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### ALLENS STILL IN MOUNTAINS

Scene Shifted From Devil's Den to Squirrel's Spur Where Gang Thought to Be

### HOT ON THE TRIAL

An Assault Upon the Heights of Squirrels Spur Expected at Any Time—Possibly Caught Sight of Wesley Edwards Late Yesterday. Every Approach to Squirrel's Spur Guarded—Believed That the Gang Has Separated—Capt. Davant of the State Militia Anxious to Surround the Mountains With 200 Men.

Hillsville, Va., March 19.—An assault upon the heights of Squirrel's Spur in the Blue Ridge mountains, where Sidna Allen and part of his gang are believed entrenched, was planned today by a posse of forty detectives, reinforced by citizen volunteers, according to reports which reached here from Mount Airy. Confident that they have located the outlaws, the detectives stretched a cordon around the base of Squirrel's Spur last night, guarding every approach vigilantly as they waited for a survey of the surroundings before undertaking to close in.

Interest shifted from Devil's Den vicinity to Squirrel's Spur late yesterday, when the posse which had been scouring the mountains on the North Carolina side barely missed catching Wesley Edwards, a nephew of the older Allens, at his cabin eight miles east of Sidna Allen's home. Edwards escaped through the back door.

News that the authorities have moved upon the Allens' stronghold is hourly expected. The belief here is growing that the fugitives with a full day's start on their pursuers separated and scattered into remote villages.

Captain Davant of the state militia is anxious to surround the mountains with about two hundred men and search every nook and corner and place guards upon every high way to cut off the fugitives' food supply. The authorities believe that by watching the activities of women members of the Allen clan they may intercept some communication.

**Mt. Airy Posse Joins Pursuit.**

Mount Airy, N. C., March 19.—A citizens posse left at daybreak for Squirrel's Spur in response to a call from the main posse of sheriffs, deputies and detectives searching for the Allen clan. The men left armed heavily and carried supplies for several days' siege.

**Mrs. Allen Talks.**

Hillsville, Va., March 19.—Mrs. Sidna Allen, when seen at Steven Williams' house, half a mile from her residence, said she had no idea where her husband was. When told that Floyd Allen was still alive she expressed regret. "I have no idea where Sidna went when he left me Thursday. I left our home the night this awful thing happened. My husband was still there. As I kissed him good-bye, he told me to

**BANDITS KILL JUDGE.**



Judge Thornton Messie, who was shot by "the Allen gang" of desperadoes in his court room at Hillsville,

do everything I could for our two little children.

"Regardless of what he did in court never Tuesday I want to say there never was a kinder, more loving husband and father. He has an awful temper. That was responsible for whatever he did."

Sidna Allen has two pretty children, girls, Marguerite, age 10, and Pauline, 5.

**Several Stills Found.**

Hillsville, Va., March 19.—Four members of the posse who accompanied Steve Faddis, of the revenue service, to Floyd Allen's home to confiscate the illicit stills and other paraphernalia returned here. They brought four outfits consisting of kettles and worms, and had about fifty gallons of moonshine whiskey. Great quantities of illicit whiskey was poured out on the mountain side. Two stills were found at Sidna Edwards' house, the paraphernalia being held as evidence.

Lee Felts, of the detective posse has the revolver with which Sidna Edwards helped shoot up the court. The weapon was left by Sidna at his home when he fled from the posse Sunday. It is 48-calibre, more than a foot long.

Hillsville has almost regained its composure, but the women are still afraid to go out of doors.

### GRADING OF COTTON

**More Scientific Basis Is Needed, According to Dr. Galloway.**

Washington, March 19.—To get a more scientific basis for grading cotton than the present one, which depends upon the color and length of the staple, the strength of fibre and its spinning qualities should be considered, according to Dr. B. T. Galloway, chief of the plant industry bureau. Galloway states if a "community type" of cotton can be raised, southern farmers will get more for their product.

**Millions for Orphans.**

London, March 19.—Six and quarter million dollars bequest was left by the late Baron Wardsworth for founding an orphanage.

