

THE DAILY PRESS is the only newspaper published in Newport News that receives the full news service of the Associated Press.

Daily Press

THE WEATHER.
Rain Thursday morning, becoming fair; Friday, fair warmer; light variable winds becoming south.

VOL. XV, NO. 91. NEWPORT NEWS, VA., THURSDAY, APRIL 21 1910. PRICE TWO CENTS

HEARST STAMPS O. K. ON PRESIDENT TAFT

Former Aspirant for Democratic Nomination to Presidency Endorses Chief Executive.

ROOSEVELT COMES IN FOR MOST SEVERE ROAST

Leader of Independence Party Denounces the Rough Rider and Sings Praises of Present Occupant of the White House in Statement Issued While He is in Washington.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 20.—William Randolph Hearst, former aspirant for the Democratic nomination for the presidency issued tonight a statement over his own signature in which he unqualifiedly indorses Mr. Taft. In doing so he also criticizes in severest terms the administration of President Roosevelt and in so many words warns the American nation against a renewal of the possible domination of the former president.

RIFLES NAME NEW FIRST LIEUTENANT

Lieutenant Marston Advanced and Sergeant Vaiden Takes His Place.

Company C, Fourth Virginia Regiment, National Guard, last night unanimously elected Second Lieutenant T. N. Marston first lieutenant of the company to succeed First Lieutenant George H. Huppert, resigned. Sergeant Henry K. Vaiden was unanimously named second lieutenant to fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Lieutenant Marston.

CONFER DEGREE ON CANDIDATES

Warwick Lodge, K. of P. to Have Interesting Time Tonight.
Warwick Lodge No. 72, Knights of Pythias, will center the amplified third on two candidates tonight in the lodge room on Washington avenue. It is expected that there will be a full attendance of members and a number of visiting lodgesmen will attend the exercises.

Oil Barge to be Repaired.
The Standard Oil Company's oil barge Saline will be hauled out in dry dock No. 3, at the shipyard, today to have extensive repairs made to her hull.

CAUSES EXCITEMENT IN STREET

Unfortunate Young Man Falls in Epileptic Fit.

A young white man, whose name could not be secured by the police, fell in an epileptic fit in front of the Bell theater, Washington avenue and Thirty-second street, about 10 o'clock last night. Quite a large crowd gathered on the scene within a few minutes and the police station was notified by phone. Detective Sergeant Henry Bridgers went to the scene in the patrol wagon.

Before the arrival of the officer, Dr. Cooper, who happened to be passing by, had ministered to the man and he was about regaining consciousness when the officer arrived. The sufferer was moved to his home in one of the flats nearby.

NEARLY FORTY MEN ARE BURIED IN MINE

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., April 20.—Between 35 and 40 men are entombed in the Olga mines of the Birmingham Coal & Iron Company, as the result of an explosion which occurred tonight and twenty-five are known to be dead. The explosion was of such force that the flames shot to a great height from the shaft.

Carfloats Repaired.

Repairs to the N. Y. P. & N. carfloats Nos. 5 and 8 have been completed and the floats will be hauled out of dry dock No. 3, at the shipyard, today.

TO REORGANIZE FLEET

New Rules are Fixed for Atlantic Battleships.

EFFECTIVE IN MAY OR JUNE

In Future Ships Requiring Repairs Beyond Capacity of Crews Will go to Divisional Home Yards, One at a Time—Reserve Fleet to be Created.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 20.—The navy department has just perfected plans for a sweeping reorganization of the Atlantic fleet which will take effect in May or June, when the ships make their annual visit to the navy yards for overhauling.

This will be the last occasion on which the fleet, as a whole, will be dispersed to their home yards except for periodic docking. Vessels requiring repairs beyond the capacity of their crews, will go to the divisional home yards, one at a time.

Number to Increase.

In July 1911, by the addition of the Florida and Utah and the completion of repairs upon several other ships, the Atlantic fleet will be increased to twenty-one battleships in full commission, making it practicable to keep seventeen always actively employed, the remaining four being at the home yards under repair.

Reserve Fleet.

