

The Semi-Weekly Messenger

VOL. XXXVI No. 16.

WILMINGTON N. C. FEBRUARY 24, 1903.

\$1.00 PER YEAR

FIRE IN HOTEL

Ten Lives Lost and Two Score Severely Injured

THE CLIFTON

The Building, a Three-Story Brick Veneer Structure Was a Veritable Fire Trap—Time the Guests Were Aroused They Rushed for the Stairways, But the Fierce Fire Had Cut Off All Means of Escape. Then There Was a Stampede for the Windows and the Victims Were Driven by the Flames to Jump—Loss of the Register Makes it Impossible to Know Actually How Many Are Missing—There Was About 75 Guests.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, February 20.—Ten lives, according to the best information obtainable under difficulties, were lost in a fire which this morning destroyed the Clifton Hotel in this city. Two persons were fatally injured and two score or more injured more or less severely, mostly by jumping from windows.

The work of learning the names of the dead is rendered difficult by the loss of the hotel register, which was burned. The hotel, a three story brick veneer structure, is said to have been a veritable fire trap. The flames started in a pile of rubbish in the basement, presumably ignited by defective electric light wires. The night clerk was on the third floor when the cry of fire, raised by a bell boy, startled him. He took up the cry and in an instant the hall ways were choked with frightened guests. A rush was made for the stairways.

It was then that the crowd already collected in the street heard heartrending cries of anguish and desperation, for the fire, feeding ravenously on the tinder-like material of the lower floor, had completely cut off escape. There followed a stampede for the windows, the only means of exit left. The street below was filled with a crowd scarcely less frantic than the despairing ones in the fast burning building. The victims were literally driven by the flames to jump. Nearly every one of them lingered to the last moment, urged by the people below to wait as long as possible in the hope of assistance. Then a cry would tell that the fire had reached some one or the smoke had made it impossible to breathe, and one after another jumped to the street, and some, more fortunate to the roofs of buildings adjoining. In a short space of time, the street was filled with men and women bruised, battered, broken limbed and half crazed. All were in their night garments. In an hour St. Luke's hospital contained fifteen injured, while many more, chiefly those who had escaped with comparatively slight hurts were being cared for in buildings near the scene of the tragedy. Some who jumped owe their lives to the fact that their falls were broken by telegraph wires which interposed in their downward flight.

A number of the guests who were able to converse calmly following their escape declared that they stumbled over prostrate bodies as they rushed to the windows. The flames literally were chasing them and the smoke made it almost impossible to breathe.

The proprietor of the hotel placed his estimate of the number of people in the building when the alarm was raised at between seventy and eighty. Many of them were delegates to the state convention of the Young Men's Christian Association which began here yesterday.

Those who were first to escape, where they were not too severely injured, stood for some time barefooted in the snow, chained to the spot and rendered unconscious of the cold by the horror of the scene. Many of them had to be led away.

L. and N. to Build a Line from Knoxville to Chattanooga.

Knoxville, Tenn., February 20.—It is reported here that the Louisville and Nashville intends to build a line from this city to Chattanooga, leaving the Jellico-Knoxville main line near Oliver Springs, crossing the Tennessee river near Kingston, and adhering to the east bank of the river to Chattanooga. This would give the Louisville and Nashville its own entrance into Chattanooga from Louisville and Cincinnati and would give Knoxville a line to Chattanooga, competing with the Southern railway.

Hearing on the Utley Appeal. (Special to The Messenger.)

Fayetteville, N. C., February 20.—Judge Cooke will hear the Utley appeal tomorrow. In today's session of the court, counsel began the argument on the legal points. They will conclude tomorrow.

BANK ROBBERS ESCAPE

They Adopt Tracey Methods to Ward Off Pursuit.

St. Louis, February 21.—Special dispatches to the Post-Dispatch indicate that Bill Rudolph and Frank Lewis, the Union (Mo.) bank robbers who were located in a cabin near Richview, Ill., have again escaped, and possess of citizens in addition to that of Sheriff Howe are being formed to pursue and capture them if possible. The entire community is in arms.

