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NORTH STATE NEWS NOTES

Items of State Interest Gathered from Here and There and Told Briefly for Busy Readers.

THE WEATHER BUREAU AND ITS LATEST ORBIT.

Raleigh, Special.—The work that is being done by the U. S. Weather Bureau is perhaps better known to the majority of citizens than that of any other Bureau of the Government, and it hardly seems necessary to defend it from such attacks as for instance that which appeared in Everybody's Magazine for May. This attack was written by Mr. Emerson Hough, who makes specific charges, and these charges will be reviewed and answered in order.

First, he charges that the Weather Bureau is unduly expensive, but does not explain that the appropriation for this service is examined critically, item by item by a committee of Congress, and that this committee voluntarily increased the appropriation asked for by \$133,200.00, and that last year more than \$50,000.00 was returned to the U. S. Treasury. The Honorable Jas. R. Mann said that this service is the most economically administered service, with the work that has been done, in the Government service anywhere.

Second, that it does not progress. It would seem that progress is being made from the fact that representatives of weather organizations of Europe have visited this country for the express purpose of studying methods and forecasting under the Chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau. Researches of great value to the science of meteorology are being carried on by this Bureau, and the world's record for the greatest height reached by a kite carrying a meteorological instrument was attained by this Bureau at Mt. Weather, Va., the research observatory.

Third, that it is excessively explanatory. This is rather a virtue than a fault. The Weather Bureau has nothing that it wishes to keep secret. Its methods and results, however, must be made known, or the public would not have that sympathetic relation with this Bureau that it now holds.

Fourth, that the service is general and not specific. A knowledge of the problems involved in giving a specific forecast in regard to exact time and locality would at once dispel the charge that the service is too general. Forecasts are made as specific as the knowledge of the conditions will warrant.

Fifth, that it is evasive and intentionally ambiguous. The forecasts are formulated with great care, and cannot have not in any sense a Delphic interpretation. They are made to cover a definite period and all forecasts are carefully examined to ascertain the percentage of accuracy which varies from 80 to 85 per cent.

Sixth, that it offers no well-founded hope of improvement in local forecasting. On the contrary every inducement is made to officials in the Weather Bureau to excel in local forecasting, and the practical test of merit of all experiments and all theoretical work is the measure of how much it will improve the forecasting of the weather.

In the cases of the Galveston storm and the storm in which the steamship Portland was wrecked, which Mr. Hough claims the Bureau failed to forecast; the records of marine associations, of the local press, and of the Weather Bureau bear unimpeachable testimony to the fact that the Bureau gave ample warning of the coming of the Galveston storm that the Gulf was practically cleared of vessels of commerce and no loss of property occurred in the open sea, and that the morning before the passage of the storm hurricane signals

Times Mercury Changes Hands.

Hickory, Special.—A stock company, with J. Y. Killian as president, and R. G. Mace as business manager, has bought the Times-Mercury, and will continue its publication, but as a strictly Republican paper. Mr. Click is no longer connected with the paper, but will devote his time to the Nutshell, a semi-monthly, which he began publishing a few months ago.

Dr. E. Y. Yates Dies Suddenly.

Durham, Special.—Dr. E. Y. Yates, veteran minister of the Methodist church, and for nearly nine years lecturer in the department of Biblical Literature at Trinity College, died sitting in a chair at his hotel Friday afternoon. He had been ailing since Sunday with a deep cold, but was up the street this morning. After eating his mid-day lunch, he went to the front porch and was sitting reading the paper when his head dropped forward and he was dead in a few minutes. Heart trouble, with which he had been afflicted for several years, was the cause of his death.

were ordered for Galveston and other Gulf ports. In regard to the case of the Portland the New York Times of Dec. 1, 1896 said: "In leaving Boston Saturday night the captain of the Portland took chances which no man in his position had a right to take. From a source that warranted implicit belief, he, like every other captain on the Atlantic coast, had received warning that a storm of exceptional severity would strike him as soon as he reached open water, and that he knew that his steamer, though well built and comparatively new, was of a type much better designed for entering shallow harbors than for encountering winter gales on as dangerous a coast as there is in the world. Despite all this and according to his employer, in defiance of implicit orders, he steamed out into the gathering tempest. Why? Perhaps he belonged to the class, once large, but now small and rapidly disappearing, the members of which sneer at the Government Weather Bureau, and prefer to rely upon old "signs" instead of on new science as the basis of meteorological prophecy. Perhaps a score of things. Only this is certain, he should not have sailed, and he should not have been allowed to sail."

