

## Double the Number of Paid Subscribers in Raleigh of any Other Newspaper

### RALEIGH WILL GET STATE CONVENTION

#### Sentiment Seems to Be Overwhelmingly in Favor of Bringing Biennial Gathering Back to Its Old Home

### CHARLOTTE HERE WITH DELEGATION

Representatives of That City Will Assure Members of Committee That Charlotte is Always Ready to Entertain Convention—Raleigh Will Welcome Convention Back Home—New Auditorium Will Be Thrown Open to Members of Committee—May Recommend Action As to Senatorial Primary.

Although it was practically certain this afternoon that the democratic state convention would be held in Raleigh, President Litchford, his committee and other Raleigh citizens were not content with the seeming overwhelming sentiment in favor of the capital city. The delegation will go before the executive committee tonight and put forward Raleigh's claims. Mr. Willis G. Briggs and Mr. R. N. Simms will be the spokesmen for Raleigh. The meeting will be held in the senate chamber.

Messrs. Frank R. McNinch, Edgar B. Moore, Editor Wade H. Harris and Mr. R. W. Vincent, the latter managing editor of the Observer, comprise the delegation sent down from Charlotte to go before the executive committee tonight. These gentlemen will assure the members of the committee that Charlotte always extends a warm welcome and that the Queen City is ready to receive at this time.

The committee tonight will name the time and place for holding the convention and transact other business. Raleigh is most likely to be the place and the time will be early in June. It is expected that the committee will make recommendations to the state convention as to the manner of holding a primary to decide the senatorial question.

President Litchford this afternoon will show the members of the committee through the magnificent new auditorium.

The members of the executive committee are as follows: A. H. Eller, chairman, Winston-Salem; Walter E. Brock, secretary, Wadesboro.

Advisory Committee—T. J. Jarvis, Greenville; Claude Kitchin of Scotland Neck; F. M. Simmons, New Bern; Josephus Daniels, Raleigh; J. S. Carr, Durham; ohn D. Bellamy, Wilmington; Theo. F. Klutz, Sr., Salisbury; C. W. Tillett, Charlotte; Locke Craig, Asheville.

First District—W. G. Lamb, Wilmington; F. G. James, Greenville; E. A. Daniel, Washington; E. F. Aydtlett, Elizabeth City; L. L. Smith, Gatesville; C. E. Thompson, Elizabeth City.

Second District—P. J. Macon, Warrenton; W. A. Finch, Wilson; F. D. Winston, Windsor; N. J. Rouse, Kinston; W. O. Howard, Tarboro; E. L. Travis, Halifax.

Third District—W. D. Hargett, Trenton; T. D. Warren, New Bern; (Continued on Page Five.)

### SHORT-TERM CONVICT WAS SHOT IN BACK

George Wilkins, a short-term convict, who was shot twice early yesterday morning as he was scaling a fence at the camp at the state fair grounds, was reported in a serious condition today. Wilkins had asked the guard for permission to get a drink of water before going out with the gang and when the guard turned his head, the negro scooped around a building and was making for the fence when next seen, he was commanded to halt, but kept running, and as he was climbing the fence Guard A. B. Ross fired at him with a 38 calibre pistol, the bullet striking him in the back. At the same time another guard fired a load of shot at him, these peppering him in the back also.

Wilkins ran 150 yards before falling. Dr. J. J. L. McCullers, county superintendent of health, was called and rendered medical aid. Wilkins was sentenced Saturday afternoon to thirty days on the road for loud and boisterous cursing on the street.

### HAD RINGS ON HIS TOES

And Plenty of Time, But Got Caught For Stealing \$1,000 Worth of Jewelry. Charlotte, March 20.—Cree Medlin, a young white man who came to the city about four weeks ago from Atlanta, Ga., and who has since been working in a Charlotte cotton mill, will probably be given a preliminary hearing today, charged with the theft of a thousand dollars worth of jewelry from the Little-Long Company's store Monday night.

When arrested as he alighted from a car at the Square, he denied all knowledge of the affair. Protesting his innocence, he was taken to the police station, and a search revealed that he had several watches in his pockets, and twenty rings in his socks and shoes, which were later identified as part of the missing jewelry.

### Aviator Hurt in Auto.

New York, March 20.—Frank C. Coffyn, an aviator was hurled from an automobile in Central Park. It crashed into a bridge. Coffyn was taken to a hospital.

### Snow Storm in the West.

SIoux CITY, March 20.—One of the severest snow storms of the winter is raging. Railroad and street car traffic is crippled.

### Third Division Disbanded.

Adjutant General Lanster today issued an order disbanding the third division of the naval brigade at Windsor for inefficiency.

