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TAR HEEL TOPICS

Items Gathered From All Sections of the State

State Farmers Union in April.

Charlotte, Special.—The North Carolina division of the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of America will be organized in Charlotte on April 1st and 2d. Mr. G. W. Fant, State organizer, who has been in the city several days perfecting plans for the big meeting, has issued a call to all of the county unions to name delegates for the big convention. Mr. C. W. Barrett, of Georgia, national president of the organization, will be present and make an address. The basis of representation will be one delegate to every 100 members or majority fraction and one delegate at large from each county. This means that Charlotte will have the pleasure of entertaining a vast host of farmers on this occasion. The union in North Carolina has grown very rapidly during the past few months, some of the counties having little less than 1,000 members. Union county is 810 strong and Mecklenburg has 500. There are 5,500 members of the union in North Carolina, 50 more than the number required for forming a State organization. Mr. Fant has also extended an invitation to all State officers of the Farmers' Alliance to attend the meeting next month. It is likely that the two organizations will be merged. The place of meeting has not yet been decided upon.

Greensboro Bank Liquidates.

Greensboro, Special.—The officers of the City National Bank have decided to place the institution in voluntary liquidation, owing to the continued financial depression and inability to collect outstanding notes. National Examiner Hull will take charge of the bank Saturday. Negotiations are in progress with one of the strongest banks in Greensboro to take over the collateral of the bank and assume the payment of all deposits, and this will be done as soon as the consent of the stockholders and the Comptroller of the Currency is secured. Every depositor will be paid in full. The bank has \$255,058 in deposits and \$405,663 in bills receivable. The City National is an old institution and has been an important factor in the business life of Greensboro. Many of the city's most prominent business men are connected with it. The directors are: W. S. Thompson, president; W. C. Bain, C. H. Dorsett, J. A. Hoskins, M. W. Thompson, J. Van Lindley, Lee H. Battle and G. A. Grimsley.

No Location Decided On.

Hickory, Special.—The committee consisting of Rev. Dr. G. H. Detwiler, of Greensboro; J. A. Glenn, Charlotte; Rev. N. R. Richardson, of Hickory; Rev. Frank Siler, of Charlotte; J. L. Nelson, of Lenoir; S. L. Rodgers, of Raleigh, and C. H. Ireland, of Greensboro, appointed by the Western North Carolina Conference to select a suitable place on which to build an orphanage, met here last Thursday. The committee, which convened at 2:30 o'clock p. m., at the Methodist church, adjourned for some future date for a final decision. The subcommittee, consisting of J. L. Nelson, J. A. Glenn and G. F. Ivey, on properties and subscription was continued and instructed to visit the various sites as soon as practicable. Hickory, Lenoir and Rutherfordton are all making vigorous efforts to secure the location of the orphanage.

Winston's New Drug Firm.

Winston-Salem, Special.—The articles of incorporation of the Winston Drug Company were forwarded to the secretary of State at Raleigh Thursday morning. The incorporators are Messrs. J. P. Lawson, T. L. Farrow, R. and L. E. Fishel. The object of the concern is to manufacture drugs and sell at wholesale.

Dr. Kilgo at Winston-Salem.

Winston-Salem, Special.—Governor B. Glenn and Dr. J. C. Kilgo, president of Trinity College, have accepted invitations to address the Fourth County Teachers' Association on Saturday. The faculty of the graded school the Salem Academy and Salem Boys' School have been invited to hear these two distinguished speakers. Dr. Kilgo will go from here to Walkertown, where he will preach on Sunday morning occupying a pulpit of the M. E. church.

Train Robbery.

Elizabeth City, Special.—The first news of a train robbery which occurred February 17, reached here Thursday when Special Detective Stevens arrived in the city. As the through freight train of the Norfolk & Southern was passing Northwest, Va., four men got aboard and concealed themselves somewhere under the cars. When the train was speeding along at a rapid rate through the woods, the men broke into one of the box cars and threw out everything that they thought would be useful to them. After throwing out about all they could conveniently handle they jumped off and went back and gathered up the plunder from the side of the tracks and carried it away. The robbery was not discovered until the train reached Norfolk, when the proper authorities were notified. For special reasons the affair was not given to the public. Special Detective Stevens, assisted by Hugh Roberts, was engaged to take charge of the case. Since then the detectives have been busy following up different clues and now have four men under arrest whom they think are the guilty parties.

