

THE DISPATCH
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THE WEATHER.
Fair tonight and Friday. Not much change in temperature. Moderate southwesterly winds.

VOLUME SEVENTEEN WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1911 PRICE THREE CENTS

STATE CLOSES ITS TESTIMONY

Young Stephens on the Stand This Afternoon

Murder Case on Trial in the Superior Court Will Likely Be Finished Sooner Than Was Expected—The State Rested Its Case Before Dinner and The Defense Now Presenting Testimony—Grand Jury Hard at Work and Creating a Sensation—Indictments Against Runge—Other Indictments For Violation of the Prohibition Law.
Just what the grand jury is doing, of course, is secret but from the witnesses being subpoenaed and the number of presentment blanks secured something is doing of an interesting nature. It is believed that violations of the clam law, and it is known that violations of the prohibition law are being investigated and from the number of presentment blanks secured there will be a lengthy docket for the next term of court. Judge Peebles charged the jury in regard to making presentments in cases where the Recorder has not assumed jurisdiction within sixty days, and under the new act there is no doubt about the grand jury having the power to make presentments in any case whether the sixty days has expired or not, although it would be necessary where the sixty days has not expired, to remand the case to the recorder's court.
Not in years has a grand jury in New Hanover county been as busy as the present one; that is, with business other than the routine work of passing on bills sent in by the solicitor.
Yesterday afternoon three indictments were returned against G. W. Runge, who ran a notorious place near Delgado. Two charge him with selling whiskey and one with being a nuisance. Three more indictments against him were returned today. Officers are now looking for him.
This afternoon indictments were returned against J. A. Riggs and W. G. Baldwin for violations of the prohibition law.
After examining but very few of the large number of witnesses called by the State, in the case of Joe Stephens charged with the murder of Ernest Shields, today at 12:30 Solicitor Shaw announced that the State would rest. The announcement came very much as a surprise both to the attorneys for the defense and also the crowd assembled in the court room. While there are phases of evidence brought out in connection with what transpired on the night before the tragedy that look very bad for Stephens, it being the prevailing opinion is that the State relies as to premeditation, the general opinion of those who heard the case of the State in both trials is that Stephens will certainly be convicted of no greater crime than manslaughter, and not a few say there will never be a conviction of any kind and the most the State can hope for is a mistrial. The prevailing opinion is that the case against Stephens is not near as strong as in the former trial. Not a single eye-witness to the tragedy was put on the stand, the commission of the crime being shown by the admission of Stephens when he went to "Judge" Bornemann's office to give himself up.
When the Solicitor announced that the State would rest attorneys for the defense asked that they be given until 3 o'clock to confer and court was adjourned to that hour. It no looks like the case will be concluded tomorrow night.
Star witness for the State was W. A. Russ, who heard the quarrel the night before the homicide and testified to the many threats made by Stephens.
First witness examined was Dr. C. D. Bell, coroner of New Hanover county, who, in response to summons, went to the corner of Sixth and Campbell streets where Shields was lying in a store. He was dead when he got there but the body was still warm. The wound which caused death was a bullet wound between the fourth and fifth ribs over the heart. The range was nearly square in. Shields, he said, was lying upon his back and lots of blood was around on the floor.
On cross examination said he examined shirt of deceased and saw slight indications of powder. That he saw Stephens on the following day and he had a slight scar on his face which could have been made by a glancing blow.
Willie Millan, a young boy, testified that on the morning of the homicide he was standing in the door of the store on the northwest corner of Sixth and Campbell streets talking to Shields when he saw Stephens coming up the street. Stephens, he said, went across the street and had some words with John Weller and then looked across