Odd Fellows Meet in Charlotte. Charlotte, N. C., Special.—Charlotte was the property of the Odd Fellows of North Carolina Tuesday. Delegates to the meeting of the Grand Lodge were here by the hundreds and the streets of the city were aswam with uniformed officers, representatives of every town in the State in which is located a lodge of this great order. Others arrived later. Arrangements were made by the local entertainment committee to care for not less than 500 visitors. The various lodges of the State sent not less than 300 accredited delegates and many more were present for the purpose of attending the meeting of the Grand Lodge, which occupied three days.

Indian Badly Wounded.

Asheville, Special.—A serious shooting occurred Friday afternoon about 5:30 o'clock in what was formerly known as the Hicks Souther "soft drink" place on south Lexington avenue, when it is alleged that Wade Wilson shot an Indian named Whippoorwill. Whippoorwill was drunk or near drunk and doesn't know much about it. At first he said that the shooting was an accident and later that he was ordered out of the place and that the shooting followed. The Indian was taken to the City Hall, his wounds dressed and he was then sent to a hospital. He was shot through the arm and the breast and is said to be bleeding internally.

Through Truck Train to New York.

Newbern, Special.—Monday at a meeting of the truckers, Superintendent Foster, of the Norfolk & Southern, and Superintendent Fountain, held here, it was decided for the new through truck train to leave here at 11 a. m., for Goldsboro, where it will be made a through train for New York on the Atlantic Coast Line. The train will at present run on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and the Atlantic Coast Line will furnish as far as possible ventilated cars for the service. The schedule is satisfactory to all and means better prices for the truckers as the goods will reach the markets earlier and in better condition than as in the case with the present schedule.

Ex-Sheriff Drops Dead.

Salisbury, Special.—J. Hodge Krider, former sheriff of Rowan county, dropped dead at his home in Salisbury Friday from heart failure. He was called for breakfast, and when he failed to appear was found dead in his bed. He was 52 years old, a well known officer, and is survived by one son, seven daughters, two brothers and a sister. The funeral takes place with Masonic honors.

Bandits Hold Up Train.

Spokane, Wash., Special.—Following the hold-up of the Great Northern passenger train by six bandits between Colbert and Mead Saturday night, 12 persons were injured when the locomotive and the mail cars, cut off from the rest of the train, were run back wild by the bandits, after they had rifled the rest of the train. The conductor saw the wild cars coming back at 25 miles an hour. He and another trainman placed a tie on the track, but the cars, though partly stopped, plunged into the coaches, throwing passengers from their seats, cutting them with broken glass.

TAFT AND THE TWENTIETH

The following unique poem was composed by Mrs. Lisette Clayton Hood, now connected with the Mill News of Charlotte, N. C., on the occasion of the celebration of May 20th, 1909. Its historic as well as its present day allusions, together with its rhythmic merit will make it a good scrap book preservation to the lovers of poetry.

A Welcome to the President.

The loyal folks of Mecklenburg Extend the glad right hand; Sweet smiles from Charlotte's daughters, The fairest in the land. Our gates are spread wide open, The keys are thrown away, The better pleased we all will be The longer you may stay. In Eastern florid verbiage The town is wholly yours, And all that is therein contained, In its historic doors. We give true Southern welcome To our illustrious Guest—Who rules and treats us squarely, For he deserves our best.

He freed my native City

From years of deepest shame, Placed white man over white men—All honor to his name!

This act alone has won him

The Southron's deepest love, He knows the race Caucasian Was meant to keep above.

Observe our seventy columns,

Our noble arches three, Our granite shaft inscribing Those names which History Has writ and proved illustrious Despite the sneerers' claim, And tells the world the reason For Charlotte's deathless fame.

Those brave old Mecklenburgers,

In far Colonial days, First broke the chains of bondage And earned the nation's praise. Old England sent her minions To break our spirits free; "A nest of stinging hornets!" They found our town to be.

