in secondary schools—President F. P. Hobgood.

2. What is involved in the raising of standards for entrance requirements? Is it amount or quality of work?—President J. O. Wilson.

3. What weight should be given certificates for entrance?—President James D. Bruner.

11:00 a. m. to 12:50 p. m.

11. 1. Should advancement be made in carrying the course on to better standards for B. A. degree as regards the amount of work covered, or should advancement be made by doing better work and going no further than we do now?—President J. I. Frost.

2. What weight should be given certificates for advanced standing?—President D. B. Johnson.

12:50 to 1:00 p. m.

3. Short business meeting. Appointment of committee on nominations, next meeting, etc.

3:30 to 5:30 p. m.

111. 1. Exercise and recreation for the boarding student.—President Edward P. Childs.

2. Health (contagion, tuberculosis, sanitation, etc.). President C. G. Vardell.

3. May the health and strength of a student modify the requirements for a degree?—President E. C. James.

This evening at 8:15 the most interesting event of the association will take place the complimentary concert by the music faculty of Meredith College, assisted by the Raleigh Choral Society. Admission to this concert will be by card, owing to the limited capacity of the auditorium and so great has been the demand for these cards that they were all given out at an early hour yesterday.

The concert will be followed by a reception by the Meredith faculty to the visitors and specially invited guests.

Tomorrow's program is as follows:

FRIDAY, APRIL 1st.

9:00 to 10:50 a. m.

IV. 1. A fair and accurate statement in catalogues of work actually done. President H. J. Stockard.

2. Maintaining published rates for charges. President E. V. Baldy.

Exchange of information. (See 1908 program.) President J. R. Bridges.

11:00 a. m. to 1:00 p. m.

V. 1. The policy of the college toward the irregular student. (Referred from last meeting.) President E. E. McClintock.

2. The advisability of several courses, each leading to a degree. President Mary Davis Allen.

3. What academic credit should be given for music or art? President Lucy H. Robertson.

4. What is the minimum hours-of-work that should be required of students, and the maximum permitted? President C. B. King.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

3:30 to 5:30 p. m.

VI. 1. What do the colleges have a right to expect from patrons with regard to absence, and with regard to arriving and leaving at the proper time? Speaker to be appointed.

2. Statistics, conducted by the Chairman. It is proposed at this time to ascertain, without discussion, by show of hands how many already do, or will agree to do, certain things.

NIGHT SESSION—8:00 P. M.

VII. Business meeting. Impressions of the meeting. Discussion of matters left over. Question box.

The college presidents who are attending the Association and the names of their hosts are as follows:

Mrs. Mary Davis Allen, Louisiana Female College at the home of Garland Jones.

H. C. Baldy, Coler College, Harrisburg, Pa.

(Continued on Page Eight.)



Ruth Wheeler, the pretty fifteen-year-old stenographer of New York, whose murder has aroused the city as it has not been aroused in decades. Ruth answered an advertisement for employment at the direction of the business college where she had graduated. Nothing further was heard of her until her body, wrapped in a coarse sack was discovered in the yard of the house next to the place where she applied for a position. It had been saturated with oil and was partly consumed. Albert Wolter, a youth of nineteen, who sent a postal card to the college asking for a stenographer and to whose place Ruth went, has been arrested. He denies knowledge of her murder, but one of his shirts was wrapped about the torso. A young woman, who posed as his wife has made statements very damaging to him.

THE WOLTER CASE

Refused to Plead When Arraigned in Court

Rejected His Lawyer's Plea of Not Guilty and Refused to Plead When Arraigned Before Judge Mulqueen—Lawyer Given Time to Prepare Plea.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

New York, March 31—Albert W. Wolter, suspected of the murder of 15-year-old Ruth Wheeler, caused excitement when arraigned in court today by rejecting his lawyer's plea of not guilty and refusing to plead to the murder indictment against him.

Immediately after his refusal to make a plea his attorney, W. D. Scott, requested ten days in which to prepare the plea. Judge Mulqueen permitted an extension of 24 hours.

New York, March 31—Before Albert Wolter was arraigned today to plead to the indictment charging him with the murder of 15-year-old Ruth Wheeler, it was learned that his counsel, Wallace D. Scott, had been engaged to defend him by a very wealthy woman.

When Mr. Scott was asked about this he replied:

"That is a personal matter which I would rather not discuss."

A report was current today that Mrs. John Murray Mitchell, of Tuxedo, wife of the former congressman, had furnished the money to retain Mr. Scott.

A police official said today:

"I understand that a very wealthy woman retained counsel for this lad. She did it from sheer sympathy, one said she could not bear to think that the mother of Wolter had not the satisfaction of knowing that all possible would be done to prove the innocence of her son. She believed that no matter how atrocious the crime of which Wolter is accused, his family deserve all the aid and sympathy that can be bestowed upon them."