PLEADING FOR PARDON TODAY

Georgia Board Hears Case of Ex-Police Chief

Atlanta, Ga., April 6.—The plea for a pardon made by Thomas Edgar Stripling, formerly chief of police of Danville, Va., was heard by the Georgia Prison Commission today. Upon its recommendation, Governor Brown's action will be determined.
Stripling killed W. J. Cornett, in Harris County, Georgia, fourteen years ago and was sentenced to a prison term. He escaped while being taken to a cell and went to Danville, where he was known as Morris. He joined the police force, won promotion and finally became Chief. Many thousands of persons in this State and Virginia have petitioned the Governor to pardon Stripling on the ground of his good conduct since escaping. Stripling is now in jail in Harris county.
The street and saw Shields standing in the door; that Stephens walked towards the store and stopped when in about five feet of Shields. Stephens said: "I thought you were going to stand your ground?" Witness said Shields stepped out of the door and witness stepped back into the store. In a few moments a shot rang out and Shields came back in the building and went into the back part of the store and fell; saw Stephens holding his pistol pointing towards the door where Shields had entered. When witness first saw Stephens he had his right hand in his coat pocket. This occurred on the morning of July 9th, 1909.
On cross examination witness testified that he was in the store when the shooting occurred and knew nothing of what transpired after Shields walked out of the door.
J. C. Vereen, who was a very important witness for the state in the former trial, said he thought he was through with the matter after the first trial and had forgotten much of what occurred. He was in the back room of the store at Sixth and Campbell streets reading the morning paper when he heard a pistol fire and going towards the front room met Shields who had his hand against his breast. Shields had nothing to say. When he went out of the store Stephens was still holding the pistol and was asked what he meant and he replied that he could not help it. The prisoner had his pistol pointing in the direction of the door. When he first went to the store Shields and Willie Millan were standing in the door talking.
William Holmes, who in July, 1909, lived in the house next to the store where the trouble occurred heard quarrelling late in the night and upon going to the window of his house saw it was Shields and Stephens who were talking about relieving certain work. Shields had a stick in his hand. Stephens told Shields he had been relieving his work and Shields said he had not whereupon Stephens said, "You are a d—n liar." Stephens advanced upon Shields and he backed off and kept backing to the corner of the street and he could not tell what took place after that.
On cross-examination said the stick did not look like an ordinary stick but like a strip of lumber like it might have come from the mill.
Foster Williams, colored, said that on the night of July 8th he was working for Shields in the scavenger business; that he first saw Stephens that night at Seventh and Hanover streets and he told Shields he had been doing over his work, and told Shields not to go to the place where he had started and relieve his work. Shields said he did not see how both had the same list, and Stephens said it might be a duplicate list. Shields went toward Sixth street bridge and Stephens said that was lined and not to put a d—n bit of lime on it. Shields told Stephens to let his territory alone and he would let his (Stephens') territory alone. Stephens replied: "If you fool with me I will beat hell out of you." Witness said he noticed Stephens change his weapon from one side to the other. That Stephens had his hand in his right coat pocket; that he started towards Shields who backed off and kept on backing for about half a block.
In reply to question about stick, witness stated that Shields had the stick when he went to work; that there were some bad dogs in some of the yards.
On cross examination said he worked for Shields. He was asked about the stick and also size of deceased. Said that Shields might have been as tall as Constable Savage but not stout like him.
Relative to the size of the stick,

PRIEST ON THE STAND TODAY

Unable to Control Emotions Causes Uproar

Another Sensational Scene Enacted Today in the Trial of Camorristi—Vitozzi Impressively Proclaims His Innocence.
Viterbo, Italy, April 6.—Ciro Vitozzi, the priest who weepingly pleaded he celebrated masses for the repose of the soul of the murdered King Umberto, was called in the Court of Assizes today to explain how misery had acquainted him with such strange fellows as Erricone, the gambler, and other thieves and cut-throats, constituting the Neapolitan Camorra.
It was Vitozzi who secured the release of Erricone and others when they were first arrested charged with complicity in murdering Gennaro Cooilo and his wife, the "Beautiful Sorrentina." The priest went to the authorities saying he had learned in confessional the identity of the assassins and that the men under arrest were innocent. He was believed and not only secured the freedom of his friends, but subsequently denounced De Angella and Amadeo as the murderers. These men had trouble in discrediting the priest. While testifying Vitozzi failed to control his emotions and caused such an uproar in court that President Blanch suspended the sitting. The priest has suffered physically from long confinement in prison. Vitozzi proclaimed his innocence, expressing surprise that the fact that he was the godfather of Erricone should be used against him.
Washington, April 6.—For the first time during the session the Senatorial bill receptacle was opened today with the result that several hundred measures were dropped in. Then the session was adjourned until Monday. The bills included in the list were most of the old favorites of previous sessions and several of them were presented by more than one Senator. Senators Owen and Brown both presented measures for approval of the constitutions of New Mexico and Arizona, Senators Borah, Bristow and Culbertson resolutions for election of United States Senators by the people, and Senators Lodge and LaFollette's bills for the creation of a tariff commission.
The first bill presented was one creating the Department of Public Health, of which Senator Owen is the author. Senator Cullom presented bills regulating the importation of opium and carrying into effect the fisheries treaty with Great Britain. Senator Gallinger presented a bill incorporating the G. A. K. Senator Guggenheim introduced a bill to pension survivors of the Indian wars, and Senator Burton regulating control of the waters of Niagara. Senator Heyburn had one regulating the traffic in cold storage articles, and one establishing a land court and authorizing popular subscriptions to Congressional records. Senator Bankhead filed one for improvement of highways, and Senator Bradley for celebration of semi-centennial of the emancipation proclamation. Senator McCumber sent up one for equalization of tariff duties and Senator Johnston for proper celebration of the Sabbath in the District of Columbia. Senator LaFollette presented a measure increasing the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and Senator Lodge one providing a statue to Alexander Hamilton, in Washington.
After Lorimer Again.
Senator LaFollette introduced a resolution providing for another investigation of Senator Lorimer's case. It names a committee of investigation, Senators Works, California, McLean, Connecticut; Townsend, Michigan; Kern, Indiana; and Pomerene, Ohio. No action was taken. Senator LaFollette intends to speak upon the resolution another day.
The resolution recites: "That witnesses not called by the Senate Committee, appointed to investigate the Lorimer charges, have appeared before the Illinois State Senate committee and have given important ma-