### Heavy Loss of Life.

Fort Smith, March 20.—Reports to the mining company headquarters indicate heavy loss of life.

### WOMEN SMUGGLER COMMITS SUICIDE

New York, March 20.—Mrs. Blanche Carson of San Francisco, arrested here for smuggling several thousand dollars worth of jewels on her arrival from abroad, committed suicide by hanging herself to a window of a hotel. The woman's body was seen by a pedestrian, dangling from the edge of an eighth floor window of the Hotel Brozelli. The rope was fastened to the radiator. The woman confessed smuggling jewels valued at twenty thousand dollars. During her examination yesterday she broke down and told how she brought a large amount of jewelry into the United States concealed in her hat and elsewhere. The woman's age was fifty.

### LAFOLLETTE HAS BIG LEAD OVER ROOSEVELT

Fargo, North Dakota, March 20.—With returns received last night Senator LaFollette has a lead of over thirteen thousand votes over Theodore Roosevelt in the first presidential primary election yesterday. Roosevelt carried only one of the eastern tier of counties.

### Posse in Pursuit.

Corinth, Miss., March 20.—Sheriff McPeters and a posse of Oicora county men began the pursuit of five or more robbers of the Mobile and Ohio northbound train.

### Locomotive Explodes.

Roanoke, Va., March 20.—A Norfolk and Western locomotive exploded, killing the engineer and injuring 470.



MISS BEATRICE BIDDLE AND JUDGE R. H. SMITH.

The engagement of Miss Beatrice Biddle, a member of the famous Biddle family of Philadelphia, who is eighteen years of age, to Judge Richard H. Smith, of St. James, L. I., 62 years of age, will be formally announced within a few days. The wedding is expected to take place the latter part of June. Only a few months ago Miss Biddle's family announced her engagement to Albro Gaylor, an editor and art critic. He is 21 years of age. The first intimation the friends of Miss Biddle had of her engagement to Judge Smith was a tea given in honor of the betrothed pair by the judge's cousin. The cause of the engagement being broken between Miss Biddle and Gaylor is a mystery.

### NO NEED TO GO TO RENO

### Durham Seems Able to Handle Such Cases

(Special to The Times.)

Durham, N. C., March 20.—Judge Cook, who is presiding over Durham superior court, yesterday afternoon ordered indictments to be brought against the husbands of a number of women who have applied to the court for a divorce alleging non support and desertion. At the last term of court a total of fourteen divorces were granted by Judge Cook in one week. Several more have been granted at this term, and there are still a large number on the docket. A large number of the actions are brought by the wives on the ground of desertion, non support and infidelity to the marriage vows. Judge Cook ordered steps to be taken to have the delinquent husbands brought before the grand jury and punishment meted out to them.

A meeting of a representative body of Durham business men was held in the Commercial Club rooms yesterday evening for the purpose of forming a county club. A number of shares of the stock was subscribed for and a charter will be secured at once. It was decided to purchase a lot from Mr. John Sprunt Hill near his golf course which will be accessible to the members.

### Taylorville Office Advanced.

Washington, March 20.—The postoffice at Taylorville was today advanced to the presidential class; the change to become effective April 1. The office will pay \$1,100 per annum.

### Mrs. Grace Goes to Philadelphia.

Atlanta, Ga., March 20.—Mrs. Daisy Ople Grace, released on \$7,500 bond last night, left for Philadelphia. The trip was in connection with plans to protect her interest in her estate.

### WAS ANOTHER FALSE SCENT

### The Allen Gang Was Not at Chestnut Ridge--Posse Discourage

Hillsville, Va., March 20.—It was another false scent that drew into the mountains last night nearly every man of this section that could ride a horse and carry a gun. The location of the Allen gang is still a mystery. Part of the posse returned here today weary and discouraged, reporting that the gang was not found at Chestnut Ridge, where it was believed to have been trailed.

The returning posse found gathered on the court-house green, anxiously awaiting news from the night search, practically every woman and child left behind by the men hunters. It was with mingled feelings of disappointment and relief that the families of the members of the community learned the outlaws had not been encountered or located.

Roanoke, March 20.—A telephone message from Mount Airy says two men answering the description of Allen and Wesley Edwards, members of the Carroll county outlaw band, were seen this morning, hurrying along the railroad tracks toward Pilot Mountain, in the direction of Winston-Salem. A posse started in pursuit.

### Arrest at Baltimore.

Asheville, March 20.—Local officers about noon arrested a young man at Baltimore, heading freight train No. 73. The chief of police had been advised that he might be one of the Allen gang that boarded the train at Ashters. He is about 21 years old, says his name is Oliver Goodson, and that he lives in Canton, but has been there for two years. He has been in Reidsville he says. He is being held pending an investigation.

