

## PLANT STRUCK

By Lightning and Manager  
Knocked Senseless.

## EQUIPMENT RUINED

The Wireless Telegraph Station at Charleston Torn Up by a Flash of Lightning—Manager Ferrick Had Taken Off Head Harness When Bolt Struck.

The Charleston Post says William J. Ferrick, manager of the wireless telegraph plant at Hampton park, was knocked senseless and his instrument ruined Wednesday afternoon by a lightning bolt which struck his office at about 4:30. The operator barely escaped being killed, the fact that he had removed his ear pieces just a moment before the bolt hit, saving him from being electrocuted. It will be necessary to rush new instruments from New York to put the wireless station here into working order again.

Mr. Ferrick was sitting at his desk during the storm of Wednesday afternoon, as usual, ready to receive or send messages to and from the sea, and through some intuitive feeling, most probably, with the lightning flashing in a lively manner about him, he took off his head harness for the time being. Hardly had he done so, when a blinding flash accompanied by a terrific crash of thunder, swept through his office, and he knew no more until about twenty minutes later, when he found himself lying on his back half way into his sleeping room, fifteen feet away. The large glass of the window in front of his key was smashed, and investigation showed that his ear-pieces, which he had removed from his head just before the stroke, were burned and useless, while his tuner, and his magnets were burned out and the city telephone receiver fused. Fortunately the office did not catch on fire with the operator senseless on the floor.

Mr. Ferrick thinks that the bolt crashed through the glass in front of him and struck his instrument, putting them out of business. He was somewhat bruised from the shock and the violence with which he was hurled from his chair upon the floor, but beyond a ringing in one of his ears today he is unhurt.

A rush order has been sent by the wireless manager to New York for new equipment his plant here, and he thinks that by early next week he will be able to receive and send messages again, with his usual facility.

Further examination of the plant failed to show any damage to the tall mast or to the superstructure of the wireless equipment. The whole damage was confined to the office and instrument. It was a providential escape from instant death that the manager had, and if he had not removed his ear pieces, he would have been fatally shocked by the bolt.

The operator at Hampton park has been on duty here about two years, coming to Charleston from New York, and has been in the wireless service for a longer time, but he has never before had such a close escape from being killed by lightning. He declared that it was not his custom of lightning to strike the plants of the company. Because of the accident to the plant, at about the time the Arapahoe sustained her accident off the coast of North Carolina, no messages were caught from the wireless instrument on the steamship, and consequently information of the trouble she was in came through other stations of the United Wireless Company.

## CRUSADE ON COCAINE SELLERS.

Two White Doctors and Fifteen Negroes Arrested.

Savannah has begun a crusade against cocaine sellers and users which ought to be followed all over the South. Former coroner Dr. J. B. Stanley and Dr. W. W. Lee, white, and Dr. E. M. Pickney, colored, were arrested a few days ago as a result of statements made in the police court by fourteen men and women, mostly negroes, who were rounded up as the beginning of a crusade on cocaine sellers. Dr. Lee is not yet made bond, but Drs. Stanley and Pickney gave bond of \$1,000 each. The fourteen other defendants were all bound over to the city court. The physicians declare they wrote cocaine prescriptions only to alleviate suffering, declaring the "fends" had to have the drug. A score or more of the "fends" were used as witnesses.

## Slayer Telephones Sheriff.

Charles Pons, one of the best known residents of Duval county, Fla., Wednesday night telephoned to Sheriff Bowden's residence and informed him that he had just killed his brother-in-law, Charles Wiggins, at his home near Gravelly Hill, seven miles from Jacksonville, and requested the sheriff to place him under arrest. Pons alleges that Mrs. Pons was slapped by Wiggins.

## A FIEND HUNG

PAYS THE DEATH PENALTY FOR HIS ATTEMPTED CRIME.

The Negro Who Attempted to Assault a Young Lady Near Georgetown Confessed Before Execution.

At Georgetown on Friday Alfred Jackson, alias "Slippery Joint," who was convicted of an assault and an attempt to commit criminal assault on a young white school teacher at the special term of court which was held on July 27, paid the death penalty for his crime on the gallows, in accordance with the sentence which was passed upon him by Judge John S. Wilson to hang on August 13.

