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THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP SOUTH

Greeted by Enthusiastic Thousands at Petersburg and Charlotte

Charlotte, N. C., Special.—Welcome royally as the head of a united nation with all the honors which a patriotic and public-spirited people could bestow, and responding in a kindred spirit which inspired him to pledge his power to the obliteration of all sectional differences, the Hon. William Howard Taft, President of the United States of America, was for twelve hours Thursday the welcome guest of Charlotte and North Carolina. Culminated then the celebration in honor of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence with which all the drenching power of a Gulf coast rain-storm could but partially interfere. Never in the history of the City of Charlotte has there previously occurred such a day, marked by such a contest between the powers of men and those of nature, a contest which had a drawn battle as its final issue, with the honors, all things considered, well earned by the plucky celebrants.

Beginning hours before dawn, the rain, which was predicted set in with unrelenting violence, continued until a few minutes before the arrival of the president's train at 10 o'clock, ceased for more than two entire hours, only to descend again a veritable cloud-burst just as the rear of the mammoth parade had reached Independence Square, two blocks from the stand where stood America's Chief Executive in review. Its interference with the occasion on which it had in such unwelcome fashion intruded, forced the change of the place for the Presidential address from the open air reviewing stand to the Auditorium and the calling off of the military drills and the baseball game in the afternoon.

Unquestionably it deterred untold thousands from leaving their homes in other towns, and yet special after special rolled in in early morning crowded from front to rear with visitors who knew that whatever happened Charlotte would make good. And she did, so far as lay in human power, in the face of a twelve hours' rainfall three times the amount of that for the month's preceding 10 days.

The line from the Selwyn to the depot was filled with the hosts almost every one of whom saw President Taft in his open carriage. The Confederate and Federal veterans escorted the President from the Selwyn to the grand stand, where he was seated with Mrs. Stonewall Jackson on the right, and Governor Kitchin on the left. The parade was a pageant of beauty and suggestiveness as well as an industrial and trade exhibit. It was completed when the torrents of rain broke all into confusion. In spite of the adverse circumstances this was a day of glory for Mecklenburg and the Old North State.

The President's speech in the Auditorium was a measure of the breadth of the statesmanship of this great

man. The following is a quotation referring to the nomination of Judge Connor:

"The Federal judiciary should be as much appreciated in the South as in the North, and if I have an opportunity to make any appointments in the South it will continue to be my chief duty to make such appointments as shall appeal to all the people whether they be Republicans or Democrats, and I urge all citizens to accept the appointments made, as men, if they are men, who will carry on their high duties with a single eye to the administration of justice, to accept them and congratulate the people on their appointment, and not to make use of them for any partisan appeal."

Virginia Honors the President.

Petersburg, Va., Special.—President Taft's visit Wednesday to this battle-scarred Virginia city has been a notable success from the viewpoint of the distinguished guest and of the hospitable people who were his hosts. The President has seen at close range all sorts and conditions of Virginians, for Petersburg seemed to be the center to which the counties of Southern Virginia had sent the bulk of their population, there being, it was estimated, 25,000 visitors here in the course of the day. The streets were jammed from noon until late evening.

The "oldest inhabitant" even is at a loss to remember when Petersburg has been as crowded as it was Wednesday. It was a good-natured, easily handled crowd and, while it was at no time effusive in its demonstration, it gave the President a very friendly reception and lifted hats to him and cheered him as he rode in the parade through its streets.

At Fort Mahone, where the beautiful monument erected to commemorate the heroism of Gen. John F. Hartranft and the Pennsylvania soldiers of the Third Division of the Ninth Army Corps was unveiled, the President made a tactful and impressive address. The environment was inspiring and, although he read his speech from manuscript, he evidently felt the spell of his surroundings.

Mr. Taft vied with the Governor of Pennsylvania and Major Isaac S. Brown, president of the Pennsylvania Battlefield Commission, in paying tribute to the valor of the Confederate soldier and in recognizing that the men who wore the gray had proved themselves, equally with the men who wore the blue, exemplars in the highest degree of American intrepidity in battle and American devotion to principle.

