

The Roanoke Beacon

\$1.00 a Year, in Advance.

"FOR GOD, FOR COUNTRY AND FOR TRUTH."

Single Copy, 5 Cents.

VOL. XXIV.

PLYMOUTH, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1914.

NO. 37.

GOVERNOR CRAIG AND CRITICISMS

DECLARES HIS WISH THAT MEN WOULD SPEAK BEFORE ACTION IS TAKEN.

DISPATCHES FROM RALEIGH

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of North Carolina People Gathered Around the State Capitol.

Raleigh.

Governor Craig a few days ago went over the petitions in the Walter Shelton case and in searching for opposition to his course in commuting the death sentence to life imprisonment, found but one letter and that an unsigned one.

"I have been criticised by some of the papers for commuting Shelton's sentence," Governor Craig said, "and I wanted to make certain that there was no real opposition to my course, which I think was just and merciful and one that I should unhesitatingly repeat in similar circumstances. Here you see these petitions, letters and by whom many of them are signed, numbers of them being affidavits to the effect that Shelton is of doubtful, if not of unsound mind.

The notice of application for pardon was put in the Reidsville papers. It had to be put there according to law. Ample announcement that such a course was contemplated and every chance was given for opposition to Shelton's commutation. If I understand the situation, the condition of Shelton prior to the murder was not brought out in court. I considered the absence of opposition to the clemency shown him evidence at least of willingness to let me examine the case and decide it on its merits as they appeared to me.

"There was just one letter in opposition. It came from a man who did not sign his name and I have no idea who he was. Hundreds of names of good men, apparently, accompanied the petitions. Many letters were written. I acted with these before me.

"I have just this to say of the criticisms: They would appear to me to be far more just and certainly more generous, if those making them had spoken to me before I acted. My critics mean well I know and want to see me do right, but why one wishing the best thing for the community, should wait until I had done what he regards the wrong thing before he gave me the benefit of his knowledge or his advice when he knew I was about to act.

"One of these criticisms I appreciate. It said I made a mistake but censured the people for petitioning me to commute Shelton's sentence. That was at least dividing the blame. But even then, I think it would have looked better had the writer of this rebuke spoken of the people and to me before either had acted finally."

Confederate Veterans Meet June 10.

The North Carolina Confederate Veterans Reunion this year will be held in Raleigh and the date is June 10 when the monument to the Women of the Confederacy will be unveiled on Capitol Square. President John C. Drewry in behalf of the chamber of Commerce and city of Raleigh extended the invitation for the reunion in this city and the acceptance from Maj. Henry A. London was received a few days ago.

In accepting the invitation Maj. London states that on account of the occasion the largest crowd of Confederates who ever attended an annual gathering will be present in Raleigh on June 10. Preparations are now under way to make the reunion one of the best of the past several years.

Issues Pardon For Two.

Governor Craig recently pardoned Dixie Johnson, of Durham county, who was convicted four years ago of infanticide in Durham county and sentenced to a term of five years, and Green Oliver, an old man, of Caldwell county, a retailer.

Will Aid Any Good Cause.

Mr. Poe says the Farmers' Union members may be depended on to support the measures it has officially endorsed, such as tax reform and the increase of the inheritance tax and income tax, local option, land segregation between the races, allowing white communities, an industrialized system of education, the initiative and referendum. While the State Social Service Conference is in earnest about its demand for better child labor law and other announced policies of state government but are non-political.

Doings of the Supreme Court.

