

Polk County News

Published Weekly.

COLUMBUS, N. C.

European war clouds do not always passage a storm.

Keep your vacation within the limits of your purse.

The auto and the aeroplane continue to be deadly rivals.

It is not too late for you to send a kiddie or two to the country.

The way to keep boys on the farm is to make farm life more attractive.

Chicago is to have a "soul hospital." The patients, of course, will come from outside.

Among the other exciting events of up-to-date civilization the modern fish story is now due.

The New York woman who has a \$25,000 anklet evidently believes in saving something for a rainy day.

A new metal 40 per cent. lighter than aluminum will make airplanes safer, but not so safe as walking.

If the breach of promise industry continues to increase, the art of letter writing will soon be a thing of the past.

A taxicab driver who has inherited \$11,000 is going to stick to his job. He may have a meter of his own to dilate the legacy.

The soda fountain clerk may not be an important personage, but he generally manages to cause a splash in the world.

A million patents on rubber tires have been issued. Why doesn't some inventor get a patent on broken glass that will not puncture?

The old theory that there's no fool like an old fool is demonstrated by the 70 year old Massachusetts couple who eloped and were married.

A German baron has been sentenced to two years for killing an opponent in a duel. Only safe and sane dueling is countenanced in Germany.

Some of our aviators have adopted the habit of landing in haystacks. Enterprising farmers will rent their available haystacks to aero clubs.

A Texas town has passed an ordinance allowing only legless men to sell peanuts on the streets. Evidently the town is controlled by surgeons.

In the past six months the plague killed 650,000 people in India and nothing remarkable is considered to have occurred. The world is not shocked.

A Bostonese person went crazy with the heat and tried to give away money. The fact that he failed leads us to suspect that the money was counterfeit.

A practical joker in Iowa is being sued by a victim whom he presented with a loaded cigar. We hope his acute sense of humor will enable him to see the joke.

A Missouri judge rules that a man is at liberty to spank his wife. Likewise a man is at liberty to wallop a hioness on the nose if he feels that way.

Dentists say that a good brush and water are all that are necessary for the care of the teeth. This will not stop pretty actresses from giving smiling testimonials for powders, however.

The first woman aviator has been licensed in America. Though woman has long been declared by American gallantry to be an angel, this is the first time she has been allowed officially to fly.

It is too bad that the enthusiasm of the souvenir hunters who dug up with their hands the first earth turned for New York's new subway could not have been continued until the tunnel was completed.

The British admiralty reports the discovery of a new way of making armor plate that will be from 15 to 20 per cent tougher. This, if true, puts an onus on the projectile makers to produce one that will pierce that much tougher armor.

Electric cars in Los Angeles will have mirrors placed in their end to induce women to step off the cars "front face." The company may think this a brilliant idea until the lady passengers wreck the time schedules seeing if their hats are on straight and too much powder isn't showing on their noses.

Criminal tactics keep pace with scientific thief-taking and sometimes gallop ahead. Blue-ribbon experts in a recent robbery of a jeweler's safe wore kid gloves so no incriminating finger-prints could be left behind.

A Connecticut town refused a donation of money for the town hall because the donor stipulated there should be no dancing or other amusement in the hall, which was to be used as a town building. The blue-law spirit of New England in that locality, at least, is perceptibly on the wane.

PLAN TO REFLOAT SPANISH SHIPS

SPECULATION AS TO THE VALUE OF THE HULKS OF SPANISH WAR VESSELS BURNED.

ARE GOOD ONLY AS JUNK

Secretary Knox Declares Spanish Wrecks in Santiago Harbor Belong to United States.

Santiago de Cuba.—President Taft's recent message to congress asking that it be determined whether the Spanish men-of-war sunk in the battle of Santiago thirteen years ago should be given away and Secretary Knox's opinion that the wrecks belong to the United States, have revived speculation here as to the possibility of refloating the ships. Engineers who have studied the location of the three battleships and two torpedo boats are of the opinion that their salvage is practicable and would warrant the expense of saving the hulks.

