

Forecast for Thursday and Friday: Virginia—Fair Thursday; Friday, increasing cloudiness; light variable winds, mostly west.

RANGE OF THERMOMETER. The thermometer ranged as follows at The Times office yesterday: 9 A. M., 60; 10 M., 57; 3 P. M., 52; 6 P. M., 51; 8 P. M., 48; 12 P. M., 45. Average, 51.

JAMES C. SMITH WINS OUT FOR THIRD TIME

Contest for Sergeant Abandoned by Mr. Epps.

MR. LEAMAN VINDICATED

Resolutions Exonerating Him and Precinct Officers.

EPPS' EVIDENCE ALL HEARSAY

Mr. Wendenburg and Mr. Meredith Make Statements, and the Meeting Melts into a Party Love Feast at 9 o'Clock—Messrs. Smith and Leaman Warmly Congratulated.

Mr. James C. Smith was again last night, and for the third time, officially declared by the City Democratic Committee to be the nominee of the Democratic party of Richmond for the office of City Sergeant, as a result of the municipal primary held on April 10 last.

All of the thirty-five members of the body were present, save three, and the meeting was held in the investigation of the charges of fraud alleged by Mr. J. Claiborne Epps, who was contesting Mr. Smith's right to the certificate of nomination for sergeant.

Mr. Epps, who had been present at the hearing, and who had been declared by the committee to be the nominee of the Democratic party of Richmond for the office of City Sergeant, as a result of the municipal primary held on April 10 last.

THE SPEEDY ACTION.

The committee then went into executive session, and after the reading of Mr. Smith's affidavits resolutions were adopted unanimously, declaring Mr. Smith the nominee for sergeant, and exonerating Mr. W. P. Leaman and all the election officers in Fourth Jackson, and declaring that no evidence had been adduced by Mr. Epps which would justify any further investigation.

A FAITHFUL OFFICER.

The committee warmly praised Mr. R. C. Haake, the faithful sergeant at arms, who labored in season and out for the comfort of the members throughout the trying ordeal.

The course of Mr. Smith throughout the whole investigation was a model of conservatism, and it is evident that he has grown in popularity as a result of the contest. He was showered with congratulations last night. It is said that a great deal of money which has been "in the air" since the day of the primary will come down to-day, and some of the winners were apparently very happy last night.

SEEKS DEATH BY WATER AND KNIFE

A Cumberland Farmer Attempts Suicide by Cutting His Throat and Jumping in the River.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.) CARTERSVILLE, Va., April 30.—Mr. Jacob Hutchison, a man well known and respected by the citizens of this community, is now lying at the point of death. His attempt to take his own life almost proved a horrible success.

Preparations were being made to drag the river, when a noise on the bank attracted the attention of those engaged in the search. Back in the bushes they found the bleeding body of Mr. Hutchison, wet, muddy, and very bloody. He had evidently tried to drown himself and then had struggled out of the water. His throat was horribly cut and he had bled profusely.

HE WAS IN AN UNCONSCIOUS CONDITION

He was in an unconscious condition when taken to his home. The doctor was sent for immediately, but was away from home and did not receive the message. It is reported that Mr. Hutchison said: "Don't send for any doctor for me." His condition is considered quite serious.

TRAMPLED TO DEATH BY FRIGHTENED GIRLS

Eight Dead and Scores Injured as Result of Panic.

MANY LEAPED TO DEATH

False Cry of Fire Caused Fearful Horror in Philadelphia.

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Employees in Tobacco Factory, Terrorized by Cry of Fire, Rushed for Exit and Leaped from Windows Fifty Feet From Ground—Arrival of Firemen Increased Their Terror.

(By Associated Press.) PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 30.—An unfortunate accident to a deaf and dumb boy, Isador Bacucus, was today directly responsible for the death of eight girls and young women, and the serious injury of three others and the serious injury of more than two-score of girls employed in the cigar factory of Harburger, Homan & Company, a branch of the American Tobacco Company, located at Tenth and Washington Avenue.

The building in which the disaster occurred is a five-story brick structure and reaches an entire block. Twelve hundred persons were at work at the time, ninety per cent. of whom were girls, whose ages range from twelve years upward.

The panic began on the fourth floor, where Isador Bacucus, who was janitor of the building, started for the fifth floor for a ball of twine. The elevator was at the top of the shaft, and Bacucus pulled the rope to bring it down. He opened the door issuing to the shaft and leaned forward to see where the carriage was. As he did so the elevator, which was descending slowly, struck him across the back of the neck pinning his head to the wall.

HEART-RENDING SCENES.