According to reports from communities through which the robbers have passed they have adopted Tracey tactics in inducing farmers and threatening to kill pursuers. The two men converse only with women and children from whom all the details concerning them have been learned, except the general description given by a hunter who encountered them in the woods Friday.

They approach a farm house and standing some distance away, call loudly until some one makes his appearance. If it is a man, they keep on talking to him until he comes up closer, then they throw their rifles down on him and order him to leave the premises. Like Tracey they accompany this order with a threat to massacre the entire family if any attempt is made to summon help. In this way they have obtained food.

At one farm house they found the farmer's wife and children alone. They ordered her to get breakfast and chatted freely while she was cooking the meal. All questions concerning themselves they parried. The man supposed to be Rudolph stood on guard while the other attack and Lewis then acted as picket.

FIND THE LOST SILVER

Detectives Recover Over 300 Pieces Stolen by Negro Burglars.

New York, February 21.—Nearly three hundred pieces of silverware which were stolen recently from one or more prominent families of Philadelphia were displaced at police headquarters tonight, having been found by the detectives in the possession of two colored burglars who are under arrest. The silver bears the monograms "T. H. H.", "J. C. B.", "C. H. B." and "L. H. B." and many of the pieces are engraved with the device of a spread eagle.

Last Monday the police authorities here received a dispatch from the chief of police of Philadelphia asking that a lookout be kept for thieves who had stolen a large amount of silverware from families in that city.

Yesterday detectives saw a colored man enter a pawn shop and try to get money on some articles of silverware, according to the description of the stolen goods. They followed and arrested him and a companion. The prisoners gave the names of Robert Williams, twenty-one years old and Arthur Kimball, 23 years old. Both described themselves as waiters. In the room of the prisoners were found three dress suit cases filled with silver.

ANOTHER SILK FACTORY

Ashley-Bailey Company Will Erect a Plant at Fayetteville.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Fayetteville, N. C., February 21.—At the meeting of the municipal light committee, Mr. N. B. Alexander, chairman, Superintendent Jones and Mr. J. C. Herbert, representing the contractors, the Electric Construction Company of Richmond, Va., having shown the electric light plant to be in good order, it was formally accepted by the city authorities, and the last payment was made for the work.

This morning the argument in the Utley appeal was concluded before Judge Cooke, and the case will come up in the supreme court in the third week of March.

The Ashley-Bailey Silk Manufacturing Company of Paterson, N. J., owners of the Fayetteville silk mills, have bought a tract of land from Nell Black at Manchester, in the Western part of this county, where they will build still another factory. By the way, the company did a graceful act yesterday in presenting to the Old Fellows lodge of this city sixty yards of handsome silk and trimmings for the making of regalia.

Condition of the Improved White House.

Washington, February 21.—Representative Gaines, of Tennessee, today introduced a resolution requesting the president to transmit to the house at this session a detailed statement of the character and cost of the repairing, remodeling and adding to the White House, also requesting the president to have the work examined by skilled persons to see if contract requirements have been met.

Mr. Gaines also introduced a resolution directing the superintendent of public buildings to transmit to the house an inventory of all the public property in the White House giving the cost of each article, its condition if in use, and the disposition of such articles as have been removed.

Admiral Schley Visits Jesuits College.

New Orleans, February 21.—Admiral Schley today visited the Jesuits College, where he was given an enthusiastic reception. Mayor Cap de Velle, president of the college alumni society and Father Manning received the admiral. The admiral made a happy response.

Andrew Carnegie III.

Fernandina, Fla., February 21.—Andrew Carnegie who has been suffering with a slight cold for the past day or two, is reported to be much improved today. Mr. Carnegie is visiting his sister-in-law at Dunbar, Cumberland Island, and contracted a slight cold, which has caused him to be confined to his room.