Our men are patriots ever,

Our spirits just as high, Our valor still unquestioned, As in the days gone by. Our Southern hearts are loyal, All struggles past forgot, And Gray and Blue are blended On this historic spot.

"Old Glory" here is waving

So free on every side, A type of hope united In one grand, common pride. Observe the gallant escort, Furnished our President, The Blue and Grey uniting Old soldiers worn and bent.

We've slain the "Billy Possum,"

And "killed the fatted calf," And give our heartiest welcome To William Howard Taft.

Mrs. Taft Slightly Ill

Washington, Special.—Mrs. Taft, suffering from a slight breakdown, was taken ill Monday while on her way from this city to Mount Vernon on the yacht Sylph with a party of friends, and was hurried back to the White House. It was said at the White House Monday night that there is no cause for alarm and that Mrs. Taft probably would be all right again in a few days. She was unable to be present at an official dinner at the White House.

President Taft himself Monday

prepared the following statement in regard to Mrs. Taft's condition: "Mrs. Taft is suffering from a slight nervous attack. She attended the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital Monday morning, where Charlie Taft underwent a slight operation on his throat. She was with him for several hours. She then started with the President and a small party of friends on the Sylph for Mount Vernon. The excitement, heat and exertion were too much for Mrs. Taft's nerves and the party was obliged to turn back before reaching Alexandria. Mrs. Taft was quickly carried to the White House. The doctor says that after a few days of complete rest Mrs. Taft may be able to resume her social duties. Dr. Delaney is in attendance. Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Taft's sister, acted as hostess at the official dinner at the White House Monday night."

More Than 10,000 Murdered in Adana.

Adana, By Cable.—The estimates of from 20,000 to 25,000 Christians killed by Mohammedans in the province of Adana made a fortnight ago must be revised. It is now ascertained that the number can hardly reach more than 10,000, possible less. Thousands who were supposed to have been killed in the country district have since come into some one of the large towns for relief. It remains a fact that such brutality was suffered by women.

GREAT MAN PASSES

Bishop Galloway Dies After a Brief Illness of Pneumonia.

QUITE NOTED METHODIST DIVINE

Most Prominent of the Bishops of Methodist Episcopal Church, South.—Bishop Charles B. Galloway, of the Methodist Episcopal church South, died at 5 o'clock Wednesday morning. Bishop Galloway, Mississippi's most distinguished divine and best-known publicist, for the last twenty years held rank among the greatest pulpits orators of America.

Orders were issued for all departments of the Federal, State, county and municipal government to remain closed Thursday, and Mayor Crowder has issued a proclamation urging all the business houses to close for the day.

Bishop Galloway was possibly the most prominent of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. He was born at Kosciusko, Miss., September 1, 1849, and graduated in 1868 from the University of Mississippi. The degree of doctor of laws was later conferred upon him by the Northwestern University and by Tulane University. He entered the ministry in 1869.

Bishop Galloway's writing covered a wider range, perhaps, than those of any other person connected with the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and he traveled extensively. For a number of years he took an active interest in the prohibition campaign in Mississippi and other Southern States. He was president of the board of education of the Methodist Episcopal church, South; president of the board of trustees of Millsaps College and Vanderbilt University and was a member of the board of trustees of the John F. Slater Fund.

MONUMENT TO HENRY WIRZ

Veil From the Tall, Straight, White Monolith Was Loosed by Mrs. Perrin, Only Living Daughter of the Dead Commander.

Andersonville, Ga., Special.—Under the Stars and Stripes and the Confederate Stars and Bars, there was dedicated here Wednesday the monument to Capt. Henry Wirz, commander of Andersonville prison, and executed at Washington at the end of the war on order of a military commission, which tried him for murder and flagrant cruelty—martyred, not executed—the Georgia Daughters of the Confederacy unveiled the monument Wednesday in the hope that it will stand to see Wirz' memory, in time, considered everywhere in a friendly light. Over the hushed throng, scarcely a sound rippled, and tears sprang to hundreds of eyes as Mrs. Perrin, of Natchez, Miss., only living daughter of the dead commander, loosed the veil from the tall, straight, white monolith.

Springtime flowers were heaped upon the monument, and speakers, who loved the respected "Lost Cause," stood near its base under the once rival flags and told many incidents in the career of Wirz, stories of kindness to Northern prisoners and of attempts to secure for them food and shelter which he could not get.

