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AUSPICIOUS EVENT AT GASTONIA ON LAST TUESDAY

Celebrating Birthday Of Col. Thomas L. Craig.

IS FIFTY YEARS OLD

Guests Present From All Parts Of The Old North State.

The following article taken from the Charlotte News of February 25, will be of especial interest in New Bern where Col. and Mrs. Thomas Lee Craig, of Gastonia, have a host of friends:

"The beautiful home of Col. and Mrs. Thomas L. Craig, of Gastonia, was thrown open last night in celebration of the 50th birthday of Colonel Craig, Mrs. Craig giving one of the most notably elegant receptions ever known in North Carolina. Master and mistress of one of the most beautiful and elegant homes in the state, Mr. and Mrs. Craig, last night extended hospitality that was royal. From the state's remotest bounds came guests in response to Mrs. Craig's cards, the reception personnel being one of the most representative and brilliant ever gathered in the state.

The house was a brilliant scene, the richness of furnishings, the beauty of flora, the bewitching beauty of lovely gowns, the general charm of an atmosphere of charm, made the occasion epochal in the social life of the State.

The occasion marking a half century event—a birthday, in this instance—a golden thread ran through the planning of the details.

Mrs. Craig, whose originality and artistic taste is known to all, found rich resource in her own treasure house of knowledge for expressions worthy of "the man of the hour," his golden anniversary, his golden circle of friends.

From afar the brilliant lights of loggia, port-cochere and wide colonial porches, shone as beacon lights of welcome.

Passing into the lovely home the eye was lost in the elegance and lavishness of effect. Four large rooms, en suite, on the left; a large colonial hall, a beautiful parlor to the right, the mural effect being in yellow and white velvet embossed paper, the settings representing a period, and the highly polished floors covered with the costliest of Oriental rugs, all imported as a special order for Mrs. Craig, made a house ensemble that was the admiration of the brilliant assembly.

Colonel and Mrs. Craig stood at the head of the receiving line, the latter in a Cheriut model in white tulle, with panels of brocade silk in yellow and blue, bodice of real lace. Attached to a slender thread of gold around her throat was a superb diamond pendant. Next in line was Mrs. John Craig, the aged mother of Colonel Craig, who was elegant in black satin and old lace and shoulder draperies of black lace embroidered in silver. Mrs. Craig shared congratulations with her son upon his golden anniversary. The receiving line beginning in the large living room continued as an unbroken circle through the library, den and breakfast room.

The living room and parlor were fragrant with the odor of gorgeous jonquils and Easter lilies. In the library were American Beauties. The den, where punch of rarest vintage was served, was set with carnations and spring blooms—jonquils and yellow bells.

The dining room beautifully expressed the golden idea of the occasion. Lace of rare pattern overlaid the mahogany. In the centre of the table was the birthday cake, heart shape, and adorned with yellow tulle, two golden rods, and the figures "50" in tiny yellow candies. To one side of the cake was a golden basket of yellow bells, Easter lilies and jonquils. A magnificent electric chandelier of yellow light added to the golden hue effect. A delicious salad course was served in the dining room.

Delightfully played by Mrs. Gaston and Mrs. Robinson, the guests enjoyed the breakfast room. In the center of the room a magnificent chandelier of yellow light added to the golden hue effect. A delicious salad course was served in the dining room.

SECOND FIRE AT NEWPORT DURING PAST FEW WEEKS

Blaze Destroys Office Of Lumber Company.

THE ORIGIN IS UNKNOWN

Loss Estimated At Three Hundred And Fifty Dollars With No Insurance

(Special to the Journal.)
Newport, March 3.—For the second time during the past month this place has been visited by fire and but for the fact that in both cases the fire fighters worked valiantly at the risk of their lives, the loss of property would have been much greater.

The second conflagration took place last night when a fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the office of the Newport Lumber and Manufacturing Company.

The blaze had gained considerable headway when discovered and when the firemen arrived they saw that it would be almost impossible to save this building and turned their efforts to saving the surrounding structures, including the mill and cotton gin.

William H. Bell manager of the company was in New Bern at the time of the fire, having gone there to attend to business matters and upon his return this morning stated that the loss would amount to about three hundred and fifty dollars. There was no insurance on the building and the loss is total.

A few weeks ago a large livery, feed and sales stables located here was destroyed by fire which is supposed to have been started by a cigarette carelessly thrown aside by a boy who was employed to feed up the stock.

TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR FIRE VISITS GREENVILLE

DESTROYS VENEERING DEPARTMENT OF BIG LUMBER MILL

Greenville N. C. March 3.—The large plant of the Greenville Cooperation and Lumber Company barely escaped being totally destroyed by fire this afternoon about 2 o'clock when the veneer department of the company was burned to the ground.

It occurring at such a late hour citizens were unable to gather all particulars of the blaze, other than it caught from the conveyor running under the floor from the boiler and fire room into the factory, which carried the heat into the mill where the veneering was shelved for drying.