While this was going on the scene about the structure was heart-rending. The building is located in a section largely inhabited by Hebrews, many of whom are relatives of the unfortunate girls. The girls were screaming and crying for help. Many were so excited that they were prevented from jumping from the building, notwithstanding that there was not a sign of fire.

HEART-RENDING SCENES.

When the firemen and policemen arrived every effort was made to quiet the terrified girls. The firemen rushed up the stairway and begged the girls to be calm, telling them that there was no danger, but the sight of the flames, while the policemen and firemen were endeavoring to quiet the girls on the stairways, had the effect of driving them to the windows and window ledges, where they quickly took to the street.

HEART-RENDING SCENES.

After a few minutes the men were engaged in checking the work of rescuing those who had been trampled and crushed between the second and third floors. A call for an ambulance was turned in, and as the girls were carried to the hospitals, the number of ambulances was entirely inadequate, and patrol wagons were brought into use to carry the victims away for treatment.

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MAJORITY NOT EAGER FOR INFORMATION

Mr. Carmack Makes This Charge Against Committee.

WARM DEBATE IN SENATE

Question of Summoning Major Gardner to Testify.

MUCH FEELING MANIFESTED

Mr. Carmack Declared Gardner's Report Was So Startling That the Secretary of War Had Endeavored to Keep it from the Senate and from the American People.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, April 30.—A resolution offered in the Senate today by Mr. Patterson, of Colorado, requesting the Secretary of War to order by cable Major Gardner, now in the Philippines, to appear before the Philippine Committee, precipitated a warm discussion.

The debate continued for about two hours, considerable feeling being manifested on both sides of the chamber. The charge was made by the minority that the majority of the committee was endeavoring to suppress facts and information. This was denied by the chairman of the committee, Mr. Lodge, who said that any such action would be inconceivably stupid. The resolution finally went over until tomorrow.

The bill for the purchase of the Rosebud Reservation, in South Dakota, and the sundry civil bill were considered, but no action was taken upon them.

TILLMAN RISES TO INQUIRE.

During the discussion on the Patterson resolution Mr. Tillman indicated his belief that information was being "smothered," and he demanded to know from Mr. Lodge whether he proposed to drag the Senate into a vote upon this measure. Mr. Lodge replied laughingly that he wished he could drag the Senate into a vote upon the measure, but Mr. Tillman knew he could do nothing of the kind. He believed it would be preposterous for the Senate to wait upon a single witness.

TILLMAN RISES TO INQUIRE.

"Of course," said Mr. Tillman, "everything can go along leisurely if the Philippine Committee is to smother information." Mr. Allison pointed out that nobody objected to the testimony of Major Gardner. His regiment would leave the Philippines soon. He intimated that Major Gardner was particularly anxious to be a witness, and personally he was not in favor of decorating him by ordering him by cablegram to come to this country in advance of his regiment. If one witness were to be called, from all Filipines he thought it would be necessary to summon others. It might be necessary to get the views of the other thirty-odd provincial Governors, which he suggested might be as valuable as those of Major Gardner. He was strongly opposed to calling Major Gardner home by cable.

In support of the resolution, Mr. Carmack, of Tennessee, declared that the statement made by Major Gardner was so startling and important that the Secretary of War had endeavored to keep it from the Senate and from the American people. He insisted that unless the proposed resolution were adopted, Major Gardner surely would not get to Washington before Congress adjourned.

GARDNER OUGHT TO APPEAR.

Mr. Culberson, of Texas, explained that the minority of the Philippine Committee especially desired Major Gardner's testimony because his statements had been challenged by Governor Taft and General MacArthur.

GARDNER OUGHT TO APPEAR.

After making a brief review of the work of the Philippine Committee, Mr. Lodge, the chairman, said that Major Gardner ought to appear before the committee. Personally, he desired to hear the testimony before Congress adjourned, but if Major Gardner was to be called by cable he probably would want to call the other thirty provincial governors. He suggested sarcastically that Major Gardner was a particularly important witness because he seemed to agree in some respects with the minority. If the testimony of one provincial governor was desirable that of the thirty odd others probably would be an auxiliary power, on account of the low water in the river.

BEYOND THIS INQUIRY THE CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER HAS TAKEN NO PUBLIC FORM AS YET. IT IS BEING CONSIDERED AND DISCUSSED BY SEVERAL STRONG MEN IN THE GOVERNMENT.