### DYNAMITE PLOT TO ASSASSINATE KNOX

New Orleans, March 20.—Because of the alleged discovery by the Nicaraguan government of a plot to assassinate Secretary of State Knox on his recent visit there, it is not improbable a number of prominent "liberals" will be put to death, according to advices received here from Bluefields.

Thirteen dynamite bombs, placed beneath the roadbed over which Knox's special train traveled from Corinto to Managua and connected with an electric battery, were discovered by government agents, and will be used as evidence against the conspirators. Two score Solayistas, or "liberals," are confined in the penitentiary at Managua, held incommunicado, pending the termination of present investigation.

Bombs with battery connections were discovered planted beneath the railroad tracks. The discovery was made after the Knox special train passed on the way to the capital. The failure of the conspirators to do deadly work is believed due either to lack of proper battery connections or approach of guards detailed to patrol the tracks.

### SIX MONTHS FOR A MILITANT SUFFRAGETTE

London, March 20.—Ellen Pitfield, a suffragette who attempted to set fire to the general postoffice March 3, by throwing a bundle of paper saturated with petroleum into the building, was sentenced to six months imprisonment.

### GIFT OF HUNDRED THOUSAND.

J. Pierpont Gave Large Sum to Nashville College.

Nashville, March 20.—J. Pierpont Morgan gave a hundred thousand dollars to the Peabody College for teachers; it was announced today. Mr. Morgan's gift is part of the million which will be raised for the institution.



MISS ALICE TIERNEY.

Washington, March 20.—Miss Alice Tierney, of this city and Hyattsville, Md., is now on a 10,000-mile journey to marry her fiance, Harry Gwynn, now in Yokohama, Japan. Gwynn, who is connected with the military service in Manila, will meet his bride-to-be at the end of her romantic journey. The romance between Miss Tierney and Gwynn began within the walls of the naval academy at Annapolis, eight years ago, when Mr. Gwynn was a midshipman. Miss Tierney was educated in the Notre Dame Convent and the Washington College.

### SIMMONS IN GOOD HUMOR

### "Nothing Has Occurred to Disturb My Equanimity," He Says

"Nothing has occurred to disturb my equanimity," answered Senator F. M. Simmons today in response to a query by a Times reporter as to the political situation. The senator was laughing and chatting with friends in the lobby of the Yarrowburgh hotel.

He said he had merely run down from Washington to attend the meeting of the executive committee tonight. Mr. Simmons was looking unusually well and vigorous. Many friends from all parts of the state called on him to offer congratulations. His private secretary, Mr. Watts, is also here.

Hon. Francis D. Winston of Windsor when seen today said that there was no doubt about Raleigh's landing the convention. Everybody, it seems, wants to see the democrats hold their conventions here.

### THE POPE AND DUELING

Accepts the Resignation of a Count Who Challenged a Prince.

Rome, March 20.—The pope has accepted the resignation of Count Pecci, nephew of the late Pope Leo XIII, who recently challenged Prince Altieri to a duel, from command of the Palatine Guard of Honor. The count will at the same time remit his rank of lieutenant in the noble guards. Therefore his connection with the Holy See will be entirely severed. By a special concession of the pope the count is granted a pension.

The pope, in alluding to the dueling scandal with which the count was connected, hinted that he intends shortly to make a public manifesto against duelling. "Duelling," he said, "is an anachronism. It survives because modern laws do not sufficiently protect individual honor; they only safeguard property."

Love is a disease—but it isn't as contagious as it used to be.

### BUILDING COLLAPSES WITH FATAL RESULTS

### Parsons Drug at Wadesboro Fell This Morning--Three Persons Are Dead and Several Others Were Injured in Crash

### EDITORS WILL MEET AT MOREHEAD CITY

The executive committee of the North Carolina Press Association, in session here today, selected Morehead City as the place for holding the convention and July 23, 24 and 25 as the days. It was decided to devote the time of the meeting exclusively to business of the association. A tentative program includes the securing of an editor of national reputation to address the editors. Those present were: Maj. H. A. Landon, Pittsboro, chairman; H. B. Varner, Lexington; R. M. Phillips, Greensboro; J. J. Farris, High Point; R. W. Vincent, Charlotte; Mr. J. B. Sherrill, of Concord, and Mr. D. T. Edwards, of Kinston, were absent.

### THE CHEMICAL BILL.

Hearing by the Senate Finance Committee Resumed.

