VOL. XX.

PLYMOUTH, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1909.

TAR HEEL CHRONICLES

Happenings And Doings Gleaned From All Parts Of The Old North State.

N. C. PRESS CONVENTION.

Rev. J. O. Atkinson Elected President and J. B. Sherrill, Secretary-Treasurer.

Hendersonville, Special.-The editors of North Carolina were literally presented with the key to the city What iesday morning, when, at their or Ming Session, held in the court house, Col. S. V. Pickens gave them an ancient, rusty, two-foot-long jail key, recently uncovered here by workmen in excavating for a new building.

At 9:30 the convention was called to order by Dr. J. O. Atkinson, third vice president, who invoked a divine blessing upon the town of Hendersonville and the members of the association. Mayor Staton then presented Col. S. V. Pickens, who cordially welcomed the editors to town. M. L. Shipman, on behalf of the local press, spoke a few words of appreciation and Archibald Johnson, editor of Charity and Children, responded gracefully on behalf of the association. Dr. Atkinson then read the annual address of the president, who, on account of sickness, was unable to be present in person. The association voted to wire President Thomas its appreciation and its regrets that he was unable to be with them. The big audience in the court house listened to short talks on timely topics by J. W. Atkins, J. J. Farriss, H. B. Varner and Archibald Johnson. At 2:39 p. m., J. F. Hurley read the historian's paper. Full of interest and listened to attentively was Thad R. Manning's talk on the subscription price of the weekly newspaper. This was followed by the transaction of miscellaneous business. At night, before an audience which completely filled the big court room, Mr. John M. Julian, of The Salisbury Post, delivered the annual oration. He commanded the closest attention of his audience to the end of his extremely

able address. Thursday morning was pleasantly spent in a drive to Lake Osceola and to Mount Hebron, the pleasure of which was not marred by a slight shower, which, Mr. J. P. Caldwell re-The editors and their families went in a body and the string of earriages

was a long one. The ball at the Gates at night was

largely attended and thoroughly enjoyed by both visitors and home people and was distinctly a success. At the afternoon session the following officers were elected: Presi-

dent, Rev. J. O. Atkinson; first vice president, M. L. Shipman; second vice president, J. R. Swann; third vice president, W. K. Jacobson; secretary and treasurer, J. B. Sherrill; historian, Archibald Johnson; orators, W. C. Hammer and Josephus Daniels; poet, D. F. St. Clair; executive committee, H. A. London, W. C. Dowd, H. B. Varner, Josephus Daniels, D. T. Edwards.

A resolution was adopted condemning the United States government for maintaining a job printing office to compete with the country's job printers, and a copy of the resolution was ordered sent to every Representative and Senator of North Carolina.

Interesting articles were read by Rev. J. O. Atkinson, Clarence H. Poe and R. R. Clark.

The important address of the day was that of M. V. Richards, land and industrial agent of the Southern

Railway. Resolution of Thanks.

The following resolutions, offered by Mr. Josephus Daniels for the com-

a rising vote: "Resolved, That the thanks of the prosperity.

The Wheat Crop is Fine.

Mount Airy, Special .- Never in the history of farming in Surry county have the farmers been in a deeper hole with their plowing and harvesting. The wheat crop is fine and ripe, but up to Friday heavy rains have to cut grain and plow corn, etc.

In the Hands of Receiver. Fayetteville, Special .- The Consolidated Street Railway and Power Company of this city was placed in the hands of a receiver by Judge C. C. Lyon, resident judge of this district, at Elizabethtown last week. pected here Monday.

association be and are hereby tendered the Western Union Telegraph Company and the railroad companies for courtesies in the matter of railly to the Southern Railway Company, for the courtesy of an excursion to Lake Toxaway; to W. A. Smith, for a car ride to Laurel Park and an enjoyable afternoon at that beautiful resort; to Capt. M. C. Toms and John L. Orr and their associates for extending the courtesies of Mount Hebron; to the management of the Gates Hotel for excellent service and for the courtesy of a ball tendered the association; to Mayor R. H. Staton and the reception committee and all the public spirited citizens who tendered many delightful courtesies, including the mountain drives and to Lake Osceola, and for more pleasures than can be enumerated; to Mr. M. L. Shipman, editor of The Hendersonville Hustler, and to Mr. T. R. Barrows, associate editor, for their brotherly welcome which made all the editors feel at home.