The mill being six or seven blocks from the fire district and water supply. The fire company was hopeless as far as furnishing water to extinguish the blaze. The wind was very high, and the timber being dry it required only a few minutes for the blaze to get beyond the control of those fighting to save the building.

The damage done will reach \$10,000 but it is nearly covered by insurance.

AUDITORIUM AT RIDGECREST IS BLOWN DOWN

Asheville, March 3.—The big auditorium of the Southern Baptist Assembly at Ridge Crest, near here, was blown to pieces by the high winds last night and today. The building was a huge, open structure, and the wind catching under the roof, shook it to pieces. In falling the roof pushed in the front of the new church, recently finished. The damage is considerable as both auditorium and church will have to be rebuilt at once to accommodate the thousands of Baptists that come to Ridge Crest each year.

JOURNAL ADVERTISING PAID ORIENTAL MAN

E. J. White one of Pamlico's most successful farmers was in the city yesterday. Mr. White is also a believer in advertising, having run a thirly day advertising campaign in the Journal, advertising the sale of his Pamlico tobacco at 1.30 a pound.

Virgil Walker was last night elected Exalted Ruler of the New Bern Lodge of Elks, No. 764. Mr. Walker has been a member of the local lodge for a number of years and is known throughout the State.



HIS VESSEL AGROUND CAPTAIN IN TROUBLE

Forced To Spend Night On Trent River Without Food Or Fire—Comes To New Bern With Clothing Frozen

With ice hanging to his clothes and with his body stiff and sore from a three mile walk through the piercing cold, Carl Wilson, Captain of the gas freight boat, Louisa, arrived in New Bern Monday afternoon after trudging over the country road from a point three miles up the Trent river.

Captain Wilson left here Sunday afternoon on the Louisa enroute to Trenton-Jones county. All went well until a point three miles up the river when his vessel ran on a shoal and stuck there. Captain Wilson did everything possible to get the craft into deep water but his efforts proved of no avail and he was forced to spend the night in the boat without food or fire with which to keep his body warm.

All during Sunday night and until Monday afternoon Captain Wilson remained on board of the boat, expecting every minute to see another craft coming up the river and to be given assistance by them. He finally decided to swim ashore, a few hundred yards distant and went into the water. Reaching land he started to walk to New Bern and arrived here several hours later. The experience was a trying one and one which Captain Wilson does not care to repeat.

Before abandoning the gas boat, Captain Wilson firmly anchored her so that the boat could not get adrift when the tide arose and as soon as possible he will continue his trip to Trenton.

BEAUFORT CITIZENS ARE AFTER CUSTOMS HOUSE

RUMORED THAT BILL FOR SAME IS TO BE INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS

News reached the city today that a bill had been introduced in Congress providing for the construction of a handsome new customs house at Beaufort, N. C., where a great many improvements are contemplated in the near future, in preparation for increased business with the opening of the Panama Canal.

Just when the bill was introduced and by whom is not known here, but it is stated that the local collector of customs has been asked by the Treasury Department to submit to the chief architect a detailed report showing receipts of the office, etc., and recommendations as to need for a new building. When asked about the matter this morning Mr. B. F. Keith, collector of customs, said he did not feel at liberty at this time to make any statement on the subject. However, he did not deny that request had been made for a report relative to the Beaufort situation.

The Beaufort office along with all other small offices in the State come under the supervision of the Wilmington office. The Beaufort office pays a salary of only \$25 a month and it is said that the receipts of the office are less than the salary of the deputy in charge.

Wilmingtonians are inclined to view with some concern the report that an effort is being made to erect a new and large customs house at Beaufort taken in connection with the other contemplated improvements by the government, new railroads, etc. It caused some to comment this morning that it is certainly getting time work was being started on the new customs house in Wilmington.—Wilmington Dispatch.

THE W. C. T. U. TO HOLD MEETING

The Women's Christian Temperance Union will hold their meeting in the Presbyterian Lecture room Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

NEW BERN ONCE AGAIN BASKS UNDER SUN'S RAYS

Favorable Weather Prevailed In This City Yesterday

OTHER PARTS HARD HIT

Trains Fail To Make Connections And Telegraph Lines Are Down

While local weather conditions yesterday were not all that could be desired, they were far more favorable than on the previous day and in fact late in the afternoon the temperature had risen to such a point that outdoor exercise was indulged in by many and the streets were filled with people.

Other points in this and other States were not so fortunate as was evidenced by all trains coming from the North and West running behind schedule time and making no connections. Telegraph communication with some points in the north was also impossible on account of the storm and cold weather. Press dispatches from other points show that they were not favored with agreeable weather.