Eight appeals were disposed by the supreme court recently in the delivery of opinions. In the case of State vs. Lewis Allen, Vance county, a new trial is granted in a remarkable case. Allen was driving through the country in a buggy when Will Royster, who is not an officer, and had no warrant for Allen's arrest, "took him in custody" as having whiskey for sale, and conveyed him to the county jail. He was convicted of assault and battery on Royster in that he fought and cut Royster while the latter was taking him to jail. The court holds that the jury must say whether the resistance was in his own justifiable defense or not. The other opinions delivered follow:

Trust Company vs. Whitehead, Halifax, no error; Kennedy vs. S. A. L. Railway, Bertie, partial new trial as to damages and contributory negligence; State vs. Allen, Vance, error; Newsome vs. Bank of Ahoskie, Hertford, reversed; Bowden vs. English, Wayne, no error; Eley vs. Atlantic Coast Line, Hertford, affirmed; State vs. Harris, Vance, new trial; Ippock vs. Gaskins, docketed and dismissed under Rule 17.

Last of Bonds Are Sold.

The state has finally sold the last of the \$1,142,800 improvement bond issue authorized at the last regular session of the general assembly to be issued as of date July 1, 1913, to run to 193 and bear four per cent interest. When the bids were first opened there were offers for less than half of the bonds, owing to the depressed condition of the bond market at that time. Since then the state treasurer has been gradually selling the remainder in small blocks. There was a remainder of \$300,000 on hand yet to be sold, and C. C. McDonald, the well-known Raleigh stock and bond broker bought the remaining bonds at a substantial premium and accumulated interest. This means that the state treasury now has in hand all the balance of this \$1,142,500 fund that was provided by the legislature.

Some State Charters Granted.

The Merchants' and Farmers' Bank of Mocksville, Davie county, capital \$50,000 authorized, and \$10,000 subscribed by J. L. Armfield of Thomasville and others for general and savings banking business.

The Biltmore Livery Company, Biltmore, capital \$10,000 authorized, and 5,400 subscribed by J. G. Stikeleather and others.

The Graham Land Company, Graham, capital \$25,000, subscribed by A. L. Holmes and others.

The Caraleigh Phosphate and Fertilizer Works of Raleigh amends its charter so that the capital is increased to \$400,000 of which \$200,000 shall be six per cent preferred stock.

There is an amendment for the charter of the Siler City Light & Telephone Co., Siler City, providing for an increase of capital to \$25,000. C. M. Bray is president of the corporation.

The City Metal Roofing and Supply Co., Winston-Salem, capital \$10,000 authorized, and \$1,000 subscribed by T. A. Butner, T. F. Holcomb and others.

W. H. Winstead, Inc., Goldsboro, capital \$50,000 authorized, and \$1,000 subscribed by W. H. Winstead and others for a leaf tobacco business.

The Universal Film & Supply Co., Charlotte, capital \$125,000 authorized, and \$5,000 subscribed by A. F. Moses and others.

The Crowell Woodenware Company Fayetteville, capital \$10,000, subscribed by J. C. Crowell and others.

Letters Going Out to Editors.

Literature is going out from the headquarters of the State Press Association calling upon the editors to ask their congressmen to vote for a change in the law that will give editors the right to change their contracts with the railroads to make possible interstate mileage arrangements. While there is plenty of sentiment for it, there is a lot against it.

Reward For Lyerly's Slayer.

Governor Craig recently offered a reward for the capture of the man or men who killed Preston Lyerly at Barber's Junction and set fire to the store in which he worked. Rowan county has offered a reward of \$100 and citizens are expected to contribute. Solicitor Hayden Clement is investigating the case now.

Cobb Pays Death Penalty.

After writing a lengthy confession, R. W. Cobb paid the death penalty at 10:30 a. m. recently in the electric chair for the murder of Thomas Shaw in Halifax county last May. The confession, addressed to Governor Craig was in effect that he did not intend to murder when he hid on the porch of Shaw's house to await his coming from the store on the Saturday night. Shaw was taking home about \$400. He also claimed when he ordered Shaw to hold up his hands he thought he saw the gleam of a revolver.

TEXAS RANGERS INVADE MEXICO

MOUNTED TEXANS DISINTERRED CORPSE OF AMERICAN RANCHMAN AND TOOK IT AWAY.

HAD ORDER FOR THE BODY

Rangers Rode Swiftly and Met With No Opposition During Their Invasion of Mexico.

