

# POLK COUNTY NEWS

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TRYON, POLK COUNTY, N. C. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1915.

ESTABLISHED MAY, 1894.

## FIFTY ARE KILLED 200 ARE INJURED

### GASOLINE TANK CAR EXPLODES IN HEART OF ARDMORE, OKLAHOMA.

## MANY BIG FIRES STARTED

### Windows in City Are Shattered. Main Street Business Houses Damaged—Deaths of Heroism.

Ardmore, Okla.—A spark from a workman's hammer ignited a tank car of gasoline here and from the ruins of two city blocks, razed by the resulting explosion and the fires which followed, 31 bodies had been recovered. The property loss is estimated at \$500,000.

Fifty persons are believed to have been crushed or burned to death while pinned under the debris of stores, wholesale houses and the Ardmore Railroad station. Search among the ruins was proceeding methodically, the workers centering their efforts on the mass of lumber and bricks which had been a department store and where it was feared the bodies of employees would be found.

A score of fires caused by the flaming liquid which was thrown for blocks when the car which contained 250 barrels of gasoline exploded were gotten under control after two hours' work by the small local fire department and where it was feared the city was placed under martial law immediately.

Private homes were immediately thrown open to the injured and scores of men were working in the smoldering ruins along Main street in search for additional victims.

Not a building on Main street escaped damage, either as a result of the force of the explosion or of the fires following.

All school buildings, business houses and residences within 12 blocks of the business district, bear evidence of the explosion and practically every window in the city was shattered by its force.

Two workmen were busy repairing the tank at 2:30 in the afternoon. Suddenly one of them struck it with a hammer. A spark from the blow ignited fumes escaping through a small hole. There was a terrific explosion followed by many smaller ones. The workmen were blown to pieces. The shock shattered the Ardmore Railroad station, used by the Santa Fe, Frisco and Rock Island Railroads, and the Rock Island freight station and scores of other buildings quickly took fire from the flying liquid.

## JUTE WINS OVER COTTON.

### Postoffice Department Will Use Jute Twine Next Year.

Washington.—Jute instead of cotton twine will be used by the Postoffice Department during the year beginning November 1, for tying letters. The contract for furnishing jute has been awarded the Ludlow Manufacturing Association of Boston, Mass., at \$0.099 a pound deemed to be the lowest bid for furnishing either jute or cotton submitted to the department. Cotton is being used this year at \$0.1323.

The cotton twine bidders were: Beaumont Manufacturing Company, Spartanburg, S. C., at \$0.1687; Glencoe Cotton Mills, Columbia, S. C., at \$0.165 and the Lancaster Cotton Mills, Lancaster, S. C., at \$0.15875. Subsequent to the opening of the bids the Lancaster Mills was permitted upon its request to withdraw its bid.

During the year 2,500,000 pounds of jute twine will be used by the department. Cotton now is being used. The jute contract amounts to \$247,000.

## Horn Files Another Appeal.

Boston.—Werner Horn, the German army reservist who tried to blow up the International bridge between Canada and the United States at Vanceboro, Me., last February, filed an appeal from the decision of the Federal court in denying his release on a writ of habeas corpus.

## Austria Will Recall Dumba.

Washington.—Dr. Constantin Dumba, Austro-Hungarian ambassador to the United States, will be formally recalled by his government, according to assurances given American Ambassador Penfield at the Vienna foreign office. Mr. Penfield had been instructed to make clear informally that "leave of absence" for Doctor Dumba would not satisfy the request of the United States in its formal note asking for the recall of Dr. Dumba. Mr. Penfield was advised that the wishes of the United States would be complied with.

## A COMMISSION TO STUDY TARIFF LAW

### NATIONAL FOREIGN TRADE COUNCIL CONSIDERS ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

## HIGHEST INTEREST OF U. S.

### Duty Shall Be to Investigate Report to the Council of the Present United States Tariff System.

New York.—Consideration of a resolution recommending the establishment of a commission to study the tariff law of the United States in its relation to foreign trade and the reception of reports on various phases of export commerce, occupied the attention of the National Foreign Trade Council here. The council decided to hold its next meeting in New Orleans early next year.

Thirty-five members of the council prominent in transportation, manufacturing and banking attended the meeting over which James A. Ferrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation and chairman of the council, presided.