A reserve fleet will be organized with the Iowa, Indiana and Massachusetts as a nucleus and the Wisconsin and Kearsarge classes will be added later on.

MOVING CASINO BUILDING.

Last of Structures Being Taken from Public Play Ground.

Workmen are now engaged in moving the front section of the last of the buildings on the Casino. A part of this building was moved several months ago, the other half being left on the Casino. This structure formerly was occupied by the Newport News Academy and was originally a bowling alley.

Surprise Party for Miss Parker.

A delightful surprise party was given last night to Miss Ellen Parker by a number of her friends at her home, 1140 Twenty-sixth street. Those present were: Misses Riddle, Caldwell, Mammie Bivins, Ellen Parker, Annie Parker, and Messrs. William James, Nedford Sears, Charles Crump, Eric Bradner, and Allen Huffman. The evening was spent in playing games after which dainty refreshments were served.

ANNEXATION CASE PROGRESSING NOW

Half of all the Evidence Has Been Heard by Judge Shackelford.

WITNESSES TELL WHY EXTENSION IS NEEDED

Prominent Property Owners Say Both City and Suburbs Would be Benefited—Auditor Livezey, of J. O. D. Land Company, on Stand for Defendants.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
WARWICK COURT HOUSE, VA., April 20.—Such rapid progress has been made in the hearing of the Newport News annexation proceedings on the merits, which began before Judge Shackelford in the Circuit Court this morning, that about half of all the testimony to be submitted to the court has been given. Ten of the twenty-three witnesses summoned for the city were on the stand today, and one of the witnesses for the parties defendant, who perhaps is the most important of the half a dozen summoned, was examined by agreement of counsel.

The city will conclude its testimony today, possibly this morning, and it is not improbable that all of the evidence for both sides will be in when court adjourns tonight. If such is the case, the proceedings should be in the hands of the court for disposition by Friday evening.

The City's Case.

City Attorney Massie put on testimony, including that of the superintendent of schools and the chief of the fire department, to prove that it is essential that the territory proposed to be annexed be taken into the city limits, in the interest of both the city and of the people living in the territory.

The one witness for the defendants heard today was W. B. Livezey, local auditor of the Old Dominion Land Company, who appeared on the stand armed with a lengthy and carefully prepared paper in which he set forth his reasons, and those of his company, for opposing the proposed annexation. Mr. Massie objected to the reading from this paper, but the reading was permitted on the ground that the witness was giving his reasons in answer to a question propounded by counsel.

Witnesses Yet to be Heard.

The witnesses summoned and yet to be examined are: Police Sergeant T. A. Mitchell and Officers S. G. Pearson, J. E. Earp and A. S. Padgett; T. A. Towler, G. T. Kellum, C. E. Stone, C. P. Jones, S. A. Howell, J. A. Somerville, E. F. Peyton, J. E. Claiborne, R. E. Spivey, S. D. Bock and E. C. Brown, for the city; Alderman C. D. West, President of the common council, D. S. Jones; Sol Miller, Alex Meyers and A. E. Edmonds, for the defense.

The School Question.

Prof. Willis A. Jenkins, superintendent of schools in Newport News, was the first witness called to the stand. Prof. Jenkins testified as to the schools located in and near the territory proposed to be annexed. He said that Warwick county had a white school on Twenty-eighth street in which there are 21 pupils, including ten from Elizabeth City county; a negro school on Ivy avenue with two teachers, one receiving twenty dollars per month and the other forty, and with 76 pupils in one room and 40 in another; a negro school at Dawson City with 62 pupils in one room, and a negro school on Chestnut avenue with 57 pupils on roll. It was explained that the schools are not graded and are opened only five months in the year. Witness said that the entire cost of taking care of all these pupils in the city schools would be about \$5,000 annually. In the territory proposed to be annexed in Elizabeth City county, it was stated, the county maintains no school and the nearest county school house is at Riverview, a mile and a quarter away. He said that the children could be accommodated in the city schools.

Condition of Board's Finances.