PROMINENT MAN MURDERED

Ernest Haywood Shoots Ludlow Skinner on Raleigh's Principal Street

REASON FOR THE CRIME UNKNOWN

The Shooting Occurred on Fayetteville Street in Front of the Postoffice and the Yarbboro House—It Was in the Middle of the Afternoon and the Streets Were Crowded—On Account of the Prominence of Both Families, the Very Greatest Interest is Felt in the Occurrence and the Shooting Has Caused a Sensation Over all the State—Time Haywood Killed Skinner, He Was Arrested and Taken Before a Magistrate Who Committed Him to Jail, Without Bail, for Murder. His Attorneys Sall They Were Entirely Confident of Their Line of Defense—An Autopsy Was Performed—A Formal Inquest Was Held at Night, But Nothing Developed to Show the Cause for Haywood's Act.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., February 21.—The greatest social and criminal sensation Raleigh has ever known developed at 4:20 o'clock this afternoon, when on Fayetteville street, Ernest Haywood shot and killed Ludlow Skinner. The prominence of both families is marked. Haywood is a grandson of the late ex-Treasurer John Haywood and son of the late Dr. E. Burke Haywood and one of Raleigh's leading lawyers. Skinner was a grandson of the late Mr. Ludlow, of New York, and son of Rev. Dr. Thos. E. Skinner, of Raleigh, one of the best known and ablest Baptists in the south.

At least a hundred persons must have seen the shooting, certainly that number saw the victim of Haywood's revolver as he reeled and fell upon his face on the car track in front of the postoffice and Yarbboro House and not forty yards from the court house.

One witness said the expression of the dying man's face was piteous beyond all telling and that he will never forget it. A thousand persons gathered almost in a minute. The dead body was taken into a drug store. Haywood was taken by Deputy Sheriff Separk to Haywood's law office and was there for about two hours guarded by deputies and in conference with his attorneys James H. Pou and Argo and Shaffer. Later he was taken to the court house, where Magistrate Marcon had a preliminary hearing, taking only Separk's testimony, upon which he committed Haywood to jail, without bail, for murder.

Separk's evidence was that he was in the court house, heard a shot and walked out, then saw another flash and heard the second shot; that Haywood was standing on the sidewalk in front of the postoffice, that Skinner was in the street and made a motion as if to throw his hand towards his pocket, then turned, staggered and fell on his face on the street car tracks. Separk as soon as the second shot was fired ran toward Haywood, called the latter, who said, "All right," took Haywood by the arm; that Haywood asked him to take him to his (Haywood's) office; that on arrival at the office he asked Haywood to give him his pistol which he did. One of Haywood's brothers was with him during the hearing.

Ernest Haywood was very cool and sat easily in the chair, twirling a bit of paper in his fingers. He had nothing to say, his attorneys said. One of them, Pou, said they were entirely confident of their line of defence.

The body of Skinner was placed in Johnson's drug store. His wife, who is a daughter of the late Major John C. Winder, was sent for. She fainted as his body was placed in a carriage to be taken to his home.

At the home, Dr. Knox, at the request of Dr. Jordan, the coroner, performed an autopsy. Dr. Jordan said this showed that there was only one wound, this being on the median line of the left side, about three inches behind the left nipple. It grazed the heart, passed through the lung and severed the aorta or great artery. It was such a wound as to cause almost instant death. Health Officer Sale

gave to Coroner Jordan the pistol which he said was Skinner's.

One witness of the horrible affair said he was a few minutes before it occurred in the lobby of the postoffice and he saw Skinner there reading a letter. He went out on the sidewalk and in a few moments heard a shot, turned and saw Skinner walking rapidly away across the street. Haywood was standing on the sidewalk in a few feet of the postoffice. He saw the latter raise his pistol and aim at Skinner, who was then only a few feet from the curb of the very wide sidewalk, then heard Haywood fire, saw Skinner walk in an irregular way to the middle of the street, with high and wavering steps, then suddenly move in a sort of circle, stagger and fall on his face. Haywood put his pistol in his pocket, walked south a few steps, then started back when Separk came up.

It was 10 o'clock when the formal inquest began at the court house, Health Officer Sale and Chairman Green, of the board of county commissioners, were among the principal witnesses. The shots fired at Skinner were at very short interval, and the coroner said he could not say which of the two struck him.

The general opinion appears to be that it was the second shot, as such wound would naturally cause death in a few moments.

Skinner was of the most honorable character, quiet and as gentle as a woman. His mother was buried yesterday. The awful occurrence today has absorbed all attention here. Nothing else is talked of.