The resolution concerning the tariff declares it to be the sense of the council, that the "highest interests of the United States requires that the authority conferred upon the President to negotiate commercial treaties should be exercised so as to assure American exports reciprocal and equivalent foreign tariff treatment in return for the valuable market here given for foreign products and to obtain the removal of undue discrimination against the products of the United States."

The council is urged in the resolution to establish a tariff commission to include at least five active business men, and one tariff expert, who may or may not be members of the council, "whose duty it shall be to investigate the report to the council upon the efficacy of the present United States tariff system for the promotion of export trade and its protection from undue discriminations by foreign governments."

## APPEALS TO AID ARMENIANS.

### America Will Be Asked to Come to Relief of Victims of Turk.

Washington.—Information from Ambassador Morgenthau at Constantinople to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions concerning the plight of Armenians in Turkey banished to isolated towns for alleged hostility to the Turkish government will be the basis of a nationwide appeal to the American people for assistance similar to that made for homeless Belgians.

The plan for sending to the Armenians will be carried out without any official participation by the United States government for it is understood that the Turkish foreign office has let it be known that it will brook no interference with the policy from any foreign power.

It was revealed at the state department that since Ambassador Morgenthau's protest to the foreign office in Constantinople against reported ill-treatment of Armenians nothing further had been done by this government.

## Force Passage Through Serbia.

Nish, Serbia, via Paris.—The best information obtainable here is that there are 800,000 German troops available for an attempt to force a passage through Serbia. It is felt in Nish that this movement will be undertaken, although when is not known.

## Palace Damaged.

Geneva, via Paris.—News has reached Romanshorn, Switzerland, that the right wing of the Royal Palace at Stuttgart was badly damaged in the air raid by Allied aviators. One bomb exploded in the saloon. It is known that several members of the Royal family were in the residence.

## Early Release of Goods.

Washington.—State department officials expressed confidence of an early and satisfactory completion of informal negotiations for the release of American owned goods of German and Austrian origin held at Rotterdam because of the British restrictions. Further conferences with British Embassy officials were held and Foreign Trade Adviser Fleming later announced a belief "that the matter will be brought to a head at an early moment and adjusted to the satisfaction of the great body of American importers."

## KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

### Mrs. Beulah Hoover, of Weaversville, Instantly Killed When Auto Striks Tree By Roadside.

Asheville.—Mrs. Beulah Hoover of Weaversville, a well-known resident of this section of the state, was killed when the automobile in which she was riding was hurled into a tree and demolished. The machine was driven by Kenneth Gill of Weaversville, and belonged to his father, Dr. J. N. Gill. The driver was bringing Mrs. Hoover and her daughter, Miss Virginia Hoover, to Asheville. The young woman was to take a train to Spartanburg where she intended to enter Converse College.

The driver was rounding a curve when an approaching wagon made it necessary that he strike it or drive from the roadway. He chose to do the latter with fatal results. Miss Hoover and Mr. Gill were not hurt.

## Want New Highway

Fayetteville.—For the purpose of inspecting Cumberland county's sand-clay roads as a part of their preparation for inaugurating an energetic good roads campaign in Bladen, a party of prominent men from Bladen county were in Fayetteville recently. Their trip will carry them over the counties of Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke and Lee, where pointers as to the value of the different kinds of road-building material will be picked up. J. Beatty, chairman of Bladen's board of county commissioners, is at the head of the party.

The primary object of the Bladen men in inaugurating the movement at this time is to secure the Wilmington-Charlotte Highway. There are several contemplated routes for this highway.

## Hotel For Mount Mitchell.

Asheville.—That local investors and visiting capitalists have made arrangements to build a modern hotel of 50 rooms at the summit of Mount Mitchell was the announcement authorized at this city. Work will be started on the structure in time to permit its opening by the beginning of next spring. Boulders from Mount Mitchell will be used in the construction of the foundation and the wall will be constructed of immense logs from the mountain top. The rustic style of architecture will be used and modern conveniences will be provided.

## Patents For Tar Heels.

Washington.—Davis & Davis, patent attorneys, report the grant to citizens of North Carolina of the following patents: Frank A. Lyons, Charlotte, trousers-stretcher; William A. Robinson, Old Fort, ice-cream cone filler; Francis W. Bost, China Grove, circuit closer for fire alarms; William H. Dock, Wilmington, hoe; George W. Sutfath, Wilmington, tumbler washing and rinsing machine.