"It would be legal butchery to railroad this case as it is planned," said Lawyer Scott. "It is absolutely unjust to force a man to trial with only 48 hours notice. Wolter is innocent."

NORFOLK OFFICER KILLED BY CRIMINAL

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Portsmouth, Va., March 31—The convict who escaped from the Norfolk county jail yesterday fought a battle with the police in Norfolk this morning in which Deputy Sheriff Sykes was killed. One convict was captured, but his companion escaped.

The convict captured was Elijah Ellis, who is under sentence to die in the electric chair on April 25.

One of the other two who escaped with him yesterday, after having cut through the bars of the murderer's cell in the county jail, led the battle with the posse today. He is Noel, declared to be one of the most desperate criminals in the south. It was he, according to word from Norfolk, who killed Sykes and escaped after he and Ellis had been surrounded.

Advance in Freight Rates.

Chicago, March 31—An advance on many of the commodity carload freight rates between Chicago and the Missouri river and St. Paul is contemplated by the western railroads as the next move in a general campaign for increasing their revenues to offset the advances in wages to employes and the increased cost of operation in all departments.

THE COAL STRIKE

The 75,000 Miners Will Quit Today

Work Will Not be Resumed for Thirty Days at Least as No Peace Negotiations Can be Completed in Less Time Than That—Nine Hundred Mines Close Down.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Chicago, March 31—The most extensive coal strike in the history of Illinois will be on when 75,000 miners finish today's work, the last under the old contracts. Resumption of work will not come for at least thirty days, according to A. J. Moorshead, president of the Illinois Coal Operators' Association, who asserts peace negotiations could not be brought to a successful end before that time.

Even before the strike is fairly under way, arrangements have been made for the calling of a large conference in Chicago Monday between the scale committees of the operators and miners. It is expected 400 delegates will be in session but operators today asserted that sixty days might be required to bring about a solution of the most baffling problem that ever confronted them and the employes.

Meantime 900 mines will be closed down and 325 operating companies affected.

While the eleventh hour developments made certain that the Illinois strike was inevitable, word received from other mining sections summarized the situation as follows:

Forty thousand miners in the Pittsburgh district will strike at midnight pending settlement of wage demands.

Ohio miners are ordered to strike tomorrow while a conference to cover the dispute is held.

Twelve thousand miners in Kansas are ordered to strike tomorrow.

Central Pennsylvania miners and operators conferred today in an effort to effect immediate settlement.

Michigan miners, 3,400 in number, join the strike tonight.

President Thomas L. Lewis, of the United Mine-Workers, will leave Indianapolis tonight to take charge of the Illinois strike.

West Virginia operators prevent strike by granting wage increase.

Iowa miners vote to demand 10 cents a ton increase instead of 5 cents.

A general strike in the affected coal districts would mean that 300,000 men would quit work in 2,000 mines. The daily loss in coal production would be more than 1,500,000 tons, while the daily loss in wages to miners would be \$1,956,250. Figuring four persons to a family, more than 1,000,000 persons would be directly affected by the strike.

Chicago coal dealers reported today that a shortage would be felt in Chicago by large fuel consumers within a short time because of the railroads storing a sixty day supply. It was said that railroads had agents in the Illinois field for more than a month buying up coal wherever possible.

The cigarette-smoking girl never shows up in a bachelor's pipe dreams.

CITY LOSES SUIT

C. P. Howerton Gets Verdict of \$400. Against Durham

Jury Would Have Given Him More But \$500 Was All That Was Asked—New Duke Building Will be Finest Edifice in Durham When Completed—Death of E. H. Holt—Census Enumerators Named.

(Special to The Times.)

Durham, N. C., March 31—The city lost last night before the jury, a case brought against it by C. P. Howerton, suing for \$500 damages. This is all that was asked and the body was liberal. The plaintiff declared that he had been damaged by the city's big sewer laid near his property and filed his pleadings in the fall. The city government did not take the matter seriously. The awarding of the full amount of complaint is therefore a rather hard knock. The jury is said to have been so friendly, however, that it would have given more had it been asked.

The court also settled the Jordan-Horton matter by giving the plaintiff back his land. The action was an unusual one and the body hung nearly twenty-four hours upon it. The trouble lay in the fact that there was a suggestion from counsel that Sheriff Markham had violated his oath in not laying off the homestead that Jordan was entitled to when his property was sold for court costs in an action that he brought against the Norfolk & Western Railway. This jury was related to the sheriff and could not abide the thought of his kinsman being attacked. The suggestion of misconduct was thrown out by the defendant for that purpose.

Death of Mr. Holt.