Seven miles west of the narrow mouth of Santiago harbor lies the first of Cervera's battleships, the Almirante Oquendo. She is beached in the breakers of Juan Gonzales, with about one-third of the hulk visible. Long ago she was stripped of every portable article by wreckers who braved a watery grave for the prizes she was reputed to have held. They took everything they could pry loose, including, report has it, many thousands of golden coins from the ship's safe. Recent inspection has shown that the Almirante Oquendo was sacked even of the rivets which held her fixtures in place.

Admiral Cervera's battleship, the Vizcaya, lies 8 miles further down the rocky coast, as much a victim to the depredations of ocean junkmen as the Oquendo. A third of her form breaks the land line, and it is believed there would be comparatively little difficulty in recovering her, although she would be worthless, it is thought, as a vessel of war.

At Rio Torquino, 48 miles from this city, is the Cristobal Colon. The Colon has been preserved from the hand of the vandal by four fathoms of water above her. Locked in her safe there is said to be a large amount of money; aboard her nothing has been disturbed since she was silenced by the American guns and run ashore to prevent her capture. The water is comparatively deep at the point where she lies submerged, and the land rises abruptly from the sea, a sheer precipice of considerable proportions. Her salvage would probably be the most difficult of the three, engineers assert.

The history of the fourth vessel of the fleet, the Infanta Maria Teresa, is well known. She was floated by Lieut. Richmond P. Hobson of Merrimack fame, and lost in tow of an American war vessel when on her way to an American port during a squall off Cat Island in the West Indies. Engineers have decreed her unworthy of a second attempt at salvage.

The two secondary vessels of Admiral Cervera's fleet, the torpedo boats Furor and Pluton, lie submerged not far from the harbor entrance. The safe of the Pluton and easily portable articles from her deck and cabins have been recovered. The Furor is still undisturbed. Both lie in comparatively shallow water.

Southern Lawyers Angry.

Boston, Mass.—Southern members of the American Bar association are threatening to secede unless William H. Lewis, the negro United States district attorney at Boston, ceases to be a member of the organization. Lewis has been told of the attitude of the Southern members, but he has no intention of resigning, he declares. Col. Alexander Troy of Montgomery, Ala., who thinks Lewis should be put out of the association, said: "I feel so deeply on the subject that I cannot trust myself to be quoted, except to say that the proposition before the American Bar association looks to me to be that if they keep their negro it will lose a thousand members throughout the South."

Farmer Killed in Race Riot.

Durant, Okla.—Horace Gibbs, a white farmer, was killed in a battle between five white men and five negroes near Caddo. The white men declare they were fired upon while passing the home of a negro named Daniels, while the negroes say that the whites threw a stick of dynamite at the hut and commenced firing. Feeling against the negroes is bitter and further race trouble is feared. A stick of dynamite with the fuse partly burned was found near the hut.

Treaty-Making Power Attacked.

Washington.—One of the most serious attacks ever made upon the treaty making power of the United States will mark the opening of the coming term of the Supreme court of the United States next month. The Italian government, through its consul general on the Pacific coast, will argue that the United States possesses broad enough treaty-making power to deal with the settlement of estates of foreigners who die in this country without leaving wills.

LIFE'S DISAPPOINTMENTS



ANTICIPATION

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REALIZATION

UNION SAYS HOLD COTTON

South Should Be Abundantly Able to Finance and Handle its Own Crop.

Union City, Ga.—National President Charles S. Barrett of the Farmers' union made his first official expression regarding the attitude of that big organization in the battle that is coming this fall to maintain the price of cotton at a proper level.

"The Farmers' union," says President Barrett, "issues an invitation to the entire South to co-operate with it in saving to this section many million dollars on the cotton crop of 1911-12. It is the banker, the smallest citizen, no less than the farmer, to figure the difference between 8 or 9-cent cotton and 13 or 14-cent cotton. The fight we are going to win is not alone in behalf of the farmer. It is waged in the interest of the Southern business world, as a whole. To that degree, it is not only the duty, but the individual profit, of every element in the Southern states to join hands with the Farmers' union, to the end that the powerful machinery of this organization may be brought to bear with complete success upon the present situation."

"To the farmer, whether or not a member of the Farmers' union, my imperative advice is 'hold your cotton!' It is worth infinitely more than the price now quoted. You should first go to hold. Your own banker knows you debt, and borrow sufficient money, with cotton as collateral, to enable you to hold. Your own banker knows you best, and it is in his interest to aid you in the fight. Should he fail you—and I don't think he will—you can depend on us for assistance."