Jenkins, just before leaving his cell for the gallows, confessed his crime, saying that he had had a dream in which the Lord told him to tell the truth before he died. Jenkins up to this time had denied that he was the guilty party and at his trial he put up the plea of an alibi.

While on the gallows he made no statement regarding his crime, the only thing he said being, "Lord have mercy on my soul. The Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not want."

His spiritual advisor, Rev. A. B. Jackson, colored, made a prayer in behalf of the condemned man on the gallows. After the prayer Sheriff Scurry asked Jenkins if he had anything else to say, to which he replied, "No."

The sheriff sprung the trap at 9:30 o'clock and Jenkins hung for sixteen and a half minutes before life was pronounced extinct by Drs. Olin Sawyer, Gaillard and Moorer. Jenkins did not show any signs of nervousness when he walked up the steps on the gallows except that perspiration was streaming from his face.

The execution passed off quietly and his family took charge of the body.

One of the witnesses of the execution fainted when the trap was sprung and was taken to the jail house by the doctors, who were present for attention.

## SWEEP BY FLOOD.

Many Lives Lost and Many Houses Are Destroyed.

A dispatch from Monterey, Mexico, says the Santa Catarina River has returned to its banks, leaving a score of desolation and destruction in the southern part of the city. Fourteen lives are known to have been lost, and estimates place the number as high as fifty. The exact figures will never be known, as the Barrio of San Luisito, where most of the damage occurred, is inhabited by the poorer classes mostly, and many occupied houses were washed away. Over 600 houses have been washed away in this one district, and practically all those left standing are more or less damaged.

The people returned to the stricken district a few days ago and spent the time in cleaning the deposits of mud from the houses. Many families have lost all their possessions and there is great suffering among them. In the city proper several houses caved in as a result of the storm and the damage all over the city has been great.

The Monterey bath house was flooded by rain. One man lost his life in the swimming pool. Houses throughout the lower sections of the city were inundated and the families forced to move out. The electric light plant was damaged, as was the power plant of the street railway system. The rains continue and another flood is expected in the Santa Catarina.

## PARCHED BY DROUGHT.

Corn Crop in Northern Virginia Almost a Failure.

Dispatches from Winchester, Va., says the great corn field of Northern Virginia are burning up. The severest drought of years is prevailing and for more than six weeks little if any rain has fallen in the Shenandoah and Page valleys. Streams are lower than for years and many are dry. The corn crop will be almost a total failure, while all growing crops are cut short.

Should the drought prevail much longer the apple crop, which gave fine promise, will be seriously affected. Thousands of dollars have already been lost to the farmers and each day the losses increase.

## Strike Breaker Killed.

At Bisbee, Ariz., William Pfaukuch, a striking printer, shot and instantly killed Asa A. Hoy, former business manager of the Review, the morning paper of that city, and William Bockholz, of Covington, Ky., early Friday. The union printers on The Review struck several days ago and Hoy and Bockholz were operating linotype machines in their places.

## POOR BILL TAFT

The Wicked Hitchcock Said to be Plotting to

## UNDO ALL HIS PLANS

To Break Solid South by Giving Weak Kneed Democrats a Chance at the Republican Pie Counter in Exchange for Their Support of the Taft Program.

President Taft's well-directed efforts in fixing his policy towards the South are threatened with rupture if not destruction as the result of the political games being played in connection with the appointment of census supervisors, says P. H. McG., the Washington correspondent of The News and Courier.

He says up to a few days ago it looked as though the appointments to these places would be made by Director Durand, of the census bureau, with the President's approval. Now, however, it has been learned that the real power behind the throne is none other than Frank H. Hitchcock, aided by the Republican referees from the various Democratic States.

It has been known in Washington for several days that so far as South Carolina was concerned no appointment as supervisors would be made without the approval of John G. Capers and Leumas Blalock, and that in Virginia, another rock-ribbed Democratic State, Congressman Stemp and Alvah Martin would be consulted before anything definite would be announced as to the appointments.

