

## Mass Meeting At Madry's Opera House

On Friday Night to Hear Plans of Roanoke River Bridge and to Discuss Same

FRIDAY, N. C.  
State Library  
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER PRESENT

Friday night, January 19th, at Madry's Opera House, at the hour of eight sharp a public mass meeting will be held under the auspices of the Scotland Neck Board of Trade to consider and discuss fully the proposal to bridge the Roanoke River and connect Bertie and Northampton counties with this section.

While the Board of Trade, being the proper organization to handle this matter, are taking the initiative in calling this meeting it is not the intention, nor the desire of this body to force the matter through without the hearty and general desire of the people, and in order that all may come into this meeting with a full understanding that every person in the township shall be heard on this subject, should he wish to voice his views.

In order that some definite information as to cost and construction of the bridge may be put before the people Mr. E. E. Hanks of the Virginia Bridge and Iron Works, of Roanoke, Va., will be present with a preliminary survey of the proposed bridge and cost; also Mr. R. S. Neal, of Crowell, N. C., a competent engineer will be able to give the people some definite information.

The speaker of the evening however will be the State Highway Commissioner, Mr. W. S. Fallis, of Raleigh, N. C., who has consented to be present, and speak on the proposition. Hereunder is his acceptance:

"In answer to your letter of the 10th, I shall be glad to arrange to meet you on Friday, the 19th, and give you what assistance I can in regard to the bridge matter. Please advise at what time the meeting is to be called and where it will be held."

The directors of the local Board of Trade held a meeting last week to consider the calling of this meeting, and same would have been announced in the last issue of The Commonwealth but for the fact that the acceptance of the state highway commissioner had not been received, and it was thought better to await his reply.

In discussing the matter the directors were all of one accord in the opinion that it was not the function of the organization to press forward the proposition such as this, however of importance to the town it may seem to many unless it received the hearty co-operation of the mass of the people of the township, and it was specifically stated that, regardless of membership in the board of trade, everyone would have a full opportunity of expressing his views on the subject if a mass meeting were called, and in that way the sentiments of the people could best be ascertained.

This then led to the arrangements being made for the mass meeting to be held on Friday evening next, and it is hoped that a large crowd will attend that meeting and hear the proposition put forward, and then the discussion of the plan.

A full, free, and frank hearing of the proposed plans, and then a discussion upon them is the desire of those who have taken the initiative in the matter.

**SPANNEL WHO SHOT MAJOR BUTLER TO DEATH IN FIT OF JEALOUSY, GOES TO TRIAL**

(By United Press)  
SAN ANGELO, Tex., Jan. 16.—Harry J. Spannel, who first said he was "glad" and later that he was "sorry" he shot his wife and Major N. C. Butler, U. S. A., to death as they rode through the streets of Alpine in an auto last July, went to trial for murder here today. Strong feeling against Spannel forbade his trial in Alpine.

Jealously caused by the friendship between Mrs. Spannel and Major Butler is alleged to have led the former music teacher to murder both of them during an auto ride he had invited the army officer to take with them. Spannel, driving, with Major Butler and Mrs. Spannel in the tonneau, suddenly drew an automatic, whirled about and emptied it, first into his wife, then But-

**LOUIS M. BOURNE RECOMMENDED FOR FEDERAL JUDGESHIP**

As a Member of the Law Firm of Bourne, Packer and Morrison Make Him Well Fitted for the Bench

**CRAIG'S STRONGEST COMPETITOR**

One of the best authorities in the western part of the state on matters judicial and political is Mr. Gray Graham, who, being in the home city of Governor Locke Craig, is better fitted than any one else to express a candid opinion of the chances of those men who are aspiring to the seat on the federal bench for western North Carolina, soon to be made vacant by the retirement of Judge James E. Boyd.

To Craig's friends it would appear that the race is won, all but the shouting, and the plan to displace Judge Boyd or to get the president to do so under the new act of Congress giving the power of the president to remove a federal judge for disability, old age etc., is the handiwork of Craig's supporters, and it is they who will ask the senators and Congressmen of this state to bring this issue before the chief executive.

These friends of Craig's are making to feel that their candidate is the only logical one for the place, but Mr. Gray Graham very clearly states it will not be a walkover for Craig.