A message was received here last night telling of the death of Mr. E. P. Holt, of Willardsville. Mr. Holt had been critically ill several days and since Monday there was offered no hope for him. He began with typhoid fever and it developed into pneumonia. His father attended him throughout the illness and was assisted by physicians elsewhere.

Mr. Holt was the son of Dr. E. M. Holt, of Willardsville, and leaves numerous relatives here and elsewhere. He had visited Durham often and was known well to the people of this and other localities.

The New Duke Building.

The Duke building, soon to be the brag block of the city, is to go up higher and the fifth story is the last change to be announced. Several weeks this has been in the minds of the architect, the owner and the builder and it was definitely decided the latter part of the week. Until that time it was thought that the structure would be four stories and that the present elevation is all that it will have. Great pride is taken in the incidental fact that it looks over the Trust building and can lick salt off the top of its head.

It wasn't meant to beat that big building when it started out. The first plan was to have a good two-story building that would grace the town. Then the material and the plans were changed. Steel was put in and the three stories were announced. That was to have been a beauty, but when it was told that four stories would be its height, say-scrapers were talked. Five will look high.

But even five stories will not stop its flight. Architect Hill C. Linticum has decided to make it so ten stories will be just as feasible as five and that is the foundation that he has given. It fronts best on Patton street and is the only competitor that the handsome block of the colored people has at that juncture. It is figured out that buildings will change their clothes every twenty years and that in that time the Duke building would begin to grow old unless new stories were added.

As the building already is marked for \$100,000 or thereabouts, it is easy to see that another story will run up several more thousands. The natural elevation will give it several stadia in hoists and in its stocking feet it will be nearly five above the trust building.

First Store Opened.

The first store to be opened in the new building is the Robbins dry goods firm today. The company will have its millinery opening, moving from the location on the corner of Main and Market by the new Duke. The significance of the occasion is more by reason of the fact that it is the spring opening of the firm, too. The representatives of the firm worked nearly all of the forepart of the night to get things in readiness.

Census Enumerators Named.

Census Supervisor D. H. Blair, of (Continued on Page Four)

SHEMWELL'S SENTENCE COMMUTED

Must Serve Five Days Imprisonment Pay \$500. and All Costs

FAMOUS CASE ENDS

Governor Kitchin Late Yesterday Afternoon Commuted the Sentence of Baxter Shemwell From Five Months Imprisonment to Five Days Imprisonment, a Fine of \$500 and All the Costs in the Case—Governor's Principal Reason for Commutation Was Based Upon the Reports of Doctors, Who Said That Imprisonment Would be Dangerous.

Late yesterday afternoon Governor Kitchin commuted the sentence of Baxter Shemwell from five months in jail to five days and a fine of \$500 and all the costs in the case.

It has been a long time since an application for pardon has created such a stir in this state and the action of the governor was awaited with great interest by the people. The history of the case and the reasons for the commutation are fully set forth by Governor Kitchin.

Baxter Shemwell was sentenced to serve five months in jail at the February term of Guilford court, 1909, for assaulting a railway conductor with a deadly weapon.

Reasons For Commutation.

Owing to the general interest in this case, I deem it proper to give a summary of the important facts bearing on the assault alleged.

Prisoner was convicted of a misdemeanor—assaulting a railroad conductor on a Pullman car with a pistol. There was no denial that prisoner drew his pistol, and there was no contention that he shot or attempted to shoot. Prisoner had a ticket from Staunton, Va. to Lexington, and was on board a train not scheduled to stop at Lexington, which he had taken at Charlottesville. When near High Point, the conductor offered the ticket back to Shemwell with the information that the train did not stop at Lexington. Before the train left High Point the conductor read a telegram to prisoner saying train could not stop at Lexington. Prisoner said, "I have got my ticket to Lexington and I warn you to stop this train."

A short time thereafter and while the train was about fifteen miles from Lexington, according to the conductor, corroborated by the only witness who claims to have seen the beginning of the assault, Shemwell met him in the aisle in the front of the car and said: "Are you going to stop this train at Lexington?" Conductor said "No." Shemwell said: "I will blow your brains out."

(Continued on Page Two.)

STRIKE OF TOBACCO COMPANY STEMMERS

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Richmond, Va., March 31—The 1,000 stemmers of the American Tobacco Company have today begun a strike at the company's plant at Richmond. The strike is the result of a dispute over wages and hours of work. The company offers a wage of \$1.50 a day and a 10-hour day. The stemmers demand a wage of \$2.00 a day and an 8-hour day. The company has refused to grant the demand. The strike is expected to last for several weeks. The company has a large stockpile of tobacco and is expected to continue to operate for some time. The strike is expected to have a serious effect on the tobacco industry in the South.