

The Polk County News.

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Subscription Price, \$1.00 Per Year in Advance.

VOL XIV.

COLUMBUS, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1908.

NO. 24.

BRIEF CULLINGS OF NORTH STATE NEWS

News of Interest Gleaned From All Sections of the State and Arranged For Busy Readers

Trying a Puzzling Case.

Raleigh, Special.—A great many people were in the Superior Court room watching a trial for murder, which is certainly unique here—that of "Boots" Brown, the negro who seven years ago shot his paramour at the door of her home on Carroll alley, in the southern part of this city. He walked into the house after she was shot and there fell dead and Brown disappeared. The supreme question is whether the man on trial is or is not Brown. He is very fat and smiles nearly all the time. It is said that Brown was by no means a large negro and that this man has really no resemblance to him. On the one hand it has been said that Brown's brothers had not been near him while in jail, on the ground that they felt certain he was their brother; but on the other hand it is said they did not go to see him because they were convinced he was not Brown at all. The jurors were asked whether they had formed an opinion that the man was or was not "Boots" Brown. Around the streets there was no end of argument as to whether the man was or was not Brown and a number of business men who knew Brown said the man on trial was not the criminal. The most interesting feature of the day was the testimony of the prisoner himself. He swore that his name was Willis Wright, and that he left his home at Ivor, not far from Suffolk, Va., when he was 21 years old and that he had not been there since except to pass through on a train. The woman who claims to be his mother swore the same thing. Everybody admits that the case is not only novel and sensational in the extreme but also very puzzling and never were witnesses more at cross-purposes than in this matter of identification of the man.

Serious Shooting Affray.

Washington, N. C., Special.—A shooting affray on the dairy farm of S. Fleming, about one mile from this city, early Friday morning came very nearly resulting in a murder for one of the parties. Two white men employed on the farm, by name of William Haddock and John Williams, became involved in an altercation over a hog, and Haddock went to his residence nearby, returned with a shotgun and fired two loads of No. 8 shot into Williams' breast. It seems that there was bad blood existing between the two for some time and this was the final outcome. Williams fell in his tracks and other parties notified Sheriff Ricks of the shooting. The Sheriff met Haddock on the road to town and arrested him, bringing him to this city, where he was given a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace A. Mayo, where he waived all the evidence and pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon. He was bound over to next term of court and remanded to jail.

For Supplemental Libraries.

Raleigh, Special.—The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is sending cards of notification to the various counties, showing how many original and supplementary rural school libraries each is entitled to. In addition to what they have received out of the appropriation for 1907-08. They must apply before November 30th. There are now 1,925 libraries. Each county is entitled to six original and six supplementary libraries each two years. Every county has now some of these libraries, though some counties have very few.

State News in Brief.

Federal Court convenes at Newbern Monday, October 26th. There is a large number of cases on the docket, many of which are blind tiger cases. The oyster supply at Newbern just now is practically nothing. Very few oysters have been brought in to that market and they have brought a high price. The retail price at present is from 40 to 50 cents a quart.

Yet Another Victim Dies.

Salisbury, Special.—W. Fletcher Stafford, who was fatally hurt in the powder magazine explosion at Spencer last week, died at a hospital here Friday from the effects of his injuries, which resulted in blood poisoning, this being the fourth death among the victims of the accident. He was frightfully torn by the flying debris from the magazine, his body being pierced in several hundred places. Mr. Stafford was 33 years old and is survived by a wife, two children, three brothers and two sisters. The interment will be at Graham, Alamance county.

Spontaneous Combustion.

Spencer, Special.—Upon an official investigation by the management of the Southern Railway, spontaneous combustion is assigned as the cause of the great powder magazine explosion in Spencer last week, when three lives were lost and twenty or more employees injured. It is certain that there was nothing but metal in the construction of the building which contained the explosives, and the exact cause of the explosion will probably never be known. It is the opinion of some that a supply of the explosives tumbled down inside the building, causing the powder to ignite.

New Corporations.

Raleigh, Special.—The Bank of Huntersville, Mecklenburg county, was chartered with \$10,000 capital. Charles F. Cline, of Greensboro; B. L. Choat, C. F. Alexander and others of Huntersville, are the incorporators. The bank will do a savings and commercial business.

The Southern Stock and Farming Company of North Carolina, Inc., has received a charter. The principal office is at Brevard, Transylvania county. The capital is \$125,000 authorized and \$30,000 subscribed by B. G. Estes, Charles M. Doyle and others, for farming, gardening, fruit growing, stock raising and general agricultural business, including the sale of farm supplies.

