

THE MOVEMENT IS ENDORSED

President Wilson Was Surprised

THINKS SYSTEM GOOD

Should Have Been Adopted Long Ago.

CONVENTION DATE CHANGED

Diocese of Stote, Will Convene May 19 By Order of Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Chesire—Other Items.

Washington, March 23.—Representative Claude Kitchen, of North Carolina, probable successor to Representative Underwood as house elder of the democratic party, today announced his opposition to the president's policy of repealing the exemption clause of the Panama canal act.

In his statement Representative Kitchen argues that the transcontinental railroads are chiefly interested in having tolls levied on American coastwise ships passing through the canal. He says that if the president had not taken his present position to repeal toll the Sims bill would not receive a democratic vote in the senate and not over ten per cent of the democratic support in the house.

When the Panama canal bill was acted upon in the senate, he says, the exemption clause was adopted by a vote of 44 to 11, the majority being made up of 24 democrats and 20 republicans.

An analysis of the opposing vote is interesting, said Representative Kitchen. Root, Penrose, Oliver, Crane, Welmore, Brandegee, Lodge, etc. names at once suggestive of the influence of railroads big business and special privileges, constituted the 11. These men have been condemned by the public generally and especially by the democratic party for years as enemies in the senate of railroads and special interests. They opposed it in the name of national honor but at the same time were serving the interests of the transcontinental railroads, including the Canadian Pacific, whose only competitor for transcontinental business will be the coastwise vessels passing through the canal.

Washington, March 23.—President Wilson did not today express the slightest anxiety about the vote in the house and senate on the proposition to repeal the free toll provision of the Adamson act. He was confident when the Washington correspondents appeared him with suggestions about the vote and other matters.

Suggestions were made to him that there had been hints of improper interest at work for the repeal, but he said he had not been apprised of such and was not looking for anything of the kind. This was merely a difference of opinion among democrats, he said, and he believed all were actuated by patriotic motives.

MRS. JARVIS DEAD.

Died at Her Home of Tuberculosis Sunday Morning.

Mrs. Addie Jarvis, wife of Mr. Joe Jarvis, died at her home on Lyon street early Sunday morning after a lingering illness with tuberculosis. The deceased had been in failing health for months and death was not unexpected by those who knew her well. Mrs. Jarvis was 35 years of age. She leaves surviving a husband and four children.

The funeral services were conducted from the home yesterday afternoon and interment was made at Maplewood.

THEY COME HIGH.

Congress Spent Over One Hundred Thousand on Investigation.

Washington, March 23.—By way of emphasizing the amount of money spent in investigations "more or less useless," John Sharp Williams told the senate today that during the last four years the senate has spent \$163,525 for that purpose. The largest item is the Lorimer case involving \$68,307. Other example investigations were: Titanic disaster \$8,314. Increased cost of living \$8,769; trusts \$12,988; campaign contributions \$5,048; lobby \$19,159.

Will Attend Meeting.

Mrs. E. H. Howard, Mrs. Len Litchford and Mrs. Ernest Parham, of Oxford, spent a part of yesterday in the city. They were en route to Hendersonville to attend a meeting of the woman's missionary union, which is in session there.

MOTOR TRUCK WRECKED.

Truck Heavily Loaded With Humans, Collided With Duke Statue.

Williamson Menefee, demonstrator for the White Motor Car company of Greensboro, drove truck No. 2680, loaded with college boys and downtown fellows, said to include several Jersey City ball players, into the Washington Duke monument on Trinity campus last night a few minutes past 9 o'clock, and tore the fore wheels and axle from the truck. No one was seriously injured but many received bruises and small cuts. At least fifty young men were on the truck, and their escape was miraculous, considering the high rate of speed the truck was traveling at.

Menefee said to have got out his truck yesterday evening and invited a new acquaintance to join him in a joy ride. The party of ten or twelve remained down town a short while and then drove to the college campus. Driving around the race track a couple of times they called out the students, promising to take them for a joy ride and return them. After loading about thirty-five boys on the truck they circled the old race track again and started for town. In passing the flag pole a collision was luckily avoided but they had gone less than a hundred yards before the truck collided with the Duke monument, tearing the front axle and wheels off and otherwise damaging the truck.

