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POSTAL BANKS

DOING LITTLE BUSINESS--PEOPLE DEPOSITING MONEY IN HOME BANKS

SEWELL SUCCEEDS KENAN

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 28.—Deputy State Fire Insurance Commissioner, W. A. Scott, who is in Greensboro spending the holidays with his family says that during the past three months fewer fires have been reported throughout North Carolina to the department during any period since the department was established 12 years ago.

With his shoulder blade and bone fractured, his jawbone shattered and five ribs broken, Mr. John Johnson, of Ridgeway, a station about 70 miles north of Raleigh on the Seaboard, was picked up by Seaboard passenger train No. 81 at Manson, between Henderson and Ridgeway, and brought to Raleigh today for treatment in Rex Hospital. So many and serious were the injuries that it was impossible to say this afternoon whether the man could recover.

The postal savings banks do not seem to be having much success in the south. None of them have been flooded with deposits and a great many of them have received nothing at all. The people have faith in the local banks and these pay a higher rate of interest than the government banks, they are patronizing the home institutions.

Captain Andrew Jackson Dougherty, U. S. A., has returned from Lumber Bridge and Fayetteville, where he inspected the military companies and gave instruction in the new drill rules. The Lumber Bridge company, Captain Dougherty said, is in splendid condition, but the Fayetteville company is handicapped by dissensions. These dissensions, however, are rapidly being eliminated, it is thought, and when the company is united it will be one of the best in the state. The material is there.

Joseph L. Sewell, who twenty years ago entered the office as a barefooted messenger boy, was today sworn in as clerk of the Supreme court to succeed Col. Thomas S. Kenan who died Saturday. There were several applicants for the place but no other name was considered by members of the Supreme court and the election was unanimous.

For the purpose of attending a meeting of the directors of the North Carolina Transcontinental Railroad Company, E. C. Duncan left today for New York, this company owing the South Atlantic Transcontinental Railroad franchise that has now under prosecution especially the construction of a railroad from Knoxville, Tenn., through the western Carolina mountains to Rutherfordton, N. C., and thence southeast with the ultimate purpose of getting into South port at the mouth of Cape Fear and pushing on across Florida for Panama Canal service connections. The directors are to meet in New York this week.

Comrade Elijah Streeter, aged seventy nine years, died today at the Soldier's home. He was a member of Company B. Thirty first regiment and came to the home from Anson county in 1899. He was buried in the graveyard at the Home.

Complaint Against Rates.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The Augusta chamber of commerce petitioned the interstate commerce commission claiming that the railways and steamship lines operating along the South Atlantic coast make rates discriminations against Augusta in favor of Atlanta. The petition cites the shoe rates from New York to Atlanta are less than to Augusta, although the distance is greater.

MILLIKAN FEDERAL CLERK

Greensboro, Dec. 28.—United States District Judge James E. Boyd today authorized the announcement that James M. Millikan, at present clerk of the court at Greensboro will be appointed clerk of the court for the western North Carolina district and that Clerk Millikan will appoint the following deputies: Miss Hattie C. Causey, Greensboro; M. S. Hyams, Asheville; Henry C. Cowles, Statesville, Charlotte and Salisbury; Milton McNeill, Wilkesboro.

The salary of the clerk is named at \$2,500 a year, while the deputies who have formally made from \$4,000 to \$6,000, will receive about \$2,000.

The reorganization of the Federal courts takes place January 1 under the judiciary act of the last Congress.

The circuit judges hereafter will not have jurisdiction as heretofore, but their labors will be confined principally to the circuit courts of appeals. The district judges will perform the duties in the districts heretofore exercised by both the circuit and district judges.

Under the new regime there will be but one clerk of the district court in the district and such number of deputy clerks as may be necessary for the proper transaction of business. It is probable that additional deputies will soon be named to assist Hyams at Asheville and Cowles at Charlotte.

CHILD LABOR IN MILLS.

An Act to Regulate and Restrict Child Labor in Manufacturing Establishments and to Regulate the Hours of Labor.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That no child under twelve years of age shall be employed or worked in any factory or manufacturing establishment within this State: Provided further, that after one thousand nine hundred and seven no child between the ages of twelve and thirteen years of age shall be employed or work in a factory except in apprenticeship capacity and only then, after having attended school four months in the preceding twelve months.