This sentiment evoked an immediate and hearty response from the hundreds of Pennsylvania veterans and also from the gray-clad members of A. P. Hill Camp, of the Confederate Veterans, who were massed in front of the platform from which Mr. Taft made his speech.

H. H. ROGERS, THE GREAT FINANCIER, DEAD

New York, Special.—Henry H. Rogers, sixty-nine years of age, vice-president of the Standard Oil Company, moving spirit in the organization of the Amalgamated Copper Company, builder of railroads, and philanthropist, died at his home here at 7:20 o'clock Wednesday morning from a stroke of apoplexy.

Death came about an hour after Mr. Rogers had risen for the day, mentioning to his wife that he was feeling ill. At 7 o'clock he lapsed into unconsciousness, and before the family physician arrived, he was dead. Mrs. Rogers, three married

daughters, a son, H. H. Rogers, Jr., and Dr. W. J. Pulley, a physician who was hastily summoned, were at the bedside when the end came.

His fortune is variously estimated at from \$50,000,000 to \$75,000,000, which will make his son, H. H. Rogers, Jr., one of the richest men in the country. Mr. Rogers' first wife died fourteen years ago, and he is survived, in addition to his second wife, by four children, the son mentioned and the following daughters: Mrs. W. E. Benjamin, Mrs. Urban H. Broughton and Mrs. William R. Coe.

PRESIDENT TAFT ENJOYS HIS TRIP TO THE SOUTH

Washington, Special.—President Taft, returning from Charlotte, N. C., reached Washington at 10:40 a. m. Friday. The President found Mrs. Taft much improved in health. The President recently was chosen as a trustee of the Hampton Institute, at Hampton, Va., and had accepted an invitation to speak there on Sunday

afternoon. He stated on the train, however, that unless Mrs. Taft was able to make the trip with him, he would postpone his visit to the Virginia institution. On account of the bad weather, the President decided, after reaching the White House, that it would not be wise to undertake the trip at this time and he telegraphed, cancelling the engagement.

LAKE MONHOK ARBITRATION CONFERENCE ENDS

Mohonk Lake, N. Y., Special.—With an imposing array of speakers, the fifth annual meeting of the Lake Mohonk conference on international arbitration concluded its deliberations Friday night. The speakers included the Right Hon. James Bryce, the British ambassador; Alfred Mosely, London; Representative Richard Bartholdt, of Missouri; Edward J. Wheeler, of Ohio; William D. Taft, of Ohio; and Mr. Richard Wilson Gilder.

Mr. Mosely, a member of the House of Commons, took up the causes which led to the present feeling between England and Germany, beginning with the now famous interview of the German Emperor.

"I believe," he said, "that the German Emperor means well for his own country and the world at large, but these utterances caused suspicion and have given rise to discussion in the House of Commons resulting in the increased in the navy."

Now it is proposed by some that Mr. Taft take the initiative in saying something to England and Germany. But I am not at all sure that Mr. Taft would care to undertake that task. If he does, may I suggest that he turn his attention to Germany?"

HELD IN CONTEMPT

Hamilton County Officers Accused of Conspiracy.

RESULT OF A NEGRO LYNCHING

United States Supreme Court Will Pass Sentence on Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff and Four Citizens of Hamilton County, Tennessee on Next Tuesday, These Men Having Been Found Guilty of Contempt of Court in Combining to Lynch a Negro.

Washington, Special.—For the first time in so serious a case, the Supreme Court of the United States will, on next Tuesday week, undertake to mete out punishment for the crime of contempt of the court itself, and the importance of the occasion will be enhanced by the number of the defendants.

The proceedings will take place in connection with the cases of Sheriff Shipp and Deputy Sheriff Gibson, of Hamilton county, Tennessee, and four other residents of that county, named respectively, Williams, Nolan, Padgett and May. These men were Monday declared by the court to be guilty of an act of contempt, in combining in March, 1905, in a conspiracy to lynch a negro, Ed Johnson, who had been sentenced to death by the local courts on the charge of rape, and in whose case the Supreme Court had interfered to the extent of granting an appeal, which had the effect of a supersedeas. On the night following the announcement of the court's action, Johnson was taken out of the jail in Chattanooga by a mob and lynched. There was no resistance on the part of the jail authorities and Shipp and a number of his deputies, as well as about 20 citizens, were proceeded against on the charge of contempt of the Federal Court.

