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NO. 38.

TAR HEEL TOPICS

Items Gathered From All Sections of the State

The Grape Black Rot.

This disease prevails in all parts of North Carolina. In most sections of the State it is so bad that the grape crop is practically ruined unless proper measures be taken to prevent the disease.

The Black rot is easily recognized from blackening, drying and final shriveling of the grapes in the clusters. Often all of them shrivel and dry in this way. Though the disease is seldom noticed until the grape is badly shriveled, it may be seen earlier as a brown or black spot on the berry. Before its appearance upon the fruit at all it may be found as brown spots, one-eighth to one-half an inch in diameter, on the leaves or twigs. Very close examination of the diseased spots on twigs, leaves, or fruit, reveals the presence of very small pustules in great numbers.

These pustules are the fruiting bodies of the fungus which is the cause of the black rot, and from these pustules issue immense numbers of spores which serve to spread the disease.

This disease can be prevented. If you saw black rot on your grapes last year it will almost certainly be there again this year unless you take steps to prevent it. Prevention is simple and sure. It consists in spraying your vines with the Bordeaux mixture, consisting of six pounds of blue-stone, four pounds of lime and fifty gallons of water. The first application, killing the spores that are wintering on the bark and trellis, should be made before the buds open; the second, immediately before the blossoms appear; the third, just after blossoming; the fourth and fifth at intervals of ten to fourteen days thereafter.

The cost of six sprayings for an acre of grapes is about fifteen dollars, including material and labor. The grapes saved will in value far exceed this cost.

Now is the time of year to get your spray pump ready if you have one; to buy one if you need to; to prepare for the spraying needed during the coming spring.

If you need further information regarding spraying mixtures, how to prepare them, spraying pumps, where to buy them, and what crops and when to spray, write to the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, West Raleigh, N. C., for Bulletin 193, "Spraying Mixtures and Machinery, When and How to Spray."

The following Bulletins of interest to fruit growers may be secured upon application.

Bulletin 182. Apples in North Carolina.

Bulletin 184. Garden and Orchard Fruits, their Culture and Marketing.

Bulletin 185. Black Rot of the Grape in North Carolina and its Treatment.

Bulletin 186. Insect and Fungous Enemies of the Peach, Plum, Cherry, Fig and Persimmon.

Bulletin 187. Grapes and Small Fruits.

F. L. STEVENS,
Biologist.

Death of Mr. R. H. Jordan.

Charlotte, Special.—Mr. R. H. Jordan, one of the best known druggists in North Carolina and one of Charlotte's most prominent citizens, died in his room at the Central Hotel here on Wednesday and was buried on Thursday afternoon.

Removed For Safe Keeping.

Asheville, Special.—Sheriff Cole and Deputy Sheriff Springle, of Madison county, arrived here on train No. 12, bringing with them John Randolph, charged with the cruel murder of his wife several days ago. Randall was brought here for safe-keeping. He is, however, apparently indifferent to the crime charged against him and seems to have no fear.

Big Cotton Spinners Meeting in June.

Charlotte, Special.—The meeting of the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers will be held in Paris France, June 1st. Mr. S. B. Tanner, president of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association, will appoint the five delegates from that body within a few days. The last meeting of the International Federation was held in Atlanta, Ga., last fall. It is likely that quite a number of American spinners will attend the forthcoming meeting, one of them being from Charlotte.

Sensational Developments.

New Bern, Special.—Sensational developments of the fire here Sunday morning, in which William O'Brien, an industrious colored man, met his death. It appears that nothing was suspected until O'Brien's body had been lowered in the grave and the last rites were in progress when Coroner Jones ordered the body taken up and taken to an undertaking establishment, where a postmortem examination was made. A coroner's jury was impaneled and that body in considering the matter. The fact that the man's skull was fractured was the cause of the investigation, and other incidents tend to make officers suspicious that the man met his death by foul play. It is intimated that O'Brien had a difficulty with a neighbor shortly before the fire occurred. While that neighbor has not been arrested, he is kept under surveillance by police until it can be settled to the satisfaction of the coroner and jury that the man came to death by accident. O'Brien was well known in the city and had an excellent reputation. The man under suspicion is one of the most prosperous colored merchants in the city.

