

**UNION MEN CLAIM POLICE FIRED FIRST.**

(Continued from page one.)  
 tion was the outstanding feature in the situation today, other high lights included the increase of the fatalities to five by the death of J. D. Aldred and Will Hammond, the Central Labor Union's demand for Federal action, the selection of a coroner's jury and the fixing of the time for its session tomorrow afternoon, and the peaceful operation of cars on a limited scale.  
 Dissatisfaction with the attitude of the commissioners dates back to the origin of the difficulties more than a week ago, when it is said Mayor McNinch delivered to the police "a shoot to kill order." The story of the Mayor's instructions to the police at the time was printed in the press of Charlotte, but later, when attention was called to the fact from the quarters of the strikers, Mayor McNinch denied the charge.

**Militia Called Out.**  
 The rioting in Charlotte began early Tuesday morning, all accounts agreeing that the first shots were fired by the Charlotte police. Two were killed in the fighting instantly and several wounded, as a result of which Mayor McNinch notified the Adjutant General, through Col. Sanford Martin, private secretary to the Governor, that the rioting was beyond control of the local authorities. General Royster immediately ordered four companies of reserve militia to the scene. Companies from Lexington, Lincoln, Statesville and Winston-Salem reached Charlotte early Tuesday morning and by noon were patrolling the streets. Mayor McNinch, however, feared further demonstrations and asked for additional troops, General Royster ordering out the Hickory and Durham companies in response to the last summons. Wednesday approximately six hundred armed men were on the job.

**Troops Not to Run Cars.**  
 That the troops ordered to Charlotte were not to be used in the operation of the cars, General Royster made plain to the Charlotte Mayor when that official inquired if the militia could be used to start the cars running.  
 "The troops are to be used to preserve the peace and to suppress rioting," General Royster wired Mayor McNinch. "You will have to determine the question of running the cars."

**Professional Strike Breakers.**  
 It is reported that the Charlotte Traction Company is using imported strike-breakers to run the few cars that started on a limited schedule Wednesday. To this action, the Central Labor Union, of Charlotte, has made protest, alleging that the imported strike-breakers are "thugs and strong arm men."

Wednesday night there were no signs of an agreement being reached between the company and the striking carmen. With the petition for the recall of the Charlotte officials, relief tickets were being sold on the streets and the strikers intend to stick it out. President Taylor, of the S. P. U. Company, has indicated that he will not accept the recommendations of the citizen's committee and will run his cars regardless.

**Car Men Took No Part.**  
 Leaders of the striking car men insist that they are counselling against violence. They assert that the carmen took no part in Tuesday's riot, but that the offenders were outsiders in sympathy with the carmen. Both sides remain firm in their determination in regard to the question of recognition, President Taylor, of the car company, declaring unyielding opposition to recognition, while the union men insist they will not return to work until the union is recognized.

Reports as to firing of the first shot in this morning's riot at the car barns are divergent. At police headquarters it was said the first shot was fired by a member of the mob. On the other hand, the unionists claim the first shot was fired by the police.

Tonight D. L. Goble, representing the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, stated that the union has a number of witnesses who say they will testify that Chief Orr fired the first shot. About 2,000 people were in the vicinity of the car barn early this morning when the trouble started.  
 The presence of strikebreakers at the barn seemed to anger the crowd, which was being held back by the police, the latter numbering about 30. Clem Wilson, of North Charlotte, is said to have been pressing too closely on the policemen, when one of the officers hit him on the head with a riot gun, knocking him to the ground and stunning him.  
 Later Wilson's brother appeared with other men, wanting to know who clubbed Clem. It was in the controversy which followed that the first shot was fired. In the melee about 100 shots were fired, result-

ing in three deaths and the wounding of 13 others.

**Quickly Over.**  
 The riot lasted but a short while, the mob quickly dispersing as the police continued to fire. Within an hour word had been dispatched to about 200 citizens, who hastily dressed, came to police headquarters and were sworn in as special officers. They remained on guard throughout the remainder of the night and most of them were serving today.  
 The Lexington company of militia is commanded by Lieut. W. L. Crawford; Capt. D. M. Ausley has charge of the Statesville unit; Capt. J. A. Smith commands Winston-Salem's company, while Capt. Harry Page heads Lincoln's company.  
 D. L. Goble, of Dallas, Texas, of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, also is representing the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electrical Railway Employees, the organization that the Southern Public Utilities Company refuses to recognize. Goble states that President Taylor has steadfastly declined to meet him. The union men point to the recommendation of the citizens' committee of 52 to the effect that the company should recognize the union, and say responsibility for rejecting that recommendation and failing to settle the strike rests with the Southern Public Utilities Company. Goble says the carmen will insist upon recognition and will win "even if it takes a number of years."

**Brotherhoods May Act.**  
 Carmen stoutly insist that they have not committed any violent acts and that they constantly advise against violence. They declare a willingness to rest their case with public sentiment.

D. L. Goble stated tonight it was expected four great railway brotherhoods would take official cognizance of the killing of Engineer Houston. He was of the impression that some sort of demands would be made by the brotherhoods of engineers, firemen, conductors and trainmen in connection with the death of Houston. Whether this would take the form of a strike he could not say, but he understood representatives of the four brotherhoods were in the city at present conferring relative to the situation.  
 Besides the striking carmen, the members of the Electrical Workers' Union are out, this being true at Winston-Salem and at Granteeville, S. C., as well as in Charlotte. It is generally agreed that the question of recognition of the union is the only bone of contention, both sides having agreed on arbitration concerning demands for wage increases. The strike has been in progress nearly three weeks.

T. H. Drum, assistant superintendent of the street railway here, was not seriously injured when attacked by a crowd at the time the company was attempting to operate cars with strikebreakers.  
 It is rumored that Charlotte labor unions will demand investigation of the riot and accompanying shooting, turning to the federal authorities for a probe.

**CO-OPERATIVE STORE BEGINS BUSINESS.**

The Fort Mill, S. C., Co-operative Association has begun business after taking over the stock of general merchandise owned by J. M. Brackett and will continue the business at the store room on Trade Street. A stockholders' meeting was held last night at which the following directors were elected:  
 M. J. Adcock, J. E. Armstrong, W. P. Brown, C. W. McKenzie, S. G. Collins, J. B. Broadnax, O. S. Parks, and J. H. McIntyre. These directors elected the following officers: George Fish, president; T. N. Reeves, vice-president, and C. W. Eason, secretary-treasurer.  
 M. J. Adcock has been appointed manager of the concern which begins business with a capital stock of \$8,000, approximately all of which has been subscribed. The shares are of the par value of \$10 and are sold only to employees of the Fort Mill Manufacturing Company, none of whom can own above 50 shares. This venture is being watched with considerable interest throughout the community and the promoters are very enthusiastic and confident of success.

**BLACKSMITHS RAISE WAGES.**

Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 27.—An arbitration board has awarded blacksmiths 90 cents an hour and helpers 45 cents.

**STAGE EMPLOYEES GAIN.**

Quebec, Canada, Aug. 27.—Stage employes and motion picture operators have increased wages \$7 and \$10 a week. This is the first time these workers have been recognized by the managers.

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