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POLITICAL REFORM AND THE GENERAL UPBUILDING OF MADISON COUNTY.

VOL. VII.

MARSHALL, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1906.

NO. 29.

COAL MINERS KILLED

126 Human Lives Suddenly Snuffed
Out By Accident

WATTSTOWN, WALES, DISASTER

The Force of the Explosion Wrecked
the Machinery at the Mouth of the
Shaft and Cut Off All Communica-
tion With the Interior.

Cardiff, Wales, By Cable.—An explosion of fire-damp in No. 2 pit of the United National Colliery Company at Wattstown, in the Rhondda Valley, the center of the great Welsh coal fields, Tuesday morning is believed to have resulted in the loss of at least 126 lives. The explosion was followed immediately by the belching clouds of smoke and dust from the pit shaft, in which 150 men were working. The force of the explosion wrecked the machinery at the mouth of the pit. All communication with the doomed men in this direction is completely cut off. No. 1 shaft, adjoining, has ordinarily afforded communication with No. 2. The 800 men in No. 1 and the few who escaped from No. 2 were drawn up.

A rescue party descended, but its work was seriously impeded by the foul air and the falling masses of earth dislodged by the explosion. Altogether 59 bodies have been recovered.

Heroic efforts have been made for hours to reach the entombed men, but late Tuesday night the absence of all sound from the interior of the mine told the tale of the worst disaster that has taken place in South Wales since 1894.

The news of the explosion spread rapidly and hundreds of women and children and thousands of men thronged the head of the pit, seeking information. The mountain roadways were crowded all the afternoon, and there are now streams of people in the neighborhood of the mine all contributing to the pitiful scenes. Efforts at rescue were still in progress at midnight, and currents of fresh air were still being driven through the shaft, but the rescuers are now working without hope of reducing the list of fatalities.

Three Miners Killed.
Birmingham, Ala., Special.—Three men were killed and five injured by the caving in of a rack at Sayreton mines, north of Birmingham, late Tuesday afternoon. The mines belong to Alabama Consolidated Coal and Iron Company.

Rescue Efforts Fail.
Portland, Me., By Cable.—Efforts to rescue the thirty-nine men who were cut off by fire in the Borussa coal mine Tuesday have been without success, and it is feared that they have perished.

Big Dam Gives Way.
Asheville, Special.—The dam recently completed at the Asheville School, near this city, creating a large artificial lake, broke Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock, releasing the entire body of water into the French Broad River at Hominy creek. At midnight the water in the river had risen more than five feet and was still rising. The break was caused by the excessive rainfall for the past few days, which increased the pressure on the dam to such an extent that it gave way.

Effort to Rescue Cargo.
Norfolk Va., Special.—After having remained buried in the sand beneath 10 feet of water for five years, an effort is now to be made to rescue the cargo of the schooner Mianle R. Bergen, which was wrecked near Chicococo, N. C. The cargo consists of 200 tons of steel rails, a locomotive and other machinery. Captain John Wheaton, of Washington, N. C., will build a wharf out to the wreck and by the use of a sand pump remove the sand and save the cargo.

Bloody Encounter.
Warsaw, By Cable.—Three bloody encounters between troops and striking shoe makers, in which about 20 persons were killed or wounded, occurred Tuesday. The strikers were marching through the city from house to house demanding the lowering of rents by 20 per cent. Many proprietors out of fear complied with the demands of the strikers.

Another Japanese Victory.
Tokio, By Cable.—The Navy Department has received the following report from Admiral Kataoka: "Two cruisers and four torpedo boats left Karasakorsk on July 10 with soldiers on board for the purpose of landing and occupying Cape Notoro. After some bombardment the place was taken. The lighthouse and buildings were left undestroyed. Four prisoners were taken."

Nikolaievsk, Asiatic Russia.—The Japanese have already landed over 12,000 troops at Korsakovsk, island of Sakhalin.

SECRETARY WILSON REMAINS FIRM

Secretary Wilson Declares That Unless There Are New Developments Regarding the Cotton Leak He Will Abide Result So Far Attained.

Washington, Special.—Unless there are new developments in connection with the cotton leakage investigation, Secretary Wilson said Tuesday that he proposed to stand on the report of the secret service officers. He expected, however, that the investigation would give rise to various rumors and stories of irregularities in connection with the Department's reports on other products, but that where there was the slightest tangible evidence to work upon he would go to the bottom of every complaint and publish the results of his investigation. Already, he said, the allegation had been made that the tobacco figures had been manipulated and the matter would be looked into. But for the present he had nothing further to say.