A Tragedy Near Wilson.

Wilson, Special.—Wednesday night at his home a few miles from Wilson Cad Page, a white farmer, was shot and killed by his 15-year-old son, Ernest. The elder Page had been drinking for two days and was abusing his wife and threatening to kill her, advancing with a pistol in one hand and a knife in the other. His son, seeing this, picked up a shotgun and fired, killing his father. The coroner's inquest is now being held. Young Page did not attempt to escape and will doubtless be justified by the jury. Will Lewis, the white farmer who, while drunk last week, knocked his wife in the head with an axe, killing her, died in jail here. Heart failure caused his death.

A Contractor Charged With Contempt.

Asheville, Special.—Judge Pritchard will hear an interesting matter here Wednesday when J. D. Elliott, of Hickory, is cited to appear and show cause why he should not be attached for contempt of court for interfering with the management of the Seaboard Air Line, now under control of receivers. It is said that Mr. Elliott had a contract for building the freight terminals of the S. A. L. at Jacksonville; that the company owed him about \$83,000 and that after the road went into the hands of a receiver it was agreed that he should have \$12,500 to complete the contract. It is alleged that he now claims possession of the property and refuses to deliver it into the custody of the receivers.

Mid-Year Mission Meeting.

Salisbury, Special.—The Executive Committee of the Foreign Mission Board of the Western North Carolina Conference met in Salisbury and arranged for a mid-year meeting in the interest of missions to be held at Marion, in Western North Carolina, April 7th to 9th. Rev. W. R. Ware, of Gastonia, is president of the board and Rev. J. E. Gay, of Lincolnton, is treasurer. A strong program is being arranged for the occasion when it is expected that one of the returned missionary secretaries and a number of other able speakers will be present. The cause of missions has advanced rapidly in the conference during the past year.

Chief of Police Elected.

Fayetteville, Special.—Mr. John McD. Monaghan, who was appointed acting chief of police following the murder of Chief Benton on the 23d ult., has been elected permanently to the position by the board of aldermen. Mr. Monaghan is a very courageous man of high character, and will doubtless prove an acceptable head to the police department.

Hunting Season Closed.

Raleigh, Special.—State Game Warden John R. Upchurch stated that the game season, under the general law, had closed, and he desired to call special attention to sections 2489 and 3481 of the Revised making it a misdemeanor to hunt on the lands of another without consent of owner and written permission, and he said that he will pay special attention to this law and prosecute all persons ascertained to have violated these sections. He asks that information of the infractions of the law be reported to him.

GOOD DARKEY SHOT BAD

Affair Occurred at Brick Yard Sunday—Hearing of Case Monday Afternoon Before Justice J. W. Cobb—Shooting Appeared to be Last Resort of Colored Foreman.

Charlotte, Special.—Facing a drunken employe and having been attacked one, two, three times previously by his assailant, Will Hardy, foreman of the Carson brick plant, on the Catawba river Sunday shot and seriously wounded Fred White, who was boisterous, and after attacking Hardy several times, was advancing on him with a knife when Hardy pulled out his revolver and fired. Hardy had been knocked down by the drunken negro and was down when he fired the shot. As a result the bullet ranged upward, entering near the right thigh, and coming out at the shoulder. Sunday morning Fred White loaded up on a grade of liquor that was not exactly peerless, and then started out for revenge for some wrong he imagined the foreman had done him. The attacks of White were warded off by Hardy for awhile, until Hardy was knocked down and White drew a knife on him. Then it was that Hardy thought it was time to defend himself in a more effective manner. Hardy's reputation is understood to be good and he holds a responsible position with the brick company.

Corn Culture Lectures.