In part Mr. Graham gives to the situation, as follows:

"It must not be taken that all Asheville is for Governor Craig for federal judge, for there is another man who has and will receive some very strong support when the time comes to pick a man to take Judge Boyd's place. That man is Louis M. Bourne, senior member of the law firm of Bourne, Parker and Morrison, and one of the most brilliant members of the North Carolina bar. Mr. Bourne has stated nothing, not even his friends know what his wishes are in the matter, but there is no mistaking that he would be able to secure strong influence in all sections of North Carolina, should he desire to enter the fight for the office. Friends of Mr. Bourne insist that when the proper time comes that they propose to put forward his name and to work for him for the place."

"Many are hoping that Mr. Bourne gets the place, are pointing to his long and able experience before the bar. They say that Governor Craig has not had the experience, that in civil law he is sadly lacking, while Bourne is a civil lawyer of wide experience. Craig is the orator, the able pleader before the jury, while Bourne not an orator, gives the law, knowing it and can present his cases in a most convincing manner."

The boom for Mr. Bourne has been worked in such a quiet manner that few, other than those who might be able to help deliver the goods when the time comes, know that his friends are even considering the able Asheville attorney for the much coveted place. Mr. Bourne is well and favorably known here in the west where he has lived for many years, but coming from the east as he does, Edgecombe being his native county, he is also widely known in that section and his appearances before the Supreme court at Raleigh have always impressed that distinguished body that a just and able man was before them.

These matters continue to be discussed here, despite the fact that there seems no chance at the present, at least for anyone, other than Judge Boyd, to have a look in on the federal bench for this district.

Both died instantly.

After an army commission investigated and reported that Butler had been "killed in the performance of duty." He was exonerated by the government and elevated on the army records to the rank of colonel, so his widow and daughter might have a longer pension.

**THE EVENTS AT THE STATE CAPITOL**

(By Llewcam)

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 16.—During the Saturday and Sunday "recess" which the legislators from a distance have been more or less enjoying at the State Capitol, while their co-laborers have been basking in the bosoms of their families within a few hours ride of Raleigh, I have listened to a line of talk (and then some) handed out that departed or veered from the ordinary course.

This statement is made with reference, not so much to what this letter will contain as that which will follow later on—at a time or such times when additional developments will probably add zest and interest to the subject.

When a legislator of prominence voluntarily assures a newspaper man that it is the intention to settle or "pay off" some "old scores" when certain measures are expected to come up for discussion in the General Assembly, it seems reasonable to presume that he is picking a rod or two for some fellow-legislator (and the latter's champion or friend) and intends to use the aforesaid lash when the occasion and time ripens.

With equal certainty it may be assumed that the "other fellow" may get wind of this intention and proceed to salt down an equally diabolical instrument of torture for the chastisement of his opponent.

Therefore this veracious correspondent is minded to announce the imminence of certain High Jinks at present designed to be pulled off here in the near future. Saying which he begs to rest the case for the immediate present.

**Battle of Senators Set for Thursday**

Thursday afternoon or Thursday night the first toratorial duel in the present Senate is scheduled to take place—and present indications are that it will well be worth the price of admission. Twice within the past week the attempt was made to clear the decks for this verbal scrap, but the heavy-weight (or heaviest) of the participating gladiators pleaded for time and then for more time, after he had thrown down the gauntlet. However, he has promised to be ready when time is called Thursday morning of this week after he returns from Louisburg and Franklin county court.

Judge T. A. Jones, the Senator from Buncombe county is billed to tackle the doughty warrior from the new Governor's home county wafted this affectionate invitation to Senator Wiley Person when the latter left the Senate Chamber on leave of absence till Thursday:

"I wish to say to the Senator from Franklin, now that this matter has been postponed to a date to suit his convenience, that I very much hope that he shall be back here and in his seat when the special order is taken up Thursday."

To which Senator Person sweetly (and rather feelingly) replied: "If they don't preach my funeral before then I will be here."

Whereupon an irreverent colleague assured everybody near him that Judge Jones hoped to have the pleasure of performing the ceremony on the day already indicated. Then the 300 avoidupois (including silk hat and frock coat) made a home run for the union depot. Nobody doubts that he will come back on time for the promised attack on Senator Jones resolution to "ratify" the action of the State Prison Board in giving to the families of certain convicts that Christmas gift of ten dollars—on the advice of the then Governor Craig.

