HOUSE WITH WILSON

REPEAL OF FREE TOLLS WINS BY VOTE OF 247 TO 161

CLARK SPEAKS FINELY

Speaker Leads Opposition But Shows Admirable Good Feeling—Wilson's Personal Appeal, Backed by the Force of Reason, Sweeps Through House of Representatives.

The national House of Representatives Tuesday night, after one of the most spectacular legislative struggles in the history of the nation. voted to repeal the provision of the Panama canal act exempting American vessels from the payment of tolls. The vote on the repeal bill was 247 to 161, a majority of 86 votes in support of the personal plea of Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States.

This verdict on the issue which has absorbed congress for many weeks came at the close of a stirring day, made memorable in the annals of the House by a party division which found Speaker Champ Clark, Majority Leader Underwood and other Democratic chieftains lined up in open opposition with the president on an issue which the latter has declared essential to the conduct of the nation's foreign policy.

Tuesday's result was the first struggle within the party since Democracy took control of the government a year ago. On the final vote 220 Democrats in the House stood by the president, giving him in "ungrudging measure" what he had asked "for the honor of the nation" in its foreign relations. Twenty-five Republicans and two Progressives also voted to sustain the president. Fifty-two Democrats followed Speaker Clark and Leader Undyerwood to defeat.

Nothing, it seemed, could stem the tide of administration success. Speaker Clark, for nearly 22 years a member of the House, made the speech of his life to forestall what he termed "unquestionable degradation" of the nation. In this he failed, but he did smooth over the party breach with kindly words for his adversaries, praise for President Wilson, and an unqualified denial of any vaulting ambition on his own behalf. When he had closed the debate for the opposition to the repeal the speaker was triumphant in defeat, for the entire legislative assemblage, in which were many senators, rose en masse to cheer him.

The scene in the House chamber when Speaker Clark yielded the gavel to Representative Underwood, the majority leader, to defend his course in the great controversy probably was unrivalled in the history of American legislation. Never before within the recollection of the oldest member had the galleries been so packed with interested spectators. Outside the balleries the corridors were jammed with disappointed hundreds. On the floor nearly every member was in his seat. Even the Senate had adjourned and scores of senators occupied seats on the floor.

It was a rare political stage setting that this throng witnessed. Standing before them while Democratis and Republican members cheered him to the echo was the sturdy, big framed, silver haired speaker with resolution beaming on his countenance, his thin lips clenched tightly, his face pale and stern. Behind him, pounding for order, was Mr. Underwood. There they were awaiting the climax of the long debate, these two leaders of the Democratic party, heading the first revolt in the party ranks since Democracy put Woodrow Wilson in the White House. Even House Democrats who for the first time had turned their backs on their immediate leaders and stood resolutely by the president throughout the fight were impressed at the scene.

The interest was tense as Speaker Clark began to speak, and his first utterance, breathing a spirit of harmony as against discord and assuring the country that the president and he personally were at peace, seemed to spread over the assemblage, particularly the Democratic side of the House a feeling of relief.

"There is no personal issue between the president and myself," said the speaker and his voice was drowned in a chorus of Democratic shouts while Republicans and Progressives applauded.

At the outset the speaker read his address, but soon he got into his old time oratorical swing and was hammering home with sweeping gestures his deliberately delivered words. When he praised the patriotic motives of President Wilson, again was he interrupted by applause. Upon his emphatic declaration that with those who charged him with attempting to disrupt the party "the wish was father to the thought" not a member on the floor but applauded him. "Does any man in this House believe the Democratic leaders are working to split Democracy?" the speaker fairly howled as he leaned toward the Democratic side and looked into the faces of his colleagues.

"No! No!" was the thunderous reply from every part of the chamber.

"Let him courageously stand up here and now," continued the speaker, "that we may see his cast of countenance." But no man stood up and the House cheered again.

Throughout the speech there was not a dull moment. Repeatedly he was cheered and the echoes of the plaudits rang through the reverberating halls of the capital in frequent waves.