The new system of preparing the monthly crop report, devised since the cotton investigation began, was put in force Tuesday. That report was made public late Tuesday evening and the Secretary believes that the steps taken to safeguard the figures were well-nigh perfect. Early in the day Assistant Secretary Hayes, Chief Statistician Hyde and several experts of the Department were placed in a room under lock and key and they were not to be permitted to come out until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The telephones in the room were disconnected, and a careful scrutiny was kept of the windows to avoid the possibility of a leak through private signals.

No communications of any sort have been received from Mr. Price or his attorney, and the Secretary believes that so far as the cotton investigation report is concerned it is a closed incident.

The Czar's Friend Murdered.
Moscow, By Cable.—Major General Count Shuvaloff, prefect of police here, and formerly attached to the Ministry of the Interior, was assassinated Tuesday morning while receiving petitions. One of the petitioners drew a revolver and fired five times at the prefect, who fell dead. The assassin was arrested.

The assassin awaited in the ante-room of the prefecture till the other petitioners had been received and then entering the audience room, he advanced towards Count Shuvaloff, firing five shots at close range. The bullets passed through the body of the prefect.

The assassin, who was dressed as a peasant, has not been identified. He was recently arrested as a political suspect, but escaped from the police station before his examination.

Dargan Commits Suicide.

Charleston, S. C., Special.—A special from Darlington says that R. Keith Dargan, formerly president of the Independent Cotton Oil Company and the Darlington Trust Company, committed suicide by drinking four ounces of carbolic acid. Dargan was talking to his brother a short while before the deed was done and seemed in good spirits, although the failure of the mills and the closing of the trust company's doors were naturally weighing upon his mind. He left a note in which the coroner has taken, in which it is known that he mentioned the financial troubles, and stated that he intended to kill himself. The oil company was capitalized at \$1,000,000, and it is rumored that the deficiencies may reach \$700,000.

Killed Convicted Negro.

Jackson, Miss., Special.—Davis Collins, a negro who was convicted of attempted criminal assault on Miss Hogg, at a special term of the Copia county court, and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary, was killed on the way to prison by Mr. Dickey, a brother-in-law of Miss Hogg. The killing occurred at Crystal Springs. Mr. Dickey boarded the train at Hazelhurst. When it stopped at Crystal Springs, Dickey walked into the coach where Sergeant Dodds was sitting with the prisoner, and drawing a pistol Dickey fired three shots into the negro's body. Death was instantaneous. Dickey surrendered.

Declines Railroad Passes.

Washington, Special.—It is stated at the Navy Department that Secretary Bonaparte has outlined his opinion in reference to accepting passes for free transportation on the railroads, by returning passes that have been sent to him, with thanks for the courtesy, but stating that by reason of public opinion which he occupies he feels unable to avail himself of such consideration.

THE MEETING PLACE

Peace Envoys Will Hold Their Sessions at Portsmouth, N. H.

IS AN IDEAL PLACE FOR MEETING

Adjournment From Washington Will Be Taken to the Navy Yard at the Mouth of the Piscatawa River.

Washington, Special.—Assistant Secretary Pierce announced that the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Japan had agreed upon Portsmouth, New Hampshire, as the meeting place for the sessions of the peace conference to be held outside of Washington. The sessions will be held in the government navy yard at Portsmouth, in the new building just completed there. The selection of Portsmouth was mutually acceptable to the peace envoys of the belligerents, as, besides being a cool and comfortable place for this season of the year, it has the advantage of offering a building on government soil, which is regarded as an important consideration. This will insure seclusion, as no one can gain admission to the navy yard without permission.

While the sessions will be held in the navy yard, the plenipotentiaries and their staffs will live in nearby hotels.

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—The new general store building, just completed, is the largest and most imposing of any in the navy yard, being four stories in height and of ample dimensions. It is of brick and brown stone and at present unoccupied. Rear Admiral Mead, the commandant, said that it could be readily furnished for the needs of the conferees.

The location of the navy yard is one offering all the advantages of a Northern summer resort. It occupies an island in the Piscatawa river, almost in the ocean. Its view commands the wide mouth of the river, which is the boundary between Maine and New Hampshire and forms the Portsmouth harbor. The shores are picturesque, dotted here and there with cottages and farm houses, while a number of hotels on either the Maine or the New Hampshire shore are easily accessible.

