

The Smithfield Herald.

VOL 30

SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1911

Number 30

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

EDUCATION

GOOD ROADS

GOOD HEALTH

PROGRESS

FIVE CENTS PER COPY.

CLOUBURST IN PENNSYLVANIA

PITTSBURGH SUBURBS UNDER 12 FEET OF WATER.

Cloudburst Does \$500,000 Damage.—Floods Tears Into Factories, Bridges Block Debris and Back Water Makes Great Lakes—The City Expects Trouble To-day.

Pittsburgh, Sept. 15.—Property loss approximating half a million dollars was suffered to-day when the streets of Etna, Etna, Millvale, Sharpsburg, Turtle Creek and other suburban towns were transformed into raging torrents by a cloudburst.

One life was lost and scores of others were saved by firemen and volunteers.

The storm, which broke early in the day, reached its greatest intensity at Etna, where the streets were flooded to the depth of 12 feet and the foundations of many houses were undermined.

Lashing their ladders together, the village firm spanned the swirling flood 150 feet and saved 25 persons marooned in a block of houses.

Two hundred steel workers at the Spang-Chalfonte Company hung to rafters in one of the buildings for several hours until taken off in boats. Care loaded with steel and coke were tossed about like corks and railway tracks were torn up.

The flood in the Turtle Creek Valley tore through some of the buildings of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company and the Westinghouse Airbrake Company, compelling a suspension of work, while a number of factories at Glenshaw were shut down.

Debris dammed against bridges caused the water to form lakes, creating a dangerous situation for hours. Telephone and telegraph communication was interrupted and in some instances suspended, while railroads annulled trains and re-routed others.

For the first time in the history of the local Weather Bureau a flood warning was sent out in September, 22 feet of water being expected here tomorrow.

The storm was general throughout Western Pennsylvania, but the principal damage was done in Allegheny county. The precipitation at Pittsburgh from 10:30 o'clock Thursday night until 10:30 o'clock to-day was 2.08, while at Beaver Falls 4.60 was reported.

At Glenshaw a number of manufacturing plants were flooded, and at Sewickley a reservoir of the water-works system broke, causing some damage.

Many houses in Emsworth, nearby, also were flooded.

Six feet of debris blocked the tracks of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad at Bellevue, and there was six feet of water on the tracks of the Pittsburgh, Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad at Greenville when the Shenango river overflowed and a reservoir went out.

Sixteen trains were held up there for hours.

Another Merchant in Selma.

Mr. Nelson D. Wells has moved from Henderson to Selma and has opened business there. He will repair watches, clocks and jewelry and will sell watches, jewelry and optical goods. Mr. Wells and his wife were reared at Princeton and we gladly welcome them back to Johnston County after several years' absence. He is a successful man in his line of business and we wish him success at Selma.

New Selma Concern.

On Wednesday last the Secretary of State granted a charter to the A. V. Driver Company, of Selma, to do a general mercantile business. The authorized capital is \$25,000, with a paid in capital of \$10,000. A. V. Driver, I. T. Wood and S. P. Wood are the incorporators. They are all well known business men of Selma and their management of the new concern is the strongest evidence of its ultimate success.

Canada defeated the reciprocity measure yesterday.

JONES FOUND GUILTY GETS TWENTY YEARS

A murder case of more than ordinary interest came to a close here Tuesday evening, when the jury returned a verdict of murder in the second degree against Jesse T. Jones for the killing of James Hull, a negro boy, at a fish pond near Kenly, on the third day of last May. The jury was out a little over an hour.

The evidence in this case upon which the prosecution relied for a verdict against the defendant was substantially as follows: On the afternoon of May 3, a small negro boy, in company with several other negroes, was fishing in a pond near Kenly, on the property of the defendant, Jesse T. Jones. Jones having been informed that the negroes were fishing in his pond went there and ordered them to leave, and taking a pistol from his pocket fired in the direction of where the little Hull negro was standing, with the result that the ball struck the Hull negro in the left breast, puncturing the muscles of the heart. Hull ran a few yards and fell, dying in less than five minutes.

At the coroner's inquest the next day it was understood that the shooting was claimed to have been done accidentally, and that Jones did not see the Hull negro on account of weeds and reeds growing about the place.

Quite a surprise was sprung at the trial here Monday when a new line of defense was presented. The evidence upon which Jones relied for his acquittal was to the effect that he did not shoot in the direction of the negro at all, his first shot striking a pine, and the second shot going into the pond, but that the shot which caused Hull's death was fired by Thurston Elliot, one of the negroes fishing at the pond, who when Jones appeared and began firing, ran off into the woods and fired back at Jones, the ball missing Jones and hitting the Hull boy.