On cross examination by Mr. Read, Prof. Jenkins said that the city school board had a deficit of about \$2,000 in its treasury for this year, after \$10,000 additional revenue had been provided by the council. Mr. Read asked where the board expected to get the money necessary to provide for the county school children, and the

witness said "from the state and city."

Mr. Read wanted to know if it was not a fact that there was considerable friction between the school board and city council of Newport News. Witness replied that while there had been some talk on the part of individual members, he did not know of any official friction between the two bodies. Answering a question as to the conditions in the city schools, Prof. Jenkins said that since the erection of a new building on Jefferson avenue there was no crowding in the school houses, although he admitted that there was a necessity for a new High school building. Asked to explain what he meant by saying that the enrollment in the schools would increase if they were taken into the city, witness said that this was invariably the case.

Elizabeth City's Schools Good.

Mr. Cumming asked if it was not a fact that the Elizabeth City county public schools were as well equipped and conducted as any in the state, either in cities or in counties. Witness replied that this was true as to the white schools, although the colored schools are not graded and equipped as are the colored schools of the city. Mr. Cumming brought out the statement that the new George Wythe school, across Salter's creek from the city limits, is on a par with any public school in the state. There was some question as to the exact distance of this building from the limits of the city. In answer to questions by Mr. Cumming, Prof. Jenkins indicated on a map, which had been filed by Mr. Massie, all of the city public schools, with a brief description of each. Witness said that the total income of Newport News for school purposes for this year was about \$40,000, and admitted in response to a query from Mr. Cumming that \$4,200—more than ten per cent of the total income—was expended for janitor service. Mr. Cumming brought out figures to show the per capita cost of education in Newport News.

Mr. Cumming questioned the witness closely as to whether or not there is serious friction between the council and the school board of the city of Newport News. Mr. Jenkins admitted that there had been criticisms of the board and of the council by individual members, but he was not prepared to say that the friction in Newport News was more acute than that to be found existing in other cities and counties of the state.

Answering a question by Mr. Massie, Prof. Jenkins said that the schools of Newport News were progressive and up-to-date and that there were no better anywhere in the state. It was brought out that there are 73 public school teachers.

Fire Fighting Problem.

Chief W. K. Stow, of the Newport News fire department, was the next witness. He testified that on Ivy avenue the county had a reel given by the city and 500 feet of hose (bought in 1902) for fighting fire; that there were no fire fighting facilities in the county at the upper end of Chestnut avenue on Parrish avenue. He did not think any fire company was maintained on Ivy avenue. Nearly all of the buildings in this territory, he said, are frame. The city department has been called upon to fight fires in this section. The witness described the city fire department and indicated on the map the location of the three stations. He said that the East End fire station could take care of the territory proposed to be annexed in the easterly section, providing a completely equipped new station at or about Jefferson avenue and Nineteenth street. Witness told of various fires on Ivy avenue his department had been called upon to fight.

Questioned by Mr. Read, witness said that most of the buildings in the territory in question were low. He explained that under the contract water pressure, one serviceable stream of water could be gotten from a plug. Mr. Read brought out that the cost of establishing a new fire station like the city East End station would be about \$12,000.

Answering a question by Mr. Cumming the chief said that he thought he had been to a fire in the Elizabeth City territory between Chestnut avenue and the creek, but he could not state positively about that. Judge Montague asked about the time the Hampton fire department came to Newport News, when the Chesapeake & Ohio piers burned. The chief said that he did not call for the Hampton department and there was nothing for the visitors to do.

Will Recall Witness.

Witness refreshed his memory from records and said that he had attended 22 fires in the Ivy avenue district and 15 fires in the Chestnut avenue section. Mr. Cumming asked the witness to consult his records to ascertain the exact number of fires attended by the city department in Elizabeth City county, and reserved the right to recall the witness.

Judge Christian questioned the witness about the city regulations as

CHARRED BITS OF HER BODY IN COURT

Heartrending Testimony Unmoves Accused Slayer of Ruth Wheeler.

