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## IMPORTANT NEWS FROM THE CAPITAL

### TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD WANT STATE CONVICTS—SUBMIT A PROPOSITION.

### \$11,000,000 FRENCH CAPITAL

#### Route From Tennessee Coal Fields on Through to Southport and Connections of Vast Proportions—Chicago Man Investing \$60,000 in Enterprise.

Raleigh.—Promoters of the proposed South Atlantic Transcontinental railroad, from the Tennessee coal fields, through Knoxville, Waynesville, Asheville and Rutherfordton, to Southport and connections of vast proposed proportions had a hearing before the governor and council of state on the question of procuring from the state convicts for the construction of the road in this state, compensation to the state for the convicts to be in stock in the road. Gen. Theo. F. Davidson, W. E. Brees and C. J. L. Lantry, the latter of Chicago, presented the proposition for the Transcontinental, representing to the state officials that there are now available \$11,000,000 of French capital to go into this enterprise. Mr. Lantry setting out that he is personally investing \$60,000 in the enterprise. There is to be another conference when there will be additional showings made to the governor and council, after which there will be a definite announcement as to the availability of convicts for the work under the proposition of the railroad company.

### Electricity Stopped Fire-Fighters.

The fire that visited St. Agnes hospital, out at St. Augustine school during the storm, was in many respects the most remarkable Raleigh has ever known. A crossed circuit in some way turned the entire 6,600 voltage of the Milburne power plant into the building after the fire had been in progress a little while and fire fighters were unable to throw water on the flames because the water formed a circuit, several fire fighters being severely shocked before the trouble was located and steps taken to cut the circuit. The hospital building, which is badly damaged, was recently completed at a cost of \$40,000 and is of stone quarried close by the institution by the negro students.

### Rate Ruling Expected Soon.

Chairman Franklin McNeill and Secretary A. J. Maxwell of the North Carolina Corporation commission have returned from Washington, where they were present at the argument before the new commerce court on the question of a temporary restraining order against the application of the order of the Interstate commerce commission for a reduction in Norfolk & Western freight rates from Cincinnati and Virginia cities to Winston-Salem and Durham. The indications are for an early ruling in the matter. The temporary restraining order is being fought for by the railroad company to allow time for the new commerce court to review the evidence and order of the Interstate Commerce commission.

### Columbia, N. C., State Bank Closed.

The Merchant's & Farmers' bank at Columbia, North Carolina, a state bank, capitalized at \$10,000, has been closed by order of the Corporation commission. Irregularities in its affairs have been found since the suicide of R. H. Sprull, the cashier. The president is F. W. Woodley and a receiver will be appointed.

Something like a month ago examiner Doughton made a thorough examination of the bank and made such a report of unsatisfactory conditions that the corporation commission notified the directors that they must improve conditions within 30 days, else the bank must close.

Clinton.—The town of Roseboro, Sampson county, was visited by a disastrous fire, entailing a property loss of some \$15,000.

### Mattamuskeet Road Will be Sold.

There was a conference of the governor and council of state and officers of the Mattamuskeet railroad company with reference to the disposition to be made of this property. While some understanding was reached, nothing was given out. The indications are that the road will be sold with the stipulation that it be equipped and operated without delay. President Joe Taylor and Director G. J. Studdert were present participating in the conference. The road will be finished.

## ASKED FOR MILITARY GUARD

### Citizens of Dunn Wanted Company to Help Capture John Aiken Who Shot Deputy Sheriff.

Raleigh.—A request came to state guard headquarters here for the military company at Dunn to be ordered out to help surround and capture John Aiken, a "blind tiger" who had probably fatally shot deputy sheriff Thadde Jernigan of Harnett, when the latter sought Aiken out to serve a capias for failure to appear at court and show, under terms of a suspension of judgment, that he was continuing of good behavior.

Aiken used an automatic gun and successfully defied arrest with it, declaring his purpose to shoot any and all comers. He was heading for a swamp, about a mile from Dunn, when the request for the militia came.