In addition to this it was learned that Cecil Lyon, the head of the Republican machine in Texas, has been here for several days holding conferences with Mr. Hitchcock and that everything is now cut and dried for naming at least ten Republican supervisors in the Lone Star State, which sends to Congress a delegation of sixteen Democrats. That at least ten of the sixteen supervisors will be Republicans is practically settled, and it is possible that even a greater division may be made.

It is learned, too that Judge Spencer Adams, the recognized "boss" of North Carolina Republican politics, has also been talking over matters with Mr. Hitchcock. When seen and asked what would be done in a general way regarding these appointments, Judge Adams knew nothing about them except what he had heard or read in the newspapers, and hardly knew that there was such a man as Frank Hitchcock. But, being on to him, it did not take Washington correspondents who haunt the postoffice department long to figure out just what his business might be here.

North Carolina has three Republican members of Congress and seven Democrats, and as President Taft has already indicated that he would appoint more supervisors of the latter party in States like North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and Missouri, where there is a maraked Republican tendency, it is probable that in the division North Carolina will get about six or seven Republicans and three or four Democrats.

Though Georgia has no Republicans in Congress, it is understood that six Republicans will be appointed there, leaving room for five Democrats. In Florida, Alabama and other Southern States, where the delegations are solidly Democratic and there is to be a supervisor for the Congressional district, the division will be made equally between the Democrats and Republicans except that where there is an odd number of Representatives the odd man will be from the Republican ranks.

It is known that nothing can be gained by the appointment of a few Republican supervisors in any of the Southern States, and in those sections overwhelmingly Democratic it would probably be Mr. Taft's desire to give the places to the Democrats, but for the pressure coming from the Hitchcock machine for a division to be made strictly along party lines with most of the pie on the Republican side and what may be split to go to hungry Democrats.

These appointments are small things within themselves, and it is known that Mr. Taft would gladly let the Southern people have them, but for the reasons just given, and just here the iniquitous work of the ever-ready machine begins to be apparent. The appointment of Republican supervisors naturally means the appointment of at least a limited number of negroes, according to Director Durand, as enumerators, and that is just where many Southern people may part company with Mr. Taft. The appointment of negroes to office anywhere and under the conditions—especially in the South—savors strongly of carpet-bag tactics.

It seems—all things considered—and especially with reference to the Hitchcock manipulations, that Mr. Taft's much-cherished hopes of uniting the Southern people to him by appointing only the best men to office, irrespective of politics, are to be

## WAR TO THE LIMIT

WITH NO QUARTER ASKED OR GIVEN WITH CONTROL

Of the Republican National Organization as the Stake Is Declared by the Progressive Republicans.

War to the limit with no quarter asked or given and with the control of the Republican national organization the one great prize at stake is officially declared by the Progressive Republicans.

The Republican National Convention of 1912 is the promised field of the spectacular battle of the campaign already initiated. The tariff and how to revise it furnishes the line of demarcation between the opposing forces. A dispatch from Chicago says:

Senator Albert B. Cummins of Iowa homeward bound from Washington, flung down the gauntlet and for all practical purposes officially and formally delivered the political ultimatum which opens hostilities between the Progressive and the old order, which has aligned in Washington by Senator Aldrich.

The big items emphasized by Senator Cummins as critical points to be pushed to the fore by the Progressives are these:

1. Placing in control at the head of organized Republicanism men who will stand absolutely by platform pledges.
2. Struggle for this policy at every convention, local, Congressional or State between now and 1912 where there are enough Progressive Republicans to make it worth while.
3. No general revision of the tariff for perhaps a decade, but revision from time to time in particular schedules as expert investigation demonstrates to be necessary and at the same time conforming with the broad principle of protection.
4. Appointment of an expert tariff commissioner at the earliest practicable moment to furnish this information to Congress.
5. And, particularly, no opposition to President Taft—whom the Progressives believe to have a thoroughly progressive program in hand for his administration—at least until the Presidential policy demonstrates the contrary.

"What immediate step will be taken by the Progressives?" Senator Cummins was asked.

"We shall present the issue flatly to every Republican convention between the present and the National Convention of 1912 where it is possible for the issue to be presented. That issue is: Shall the men now in control of the party's destinies be permitted further to disregard plain party declarations?"