The association left special car Saturday for Lake Toxo- tal confusion had brought him to the way, returning to their homes from

The following accessions to the association were enrolled at the session: 18 new members were admitted as follows: J. V. Sims, Raleigh Times; W. I. Underwood, Greensboro Patriot; J. A. Parham, Fayetteville Index; Owen G. Dunn, Newbern Sun; R. A. Deal, Wilkesboro Chronicle; W. E. Pharr, North Wilkesboro course. Hustler; M. L. Yeager, Southern Publisher; R. E. Ranson, Spring Hope Leader; Andrew Joyner, Greensboro News Bureau; C. Eury, King's Mountain Herald; Clint N. Brown, Salisbury Post; T. H. Gosorn, Bakersville Kroniele; H. H. Hamlin, Beaufort Lookout: D. L. St. Clair, Sanford Express; E. P. Pepper, Danbury Reporter; T. R. Barrows, Hendersonville Hustler; J. R. Roundtree, Kinston Free Press; Chas. H. Williams, Polk County News.

Ashe County Fair.

Jefferson, Special.—Ashe county is marked, was but a pleasant diversion. to have an agricultural fair on September 15-17th. The following offimium committee, Jas. P. Perkins, Worth, W. E. Gentry; committee to arrange premiums for the Ladies' Department, Miss Jennie Worth, negro says so. Mrs. W. P. Hamilton, Mrs. B. W. Suspicion for Tugman, Mrs. A. E. Graybeal, Miss Eula Todd; advertisement committee, in jail awaiting trial. W. E. Johnson, G. L. Park, Chas. S. Neal.

Ministers Wife Skips.

Newbern, Special.-The congregation of Centenary Methodist Episcopal church was greatly startled Sunday morning when the pastor, Rev. R. C. Beaman, D. D., announced to them that his wife had disappeared and could not be located. The pastor's words were pronounced in as fine oratory as has ever been heard in that pulpit and no word of censure or bitter feeling escaped his lips. It was a very pathetic scene. Notes found in different places indicate that she has left with a man named Grant. The Methodist church is the largest and most influential in the city and one of the largest in the mittee, were unanimously adopted by State and Dr. Beaman's charge over it has been marked with a period of

Killed by Live Wire.

Greensboro, Special.-Bryan Benton, the 12-year-old brother of James M, Benton, city editor of the Morning Telegram, was instantly killed by a live wire late Tuesday afternoon. The boy was at a lawn party at the Christian church, and with a playmate climbed a tree. His fingers touched an uninsulated electric wire, fallen daily, rendering it impossible his leg another, the short-circuit

causing him to drop.

Death of Miss Sallie Underwood. Charlotte, Special.—Miss Sallie Underwood, the young lady struck by lightning near her home in Gaston county last Thursday afternoon, died Sunday morning at 3:30 o'eloek without regaining consciousness. The funeral took place at the home Sun-Mr. W. D. McNeill, president of the day afternoon at 3 o'clock, the sercompany, being appointed receiver, vice being in charge of Rev. J. B. This action will not affect the operat- Tabor, of Mount Holly. The intering value of the property nor the ment was made at Castania church. progress of Fayetteville. Cars are The funeral procession is said to now running and will be able to have been one of the longest that handle the great crowds that are ex- ever followed a funeral in Gaston prise. Henry E. Fries is now presi-

BIGGERS SET FREE

Jury Holds That He Was Insane at

the Time of Killing Hood. Charlotte, Special .- The jury of twelve freemen, the select body chos- Nednesday. The lumber schedule en to pass upon the merits of the case of State against W. S. Biggers, opples was increased, the finance charged with the murder on the morning of Tuesday, February 9, of road transportation and particular- J. Green Hood, reached a verdict Saturday afternoon at 4:45 o'elock, their decision being that the defendant was "not guilty" of the crime as charged.

As noted by every one who followed the trend of this great legal battle whose results held within it the freedom if not the life of Biggers, issue. It was not that insanity for maintained, but that termed variously emotional insanity, brain storm, and the like, but in this case termed 'confusional' insanity.

The case was fought before the bar with the utmost tact and unlimited talent and legal force. No stone, as it were, was left unturned. It was plead that the man had suffered a wrong and that his financial straits had preyed upon his mind till menstage of not being conscious of the enormity of the deed which he contemplated and actually committed.

At the first vote of the jury 10 stood for acquittal, one for murder in the first and one for murder in the second degree.

The jury had the case just four hours when it became unanimous, The case had taken 11 days in its

Shepard the Slayer of Holt.

Durham, N. C., Special.-Solomon Shepard, the negro of mysterious action, has confessed that he killed Engineer Holt near Durham last December and that he had no assistant.

