

THE DAILY JOURNAL

VOL. LXII—No. 102

NEW BERN, N. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING MARCH 25, 1914

FIVE CENTS PER COPY

Two Million Dollar Fire Swept Durham Yesterday Morning

Three Business Blocks Were Guttled By The Flames

Big Water Main Bursts

Firemen Unable To Cope With Situation—De- struction Complete

Durham, Tuesday, March 24.
A fire which broke out in the second story of the Duke building at 10:30 last night raged until 6:10 this morning and did damage that a conservative estimate places at two 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 gnarled and twisted steel piled in the smoking tons of debris. The Gear 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 H. A. 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, Snider, Wilcox, Fletcher company, Christian and Haywood, Perry Grocery company, J. F. Williams, the Big Ax Tailors, the negro barber shop, the Chatham Furniture company and the fixtures of the Mutual 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 \$30,000; Woolworth, damage \$20,000; Markham-Harris, company damage \$15,000; Loyd damage \$30,000; Herring and Elliot, damage \$20,000; Holland Brothers, damage \$20,000; Blackhalls damage \$15,000; Bellamy, damage \$10,000; T. N. Stephens damage \$10,000; Carlton Haddeney, damage \$5,000.

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

NO PRESSURE

The cause of the fire is not known. Rev. S. S. Best 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 good was not received until 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 story of the Duke building while the 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. When they did get the water it was the most helpless kind of a fight. They never did have a chance. They never did have a chance after that break in the water main to stop the flames. Then they started the other buildings.

A rather stiff breeze was blowing in a northerly direction, and when the roof of the Duke building caught fire, sparks and burning debris fell on the tops of 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.

CAUGHT FROM ROOF

With the flames pouring from every window, the five story office building and from the roof, it was impossible from keeping them from spreading to the west. The wind carried sparks and burning fire brands from the higher buildings to the tops of all the other buildings, and pretty soon the fire began to fall through the skylights in Herring and Elliot's and Holland's clean through to the first floor. The skylights had been broken by the heat.

The furniture in these two stores were almost as inflammable as the stock of the dry goods stores, and it burned like tinder. Store by store the firemen fought the fire till at last it reached the Blackhall corner. For a time it was thought that there was a possibility of this building being saved, but the heat from the other buildings was so intense that when a spark fell on this part of the block it caught fire and burned as rapidly as would kerosene.

ON PARRISH STREET

The Woolworth and Baldwin stores run from street to street, and the buildings next to these two stores had no chance for escaping. T. M. Stephens occupied the building west of Baldwin. The store next to Woolworth was the Parrish street store of Rawls. Next to this building vacated by the Chatham Furniture company, had been rented by the Book store, and Mr. Newcom let the contract for renovating the store, making it a street to street store, yesterday. Last night it was unoccupied. The Carlton-Haddeney building was next to this one.

ACROSS THE STREET

The flying sparks soon carried the fire across Parrish street to the buildings of the North Carolina Mutual and Provident association. At first a tiny flame caught in the third story of the building used by the insurance company's offices, in front of the offices of the Durham Reformer.

The firemen turned their attention to this building, but it was impossible to get the water into the windows in such a manner that it would reach the fire. In a few minutes a fire that could have been extinguished by a bucket of water had spread all over the top floor of the building. It did not take a very long time to get into the stock rooms of the Durham Reformer. Here the paper and printing materials furnished fresh and highly inflammable fuel for the flames, and that building was doomed. A stream of water was brought across from Mangum street, the hose carried up a building on Orange street and pouted through a window into the print shop.

Fireman Brown narrowly escaped death when he fell from the Duke building and his coat caught on a ladder.

Fifty young men in the top of this building made their escapes in their night clothes.

Three entire blocks were destroyed when the fire was placed under control at 8 o'clock.

LEAGUE MEETING

Will Be Held Tonight At 8 O'clock.

(Contributed.)

The Epworth League will hold its regular Missionary meeting tonight at 8 o'clock. Mrs. Gaskins will conduct the evening. All the young people of the church are invited to attend. As the membership campaign closes tonight all the League members are especially urged to be present, so that all may share the result of the campaign.

World-Touring Ball Players Saluting King George



Twenty thousand as wild rooters as ever assembled at any ball ground saw an exhibition of the American national game in London. The game opened with the Giants and White Sox drawn up in salute before the royal box. King George bowed his acknowledgments, and later developed into an ardent fan as the excitement of the contest gripped him.