## DOCTOR RUNS AWAY.

Gave Patient Chloroform and He Dies at Once.

The sudden and excited departure of Dr. Phillip Sussman from the apartment of Mrs. Abraham Lazercowitz, in the East Side tenement, New York, before daylight Wednesday, was explained later by the doctor to coroner Harburger as being occasioned by his fear that the woman and her family would attack him when they learned of the death of their sixteen-year-old son, whom the doctor was attending.

Dr. Sussman was called to perform an operation on the boy's knee and to do so he said that he had administered chloroform. Before he discovered that the boy had died while under the influence of the chloroform.

"I know how excited those families become on such an occasion," the doctor is reported to have told the coroner, "and I left the house, telling the mother that I was going for my instruments. Had I remained there until they discovered that he was dead they and the neighbors would have mobbed me."

When the doctor did not return to the house in half an hour the mother discovered that her son was dead and called the police. The coroner will hold an inquest.

## A STRANGE VISITOR.

'Possum Calls at the Sumter Post-office for Mail.

The Sumter Watchman-Southron says of all the extraordinary incidents that occur around this city, the most extraordinary and unusual happened in the postoffice Thursday night about 9 o'clock. Mr. Furman Tisdale, night clerk at the postoffice, opened the back door of the office, and a nice fat 'possum walked in. He was so well pleased with his new quarters that he utterly refused to depart, and consequently the door was closed upon him and he spent a pleasant night's rest behind a box.

He is now under arrest for forcing his way into government premises, and will very probably be held, pending the arrival of President Taft in this State in November.

dashed to destruction through the work of the all-powerful machine.

P. H. McG.

## A FATAL FIGHT

A Gifted Lover and Brother Killed Brothers

## OF THE YOUNG LADY

The Dead Men's Father in Attempting to Avenge Their Death by Shooting Their Murderers Kills a Man Passing That Way by His Wild Shooting.

The Latin temperament is ever ready to fly to extremes, and, particularly when jealousy supplies the motive. Thus it was that the little village of Genzano, near Rome, Italy, was a few days ago provided with all the elements of a lurid melodrama. Evaristo Apenni was murdered by Arturo Caroggi.

Between the Apenni and Bernoni families a good deal of rancor had arisen on this account, which had hitherto only found expression in scowling looks and muttered threats.

Evaristo Apenni, boiling with rage, under the effects of a new repulse by the enchanting Emeralda, was walking through the streets of Genzano, in company with his brother, Saverio, when they met Achille and Cesare Bernoni, brothers of the fair enslaver, and the latter's father. A few brief but exasperating words were exchanged, and soon, long-bladed knives were hissing through the air. The two Bernonis, on the one side, and the two Apennis on the other separated for a brief moment to get breath, and then fell to again with redoubled vigor.

The second round was brief but decisive. Hardly had the preliminary feints for advantage been exchanged before the Apennis' knives struck home and the Bernonis fell to the ground mortally wounded. But the battle was not yet over, for a new combatant appeared on the field.

This was the Bernonis' father, who, incited by the sight of his two sons lying on the ground with their life-blood ebbing away, pulled out his revolver and fired two shots at the Apennis.

Neither bullet took effect. Achille Bernoni, however, although lying wounded on the ground, had yet sufficient strength left to enable him to draw his revolver also. Four times he pulled the trigger, and although he missed his antagonist, one of the shots struck a passer by, Francesco Valente, who was killed.

Meanwhile, on hearing the firing, carabinieri hurried to the spot, and on their appearance the Apennis took to flight. The father of the Bernonis was arrested with the revolver in his hand and his two sons were taken to the hospital, where they expired. After a brief chase Saverio Apenni was caught by the police, but so far Evaristo has eluded the vigilance of his pursuers.

## RUN DOWN BY SURREY.

Rev. W. P. Jacobs Seriously Hurt in Washington.

Refusing to be taken to the hospital, although perhaps fatally injured, until the promise was made to him that the person who injured him would not be arrested, Rev. William P. Jacobs, a Presbyterian clergyman, aged sixty, of Clinton, S. C., put the golden rule of life, which he has preached for many years, into practice.