### A Dog Tax Question in Rowan.

A peculiar and puzzling question confronts the tax listers in Rowan. The new dog law for that county, which requires that all dogs be kept from running at large from May 1 to September 1 and also imposes a tax on all male dogs of \$1 and female dogs of \$2 is heartily supported in western Rowan, where quite a number of sheep have been killed, but in southern Rowan the people are up in arms and it is said many of those living close to the Cabarrus line are corraling their dogs across the line and as many as 40 of the mangy tribe are said to have been exiled to Cabarrus by their owners until tax listing days are over. Now what the tax listers want to know is, "Are those exiled dogs taxable under the Rowan dog law?" This dog tax goes into the county school fund and tax assessor W. L. Harris figures on a "dog fund" of \$2,500 this year.

### Vigorous Crusade Against Bad Beast.

Asheville.—The seizing of whiskey, the arrest and trial of alleged violators of the search and seizure law, the conviction of defendants and the imposing of road sentences by Judge Junius G. Adams continues unabated and with increasing interest. Not since Asheville went "dry" has there been such a vigorous crusade against the "blind tiger" and with such apparent results. Colonel Lusk and Judge Adams with the aid of the police department have determined to clean up Asheville and that they are succeeding is evidenced by reference to the police court records.

### Elkin & Alleghany Will be Sold.

At an adjourned conference of Governor Kitchin, the council of state, the state board of internal improvements and officers of the Elkin & Alleghany railroad company, considerable progress was made toward the completion of the deal whereby President John A. Mills of the Raleigh & Southport Railroad company and Northern interests, which he has interested with the undertaking, will take over the Elkin & Alleghany and complete it from Elkin to Sparta and thence to Jefferson and the Tennessee line, with a view to linking it with the Norfolk & Western. All these details have not been worked out, but this seems to be the goal toward which the project is heading. There are a number of matters to be definitely settled before an official statement of the scope of the undertaking is given out.

The deal has progressed thus far satisfactorily. The promoters of the undertaking have provided satisfactory guarantees to the governor and council of state as to the conservation of the state's interest in the road acquired by the convict labor in the grading of the 12 miles of road from Elkin toward Sparta.

Washington.—Representative Faison has introduced a bill to establish a weather bureau station at Warsaw, N. C. This is the heart of the trucking section and Mr. Faison has demanded the station in the interest of the farmers, believing it will frequently be the means of saving them from loss by giving them advance information on what to expect in the way of sudden changes in the weather.

### Chief Marshal Great State Fair.

The chief marshal for the Great State Fair of 1911 is Mr. John A. Wilkerson, of Belhaven. This selection was announced by Col. Joseph E. Pogue, secretary of the State Fair. This means that the social events will be brilliant successes.

### Patents Granted to Tar Heels.

Washington attorneys report the grant to citizens of North Carolina of the following patents: J. S. Chambers, Rocky Mount, valve; H. Copeland, Hertford, animal trap.

## PEACE CONFERENCE MEETS IN ATLANTA

### THE MASS MEETING IN ATLANTA ADOPTS RESOLUTION FAVORING TAFT'S PEACE POLICY.

### SENATOR BURTON SPEAKS

#### Ohio Statesman Delivered a Striking Address to the Southern Peace Congress.

Atlanta.—Universal peace among the nations of the world is only a question of time.

War is a relic of barbarism; it is no longer essential either to repel invasion, to achieve liberty or to further conquests.

In the light of a greater and nobler civilization arbitration is the only acceptable method for settling disputes that may arise in future between the nations of the world.

Such, in brief, was the substance of a striking address delivered in this city by Senator Theodore Burton of Ohio, chairman of the American Peace Society, and one of the most ardent supporters of the world-wide movement to secure the abolition of war.



THEODORE E. BURTON, United States Senator from Ohio.

and the substitution of arbitration in the settlement of all differences that may arise in future between the powers of the earth.