Gins Not Protected.

Raleigh, Special.—It was learned from a very widely known insurance man that insurance companies are not liable for the burning of gins by night-riders or that sort of gentry, who are classed as rioters, a special clause in all policies referring to this matter. The insurance man went on to say that gin owners who are counting on protection of their property by insurance companies had better look after their gins. This is a very fair warning to the people to protect their gins and to meet any night-riders with their own weapons in effect; that is, to use bullets and shot against firebrands. This is very plain advice.

Waterworks for Lenoir.

Lenoir, Special.—At a special meeting of the town council last week the contracts were awarded for installing a water and sewer system in Lenoir. The successful bidder was Guild & Co., of Chattanooga, Tenn. The two systems will cost approximately \$60,000. The contract for a 500,000-gallon reservoir was awarded the Piedmont Construction Company, Atlanta; for the valves and hydrants to the Fairbanks Company, Baltimore, and for the piping to the Dimmick Pipe Company, Birmingham. J. J. McCreary & Co., of Atlanta, were selected for the city engineers.

W. C. T. U. in Session at Reidsville.

Reidsville, Special.—The North Carolina Woman's Christian Temperance Union opened its twenty-sixth annual convention in the Main Street Methodist church Wednesday night, and the convention will hold three daily sessions, until Sunday night. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Mary E. Cartland, of Greensboro, the vice president of the State organization. Mayor Robert S. Montgomery in gracious terms welcomed the convention to Reidsville.

Reprisals by Servia.

Vienna, By Cable.—Servia is retaliating for Austria's occupation of the Austro-Servia frontier by seizing roads and bridges on the Bosnian border, where Austria is yet unprepared to offer resistance. Lieutenant Field Marshal Oscar Potiorek has been appointed commander of the Austrian army.

Items of State Interest.

Mr. G. W. Garrow, of Valdeese, Burke county, has succeeded Mr. R. L. Poplin, resigned, as superintendent of the Statesville Knitting Mill. Mr. Garrow has been employed by the Mayo Machine and Needle Company, of Franklin Falls, N. H., and is an experienced mill man.

Mr. H. L. Bush, of Newport News, Va., has become manager of the Postal Telegraph Company at Newbern, succeeding Mr. H. L. Kellogg, who has returned to his home in Washington, D. C., where he will be connected with the Postal.

WATERWAY PROJECT FAVORED

Second Day of the Great Waterway Conference Addressed By Colonel Bryan and Others.

Chicago, Special.—Addressees by William J. Bryan and Gifford Pinchot the latter being chairman of the national conservation commission, the reading of a letter from James J. Hill, short addresses by delegates, and a big reception at the Coliseum at night were the features of the second day of the convention of the Lakes-to-the-Gulf Deep Waterways Association. Mr. Bryan, who spoke earnestly in favor of deep waterways, not only from the lakes to the gulf but in all other parts of the country, where increased transportation facilities were needed, was an enthusiastically received, as was William H. Taft when he opened the convention the previous day.

Mr. Bryan's Address.

In addressing the convention Mr. Bryan said in part: "You cannot give the people too good facilities for transportation of their merchandise. If you tell me you want to improve the Mississippi I tell you that is all right, I will help you improve it just as far as you please, and make the canal as wide as you please and as deep as you please, and when you get to improving the Mississippi I will start out all alone if necessary to improve every river that empties into the Mississippi. Water transportation is the natural transportation. God made the rivers, man made the railroads. When you finish a river sufficiently deep for commerce, or a canal upon which boats can float, you make it possible for a man with small capital to act while the railroads make it possible for men with large capital to act. Where there is a river any man who can build a boat can engage in transportation, and if he cannot build a big boat he can build a little boat and if you have a large number of little boats the big boat will have to meet the rate that the little boat fixes. You will find it much easier to regulate rates on water than on land because competition can be much more active on water than on land. We are an exporting nation. We send our agricultural products to foreign markets, and when our wheat or our cotton reaches the London market its price is fixed there by the competition which it meets. If a bushel of wheat sells for a dollar in London and it takes fifty cents to get it from the farm to London the farmer gets fifty cents a bushel for his wheat. If you can so improve transportation that the farmer can get his wheat from his farm to Liverpool for twenty-five cents you have added twenty-five cents to the farmer's price for this wheat. It is a fact that is admitted that the railroad cannot carry freight as cheaply as the boat can, and therefore every farmer is interested in establishing water communication wherever water communication is possible.