Section 2. That not exceeding sixty six hours shall constitute a week's work in all factories and manufacturing establishments of this State. No person under eighteen years of age shall be required to work in such factories or establishments a longer period than sixty six hours in one week: Provided, that this section shall not apply to engineers, firemen, machinists, superintendents, overseers, section and yard hands, office men, watchmen or repairers of breakdowns.

Section 3. All parents, or persons standing in relation of parent, upon hiring their children to any factory or manufacturing establishment, shall furnish such establishment a written statement of the age of such child or children being so hired, and certify as to school attendance; and any parents or person standing in the relation of parent to such child or children, who shall in such written statement misstate the age of such child or children being so employed, or their school attendance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished at the discretion of the court. Any mill owner, superintendent or manufacturing establishment, who shall knowingly or willfully violate the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished at the discretion of the court.

Section 4. After one thousand nine hundred and seven no boy or girl under fourteen years old shall work in a factory between the hours of eight P. M. and five A. M.

Section 5. This act shall be in force from and after January first, one thousand nine hundred and eight.

In the General Assembly read three times, and ratified this the 9th day of March, A. D. 1907.

THOMPSON DROPS PLAN

SAYS HE IS NOT DESPOSED TO PUSH THE COTTON HOLDING PROPOSITION

IF THE FARMERS OPPOSE

Columbia, Dec. 28.—Col Robert M. Thompson, promoter of the plan to lend southern cotton growers \$25 per bale on this year's cotton crop the rest to be paid when the farmer wishes to sell the product, wrote the editor of a local paper, a letter stating that owing to criticism of his scheme he was decided not to press it further now.

He hopes the farmers will eventually accept the plan. He declares he is not a speculator and never intends to be one. The plan, if adopted, Thompson thinks would save the south fifty million dollars.

Col. Thompson's plan has already been published in the Times. It proposes to take the cotton of the farmer and deposit it in the warehouses, and advance \$25.00 per bale thereon. The matter of calling the loan and selling the cotton is left optional with the syndicate advancing the money, exactly the reverse of what the farmer needs, and which places him in the hands of the bears who could drive the market to the point where the cotton would of necessity be sold to refund the money advanced.

The only way is to store cotton in local warehouses and borrow money thereon from local banks, or what is better get in shape to carry it on the farm by raising your living and sell whenever you feel the price justifies.

Vote Sellers May Escape.

Bristol, Va., Dec. 28.—That through a legal technicality the persons in Lee county, Va., who have been indicted for having sold their votes may escape conviction and consequent fine and disfranchisement is the latest phase of the sensational investigation into the wholesale debauchery of the electorate in that county.

It is stated by one of the prominent lawyers in Lee county that it is his opinion, as well as the opinion of the best lawyers of the Jonesville bar, that the vote buyers who have confessed before the grand jury under Judge Skeen's promise of immunity may be compelled to refuse to testify at the trial of the vote sellers on the ground that it would incriminate them beyond the power of the court to grant the immunity. If this proves true, no convictions can be made, as there is only one witness against each vote seller.

Careless Handling of a Pistol.

Hamlet, Dec. 28.—While the boarders were standing and sitting around the stove in a boarding house on Bridgers street, Ben Brown, a young railroad conductor was fingering his pistol. Clyde W. Funderburg, of Hamlet, a flagman on the work train on the C. and K. ballasting train, was seated across the room. The gun was accidentally discharged and Funderburg was shot through the stomach. Drs. Kinsman and Fowlkes performed an operation in a vain attempt to save life. The intestines were punctured in several places and death ensued at nine o'clock this morning.

Staved in Prison.

New York, Dec. 28.—Three soldiers escaped from the military prison on Governor's Island tried to row across the bay to Erie basin, Brooklyn in a small boat. Two of them later were arrested and say they were staved in prison.

DR. SEN PRESIDENT

OF CHINESE REPUBLIC-DELEGATES OF 18 PROVINCES TO MEET AT NANKING

ON DECEMBER 28TH

Peking, Dec. 28.—The throne has formally accepted the plan of Yuan Shi Kai for a republic.