"The Farmers' union does not intend that a clique of bear gamblers or domestic and foreign spinners shall combine to dictate the price of our product, or to rob the section of a tremendous sum of money. It is for the South we are working. Now is the time for every Southerner to prove his business insight, and it is not the time for hypocritical pretensions. It is a cold matter of dollars and cents. If the farmer suffers, the business man, every business interest, suffers along with him."

"The South ought to be abundantly able to finance and hold its own principal product. The accomplishment should be a matter of pride, as well as of common sense. Practical men realize that the cotton crop of the opening season will not be nearly so large as it has been reported. We, who have investigated, know that there will be a demand, at a fair price, for every pound of the staple produced. The main thing is for the farmer, large or small, organized and unorganized, to get together and resolve that he will not be cheated out of the result of his toil."

\$5,000,000 School for Alabama.

Nashville, Tenn.—Ragland, Ala., will get the five million dollar industrial school for white children which is to be established by the Southern bureau of education with funds to be given, it is said, by Rockefeller, the Russell Sage foundation, Mrs. E. W. Harriman and others. This was decided at a meeting in Nashville of the board of directors of the bureau. Ragland offered a five thousand acre site.

Champ Clark Roasts Taft.

Quincy, Ill.—Champ Clark, speaker of the national house of representatives, replied to President Taft's speech delivered at Hamilton, Mass. The speaker accused the president of not stating facts. He said he did not reply for the insurgent Republicans, who, "no doubt, will take up the cudgels in their own behalf." He declared that if the tariff board is to be used as a pretext for delaying tariff revision downward, the Democrats will cut off its supplies.

To Consider Cotton Bills.

New Orleans.—A meeting of Southern bankers, cotton brokers and others interested in the handling of cotton was called by the bills of lading committee of the New Orleans cotton exchange, to be held in New Orleans, September 15, to consider the Liverpool plan for the validation of bills of lading. Practically all the cotton exchanges have expressed disapproval of the Liverpool plan of establishing a central bureau of validation in New York.

COTTON CROP SHOWS LOSS

DROP OF SLIGHTLY OVER 14 POINTS SHOWN DURING MONTH OF AUGUST.

Severe Droughts, Hot Winds and Worms Responsible for the Heavy Drop.

New York.—According to 1,900 replies of special correspondents of the Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin bearing an average mail date of August 23, 24 percentage condition of cotton was on that date 72.6, as compared with 86.9 a month ago. This compares with 70.7 per cent. last year, 66 per cent. in 1909, 78.1 per cent. in 1908 and 73.9 in 1907. The ten year average is 73.9 per cent., and the loss of 14.3 points during the month of August is the greatest in that month in the past ten years. The most important declines occurred in Texas and Oklahoma, respectively, 21.4 points and 19.1, where severe droughts and hot winds and worms caused heavy shedding.

Well informed and conservative correspondents incline to the belief that the deterioration shown in this month's crop reports has been unduly exaggerated, consciously or unconsciously, by the active agitation in the cotton belt against large crop estimates. These returns must, therefore, be accepted accordingly, and due allowance made for popular lies.

Since the date of these mail advices general rains have greatly relieved conditions and considerably improvement is expected. Other heavy losses occurred in Georgia, 10.9 points; Alabama, 12.8 points; Mississippi, 12.3 points; Louisiana, 14.8 points, and Arkansas, 15.6 points.

THE CENTER OF POPULATION

Bloomington, Indiana, is Exact Center of Population.

Washington.—The center of population of the United States was announced by Director of the Census Durand to be in the western part of Bloomington, Monroe county, Indiana. This is eight miles further west than the location announced July 17, when Director Durand placed it 4 1/4 miles south of Unionville, in the same county.

The exact longitude of the center of population is 86 degrees 32 minutes and 20 seconds west, a difference of 9 seconds, or 8 miles, from the previous announcement.

Publicity Law Defective.

Washington.—Primary election expenses statements from Senators Martin and Swanson of Virginia, the first to be filed under the new publicity law that went into effect August 19, reached the office of Secretary Bennett of the senate. In the absence of Secretary Bennett, officials of his office declined to make them public. Following this declination a careful examination of the new publicity law resulted in the startling disclosure that in the act, presumed to be most drastic, there is no requirement for publicity of the individual statements filed by candidates for the senate or the house.