Believer in Waterways.

"I believe in improving the waterways everywhere, no matter whether these waterways are the rivers that run down the mountainsides into the ocean and the West or the waterways that converge in the Mississippi valley and carry their floods to the gulf. I believe that it is the duty of those charged with the business of government to develop these things upon which a nation's prosperity depends. "If the work should be done, and I believe that it should, then you people who believe it should be done should agree upon the best methods by which to do it. But I repeat that you must not be frightened because it may require an investment. At St. Louis last fall they resolved that \$500,000,000 spent in improving the waterways of the Mississippi valley would bring an interest in the way of decreased cost of transportation amounting to \$180,000,000 a year. Why, my friends, if it only saved \$50,000,000 a year it would be ten per cent. interest on the investment. "I believe that the plan should be commenced now. I believe that it should be a comprehensive plan, that it should deal with the entire subject and that it should be a permanent plan; that we should begin now to lay the foundation for the future greatness of this country, in the development of these natural resources, these God-given water courses of ours."

Russia Getting Her Fleet Ready.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—Fearful that Austria intends to take advantage of the commotion in Servia to deal the boldest blow of all—annexation of Servia—the Czar has ordered the mobilization of the Black Sea fleet. Russia still insists upon an international conference to completely revise the Berlin treaty, while the latest word from England is that she has not receded from her position that only existing issues must be considered.

BALLOONISTS' AWFUL DROP

Aeronauts Experience a Drop of Two Thousand Feet

LAND WITH BUT SLIGHT INJURY

American Balloon Conqueror Bursts at the Height of 4,000 Feet, Precipitating the Aeronauts to the Roof of a House in a Berlin Suburb.

Berlin, By Cable.—The international balloon race which started Sunday from the suburb of Schmargendorf, was the occasion of a thrilling accident, two American aeronauts having a miraculous escape from death. The American balloon Conqueror, the only American built craft in the contest, having on board A. Holland Forbes and Augustus Post, less than two minutes after the start burst at an altitude of 4,000 feet. For 2,000 feet it shot down like a bullet, and then the torn silk bag assumed the shape of a parachute, thus checking the rapidity of the descent. Coming close to the earth, however, the basket smashed into the roof of a house, but the two men escaped with but slight bruises.

The race, in which twenty-three balloons participated, representing Great Britain, France, Germany, the United States, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium and Spain, started at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon in the presence of at least 30,000 spectators. The first balloon sent away was the "America II," under command of James C. McCoy, who was accompanied by Lieutenant Voghtmann. The balloon was decorated with the Stars and Stripes and it sailed away to the southeast at a rapid pace, the aeronauts waving their hats.

Dramatic Occasion.

A representative of each of the other nations followed the American balloon in succession at intervals of two minutes, the national hymn of the respective countries ringing forth as the ropes were cast loose.

The second batch of eight balloons was led by Forbes in the Conqueror, which reached a high altitude in an incredibly short period. The basket swaying violently. Then almost instantly a cry of horror arose from the crowd who saw the silk collapse and shouted: "The balloon is ripping up."

The thousands who had gathered there stood for a moment petrified. Some turned away fainting, as they saw the balloon falling with lightning rapidity. At the same time, showers of sand and appurtenances of the balloon shot downward with equal rapidity and then daylight was seen through the envelope, great ragged edges of the silk showing on either side.

"They are killed," went in a hushed whisper through the crowd, but shortly the remainder of the envelope appeared to take, first, a triangular shape and then was transformed into a sort of parachute at the top of the net and the progress of the wrecked balloon was considerably arrested. It came down slower and slower, meanwhile being swept by the wind, far to the southeast, and finally disappeared from view behind a block of houses. The suspense among the crowds was terrible. But a few minutes later a telephone message was received from Friesenau, which announced that the men had landed and had not been seriously injured. The other balloons were sent up, after a brief delay, without further accident.

Terrorizing Negroes.

Montgomery, Ala., Special.—A special from Tuscaloosa, Ala., says: A negro Baptist church and lodge hall located at Spring Hill, Ala., were burned Friday night by unknown persons. A band of horsemen alleged to have been organized with the intention of driving the negroes out of the community, are said to have set fire to the church and hall.

To Increase Bank Examinations.