The speaker talked calmly when he referred to the Baltimore convention and recalled how he had led in the presidential nomination for 29 ballots and when he told his colleagues he was mindful of the fact that his course in this crisis might mean the end of his public career, there was no evidence of regret or of alarm in his voice or demeanor.

There were many things worse, he said, than being defeated for congress or for the speakership. When he declared he was not a candidate for the presidency and could be happy without it, he interrupted himself with a chuckle that brought more applause.

The speaker said he had no harsh words to speak of any colleagues who had criticised him, but he referred to some of them—Representative Henry of Texas, who led the fight for the cloture rule on the repeal bill; Representative Shirley and Representative Hardwick, who had aided in that fight. The House was moved to uproar of laughter when the speaker said, referring to Mr. Hardwick:

"So far as the gentleman from Georgia is concerned, I say: 'Shoo! Fly, don't bodder me; Shoo! Fly, don't bodder me.'"

It was several moments after this humorous disposition of the case of his party adversaries before the speaker could resume because the entire House sat back and roared—roared again with laughter. Even Mr. Hardwick laughed, and those who came expecting to listen to a political diatribe laughed and cheered with the others.

The House listened attentively to the speaker's argument against the tolls repeal, his assertion that he believed the president was mistaken, his argument that the Canadian Pacific railroad and the Tehauntepec National railway would profit by the repeal, and his appeal against yielding anything to Great Britain.

ANOTHER TRAIN ROBBED

LONE BANDIT BOARDS SEABOARD CAR AT COLUMBIA.

As the Train Left the Union Station Masked Man Holds Up Express Messenger and Rifles Safe.

For the third time in two years a "lone bandit" made his appearance in Columbia Saturday night. Entering, pistol in hand, the express car of the northbound Cuba-Florida special, just after it left the Seaboard station at 6:45 o'clock, an unknown white man covered Express Messenger Freeman, compelled him to open a small safe, secured a small package of letters and reports, valued at $100, and when the train slowed down at the Sidney Park yards, just three blocks from the station, he jumped off and disappeared.

The fast train, which is No. 2 of the Seaboard Air Line railway between Jacksonville and New York, proceeded on to the Elmwood crossing. There Conductor Kennett instructed J. M. Gill, the crossing watchman, to telephone the Columbia police station and the agent at the passenger station. The train then proceeded on its way. The lone bandit was described by Messenger Freeman as being about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches tall and weighing 160 pounds. He wore a small cap, dark clothes with vest and was apparently 25 or 30 years old.

Two years ago a lone bandit entered the mail car of ana Atlantic Coast Line passenger train, between Rossster and Columbia. A small package of registered mail was secured. March 5 of this year an unknown white man hel up and robbed a Southern railway train from Charleston at practically the same point and at practically the same hour. No arrests haxe ever been made in either case.

Presumably the robber Saturday night boarded the Seaboard train at the Columbia station when it arrived in Columbia at 6:45 o'clock from Jacksonville. The train was running 15 minutes late. Before the train had cleared the yards the robber walked into the express car by the rear door. Messenger Freeman was engaged with his work. The robber was masked. He issued a sharp command for Freeman to throw up his hands. The messenger complied with the order. The robber next ordered that the small safe in the car be opened. This order was obeyed. The robber, holding the messenger under cover, went through the contents of the safe. He took only one package. The train had proceeded about three bdlocks and had slowed down for the yards. Backing to the rear door, the robber disappeared.

HOMICIDE NEAR MARION.

Croatan Indian Charged With Killing His Brother.

Crickett Calder, a Croatan, living about six miles north of Marion, is charged with having killed his brother, Willis Calder, in a drunken brawl Friday night. It is said a spade handle was the weapon used. From reports, it seems that the two men were travelling along the country road near Moody's Mill, and after a few words Crickett struck Willis with the spade handle, crushing the skull of the latter, who lived until morning. Crickett Calder is said to have attempted to escape, going to the town of Latta with the seeming intention of there taking a train on the Atlantic Coast Line. He was quickly arrested by the authorities on the request of the sheriff of Marion county.