## Killed in Runaway.

Thomasville.—While returning to his home in the country four miles from Thomasville, Cyrus Hilton, a Confederate veteran, was thrown from his buggy and injured so that he died within an hour. There was no witness to the accident, but from appearances he must have been thrown on his head as his skull was broken.

## WEATHER FORECAST.

South Atlantic and East Gulf States.—Rain and high winds are probable in East Gulf States and local rains in South Atlantic States first half of week. Latter half will be fair and cooler.

## NORTH CAROLINA MARKET.

### Prices of Cotton, Corn, Oats, Peas, Butter, Eggs, Etc., on North Carolina Markets During Past Week.

Asheville—Cotton, 9 3/4c; corn, 98c bu; Irish potatoes, \$1.75 bbl; Western butter, 32 3/4c lb; N. C. butter, 30c lb; eggs, 20-22c doz.  
Asheville—Corn, 94c bu; oats 47c bu; Irish potatoes, \$1.25 bbl; apples, \$2.50 bbl; Western butter, 30c lb; N. C. butter, 30c lb; eggs, 24-26c doz.  
Charlotte—Cotton, 10 1/4c; corn, 95c bu; Irish potatoes, \$2 bbl; Western butter, 30c lb; N. C. butter, 30s lb; eggs, 25c doz.  
Durham—Cotton, 9 1/2c; Irish potatoes, \$2.25 bbl; apples, \$3 bbl; Western butter, 30c lb; N. C. butter, 30c lb; eggs, 21-22c doz.  
Fayetteville—Cotton, 10 1/4c; corn, 90c bu; Irish potatoes, \$2 bbl; apples, \$3 bbl; N. C. butter, 30c lb; eggs, \$1.90 bbl; N. C. butter, 30c lb; eggs, 20-22c doz.  
Raleigh—Cotton, 10 1/4c; corn, 95c bu; oats, 47c bu; Irish potatoes, \$1.50 bbl; apples, \$2.50 bbl; Western butter, 30c lb; N. C. butter, 29c lb; eggs, 24-26c doz.  
Rocky Mount—Corn, 1 1/2 bu; oats, 60c bu; Western butter, 30c lb; N. C. butter, 30c lb; eggs, 25c doz.  
Salisbury—Cotton, 10c; corn, \$1 bu; oats, 50c bu; Irish potatoes, \$1.80 bbl; eggs, 30c doz.  
Scotland Neck—Cotton, 10 1/4c; corn, 90c bu; oats, 55c bu; Irish potatoes, 1.50 bbl; N. C. butter, 30c lb; eggs, 25c doz.

## SCHENCK, PIONEER COTTON MAN, DIES

### COTTON MANUFACTURER OF CLEVELAND COUNTY, AGED EIGHTY YEARS.

## WAS MAN OF GREAT FORCE

### Served as Major in Civil War.—Built Railroad Singlehanded, and First Cotton Mill in Cleveland.

Shelby.—Major H. F. Schenck, pioneer cotton manufacturer, legislator, financier and friend of education, died in the Rutherfordton Hospital recently. He was president of the Cleveland Mill and Power Company, Lawndale Railroad, board of directors of board of trustees of Thomasville orphanage, vice president of Lily Mill and Power Company. He would have been 80 years old in November.

Major Schenck was an active man of good habits, superb business acumen and unapproachable character. For a number of years he was moderator of the Kings Mountain Baptist Association. When a young man he graduated at Cokesbury Military School in South Carolina and was elected colonel of the state militia after his return home.

When the war between the states came on he organized company "F" Fifty Sixth Regiment and had highest respect and confidence of his men. At camp Mangum near Raleigh he was elected major in which capacity he served until ill health caused him to resign his commission. He came home and took to farming in which he regained health. In 1873 he built the first cotton mill in Cleveland. In 1888 he built another mill at Lawndale into which the Cleveland Mill was merged, during panic of 1897. He never took to politics, although the Democrats called on him to make the race for legislature in 1887. He was elected and served with honor and distinction.