### PROGRAM FOR MEET OF GOOD ROADS MEN

The program for the public meeting of the Wake County Good Roads Association in the court-house Saturday at noon includes many good speakers, among them Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt and Mr. H. B. Varner, editor of Southern Good Roads. In the afternoon stereopticon views of good roads will be shown. The program is as follows:

12:00 P. M.—Wake County Roads and Their Relation to Other Roads.—Dr. Achibald Cheatham, of Durham.

12:20 P. M.—A Uniform Plan for County Roads. Need of an Expert Engineer for the Whole County.—Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt, state geologist.

12:50 P. M.—Uniform and Effective Methods for County Roads. Need of an Expert Road Builder for the Whole County.—Rev. George W. Lay.

1:10 P. M.—Announcements by the President.

1:15 P. M.—Adjournment for Lunch.

2:00 P. M.—Exhibit of Views of Good Roads (and some bad ones) at the Alamo, one block north of the court-house, on the opposite side of Fayetteville street. Over 40 fine stereopticon views, furnished by the U. S. Government, exhibited by Col. Z. P. Smith, secretary of the Fayette chamber of commerce.

2:45 P. M.—Reassemble at the court-house.

**Short Addresses.**

(Limited to ten minutes.)

Mr. R. D. White, of Louisburg.

Mr. A. A. Thompson, of Raleigh.

Mr. H. B. Varner, editor of Southern Good Roads.

Mr. Leonard A. Tufts, of Pinehurst.

**Resolutions and Miscellaneous Business.**

(Speakers limited to five minutes.)

After adjournment exhibit of road implements and machinery on Fayetteville street in front of the court-house. Every thing will be shown from engines and road machines to picks and shovels, including split-log drag.

**O'Connell Installed.**

Richmond, March 19.—Right Rev. Dennis J. O'Connell, appointed by the Pope to succeed the late Right Rev. Augustus Vandevyver, was installed as bishop of the diocese of Richmond by Cardinal Gibbons and the Catholic clergy of Virginia. The procession from the Episcopal residence to the cathedral was a brilliant pageant.

### TO INCREASE CUTTERS

**Will Make Revente Cutters Fighting Force**

Remount Heavy Guns and Put On Heavy Armor—Can Be Used for Scout Cruisers.

(By Winfield Jones.)

Washington, March 19.—By reorganizing the United States revenue cutter service the navy department proposes by one stroke to greatly increase the power of this country upon the high seas. The revenue cutter service at present acts as a commercial adjunct to the treasury department, but under the new plan it would become a strong naval military force, to be held in reserve, swift, sailing vessels and naval officials believe that such a fleet would prove particularly efficacious for scouting in time of war. The revenue cutters are now practically useless as active fighting vessels, their armament being inadequate.

To develop the efficiency of the service as an auxiliary fighting power the navy department plans a complete reorganization which will result in the modernization of the fleet and the adaptation of it to warlike purposes.

The vessels are deemed to be as good as can be provided for the service to which the new plan destines them, but the ordnance they carry is to undergo a complete change. Nearly every revenue cutter is armed differently from others. This is due to the fact that for many years it has been the practice to provide its own guns by private contract, so that the present armament is a museum of different types of guns. Navy department officials state before any target practice work will be attempted a standard type of gun will have to be adopted by the service. Already the navy and treasury department have begun to collaborate upon the plan.

The duties of the revenue cutter service, aside from acting as a sharp-eyed overseer of the customs activities is to prevent contraband smuggling and occasionally succor a ship in distress. Consequently its 1,500 men and 240 officers are skilled and experienced in rapid cruising and quick sea work of all kinds. The cutters have always been the most swift-sailing vessels obtainable. In the early days of the service revenue cutters were built to be the most fleet of all sailing ships. At present the cutters are steam vessels, making 14 to 15 knots an hour. On these vessels the new guns are to be mounted.