May Prosecute Holmes.

Oyster Bay, L. I., Special.—It is regarded here as not unlikely that criminal prosecution may result from the investigation of the cotton report leak in the Department of Agriculture. The subject has not yet been presented to the President in a formal way, although he is familiar with most of the details of the inquiry. United States District Attorney Beach, of Washington, was of the opinion, after a cursory examination of a part of the evidence adduced in the investigation, that a criminal proceeding would not lie against Assistant Statistician Holmes, who is alleged to have profited by giving advanced information of the condition of the cotton crop to certain brokers. The Department of Justice is not inclined to accept this view of the case. While no decision to institute criminal proceedings has been reached, the subject is being considered by Attorney General Moody, who later will take the matter up with the President. In view of the opinion by the United States district attorney that a criminal prosecution against Holmes would not lie, Secretary Wilson has intimated that he would suggest to President Roosevelt a recommendation to Congress that legislation be enacted to cover cases of similar character involving a breach of trust.

Convicted Officers' Case Up.

Washington, Special.—The papers in the case of Major Frank De L. Carrington, United States army, tried by court martial and civil courts in the Philippines for misappropriating the funds of the Filipino Scouts who went to the St. Louis Exposition, and sentenced to dismissal from the army by the court and to imprisonment for a term approximating sixty years by the civil courts, were sent to President Roosevelt for review. The papers contain the approval of the Secretary of War and judge advocate general of the army.

News of Mutiny From Japs.

Singhai, Manchuria, By Cable.—The news of the mutiny in the Black Sea reached the Russian army through the Japanese, who fired night shells charged with proclamations conveying the information into the Russian advanced posts, scattering the proclamations broadcast. Rain is falling in torrents, and all activity at the front has ceased.

MUTINY NOW OVER

The Last Act in Tragedy of Russian Rebel Warship

BLOOD-STAINED SHIP IS OCCUPIED

Russian Admiral Arrives With His Fleet and Takes Over the Possession of the Kniaz Potemkine From the Roumanian Authorities.

Kustenji, Roumania, By Cable.—Admiral Kruger boarded and took possession of the Russian battleship Kniaz Potemkine, King Charles of Roumania having sent instructions to the commander of the Roumanian squadron that the vessel be delivered to the Russian authorities without raising difficulties.

The torpedo boat which accompanied the Kniaz Potemkine, however, left for Odessa without surrendering, declaring that she had not mutinied, but that the Kniaz Potemkine had forced her to follow.

Admiral Kruger arrived with his squadron Sunday morning, and after exchanging the customary salutes, intimated that he had come to arrange for the transfer of the Kniaz Potemkine. Admiral Kolinsky, commander of the Roumanian squadron, boarded the Russian battleship Tchesme and informed Admiral Kruger that King Charles had ordered him to turn the vessel over to the Russian admiral. The formalities of the transfer were complete this afternoon, and Admiral Kruger boarded the Kniaz Potemkine.

The press representative inspected the Kniaz Potemkine after the withdrawal of the Roumanian guard. Despite the efforts of the Roumanians to get things in ship-shape, everything aboard the battleship was still in a state of wildest disorder. The officers' cabins were stripped of everything of any value, and blood stains were everywhere. There was sufficient ammunition aboard the Kniaz Potemkine to have enabled the mutineers to make a desperate resistance.

It is said that during the last few days the vessel was navigated by two engineers and an officer with revolvers at their heads.

All of the sailors wished to surrender with the exception of Matuschenko, the leader of the mutiny, who resisted for some time, and wanted to blow up the ship.

Seven officers were prisoners aboard the Kniaz Potemkine. They were in a pitiable condition from ill treatment. They declare that Matuschenko himself killed ten officers of the battleship.

All the papers and books belonging to the vessel were destroyed. It appears that the decision to surrender the Kniaz Potemkine was made when it became evident that no other vessels would join in the mutiny. The crew of the battleship seemed to be unaware of the surrender of the Georgi Pobedonosetz and expected that she also was coming to Kustenji to capitulate to Roumania.

Twenty married sailors from the Kniaz Potemkine have applied to the Russian consul here to be sent back to Russia.

The crew of torpedo boat No. 268 were given half an hour in which to surrender or leave port.

A considerable number of the crew of the Kniaz Potemkine surrendered to the Russian squadron, alleging that they had acted under compulsion.

The coal supply of the mutinous battleship was nearly exhausted, but there was plenty of food on board.