Michael Schenck, his grandfather, a German-Swiss who came to Lincoln county from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, built the first cotton mill in the state. Major Schenck was married to Miss Lou Lattimore, who survives at age of 79, together with children, Mrs. Thomas J. Rameuse of Lincoln county; Mrs. J. O. E. Osborne, John Schenck, associated with him in business.

No less than 1,500 people attended the funeral exercises conducted in the auditorium of the Piedmont High School, of which he was the proud father.

Rev. J. W. Suttle had charge of the exercises and was assisted by J. V. Devenny, W. E. Abernethy and A. C. Irvin, a Civil War comrade. The school choir furnished music. Principal W. D. Burns told of the Major's friendship for the institution. Clyde R. Hoey paid a tribute to the Major as a citizen and business man. Congressman Webb spoke of what he considered the Major's chief characteristics—kindness and liberality.

## First Cargo of Cotton.

Wilmington.—The first cargo of cotton to be exported from this port since the new cotton season opened left when the British vessel Sowell sailed for Genoa, Italy, with 13,070 bales from Alexander Sprunt & Son. The cargo was valued at approximately \$50,000. There are three other British vessels here for cotton and two of them are expected to sail this week.

## Public Health Meeting.

Gastonia.—A public meeting of the Gaston County Medical Society will be held in the court house here Wednesday night, October 6, when Dr. J. W. Babcock of Columbia, S. C., an expert of nation-wide reputation on pellagra will deliver an address on "A Study of the Early Writers on Pellagra."

## Polk Sure to be at Kings Mountain.

Washington.—Ex-Gov. J. W. Polk of Missouri told C. H. Martin of Senator Simmons office, that he would be at Kings Mountain, October 7, without fail.

## Ship Carload of Meat.

West Raleigh.—The department of animal industry of the North Carolina Experiment Station is planning to ship a carload of meat to Richmond or Baltimore next spring. This shipment will be made from Moore county and will comprise meat grown by Moore county farmers and also by farmers of adjoining counties. Dan T. Gray, chief of the bureau, states that this is the first of a number of efforts that will be made during the coming year to help North Carolina farmers establish a market elsewhere.

## LAST OF BALKANS READY FOR FIGHT

### GREECE HAS ORDERED MOBILIZATION OF NAVAL AND MILITARY FORCES.

## "ELEMENTARY PRUDENCE"

### Greece Does Not Wait For Bulgaria to Make Decision.—Ready For Any Emergency.

London.—As "a measure of elementary prudence," Greece has ordered the mobilization of her naval and military forces. Thus the action on Bulgaria in making military preparations has brought the last remaining Balkan State under arms, for Rumania, while not fully mobilized, for sometime has had her troops ready for an emergency.

What plans Bulgaria really has in mind and what Greece and Rumania will do when these plans mature are still matters for speculation. One thing seems clear, however, Bulgaria and Turkey for so many years worn enemies, have composed their differences.

The successes which the Russian General Ivanoff has been having in Galicia and Volhynia, it is considered in military circles here, may still have an influence in more than one way in the Balkans.

General Ivanoff has been so successful that German Field Marshal von Mackensen, who is fighting north of the Pripet marshes, eastward of Brest Litovsk, has, according to the German official report, been compelled to withdraw his line somewhat, as it was in danger of being encircled, while the Austrians have been driven back across the Styra, and, according to one account, have evacuated the fortress of Lutsk, in the Volhynia triangle of fortresses, which they captured during the great drive.

These successes, which extend to the Rumanian frontier, would, in the opinion of military observers serve to ease the situation on the Rumanian flank should Rumania join Russia and in addition might well prevent the Austro-Germans from sending an army, which it is estimated must consist of at least 500,000 men, to make an attack on Serbia.

In the center the Russians are still falling back, while in the north Field Marshall von Hindenburg continues to make progress with his offensive against Dvinsk, although at a much slower rate than formerly, as the Russians are stiffening their resistance. East of Vilna the Germans admit a temporary check, during which they lost guns to the Russians.

There has been a continuation of the furious artillery struggle in the west. According to the Berlin official report a British attack south of the LaBasse canal broke down under the German fire.

After a fortnight of comparative inactivity during which they sank only five British merchant ships German submarines again are on the move on the Irish coast.