SISTER OF DEAD GIRL TELLS SURPRISING STORY

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, April 20.—No prisoner on trial for his life in the New York courts is remembered to have faced such an array of hostile facts and heartrending testimony with such stolid indifference, as did Albert Wolter today, when confronted with the charred fragments of the body that once was Ruth Wheeler, whom he is charged with luring to her death in his flat not a month ago.

Philip O'Hanlon, a coroner's physician, testified that Ruth Wheeler had been attacked before she was murdered, and that there was still life in her body when it was soaked with kerosine, jammed up the chimney of Wolter's flat and set afire. He had found human hair, not her own, adhering to the burned fingers. There fore he knew she had fought for her honor. There was soot in the lungs. A corpse does not breathe. Therefore he knew a living body had inhaled smoke and flame.

Prisoner Unshaken.

During this appalling testimony, which made the jurors fidget in their chairs, Wolter sat trim and listless, scanning indifferently the jurors, the gawsome exhibits themselves, and his lawyer.

He gave no sign of emotion when Adelaide Wheeler, 19 years old, and said to be a strong resemblance to her dead sister, took the stand. The girl identified a braid of artificial hair that had been her sister's, bits of underclothing that she knew by their texture, jewelry she had worn and lastly, what came as a surprise to the defense, a ring engraved with Ruth Wheeler's initials, which was found on the body.

CANDIDATES MUST FILE THEIR NOTICES SATURDAY

Secretary Davis, of City Committee, Will Sit at City Hall on April 23.

All candidates who wish to make the race for nomination to the city council in the Democratic primary which is to be held on Saturday, May 7, must file their notices before 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The entrance fee of \$5 must accompany each notice. For the convenience of the candidates, Secretary A. S. Davis, of the city Democratic committee, will sit at the city hall to receive the notices on Saturday afternoon from 2 to 4 o'clock.

Present indications are that there will be twenty candidates in the field for the twelve seats in the city council. Walter B. Livezey, who is offering for the board of aldermen to succeed Col. Holt in the Fourth ward, is the only candidate who is without opposition.

DANIEL WILL ARRIVE HOME NEXT SUNDAY

Senator's Condition so Much Improved He Will Leave Florida Saturday.

(By Associated Press.)
LYNCHBURG, VA., April 20.—United States Senator Daniel, of Virginia, who has been ill from paralysis at Daytona, Fla., for some time and for whose recovery grave fears were entertained, has improved to such an extent that he will start for Lynchburg on Saturday, reaching here Sunday.

Tug Crisfield Leaves.

The N. Y. P. & N. tug Crisfield, which has been undergoing repairs at the shipyard, left yesterday to continue her runs in the towing trade out of Norfolk.

WEALTH DASHED IN SEA

Throw Cargo of Stranded Liner Minnehaha Overboard.

PEOPLE GATHER IN RICHES

Inhabitants of Sicily Islands Make Rich Hauls From Waves as Many Valuables Are Dumped into the Water.

(By Associated Press.)
HUGHTOWN, ST. MARYS, SICILY, April 20.—The inhabitants of the rocky Sicily islands will forever remember this as the greatest day in their history. The Atlantic transport liner Minnehaha, which ran ashore early Monday morning, disgorged part of her 17,000 tons of valuable cargo, casting it upon the waters all day long to be gathered up by those who cared to take the trouble.

Farming and fishing were abandoned; school even was dismissed, and most of the population of the nearby islands, men, women and children devoted themselves to obtaining treasures from the waves.

The salvagers decided to try to rescue the Minnehaha by cutting her in half. Every effort to lighten the ship is now imperative. Tonight the waves beat up too high and strong for the tugs to go alongside. Consequently goods were thrown overboard from the forward hold as fast as the stevedores and a large crew could raise them to deck.

Various Articles Go.

Huge cases containing automobiles and pianolas followed one another over the side, striking the water with a great splash. Sewing machines and clocks went with them, while Michigan furniture floated everywhere. Many bales of cigarettes covered the face of the water and tons of cheap American novels drifted to the nearby shore of Brycoor, where they were piled like seaweed.