At the inquest, Officer Sale said that the pistol was found in Skinner's pocket, new and not discharged.

Chairman Green testified that after the second shot he saw Skinner put his left hand to his side and a moment later fall.

C. B. Edwards, Jr., saw Haywood fire the second shot; saw Skinner walking across the street, with his back towards the postoffice, saw Haywood in the act of replacing the pistol in his pocket.

Haywood had, only a few minutes before the shooting been in the office of the register of deeds and it appears was going up the street as Skinner came out of the postoffice and started across the street. Some persons say Skinner never saw Haywood when the first shot was fired and that it was certainly the shot which killed. It does not appear that there was any talk between the men or that they were nearer together than several yards.

Nothing has yet developed in the way of testimony to show any cause for Haywood's act.

(By the Associated Press.) Charlotte, N. C., February 21.—A special to The Observer from Raleigh says:

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have seen the shooting, certainly that number saw the victim of Haywood's revolver as he reeled and fell upon his face on the car track in front of the postoffice and Yarbboro House and not forty yards from the court house.

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Skinner's wife is a daughter of the late Major John C. Winder. The rumor here is that the tragedy grew out of a reported secret marriage in the family of one of the men concerned.

Raleigh, N. C., February 21.—Haywood, who is now in jail has as yet made no statement. The testimony at the preliminary hearing before Justice J. C. Marcon this afternoon is as follows:

Earlier in the day Skinner called at Haywood's office. What occurred there is not known. When he came out he started for the postoffice.

In the meantime Haywood went to the court house. As he returned and was near the middle steps of the postoffice, he saw Skinner on the sidewalk, and called him, saying, "Ludlow come here, I want to speak to you."

As Skinner approached, Haywood fired point blank at him. He missed and Skinner turned and ran. When he reached the car track, Haywood fired again, and Skinner stumbled for a second and sank to the ground. He was taken into James I. Johnson's drug store in an unconscious condition and died within a few minutes. Later the body was removed to his home. The wife of Skinner is prostrated with grief.

PANAMA CANAL COMPANY

Officials Are Keeping Quiet Concerning Their Plans.

Paris, February 21.—The officials of the Panama canal company are maintaining a rigid reserve concerning their plans. One of the chief officers said it was considered of the utmost importance, owing to the delicate stage of the negotiations not to throw anything into the discussion which might unfavorably affect the results.

At the company's headquarters great activity has been shown since the receipt of the advice from Attorney General Knox accepting the company's offer for the sale of its property subject to the ratification of the United States senate. Persons in a position to know the course of the negotiations, do not consider the attitude of the company antagonistic to the position of the United States. In American quarters having exceptional means of obtaining information, it is believed that recent developments seek to confirm the reports of German interests in the canal project. One of the leading officers of a French financial institution recently made it known to an American official that the private German investments in Panama securities were assuming significant proportions. It was distinctly stated in this connection that the German government is entirely unconnected with the movement, although the names of important persons in the imperial government are mentioned among those who have become recent investors. But the view prevails among Americans here that such a foreign movement will be futile as the officials are confident that the present obstacles to the negotiations will be overcome.

FAKE LOTTERY

Scheme Had Victimized Thousands all Over the Country.

New York, February 21.—Several detectives and a postoffice inspector arrested seven men today on the charge of running a "fake lottery."

The police say that thousands of persons have been victimized by the scheme. Tickets, it is alleged, were sold by agents throughout the country at from 25 cents to \$2 each, and the alleged prizes ranged from \$4 to \$30,000.

It is charged that while great representations were made by the promoters and agents of the affair, no drawings were ever held. The drawing place was supposed to be at Pueblo, Mexico. Representatives of the "company" were active in seeking patrons and many persons who had previously invested their money in policy had been secured as clients.

According to the police the scheme has been in operation for at least two years. Postoffice Inspector Boyle said that the government would prosecute the prisoners on a charge of misusing the mails.

WANT PRIZES BACK

Minister Bowen Requested to Use His Good Offices With Great Britain.