Coroner Makes Investigation.

New Bern, Special.—The death of William O'Brien, colored, in the early morning fire Sunday, had so many suspicious things connected with it that the coroner summoned a jury and spent a part of three days in investigating the affair. From what can be learned it is very doubtful as to foul play, although there is a suspicion that such could have been the case.

Coast Line Agrees.

Raleigh, Special.—Governor Glenn has received a very interesting and important letter from President Thomas M. Emerson, of the Atlantic Coast Line, dated at Wilmington: "I have received a copy of the act of the Legislature passed at the extra session covering the passenger rate matter. I note from the same that you were unable to carry out in full your recommendation as contained in your proposal, notably that part which provided that the question of the reasonableness of the proposed rate be remanded to the corporation commission at the end of twelve months' trial. Nevertheless it is our intention to give our part of the agreement the twelve months' trial, under the conditions as provided for in our letter of December 23rd, 1907. I have furnished the counsel for the complaining stockholders a copy of this letter. I do add that it is our intention to readjust inter-State rates effective if possible on April 1st."

To this Governor Glenn replied that he was gratified that the Atlantic Coast Line would put the new rate in to effect.

Charters Granted.

Among the new charters are the following: Observer Printing House, Charlotte; capital authorized, \$25,000 to begin with, initial stock paid in, \$6,000. Incorporating stockholders, D. A. Tompkins, 20 shares; J. P. Caldwell, 20 shares; B. R. Cates, 20 shares.

Randleman Drug Company, P. A. Hayes, J. H. Waller and others, incorporators. Initial capital, \$1,950.

Charters are granted the Crescent Hardware Company, at Greensboro capital stock \$50,000, and the R. W. Livermore general merchandise company, of Pates, Robeson county, \$2,000.

High Point's Bond Issue.

High Point, Special.—At a meeting of the board of aldermen last week the papers advertising High Point's bonds for sale were presented and accepted. The issue calls for \$60,000 5 per cent coupons, payable April 1st 1908. The issue of these bonds was by an act of the extra session of the legislature and is to pay off the floating indebtedness of the city.

The Wachovia Loan and Trust Company.

Winston-Salem, Special.—At a meeting of the directors of the Wachovia Loan and Trust Company, held in this city. Mr. Westcott Robinson a prominent lawyer and citizen of High Point, was elected a member of the board of directors and also chairman of the board of managers of the High Point office. The company has branch banks at High Point, Salisbury, Spencer and Asheville.

IN HONOR OF LINCOLN

Birthday of Martyr President
Fittingly Observed

MANY NOTED SPEAKERS HEARD

A Former Officer in the Confederate Army Takes Part in the New York Ceremony—Hearst a Guest of Honor and a Principal Speaker—Governor Hughes Makes Two Addresses.

New York, Special.—The 99th anniversary of Lincoln's birth was fittingly observed by the members of the Lincoln Fellowship, a recently organized association of admirers of the martyr-President. Addresses were delivered by several men of national reputation. Additional Lincoln meetings were held at night. The Lincoln Fellowship is designed to perpetuate Lincoln's memory and keep alive his principles and patriotism. It is expected to become national in its scope and character. A great celebration of the centennial of Lincoln's birth will be held by the fellowship next year.

One of the charter members is C. W. McLellan, a retired New York banker, who was an officer in the Confederate army. Others who joined are David H. Bates, Lincoln's telegrapher in the War Department; Major J. B. Merwin, Middleford, Conn., who was Lincoln's confidential agent and who says he dined with Lincoln in the White House on the day of the assassination and started for New York early that evening to present Lincoln's letter to Horace Greely, containing the President's plans for digging the Panama Canal with two hundred thousand negro soldiers, with "Ben" Butler as supervisor; Charles A. Tinkler, clerk in the War Department, and General James Grant Wilson, who exhibited a ring containing strands of hair from the heads of Washington, Wellington, Napoleon, Alexander Hamilton, Lincoln and Grant. Major Merwin had the original order written and signed by Lincoln passing him through the army lines.