MANY BILLS PRESENTED TODAY IN THE SENATE

LaFollette Introduces Resolution to Re-open the Lorimer Case

Several Senators Come Forward With Bills Calling for Election of United States Senators By the People—House Had Only a Short Session Today—Speaker Clark Presented With a Gavel.
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TRAGEDY CAUSES A SENSATION

Well Known Publisher Found Dead Today

Head of the Lippincott House in Philadelphia Meets a Tragic End—Mystery Surrounds His Death—Sons Claim It Was Accidental, While Relatives Declare It Suicide—Police Are Probing.
Philadelphia, April 6.—Craig Lippincott, head of J. B. Lippincott Co., publishers, one of the most prominent men in financial and social circles died mysteriously early today at his palatial home, 218 West Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia's aristocratic section. According to the police his death was due to a pistol wound. How he received the injury, whether by accident or design, is not known publicly. The coroner is making a rigid investigation. Lippincott's son, Jay N. Lippincott, made a sworn statement that it was his opinion that his father died as the result of accident. Deputy Coroner McKeever informed the newspaper men, that Lippincott was shot between 7 and 8 o'clock this morning, having been found on the floor of his bedroom by his valet, Oscar Stewart, who went to his apartment to shave him. Lippincott was sixty-eight years old, of highly nervous temperament and always feared finding burglars in the house. His friends thus deduced that he became alarmed by a noise and accidentally killed himself, while in a state of nervous excitement. The first information the coroner had came at 9:30 o'clock when some one called the coroner's office on the telephone, informing him of the suicide. Later it developed that Dr. James C. Wilson, who was first called after Lippincott's body was discovered, was the person who informed the coroner's office that the suicide had occurred. When Deputy McKeever left the Lippincott home he said he felt the case was one of suicide. Oscar Stewart, the valet, found Lippincott lying half dressed on the floor with a bullet wound in his temple. Near him lay the revolver. Efforts to obtain positive statements as to the manner of his death were unsuccessful.
The tragic death of Lippincott has caused a sensation. Whereas there is a strong disposition on the part of relatives and friends to doubt he died designedly by his own hand, his son is making a sworn statement giving his opinion that his father died by accident. It is declared that neither Mrs. Lippincott, the widow, nor their son-in-law, who were in the house at the time of the tragedy, heard the shots. The tragedy occurred only a few hours after the return of Mr. and Mrs. Lippincott from the Metropolitan Opera House. At the opera Lippincott greeted his friends with his usual good humor.
Detectives Say Suicide.
Detectives Tate and Wood, who were assigned to the case, after several hours investigation, reported to the coroner this afternoon that without doubt, Lippincott committed suicide. They further reported they did not know why he took his life.
The following authorized statement by an officer of the Lippincott Co. was given later this afternoon: "During a period of temporary aberration, Craig Lippincott, President of J. B. Lippincott Co., shot and killed himself at his residence, early this morning. The business of the publishing house will not be affected by Lippincott's death."