There will be no change in the regular duties of the service, except in time of war, when their reserve force will be depended upon by the navy department. There has never been any target practice to amount to anything in the service, for the men who direct it have never felt the necessity. It is estimated that the cutters have not been called upon to use the guns as they now carry more than a dozen times since the war with Spain, but with the new plan in operation, skilled marksmen only will suffice for manning the vessels. Twice each year, after the new guns are mounted, each cutter will receive orders to cruise to target grounds and there undergo a severe test on the abilities of its gunners.

Franklin MacVeagh, secretary of (Continued on Page Seven.)

### EXCISE BILL WILL BE PASSED TODAY

Washington, March 19.—The passing of the democratic excise income tax to meet the drain upon the treasury that would be caused by putting sugar on the free list, was confidently expected before nightfall by the democratic leaders of the house. The program included two hours of debate, followed by a discussion under the five minute rule for the expedition of the measure.

**Bill Passed.**

Washington, March 19.—The democratic excise income tax bill passed the house unamended this afternoon. The vote was 249 to 41. Many republicans voted for it.

**To Establish Wages.**

London, March 19.—Premier Asquith introduced in the house of Commons a coal mines bill to establish a fixed minimum wage for workers.

### MR. BOARD MET INSTANTLY

Suicide or Accident At Wake Forest, Mr. B. F. Board Being the Victim

### BODY AT FOOT OF TOWER

Prominent Manufacturer of Alexandria, Va., Visiting His Brother-in-Law, Mr. W. R. Powell, of Wake Forest, Jumped or Fell From Water Tank—Head Crushed and Neck Broken—Was at First Thought to Be Suicide Because Mr. Board Was In Bad Health, But Further Investigation Leads to the Belief That Death Was Due to Accident.

(Special to The Times.)

Wake Forest, March 19.—Affected by overwork and insomnia, Mr. Benjamin Board, a prominent manufacturer of Alexandria, Va., probably committed suicide last night by jumping from the top of a hundred foot water tank at the home of his brother-in-law, Mr. W. R. Powell, of Wake Forest, whom he had been visiting for the past ten days. Mr. Board with his wife and an infant son, B. F. Board, Jr., had been here for some time at the home of Mrs. Board's brother while Mr. Board was recuperating.

Last night at eight o'clock he left the sitting room where the rest of the family were and when his absence was prolonged a search was made for him and for some time it

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### RACE FOR SUPREMACY

Ports of the Country Striving For Lead In Commercial Affairs

New York, March 19.—The greatest race for commercial supremacy in the history of the United States is now on among the different ports of the country, and, according to expert engineers here who have been called upon to prepare plans and submit reports for harbor improvements in a dozen cities on both the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard, the greatest overhauling and modernization of port facilities that has ever taken place is likely to occur within the next few years. It is estimated that the improvements already begun or projected will involve the expenditure of not less than \$500,000,000 and that they will result in the saving of far more than this sum through the more rapid and economical handling of goods that will result. Boston has provided for the expenditure of \$9,000,000 in waterfront improvement and its port commission has asked for \$25,000,000 more. Baltimore has equally extensive plans and the South Atlantic and Gulf ports are all discussing projects for the expenditure of millions to take advantage of the increased trade which they expect to receive with the completion of the Panama Canal. Seattle, within the past few days, has adopted a plan of harbor development which is expected to involve the expenditure of \$20,000,000 while her neighbor and rival, Tacoma, is working on an equally ambitious project and Los Angeles is already busy carrying out improvements that will cost \$10,000,000. The knowledge of these ambitious plans has been brought to New York through the presence here within the past few months of delegations from all these cities to inspect New York's up-to-date waterfront plant, the great Bush Terminal at South Brooklyn, which is to serve apparently as the model to be followed in all these improvements. Meanwhile New York is just waking up to the fact that she must bestir herself or she will be left behind in the race by these energetic rivals. A bill providing for the expenditure of over \$30,000,000 in deepening the city's harbor channels has been introduced.