The officers are: Major William Lambert, U. S. A. (retired) of Philadelphia, who served under General Thomas in the civil war, president; General James Grant Wilson, C. W. McLellan, Judd Stewart, New York; J. B. Oakleaf, of Moline, Ill.; Alonzo Rothschild, East Roxboro, Mass., and General James Fish, of Minneapolis, vice presidents; F. D. Tandy and Judd Stewart, New York, secretary and treasurer, respectively.

Hearst at Lincoln Banquet.

New York, Special.—William Randolph Hearst, was the guest of honor and principal speaker at the second annual Lincoln dinner of the Independent League at the Hotel Knickerbocker. John Temple Graves, the famous Southern editor, now on the editorial staff of The New York American, also delivered an address. Other speakers were Frank P. Walsh, of Kansas City; Charles A. Walsh, of Iowa; Thomas L. Hisgen, of Massachusetts; Reuben Roble Lyon, of Bath, N. Y., and John T. McDonough, of Albany.

Governor Hughes in New York.

New York, Special.—Governor Hughes, observed Lincoln's birthday as the guest of the Republican Club of New York and the Union League of Brooklyn. He expected to make two addresses.

Hoosiers Honor Lincoln's Memory.

Wabash, Ind., Special.—Hundreds of prominent Hoosiers are here for the annual celebration of the Indiana Lincoln League, the greatest State organization in the country formed to perpetuate the memory of Lincoln. Among the speakers are Vice President Fairbanks, Senator A. J. Beveridge and Senator James A. Hemenway.

Captain of General Slocum Convicted.

New York, Special.—The conviction of William H. Van Schaick, captain of the excursion steamer General Slocum, which was burned on June 15th, 1904, in East river, with a loss of over 1,000 lives, was affirmed by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. Captain Van Schaick was convicted of neglect of his duty as captain and was given a sentence of ten years in prison. Captain Van Schaick is 70 years old. He has been at liberty on bail and has been married since the conviction.

A GREAT MOVEMENT

Meeting to Promote Religious
Education

RECEIVED BY THE PRESIDENT

A White House Reception to the Religious Educational Association—Some of the Speakers and Their Subjects—A Lincoln Memorial Address by a Rabbi.

Washington, Special.—In the East room of the White House President Roosevelt received the delegation to the fifth convention of the Religious Educational Association, and in a brief address highly praised their efforts to inculcate religious and ethical ideals into the educational system of the country. He urged a union of patriotism and piety in the training of the young. His speech was greeted with applause by the hundreds of distinguished clergymen, educators and college presidents and professors who attended the reception.

The morning session of the convention was principally devoted to a resume of the work of the association during the last year by General Secretary Henry F. Cope, of Chicago, and Dean George Hodges of the Harvard Episcopal Theological School. Among those participating in the discussion that followed were President William H. P. Faunce, of Brown University, President Samuel A. Elliot of the American Unitarian Association, Secretary Frank Knight Sanders of the Congregational Sunday School Society and President Charles Cuthbert Hall of Union Theological Seminary, New York.

Department sessions will be held in the afternoon, following the White House reception. The theme for the third general session at night will be: "How Can the Moral and Religious Life of the Nation Be Made More Effective?" The speakers will include the Rev. Washington Gladden, of Columbus, O., President Richard Cecil Hughes, of Ripon College, Professor Rufus M. Jones, of Haverford College, and Professor George Albert Coe, of Northwestern University. A feature will be a Lincoln memorial address by Rabbi Moses J. Gries, of Cleveland, on "Lincoln's Contribution to the Moral Life of the Nation."

Boiler Explodes; Seven Dead.