Along Virginia Coast

Norfolk, Va., March 3.—The entire Virginia coast tonight is being swept by a severe northwest storm. The wind in Norfolk reached a velocity of 56 miles and was reported much higher along the coast. The Merchants & Miner's steamer Howard, enroute from Newport News to Baltimore was blown ashore by high winds in Chesapeake Bay and last reports had not been floated.

Derelict Schooner Reported

Philadelphia, March 3.—Wireless advices to the local hydrographic office from Washington tonight stated that the derelict schooner S. G. Haskell was reported on February 27th in latitude 31.01 north, longitude 74 west. Nothing was said of the fate of Capt. Murphy and his crew of seven men, but it is hoped that they were picked up by a passing ship.

Ships Arrive Ice-coated

Newport News, Va., March 3.—Ice-coated from stem to stern and from waterline to bridge, the British steamers Roumanian and Penrith Castle arrived in port here today, eloquent illustrations of the fury of the storm that has swept the Atlantic coast during the past two days. Masters of the ships report having encountered the worst weather of their sea experience. As fast as the waves would break over the vessels the water would freeze and both ships looked like floating icebergs when they docked here today. The United Fruit Company's steamer Amelia came in flying distress signals. One of her forward tanks is leaking.

RAT TURNS SPIGOT TO GET DRINKING WATER

REMARKABLE "STUNT" OF A RODENT OVER AT ELIZABETH CITY

Elizabeth City, N. C., March 3.—T. T. Turner, one of Elizabeth City's most prominent citizens, has domiciled in his residence a rat that does all kinds of remarkable things that greatly astonish the members of the household.

Last night he capped the climax when he jumped up in the kitchen sink and turned the spigot to get a drink of water.

Mr. Turner had the water turned off all day on account of the cold weather. Last night about ten o'clock while he was engaged in writing letters in the sitting room, he heard the water begin to trickle in the kitchen. He thought the pipe had burst and rushed into the room to stop it. He was greatly surprised to see a big rat sitting in the sink drinking the water as it flowed from the spigot.

He called Mrs. Turner to witness the performance of the rat, which continued to drink water, undisturbed, until he had got enough, when he jumped down out of the sink and scampered away under the refrigerator.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Loveland and daughter Miss Elsie of Moscow, Pa., are guests at the Gaston Hotel.

THE ALDERMEN HOLD REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Many Important Matters Were Transacted

ALDERMAN HYMAN RESIGNS

Policeman Bryan Promoted To Position Of Assistant Chief Of Police

At the February meeting of the Board of Aldermen Samuel Lilly was employed as a plainclothes man to trace down blind tigers and to aid the police in breaking up the liquor traffic. For the past thirty days Mr. Lilly has been engaged in this work and the number of violations along this line have decreased to such an extent that the Board decided that Mr. Lilly's services were no longer needed and at their meeting last night he was discharged.

Alderman Hyman Resigns.

The resignation of Alderman T. G. Hyman which was handed in at the February meeting, went into effect last night and Charles Hill was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board.

Alderman Blades presented an ordinance which allows the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company to shift their trains on Queen street as far West as Graves street between the hours of 6:30 a. m. and 8 a. m., and from 3 p. m. to 5 p. m. except during these hours no shifting is to be allowed west of Graves street. A violation of this ordinance will be a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of fifty dollars. Upon motion this ordinance was adopted.

The city clerk was instructed to notify the New Bern Ghent Street Railway Company that unless they put the streets along which their track is laid, in as good condition as they were previous to the laying of the track that their franchise would be forfeited. This must be done during the next twenty days.

"Blind" Johnson requested the Board to allow him to construct a building 12 x 20 feet on the West side of the railroad tracks in front of the Union Passenger Station. This request was referred to the Street and Pumps Committee to be investigated as to the size and location of the building but Mr. Johnson was allowed to construct the same.

The matter of improving the water system was put before the Board by Alderman Blades. The situation was explained by Mr. Hodges, superintendent of the water and light plant, who stated that this new system with a different engine would save from one third to one half the fuel bill which would amount to about five thousand dollars a year and that he believed the engine now in use could be sold. No definite action was taken in the matter.

Stating that a public meat market would be of great help to the citizens of New Bern, Dr. J. F. Patterson suggested that such be operated. The matter was not acted upon last night but was referred to a committee for investigation.

The Riverside Fire Company requested the Board to furnish them with electric current. This request was granted. The Riverside Company also asked that the city taxes on a carnival which they hope to have visit the city, be cancelled. This request was also granted.

A. L. Bryan, who has for years been a member of the police force, was promoted to the position as Assistant Chief at a salary of seventy-five dollars per month.

HAD FAILED TO PAY CITY LICENSE TAX

Samuel Coward, local agent for the Texas Oil Company, was before Mayor Bangert yesterday afternoon to answer to a charge of failing to pay the license tax for being business in the city of New Bern. The charge was proven but judgement was suspended upon the payment of the costs of the case and the payment of the license tax.