Washington, Special.—Comptroller of the Currency Murray has decided to increase the number of national bank examinations, in many cases from twice to three or four times a year. It is not his purpose, he says, to examine all national banks four or even three times a year, but the new rule will be made to apply to all national banks that have in the past shown a disposition to violate or evade any provisions of the national banking laws or the regulations prescribed by the Comptroller of the Currency.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

Naval officials at Washington, D. C., took the first step toward purchasing a fleet of aeroplanes for military use.

The sixtieth anniversary of the Little Church Around the Corner, New York City, was observed with thanksgiving services.

Philippine officials commended Rear-Admiral Sperry's precautions to guard the men of the battle ship fleet from the cholera at Manila.

Austria will annex the provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and it is believed that the Emperor has already announced this action to the Powers.

More than 250,000 persons marched through the streets of London to Hyde Park, where a resolution condemning the licensing bill was adopted.

Army officers, in the tests ordered by President Roosevelt, walked from Brooklyn to Coney Island, N. Y., and back, a distance of seventeen miles, in five hours.

The police of the entire country were asked to search for Israel Jansson, an official of a savings bank of Lindsberg, Sweden, who absconded with \$23,000.

The subway for handling freight in New York City proposed by William J. Wilgus was opposed by Irving T. Bush on the ground that it would prove too costly.

Enormous mails were sent on the Lusitania, which sailed from Liverpool, England, for New York. It is expected in England that postoffice business will be doubled in a year under the new rate.

The International Congress on Tuberculosis at Washington, D. C., adjourned after going on record against Dr. Koch's theory that bovine tuberculosis is not communicable to human beings, and listened to an address by President Roosevelt.

Two Grades Eliminated.

New Orleans, Special.—Directors of the New Orleans cotton exchange announced that they had eliminated low middling stained and strict low middling grades from the list of tenderable grades. So much discussion resulted from the change that the directors have called a special meeting of the members of the exchange for next Monday to get their opinion on the matter.

Kills Wife and Suicides.

York, Pa., Special.—William Bennington shot and killed his wife and then committed suicide. Bennington followed his wife to a church with a horse and buggy and fired a load of shot into her body just as she was about to enter the church. He then drove across the State line into Maryland, where he reloaded the shot gun, placed the barrel against his stomach and pulled the trigger. The crime is said to have been prompted by jealousy.

Fire Threatens White House Stables.

Washington, Special.—Fire of unknown origin was discovered in the loft of the White House stables about 8:30 o'clock Sunday morning, causing fifteen dollars damage. But for the prompt work of the stable keeper and his assistant the building, in which are housed several of the President's thoroughbreds, would have been destroyed. The stables are at Seventeenth and E streets, some distance from the White House.

FEMININE NEWS NOTES.

Mrs. Norman E. Mack, of Buffalo, N. Y., confessed that she would like to vote.

Viscountess Molesworth started a jam factory on her estate near Münster-on-Sea, England.

In the Luxembourg Gallery, in Paris, the works of only two women sculptors are represented.

Mrs. Isabelle Van Cleef was killed and her son, a broker, was hurt in a runaway in New York City.

Dr. Cortlandt Meyers issued an edict against the wearing of hats by women in the Baptist Temple, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mrs. Hetty Green, weary of hotel life, went to Hoboken, N. J., and tried to lease her old flat there. She found it occupied.

Bernard College girls are instructed on the subject of equal suffrage by a course of lectures giving both sides of the question.

Mary Johnson, a Canadian woman, who had dressed and lived as a man for fifteen years, was forced to disclose her sex at Ellis Island, N. Y.

Mme. Marcelle Tinayre, author of "La Rebelle" and "La Maison du Peche," is among the recently elected chevaliers of the Legion of Honor.

Over \$30,000,000 was given by women to philanthropy in the last year. Mrs. Russell Sage gave more than any other one person, with the single exception of John D. Rockefeller.

Miss Esther V. Hassan, one of the best known nurses in the East, has been appointed chief hospital nurse of the proposed corps of women nurses to be organized by the Navy Department at Washington, D. C.

Miss Ruth H. Northrop, of Norwich, Conn., has won the scholarship offered by the Norwich Art Students' Association. The work she submitted consisted of three groups of animals and figures modeled in clay from life.

A SUM IN ADDITION.

"Pa," boo-hooed the chastised son, "If I had let Willie Simmonds lick me, instead of me licking him, would you've whipped me just the same?" "Yes; but remember that in such a case you would be getting two licks in place of one."—Judge.



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