The case is regarded as of exceptional interest, because it is practically the first time that this, the highest court in the United States, has ever undertaken to assert its dignity or to resent acts or words reflecting upon it. In one previous case some years ago, a defendant was fined for some expression of contempt, but the case was so comparatively insignificant as to practically leave the present proceedings standing alone.

In the cases of Sheriff Shipp and Deputy Gibson, the court, in effect, declares there may be contempt in a failure of officers of the law to prevent a crime in contempt of the court, and in taking cognizance of an offense at so great a distance, the court, for the first time, asserts by action its right to compel the proper respect for, and treatment of, its verdicts in all parts of the Union.

Georgia Railroad Tied Tight.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Governor Smith Monday proposed arbitration by a commission of Georgians and the firemen accepted, but the railroad did not. The danger that the strike, if prolonged, may spread to other railroads has become serious, when Vice President Ball, of the firemen's organization, said that the diversion of the Georgia Railroad's freight business to other roads will cause the firemen of those roads to vote on whether or not they will accept diverted freight. It was reported here that about 100 cars of Georgia Railroad freight had been diverted over other lines. Mails and passengers, usually carried by the Georgia, went by other roads, and in a few instances automobiles were resorted to. Preparations are under way by post-office authorities to establish an automobile mail service between Union Point and Athens, Ga.

Conflicting reports as to why no trains ran Monday were spread here. Several of the Georgia Railroad engineers were reported by the strikers to be willing to take their trains out in the daytime, although refusing at night because of the hazard of being stoned after dark. The strikers claimed that the railroad officials, in failing to provide strike-breaking firemen for these engineers, were trying to put the situation in a worse light than it warrants. The officials, however, said that it was both impossible and dangerous to run trains.

No further acts of violence were reported here Monday.

Commissioner of Labor Neill left Washington City Monday night for Atlanta, appeals having been made to the Federal board of mediation to settle the strike of firemen on the Georgia Railroad. Dr. Neill and Chairman Martin A. Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, held a conference Monday relative to the strike.

GEORGIA ROAD TIED UP.

General Manager Scott Makes the Announcement That "No Trains Are Moving"—The Governor Instructs Authorities to Take All Steps Necessary to Protect Life and Property.

Augusta, Ga., Special.—The Georgia Railroad was completely tied up Sunday night. The management is not trying to move trains, simply announcing that it has the men, the means and the equipment to proceed and will do so when the State announces that it is ready to protect its property and employes. The strikers are standing pat. They assert that they have not been and will not, parties to any violence. Sympathizers with the strikers, it is set out, have done all the hurt that has been done.

General Manager Thomas K. Scott, at 6 p. m., made the announcement that "no trains are moving." Governor Hoke Smith wired the sheriff of McDuffie county to co-operate with the municipal authorities and to summon all deputies necessary to protect life and property. It is in this country that Thomson is located and it is at Thomson that the crowd issued their ultimatum Saturday night that no trains should pass carrying either non-union firemen or negro firemen. Governor Smith has also asked the sheriff there to keep him fully advised of the situation. The Governor has also wired the sheriffs of Rockdale and Dekalb counties, giving them information that engineers claim to have been rocked at Conyers and Lithonia and urging upon them prompt action for the protection of the railroads and property.

From the offices of the Georgia Railroad here Sunday night it was announced that all freight accumulated at Atlanta for Augusta and points beyond would be moved that night by the Central and Seaboard. The Georgia road freight station here was opened Monday for delivery of freight to consignees, but shippers are requested to withhold all shipments until further notice. After thus admitting how complete is the tie-up of the road says:

"The Georgia road is omitting nothing that offers promise of early resumption."

Williams on Dixie.

Natchez, Miss., Special.—The big formal event of the stay of the battleship Mississippi at Natchez was the banquet Saturday night to the officers of the vessel. Governor Noel was present and spoke on "Mississippi, a loyal member of the istherhood of State, a leader in moral and material progress."