Tidings of this jettisoning of wealth spread early and a fleet of fishing craft, luggers and rowboats scurried to the scene. As fast as the cargo hit the water the enterprising businessmen pulled up the smaller cases, while they took the larger ones, in tow.

Ship's Position.

The Minnehaha lies pointing southward with Long Rock, in a parallel direction. She appears as though she were at anchor and smoke still curling from her funnel, adds to the illusion.

EDITOR DECLARES PRESS IS UNCLEAN

In Address at Yale Maj. Hemphill Pleads for Journalistic Purity.

SAYS NEWSPAPERS FALL IN WITH CORRUPT AGE

Times-Dispatch Writer Condemns Management of All New Publications as Beggars at the Door of Patronage and Points Out What Should be Real Duty.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW HAVEN, CONN., April 20.—Major J. C. Hemphill, editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch, made a plea for cleaner journalism in an address at Yale University tonight. He was delivering the first lecture under the Bromley Foundation, provided for by Mrs. Adelaide E. Bromley in memory of her husband, Isaac M. Bromley, Yale '53. The subject of his lecture was "The Public and the Press."

"The press, in these abundant times," said Major Hemphill, "speaking generally, is in the business for the money there is in it. The most potent force in shaping and directing the thought and sentiment of the country, is yet a beggar at the door of patronage. Little or no independence is actually possessed by the journalists who preach independence. It must be said, however, to the credit or discredit, as you please, of the public, that it reflects largely the character of the newspapers by which it is served.

Should Elevate.

"The yellow streak runs not less through the press than through the people. The shame of the press is that it has catered to the worst tendencies of a corrupt and malicious age. Its mission ought to be the elevation of the public; instead, it advertises its degradation; fairly shrieking against any restrictions upon its liberty; it converts its liberty into license.

"Broadly speaking, the most sensational and irresponsible newspapers make the most money. It has been noted for years in the gradual degradation of the American press to the American level. Some of the cleanest and most self-respecting newspapers are published in New England; but even here the tendency towards a lower conception of journalism cannot have escaped the observation of those who are interested in the development of our civilization.

Not Any Perfect.

"The ideal newspaper does not exist; it is doubtful that it will ever; the newspapers of today, like the churches, represent this or that view of political questions; this or that industry or individual, or section; they possess the enthusiasms of advocates, they lack the wisdom of the judge.

"There is no profession so exacting, none requiring so extensive and accurate knowledge of history and philosophy and political economy, none calling for so great patience of opposition, such clearness and firmness of judgment, such courage and firmness of conviction, and such careful regard for the rights of others. That is why, in my opinion, the newspaper should be, in fact, the judge and jury and not the swift witness or the pain counselor in the case on trial, before the people.

Always Biased.

"There is not an old man or a young man in this audience who has ever known the issues involved in a political campaign to have been fairly presented by the opposition press. That newspaper is unworthy, which, for personal profit or political gain for itself or its party, misrepresents the position of a professional or political rival; that follows any particular course because it is popular; that joins in the defamation of any man because there is something to be made out of it, either in the way of increased circulation or adventitious importance.

"What both newspaper makers and newspaper readers most need, if they would reach the best settlement of the question in which they are interested, is not party support or sectional fervor, but broad tolerance of opinion and speech."

SLAPS AT ORGANIZATION.

Postmaster Appointment at Fredericksburg Widens Republican Breach.

FREDERICKSBURG, April 20.—The appointment of John W. Griffin as postmaster at this place marks the end of a four months' fight.

As it is now, Mr. Griffin has been holding over three months. The opposing candidate, J. W. Thomas, had the endorsement of the entire local organization and Griffin's appointment was a slap in the face of the organization. There had been a split in the Republicans here prior to this and the breach has been widened, and Mr. Stemp is blamed by them.

Mark Twain Grows Worse.

REDDING, CONN., April 20.—The condition of Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) this afternoon was perceptibly weaker than it was twenty-four hours ago. Dr. Robert H. Halsley, the attending physician, in a statement as to the patient's illness, said that Mr. Clemens has cardiac asthma with angina pectoris.

(Continued on Third Page.)