Mr. Jacobs, in Washington on a sight-seeing trip, was run over on Pennsylvania avenue Tuesday night by a two-seated surrey.

"I do not want the driver prosecuted," said the minister, "as I know it was not his fault."

## SHOOTS HIMSELF WITH RIFLE.

Sergeant of Coast Artillery Flees From Financial Troubles.

Discovery was made a few days ago that Sergt. Max Block of the coast artillery, station at Fort Dupont, had committed suicide a few nights before by shooting himself with his rifle. He had propped the rifle against a wall and tied a string to the trigger which he pulled after placing his body against the muzzle. Money losses are believed to have caused Block to kill himself. His home was in Morgan, Ala.

## Towboat Capsizes.

The naval tug Zenincoot, from Portsmouth to Boston, capsized off Cape Ann early Wednesday. Several of her crew were drowned. The second officer, the captain's wife, her little boy and four of the crew were landed on the tug's boat. The captain, surgeon, engineer and three other members of the crew, who took a raft, were blown off shore. They were rescued later.

## MAN UNDER THE BED

HE REACHED OUT AND GRABBED A LADY'S ANKLE.

The Bold and Daring Act of a Negro, For Which He Will Pay Very Dearly.

Mrs. Iverna Hicks, who lives in Marietta, Ga., returned home at 4:30 o'clock Tuesday evening with her two children and her brother-in-law, Charley Hicks, a 12-year-old boy. Her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Horn, with whom she and her husband live, were away and the house was empty.

The Atlanta Journal says Mrs. Hicks entered and went into one of the downstairs bedrooms. She deposited some bundles on a chair she carried and then walked over to the bed in one corner and began to take off her hat. As she was doing so a negro reached out from under the bed and caught her by the ankle.

She tried to jerk loose, but the negro held her tightly. She screamed and the little boy screamed also. Their cries frightened the negro, who loosed his hold on Mrs. Hicks and began to scramble from under the bed.

She herself picked up her two children and ran toward the front of the house. The little boy, however, ran toward the back door locked. He tried to climb through a window, but he could only get partly across the sill.

The negro, too, ran toward the back of the house and being unable to get through the door, turned to the window. He brushed the boy out of the way and crawled through the window and to the ground.

Possibly were quickly formed and search for the negro begun. Every negro who in any way answered the description furnished was arrested. About 2:30 o'clock Wednesday morning a negro 19 or 20 years old, named Alvin Gibson, was arrested at a negro suburb of Marietta known as Louisville.

The boy identified this negro and the officers are sure that he is the one by whom Mrs. Hicks was attacked. She herself saw only the back of the head of the negro who seized her and is unable to say what was his appearance. The little boy, however, got a good look at the negro when the latter pushed him from the window.

He says that the one now under arrest is exactly like the assailant of Mrs. Hicks, even to a peculiar tear in his overalls. It has been found, too, that the shoes of this negro fit exactly into the impressions made by Mrs. Hicks' assailant in a plot of soft earth when he jumped from the rear window. He is being held for trial.

Mrs. Hicks is unhurt, save for a nervous shock from fright. She is the wife of Will Hicks, a fireman on the W. & A. road. Mr. Hicks was on his run at the time his wife was attacked by the negro.

## COMPANY TO MAKE PICKERS.

Preparing to Equip Two of Fourcher Machines.

The Augusta Chronicle says a company has been formed to perfect two of the Fourcher cotton pickers and put them in the field for the final and thorough test. Organization was had a few days ago.

The stock subscriptions foot up between \$6,000 and \$7,000, and were made by a number of gentlemen of Augusta in stock-takings of \$250 to \$500 each. This preliminary company secures an interest in the different patents. If the picker develops into the success that is hoped for it and claimed for it, the further capitalization for manufacture of the machine will be quickly proceeded with.

The plan is to have the inventor go to one of the big manufacturing of the east and perfect and turn out two pickers. The sum named is fully ample for that purpose. Every facility will be provided to enable Mr. Fourcher to manufacture the pickers. He will leave for the east in a few days.