Pleasant A. Stovall, editor of The Savannah Press, said that the dedication was not intended to reopen questions long since settled, but to do an act of justice too long delayed. Of the difficulties under which Wirz worked, he said: "Wirz was hampered at every step by the exigencies of his own government. While Gen. Dick Taylor was traveling through south Georgia during the latter part of the war, he related that the train stopped at Andersonville. There entered his car a Confederate officer named Wirz, who said he was in charge of the prison and that the men were greatly in need of provisions and protection. They were without blankets and shelter and were inadequately supplied with food."

Memorial Tablet Unveiled.

Petersburg, Special.—A memorial tablet on the battlefield of "Bloody Angle" and a monument at Salem church, in memory of the New Jersey volunteers, who fell on the battlefield of Spotsylvania county in the civil war were unveiled Wednesday. Col. B. Massey, representing Governor Swanson, delivered the address of welcome at the tablet unveiling. General Joseph Plume then transferred the memorial to the State of New Jersey, and Governor Fort, of that State, made a speech accepting and transferring it again to the Fifteenth New Jersey volunteer veterans association.

WASHINGTON NOTES

Razors were again used Monday in a hostile attack upon the rates of the Aldrich bill pending before the Senate. The committee on finance had increased the rates on razors in common use from about 55 to 100 per cent ad valorem, and as soon as the Senate took up the cutlery schedule, amendments offered by Mr. Simmons Saturday, cutting these rates down, were rejected. That had no sooner been done than Senator Stone offered amendments reducing the duties on razors to the rates of the Dingley bill.

The judiciary committee of the Senate referred the Connor appointment to a sub-committee composed of Borah, of Idaho; Brandegee, of Connecticut, and Overman, of North Carolina. This committee will consider the matter within the next few days.

Senator Dixon, of Montana, says that he is getting a number of letters from North Carolina Republicans protesting against the confirmation of Connor on the ground that his appointment is a political mistake, as they see it.

James T. Williams, Jr., who was appointed civil service commissioner by President Taft, has tendered his resignation and will go to New Mexico for his health. He has discovered within the last week that he has tuberculosis. This comes as a severe blow to Mr. Williams and his friends. Although he is under 30 years of age he has made an enviable record here.

After several hours spent in the Senate Wednesday in discussing the window glass schedule of the tariff bill, Senator Aldrich asked that that paragraph be passed over. Some other sections relating to glass manufactured articles, that previously had been passed over, were agreed to. The Senate proceeded to the consideration of passed over sections until the iron ore paragraph was reached, when Senator Crawford spoke at length upon the lack of wisdom of any tariff that encouraged the exhaustion of natural resources, which could not readily be reproduced. He insisted that there should be no tariff on iron ore, oil, lumber and coal.

Early in the session, Senator Paynter spoke at length in favor of the removal of the duty of six cents a pound upon leaf tobacco as a means for freeing the tobacco growers from the control of the tobacco trust.

Senator Simmons offered an amendment to the window glass schedule of the tariff bill, reducing the rates below those suggested by Senator Cummins in his amendment to the same paragraph Tuesday.

"The rates proposed by you are the rates of the Wilson bill, are they not?" inquired Mr. Aldrich, addressing the Senator from North Carolina. "Well," replied Mr. Simmons, smiling and hesitating, "that should not be an argument against them. I think if that is the case it would rather be a commendation."

Substantial progress was made in the consideration of the tariff Tuesday, the amendments of the committee on finance being upheld by the Senate by substantial majorities.

A feature of the day's session was a general discussion concerning the great disparity between wholesale and retail prices of commodities. Republican Senators declared that this difference was so great as to demonstrate that the duty levied by a protective tariff had small effect on the price paid by the consumer.

On motion of Mr. Aldrich the section relating to soap was amended so as to place a duty of 50 per cent ad valorem on perfumed soap. The House provision on sulphur was further amended so as to place crude sulphur on the free list and to provide for a duty of \$4 a ton on refined sulphur.

Speaking in favor of a reduction of the duties on stone and earthenware as a means of giving the people generally cheaper goods of that kind, Mr. Bacon offered an amendment reducing the rate from 60 to 35 per cent ad valorem.