BABY USES PIG'S EYE.

Remarkable Operation Has Been Performed at Baltimore.

What is believed to be the first operation of its kind in the country was performed Tuesday at a Baltimore, Md., hospital when the corner of a pig's eye was grafted on the sightless eye of a three-months-old boy. It was said that previous operation in which rabbit's eyes had been used were unsuccessful, but that experiments with pig's eyes had led scientists to believe that they were more adaptable. Two cases are said to be on record where the grafting of human corneas gave sight to totally blind eyes.

Nearly Tickled to Death.

"Tickled to death" came near being literally true for Miss Ivy Martin, a pretty 18-year-old girl of Portsmouth, Ohio, Saturday, when she became ill as a result of too much laughing, and for a time was thought to be dying.

Shoots Praying Man.

Because "a stronge compelling voice" whispered in his ear: "Perform a blood sacrifice and purify the meeting," E. M. Metcalf, of Los Angeles, Cal., shot Gustav Victor Hugo at the latter was leading in prayer Saturday.

LEADS ALL STATES

SOUTH CAROLINA LEADS OTHERS IN VALUES PER ACRE

COVERS TWELVE CROPS

Government Figures Show That While Six Others Are Nominally Ahead of This State, Their Small Average Makes South Carolina Actually the Peer of Them All.

"Very often we hear it stated that if we could only get the value of our agricultural products per acre up to what it is in the States of the Middle West, South Carolina would be the greatest State in the Union," remarked Commissioner Watson recently. "The truth of the matter is that South Carolina has a greater value per acre for the 12 leading crops—corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, potatoes, hay, flaxseed, cotton, rice and tobacco, representing more than 90 per cent. of the total area of all crops—than any State in the Middle West, than any other State in the South and than any other State in the Union, with the exception of Nevada, Arizona, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Connecticut, the only six States which exceed the distinguished little pioneer. In volume of agriculture none of these six States could be called an agricultural State, as agricultural States go to-day, and that being true, when we consider the volume of production measured in millions of dollars, the farm of 1913, for value per acre of crops, belongs to South Carolina.

"Of course, nobody had dreamed, perhaps, that this would happen, and I hardly believed it myself to-day, when I got from Washington these average values per acre of the 12 crops combined in each of the States of the Union. South Carolina's value per acre is $25.18, Georgia's is only $20.80, North Carolina's is very close up to the Palmetto State with $24.84. Virginia's is $23.69, and then they tumble. The so-called great agricultural producing section of the Middle West runs like this:

"Ohio, $19.29; Indiana, $17.28; Illinois, $14.87; Iowa, $17.01; Missouri, $12.29; Michigan, $16.83; Wisconsin, $19.41; Minnesota, $14.26; North Dakota, $8.15; South Dakota, $9.48; Nebraska, $10.85; Kansas, $7; Tennessee, $18.01.

"In the rest of the South not mentioned above it runs this way:

"Alabama, $20; Mississippi, $19.62; Louisiana, $19.05; Texas, $18.52; Oklahoma, $10.06; Arkansas, $18.56.

"In the Far West, with the exceptions I have noted, New Mexico and Nevada, the highest figures are $20 and $20.25 in California. Up in the East the figures are:

"Maine, $23.72; New Hampshire, $20.44; Vermont, $20.78; Massachusetts, $32.34; Connecticut, $37.63; New York, $19.33; New Jersey, $29.02; Pennsylvania, $21.34; Delaware, $18.47.

"The average for the entire United States is $16.31, which is just exactly 1 cent more than it was in 1909.