The feature of the stay was the speech of John Sharp Williams Saturday afternoon at the presentation of a magnificent beaten silver punch bowl to the battleship by the City of Natchez. The bowl was made for exhibition at the Jamestown Exposition. Mr. Williams said:

"As a complete and crowning testimonial of the sincerity and fervor of this welcome, Captain, you will soon, at Horn Island, receive as the gift of the State herself, a silver service with the noble lineaments engraved upon it of the steadfast chieftain of a storm-crashed Confederacy, which has passed, not unworthily into history. As a partial testimonial, I have the honor now to present these pieces of silver. Let them remind you, in distant seas, not only of the duty hereafter doubly beholden to be well performed, but of the sweet land of Dixie, the fairest part of the whole earth. When you meet an enemy's ship, and I hope you may never have to meet one, sink her and then quaff from these cups a toast to victory—victoria Americana—but if she sinks you, as she has chanced to many a brave ship, well handled, then for the honor of the sweet women of Natchez, let these modest pieces of silver go down with the ship, and not become enemy's booty to shame their name."

Runaway Horse Kills Young Lady.

Augusta, Ky., Special.—Effie Townsley, the 16-year-old daughter of Samuel Townsley, of Johnsonville, Braken county, was Saturday found dead on the road near her home. She had been riding a spirited horse which became frightened and ran away with her, throwing her off, dragging her over the rough road with her foot caught in the stirrups.

Are Denied Licenses.

Jefferson City, Mo., Special.—The Missouri Supreme Court Saturday sustained the State law, which denies licenses to insurance companies, which pay any of their officers salaries in excess of \$50,000. The decision was on an application from three large eastern companies for a writ of mandamus to compel the State Insurance Department to issue licenses to them. The writ was denied to the petitioners—the Equitable Life Assurance Society, of Prudential Insurance Company and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

NORTH STATE NEWS NOTES

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

For a "State Forest."
Raleigh, Special.—Governor Kitchin, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 89, Laws of 1909, has issued a proclamation making for thirty years a "State Forest of North Carolina" of all land belonging to George W. Vanderbilt lying above contour line 2,000 feet and situated in the counties of Buncombe, Transylvania, Jackson and Haywood, totaling 111,545 acres, providing all the necessary provisions of the law are carried out. As a half cent an acre is to be paid to the school fund annually, this will give \$557.73 to the schools of the counties named.

The property to be made into a "State Forest of North Carolina" is situated above 2,000 feet elevation and consists of the following number of acres: Transylvania county, 25,308 acres in Brevard township, 18,510 acres in Gloucester township, Henderson county, 10,754 acres in Mills River township; Haywood county, 1,010 acres in East Fork township, Buncombe county, 8,800 acres in Avery Creek township, 4,300 acres in Biltmore township, 5,000 acres in Limestone township, 6,300 acres in Upper Hominy township, and 3,500 acres in Lower Hominy township.

The act under which the proclamation is made is to render secure from damages and notably secure from damages by fires such woodlands in North Carolina as are situated above the contour line of 2,000 feet. These lands so situated are held to be too cold and too humid for successful agriculture, their value being in wood and timber. The lands thus set aside are to be advertised in three consecutive issues of papers in the counties in which they are situated at the expense of the land owner and the owner is to pay annually into the school fund of the county a half cent an acre. The Governor is empowered to appoint at his discretion and with the approval of the commissioners of the county in which the land is situated such wardens as may be designated by the owner or owners of the land, who are to pay the wardens who are to arrest without a warrant for crimes committed against real estate and to safeguard the lands against trespass and notably against fire having the power of sheriffs, the minimum fine to be \$50 if the crime is in the jurisdiction of the Superior court, and \$25 if in the jurisdiction of a justice of the peace.

Shows His Appreciation.

Wilson, Special.—The following letter of gratitude was received in this city a few days since from Judge Connor, acknowledging receipt of a copy of the resolutions passed in mass-meeting in Wilson on the night of May 10th in regard to his appointment by President Taft to the judgeship of Eastern North Carolina. In the letter he says:

"I can hardly find words to express to you my grateful appreciation of the continued kindness of my home people. It sometimes seems to me that I overtax them in that respect, but they always so generously respond that it is an inspiration to me. The actions of the citizens of Wilson on this occasion adds another to the many obligations under which I live to them.