Shanghai, Dec. 28.—Eight thousand rebel soldiers left here for Hankang as a nucleus for the standing army that will uphold the new republic. Nanking is likely to be the capital of the republic.

Shanghai, Dec. 28.—It is reported that the delegates of the eighteen provinces of China proper intend to meet at Nanking on December 28th to elect Dr. Sun Yat Sen as president of the provisional government of the United Provinces.

The arrival of Dr. Sun Yat Sen has injected an entirely new and forceful element into the ranks and councils of the revolutionaries. Dr. Sen's residence is crowded from morning till evening with representatives of all the provinces, generals and governors, with whom he holds consultations.

There is reason to believe that they will meet on December 28th and elect Dr. Sen president of the provisional government by an unanimous vote. After that has been done the revolutionaries plan the formation of a cabinet by the president who will issue a proclamation setting forth the terms and plans of the new government.

Dr. Sen evidently does not regard the peace conference here seriously and will proceed with his plans without regard to Peking.

No decision has yet been reached as to whether the armistice is to be continued.

COTTON TODAY.

New York, Dec. 28.—Jan. opened 8.76, March 8.91, May 9.04, July 9.15, Oct. 9.27, Dec. 9.19.

At noon Jan. was 8.78, March 8.95, May 9.07, July 9.17, Oct. 9.31, Dec. 9.22.

Liverpool closed from one to two points up from the opening with Dec. 4.88 1-2, May-June 4.97, July-Aug. 5.01 1-2, Dec.-Jan. 5.03 1-2.

Jan. 8.73, Mar. 8.90, May 9.01, July 9.12, Oct. 9.27, Dec. 8.92.

PROVISIONS.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Wheat opened Dec. 94 1-2, Dec. corn .65.

At noon May wheat was .99 1-2 Dec. corn was .64 7-8.

At 2 o'clock Dec. wheat was .94 3-8, Dec. corn was .63 5-8.

STOCKS.

New York, Dec. 28.—The Mercantile Marine preferred was a feature at the opening of the market. Nearly all of the stocks moved downward a fraction. The curb is dull. Americans in London are quiet.

Lynching Narrowly Averted.

Southern Pines, N. C., Dec. 28.—A lynching was narrowly averted when the sheriff returned with Eustace Robinson the negro who shot Francis Ruggles, a promising young man of this place, simply because they were making fun of them.

Infant Dies.

Sadie Williams, 2 years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Connie Williams who reside near the W. W. Simms Co., mill. It was buried yesterday afternoon near Wilbank's in the Williams grave yard. Rev. Mr. Spiegel conducted services before the remains left the city.

DEMANDS RESIGNATION

Albany, Dec. 28.—Governor Dix demands the resignation of Dr. Alvah H. Doty, health officer of the port of New York as the result of an investigation. Irregularities in his office are charged.

Ate Spoiled Herrings.

Berlin, Dec. 28.—Eighteen inmates of the municipal night shelter died from poisoning while eating spoiled herrings. Twenty others are ill.

Fatal Gasoline Explosion.

Peoria, Dec. 28.—One was killed, six hurt and two fatally by an explosion of gasoline in a tank of the Royal Cleaning Company's plant.

HEAVY LOSS.

When the Houses Where Patterns of Maryland Steel Company Were Burned.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 28.—Four storehouses for Patterns of the Maryland Steel Co., at Sparrows Point were destroyed by fire this morning. The damage is heavy.

BLIZZARD RAGING.

Shipping Warned to Seek Port—Mercury Near Zero in New York, Penn. and Ohio.

New York, Dec. 28.—A blizzard is raging today in western New York, northwestern Pennsylvania and northern Ohio. Lake shipping is warned to seek a port. The mercury is near zero.

SIR ALEXANDER DEAD.

He Was Under Secretary to the Foreign Office and an Able English Diplomat.

London, Dec. 28.—Sir Francis Alexander Campbell, assistant Under Secretary to the foreign office, died today. He was fifty nine years of age.

Rocky Mount Items.