Two New Battleships.

Washington.—The two new battleships authorized by the last naval act probably will be of 8,500 tons displacement, or the biggest war vessels in the world. The largest ships so far designed for the American navy are the New York and Texas, with a displacement of 27,000 tons each, and it became known only that the navy department contemplated exceeding their size. The new ships will have heavier armor than ever before put on a battleship.

Madero Named by Acclamation.

Mexico City.—With no dissenting voice Francisco I. Madero received the nomination of the Progressive party for president, but Dr. Francisco Vasquez, his old running mate and erstwhile agent of the Revolution at Washington, was grilled by partisans of three other candidates for the vice presidency. When the convention adjourned no other man for the vice presidency than Vasquez Gomez had been considered. Madero's was the only name presented.

CENTRAL BUREAU CHECKING BILLS

AGREEMENT INTENDED TO SAFEGUARD COTTON SHIPPING DOCUMENTS EFFECTIVE.

THE RAILROADS ADOPT PLAN

Liverpool Bill of Lading Validation Scheme Opposed by Southern Exchanges.

New York.—The new agreement intended to safeguard cotton shipping documents went into effect, and the central bureau provided for in that agreement began its activities with the backing of practically all the cotton-carrying railroads, it was announced here by the Liverpool cotton bills of lading conference committee in a statement which explained the plan adopted, and answered various criticisms. The committee says it issued the statement "in order to clear up any misapprehension that may have arisen from recent newspaper comment, especially in the South, and to make clear the ends to which the committee has been working. The statement refers to the safeguarding previously of ocean bills of lading.

New Orleans, La.—Not until the New Orleans conference of representatives of Southern exchanges, commercial organizations, bankers and others interested in the handling of cotton takes place, September 18, under the auspices of the New Orleans cotton exchange, is any action expected concerning the Liverpool bills of lading validation scheme which has just become effective.

The central bureau plan has been vigorously opposed by every Southern exchange in strong resolutions, and although this plan became effective, members of the local exchange and exporters declare that they will continue to transact business with their foreign connections under the same conditions prevailing since the inauguration of cotton trading with Europe.

LAWYERS DRAW COLOR LINE

Baristers Oppose Admittance of Negro Lewis to Bar Association.

Boston.—When a considerable number of members in the American Bar association learned that in admitting William H. Lewis of Boston to membership, they had admitted a negro, there came a storm of protest and several threats to resign were made unless Lewis drops out voluntarily or otherwise.

The Boston negro was proposed for membership by the local branch of the association and elected in due course. It was not then known by the Southern members that he was a negro.

Lewis was recently appointed assistant United States attorney general by President Taft.

Gen. Peter W. Meldrim of Savannah, speaking for himself and others of his territory, said: "I think that Lewis is a respectable man, but he is not the person a man and his wife would receive in their homes. I don't think Lewis the kind of man who would thrust himself upon any person. I know that some of my New England friends feel the same way about the situation as I do."

Boston.—William H. Lewis, the assistant attorney general of the United States, declared that he would not resign his membership in the American Bar association, to which he was elected, notwithstanding certain Southern members of the society expressed themselves strongly against the admittance of the Boston negro.

No Recognition for Federation.

Chicago.—C. H. Markham, president of the Illinois Central railroad, took a hand in the conference with union representatives, in which the men seek to induce the road to recognize the newly-organized federation. He apparently was unwilling to recede from the road's previous stand of treating only with the representatives of the unions involved. The labor men here let it be known that their future action will depend upon the instructions they receive from their presidents.

Peace Coming, Says Taft.

Boston, Mass.—"Arbitration of disputes between nations is coming slowly but surely coming," said President Taft in his address before the American Bar association. The president briefly reviewed the proposed general arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France, and made it plain that in his opinion the objections made to the treaties were invalid. President Taft declared emphatically that there is room for improvement in procedure in the Federal courts.

Mack Presents Name of Dix.