This startling turn in the dreadful affair came Saturday night when Dr. N. M. Johnson went into the jail to attend a sick prisoner. Shepard had spent the day reading the Bible and getting religion. Why he took a notion to unburden himself to the doctor, is not known, but he did and said that he slew the engineer that night without the aid of anyone.

The negro tells a reasonable story. There never has been any large numcers were elected: President, W. H. ber of people who did not believe that Worth; secretary and treasurer, P. Engineer Holt met death meant for E. Fogle; executive committee, John another man. The wanton use of a Dent, T. E. Reeves, E. J. Johnson, R. shotgun was commonly called a Reu-A. Hamilton, W. E. Johnson; pre- ben Barbee characteristic, but nobody ever found the motive whereby Reu-Geo. J. Hamilton, W. T. Colvard; ben Barbee became the assassin of music committee, P. E. Fogle, Joe Fred Holt. The brothers of the dead man believed that their kinsman had been murdered by mistake and the

> Suspicion for this crime has been resting on Reuben Barbee who is now

> It seems that Shepard had been put off the train. In his rage he secured a shot gun and went to kill the brakeman who put him off. Not finding his man he fired a random shot, as he says, to scare somebody. This shot put out the life of a popular and most valuable engineer.

Joe Brown is Governor.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.-Joseph M. Brown, son of "Joe" Brown, one of Georgia's war-time Governors, took office Saturday amid ceremonies of Jeffersonian simplicity.

Governor Brown's address was brief. At its conclusion Governor Smith handed Governor Brown the seal of the State of Georgia and the

ceremony was complete. Governor Smith's last official act Saturday was the signing of 15 pardons. Those set free included six murderers and three persons convicted of violationg the prohibition laws.

Firemen Lose Case.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.-The Georgia Railroad strike arbitration board Saturday night decided against the seniority of white firemen over negroes. The arbitrators, however, placed a premium on intelligence among firemen, which it is believed will ultimately result in the gradual elimination of all except the most expert negro firemen.

From Chicago to Charleston.

Winston-Salem, Special.-The official aunouncement Saturday by the Atlantic Coast Line and Norfolk and Western that the Winston-Salem Southbound Railroad would be pushed to completion within the next 18 months is received with great satisfaction here. The movement for this through line from Chicago to Charleston, with the Twin City as a prominent junction point, was begun about three years ago, Col. F. H. Fries and Mr. Henry E. Fries, of this city, being among the leaders in the enter-

WASHINGTON NOTES

Much voting and little talking haracterized the work in the Senate was disposed of and the duty on pinecommittee suffering a defeat in the atter case. An attempt to reduce he finance committee's rate of \$1.50 per thousand on sawed lumber to \$1, he House rate, was lost. The entire wood schedule making reductions of bout 25 per cent from the present ates was agreed to. A new amendnent to the coal schedule, offered by Mr. Aldrich, reducing the duty on situminous coal from 67 to 60 cents ton and eliminating the reciprocity lause from the House bill, was idopted. The two Senators from the plea of insanity was the entire Plorida, a pineapple- producing State n upholding the amendment to inwhich the asylams are built and rease the duty on pineapples from 37 to \$8 per thousand, were opposed by the two Senators from Maryland, n which State there are a number of arge pineapple canning factories.

The Wright brothers, whose time n which to complete their official ests with their areoplane would have expired next Monday, were granted in extension of thirty days.

The question of the eight hour law vas submitted to President Taft in he form of a request by Thomas Dolan, president of the Steam Shovders' Union, that the President obain from the Attorney General an opinion as to whether the law pronibiting payment for overtime is not seing violated on the Panama canal.

Just before the Senate adjourned about 7 o,clock Friday night, Senator Aldrich, chairman of the finance comnittee, introduced the corporation ax amendment to the tariff bill, recommended by President Taft.

To encourage American shipping, Senator Elkins introduced an amendnent which would allow to American ressels a reduction of five per cent n tariff duties.

Petroleum, linoleum and serap iron ariff schedules were the principal ones discussed in the Senate. Senitor Penrose's amendment fixing a luty of half cent a gallon on crude oil was lost. Increases over the House rates were made as follows: On harness from 35 per cent ad valfrom 50 cents to \$2.50 per ton; and and from 1-2 to 3-4 cent per pound, the former for those less, the latter for those an meh or more in length.

Although it devoted almost eight cours to strenuous effort in that diection, the Senate Saturday afiled to conclude its consideration of the schedules of the tariff bill, and at 5:12 o'eloek, an adjournment was reached, there were stil la number of mportant rates to be determined. The day, however, was full of achievement and a number of provisions were disposed of.