SHOTS WERE EXCHANGED

Between United States Troops and Mexican Federals.

Del Rio, Texas, March 23.—Shots were exchanged between United States troops and Mexican federals near McGehee Crossing Sunday afternoon. One United States cavalryman was wounded. The casualties on the Mexican side have not been learned definitely, although it has been reported that several were killed and wounded.

The American troopers involved in the fray were a detachment of Troop E, Fourteenth cavalry. The officer in charge of the detachment has refused to make any statement regarding the affair except that he has made an official report to General Bliss commander of the department at Fort Houston.

Mexico City, March 23.—On his arrival today from Vera Cruz, Mr. O'Shaughnessy denied the report that he has resigned or intends to resign. He said that the report grew out of a remark that he has made occasionally in talking with intimate friends. "I'm tired and almost feel like resigning some time." This never has been said seriously or with an intention of being taken seriously. Undoubtedly Mr. O'Shaughnessy finds his position extremely irksome, but he says he will stick to his post.

Rear Admiral Fletcher, who is here incognito with Mrs. Fletcher and his daughter, had a long talk with Mr. O'Shaughnessy at the embassy this afternoon.

THE COLONEL SAFE.

Equipment and Food Lost in Capsizing of Canoes.

Sanciam, Brazil, March 23.—The following dispatch from Anthony Flala, the explorer, contradicts the reports printed early today that Colonel Roosevelt's expedition met with a serious accident:

"I have received a wire from Colonel Roosevelt from Bonifacio, Macao to Gresso province, reporting all in good health. He has been exploring the Duvida river and expects to reach Manaus early in April.

"I left Roosevelt as part of the expedition planned for the exploration of the Gagalo river with eleven men in three canoes. Early in the trip two of the canoes sunk with all our equipment and food in the rapids of the Devil.

"I expect to meet Roosevelt at Manaus tomorrow.

(Signed) "Flala."
New York, March 23.—Colonel Roosevelt is safe according to the above dispatch from Flala, who was his companion on the South American trip and was not with the party a division of forces having been agreed upon. It also appears that none of the scientific data and specimens selected have been lost, Mr. Flala mentioning only equipment and food.

SERVICES WILL CONTINUE.

Great Crowds Are Attending the Revival at West Durham.

The revival services that have been under way at the West Durham Methodist church for the past ten days, will continue several days longer, due to the very great interest that is being shown in the meetings. The pastor, Rev. J. A. Dally, is doing the preaching and is accomplishing a great deal of good. Many conversions have been made and the crowds attending have taxed the capacity of the church. The services will continue indefinitely.

A meeting is held each evening at 7 o'clock for men in the Sunday school room. The regular services begin at 7:30 in the main auditorium of the church and everyone is given an earnest invitation to attend.

Durham Suffered a Million Dollar Fire

Broke Out in Second Floor of the Duke Building at 10.30 O'clock and Burned a Dozen Business Houses in Four Hours. A Burst Water Main Let the Fire Get Completely Out of Control of Fire Companies

Biggest in History of the City

A fire, which broke out in the second story of the Duke building at 10:30 last night, raged till 4:30 this morning, and did damage that a conservative estimate places at a million dollars, making the conflagration by far the most costly that has ever come to the city in its history.

The Duke building is gutted and all that is left of this handsome building are the walls, and a mass of knarled and twisted steel piled in the smoking tons of debris. The Geer block of buildings up to Blackhall's corner suffered a like fate and the T. M. Stephens company on Parrish street is also a total and complete loss. East of the Duke building on Main street the stores occupied by Rawls, the Durham Book and Stationery company, and the Markham-Harris company, are as completely gutted and just as much a total loss as are the other buildings in this block.