THE SHAKESPEARE CLUB CHARMINGLY ENTERTAINED

MESDAMES H. B. MARKS AND C. D. BRADHAM WERE THE HOSTESSES.

The Shakespeare Club was charmingly entertained by Mrs. H. B. Marks and Mrs. C. D. Bradham, at the beautiful home of Mrs. Marks on Johnson street, yesterday afternoon, the hour of the meeting of the club being called at 3:30 in order that the members observing the Lenten Season might attend the afternoon services.

The subject of study was "King Lear," and Mrs. Charles R. Thomas read a most interesting paper on General, Regan and Cordelia, the three sisters. Act 111 of King Lear was read by the Club, at the conclusion of which reading, dainty refreshments were served consisting of sandwiches and tea, with wafers and ginger.

The guests of the afternoon were: Mesdames Charles R. Thomas, Charles Duffy, Benjamin Moore, Owen Dunn, W. B. H. Blanford, Misses Anna Hanff, Eula Cole, Laura Ives, Sara Stewart, Myrtle Dissaw, Dita Roberts, Nina Basnight, Mollie Heath and Bettie Windley. The out of town guests were Mrs. Williamson of New York, Miss Rouse of Salisbury, and Mrs. Babbitt of Providence, R. I.

NO IMPORTED HATS AT THIS "SPRING OPENING"

There was a millinery "opening" held in this city yesterday which, although not extensively advertised, was attended by quite a number of persons and proved quite an event. This was at the emporium of S. Blumgardt on lower Middle street. Mr. Blumgardt has quite an array of the "latest words" in headwear for the ladies and while no imported creations were noticed in the display, the hats on exhibit attracted attention alright, alright. Mr. Blumgardt stated that the exhibit would continue indefinitely.

CANTERBURY CLUB WITH MRS. MONROE HOWELL

PROGRAM RENDERED WAS INTERESTING AND COMPLETE.

The Canterbury Club met with Mrs. Monroe Howell, at her home on Johnson street, which was beautifully decorated in jonquils, ferns and potted plants.

Miss Maude Hurley read an unusually interesting and complete biographical sketch on Percy B. Shelley, who was the poet favored on the occasion, and whose birth took place in 1792 in Field Place, Horsham, Sussex. Following Miss Hurley's sketch Mrs. R. E. Kowler, of Gault

RUNNING CHURCH HOGS PROVES GREAT BLESSING

TWIN REVIVAL MEETING CONTINUES TO GROW IN INTEREST

The Twin Revival continues to grow and gather interest each day. Yesterday was an eye opener to the church people of the city. The cottage prayer meetings held in various parts of the city were better attended than any day during the meeting.

Rev. J. B. Phillips spoke last night on "running the hogs out of New Bern churches." The congregation gathered early and was ready and eagerly waiting to hear the message. The sermon was terrific and gripped the minds and hearts of the people from the start. Those who have their names in the Church Books of this city certainly were told some plain facts last night. Here are some of the things said: "Suppose you knew God would give your husband if you would give up the card party so he could see Jesus, you would do so? Suppose you knew the theatre and moving picture show kept you from having the confidence of your family and loved ones and if you gave these worldly things up God would give you power to lead your unsaved friends and relatives to Christ would you give them up? Suppose your cursing unclean business man with your name in one of these church books you knew if you would give up your unclean life you could lead your gentlemen friends and your loved ones to Christ would you run these dirty hogs out? I tell you this is what New Bern needs."

The congregation was the largest of any week day night during the meeting. At the close of the searching sermon quite a number came forward and gave their names for membership in the churches. Mr. Phillips will preach a special sermon to mothers and fathers tonight. Everybody is invited.

For New Bern and vicinity—Fair.

L. F. Swain of Beaufort spent Monday night in the city leaving on the morning train for Aurora N. C.

THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS TODAY

CONVENES AT RALEIGH TO SET DATE FOR THE CONVENTION

Raleigh, March 24.—The state Democratic Executive Committee will meet in the Senate Chamber tomorrow Wednesday March 24, at 8 o'clock to make a new date for the Democratic convention.

The conflict between this convention and that of the North Carolina Medical Society was found after every member of the committee had gone home following the March 10 meeting and there was no way to change it. The date was June 17 and 18 at Raleigh if it possible to entertain all delegates in the style desired. The medical convention could not change its date and the committee is called to meet again.