Raleigh, Special.—The Norfolk & Southern Railway has arranged for a special train of two cars to be known as the corn special, to go over all the lines of that road, leaving here March 22d. There will be four specialists on board, including Dr. F. L. Stevens and Prof. R. I. Smith. These will talk on the culture of corn and its proper fertilization, the best methods of feeding the crop, the proper way to harvest it, and will give full instructions as to selection of the right kind of corn for seed. The car will be on the road for a week and will go to twenty places. At four points President Winston, of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, will speak on industrial education. This corn special will be a great educator and it shows marked enterprise on the part of the Norfolk & Southern to supply it. The State is prompt to recognize the value of such an opportunity.

Church Floor Gives Way.

Wilmington, Special.—There was a mighty scramble of colored humanity in this city last week in the Methodist Mission church (colored), corner of Eleventh and Orange Streets. Shortly after 8 o'clock, while the service was in progress and many were shouting the strain became too great on the floor and it sank. At the same time a stove in one corner toppled over and the falling pipe struck a number of shouting brethren across the heads. The wildest confusion at once ensued and windows and doors were utilized in the "twinkling of an eye" as a means to get out. Wonderfully, the struggling, yelling mass of humanity escaped without a person being seriously injured, though a number were bruised and all were badly frightened.

To Build Connection Tracks.

Raleigh, Special.—A charter was issued for the Goldsboro Union Station Company of Goldsboro, having for its purpose the construction of railroad trackage at Goldsboro for connecting the union station, now being erected there at a cost of about \$60,000, with each of the three railroads participating—the Atlantic Coast Line, Southern and the Norfolk and Southern. The capitalization of the company is \$15,000.

Linwood Postoffice Robbed.

Salisbury, Special.—Unknown robbers looted the postoffice at Linwood a small station six miles north of Spencer. The iron safe was blown open and about \$200 taken. The robbers did their work at midnight and escaped before the crime was detected. There is no clue to the guilty parties.

Dies While Out Driving.

High Point, Special.—Sunday afternoon while out driving with her husband and child Mrs. D. N. Welborn, a well-known lady of this city, pitched forward in the buggy dead. She was driving while her husband was holding the baby and without a moment's warning fell forward, her husband catching her from falling out of the buggy. She was immediately carried into the home of Mr. Lee A. Bries and physicians summoned, but death was instant, due to heart failure.

FUNDS IN A MUDDLE

Judge Pritchard Appoints Receivers For S. C. Funds

STIRS UP LIVELY RESENTMENT

Judge Pritchard at Asheville Appointed Three Permanent Receivers for the \$800,000 South Carolina Dispensary Fund and Ordered It Turned Over to These Men.

Asheville, N. C., Special.—After hearing lengthy arguments on the motion of the Wilson Distilling Company and the Fleischmann Company for the appointment of a receiver in the South Carolina dispensary matter Federal Judge J. C. Pritchard decided to make permanent the appointment of temporary receivers and named Judge Joseph A. McCullough, C. K. Henderson and B. F. Arthur as permanent receivers for the trust fund of \$800,000 and directing that the fund be turned over to the receivers upon demand.

In a memoranda Judge Pritchard referred to the fact that two of the dispensary commissioners, W. J. Murray and John McSweeney, appointed as temporary receivers, had refused to accept and that Commissioner Avery Patton had not made reply to the notice of appointment, while Commissioners Henderson and Arthur had accepted; he said that these gentlemen were appointed upon the theory that the court was anxious to adopt the instruments provided by the State in this instance for the administration of the trust fund in their hands, but that inasmuch as a majority of the commission had either declined or refused to indicate a purpose to serve the court had decided to appoint Messrs. McCullough, Henderson and Arthur permanent receivers for all the funds and property in the hands of the defendants constituting the State commission. The court said that it regretted exceedingly that any of these defendants should have declined to accept the appointments, feeling as it does that their acceptance would have been in harmony with the State under which they were appointed.

In the order appointing permanent receivers creditors of the dispensary are restrained from prosecuting or attempting to prosecute suits in courts other than the court that has taken jurisdiction without first having had its sanction.