## CARRANZA PROTECTS BANDITS.

### Mexicans Attack Progreso, Texas, and Are Aided in Escape.

Brownsville, Tex.—Several hundred Mexicans under shelter of a half mile of trenches covered the retreat of 70 to 80 Mexicans who outtacked the village of Progreso, Tex., 35 miles above here on the Rio Grande River, according to the official report of Major Edward Anderson of the Twelfth Cavalry.

Reports said that at least four, and probably more Mexican bandits were killed. Two of the Mexicans were killed on the American side, two while crossing the river in boats and four others are believed to have lost their lives while scrambling up the banks of the Rio Grande on the Mexican side.

About 1,000 shots fired by the Americans at the Mexicans as they were crossing the Rio Grande killed two Mexicans in boats, while several more were reported hit as they made their way in the direction of safety on the Mexican side.

The Mexican band of 70 or 80 first attacked and looted the store of Florencio Saenz at Progreso at daybreak. While these operations were in progress a detachment of troop C, twelfth cavalry, numbering 12 men, came to Progreso from the bank of the river where they spent the night. Private Stubblefield stepped on the porch of the store. As he did so two shots were fired from the interior of the building, both striking Stubblefield in the body, killing him instantly. The soldiers were not aware of the presence of the Mexicans.

## FRENCH AND BRITISH ADVANCE IN WEST

### TWENTY MILES OF TRENCHES AND 20,000 UNWOUNDED SOLDIERS TAKEN.

## A LARGE NUMBER OF GUNS

### French Have Most Credit For Gains.—German Positions Around Verdun Weaken.

London.—The German trenches along a front of 20 miles between the Belgian coast and Verdun, and more than 20,000 unwounded prisoners, besides 32 guns and many machine guns have been captured by the British and French armies in the first offensive movement on the Western front in months.

The offensive followed a several weeks' almost incessant bombardment of German positions with big guns, which late last week increased in intensity, particularly in the sections where the infantry attacks took place. Simultaneously with the drive of the armies British warships and French and Belgian batteries heavily bombarded the German positions on the coast between Zeebrugge and Ieperport.

The French, who have the most important gains to their credit, made their chief onset against the German lines around Perthes, Beausejour and Sulpes in Champagne, where in December they made a considerable gain of ground, and also north of Arras, where Souchez was stormed and captured.

The French communication says the Allied forces continue to gain ground in Champagne. With the Advances thus recorded, this offensive has given the French possession of more territory than they had retaken from the Germans since the latter dug themselves in after the battle of the Marne.

According to the French account, the Germans were driven out of their trenches over a front of more than 15 miles, varying in depth from two-thirds of a mile to two and a half miles. The French in this engagement captured 12,000 prisoners. Apparently the advantage is being pressed still further, as the French communication makes only the briefest mention of the operation.

The importance of this gain lies in the fact that every yard of ground taken in this region weakens the German position around Verdun from which the Germans might be compelled to retire should the French succeed in making any further advance.

## ANOTHER BROADWAY CAVE-IN.

### Three Injured When Street Sank Into Subway.

New York.—One death and the injury of three other persons resulted from the caving in of the street over the new subway in Broadway near 28th street. An unidentified woman, who was caught in the falling debris, died later in a hospital. The others injured were men. The police and firemen continued their search for several workmen reported missing.

The accident occurred a few blocks from the heart of the theatre district shortly before 8 o'clock and Broadway was crowded with people.

The weakening of supports in the subway, due to weight of traffic, is believed to have caused the beams and planking to collapse, making a hole about 50 feet long, extending about half way across Broadway. The pit was about 30 feet deep.

Two of the injured, a man and a woman were in an automobile that was carried down into the hole. The other person injured was believed to be a workman.

## Smuggled Bulgarians Across Border.

Toledo, O.—Charged with smuggling 800 or more Bulgarians from Windsor, Ont., to Toledo, then to Toledo, Mike Tonoff, a Bulgarian, was arrested here by Government officers. The arrest followed affidavits made by some of the men brought across.

## Conditions of Big Loan.

New York.—The Anglo-French financial commission and Eastern bankers have reached a virtual agreement on the details of the proposed billion dollar credit loan to Great Britain and France. Following are the details of the loan agreed upon: The amount—approximately \$500,000,000; the securities—Joint Anglo-French notes; the interest rate—5 per cent to yield the investor about 5 1/2 per cent by the notes being offered at slightly under par.