"It ought to be pretty convincing also to the people who come down and look around the South and say that if the conditions here were 'like they are at home what a paradise it would be', to know that the average value per acre of these 12 crops in the South Atlantic States is $22.54, which is higher than in any other section of the United States. In the North Atlantic States it is $21.08, in the East North Central States it is $17.07, in the West North Central States it is $11.52, in the South Central States it is $17.45, and in the far Western States it is $19.59.

The increases since 1909 show that the South Atlantic States outstrip the entire country. In both the East and West North Central States there has been a steady decline, and this is true of the North Atlantic States. In other words, these official federal figures that have just been issued show beyond all question of doubt that while we have only as yet begun to scratch the surface of our opportunities here in the South Atlantic States, agriculturally, these States are to-day the leaders in agricultural production when measured by the only true yard stick, which is the actual value of the crops produced on each acre of land cultivated and planted.

"They bring to the eyes of the world what is ever more important to us people here in South Carolina, and that is the fact that South Carolina, volume of agricultural production considered, is indeed the leading State in the American Union to-day in agricultural endeavor. It demonstrates to the outsde world that the methods we have been employing in the last decade in South Carolina to increase average production per acre of the 12 leading crops of the country has brought her to the forefront and that she is actually in advance at this time of any of her sister States by perhaps several years.

"It occurs to me that we, as a people, ought to thank the federal government for collating and publishing to the world these official figures, for they are sufficient answer to the man from Iowa, the man from Illinois, and the man from Michigan, who comes down on a trip to look the situation over and because things happen not to be done exactly in the way he is doing them, begins to discourse at length about the great productive power of his country and to scorn the conditions that his eyes rest upon around him.

"I meet such every day, and hereafter, for this year at least, I shall keep these federal official figures with me all the time, and when I strike such a man, quietly hand them to him to study and then in a brotherly manner advise him to come and make his home in what, ten years ago, when conditions were pitiable, I was bold enough to proclaim to the outside world was—as it is now—"The Garden Country of America'." *

Spanked Girl Tries to Suicide.

Heartbroken because her father had given her a spanking because she stayed out late Sunday night, Helen Smith, 15 years old, attempted suicide at Philadelphia, Pa., by turning on the gas.

NATURE WILL SOLVE IT

CENSUS STATISTICIAN TALKS ABOUT RACE PROBLEM.

Census Shows That the Negro Race is Loosing Ground Steadily in the Southern States.

Solution of the negro problem through the difference in natural increase of the white and black races in the United States is foreseen by Walter F. Wilcox, special agent of the United States census bureau and chief statistician of the twelfth census. He points out in a report, copies of which have just been made public, that the negroes are steadily losing ground throughout the South, both by immigration of whites and by their own declining birth rate. They are losing ground still more rapidly in the North and there is thus reason to believe that nature will solve the race problem in her usual way, by the survival of the fittest.

"That the white race is slowly displacing the negroes in the United States is now well known," Mr. Willcox writes. "The more rapid increase of the whites is due not only to the influx of hundreds of thousands of white immigrants, but also to the fact that in the registration area of 1910—an area including three-fifths of the negroes, and so a fair index of conditions in the country at large—the negro death rate exceeded the white by about two-thirds."

Furthermore, "during the years since 1880 . . . the excess in the proportion of negro children over white children in the country has likewise been failing. The present difference in fecundity between the races is little more than one-fourth of that in 1880, and at the present rates of change it will have disappeared entirely before the next census is taken."

The decline is largely due to negro emmigration to the cities, the writer is only about two-third that of city whites, but the fecundity of country negroes is much above that of country whites". The negroes' loss of ground is further hastened by their tendency to migrate North, where the fecundity of all races is lower than it is in the South.

"The evidence then," Mr. Willcox concludes, "points to a differential natural increase as an important factor, a factor, in my opinion, at least as important as immigration in determining the present and future relative proportions of the two main races of this country."

NOTES AND CHECKS.

Affected by Negotiable Instruments Law Recently Passed.