TIME IS NOW ALMOST UP

Must File Their Petitions By Midnight Tomorrow

Candidates for Councilmen Must File Their Petitions With the Board of Elections By Then—Public Notice in Newspapers Required by Law Ten Days Ahead of the Election—Saturday Last Day for Registration.
In little over twenty four hours now it will be definitely settled just who and how many will be in the race for the commissioners' positions, or councilmen's jobs, designated by the law. After midnight tomorrow the entrance time will close and all who have not entered by then, entered, too, in the correct manner prescribed by law, will be barred. After midnight tomorrow the voters will have a chance to survive the list, without any thoughts about it so-and-so comes out, or that some person now not thought of runs in. All the present candidates had better realize now that they must file their petitions by the time mentioned; otherwise they will be barred. They had better also see that their petitions are made-up according to the specifications in the new law, because if they are not they will be barred. Both are necessary, especially to save any technical point that may be raised hereafter, and which might bar them from being candidates, or subsequently might bar them from holding office.
The members of the board of elections today calculated the time necessary and found that the law calls for the list of candidates being made public in all of the daily papers of Wilmington ten days before the election. So this necessitates closing the time for entrance tomorrow night at midnight, because if such is not closed then ten days' notice, ten full days, and the law calls for ten days, which means ten days, and not nine days or nine days and a fraction of another day, cannot be given. As yet many of the petitions have not been filed, though they will be, no doubt today or tomorrow. For instance although there are three candidates in the race from the Second Ward, ex-Mayor William E. Springer and Messrs. J. D. Smith and W. F. Wilder neither of the three had filed his petition up to this afternoon. However, this does not mean that all three will not be filed, because each petition has been made-up and is ready for filing.
The law calls not only for the list of the candidates to be published, but for a facsimile of the ballot, so voters may understand before hand what to do.
It is also well to understand that in the primary election, which will be held the 18th, of the present month each voter, will have the privilege of voting on ten candidates, two from each ward. The ten getting the highest number of votes are the nominees for the election, and at the election each voter has the privilege of voting on five of these, one from each ward.
The registration books for the primary close Saturday night at 9 o'clock and this is an entirely NEW REGISTRATION. The voters should not overlook that vital part.
For the election, which is Tuesday, May 1st the registration books will open Saturday, April 15, and remain open for eight days.
"The Lass Who Couldn't Forget."
Showing wonderful scenes along the Norwegian coast. Grand Theatre today. It.
MARRIAGE LAST NIGHT.
Was Celebrated at Dixer Home Near Wrightsville.
A pretty marriage was celebrated last evening at 7 o'clock at the home of Mr. W. G. Dixer, near Wrightsville. The contracting parties were Mr. Willis F. Webb, of Cape Fear township, and Miss Sadie A. Dixer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Dixer. The attendants were Mr. H. Webb with Miss Della Taylor, and Mr. B. A. Blake with Miss Elizabeth Westbrook.
Mrs. G. W. Westbrook presided at the organ, and rendered an appropriate selection as the bridal party entered. The decorations were tasteful and beautiful. A number of friends were present to witness the ceremony which was performed by Rev. E. C. Sell, pastor of Trinity Methodist church. After the ceremony refreshments were served, and the happy couple left for the home of the groom followed by the congratulations of their numerous friends.
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Showing wonderful scenes along the Norwegian coast. Grand Theatre today. It.