The nature of the meeting is such to make unnecessary the attendance of the whole committee and there is no other business before it. Proxies will be carried by many members. The date upon which the Democrats will settle has not been indicated but the opinion is that the convention will be earlier than the first date.

THE WEATHER

For New Bern and vicinity—Fair.

L. F. Swain of Beaufort spent Monday night in the city leaving on the morning train for Aurora N. C.

FIRST BASEBALL GAME ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL TEAM TO CROSS BATS WITH GOLDSBORO BOYS

Friday afternoon the New Bern High School Baseball team will cross bats for the first time with the Goldsboro High School team. The game is to take place at Ghent Park at 3:30 o'clock.

Wolga Bland is captain of the New Bern team and several of the players who were on last year's team are on the present team. Prof. Kennedy is the team's manager and is making preparations to play games with every team in Eastern North Carolina and with the Raleigh High School.

Season tickets are being sold to the public and to the school children at \$1.00 each and 50c. and 25c. each and the public's patronage is solicited.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lamb returned to their home at Fort Barnwell, after spending the night in the city at the James hotel.

W. P. Dickinson left yesterday morning for Wilmington to visit relatives.

NOTED CHRISTIAN SCIENCE LECTURER HERE LAST NIGHT

Made Interesting Address Before Local Audience HIS SUBJECT WELL TAKEN

"The Proving of God's Friendship to Man" The Speaker's Theme

The lecture given at the Christian Science church last night by Rev. W. McKenzie, C. B. S., of Cambridge, Mass., was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by every person present.

Rev. McKenzie was introduced by Miss Bessie Patterson of Newark, N. Y., First Reader of the First Church of Christ, Scientists.

The lecturer who is a member of the Board of Lectureship of the Mother Church, the First Church of Christ, Scientists, Boston Mass., spoke on "The Proving of God's Friendship To Man." With his subject well in hand, his remarks were indeed interesting. He said:

All down the ages men have been blessed by the kindness of God. Some few have answered back to the benign influence, and have praised the source. These have given to us our enduring literature in the Scriptures. Mrs. Eddy says, "God is universal; confined by no dogma, appropriated by no sect. Not more to one than to all, is God demonstrable as divine Life, Truth, and Love; and His people are they who reflect Him—that reflect Love" (Miscellaneous Writings, p. 150.)

SEARCH FOR TRUTH

The search of man through all his years is for something satisfying and enduring. Because of the dearthfulness of false beliefs men go on spending their "money for" that which is not bread and their labor for that which satisfieth not." But the testimony of the Scriptures is that in every age some men have found the actual truth; not truth relative to the blooming and fading theories of their time, and so as transient as they; but truth that from everlasting to everlasting is the same. This truth has proofs of a certain character and the most eloquent proof is healing, whether of sickness for persons, or of plague among the people, or of a national fear tending to defeat and disaster. The appearing of the truth causes immediate reversal of the error which has been posing as fact and accepted as reality.

ENOCH AND ABRAHAM

"That writer knew the legends which so said, "Thou wilt show me the path of life; in the presence is (I find joy." In earliest times we find it so called of Enoch that he knew this pathway. His brief biography tells that he walked "with God." It is declared also that he did not die but that God took him to Himself. It is habitual for Christians to expect to have after death, joy in God's presence; but Enoch proved God's presence to be joy and life while here on earth.

There is a deep significance in Abraham's response to God. Following the inward impulse of faith he left wealth, and the glowing prospects of high estate, in order to be free from the worship of strange gods and the claims of idolatous kindred. He was a seeker after the one God whom he came to know as "the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth." Various records as well as the testimony of tradition lead James to say of the patriarch that "he was called the Friend of God." It is easily then to see the sureness of the promise that "all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him"; because if Abraham, like Enoch, developed friendship with God, the correlative fact is implied that they knew the eternal truth of God's friendship for man.

The patriarch, however, looked out across the future of ages with prophetic vision, for he knew that this saving truth of God's friendship must appear with satisfying proofs beyond what he could demonstrate. The Prophet of Nazareth recognized what Abraham's faith had been afar off, for he said to the Jews, "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day; and he saw it, and was glad." From the mountain top of his faith, Abraham foresaw the time when by proofs undeniable God's