Buffalo, N. Y.—Chairman Norman E. Mack of the Democratic national committee presents Gov. John A. Dix of New York as a Democratic presidential possibility. Governor Dix is the fifth prominent Democrat to be brought forward by Chairman Mack in a series of articles on Democratic presidential possibilities. The others are: Governor Harmon of Ohio, Governor Wilson of New Jersey, Governor Marshall of Indiana and Governor Foss of Massachusetts.

FOUR PERSONS ARE KILLED IN WRECK

THERE WERE FORTY OTHERS INJURED IN ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA COLLISION.

ENGINEER LOSES HIS LIFE

Two Passengers Killed, a Hobo and a Number Injured in Accident That Was Caused by Collision of Freight and Passenger Train.

Erie, Pa.—Four are dead and at least forty injured, as the result of the wreck of the Erie & Pittsburgh passenger train No. 201. The wreck occurred at Dock Junction, 4 miles west of this city, and came as the result of a collision between the Erie & Pittsburgh train and a Lake Shore freight that was backing into a switch to allow the passenger train to get through. The wreck occurred within minutes behind its schedule.

The dead are: John S. Jones, engineer, of West Tenth street, Erie; fireman, name unknown; Tramp, riding on train; Unknown passenger in smoker.

A telephone message was received here for every available ambulance and physicians. A relief train was also hurried to the scene of the disaster and by this time the entire train was a mass of flames. The four dead had been pinned under the wreckage and at last report their bodies had not been recovered.

Nineteen injured have been reported at the city hospitals up to last report and more are yet to come from the wreck.

According to reports in railroad circles Engineer Jones, who was in charge of the passenger, disregarded a red light and this was the cause of the collision. He was running thirty minutes behind his schedule and was endeavoring to make up some of the lost time when the accident occurred. The smoking car was turned half over and the injured crawled through the broken windows. Those of the passengers who had escaped uninjured rushed to the assistance of those less fortunate. The fire on the cars was extinguished before they were completely burned.

Kills Sweetheart and Himself.

Quoque, N. Y.—Miss Katherine Van Wyck, 19 years old, a niece of former Mayor Robert A. Van Wyck, and of Supreme Court Justice Augustus Van Wyck, while walking on the seashore was shot and killed by William A. Childs, Jr., the son of a wealthy retired dealer in electrical supplies. After killing the young woman Childs shot and killed himself. Childs had been attentive to Miss Van Wyck. Both were walking on the beach when Childs suddenly drew a revolver and began shooting. It is supposed Miss Van Wyck failed to reciprocate Childs' attentions. Before bystanders could reach the couple, Miss Van Wyck was dead and Childs was dying. The young woman's family, which is prominent in Brooklyn, has a cottage here.

Winners of State Tournament Shoot.

Lynchburg, Va.—At the twelfth annual tournament of the Virginia Trapshooters Association here a Lynchburg team consisting of Fox, Daniel, Winfree, Fisher and Dennis won the State team championship, breaking 225 out of 250 targets. Lester German of Aberdeen, Md., made the best score for the professional shooters, breaking 145 out of 150, and Dr. Richards of Roanoke led the amateurs with a record of 140 out of 150 targets. The shot in near future. The state individual championship will be

Refuse to Meet Representatives.

Chicago.—President Markham of the Illinois Central Railroad ended hopes of an immediate settlement of the labor difficulties of the road by directing a letter to F. Kramer, secretary of the International Blacksmiths' Union, refusing to meet the representatives of the Federated Shop Employees as had been requested.

Labor Day Was a Failure.

New York.—Despite ideal weather Labor Day failed to draw the expected number of marchers into the procession. Conservative estimates of the number in line were 40,000 of whom perhaps 1,000 were women. The McNamara case was prominently referred to. A majority of all banners and transparencies of the parade were in praise of J. J. McNamara, who is under arrest for alleged connection with the wrecking of the plant of the Los Angeles Times. Detective W. J. Burns came in for condemnation.

The New York Athletics Win.

Baltimore.—The senior eight-oared shell race proved to be the premier event of the Middle states regatta, which was decided over the one-mile Spring Gardens course here. The New York Athletic Club, rowing in superb form, won the race, with Vesper Boas Club of Philadelphia, Ariel Rowing Club of Baltimore and Arundel Boat Club of Baltimore finishing in the order named. The New Yorkers' clock-like stroke carried them into the lead at the quarter-mile.