Laredo, Texas.—Texas rangers, who secretly crossed into Mexico at night, brought to the American side the mutilated body of Clemente Vergara, Texas ranchman, and established the fact of his execution after he was seized by Mexican federals.

The rangers were not opposed, accomplishing their search without the slightest violence, taking the body from a grave in Hidalgo cemetery almost within sight of the Texan border.

The seizure was divested of possibly grave aspects in international complications by reason of the fact that the rangers were practically making use of permission granted officially by Mexican federal authorities several days ago for recovery of the body. This permission had been given to United States Consul Garrett at Nuevo Laredo, but he did not get the body because of what he reported as dangers attending search for it in the immediate vicinity of Hidalgo.

Vergara was shot twice through the head and once through the neck his skull was crushed as by a blow from a rifle butt, and the charred fingers of the left hand indicated that he had been tortured before being put to death.

Identification was made the dead man's son and by numerous friends, many of whom were in the party of ninety, led by the state border patrol, which made the grim journey to the Hidalgo cemetery during the early morning hours. The body was not so badly decomposed, despite its three week's burial, and in addition to recognizing the features, young Vergara took a bit of cloth from the trousers which enclosed the body and matched it to the coat which his father had on the day he crossed the Rio Grande.

The body was brought into the United States at a point 45 miles northwest of Laredo, opposite Hidalgo and near the Vergara ranch. American Consul Garrett of Nuevo Laredo, deputy sheriffs and other authorities were waiting to receive it, and, pending the arrival of an undertaker from Laredo, an armed force stood guard over the body.

NATIONAL HONOR INVOLVED

President Wishes to Develop Foreign Policy of United States.

Washington.—Development of the American foreign policy as an influence for commercial expansion and the cause of universal peace is a vital concern of the Washington administration in its efforts to have repealed the Panama tolls exemption clause. Aside from President Wilson's assertion that national honor is involved in upholding a treaty obligation, there are circumstances surrounding a settlement of the controversy which are expected by administration officials to have a broad effect on the United States' diplomatic relations with the entire world.

Behind the protest of Great Britain, it has become known authoritatively, stands the united support of European nations whose formal objections have been held in abeyance to await the outcome of England's negotiations with the United States. Underlying the settlement of the tolls dispute is an ambitious program of American diplomacy, which contemplates an early adjustment of relations with the nations of the globe so that the Panama canal may be opened in an era of diplomatic good feeling.

Austrian Women Demand Ballot.

Vienna, Austria.—Hundreds of women's mass meeting in favor of woman suffrage were held throughout Austria. At all resolutions were adopted declaring it was the general demand of Austrian women for the vote in parliamentary and local elections.

Militant Women Fight Police.

London.—Militant suffragettes here fought the police on their favorite battlefield, Trafalgar Square, and in a pouring rain. The arrest of Sylvia Pankhurst for the sixth time under the "cat-and-mouse" law precipitated the conflict. Seven other women and three men were arrested. One of those taken into custody was Miss Zelle Emerson of Jackson, Mich. Miss Emerson has been arrested several times for participation in suffragette demonstrations, and may be expelled by the government.

"YOUR BLOOMIN' 'OME RUNS DID IT?"



HIGH HONOR TO GOETHALS

WILSON PRESENTS SPECIAL GOLD MEDAL TO COLONEL GOETHALS.

The President Says Goethals is the World's Greatest Living Engineer.

Washington.—Washington paid tribute to Col. George Washington Goethals, builder of the Panama canal. The occasion was the annual banquet of the National Geographic Society, with Colonel Goethals present as the guest of honor, and to receive from the hand of President Wilson a special gold medal awarded him by the society in recognition of his wonderful achievement.

Secretary Bryan was toastmaster and gathered about the banquet table with distinguished scientists of the society were President Wilson and his cabinet, justices of the Supreme court, members of the diplomatic corps, high officers of the army and navy leaders in both houses of congress and other notable figures in the life of the national capital.