A Russian priest, after the transfer, held a service of purification on board the Kniaz Potemkine, sprinkling the vessel and her flags with holy water. Admiral Kruger's squadron, which brought a crew for the Kniaz Potemkine, sailed with her for Russia.

Race Riot in New York.

New York, Special.—Two persons were shot, one probably fatally, in a fight between mobs of whites and negroes in West Sixteenth street Sunday. The trouble began when Henry Hart, a colored man, was attacked in the street by a number of white boys, who accused him of interfering with a ball game. Hart fled, pursued by a mob of whites hurling stones, bricks and other missiles, and reached the tenement house where he lived. After arming himself with a revolver, Hart ran down stairs and began firing into the crowd, one of the shots striking James Hunter in the side.

Cleveland Not to Retire.

New York, Special.—In relation to a report that Grover Cleveland was contemplating retiring from the trusteeship of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, Mr. Cleveland authorizes the following statement: "Nothing has occurred thus far to dissuade me in the least and the idea of retiring from the trusteeship has never entered my mind."

NORTH CAROLINA CROP BULLETIN

For the Week Ending Monday, July 10th, 1906.

Over the larger portion of the State the weather during the past week was very favorable for agricultural interests. Alternate sunshine and showers prevailed, and the precipitation was generally well distributed, relieving the droughty conditions that existed in most central counties at the close of the preceding week. There were a few severe local storms in Wayne, Alamance, Davidson and Rockingham counties, and too much rain in a number of other counties, chiefly those west of the Blue Ridge, where farm work was interrupted, and soil and crops were washed by heavy rains. But the large majority of reports by crop correspondents are exceptionally favorable, and indicate a promising outlook for crops generally. The mean temperature for the week averaged about 80 degrees (72 degrees in the mountains) which was nearly 4 degrees above normal; early in the week high maximum temperatures occurred, the 4th being the warmest day, but cooler weather prevailed during the middle and latter portion, though the nights were not cool enough to check the growth of crops. Nearly everywhere the soil has been thoroughly moistened, crops have been invigorated and are growing rapidly. Laying by crops and sowing field peas was interrupted in the west, but elsewhere farm work was not materially hindered.

Generally cotton is thrifty and is branching well; it shows exceptionally heavy bloom for the season of the year; lice have nearly disappeared; there was too much rain for cotton in some eastern counties, namely, Northampton, Duplin, Wayne, Halifax and Edgecombe, causing somewhat rank growth, in some others the plants are still small and late, but on the average cotton is now in fine condition. Corn is not so good, but has improved during the week; old corn seems to be earing well; the plants are large and vigorous in the west in consequence of abundant rain; young corn is growing rapidly, but much of the lowland crop in places was injured by too much water. Tobacco is somewhat variable in size, but as a rule is growing nicely; topping continues in the north; the crop is ripening rapidly in places, but cutting and curing are not yet general, though under way in most eastern and southern counties; some tobacco on sandy land is suffering from excessive moisture. Cutting oats and rye is proceeding in the extreme west; oats is good; thrashing wheat continues, with poor yield, but some say wheat is grading fairly well; some oats and rye in shock too long in the west were damaged by frequent rains. Sowing field peas in stubble land was actively carried on this week, and they are coming up well. Sweet potatoes and peanuts have improved. Melons are coming into market. Grapes are suffering some from blight; peaches of good quality are abundant, but apples are inferior.

Rains reported: Nashville 2.43; Davids 0.75; Goldsboro 5.32; Lumberton 1.98; Newbern 2.86; Weldon 0.78; Wilmington 2.40; Monroeville 1.43; Pocomo 2.00; Angier 2.60; Rameur 1.63; Greensboro 4.04; Raleigh 1.30; Charlotte 1.30; Asheville 4.00.

New Hospital Building.

Raleigh, Special.—Work begins next week on the \$40,000 building for females at the Hospital for the Insane here. Large quantities of material are arriving. As has been stated, the building will extend towards the westward from the present main building and will be of identically the same material and same style of architecture. The hospital is one of the most thoroughly built structures in North Carolina, though it was erected about fifty-five years ago. It is a very imposing building and Miss Dix, who chose the site, selected what is easily the most beautiful location anywhere in the vicinity of Raleigh.

North State News.