There was an enjoyable meeting of the young ladies Tongue and Needle Club, held last evening at the home of Dr. J. P. Whitehead at the corner of Franklin street and Western avenue, the hostess of the occasion being Miss Nannie Walker, a prominent member of this social organization. The event was one of the happiest of the Yule Tide season and Miss Walker was assisted in the entertaining by Mrs. J. P. Whitehead.

Following the usual program of the Tongue and Needle Club, delicious refreshments in several courses were served.

Mr. Swift G. Nelms, formerly of this city, but now of Savannah, Ga., and Miss Fannie E. Carroll, of this city, were married last evening at 6:15 o'clock at St. James' Episcopal church, Rev. Dr. W. H. Milton, the rector, officiating. The couple are highly esteemed and popular in the city and the event was celebrated in the presence of a number of friends.

Yesterday morning the members of the Idle Hour Club were delightfully entertained by Miss Louise Corinth the time being spent in various pleasant ways, after which delicious refreshments were served.

Last night at nine o'clock in the church of the Good Shepherd one of the most beautiful weddings of the season was solemnized, the contracting parties being Mrs. Florence Chalk Andrews, the daughter of Marguerite Muse Chalk and Mr. William E. Spruill, one of the most popular conductors of the A. C. L. system, of this city, a brother of our fellow townsman, Mr. Frank P. Spruill, the ceremony being performed by Rev. R. B. Owens.

The happy young couple left last night for a bridal tour to various Florida cities and Havana, with the best wishes of a host of friends throughout the state, after which they will reside in this city.

Miss Ruth Sauls, came in today from Black Creek.

ENGLAND TO RESCUE

WILL THROW ARMY INTO PERSIA TO PROTECT HER INTERESTS AND TO

STOP RUSSIAN ATROCITIES

Teheran, Persia, Dec. 28.—England is preparing to throw an army into southern Persia as the result of the attack on the British Consul, W. A. Smart, near Kazaran. Smart was first reported killed but was found wounded. Fighting is still going on between the Persian constitutionalists and Russian soldiers at Tabriz.

The English will be welcomed for it is quite certain that the atrocities committed by Russian soldiers will cease when the English are on the ground.

A BARBAROUS NATION.

Russia's Idea is to Wipe Out the Persians Without Mercy—England Sits Supinely.

London, Dec. 28.—As reports of Russian progress in Persia and stories of the indiscriminate killing of natives in Tabriz and Resht and of the destruction of Persia's constitutional government under Russian menaces continue to reach England, the people are becoming increasingly disquieted at the British Government's complicity which the foreign secretary, Sir Edward Grey, thinks is a matter of policy and compelled by the Anglo-Russian agreement.

Doubts have also been increased as to whether Persian independence ever will be restored or even the feeble status it had before this last assault by Russia. If Parliament were sitting there would undoubtedly be severe questioning of the government on this subject and an arraignment of foreign office.

The Persia committee, composed of prominent Englishmen interested in Persian affairs, has received the following telegram from the Provincial Assembly at Tabriz, sent through the Persian Society of Constantinople: "On December 21 Russian troops attacked and seized the administrative buildings. They trampled school children under foot and killed and despoiled innocent men and women. They also looted the shops.

Reign of Terror Contemplated.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—A semi-official statement says that the Russian government, in view of the acts of foolhardy aggression committed against the Russian forces and institutions in Tabriz and Enzella, sometimes followed by brutal torture of the wounded and base outrages against the wounded and base outrages against the dead, has decided that the severest punishment of the guilty is merited and Russian commanders in conjunction with Russian consuls are instructed to adopt the most stringent measures.

Treasurer General Opposed to Shuster's Plan.

Teheran, Dec. 28.—It is understood that the regent and cabinet desire the appointment of the American, F. E. Cairns, the principal assistant of Mr. Shuster, as the new treasurer-general of Persia.

La Follette Starts Battle Against Taft.

Youngstown, O., Dec. 28.—The real battle of the so called progressive wing of the republican party against Taft's renomination started today, with speeches by Senator Robert M. La Follette in Youngstown and Cleveland.

Amoy, Dec. 28.—A plot has been discovered to assassinate Governor Yuan Gen Chey by the Imperialist soldiers. The ring leaders were decapitated.