A fact in this connection which has been partially overlooked is that the fact that a New York company would be pleased to bid for the city gas works has been discussed in the newspapers and in municipal circles. The discussion of this subject leads to the belief that the city will not rest for a week or more in the year the water power at the old pump-house could be depended upon for the generation of electrical power. Mr. Bolling replied at least eight or nine months. During the balance of the year steam would have to be used, as at present, as an auxiliary power, on account of the low water in the river.

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Commissioned officers of the Seventeenth Regiment, at a meeting held at the Armory last night, elected Captain C. O. Saville, major of the Richmond Battalion, to succeed Major A. S. Lanier, whose resignation has been accepted by the Governor.

Captain Saville is an ardent worker in military circles in Richmond, and at all times has stood ready to defend his country. His resignation from the office is but a fitting testimonial to his untiring devotion to the regiment.

THE ELECTION OF A SUCCESSOR TO FILL THE OFFICE MADE VACANT BY THE RESIGNATION OF MAJOR LANIER HAS BEEN MUCH DISCUSSED IN MILITARY CIRCLES FOR SOME TIME.

The election of a successor to fill the office made vacant by the resignation of Major Lanier has been much discussed in military circles for some time. The name of Major E. Leslie Spence was prominently mentioned by many for the position. The election last night was behind closed doors, and the vote could not be learned. Not until a late hour did the officers settle on Major Saville.

COMPANY A LOSES A VALUABLE CAPTAIN IN THE PROMOTION OF CAPTAIN SAVILLE, BUT THE REGIMENT SUFFERS NO LOSS.

Company A loses a valuable captain in the promotion of Captain Saville, but the regiment suffers no loss. In the promotion of Captain Saville, but the regiment suffers no loss. In the promotion of Captain Saville, but the regiment suffers no loss.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL MEET ON MAY 7TH, WHEN A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION WILL BE PERFECTED.

The Board of Directors will meet on May 7th, when a permanent organization will be perfected. This will include the election of a president, treasurer and thirty-one additional directors.

ALBERT LIN AND THE TWO DURBIN BOYS REPORTED MISSING YESTERDAY WERE FOUND TOGETHER AT HICKORY GROUNDS, NORFOLK COUNTY.

Albert Lin and the two Durbin boys reported missing yesterday were found together at Hickory Grounds, Norfolk county. The boys went away on a tour of advertisement.

THE HARRIS JEWELRY COMPANY, TO RETAIL JEWELRY, WAS CHARTERED TO-DAY; CAPITAL, \$15,000 TO \$25,000; REUBEN HARRIS, PRESIDENT.

The Harris Jewelry Company, to retail jewelry, was chartered to-day; capital, \$15,000 to \$25,000; Reuben Harris, president.

THE PORTSMOUTH SUBURBAN WATER COMPANY HAS ORGANIZED WITH T. J. WOOL AS PRESIDENT.

The Portsmouth Suburban Water Company has organized with T. J. Wool as president. The company proposes to pipe water from Nansemond, or Isle of Wight county, to Portsmouth in competition with the company now supplying Lake Kilby water.

AN ELECTRIC PLANT OWNED BY THE CITY

Councilmen Are Considering Municipal Control.

LIGHTING OF THE STREETS

City Now Owns the Necessary Water Power to Operate Plant.

OLD PUMP-HOUSE AVAILABLE

The Scheme Contemplates Not Only Power for Lighting the Streets and Public Buildings, but for Sale to Individuals as Well—Mr. Turpin Heartily Approves the Plan.

Several prominent members of the Council, who are leaders in legislation in the two branches of that body, are considering and quietly discussing among themselves a scheme which contemplates the manufacture by the city of the electric power necessary for street lighting and similar purposes.

The city is about to formally and practically launch into the scheme of securing water power through a large settling basin. From this basin the water will flow in pipes to the present new pump-house, where the settled water will be pumped into the present new reservoir by means of power secured from the un-settled water.

Under this scheme the present old reservoir and old pump-house will no longer be used. The project is to make use of the large water power which the city owns at the old pump-house to generate electrical power sufficient at least for the lighting of the streets and of all public buildings.

PRESIDENT W. M. TURPIN, OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN, IS HEARTILY IN SYMPATHY WITH THE PURPOSES AND ADVANTAGES OF THIS SCHEME.

President W. M. Turpin, of the Board of Aldermen, is heartily in sympathy with the purposes and advantages of this scheme. At the last meeting of the Board of Aldermen Mr. Gordon asked Superintendent Bolling, of the water works, how many months in the year the water power at the old pump-house could be depended upon for the generation of electrical power. Mr. Bolling replied at least eight or nine months. During the balance of the year steam would have to be used, as at present, as an auxiliary power, on account of the low water in the river.

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