Sunbury, Pa., Special.—Seven men were killed and more than a dozen injured by the explosion of a boiler Monday in the rolling mill of Van Allen & Co., at Northumberland, two miles north of here. The dead are: Grant Reeder, aged 40 years, married. Edward Kreps, aged 38, married. William Brouse, aged 40, married. Samuel Sarvis, aged 46, married. Duval Clark, aged 48, married. John Scholvin, aged 50, married. Thomas Jones, aged 65, married.

Cannot Find Missing Steamer.

Norfolk, Va., Special.—The United States revenue cutter Onondaga returned to port Monday after an unsuccessful search at sea for the missing steamer Bluefields bound from Jacksonville to Philadelphia.

News in Brief.

President Roosevelt asked the Senate to act quickly in regard to necessary changes in the tariff on German imports.

An uproar in the Reichstag followed Chancellor von Buelow's refusal to reply to a Socialist interpellation on the Prussian suffrage.

Horses' Kick Causes Paralysis.

Lead, S. D., Special.—From the kick of a horse sustained a week ago, Geo. W. Glover, son of Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy, Christian Science leader, is suffering from paralysis of the right leg. The horse's kick re-opened an old gunshot wound suffered in the leg during the civil war.

Appropriation Bill in House.

Consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, one of the great supply measures of the government, was begun in the House Wednesday. Mr. Bingham, of Pennsylvania, explained the details of the measure. He took occasion, however, to remind the House of the warning given by Mr. Tawney that unless appropriations were kept down the country would face a large deficit. Consideration of the bill had not been concluded when the House adjourned.

28 ARE BURIED ALIVE

While At Work Miners Quickly
Entombed

HEROIC RESCUE WORK BEGUN

Breaking Dam Sends Flood of Mud Upon Miners Engaged in Mid-Valley Colliery, Near Mount Carmel, Pa.

Pottsville, Pa., Special.—Twenty-eight miners were imprisoned in the Mid-Valley Colliery near Mount Carmel Monday morning by the breaking of a dam of water which had formed in a drift which caused a rush of mud into a gangway where the men were at work. All day long a party of rescuers endeavored to reach the entombed men and shortly after 6 o'clock they were given encouragement by sounds of digging from the inside. Later a shot was also heard, indicating that the men were at work to effect their own rescue and also giving assurance that the air is good.

Among the men entombed are a number of experienced miners and it is believed that it will be possible to effect the rescue of all the men unless some of them should have met death by being smothered in the rush of mud when the dam broke.

Behind a Sea of Mud.

Seven of the number are Americans. The men have been employed in No. 4 drift of the east side gangway driving a heading to the surface. The heavy rains and thaw of the last few days had caused a great dam of water to accumulate in No. 20 breast of No. 4 drift and the pressure became so heavy that it finally broke through and a great sea of mud flowed into the Gangway where the men were at work. It filled it for a distance of about 350 feet and it will be necessary to dig through this great barrier of mud to get at the workmen from this direction. Three different rescuing parties have been put to work in an endeavor to release the entombed men. One force is digging away the great bank of mud which fills the gangway. Another gang is engaged in driving a heading from an adjoining gangway, while a third force has been put to work at the point where the entombed men were to have driven the heading to the surface from the gangway in which they are now imprisoned. It is believed that the last named gang will be the first to reach the entombed men and it is hoped to be able to get them out or give them food and drink by Tuesday morning.

Work of Rescue.

The work of rescue is under the direction of Mine Inspector James A. O'Donnell, of the fourteenth district, assisted by Inspector B. I. Evans, of the fifteenth district. O'Donnell has a force of 100 men working under him and they are taking turns in regular relays of two hours' work and four hours' rest.

The noise of men working with picks inside gave the rescuers great encouragement and it is believed that the majority of the men entombed are alive, although it is scarcely possible that all of them were fortunate enough to have escaped the great rush of mud when the dam broke.

Great crowds of people have gathered around the mouth of the slope and have announced their intention of remaining during the entire night. They include the families of entombed men.

Michigan Central Train Wrecked.

Buffalo, N. Y., Special.—Five persons were injured, one probably fatally, when a Michigan Central passenger train, running 25 miles an hour, crashed into and telescoped a New York Central yard engine at Black Rock. James Barry, of Buffalo, engineer of the yard engine, who sustained a fractured skull, and internal injuries, probably will die.