**Prohibition Legislation**

The holding of the Ninth Biennial Meeting of the N. C. Anti-Saloon League in this city, which began last evening and continued today, with such eminent advocates of "absolute prohibition" as Wm. Jennings Bryan, Joseph Daniels, Dr. Poteat and other eminent Tarheels, and Judge Wenkle, of Alabama and others from a distance present and taking an active part, followed by a special joint session of the legislature to hear these two distinguished men, starts the legislature prohibition bill a-rolling in good shape.

Notwithstanding the recent decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in holding the Yates Webb Act of Congress on the subject, there is no diminution in

**RANK PERJURER—ONE OF US**

(BY UNITED PRESS)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Challenging Chairman Henry of the "house note leak committee" Lawson today declared "One or the other of us is a rank perjurer." This statement referred to Henry's denial of Lawson's charge that it was Chairman Henry who named the cabinet minister involved in the leak.

Lawson went into detail of his conference with Henry, and repeated Henry told him that Count Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, was so mixed up in this leak that he had made over two million dollars.

Lawson further testified that Henry told him it was reported that Baranch had an hours conversation with Lansing.

The committee voted to subpoena J. P. Morgan, H. P. Davidson, of the house of J. P. Morgan and Company, F. A. Vanderlip, of the National City Bank, J. S. Bache, of the firm of bankers of same name, and Sol Wexler.

**BERLIN CRITICISES ALLIES REPLY**

(By Special Correspondent Ackerman of the United Press)

BERLIN, Jan. 16.—Germany does not regard the allied reply to the terms but rather as a setting tort on the entente aims.

the demand on the part of the more militant element of the water-brigade for "more prohibition." This element (which the "morally stunted" have irreverently and for generations called "fanatics") seem determined that nobody shall drink anything that does not analyze one hundred per cent pure water—or aqua para—as the case may be, according to the amount of "book l'arnin" of the voracious and versatile analytical chemist's report, etc.

As most of us have already been informed, Brother Davis and the Committee on more legislative have steel constructed, copper-riveted, wrought iron bound supplemented bill fixed up for these law-makers and all they will have to do is to sit still, look pleasant and slide 'er through the legislative hopper.

As I said last week, I haven't seen or smelt anything but prohibition on these law-makers since this year's crop arrived here. Still, there's nothing like tightening the heavy hand of the law on a fellow who is already trying to do his level best—according to the views of some reformers.

**Catching Sneak Bills**

It's a super-human legislature that is not "done" by some member or clerk in shipping through something that hadn't ought to be done. Already there is evidence that several of these "sharps" are on the job as usual. I have no doubt that several bad eggs will be found in the litter of "local bills" enacted and ratified the first seven days of the session. A legislative committee ought to be created and put to work at once to ferret them out so they can be repealed before much harm is done.

One of these bills (that didn't get through, because it was caught up with in time) came here from Mecklenburg county and provided for investing town and other local authorities with such powers that they could dig up the town cemeteries or even the private grave-yards of citizens anywhere in N. C. and transfer the remains elsewhere—where it might please them to dump them! The "title" to the bill was as dense and misleading as it could be made, but somebody down home got wind of it and wrote the Senator and representatives from Mecklenburg about the thing and had it stopped before it had a chance to go through under false pretense, as some of them do. A politician or a land-shark who attempts such things as this ought to be denied his six-feet of Mothers Earth anywhere when his time came.

**Big Business in Sight**

But the law-makers will now devote themselves chiefly to "big business" legislation, and the balance of the session promises to be both entertaining to write about and of great good to the State and the people of the State—for the people are the State, after all is said and done, and not the ground they till or own and finally are buried in—concerning which more anon.

**Greater Scotland Neck Edition Nearly Complete**

Information Obtained Now Being Compiled and Issued Shortly

**MUCH INTEREST TO THE NEWCOMMERS**

**THAW'S GUARD IS INCREASED**

(BY UNITED PRESS)

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 16.—Owing to the improved condition of Harry Thaw the detective force has been increased today in guarding the prisoner.

**DEWEY SINKING**

(BY UNITED PRESS)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—The bulletin issued by the physicians at the bedside of Admiral Dewey issued at noon today states that their patient is distinctly worse. Swallowing has become difficult and the lungs are becoming affected.

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(By United Press)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Repudiating any knowledge of the Wall Street "Leak", vice-governor Walburg, of the Federal Reserve Board has requested a hearing before the special committee.

**POTASH AND PERLMUTTER**

Wherever Fred Fleck and Sam Howard have played they have been heartily received, and the advance notices have not been one bit too breezy in the recommendation they have received, for it is a relief to see a clever Jewish comedy which is true to life and devoid of mannerisms that so many actors infuse into their parts.