It was a most unique and significant occasion when over 4,000 citizens of Atlanta arose with one accord, following the speech of Senator Burton, and unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the stand which President Taft has taken in the interest of arbitration, and thus put the city on record as favoring universal peace as opposed to conflict and bloodshed.

The peace jubilee was held under the auspices of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and the Georgia Peace Society. It was held primarily to endorse the stand taken by President Taft in promulgating a treaty of peace between the United States, England and France, and to lend the influence and moral support of this city to the general movement which has for its object the attainment of universal peace.

## CONEY ISLAND FIRE SWEEP

### Dreamland, New York's Largest Amusement Park, Destroyed.

New York.—Coney Island, the playground of New York, suffered the worst fire disaster of its history. Dreamland, the largest of the amusement parks, was wiped out, and about four blocks adjoining covered with booths, restaurants, hotels, moving picture theaters and resorts of varied types were destroyed.

The loss will amount to between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000.

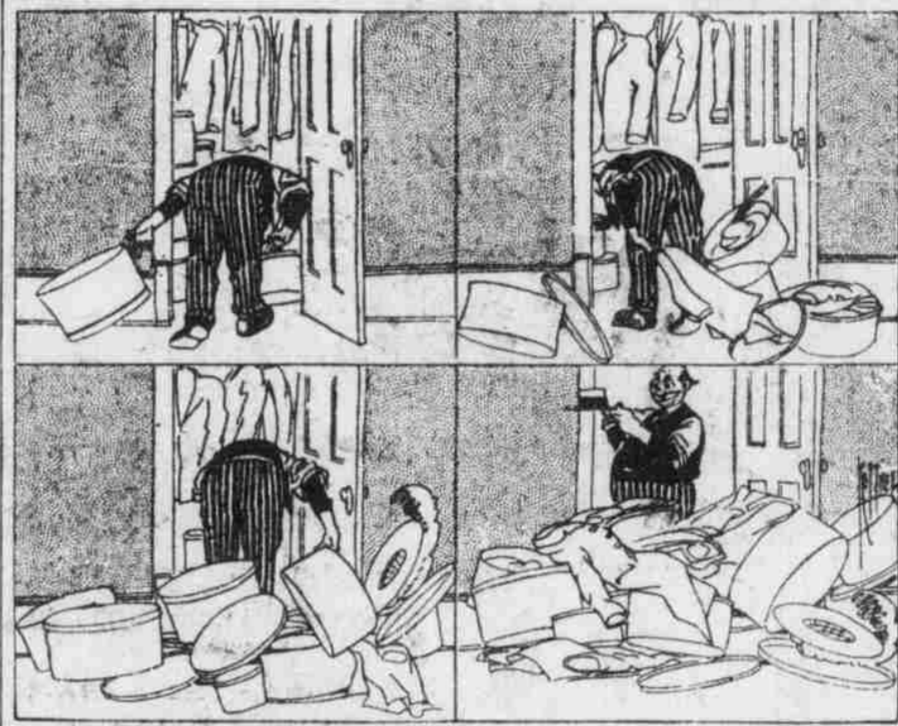
In all, about 200 buildings were burned down and perhaps 2,000 persons—concessionaires and employees—were turned into the streets homeless and penniless. No lives were lost.

The burned area represents nearly a third of the entire amusement city.

### Rebels Attack Diaz and Party.

Vera Cruz.—General Diaz himself took command of the Federal soldiers who repulsed a large force of rebels, while the former president of Mexico was on his way from Mexico City to Vera Cruz. General Diaz ordered his special car to proceed nearer to the scene of the engagement, and as it drew up he alighted, and with pistol in hand ran forward to aid his defenders. The Federal's quick action with the rapid-firers, however, had taken the rebels by surprise and they soon were in full retreat.

## FOUND!



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## NO PARDON FOR BANKERS

### IN CAUSTIC OPINION PRESIDENT SAYS MORSE AND WALSH DESERVE SENTENCES.

#### President Says Rich Men Must Learn That They Cannot Violate the Law and Escape.

Washington.—President Taft denied the applications for the pardon of Charles W. Morse of New York and John R. Walsh of Chicago, the two most prominent bankers ever convicted and sent to Federal penitentiaries under the national banking laws.