To corroborate Jones in his statement Tom Harmon and his wife, who were tenants on the land of Jones, were introduced in his behalf. They lived near the pond. Both these witnesses swore that Elliot was the man who killed Hull. To offset this evidence the State introduced witnesses to prove that Jones, during the term of court, attempted to bribe one of the State's witnesses; that Tom Harmon said on the day of the coroner's inquest that he knew nothing of the shooting until Jones called him and told him that he had killed a negro boy and wanted him to help find him; and that Mrs. Harmon, at the time of the shooting, was at her house and was not in position to have seen what took place.

The defendant's brother, who was standing near him when the fatal shot was fired, was not put on the stand by the defense. It is said that at the coroner's inquest he swore that two shots were fired, corroborating the State's witnesses, all of whom were colored, and all swore that only two shots were fired, while Jones, Harmon and his wife testified that there were three shots.

While much bearing was brought on the jury by the defendant's counsel of the fact that in order to convict the defendant they would have to say that Jones, Harmon and his wife had committed perjury. Somehow the jury disregarded their evidence and returned a verdict of guilty.

Judge Peebles, in commenting upon the verdict, told the jury that the verdict that had been rendered was both a righteous and commendable one, and in returning it as they had they were fully justified in doing so, and that they had performed a service to their county for which they should feel proud and which would meet with general approval. In sentencing Jones Judge Peebles told him that there had been dirty work done in the case and that he would like to know who was responsible for it, that his defense was not made in good faith and that the jury's verdict was right and commendable. He then sentenced Jones to twenty years at hard labor in the penitentiary. Or if he would pay the mother of the dead

AUTOMOBILE RUNS THROUGH FENCE

AND SEVERAL ARE DEAD AND BADLY INJURED.

Automobile While Racing at Syracuse, New York, Had a Tire to Get off and Driver Loses Control.

Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 16.—Six persons are known to be dead and at least 14 hurt, several probably fatally, as a result of an accident in the 50-mile automobile race at the state fair track late this afternoon.

A Knox racing car, driven by Lee Oldfield, crashed through the fence on the turn after leaving the stretch in front of the grand stand and ploughed for some distance into the crowds, causing the casualties. Oldfield was not seriously hurt. The blowing up of a tire on Oldfield's machine was responsible for the accident.

The dead are: J. A. Arnold, Syracuse, N. Y. James Coin, Alexandria Bay, N. Y. Claude Hammill, Hollandville, N. Y.

Charles Ballantyne, Syracuse. Fourteen-year-old boy. Unidentified man, about 26 years old.

The injured are: Fayette Funk, of Farleyville, attached of an attraction on the midway, is dying at the emergency hospital on the fair grounds. His skull is fractured and he is otherwise injured.

Every ambulance in Syracuse was rushed to the scene and vehicles at the park also were pressed into service to aid in the relief work.

The woman's building was turned into an emergency hospital.

The accident happened during the 47th mile of the race. Oldfield was a lap behind Ralph De Palma and running even with him. Oldfield had had a bad tire on his car for over 27 miles, but it did not blow out until the race was within three miles of the finish.

At the time it exploded De Palma and Oldfield were neck and neck. They had just taken the turn at a terrific speed that had the spectators almost in a frenzy. Then came a crash that was heard all over the field, followed by screams of women and children in the stand, the paddock and inside of the track.

Efforts were made by prominent Syracuseans to stop the meet at once. Starter F. J. Wagner, of New York, however, refused to stop the race. He started another race, the last one of the day, within five minutes after the track was cleared.

Popularity of the Bible.

It is often said that interest in the Bible is rare, that people are more and more likely to let dust accumulate on its pages. The investigations of Clayton Sedgwick Cooper, published in his new book, "The Bible and Modern Life," would seem to rebuke and refute this idea, and to establish the fact that the Bible is the most widely read book in the world.

Mr. Cooper tells of the work which is being done in modern Bible classes, not alone in this nation, but abroad and gives many details which are of interest. The general public is unaware of how extensive this work is. Last year 28,011,194 people, representing fifty-one nationalities, were enrolled in Sunday schools in various countries. Twenty-seven Bible societies report an aggregate distribution for 1910 of 12,843,196 Bibles. One society alone prints the Bible in four hundred different languages.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

The annual peanut crop of this country is valued at about \$12,000,000.

At Amarillo, Texas, the public is supplied with water pumped by electric motors from eighteen wells which are each 300 feet deep.

boy the sum of \$1,500 he would make the sentence the minimum under the law, two years in the pen.