Tuesday, the negotiable instruments law, a piece of uniform legislation, became operative in South Carolina. The law was passed by the general assembly March 4 and is identically the same in several paragraphs as similar laws in other states. While the provisions are of chief concern to bankers, the public is also interested in the charges. Copies of the law have been received in Charleston and bankers have been making themselves familiar with the provisions, and the following article is clipped from The News and Courier:

According to the negotiable instruments law, unless a check is presented for payment a reasonable time after its issue the drawer is relieved of liability to the extent of the loss occasioned by tardiness. This is considered very important. It is said that some people have a habit of holding checks, drawn in their favor, for a considerable period and that this practice is very bothersome. When checks are held back the matter of adjusting balances at the bank is at times of some concern. The provisions of the law do not, of course, apply to notes, drafts and checks drawn before its passage.

Under the new law the "three days of grace" convenience has been abolished and negotiable instruments become due and payable on the date specified. "A note payable at a bank," said a banker, "is equivalent to an order to the bank to make payment for the account of the maker. South Carolina has been the only State in the union where a bank has had to consider the signature of a check as transferring to the payee the amount stipulated in the check. A bank was without authority to withhold payment even in cases where the makers requested such action. Under the new law 'a check of itself does not operate as an assignment of any part of the funds to the credit of the drawer with the bank and the bank is not liable to the holder unless and until it accepts or certifies the check.' I quote this part verbatim.

"It is believed that the negotiable instruments law, such as the one lately enacted by the general assembly of South Carolina, will before long be adopted by all the states in the union. It is a piece of uniform legislation that is sorely wanted, and will operate to the benefit and protection of banks and individuals. In this State the new law applies to transactions made on and after Tuesday next, not to transactions that have already been made."

Attention has been directed to the following provisions:

Paragraph 85—Every negotiable instrument is payable at the time fixed therein, without grace. When day of maturity falls upon Sunday or a holiday the instrument is payable on the next succeeding business day. Instruments falling due on Saturday are to be presented for payment on the next succeeding business day, except that instruments payable on demand may, at the option of the holder, be presented for payment before 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, when that entire day is not a holiday.

Paragraph 87—Where the instrument (either a note or an acceptance) is made payable at a bank, it is equivalent to an order to the bank to pay the same for the account of the principal debtor thereon.

Paragraph 111—A waiver of protest, whether in the case of a foreign bill of exchange or other negotiable instrument, is deemed to be a waiver not only of a formal protest, but also of presentment and notice of dishonor.

Paragraph 127—A bill of itself does not operate as an assignment of the funds in the hands of the drawee available for the payment thereof, and the drawee is not liable on the bill unless and until he accepts the same.

Paragraph 169—A check of itself does not operate as an assignment of any part of the funds to the credit of the drawer with the bank, and the bank is not liable to the holder, unless and until it accepts or certifies the check.

ENGLAND FACES CRISIS

PREMIER ASQUITH RESIGNS TO TAKE CHARGE OF ARMY.

Asquith Will Take Charge of the War Office in Order to Deal With Irish Trouble.

After all the many solutions of the English government crisis, which had been proposed and discussed Premier Asquith announced Monday a solution to the House of Commons which none of the prophets had suspected or even expected. The Premier himself will assume the burden of the War Office in addition to his other and almost crushing duties. He will resign from the House at this critical stage, when the second reading of the home rule bill is about to be taken up and will appear for reelection to his constituents in East Fife, Scotland, within a few days.

Mr. Asquith apparently consulted no one except the King before his bold decision. His colleagues in the cabinet seemed to be as surprised as the other members of the House when he revealed his plans. Mr. Asquith is already First Lord of the Treasury which office he will continue to hold. The political seers gather that Mr. Asquith is in fighting mood. It looks at the present moment as though he proposes to make the reorganization of the army a fighting issue.

The establishment of a federal system of government for the British Isles was suggested to the House of Commons Tuesday by Sir Edward Grey as a solution of the home rule difficulty. The suggestion was received with great attention by the House, which was engaged in debate on the second reading of the home rule bill. "I believe," said Sir Edward, "that if our present difficulty is not solved by the introduction of a federal system the country will go under through the sheer inability of Parliament to transact its business."