Washington, March 20.—Hearing on the house chemical bill was resumed by the senate finance committee with witnesses opposed to the bill. They included Charles DeLaney, of Philadelphia, president of the National Association of Gine and Gelatin Manufacturers; W. A. Edwin, of Durham, N. C., vice president of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association; and Caesar Cone, of Greensboro, N. C.

### President Returning Home.

New York, March 20.—President Taft stopped in New York this morning on the return trip to Washington. After breakfasting on his private car, the president was driven to the residence of his brother, Henry W. Taft, shortly after 10 o'clock he left for Washington.

### Explosions Follow Collision.

Rochester, March 20.—Switching in the Lehigh Valley yards at Manchester, a light engine collided with a string of cars containing oils and chemicals. There were several explosions. Conductor Bert McIlvany was burned fatally. Several cars were destroyed.

### Local Optionists Win.

Annapolis, March 20.—Maryland's local option advocates won on a test vote in the house of delegates when a motion to kill the bill extending local option to counties not already "dry" and to Baltimore, was defeated decisively.

### Fran Sails For Buenos Aires.

Hobart, Tasmania, March 20.—The Fran, the famous Antarctic exploring ship in which Captain Amundsen made the voyage to the south pole, sailed for Buenos Aires.

### Nine Killed in Explosion.

Scranton, Pa., March 20.—Nine persons were killed as a result of a gas explosion from mine settings. The dead are foreigners.

### DISTRESS ACUTE ON ACCOUNT COAL STRIKE

London, March 20.—Distress is acute throughout the whole industrial districts of the United Kingdom, because of the national coal strike which threw one million miners and one and a half million other workers out of employment. Women, children and the workers themselves are suffering extreme poverty in many places. Thousands of children in many centers are being fed from charitable funds.

### Five Killed in Bomb Explosion.

Oporto, Portugal, March 20.—Five men were killed and nine wounded, in bomb explosions in Miragaia. The explosions were heard for miles. Many houses were destroyed. Two arrests have been made.

### SOME ON STREET CAUGHT UNDER WALLS

Fatal Disaster at Wadesboro—Drug Store Building Collapses—One Little Girl, Two Years Old, Daughter of Dr. J. M. Covington, Dead. The Other Dead Are Misses Lora and Marion Little, Daughters of J. B. Little—Mrs. J. M. Covington, the Child's Grandmother, Injured.

(Special to The Times.)

Wadesboro, March 20.—Parsons drug store collapsed this morning and several people inside the store were crushed to death. The body of Virginia May Covington, two years old, the daughter of Dr. J. M. Covington, Jr., has been recovered. Her grandmother was also injured. Misses Lora and Marion Little are thought to have been caught on the sidewalk.

At this time it is impossible to know how many are killed or pinned underneath. Rescue work is going on.

### Three Are Dead.

Wadesboro, March 20.—Three bodies have been recovered from the debris of the Parsons Drug Company's store, which collapsed at 11 o'clock this morning. The first body was that of the two-year-old daughter of Dr. J. M. Covington, Jr., which was taken from a window dead, but not disfigured. The child's grandmother, Mrs. J. M. Covington, who was standing near and pinned over a show case, suffered a broken arm and shoulder.

The bodies of Misses Lora and Marion Little, daughters of J. B. Little, a prominent liverman, were recovered about 12 and 1 o'clock respectively. The former was easily reached and was not badly mutilated but the latter was crushed between the ceiling and floor, a space of not more than three or four inches. They were sitting at a table near the fountain when the crash came. The father of the girls is dangerous ill at his home of bright's disease. No one among the employees were seriously hurt because they were either in the cellar or next to the wall, left standing furthest from the corner of the street.

The building is opposite the court house and one of the oldest brick structures in town. Workmen were lowering the floor to the level of the street and undermined the support of the walls. The workmen had barely enough warning to escape from the cellar.

### Another Account.

(Special to The Times.) Charlotte, N. C., March 20.—It is thought that several lives were lost at Wadesboro, N. C., this morning, when the Parsons drug store building collapsed, crushing the occupants. (Continued on Page Seven.)

### SEVERAL KILLED IN MINE EXPLOSION

Fort Smith, Ark., March 20.—Mine No. 2 of the Sanbois Coal Co., at McCurtain, Oklahoma, was wrecked by a gas explosion in the ninth level. Fire and smoke are preventing rescues. One body has been brought out. It was so badly burned experienced miners believe there is little hope that any of the 85 men composing the day shift at the mine will escape alive.

### Inspector Leaves For Mine.

McAllister, Okla., March 20.—Mine Inspector Burgess, with a rescue apparatus, left for McCurtain.

By performing an autopsy a doctor hopes to secure inside information.