Jones' attorneys gave notice of appeal and the bond was placed at ten thousand dollars.

HAZEL EDGERTON BADLY BURNED

LITTLE DAUGHTER OF MR. AND MRS. E. O. EDGERTON.

Fell in Pan of Boiling Water Tuesday and Received Very Serious Burns. Is in Critical Condition.

Fallen backwards into a dish pan full of boiling water, little Hazel Edgerton, the 19-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Edgerton, of 317 East Hargett street, was seriously injured yesterday afternoon about 12:30 o'clock. The little one's entire back, from her head down, was severely scalded and she is in a very critical condition. At a late hour last night she was reported to be resting fairly well under the circumstances, but at times pain was very acute.

When the accident occurred Mrs. Edgerton and the nurse were in the kitchen, preparing dinner, while the child was walking about the room. The nurse placed the pan of hot water on the floor. The child had a playful habit of walking backwards, and just after the pan had been placed on the floor she took several steps backwards, her little feet striking the edge of the pan and throwing her body into the pan, which was just large enough to contain her, leaving her head and feet out.

As the child fell its mother saw her and grabbed her out of the pan, but already the hot water had scalded her severely. A physician was summoned and dressed the burns.—News and Observer 20th.

WEATHER OVER COTTON BELT.

There Has Been Abundance of Sunshine, Not Too Much Rain and Conditions Have Been Favorable For Further Development of the Plant But Also For Picking the Staple.

Washington, Sept. 19.—Generally favorable weather in the cotton growing States during the week which ended yesterday was reported by the national weekly weather bulletin of the weather bureau issued today. It says:

"The weather was warm, sunshine abundant and conditions were favorable. No rains occurred over much of the belt to the westward of the Mississippi and some excessively hot weather occurred in Texas and Oklahoma. In the more eastern States of the belt, however, temperatures were not so high, local rains occurred and conditions were, in the main, favorable for the further development of the cotton plant as well as for picking."

Conditions by States: Virginia, temperature about normal. Precipitation normal in north and east-central; elsewhere decidedly deficient.

North Carolina, temperature above normal. Rainfall light except near coast. Ample sunshine, conditions favorable.

South Carolina, warm and dry, especially in south. Temperature above normal. Rainfall practically lacking. Sunshine above normal.

Georgia, without precipitation in many sections, several scattered light showers. Favorable for harvesting. Generally quite warm. Sunshine above normal.

Florida, rain slight, scattered, and decidedly deficient. Sunshine ample.

Alabama, temperature shows normal. Precipitation very irregularly distributed. Abundant sunshine. Mississippi, excessive heat. No rainfall except light showers in southwest and on coast. Weather highly favorable.

Louisiana temperature above normal. Precipitation much below normal. Sunshine excessive.

Texas, temperature above normal. Sunshine abundant. Precipitation decidedly deficient.

Arkansas, sunshine and temperature above normal. Light scattered showers in few northeastern and southwestern counties, but no rain fell over rest of the State.

Tennessee, hot weather. Rainfall generally light.

A machine has been perfected that will seal 20,000 envelopes in an hour. It is driven by electricity.

TRAIN WRECKED AT SMITHFIELD

NEWS REACHED US JUST BEFORE THREE O'CLOCK LAST MONDAY OF A COLLISION BETWEEN TWO TRAINS NEAR THE DEPOT AT SMITHFIELD.

It occurred within a few steps of the northern end of the pass track and near the section houses. A northbound through freight was on the main line waiting for the local freight going south to come from Selma and go into the siding. Engineer R. A. Bell, of Rocky Mount, was on the engine of the local train. At Selma his train had been broken up, taking on and putting off cars, which made it necessary, according to railroad rules, to test the air brakes before starting from there. This he failed to do. It seems he left Selma and came to Smithfield hurriedly in order to get here to let the through freight pass him. When he tried to stop, to go in on the siding he found the brakes would not work and the train ran by the switch and collided with the through freight. Several couplings to the through freight were broken and the engine was damaged, but no one of the crew was hurt, as they got out of the way. The fireman of the local freight jumped off the train and was not hurt. Mr. Bell remained at his post and was killed. One of his legs was cut almost in two at the knee. A large piece of flesh was torn from the other leg. One of his arms was broken and he received several bruises about his head. If he had not been struck he was scalded enough to kill him. He had to be prized out from between the engine and tender. The wreck occurred at 2:40 o'clock and he died at 3:05. His remains were taken by Cotter, Underwood Company, undertakers here, and embalmed and sent to Rocky Mount that night. He was a native of New York state and had been married three years. The car next to the engine was loaded with cotton seed and was badly damaged. The next car had in it a few cases of shoes and other goods and was completely destroyed. The third car was damaged to some extent. This engine was damaged worse than the engine of the through freight. The large front wheels were up from the track about a foot.