DAMAGES.
In addition to these buildings which are total losses, the stock of the Royal and Borden company, Sutner-Wheeler, Fletcher company, Christian and Harward, Perry Grocery company, J. F. Williams, the Big Ax Tailors, the negro barber shop, the Chatham Furniture company and the fixtures of the Mental and Provident insurance company, the Merchants and Mechanics bank, the Durham Reformer, and of other stores in the near vicinity of the fire were damaged to the amount of many thousand dollars.

The business houses suffering a complete loss to stock as well as buildings are the Durham Book and Stationery company, damage \$30,000; Rawls department store, damage \$40,000; Woolworth, damage \$20,000; Markham-Harris company, damage \$15,000; Pritchard Bright company, damage \$25,000; Lloyd, damage \$50,000; Herring and Elliott, damage \$20,000; Holland Brothers, damage \$20,000; Blackhall's, damage \$15,000; Bellamy, damage \$10,000; T. M. Stephens, damage \$10,000; Carlton-Hackney, damage \$5,000.

These estimates, of course, are not absolutely correct nor do they include the damage to office furniture and fixtures in the buildings that were gutted by the flames. Neither does it include the estimates of those stores which were damaged by water and fire, but not completely destroyed.

The damage to buildings estimated last night after the fire, was as follows: Duke building, \$125,000; book store, \$25,000; Rawls, \$35,000; Pritchard Bright, \$15,000; The Geer block, \$60,000.

NO PRESSURE.
The cause of the fire is not known. Rev. S. S. Boat was on the corner of Mangum and Parrish streets about 10:30, and was one of the first to discover the fire. He rushed to the fire station, nearby, and notified the firemen. Then he rushed to a box and pulled the alarm. A few minutes after the connections had been made with the hydrants, a water main burst on South Mangum street, and before another connection could be made, the fire, which started near the elevator shaft in the storage room of the Woolworth store, leaped to the fifth floor. Pressure in sufficient quantity to do any good was not received till the flames were belching from every window on every floor of the Duke building.

STUCK TO JOBS.
The firemen stuck to their positions in the windows of the second floor of the Duke building while the heat was at showers of glass down on them from the scores of windows above, but they were powerless to do anything to check the rapid progress of the fire, and when they did get the water, it was the most useless kind of a fight. They never did have a chance after that break in the water main to stop the flames before they had gutted the office building.

THE FLAMES SPREAD.
A rather stiff breeze was blowing in a northwesterly direction, and when the roof of the Duke building caught fire, sparks and burning debris fell to the top of the other buildings west of the office building.

Rawls was one of the first to catch, and then the flames went to the Durham Book and Stationery company. The firemen ceased their efforts to stop the fire in the Duke building, and piled many streams of water on these two stores from both Main and Parrish streets.

The company were in the vaults of the other building, and consequently were undisturbed by the fire.

UNDER CONTROL.
At sunrise this morning the three taps, signifying that the fire is under control, had not been turned in, but at 3 o'clock the firemen had gained such control of the fire that those who were on the streets, and a few were not, had hopes that the course of the biggest fire in the history of Durham had been checked. At 5 o'clock the police officers on duty asked that the militia be called on duty to help in guarding the goods that had been taken out of the stores. The buildings which were last to catch fire got a good part of their stock out. The whole of the postoffice has been turned into a store house for property. The back lawn of the postoffice building is filled with some of the stock of the Perry Grocery company. Back of all of the stores on the south side of Main street is filled with goods that were carried out of the buildings when the fire was raging the fiercest on Main street, and there was danger of its crossing the street and getting onto another block.

It was impossible for the police officers to take care of the goods in the streets, and for this reason a call was made for the military.

THE HEAT INTENSE.
The heat from the burning buildings was so great that the place glass in the buildings on the south side of main street were blistered and fell from their casements with great crashes. Some of the show windows are completely out and all are cracked. It was impossible to walk down the street when the fire was raging fiercest.

Late this morning, when the walls of some of the Geer buildings began falling, a line was stretched across the Gangum and Corcoran block and pedestrians were not allowed to pass back and forth.