TARIFF BOARD WILL PROBE THE COTTON SCHEDULE

Washington, April 6.—The Tariff Board today began investigation of the cotton schedule of the Payne-Aldrich law and will conduct the work as far as is practicable, simultaneously with investigation of woolen schedule. Agents of the board are gathering preliminary data at the offices of the so-called cotton trust in New York and probably will transfer their work to the cotton mills of New England and the South within a few weeks. The status of work on the wool schedule now indicates the report may be ready when Congress assembles in regular session in December. The board's plans are to clean up the pulp and paper investigation and concentrate on woolens and cottons. The investigation of the cotton schedule offers a less difficult problem than the woolen schedule, because raw cotton is on the free list.
Benefit at Joyland Friday Night.
The Children's League of Trinity church, Ninth and Market streets, will give an entertainment at Joyland for the benefit of the playground fund.
Mr. F. W. Gergen will sing a solo, "Call Me Up Some Rainy Afternoon," and the Peerless Quartet composed of C. B. Armstrong, 1st tenor; Harold Pate, bass; Ed. Brewer, 2nd tenor; William Beardsley, bass; will sing also at each entertainment.
Mr. F. W. Bonitz, the proprietor of Joyland, has kindly consented to give the youngsters a good percentage of the proceeds from the sale of tickets.
Bring the Children.
To See "April Fool" at the Grand, they'll enjoy it. Its funny.
Judge Peebles told the attorneys for the defendant that he would allow them to fix the size of the stick at whatever they wanted it and Mr. McClammy said to put the length at five feet and size 4x4.
J. W. Smith, who was a fireman at the Fourth street bridge engine house at the time of the tragedy, testified that on the morning of the homicide, about three hours before it occurred, he saw Stephens and asked him who was the other man collecting and he replied that it was Shields. Witness said he replied that some one had been talking in a very insulting manner to his wife, and Stephens said that was just like him, that he had been collecting his money and he would fix or get him, witness did not remember which.
The witness stated that he afterwards learned it was not Shields who had been to his house but this evidence was ruled out.
W. J. Eagles, also a fireman in the city fire department, testified to having seen Stephens and Smith talking on the morning of July 9th and heard Stephens say that he had a fuss with

RAIDS HIS PLACE

Sheriff and Officers Break Into Runge's Place—Arrested Woman and Found Beer—Made Raid at Judge's Direction.
Acting under orders of Judge Peebles, and after a fruitless effort to gain admission to a house near Delgado formerly occupied by G. W. Runge, Sheriff Cowan this afternoon broke the door of the house open and searched the premises. He was in search of G. W. Runge against whom five true bills were returned by the grand jury for selling whiskey without license, and one for a nuisance. Runge could not be found and is said to have skipped last night. In the house, however, was a white woman, Louise Evans, and Sheriff Cowan swore a warrant out against her upon charge of retailing spirituous liquors without license. The woman was arrested and carried to Justice Harris' court where she is at the time this is written, the time of her trial not having been decided upon.
When the sheriff first went to the house no one answered knocks on the door. Upon returning the second time a negro boy was seen with a wagon and evidently preparing to move articles from the store but when he saw the officers he took to the woods and has not been arrested. In the house was found a quantity of beer.

LAUNCH BURNED UP

Disaster Overtook the Clifford Early Last Night Up the River—Owned By Mr. M. H. Croom and No Insurance.
The naphtha launch, Clifford, a sturdy little craft of this port, owned by Mr. M. H. Croom, of this city, was burned to the water's edge last night. The boat, a lighter, was at Horse Shoe, about eight miles above the city, when the fire occurred. A youth, standing in a doorway of the boat, lit a lamp and tossed the match down. There was evidently a leak somewhere, because the match ignited gasoline on the floor and soon the craft was ablaze. The flames quickly consumed it, but the lighter was saved. The crew got from aboard safely and arrived back home last night about 9 o'clock.
There was no insurance on the Clifford.
GUEST OF HONOR LAST NIGHT.
Mr. W. A. Tener Was With the Y. M. C. A. at Supper.
A delightful social affair was a supper given last night by the Young Men's Christian Association in honor of Mr. W. A. Tener, general secretary of the Manila P. I. Y. M. C. A., who is now traveling in this country. Following the supper Mr. W. M. Cumming, who presided, in his usual charming way presented Mr. Tener, who delivered a splendid address. It was both entertaining and instructive.
Bring the Children.
To See "April Fool" at the Grand, they'll enjoy it. Its funny. It.

WITNESSES TELL OF BOGUS BILLS OF LADING

Aberdeen, Miss., April 6.—C. H. G. Linde and L. C. Steele testifying for the prosecution today substantiated the allegation that bogus cotton bills of lading were issued by the suspended cotton firm of Steele Miller Co., of Corinth, Miss. Linde and Steele and J. H. Miller and John H. McKnight, other members of the firm, are on trial, charged with misuse of the mails. Both Linde and Steele testified that Miller engineered the transactions and vowed they were in ignorance of alleged forgeries until the company was deeply involved.
"April Fool."
Latest Edison comedy that will make you laugh. Grand Theatre today. It.
"Suspicion."
Great Vitagraph drama. Grand Theatre today. It.

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