Washington, February 21.—Minister Bowen tonight received a cablegram signed by the "Prize sufferers, Trinidad," requesting his good offices with Great Britain in securing the return of the prizes taken by that country before the raising of the blockade by the allied powers. The cablegram is as follows:

"Port of Spain, February 21, 1903. 'Minister Bowen, Washington: 'All prizes returned by Germany and Italy. Use kind influence with England. Nearly all prizes belong to poor fishermen who have lost all and are penniless here. (Signed) 'PRIZE SUFFERERS, Trinidad.'"

Minister Bowen sent a copy of the cablegram to Sir Michael Herbert, the British ambassador, requesting him to transmit it to his government at his earliest convenience.

FOWLER BILL

General Conviction That the Bill Will Not Become a Law

CANAL TREATY

The Senate Again Spent Nearly the Entire Day in Executive Session in Considering the Colombian Canal Treaty—Mr. Morgan Secured Consent to Removal of Injunction of Secrecy from Amendments to the Treaty Which He Has Offered—The Day in the House Was Devoted to a Debate on the Fowler Currency Bill—5,000 Copies of Report of Strike Commission, When Completed, to be Printed.

Washington, February 21.—The senate spent nearly the entire day in executive session. It was the legislative day of Thursday as the senate had taken recess then instead of adjourning. The senate met at 11 o'clock, opened the doors at 12 and for more than an hour disposed of routine business. Upon resuming the executive session, the Colombian canal treaty was taken up. Senator Quay had a report read on the isthmian canal matters.

The reading of the report sent up by Mr. Quay consumed about three hours of time, and after this was concluded, Mr. Pettus made a brief speech directed principally at what he termed the repeal of the Spooner Act by the treaty. He contended that as a Spooner law for the purpose of securing "perpetual control" of the canal would not be available under the treaty providing merely for a lease of the canal strip. He also said that the American people would not be satisfied with anything less than a thoroughly American canal, one which could be defended by us at all times, which the Panama canal could not be under the terms of the treaty.

Senator Platt of Connecticut, took issue with Senator Pettus, as to the effect of the treaty, saying that he believed there were no legal obstacles in the treaty to the acquisition by the president of the canal zone, but he contended that if there were any such obstacles they could be removed by another act of congress, reappropriating the money.

During the day Senator Morgan secured consent to the removal of the injunction of secrecy from the amendments to the treaty which have been offered by him. Most of the important amendments have already been given publicity, but he offered two new ones today. One of these provides for an agreement between the contracting parties that nothing contained in the treaty shall be construed to alter the terms of the Spooner Act.

The other amendment is as follows: "It is agreed that in respect for the rights of citizens of the United States, under the constitution and for the present humane state of the Christian religion, in which the ordinances and prescriptions of the Spanish inquisition have no place or tolerance, that the provisions of the concordant of 1881, between his holiness, Pope Leo XIII and the government of Colombia, and the laws enacted by Colombia or that shall be hereafter enacted in furtherance or execution of said concordant, shall not apply to any citizen of the United States in Colombia, or to any person who shall be in the service of the United States, or to any officer, agent or servant of the United States who is in any way engaged in the construction or operation of a canal or the Panama railroad, under the provisions of this treaty."

The executive session closed and the senate adjourned at 5 o'clock.

THE HOUSE

The day in the house was devoted to debate upon the Fowler currency bill. Mr. Fowler, the author of the measure, spoke for over two hours. The speakers were Messrs. Thayer, Massachusetts; Lovering, Massachusetts; Lewis, Georgia, and Prince, of Illinois. Mr. Lewis opposed the bill. The general conviction that the bill has no chance to become a law and the fact that there are divergent views on both sides of the house detracted from the interest in the debate.

While Mr. Thayer was explaining the features and advantages of the minority bill, Mr. Cochran, of Missouri, objected to the appellation "minority bill." "There is no minority bill," he said, "the bill you are supporting will not command ten votes on this (the democratic) side."

Mr. Thayer replied that the bill he was advocating was the one introduced by Mr. Padgett, of Tennessee.

A communication from the president transmitting a request of the anthracite coal strike commission asking for authority to publish 5,000 copies of its report when completed was laid before the house. The message of the president said he concurred in the request. The house adjourned until Monday.