Probably the most exciting incident of the day was the vote on Senitor Beveridge's amendment reducing from 30 per cent ad valorem to 15 per cent ad valorem, the duty on ash registers. The Indiana Senator began his fight for this reduction some days ago and was enabled to force a vote on it Saturday after compratively little discussion. The vote resulted 31 ayes and 33 noes. Stating that after the vote was announced several Senators had informed him that they had voted against his motion under misrepresentation. Mr. Beveridge said he would renew the motion at a later date.

The wood pulp provision also again received attention, and it was supposed that it had been finally acted upon until Senator Clapp, taking exeption to the retaliatory provision of the schedule as amended, stated that he would make an effort to have the provision entirely eliminated before final action should be taken upon the

The Senate concluded its discussion of the schedules of the tariff bill Monday and is now ready for the corporation and income tax questions. Senator Aldrich introduced a resolution proposing an amendment to collect the taxes on incomes from whatever source derived and without apportionment among the several

An increase in the duty on structural iron and steel valued at more than 9-10 of a cent per pound was made by the Senate, the increase being from 3-10 to 4-10 of a cent per pound. Cotton bagging was placed on the free list.

Ineffectual efforts were made to place cotton ties, school books, binding twine and salt on the free list and Egyptian cotton on the dutiable

Both houses adopted the conference report on the census bill.

"What is whiskey?" was discussed in the Cabinet room of the White House, President Taft listening to attorneys for rectifying distilleries

and blenders, who oppose the recent decision of Solicitor General Bowers as to what should be labeled 'imitation whiskey." The hearing will be continued.

Late Tuesday the Senate reached the voting stage on the hide schedule, and after several amendments had been defeated, the amendment of the finance committee fixing a duty of 15 per cent ad valorem on hides was agreed to, 46 to 30. This is the rate of the present law, but under the rulings of the Treasury Department is applicable only to hides weighing more than 25 pounds. The House placed all hides on the free list, but the committee restored the Dingley

Senator McLaurin undertook to have the provision amended so as to make the duty applicable to hides weighing less than 25 pounds, but failed, his amendment being voted down 31 to 48. An amendment by Mr. Stone, placing no only hides but many of their products on the free list, was also lost.

Alleged Members Black Hand Band Bound Over.

Toledo, O., Special .- At the conclusion of the preliminary hearing here Monday Salvatore and Sebastine Lima and Salvatore Rizzo, three members of the alleged Black Hand band, recently arrested, were bound over to the Federal grand jury. The bond of Salvatore Lima was increased to \$6,000 and that of the others to \$5,000 each. They will probably have to remain in the county jail.

Fight on Bucketshops.

Cincinnati, -O., Special.-County Prosecutor Hunt's spectacular campaign against bucketshops was contiqued Monday when he and ten deputies over-powered two armed watchmen and raided the offices of the Consolidiated Stock and Grain Company. C. A. Aoton and C. B. Fox were arrested, all the books of the concern were taken and the wires cut. The men were held to the grand jury. Ten days ago this same company was raided by Hunt and his deputies.

Exonerates Man Convicted of Murder Palatka, Fla., Special. - When James Kelly and D. M. Davidson were setenced to life imprisonment for murder, Kelly said: "I accept orem to 40 per cent; on scrap iron | the verdict of the jury, but as for D. M. Davidson, he is as innocent of on wire nails from 1-4 to 1-2 cent, this crime as any man in the hearing of my voice." The men were convicted of the murder of W. C. Sellars, a night watchman of the Atlantie Coast Line Railroad three years ago at High Springs, Fla.

Perished in Pack Ice.

Tromsoe, Norway, Special .-- The steamer Arctic, of Walter Wellman's North Pole expedition, returned here Sunday from Spitzbergen with her flags at half mast, bringing the news | doned 5 per cent; principally in the that Knul Johnson, one of the two men who remained at the Wellman camp this winter, had perished in the best in years but weevils are reportpack ice when his airship had been destroyed by a heavy storm.

On May 19 Johnson went with his fellow watchman, Paul Bjorvig, on a

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

Frederick De Martens, a famous Russian statesman, died suddenly in

a railway station. A bomb wrecked the house of Father James Zuccarelli, in Newark, but harmed no one.

A Wall Street rumor that E. H. Harriman was dead in Vienna caused a big slump in stocks.

George Kraus, of Pittsburg, eighty-three and despondent, committed suicide by taking poison.