The regularly constituted dispensary commission, which is practically put out of commission by the appointment of receivers, is restrained from interfering in any way with the receivers or the property or funds of the dispensary. Notices will be promptly served on the banks and trust companies having this trust fund on deposit, commanding them to turn the fund over to the receivers upon demand.

Will the Orders Be Obeyed?

There is some speculation as to whether or not the majority of the dispensary commission and the banks and trust companies will refuse to obey the orders of the court. It was indicated by Mr. Rountree, of counsel for the commission that it would refuse to obey. Mr. Rountree said that in making such a statement he meant no disrespect to the court, saying that the commission could refuse to obey and that the matter could be taken up. He said that presumably the court would hold the commissioners in contempt and made some suggestions as to the most convenient place to hear the contempt proceedings.

Attorney General Lyon Talks.

Attorney General Lyon was greatly displeased with Judge Pritchard's action. In an interview he said among other things:

"Judge Pritchard's order will most certainly be disregarded by me if it undertakes to in any wise restrain or direct me in this or any other proceedings I may deem it advisable to institute."

Lyon's Statement Resented.

Asheville, N. C., Special.—The remarks of Attorney General Lyon caused considerable comment here. There will be an effort made to have Judge Pritchard attach Mr. Lyon for contempt of court.

He Will Save the State.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—When Attorney General Lyon was shown the press dispatches as to the threatened attempt to have him attached for contempt on account of the strictures of Judge Pritchard, contained in the interview given out by him in Augusta, Ga., he said:

"It is not surprising that these harpies (referring to the liquor law-

yers) should wish to have me attached for contempt. This wail is probably caused, not from any disregard which may have been shown the learned judge, but more probably from the prospect of being kept for a long while from plundering and feasting upon the revenues of South Carolina. The attorneys' fees and costs of the various satellites of the court may possibly be \$50,000, or more. It is, therefore, not hard to understand the cause of the wail, nor their unseemly haste to have the court take action with the manifest purpose of circumventing the Governor when he advised the Legislature to act and protect the revenues and autonomy of the State.

"I repeat again that I will use every lawful means to save the State from the possibility of such plundering and will proceed in the courts of the State to checkmate the liquor houses that have fed upon the State whenever it may be proper to do so, any orders of the United States Circuit Court to the contrary notwithstanding."

Telephone Case Advanced.

Washington, Special.—The Supreme Court of the United States Monday advanced the hearing of the case of the railroad commissioners of Louisiana against the Cumberland Telephone Company, involving the right of the commissioners to fix a maximum rate for telephone charges, and set for hearing on the first Tuesday if the next term.

Motion for New Trial.

Boston, Special.—A motion for a new trial of the nine Chinamen who were convicted on Saturday of murder in the first degree for complicity in the rival secret society feud last August, in which several Boston Chinamen were killed, was filed in the Superior Court by counsel for the convicted men. The motion was made on the ground that the finding of the jury was against the law and the evidence.

Liberal Government Overthrown.

Fredericton, N. B., Special.—The liberal government of New Brunswick, which has been continued in office under one form or another for 25 years was overthrown in the general election held throughout the province. The opposition ticket swept St. John City and the majority of the other constituencies. It is expected that the next premier will be J. Douglas Hosen, the leader of the opposition forces.

Big Fire at Columbia, N. C.

Norfolk, Va., Special.—A special to The Virginian Pilot says Columbia, N. C., was visited by a disastrous fire Thursday, destroying the heart of the business section. The fire originates in the large store of Davis Bros., general merchandise, the Hotel Scupper non catching fire and spreading to other business houses. No estimate of the damage or as to the number of losers, could be secured, all communication being cut off.

Senator Depew Praises Hughes.

Washington, Special.—In a speech on currency legislation Friday afternoon Senator Depew endeavored to show that Wall Street was not the den of iniquity that it has been painted of late. He charged that "hasty and ill-considered legislation in many States had much to do with the recent panic." Incidentally he warmly praised Governor Hughes for his veto of the two-cent fare bill, and favored the Aldrich bill.

What Audiences Believe.