Sir Edward Grey put forward a hint that the government was ready to go to the country for a general election if Parliament would enact its bills abolishing the system of plural voting, giving home rule to Ireland and dis-establishing the Welsh church. Meanwhile the question of the coercion of Ulster can not arise.

After a week of sensational developments in connection with the Ulster situation, the House of Commons Tuesday started the debate on the second reading of the home rule for Ireland bill. It is expected the measure will occupy the House for at least three days. The absence of Mr. Asquith, who was in charge of the bill, was bitterly complained of by the Unionists.

It is reported from Dublin that Premier Asquith is to be opposed in the by-election for East Fife by James Larkin, who, as head of the Transport Workers' Union, was leader of the strike in Dublin last autumn. In connection with the strike, Mr. Larkin was sentenced to seven months' imprisonment in October for inciting to riot, but was later released.

BOY FIGHTS POLICE.

Fifteen-Year-Old Lad Stands Off a Squad of Officers.

A 15-year-old boy, barricaded in a gun shop, held off a squad of Terre Haute, Ind., police with a continuous revolver fire Tuesday until wounded in many places, and his clothes blood-soaked he staggered from his fortress and surrendered. The lad—Ernest McWilliams—was found in the gun ship and when his surrender was demanded he replied with a fusillade. In the battle that followed all the window panes in the store were shattered and an automobile, which the boy had taken refuge, was riddled with bullets from the officers' weapons.

RELEASED FROM SENTENCE.

Negro in Arkansas Electrocuted After Gaining His Release.

After receiving an executive pardon, which released him from a 115-year sentence, Fred Pelton, negro, confined in the Alaba state penitentiary at Little Rock, was electrocuted Saturday for the killing of a negress. There was a question as to the legality of electrocuting Pelton until after he had served his 115-year sentence for another crome and for that reason the pardon was granted.

Proposed to Girl in Jail.

While hundreds were watching Frank Register of Savannah, Ga., climbed a tree in front of a jail window and proposed to Miss Zetta Metlock. No charge is against the girl, who is being held for her parents. *

Officer Shot by Negro.

Deputy Sheriff Curtis of Elizabeth county, Va., Sunday allowed John Carter, a negro booze seller, to go into his house for clothes. The negro got his gun and fired, probably fatally wounding Curtis. *

Went in Box Car to Sleep.

Salvatore Iabrattol, five years old, has been carried from Pensacola, Fla., in an unknown box car, into which he went to steep Monday.

Oil Lamp Explodes.

Mrs. W. M. Bridges of Greenville was painfully burned Saturday when an oil lamp exploded in her home.

Attorney is Disbarred.

Charles P. Sims of the Spartanburg bar was indefinitely suspended Thursday by the supreme court.

Loses Life in a Fire.

In a fire at Bethlehem, Pa., Tuesday one man and thirty-three horses were burned to death.

FIGHT IS COMING

SMITH AND BLEASE FORCES WANT CONTROL OF CONVENTION

STRAINING EVERY NERVE

Forces Behind the Governor Are Making Desperate Efforts to Capture the County Conventions—Smith's Friends Are Making Every Effort to Retain Control.

Preparations for the meeting of the Democratic clubs throughout the State three weeks from Saturday night are being made by both friends and opponents of the present governor of South Carolina, who is a candidate for the United States Senate to which the incumbent, Senator E. D. Smith, will stand for re-election. Under the constitution and rules of the party the clubs will meet on April 25 to elect delegates to the county convention which meets May 4.

The State convention meets in Columbia on May 20, the first primary election will be held on August 25, and the second primary on September 8. Realizing that control of the clubs carries with it control of the county convention and through them domination of the State convention and the State executive committee along with the election machinery both the Smith and Blease forces are on the qui vive for the club meetings.