The story itself is interesting and many thousands await the various issues of the Saturday Evening Post to read of the tribulations of the cloak and suit trade as depicted on East Broadway, so it is little wonder that an acceptable play was manufactured out of material "all wool and a yard wide."

A thousand laughs were promised and these are still being reiterated in every home as the youngsters attempt to copy the grotesque attitudes and broken English of these past masters of the vaudeville stage.

Supported by an excellent cast, there not being an apparent flaw in any character, the palm must be given to Miss Eloise Murray, who, as the leading lady, took the part of Ruth Goldman, the designer. She was both pretty and capable, quietly carrying through the difficult situations with an ease of an accomplished actress.

She received continual applause, and deserved it, for she has the prospect of appearing upon the metropolitan stage in the years to come in stronger vehicles that will bring to the front the histrionic act of which she is surely capable.

**RECITAL WEDNESDAY THE 24th.**

Professor Owens, musical director of St. Mary's College, Raleigh, N. C., has signified his willingness to come here and give an organ recital on the new organ of Trinity Episcopal Church, and accompanying him will be Miss Thompson, the vocal teacher of the college, who will sing a number of selections. This will be a rare treat for this community, as these musicians are high in their profession, so that all that attend will enjoy an evening of musical entertainment.

The program will be further announced in the next issues of The Commonwealth.

Pastor M. L. Staples, of Richmond will give four Bible lectures, two at Hobgood in the public school building next Friday and Saturday and two on Sunday at Madry's Opera House, at 3 and 7:30 o'clock. At each lecture the subject will be upon Bible studies, touching upon the construction placed upon the Word by the late Pastor Russell.

With Canadian families flocking across the American border to evade the conscription of the Canadian government—seeking homes of peace and plenty in the United States—ready to mingle, to work, live and die as part of our people, the agricultural and industrial agents of the different southern railroads are being inundated with inquiries for locations for these people in the southland.

Halifax county, rich in soil, that will grow anything that any other section can grow, populated by a peaceful prosperous people, should receive its quota of these new entrants, who, for the most part, are Anglo-Saxon, like ourselves, and proper provision should be made for them in this community.

As an advance thought along this line The Commonwealth will shortly issue a Greater Scotland Neck Edition for circulation among these home-seekers, the accommodation for whom will be worked out in conjunction with the local Board of Trade, and some desirable locations found, in the shape of small farms, at attractive prices, and upon terms that will meet the exigencies of the situation, will be arranged for to offer to such of these families who wish to come within our border.

That a full and detailed report of our community may be concisely infused into the columns of this edition, a special representative has been here for some days preparing articles upon the different industries and businesses of Scotland Neck, and most of the merchants have co-operated in furnishing information of their business that same may be correctly portrayed.

Only a few more days will the special representative be with us, and then the work of preparing for the publication of this edition will be taken up by the local staff, therefore, if there are any of the merchants, or business men, who have not yet been personally identified with this issue, and wish to be, The Commonwealth would be glad to hear from them.

Any of the good citizens who would like to furnish articles of interest for this special edition, which will be widely circulated. The Commonwealth opens its pages to them for such articles, as may be of interest; also if any citizen has any electrotypes, cuts, or photographs of the town or people, worth producing, The Commonwealth would be glad of the use of them for insertion in the Greater Scotland Neck Edition.

**DULUTH HOUSEMAID'S UNION TO PRESENT DEMANDS TO HOUSEWIVES TODAY**

(BY UNITED PRESS)

DULUTH, Minn., Jan. 16.—If housewives here have any maids by dinner time tonight they'll have to recognize the new housemaids' union and change their attitude radically. That's flat. The maids say so. They said it in writing, too, when the present their demands today.

The 100 charter members of this, the first domestics' union organized east of the Missouri river, today demanded \$20 to \$25 a month for families of two; \$25 to \$30 a month for families of three or more. They demanded a 9 hour working day, one day off a week and time and a half for overtime. They want good food and well lighted and ventilated rooms.

Not only that, but if children be tormented and other unpleasantness arise in their daily work, they'll expect to be paid for it. They don't want to listen to too much family quarrelling, either. Disagreeable, unkind and inhumane employers will be put on the unfair list. The organization is to be extended to waitresses, chambermaids, cooks and scrubwomen.