The light suddenly went out during one of my performances in Waterbury. A panic was in prospect. However, I shouted out: "Ladies and gentlemen, I am about to perform a marvelous trick. I have here a lemon, but of course you can't see it. I am about to cut it in two and bring out of it an elephant!"

The audience settled down. Squash! I cut the lemon. "And now," I said, "the elephant has gone. It has walked off the stage. But of course you can't see it—but that doesn't matter."

Sure enough, there was heard a slow, shuffling sound quite appropriate, although it was made by the fat stage manager, who was shuffling across the boards in his slippers. The light returned, there was much applause and all was well. The next day a man stopped me in the street and said he considered that trick the most marvellous he had ever seen, and would be giving it again that night! It's true!—Horace Goldin in Cassell's Magazine.

A law recently passed forbids automobilists in Havana the use of big bleachable reflectors and restricts them to oil lamps.

OUR VESSELS BETTER

Report Shows Warships to Be Highly Efficient

BUT ARMOR BELTS TOO LOW

The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs Resumes the Hearing Into the Subject of Battleship Construction.

Washington, Special.—Testimony was adduced before the Senate committee on naval affairs, which is investigating the criticisms that the ship construction, showing that the location of the armor belt of American battleships was too low. On the other hand, a letter from Secretary Metcalf was read declaring it to be the opinion of the board of construction and Rear Admirals Evans and Brownson that the armor belt lines of the battleships Delaware and North Dakota were right. The secretary in his communication took occasion to declare that American battleships were superior to those of any other navy. The witnesses were Lieutenant Richard D. White, assistant inspector of target practice, and Rear Admirals George C. Remy and C. F. Goodrich. Lieutenant White was the first to take the stand. In reference to the location of the armor belt, he said that if it were possible for a ship to get into action at the designed load draft, the present location would be about right, but it was his observation that the ships had greater drafts than those designed. He thought the drafts would be still greater under war conditions. His opinion was the same as that of Commander Sims, who is the inspector of target practice. Concerning the construction of turrets, he said that safety demands that the turret proper shall be structurally separate from the ammunition handling room. The two-stage hoist is one way to effect this, but he thought it might be possible to construct a direct hoist so that the handling room could be isolated. He preferred the two-stage hoist and declared that the shutters now in use in the direct hoist are "most inefficient." Describing the shutter he said it is so constructed that grains of powder could easily get through the slit for the lift rope in the event of an accident overhead.

Chairman Hale read a letter from Secretary Metcalf stating that after the plans for the battleships Delaware and North Dakota had been approved, an officer (Lieutenant Commander Hill) had recommended that the armor belt should be raised 30 inches. The department referred this criticism to the board on construction and the original designs were declared to be right. The officer made rejoinder and the matter was then referred to Rear Admirals Brownson and Evans, who also declared that the belt was correctly located; Secretary Metcalf called attention to the fact that the Delaware and North Dakota are to be equipped with the two-stage hoists, and "there is no ground for further contention as to the location of the armor belt." Answering general criticisms, Secretary Metcalf said: "Our ships are not inferior, type for type, in their own period of construction to vessels of other navies. On the contrary I concur in opinion expressed that our ships are superior."

Rear Admiral George C. Remy, retired, told the committee he would locate the armor belt with reference to the proper load water line when the ship is equipped to go into battle. He thought it the duty of a commander of a battleship to have full stores on board if possible, in going into battle. He expected coal, but thought the bunkers should be at least two-thirds full. He said he never had believed in the open turret and thought the guns should be completely isolated from the ammunition handling rooms. He said he had no hesitancy in endorsing the interrupted hoist. He opposed sacrificing safety for rapidity of fire.

Double Murder in Virginia.

Roanoke, Va., Special.—At a dance near Swords Creek, in Russell county, Sunday night, Fred Dye, a young white man, shot and killed John Muller and George Call, also white. Dye escaped, but was captured and taken back to Swords Creek. It became evident that a lynching was being planned by the friends of the dead men and an engine was taken from Richlands with a posse of men and Dye was carried to Cleveland and distance of 16 miles, from place he was carried through country to the county jail.