One of the best known and one of the best equipped manufacturers in the country has been arranged with in which to make the pickers. When the machines are completed they will be tried out in the cotton field and on this practical test of the perfected picker will depend the fate of the invention.

## Brothers Marry Sisters.

More than 50 immediate relatives of the brides and bride-grooms were in attendance at the marriage ceremony in Kent county, Ky., recently which united five sisters to five brothers. Misses Maud, Nellie, Kate, Anna and Susie Martin were married to John, Dan Hugh, Jack and Dick Hill.

## Commits Suicide.

Henry P. Plunkett, a Franklin county, Virginia, farmer, committed suicide by hanging himself from a tree in his orchard Wednesday afternoon. His body was found by a son. He leaves a wife and ten children.

## DIED A HERO

Brave Engineer, Fatally Hurt Told Rescuers

## TO ATTEND OTHERS

Passengers who Were in Bristol Wreck Tell Graphic Story of the Bravery of Engineer Bush, Who Was Fatally Hurt in the Accident That Wrecked His Train.

Passengers who were on the Southern train wrecked near Bristol, Va., Thursday evening arrived at Atlanta Friday night, bringing details of the bravery of Engineer Samuel Bush, of Knoxville, who died Friday as a result of his injuries.

Bush was slowly and painfully working his way out of the wreck of his engine, scalded and frightfully bruised, when the few passengers who retained their senses, dug into the mass of twisted and burning iron to meet him.

He was lifted out upon the ground and a hurried call for physicians resulted in the discovery that there was not a doctor on the train.

As the passengers began a hunt for whiskey to stimulate him and were breaking open suit cases in their search, Bush asked for a last look at his old engine, as hopeless a wreck as was its engineer.

When they came to him with the liquor, he begged them to look after the comfort of the passengers. Told that no passengers had been injured, he said:

"That's good. But before I take this whiskey, I want you men to smell my breath and testify, if I need be, that I had not been drinking when this happened."

Although suffering horrible agonies, the brave engineer would not touch the stimulant until four of the men had smelled his breath and promised to bear witness to his sobriety.

"All an engineer has is his record," he said feebly, "and he cannot afford to have anything against that." And Engineer Bush went out upon his last run with his record spotless.

Engineer Bush was a native of Bedford county, Virginia, being a member of an old and widely known family in that section of the State. He had been in the service of the Southern Railway for more than thirty years. He leaves an estate valued at \$100,000.

## ELEPHANT SHARK CAUGHT.

Fishermen Have Exciting Battle With Big Fish.

A shark of the elephant species, said to be the largest ever caught along the Jersey coast, is on exhibition in a Long Branch, N. J. shop.

It is twelve feet long and weighs 1,000 pounds. It was captured off Long Branch by a fishing crew after a vicious battle.

The shark, which is of the man-eating variety and with a reputation for combativeness, was feasting in a school of mackerel when the fishermen's boat around the ocean before he was subdued with hooks and prongs.

The presence of this shark has intimidated many of the bathers along the Jersey coast who fear that it may be a forerunner of many others.

## STAKE ALL ON CHANCE.

Two Greenville Candidates Will Draw for Office.

Two candidates in Greenville who tied in the election for aldermen have hit on a novel way to decide who shall have the office. A dispatch from Greenville says: "The city Democratic committee found that C. H. Webb and W. T. Bull, candidates for aldermen from the first ward, had each 718 votes. The committee will meet again this morning and take up the matter of the challenge voters. If the result is not changed, the names of the two candidates will be placed in a hat and a boy not over ten years of age will draw out the one who is to represent the ward in the council. It is a state of affairs never seen here before." This will save the trouble of holding another election.

## Has Fatal Fall.

While directing work on the roof of a new building at Buena Vista, Va., Wednesday, C. H. Riddings, member of the firm of Riddings Brothers, contractors and building material dealers, fell to the ground, receiving injuries that caused him death later.

## Killed by Accident.

At Spartanburg Henry Wyatt, aged twenty-seven years, car inspector of the Southern at Spartanburg Junction, was killed Wednesday morning by being run over by a freight car. The body was shipped to Belton, in Anderson county, his former home, for interment. He was a very popular young man.