Attempt to Wreck Train Frustrated.

Americus, Ga., Special.—An attempt was made here to wreck the northbound Central train. A cross-tie was placed in Muckalee creek trestle at the end of a sharp curve. The train had slowed down and the engine struck the tie at reduced speed, without being derailed. The chief of police went with a posse to the scene and arrested John Hodges, a discharged section hand. Hodges denied placing the tie but it is said to have admitted he knew it was there before the engine struck it.

Late News In Brief

MINOR MATTERS OF INTEREST

Prosperity's Live Corpse.

Unless some apparently trustworthy indications are misleading beyond belief retail trade in the country at large for the approaching spring will measure well up to the high average of recent years. From the New York Times we learn that over 3,000 out-of-town merchants and other buyers, chiefly from the West, have poured into the metropolis, surprising and delighting New York merchants. On Monday last, the New York Merchants' Association's first registration day for the spring trade, 419 buyers, or the next largest number on record for such a date, inscribed their names at association headquarters. The second day's registration left no record unbroken. All the hotels that cater to the out-of-town buyers were over-run. "The buyers and out-of-town merchants," says The Times' story, "swarmed about the hotel corridors last night, telling their New York friends that the business outlook was brighter than it had ever been before. Many who went to the theater in the evening spent intermission time predicting a great era of prosperity for the country." Though some of the country's great industries are in a very unsatisfactory condition for the time being, the facts just narrated certainly do not indicate general hard times, either present or prospective. Prosperity has received some hard and temporarily crippling blows, but it is far from dead yet.—Charlotte, N. C., Observer of Feb. 16.

Pittsburg Flood-Swept.

Pittsburg, Pa., Special.—Spreading ruin and disaster in its path, the annual flood of the rivers and small streams of this section holds Pittsburg in its grasp. At 10 o'clock the water had reached a stage of 26 feet and was rising a half foot an hour. The weather bureau predicts 30 feet and possibly a foot higher when the crest of the flood arrives. While the weather conditions are much colder and snow flurries are experienced at intervals the changed conditions will have absolutely no effect on the high water. At the headwaters the rivers continue to rise and scores of cities and towns in western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio and West Virginia are partially inundated. In the Pittsburg district alone the damage, it is expected, will amount to several million dollars.

T. K. Bruner Dead.

Raleigh, N. C., Special.—Hon. T. K. Bruner, who for 21 years has served the State as Secretary of Agriculture, died here Sunday morning. The entire State will mourn his loss. He was 52 years of age and was born in Salisbury, the son of J. J. Bruner, his mother's maiden name being Kincaid, and she being also a native of the good County of Rowan. His father was for many years editor and publisher of The Carolina Watchman, of Salisbury, a power in the newspaper world of its day, and T. K. Bruner was for some time associated with him on that paper. He was devoted to the study of mineralogy and became an expert.

Yellow Fever at Galveston.

Galveston, Tex., Special.—On the steamer Crispin, which arrived in the roads from Para, Brazil, three miles out from Galveston, Sunday there were two cases of yellow fever. The two men affected are Third Engineer Davis and Third Officer Pritchard.

By Wire and Cable.

The B. & O. Railway will test the nine-hour law, orders to that effect having been issued.

Jim Smith, the notorious moonshiner, of Surry county, North Carolina, for whose arrest \$1,000 reward had been offered by the government has been jailed at Winston-Salem, N. C.

Cashier Locked in Vault.

Hickory, N. C., Special.—What was equal to a Western scene was the bold robbery of the bank at Granite Falls, a town of several hundred inhabitants, on the C. & N. W. Railway, about six miles from Hickory at 6 o'clock Saturday night, when Cashier W. G. Whisman was held up at the point of guns by three masked bandits, who took from the cashier's desk \$2,700, after which locking him in the vault and making good their escape. So far it is not known from whence they came or whether they went, but they were evidently professionals.