POWDER IN LLOYD'S.
For a time it was feared that there would be serious damage to life because of powder in Lloyd's hardware store. Soon after the fire was covered, however, men were set to work to remove the explosives, and just before the fire broke out in this store all of the powder was removed. Some of the cartridges, however, were left and this morning an occasional muffled report can be heard, when some of these pistol balls shoot, and send a little stream of dust into the air.

A DARK TOWN.
Soon after the fire started Chief Christian ordered that the feed wires from the power plant of the Durham Traction company to the Main street circuit of lights be cut off because the firemen were having to send their streams of water up through these mats of wires and it was feared they would break and in falling to the wet pavement cause an electrocution.

Consequently soon after the fire showed signs of being a conflagration Main street was dark, with the exception of the illumination from a few gas lamps and from the fire. All of the buildings on that circuit were cut, including the plant of the Morning Herald. At 6 o'clock this morning the wires were connected, and the wheels in the composing room were set going after six hours idleness.

OTHER WIRES DOWN.
All of the telephone cables on Main street were burned and consequently many of the telephones of the city are out of commission this morning. The telegraph wires of the Postal Telegraph and all night Operator Johnson was on the job handling news of the fire to every part of the nation. The Associated press correspondent of this city was instructed to send full reports and from many of the other big papers came inquiries about the fire as soon as the first bulletins of the Associated press were sent out.

MANY RUMORS AFLOAT.
As is the case with every event of this magnitude hundreds of rumors were floating about the streets last night of things that had happened. A number of people had heard that the Raleigh and Greensboro fire departments had been called for, but that while the building and some of the books were destroyed, all of the valuable documents and papers of

RETAIL CASES CONTINUED.

Several interesting Cases Were Tried Yesterday Morning.

Thirteen cases were on the docket for trial in recorder's court yesterday morning and the majority of them were disposed of. Several were continued until a future date by request. A number of the cases on docket were interesting and some time was needed to hear all the evidence.

Tom Browning and Fred Rountree, the former white, and the last named colored, were up for engaging in an affray in which deadly weapons were used. The fight occurred at the home of Maud Bane, a negro woman, on Pleasant's alley. Both men had been badly hurt. Browning's head was covered with bloody bandages and the negro having a closed eye, Browning was fined \$20 and the cost and the negro was discharged.

Two cases for retailing against William Almond and a similar case against Dana Washington, were continued until this morning.

W. R. Morris was fined \$3 and the cost for an assault and battery. The wife of the defendant appeared as the principal witness, and asked that her husband be placed under a \$5000 bond.

The case against L. R. Brooks for retailing was continued until this morning by request of the defendant. Four unfortunates were in court for being drunk. One of this number was charged with a Sunday drunk, which means twice the fine of an ordinary one. Three of the men were given a half remittance of their fine, while in the other case prayer for judgment was continued until this morning.

Albert Galley was fined \$2 and cost for an assault and battery.

BEHIND WITH WORK.

Bad Weather Has Retarded Farm Work in Harnett.

Duke, March 23.—The farmers through this section of Harnett claim that they are much behind with their work for the time of the year, and say that the snow which fell Saturday night and Sunday will delay their work still another full week. Some plowing and stalk cutting has been done, but not near so much as was done at this time last year. The Erwin Cotton Mills company have greatly improved their fields by removing the stumps, during the winter they have been busy blowing the stumps with dynamite and for a large part of the time have had an expert here from the factory.

Mr. J. C. Yarborough, of Melver, N. C., spent a short while with his son, Mr. E. S. Yarborough last week.

Mrs. E. L. Hassell, who has been north for the past two weeks buying his spring and summer line of merchandise for the Hassell-Johnson company, returned Saturday.

The Erwin Cotton Mills company are making preparations for increasing the pleasures of the park for the coming summer. They are counting on adding jogging boards, saw-boards and many more swing. A new organ has been bought for the hobby-horses and they will run just as soon as the weather permits. Preparations are being made for the park opening, which will be some time soon, as yet the day has not been set.