Not only did the president refuse to pardon either Morse or Walsh, but he also declined, at this time, to exercise any other sort of executive clemency in these cases or to shorten the sentences imposed upon the two men.

In denying the pardons, the president took a firm stand that the national banking laws or any other laws must be upheld when they affect the rich man, even more than when they affect the poor. The record in the Walsh case, the president said in a long opinion, "shows moral turpitude of that insidious and dangerous kind, to punish which the national banking laws were especially enacted."

In considering the case of Morse, the president said that "from a consideration of the facts in each case, I have no doubt that Morse should have received a heavier sentence than Walsh. Indeed, the methods taken by Morse tend to show that more keenly than Walsh did he realize the evil of what he was doing."

In his opinion in the Walsh case, the president protested against the failure to discriminate between legitimate business and improper gain. "The truth is," said he, "that in the mad rush for wealth in the last few decades, the lines between profit from legitimate business and improper gain from undue use of trust control over other people's property and money has some times been dimmed, and the interest of society requires that whenever opportunity offers, those charged with the enforcement of the law should emphasize the distinction between the honest business and dishonest breaches of trust."

The president's denial of the pardon applications of Morse and Walsh does not mean that they must stay in prison until the end of their terms. Walsh began a sentence of five years in the Leavenworth penitentiary in January, 1910, and under the Federal parole law, is eligible for parole next September.

### Cotton Acreage Shows Increase.

Memphis, Tenn.—The first of the season's cotton crop reports from correspondents of the Commercial-Appeal of date of May 23 and 24, indicate that there is an increase in the area planted to cotton in 1911 over that planted in 1910, of approximately 4.6 per cent, which is in round figures 35,000,000 acres in all. Over 59 per cent of this area the cotton has come up to a stand. Planting is practically completed, save in western Oklahoma, where, if rains fall soon, oats land will be put in cotton.

### Sea Island Planters Form Union.

Charleston, S. C.—The South Carolina planters of sea island cotton gathered here to take action to secure a steady and reasonable market for the staple. It was decided to commence the campaign for a better marketing condition by combining with the National Farmers' Union and attempting to have that body co-operate with the planters in marketing their crop at a profit. President C. S. Barrett of non City, Ga., who was present, assured the planters of the co-operation of the national body.

## DE LA BARRA NOW RULER OF MEXICO

### BOWING TO THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE, GEN. PORFERIO DIAZ RESIGNS PRESIDENCY.

### DIAZ LEAVES THE COUNTRY

#### Passing of the Aged Mexican Statesman Was a Very Dramatic Event.

City of Mexico.—Francisco Leon de la Barra, the Mexican foreign minister and former ambassador at Washington, took the oath of office as provisional president of the republic.

He will act as the chief executive in succession to Porferio Diaz, who resigned, until a general election can be held.

Order prevailed throughout the capital. Senor de la Barra was escorted from the national palace to the chamber of deputies, where the oath of office was administered by the members of the staff of former President Diaz.

### NEW PRESIDENT OF MEXICO.



DON FRANCISCO LEON DE LA BARRA.

Porferio Diaz, for whom during 39 years all Mexico has stood to one side, hat in hand, stole from the capital with great secrecy. Only a few devoted friends who he dared to trust followed him to the station. He was bound for Vera Cruz to take ship for Spain. In the distance could be heard the voices of a few of the more enthusiastic celebrants who were still acclaiming the new president, Francisco Leon de la Barra, and shouting "Viva Madero!"

General Diaz undoubtedly will make his home in Spain, probably in Madrid. During the recent centennial King Alfonso conferred upon him a title and made him an honorary general of the Spanish army. Senora Diaz was made a lady-in-waiting to the Spanish queen. General Diaz speaks no language other than Spanish, and outside of Mexico he would find the most congenial surroundings in the country of the dons.