MAN FOUND DEAD IN BUGGY.

Carl Armfield Suffers Peculiar Accident Near Jamestown. Had Been Drinking Heavily. When Found Neck Was Broken.

Jamestown, Sept. 20.—Carl E. Armfield, son of the late Dr. David Armfield, was found dead in his buggy near his home here yesterday morning at 4 o'clock. He was found with his head between the shafts and wheel, with a broken neck. As the body was rigid it is thought that death occurred earlier in the night. He was about 31 years old.

The deceased is thought to have been returning to his home from Greensboro when the accident occurred that caused his death. It was known that he had been drinking heavily for the past three weeks and his head bore several abrasions, supposed to have been caused by having fallen from his buggy, while under the influence of whiskey. It is a surmise, therefore, that while in this condition he fell over the dashboard of the buggy and being under the influence of whiskey was unable to recover his position on the seat.

When found the buggy wheel was against a post and it was thought that the horse, having pulled aside from the road, struck this post and in doing so wrenched the shafts around and broke Mr. Armfield's neck. As this was the apparent cause of death, the coroner did not deem an inquest necessary.

Monday afternoon Mr. Armfield applied to a prominent physician for chloral, stating that he was in a bad condition and hinted at delirium tremens. The physician stated that he would have administered the drug, but did not have it; he saw that Mr. Armfield needed it. It was suggested that this condition might have given rise to the accident.

Why is it that a fly can always find the hole in a screen from the outside, but never from the inside?

OFF BUILDING POLITICAL FENCES

PRESIDENT TAFT BEGINS HIS LONG TOUR OF TALKING.

Chief Executive of the Nation Saw His Fifty-fourth Natal Anniversary Go By.—Trip Begun Last Week, Will Extend Over Nearly Seven Weeks and Carry Him in 24 States.

Boston, Sept. 15.—President Taft left Boston at 7:35 tonight on his 13,000 mile speaking tour, embracing twenty-four states, and continuing until Nov. 1. His departure in the special train prepared for his party was signalized by an enthusiastic demonstration from several hundred persons gathered at the South station to bid him Godspeed.

This was President Taft's 54th birthday. Congratulatory messages poured into the executive offices at Beverly from all over the world. One came from King George V of England.

A drizzle of rain fell during the President's motor trip from Parramatta to this city. Midway on the road he was forced, with other occupants of his automobile to alight and get into the automobile of the secret service men, owing to a slight accident to his own machine.

When the special train left, the President's immediate party consisted of Secretary Charles D. Hilles, Major A. W. Butt, military aide, and Major Thomas L. Rhodes, U. S. A., the President's physician. Three secret service guards and nine newspaper men accompanied the party. The train consisted of a baggage car coach, the Pullman private car Ideal, to be occupied by the President and his immediate party, the Pullman compartment cars Texas and Florida, and a dining car. The coach is to be carried over the entire journey, as it has been found on previous trips that so many committee delegations have boarded the train that there has been no room in the sleeping cars to properly care for them.

From the beginning to the end of the trip the train will carry superintendents, train-masters and other operating officials on the various lines over which it moves, and it is estimated that between 45,000 and 50,000 railroad men will be directly concerned and engaged in transporting the Presidential party.

A STATEMENT.

Last week we stated that certain Smithfield negroes spent part of a Sunday recently gambling at the new academy, which is being built by the colored people near the depot. We printed this as a matter of news. We meant no reflection on the colored people in general and no reflection on their school. This building is being erected by the colored Baptists of the County for a high school, which they expect to run here. We commend them for this worthy undertaking. We favor everything which will elevate the colored race. We are willing any time to take their part in a matter of right and wrong. In Smithfield there are a great many good colored people. There are also some bad negroes here. They lead immoral lives. They spend most of what they make clear of actual expenses for whiskey, which they drink and sell to each other or to anybody else who will buy from them. They gamble and practice other immorality. They are banded together for breaking the laws and to prevent their enforcement. Many of them will tell anything or swear to anything to carry their points. They have been known to go to the home of a white man in his absence to serenade his wife with their brass band as an insult because they had a grudge against her husband for no other reason than that he opposed their devilment. They defy every law and everybody in carrying out their plans. We are favorable to the colored race and their churches but cannot and will not in anyway cloak the meanness of this bad element in Smithfield. We hope to see the day when the laws can be enforced against them and hope that such a day is not far in the future. They are enemies of progress and good government and should be classed as such.