During the evening Jules J. Jusserand, the French ambassador, and dean of the diplomatic corps, was formally notified of his election to honorary membership in the society. The banquet hall presented a striking scene. At one end, raised high above the table, the words: "Atlantic Goethals-Pacific," blazed in brilliant electric letters as all other lights were extinguished.

Ice cream was served the diners from miniature dredges, carried by waiters dressed in the uniform of the United States engineer corps, and followed by sailors bearing a tiny battleship. Individual dishes of cream appeared molded in the shape of the Panama canal dump car.

The medal awarded Colonel Goethals was given as an expression of the appreciation of the society and the nation of the army engineer's distinguished service. Its presentation was the final act of President Wilson's first year as chief executive of the United States.

Inscribed on the medal were the words: "This medal of the National Geographic society is awarded to George Washington Goethals, to whose ability and patriotism the world owes the construction of the Panama canal, March 3, 1914."

"Unemployed" Moves on Washington.

San Francisco, Cal.—An "army of the unemployed" broke camp on a vacant lot here and started on a march to Washington, D. C. There are 24 companies of 90 men each and the men have all of the officers of a military regiment, except a paymaster. They were led by buglers and drummers. "General" C. T. Kelly is the commanding officer.

Huerta Seeks to Free 5,000 Refugees

El Paso, Texas.—Asserting that there is no warrant of international law of treaty under which the 5,000 Mexicans who fled to the United States after the battle of Ojinaga, and who are interned at Fort Bliss, can be held, representatives of the Huerta government here are preparing to institute habeas corpus proceedings to obtain their liberation.

No C. O. D. Shipments.

Jefferson City, Mo.—The right of express companies to refuse to deliver C. O. D. shipments of liquor into Texas was upheld by the Missouri supreme court. The decision of the court was based on the Texas law prohibiting such shipments. Abraham Rosenberger claimed he had delivered shipments of liquor to the Pacific Express company and to the Wells, Fargo & Co's express for Texas points. Before the shipments were delivered, the Texas law prohibiting such shipments became effective.

BLEASE IN FIGHTING MOOD

GOVERNOR DIDN'T LIKE SPEECH MADE BY ONE OF THE LEGISLATORS.

He Even Pulled Off His Coat—Personal Violence Prevented by Cool-Headed Members.

Columbia, S. C.—An exciting scene marked the session of the house of representatives when Governor Blease went into the hall to reply to certain statements made by W. F. Stevenson, in a speech on the asylum probe and to deliver a message in person. Personal encounters, which at one time seemed likely, were prevented by the intervention of members.

When the governor charged that N. B. Barnwell, member of the house from Charleston, was acting in a cowardly manner by raising a technical point that the chief executive was not acting within the constitutional limits in making his remarks, Mr. Barnwell advanced to the speaker's stand, but was restrained by members.

Governor Blease told the members that he came prepared for a fight because he could not stand the alleged misrepresentations.

Following the tilt with Mr. Barnwell the governor left the hall and was followed by a large number of his supporters. Mr. Stevenson followed him for the purpose, it is said, of stating that he did not wish Governor Blease to understand that he had apologized for any statement made in his speech.

The governor apparently thought that Mr. Stevenson wanted to fight and pulled off his coat.

"I have been in some fights, but I never take off my coat," said Mr. Stevenson, returning to the hall.

General disorder reigned in the house for several minutes while the governor was making his charges. Friends of Mr. Barnwell and the governor crowded around and for a time it seemed as if a general fight was imminent.

The governor, in his message or address, charged that the report of the legislative committee on the asylum probe was unfair, in that it failed to discuss the charges by Senator Tillman that Governor Blease and his "underlings and satellites" were trying to manipulate the sale of the asylum property in Columbia.

MOORE RESIGNS POSITION

Agreed to Serve State Department Only One Year.

Washington.—John Bassett Moore, counselor of the state department and the recognized authority on international questions, concluded his service with the government when President Wilson accepted the resignation. Coming when international affairs occupy the forefront of official and public attention, the departure of Mr. Moore from a position second only to that of Mr. Bryan, attracted widespread attention and comment.