MRS. S. W. JONES.

Died at Her Home on Alston Avenue Sunday Morning.

Mrs. S. W. Jones, of Alston avenue, died at her home Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Mrs. Jones was 39 years of age. While a comparatively young woman Mrs. Jones had been ill for the past five years with a complication of medical attention. She was an inmate of the old Watts hospital and when the institution was moved to new quarters she was an inmate there also. Death was not unexpected by the many friends and relatives of the deceased. Mrs. Jones was the daughter of Mr. Charlie Scott, a Cary merchant. She leaves a husband and one son.

The remains were carried to Cary yesterday morning at 11:37 on Southern train No. 44. Interment was at the family burying grounds near Cary.

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Mrs. Beadie Crawford, of Duke, who has been visiting here, left yesterday afternoon for Charlotte to spend several days.

MR. KITCHEN GAVE REASON

Opposes Repeal of Canal Tax

PRESIDENT HAD REASON

Sams Bill Would Not Have Been Supported

ANALYSIS IS INTERESTING

The President Did Not Appear Anxious Concerning the Vote in the House and Re-sult.

Raleigh, March 23.—Editor Clarence Poe, of the Progressive Farmer, received today as a member of the special committee heading the movement for the proposed convention of progressive democrats, from President Woodrow Wilson in which the president heartily endorses the movement of the progressives for a state-wide primary system in this state and declares that he is surprised that so progressive a state as North Carolina has not already adopted a system of such capital importance to the people. He says he is sure that it will cheer democrats every where to see this step taken by North Carolina. The letter from President Wilson follows:

"My Dear Mr. Poe: I notice with great deal of interest the movement inaugurated by yourself and others to secure a law for state-wide primaries in North Carolina. I must admit that I was very much surprised to learn that so great and progressive a state as North Carolina was so far behind the procession in a matter of such capital importance to the people. May I express my deep interest in your efforts to bring about the necessary legislation? I am sure it would cheer democrats everywhere to see this done by North Carolina."

Along with the making public of the letter from President Wilson came the announcement of the names of about one hundred signers of the impending call for the progressive convention. The array prominent democrats in various parts of the state and are stated to be only a partial list of those who have signed. Also there is the note that no congressmen, senators or elective state officers have been asked to sign the call for the convention.

The date for the annual convention of the diocese of North Carolina (Episcopal) has been changed by order of Rt. Rev. Joseph Blount Chesire, bishop of the diocese from May 12 to May 19, so as to avoid conflict with the convention of the North Carolina State Bankers' association that is scheduled to assemble in Raleigh on May 12. The Episcopal convention is to meet with the Church of the Good Shepherd here and that parish is bending every effort now to the completion of the splendid new church in which the convention is to meet. The fine new organ is to be installed by May 8 and the pews are expected to arrive any day now. The lighting system is installed and the windows and doors are being installed and the general finishing touches given the edifice, which is to represent an outlay of over \$50,000 when completed.

This afternoon there was conducted from the First Presbyterian church the funeral services for the remains of the late Capt. J. M. Turner, whose sudden death at Maxton Saturday night so shocked the people of the state. The remains were committed to the receiving vault in Oakwood cemetery to await definite decision as to whether the interment shall be here or at Danville, a. Captain Turner's old home.

Mrs. Turner is still prostrated by the shock from the sudden death of her husband.

The state department of insurance today received application from the Hamburg Insurance company, of Hamburg, Germany for license to do business in this state in an insuring capacity. The license will be issued.

Hon. James R. Young, state commissioner of insurance, is receiving letters from several sections of the state indicating that various counties are inaugurating movements to abolish lying in state and local associations along the line of those proposed by Mr. Young. Cumberland county leaders have asked Mr. Young to prepare for him tentative constitution and by-laws.

Mrs. J. E. Whittier returned to the city yesterday afternoon from Roanoke Rapids where she visited.

(Continued on Page Five.)