"If any honor has come to me during my life, the fact that it has in some degree given pleasure to the people of Wilson county, has enhanced its pleasure to me more than I can express.

"Will you kindly express to the Chamber of Commerce at their next meeting my sense of gratitude for their great kindness?"

Indian Dies From Wound.

Asheville, Special.—Allen Whipporwill, the Indian from the Cherokee reservation, who was shot in the old Hix Souther "soft drink" place on North Lexington avenue a week ago, died Friday morning at five o'clock at the mission hospital from the effect of his injury. Wade Wilson, the young man charged with the responsibility for Whipporwill's hurt and who was released on bond last week upon report that Whipporwill was doing well and would probably recover, was placed in the custody of officers Wednesday afternoon and that night and Thursday night remained locked up in the city jail. An inquest was held Friday afternoon when evidence relative to the fatal shooting was had. Witnesses testified in effect that the Indian was attempting to tomahawk Wilson when the pistol fired, whether as a result of scuffle or by Wilson, was not just plain. The jury returned a verdict exonerating Wilson and he as promptly released from custody.

Durham Burglaries.

Durham, Special.—It is learned now that there have been a large number of burglaries in Durham in the last few weeks and that the police have kept the reports under cover. Tuesday night the home of J. R. Simms, ex-sheriff of Person county, was broken into and the burglar was chased out. Engineer Johnson, of the Seaboard road was called from his bed a few nights ago to run out a burglar who was in the house and trying to get into his wife's bedroom. The home of Policeman Riggsbee was also visited and he met the negro man face to face in the hall. The home of Mrs. Carroll was entered several nights ago and the facts not made public. James Warren, colored, a well-to-do negro who lives on Chapel Hill street, had an unusual experience; he was out rather late and the burglar beat him to the home and locked him out, while he was trying to get in the burglar escaped with several articles of value. For several weeks there has been a veritable carnival of crime on in the burglar line.

Greensboro Female College Closes.

Greensboro, Special.—Wednesday was graduation day at Greensboro Female College and the graduating exercises were held in the college auditorium Thursday at 11 o'clock, there being a large and interested audience in attendance. The day dawned bright and clear, just an ideal May day and ideal commencement weather.

Wants \$5,000 Damages.

Lexington, Special.—J. L. Ludlow, civil engineer, of Winston, has started suit for \$5,000 damages against the town of Lexington, alleging breach of contract. It is asserted that Captain Ludlow, who had charge of the construction of the water works, made a survey of the town with a view of handling possible future paving of the streets, charge of which it is said he was to have. The work was supervised by another engineer, hence the suit. Waiser & Waiser are the local attorneys.

Hydrophobia May Develop.

Rocky Mount, Special.—There is further alarm upon the part of the members of the family of Mr. Burt Joyner, whose twelve-year-old son died Sunday morning from hydrophobia as the result of being bitten in the face by a dog about two months ago. Not even the family physician thought the boy was sick with the horrible malady with which he died on Sunday, and the fact that the dog had bitten the child had been almost forgotten until Thursday night when he began to complain and on Saturday night he was uncontrollable and it was necessary to tie him to the bed, while he died Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The alarm had come to the family in this way, at the supper table on Wednesday the boy masticated several pieces of meat which he gave the baby to eat, and it is feared this child has contracted the malady through the saliva from this food. With the rest of the family there had been no additional precaution with regard to the drinking water from separate vessels, while practically the entire family has caressed the baby. The family is very much alarmed over the matter, and there is just cause why they should be.

New Railroad Completed.

Fayetteville, Special.—The Virginia and Carolina Southern Railroad is now completed from Lumberton to Hope Mills, seven miles below here, there connecting over the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad with Fayetteville. A train over that road entered Hope Mills Wednesday.

At Elon College.

Elon College, Special.—The graduation exercises of the music department of the present year occurred Friday evening in the college chapel. The weather was inclement and had been all day, but that did not prevent the assembling of a large and enthusiastic audience. There are three graduates this year: in voice, Mrs. Estelle Walker Harper (soprano) and Miss Mary Ethel Clements (soprano); and one in piano, Mrs. Donie Rich Patton, Miss Wilson director, presiding at the piano for the voice recitations.