Although the resignation had been in the president's hands since February 2, to take effect now, this fact had not been generally known. There had been reports some months ago that the counselor of the state department did not find his labors entirely congenial and was about to resign, but these reports were promptly denied.

response made public.

Suffragettes Engage in Riot.

London.—Militant suffragettes gave further proof that their bitterest animosity is reserved for the Labor party, the only political party that has espoused their cause. As soon as J. Ramsey MacDonald, chairman of the Labor party, began speaking at a labor party rally in Memorial hall, suffragettes, aided by male supporters, started to howl him down. For nearly an hour a fierce struggle raged in the hall. There were frequent fights between men, white women grabbed one another by the hair,

WILSON'S MESSAGE ON CANAL TOLLS

PRESIDENT TELLS LEGISLATORS EXEMPTION CLAUSE VIOLATES TREATY.

CONGRESS TO HEED REQUEST

Wilson Indicates That Failure to Repeal May Cause Trouble About Other Matters.

Majority in Both Houses Ready for Flat Repeal. — Washington. — Members of the house and senate who will aid in the repeal fight announced they had adopted a poll of congress and that a large majority in both houses was ready to vote for a flat repeal measure immediately. In the house there was quick response to the president's address, the committee voting 13 to 3 to favorably report the Sims repeal bill. Absent members who were recorded made the vote 17 to 4.

Washington.—President Wilson went to congress and pleaded for repeal of the provision of the Panama canal act which exempts American coastwise shipping from tolls. He tersely asserted that his reason for asking the repeal was because everywhere except in the United States the tolls exemption was regarded as violation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, President Wilson's address, in part, follows:

"Gentlemen of the congress: I have come to you upon an errand which can be very briefly performed, but I beg that you will not measure its importance by the number of sentences in which I state it. No communication I have addressed to the congress carried with it graver or more far-reaching implications to the interest of the country, and I come now to speak upon a matter with regard to which I am charged in a peculiar degree by the Constitution itself with personal responsibility.

"I have come to ask for the repeal of that provision of the Panama canal act of August 24, 1912, which exempts vessels engaged in the coastwise trade of the United States from payment of tolls and to urge upon you the justice, the wisdom and the large policy of such a repeal with the utmost earnestness of which I am capable.

"In my own judgment, very fully considered and maturely formed, that exemption constituted a mistaken economic policy from every point of view, and is, moreover, in plain contravention of the treaty with Great Britain concerning the canal, concluded on November 18, 1901.

"But I have not come to you to urge my personal views. I have come to state to you a fact and a situation. Whatever may be our own difference of opinion concerning this much debated measure, its meaning is not debated outside the United States. Everywhere else the language of the treaty is given but one interpretation, and that interpretation precludes the exemption I am asking you to repeal. We consented to the treaty; its language we accepted; if we did not originate it; and we are too big, too powerful, too self-respecting a nation to interpret with too strained or refined a reading the words of our own promises just because we have power enough to give us leave to read them as we please. The large thing to do is the only thing we can afford to do, a voluntarily withdrawal from a position everywhere questioned and misunderstood. We ought to reverse our action without raising the question whether we were right or wrong, and so once more deserve our reputation for generosity and the redemption of every obligation without quibble or hesitation.

"I ask this of you in support of the foreign policy of the administration. I shall not know how to deal with other matters of even greater delicacy and nearer consequence if you do not grant it to me in ungrudging measure."

World's Tourists Welcomed.

New York. — The world-girdling American baseball players came home in a snowstorm. While harbor craft tooted and envoys from the Federal League figuratively waved enticing contracts, the Giant-White Sox combination drew into quarantine. The Federal League representatives were unable to obtain passes to board the Lusitania to greet the travelers down the bay. Organized baseball was more fortunate in having obtained revenue cutter passes in advance and a delegation was able to board the ship.