Mr. Bacon's amendment was defeated by a vote of 25 to 54, Senator LaFollette being the only Republican who voted in the affirmative with the Democrats.

Almost the entire session of the Senate Friday was given up to a debate on the profits of the United States Steel Corporation and toward the end of the day, personalities were freely indulged in by Senators. This occurred after Senator Root had spoken in defense of the finance committee and in criticism of Senators who had complained of the failure of that committee to provide more ample information concerning various schedules. Mr. Money resented what he characterized as a lecture to the Senate, by Senator Root, and said if he desired less speaking in the body "he should do less of it himself."

MAINE REMEMBERED

Will Erect Monument to Sailors Who Went Down With Her

SIGSBEE DESCRIBES DISASTER

Admiral Who Was in Command of the Ill-Fated Battleship at the Time of Its Destruction Delivers Illustrated Lecture For the Benefit of the Maine Memorial Association.

Washington, Special.—For the benefit of the recently organized Maine Memorial Association, whose purpose is to erect in the national capital a suitable monument to the American sailors who met their death in the sinking of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor on February 15, 1898, Rear Admiral Charles D. Sigsbee, who was in command of the fated vessel at the time of her destruction, Saturday gave by request an illustrated lecture here before a large audience, describing the disaster.

"In many ways it is made obvious that public sentiment regarding the Maine has continued beyond ordinary bounds," said Admiral Sigsbee. "Many disasters have occurred before and since, yet none in recent times has held public interest like that of the Maine. Her destruction was a turning point in our own history and in the history of Spain—a turning point for the better in both cases, let us hope. "The mission of the Maine was entirely friendly," he explained. "It had no further import than to reassure our citizens in Cuba and to protect them and give them assistance in case of necessity."

Admiral Sigsbee narrated in detail the events succeeding the Maine's departure from Key West for Havana on January 23, 1898. Arriving at Havana, the Maine was taken by the pilot to one of the buoys commonly reserved for war vessels. "It was widely supposed in the United States that the Maine was afterward shifted by the Spanish authorities to another buoy, but this was an error," he said. He also denied that the Maine entered Havana harbor militantly.

Continuing, Admiral Sigsbee said it was important that he should know that state of popular feeling in Havana regarding the Maine and apparently the best way to learn this was to attend a bull fight. "I have been made anathema for this by certain pious people. Bull fights were given only on Sunday but my object was not pleasure. It has been decided that my ship's company was doomed because of attendance at the bull fight on Sunday, yet none who went to the bull fight were injured in the loss of the Maine."

Admiral Sigsbee graphically described the scene on the Maine on the night of the explosion. To bear out the contention of the court of inquiry that the Maine was sunk by a submarine mine, he called attention to the parallel in the destruction by contact with a mine of the Russian battleship Petropavlovsk during the Russo-Japanese war.

Regarding the policy of raising the Maine I have nothing to say," he said. "It might be better to ask 'why is not the Maine removed?' He predicted that she probably would be blown up in detail as the only practical solution of the problem.

Seaboard Loses by Fire.

Portsmouth, Va., Special.—Fire of unknown origin, accompanied by an explosion, destroyed the general warehouse of the Seaboard Air Line Railway at the railroad terminals here early Sunday entailing a loss of from \$100,000 to \$150,000, and resulting in the injury of four men, one being seriously hurt. The injured are: Fireman Walter Bissett, Night Yardmaster Matheson, Tom Sellers, colored, unknown white man.

Sultan's Women Driven From Palace.

Constantinople, By Cable.—Eighty women from Abdul Hamid's harem, richly dressed and veiled, were driven in carriages Sunday under the escort of four eunuchs and a troop of cavalry from the Yildiz to the ancient Seraglio palace, which has been unoccupied since about 1824. Curious bystanders were driven away from the exit of the Yildiz palace by a guard of soldiers.

The Confederate Reunion.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—Announcement is made by the general executive committee that all will be in readiness for the Confederate reunion, which will meet in Memphis on June 8, 9 and 10 and all indications point to one of the most successful gatherings in the history of the organization. All Confederate veterans, who desire free accommodations, will be cared for in a general manner. The general committee makes announcement that food, lodging and medical attendance will be provided for each and every old soldier, who shall make his wants known.