Assembly, which will be elected on July 20.

A committee of the trustees of Brown University formally recom-mended that the institution become non-denominational.

The Rev. Dr. Leon Harrison said in his sermon in the Free Synagogue, New York City, that Christians shouldn't marry Jews.

Philip Lamb dived into the East River, New York City, to show his uncle how well he could swim and never came to the surface.

General George B. Loud protested to the War Department against the 'desecration" of Memorial Day at West Point by a baseball game. Edwin Hawley's railroad system

obtained an outlet on the Pacific by a traffic agreement with the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railway. The State Department is satisfied

that American capitalists will be allowed to share in the profits of the lean to enable China to build a rail-

Frederick Cudmore, a young clerk, illustrated in a boat on a pier, in New York City, "how a fool rocks a boat." He fell off the pier and had a narrow

The Oregon legislature has prohibited the use of a hatpin more than ten inches long. There is a point, explains the Washington Star, at which a hatpin becomes a rapier.

An Acreage Abandonment &

Seven Per Cent.

THE NATIONAL GINNERS' REPORT

The Average Condition Up to June 24 Was 75.6, the Condtiion in North Carolina Being 77-The Acreage Abandoned in North Carolina is 4 Per Cent.

Mémphis, Tenn., Special.-The report of the National Ginners' Association gives the average condition of cotton up to June 24, as 75.6. There has been an abandonment of acreage of 7 per cent according to the report, making the total acreage 9.8 less than last year.

Detailed report by States: Alabama, condtiion 70; acreage abandoned 14 per cent; crop very grassy in nearly all sections; plant small and from two to four weeks late.

Arkasas, condition 76; acreage abandoned 4 per cent; crop very good in west and north; very grassy and small elsewhere; boll weevil in 24 counties worse than last season, some of the fields being abandoned on account of them.

Florida, condition 90; very little loss in aereage; most sections good. Georgia, condition 79; acreage abandoned 5 per cent; crop grassy; most sections not all chopped yet; plant generally small and from one to three weeks late; some complaints

of lice and black rot. Louisiana, condition 56; acreage abandoned 13 per cent; some sections n very good shape but so many weevils they are destroying all the squares as fast as they form; much cotton being abandoned or planted in sage only on this account; many report nothing will be made in their

Mississippi, conditions 61; acreage abandoned 14 per cent; plant generaally small; poor stands and grassy.

Missouri, condition 56; very little oss in acreage; crops late but good. North Carolina, condition 77; acreage abandoned 4 per cent; crops grassy in most sections and from 2 to 3 weeks late.

Oklahoma, condition abandoned 1 per cent; reports from nearly all sections very good.

South Carolina, condition 78; acreage abandoned 4 per cent; some few sections report good conditions but most of them report fields grassy and not all chopped yet, plant small and from two to three weeks late.

Tennessee, condition 77; acreage abandoned 7 per cent; plant small and grassy.

Texas, condition 80; acreage abandry section where rains came too late; condition north and east Texas ed more numerous than usual and this fine prospect may be changed in a very short time.

South Texas had plenty of rain, hunting expedition over the pack ice. plant generally small and from four to six weeks late. Weevils reported in large numbers doing damage already. West Texas still very dry except four counties, some places have had no rain in six months. With plenty of rain this section will produce from 50 to 60 per cent of a

Mr. R. L. Royster Drowned.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—Mr. Arthur L. Royster, chief clerk for Superintendent H. A. Williams of the Southern, and one of the most capable and promising young railroad Colombia has decided to present men in this section, met a tragic and the tripartite treaty to the National extremely sad death while out swimming and boating in the Columbia canal about 10 o'clock Monday morning by drowning. His body has not yet been recovered.

Mr. Royster was a popular clubman and was very popular throughout the city generally, being of quiet and retifing disposition and of many manly characteristics. His fellowworkmen at the union station, from heads of departments on down to the youngest clerks, are grieved and shocked over his death, as if they had lost a brother, for Mr. Royster was most popular with those closest to

Dies Under His Auto.

Columbia, S. C., Special.-William G. Rudd, a traveling salesman for the Durst-Andrews Company, was killed Monday in an automobile which was struck by the Senboard vestibuled train at Salak, four miles west of Greenwood. One of the eyewitnesses, Mrs. Malone, saw Mr. Rudd stop the automobile on the crossing. He jumped out, but on the wrong side and in front of the moving train, which struck the automobile and threw it on him. He was picked up and carried to Abbeville, but died on the way. Mr. Rudd leaves a widow. No children survive him.