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### TAFT'S CHANCES HURT

Reciprocity Stand Hurt Him In North Dakota

Looks Like a Sure Thing for the Colonel—Democratic Ticket Doubtful.

Bismarck, N. D., March 19.—The voters of this state are today casting their ballots in the first presidential preference primary ever held in the United States. The ballot gives each voter an opportunity to designate his choice for the ten delegates who will represent his state at the party's national convention; and at the same time permits him to name the presidential candidate for whom these delegates shall cast their votes. There is also a space for the voter to indicate his choice for the state's five presidential electors.

Interest in today's contest is nationwide, not simply because it marks the inauguration of a new system of choosing presidential candidates, but chiefly because of the bitter fight between the Taft and Roosevelt cohorts.

This is reflected throughout the state in the exceptionally heavy registration, and early reports from all over the state indicate that a large vote is being polled.

The Republican ballot carries the names of three candidates for the presidential nomination—Taft, Roosevelt and La Follette—with a blank space in which the voter may insert any name he desires, providing any of the above three do not meet with his approval.

The presidential space on the democratic ballot is limited to one name, that of John Burke, governor of the state, with a blank space for the insertion of any other name.

Interest lies chiefly in the republican contest. Before Roosevelt's announcement of his candidacy, La Follette was picked as a sure winner. Taft had lost the support of the farmers owing to his strong stand on the Canadian reciprocity pact, and the fact that this agreement died a natural death through the failure of the Canadian government to act, by no means restored the President to their good graces.

La Follette's collapse and Roosevelt's entrance into the field, however, changed matters considerably. The large majority of La Follette supporters climbed on to the Roosevelt band wagon, and the Roosevelt national committee has flooded the state with speakers for the past three weeks, who have been doing their best to pile some more on.

The Taft adherents have not been making any claims in North Dakota, but since La Follette has expressed his intention of remaining in the race, they are secretly hoping that the progressive vote will split on the La Follette rock, and the outcome will show Taft in the lead.

While Governor Burke's candidacy is not considered seriously by the national democratic leaders, he may secure sufficient votes to control the delegation of his own state. Clark, Wilson and Harmon will undoubtedly receive a number of votes, but it is difficult to forecast a result.

**GAME AT ELON.**

Catawba Defeated By Score of Eight to One.

Elon College, March 19.—A large crowd witnessed the first game of the season here today when Elon de-

### PRESIDENT TAFT IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Boston, March 19.—President Taft left this morning to "invade" New Hampshire, the state of Governor Bass, one of the state executives supporting Roosevelt for the republican presidential nomination. The president's program, including the laying of the corner-stone of a Y. M. C. A. building at Nasau, an address at the theatre there, a speech before the French-American league, a reception at Concord and an address to the citizens in Concord. The president leaves for Washington tonight.

**Crawford Trial Halted Today.**

New Orleans, March 19.—Annie Crawford's trial, charged with killing her sister, Elsie Crawford, last September, was halted today to allow the defense's experts to examine the dead girl's vital organs. The trial reconvenes tomorrow with experts on the stand.

### TWO SPEECHES TO COMMITTEE

Messrs. Briggs and Simms to Present Raleigh's Claims For Democratic Convention

EVERYBODY WANTS IT

Republicans and Democrats, All Working for Raleigh, Compose Delegation Named by President Litchford to Show Democratic Executive Committee City's Interest—Will Give Delegates Good Time—Personnel of Delegation.

Mr. H. E. Litchford, president of the chamber of commerce, will head a large delegation tomorrow night when Raleigh citizens will ask for the democratic executive committee to select Raleigh as the place for holding the state convention. President Litchford will present only two speakers, Messrs. W. G. Briggs and R. N. Simms, and these gentlemen will speak as citizens in the interest of Raleigh. A republican and a democrat will tell the members of the committee that it is not merely the democrats who want the convention to come here, but people of both parties.

Back of these speakers will be the Raleigh delegation, who will put in a lick here and there. Even before the committee assembles the committee will have been told of the capital city's hospitality and entertainment will have been furnished to emphasize the fact.