## LEASE SYSTEM ABOLISHED

### The Leasing of Prisoners Will Be Stopped in Florida.

Tallahassee, Fla.—The Florida senate passed the Angle bill, abolishing the convict lease system by the vote of 21 to 7. The bill was recently passed by the house, and now it only remains for Governor Gilchrist to sign the measure to sound the death-knell of the lease system in this state.

The bill was passed by the senate only after a long and hard fight. Only one change was made in the bill as it passed the house, and this in nowise affects the sense of the measure as it was originally drafted.

The bill has been placed in the hands of Governor Gilchrist, and it is expected that he will take some action in regard to it within the next few days. Speculation is rife as to whether the governor will sign the measure, although there are enough votes in favor of the bill to carry it over the governor's veto.

### Vedrine Wins Paris-Madrid Race.

Madrid, Spain.—Pierre Vedrine, the French aviator, arrived at the Spanish capital, being the first contestant to complete the third stage of the Paris-to-Madrid aviation race. The Paris-to-Madrid race was begun on May 21 under the auspices of the Petit-Parisian, which offered a prize of \$20,000. In addition the Spanish Aero Club gave prizes amounting to \$10,000 and King Alfonso offered a special prize for the fastest speed over the Spanish section. Twenty machines were entered.

## BROWN SEES COTTON FAMINE

### Brown Predicts Not Only Famine in Raw Cotton, But Also in Finished Cotton Goods.

New Orleans.—W. P. Brown, the well-known bull leader in cotton, one of the first to predict 16 cents for the summer months of this season, is once more a daily visitor on the cotton exchange, and the gossip of the floor is that he has an active interest in the market. He seems to have almost completely recovered from his recent illness which was the cause of his return to his home here from New York where, during the winter, he was engaged in large operations in the cotton market there.

From his utterances since he left his sick bed, Mr. Brown has not at all changed his attitude toward cotton. He is as bullish as ever. He said: "Back in harness again and well once more, I cannot see anything ahead to make me feel bearish on the old crop of cotton. There is nothing but famine ahead, and not only famine in raw cotton, but also in finished cotton goods."

## TRUST SECRETS REVEALED

### John W. Gates Tells How Steel Trust Was Formed.

Washington.—John W. Gates gave to the house "steel trust" investigating committee the history of the United States Steel Corporation.

Present at the birth of the greatest steel manufacturing concern in the world, he described how it was the natural outcome of what he described as the refusal of Andrew Carnegie to be bound by the "gentleman's agreements" that marked the early days of open competition in the steel business.

He told also of millions lost and created almost in a breath, how the Carnegie mills appraised at \$160,000,000 were recognized as worth \$320,000,000 almost within the time required to make the transfer to the corporation; the grim clash in the formative days when John D. Rockefeller was dissuaded from joining in the creation of the corporation, and the manner in which others were prevented from engaging in the steel trade.

Relating how Carnegie had been forced to abandon plans for extending his steel business, Mr. Gates frankly admitted that the gigantic industrial combination was formed to throttle competition, and he surprised the committee with the further information that when John D. Rockefeller had sought to enter the steel business a deal had been put through by which the Standard Oil magnate was forced to sell out for 40 cents on the dollar.

Mr. Gates also told the committee of the taking over of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company by the United States Steel corporation, during the panic of 1907, a deal in which he was interested a stockholder of the Tennessee company. This, he declared, was a forced transaction carried out by Mr. Morgan and other financial leaders to save from ruin the Trust Company of America, threatened in the financial upheaval because it had raised too much money on stock of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company.

### Postal Deficit Has Vanished.

Washington.—For the first time in the history of the service, it is said, the deficit in the postoffice department has been entirely wiped out and \$7,000,000 surplus for the current fiscal year ending June 30 next in the treasury to the department's credit. Postmaster General Hitchcock signed a warrant returning to the secretary of the treasury \$3,000,000, the fund to assist in defraying expenses of the postal service. Reforms in the financial system have made the refund possible.