Governor Glenn has appointed the following eight directors of the North Carolina Railroad: W. T. Brown, Winston; W. H. Williams, Newton; Hugh Chatham, (president) Elkin; L. Banks Holt, Graham; Thomas H. Vandeford, Salisbury; John W. Lambert, Thomasville; Allen J. Ruffin, Hillsboro; S. C. Penn, Reidsville. The last four are new. There were 305 aspirants.

The State authorizes the Wilmington Towing and Transportation Company to change its name to the Thorpe & Applegate Company, and incorporates the L. Richardson Drug Company, of Greensboro, to change its name to the Justice Drug Company.

The Secretary of State has had remarkable good luck in discovering valuable documents among the masses of old papers piled in cases in the gallery of the old State Library and room of the enrolling clerk. His helpers have been so busy this year that nothing has been done, but a little later the work will be resumed, and it is expected that more good results will follow.

COTTON LEAK FOUND

Termination of a Great Scandal in the Agricultural Department

NOW A FEW BROKERS GOT NEWS

Secretary Wilson Makes Public an Official Report Stating That Edward S. Holmes Communicated Advance Information Through L. C. Van Riper to Theodore H. Price and Other New York Operators.

Washington, Special.—As the result of the investigation by secret service agents into the charges made by Richard Cheatham, secretary of the Cotton Planters' Association, that information had been given to cotton brokers in New York by some person or persons in the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Agriculture, Secretary Wilson made public an official report in which he states that Edwin S. Holmes, the assistant statistician, has been guilty of "juggling" the official report. The report says it has been found that Mr. Holmes communicated advance information to L. C. Riper, a New York broker, and that a Mr. Haas, of New York, who Mr. Van Riper said, acted as a go-between in conveying information from Holmes to other New York brokers, including Theodore Price. Steps have been taken by Secretary Wilson to prevent any further leakage of the Department figures, and an entire re-organization of the Bureau of Statistics and manner of preparing monthly crop reports has been outlined by him. The papers in connection with the investigation were referred to the United States attorney for the District of Columbia and he has reported that, in his opinion, a criminal prosecution will not lie against Holmes. Holmes has been dismissed from the service of the Department.

BROKER VAN RIPER WITNESS.

According to the report, Wilson Judd, of New York, formerly in the employ of L. C. Van Riper, induced the latter to tell of his connections with Holmes and then communicated the information to Mr. Cheatham.

Van Riper became the principal witness in the investigation conducted by the secret service and said he was induced to communicate the fact that advanced information was being given out by Holmes because he had heard that Holmes and his associates had intended to try to manipulate the June cotton report. Having this information as a foundation, the secret service agents interviewed numerous persons who had been mentioned by Judd and Van Riper, as well as gathering a mass of correspondence, including many letters written by Holmes to Van Riper and others. The report made to Secretary Wilson and the Secretary's comments, together with the details of the new plan of conducting the Bureau of Statistics, makes more than four thousand words. It reviews the entire investigation, beginning with the charges that were laid before Secretary Wilson by Mr. Cheatham several weeks ago.

Just That Way.

If an editor makes a mistake, says the Factotum, he has to apologize for it, but if the doctor makes one there is a law suit, swearing and the smell of sulphur, but the doctor makes one there is a funeral, cut flowers and a smell of varnish. The doctor can use a word a yard long without knowing what it means, but if the editor uses it he has to spell it. If the doctor goes to see another man's wife he charges for the visit, but if the editor goes to see another man's wife he gets a charge of buckshot. When a doctor gets drunk it is a case of "overcome by heat," and if he dies it is heart failure. When an editor gets drunk it is a case of too much booze, and if he dies it is a case of delirium tremens. Any old medical college can make a doctor. You can't make an editor. He has to be born.—Ex.

News of the Day.

The body of Secretary Hay was interred at Cleveland with simple ceremonies, the President being one of those present.

The Rabbinical convention continued its sessions at Cleveland.

Interesting addresses were delivered before several departments of the National Educational Convention at Asbury Park.

Two Illinois banks, of which C. J. Devlin, the Topeka (Kan.) capitalist, was president, have closed.

Refugees fleeing from the yellow fever scourge on the Isthmus of Panama arrived at New York, and paint conditions in the Canal Zone very darkly.

A man who registered as a son of August Belmont was arrested in Colorado Springs for alleged forgery. In New York he was declared an impostor.

The Kniaz Potemkine, with her crew of mutineers on board, has arrived at Theodosia, Crimea, and raised the standard of rebellion. She is reported to have been seen in several other places. Sixty of the mutineers of the Pobedonosetz have been imprisoned, and it is thought all will be shot.