**The Delegation.**

Among those whom President Litchford has asked to compose the Raleigh delegation are W. G. Briggs, R. N. Simms, J. H. Pou, Dr. R. L. Horton, Joe T. Eland, M. T. Norris, ex-Judge R. W. Winston, N. B. Broughton, Col. F. A. Olds, Albert L. Cox, Francis A. Cox, Wm. Boylan, Mayor Jas. I. Johnson, Col. Chas. E. Johnson, Jos. G. Brown, E. C. Duncan, W. B. Drake, Jr., B. S. Jerman, E. B. Crow, Jno. T. Pullen, F. H. Briggs, Chas. Root, Jno. W. Hinsdale, Jr., J. W. Harden, Jr., Maj. J. B. Hill, Col. J. C. L. Harris, Ar. H. H. Jones, W. B. Jones, J. Sherwood Upchurch, Geo. M. Harden, Dr. Chas. Lee Smith, C. W. Gold, P. D. Gold, Jr., E. L. Woodall, Col. John W. Hinsdale, E. G. Smith, Perlin Busbee, C. B. Edwards, B. H. Woodell, H. J. Johnson, W. H. Williamson, B. F. Montague, T. B. Moseley, W. B. Mann, J. W. Bailey, E. E. Britton, John A. Park, T. B. Hearitt, Geo. W. Norwood, W. S. Wilson, Capt. W. F. Moody, E. H. Baker, W. E. Crawford, Bos C. Beckwith, Dr. H. A. Royster, Sheriff J. H. Sears, A. L. Sears, Walter L. Watson, W. B. Snow, Alex. Stronach, Jno. C. Drewry.

**Bryan's Birthday.**

Lincoln, Neb., March 19.—William Jennings Bryan is 52 years old today. Many prominent democrats are attending the Bryan birthday dinner tonight.

**Supreme Court Takes Recess.**

Washington, March 18.—The supreme court took a recess until April 1st.

**CONGRESS DISGUSTS HIM.**

Representative William G. Brantley, of Georgia, member of the house and one of the most brilliant men in congress, has announced that he will not seek re-election, as he is not in sympathy with the trend of modern legislation.

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**May Purchase Monticello.**

Washington, March 19.—Senator Martin introduced in the senate a joint resolution to appoint a commission to inquire into the feasibility of the government purchasing Monticello, Jefferson's home, near Charlottesville, Va.

**One Hundred Killed.**

Swatow, China, March 19.—The casualties exceeded one hundred among the local soldiers and Canton troops during the fighting.

**SET FIRE TO FENCE THEN ROBBED STORE**

A novel and daring plan was put into execution last night, when three negroes went to the store of Mr. William Womble, on the outskirts of the city, and set fire to the fence that surrounds the store. After the fire had started good they gave the alarm. Mr. Womble and his neighbors immediately rushed to the fire, leaving the store unprotected. When the coast was clear, the negroes entered and appropriated the cash box to their own use.

The police were notified at once, and a hunt started. Officer Pope and Warren and Constable Byrum got on the trail and after several hours succeeded in landing John, Hozekiah and Alexander McCullum, sons of "John, the Wise Man." The theft was identified by the denominations of the money and a number of broad tickets pilfered from the cash box. Owing to the fact that the store was open, larceny is the only charge upon which they can be tried. The case will come up this afternoon.

**GUILFORD REPUBLICANS.**

Will Hold County Convention In April—Taft and Roosevelt Forces.

Greensboro, March 19.—A meeting of the Guilford county republican executive committee has been held and a call issued for a county convention to be held in Greensboro in April when delegates will be selected to the state convention. The call is expected to result in renewed activities among the Taft and Roosevelt forces in the county, both sides admitting that work must be done if Guilford's delegates go to the state convention instructed for either the president or the ex-president. The Roosevelt forces say that sentiment for Colonel Roosevelt is increasing while the friends of President Taft say that there will be little if any trouble in instructing for him.

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