With both sides alert it is expected that attendance at every club meeting throughout the State will break all records this year. The 1912 State convention was overwhelmingly against Gov. Blease, his friends controlling only about six out of the 44 county conventions. This year the Blease faction is straining every nerve to gain control of the State convention and the executive committee and word was sent out long ago to turn out and get control of the club meetings.

The Smith people are quietly determined to retain control of the election machinery and capture the State convention. The result is impossible to forecast with any degree of accuracy. Former Gov. John Gary Evans of Spartanburg is the present State chairman of the Democratic executive committee and Mr. Christie Benet of Columbia is secretary. Each county convention elects a member of the State executive committee and the committee elects the State chairman. Mr. Benet's name has been brought forward for State chairman and it is believed that he would make an acceptable chairman to all factions in the Democratic party. He has not been sounded on the proposition by his friends who want the party to secure his services.

While some minor amendments to the rules governing regulations of the primary may be advocated before the convention, it is not believed that any radical restrictions will be adopted. A plan to prevent enrollment of a voter at but one club and providing for the filing of certified lists of the club rolls some 10 or 15 days with the clerk of court in every county before the first primary will likely be urged on the convention. There is practically no likelihood of any such step as the restriction of the primary to registered voters will be adopted.

One big fight before the convention will possibly be the move to abolish the county to county canvass of candidates. The suggestion to abolish this plan is being warmly seconded throughout the State and there are indications that the move may be successful. There is a growing idea that this biennial tour is working more harm than good and that it would be better for everybody to have it discontinued. If the plan to abolish the county to county canvass is pushed it will stand good chance of being successful. The idea is to let each candidate run his own campaign and speak when and wherever he pleases and not speak at all if he doesn't want to is growing throughout the State. *

Wounded Wife and Killed Self.

Will Massey, a white man employed at a lumber plant at Tuscaloosa, Ala., Wednesday shot his wife three times, inflicting fatal injuries, and then killed himself.

Had an Eye Shot Out.

During a general row among some negroes at church near Reno, Laurens county, one negro had his eyes shot out at the hands of another Sunday.

Fireman Fatally Burned.

A. C. Page, captain of the Troy, Ala., fire department was burned to death Monday when he entered a building in a search for a child.

Shot by an Unknown Man.

Jesse Armstrong of Akron, Ohio, was killed Monday by an unknown man whom he tried to arrest for stealing a ride o nthe railway.

Charged With Serious Crime.

An unknown negro from Wahse township in Marion county was jailed Saturday morning on the charge of criminal assault upon a girl

Auto Accident Injures Two.

Dr. Floyd Rogers and his wife of Anderson were seriously injured Saturday when their auto turned over three times near that city.

Shoots and Kills Town Marshal.

Lawrence Newbern, town marshal of Broxton, Ga., was shot and killed a few days ago by Charles Graham, who made his escape.

Fell Off Building.

W. R. Cox, an aged carpenter, of Columbia, is in a serious condition as a result of a fall from a building on which he was working.

Unknown Men Drown.

Two unidentified men were drowned when a bride over the Mohawk River, Schenectady, N. Y., was swept away Friday.

Lexington to be Wet.

The election in Lexington in favor of the county dispensary sytem was declared legal Friday by the supreme court.

FIGHT STILL GOING ON

REPORTS FROM MEXICO TELL OF UNCERTAIN RESULT.

Border Town is Under Impression That Something Has Happened Towards the South.

A dispatch from Juarez, Mexico, Tuesday says that city was thrown into a state of high excitement late Tuesday when it was reported that Torreon had fallen, but the report failed of verification or denial. Rebel officials telegraphed to Gomez Palacio asking Gen. Villa if the news was true. The operator there replied he was under orders to transmit no messages of any kind. Gen. Carranza said he regretted that he could not confirm the report, and other officials had the same reply.

The first report was that Marion Letcher, United States consul at Chihuahua, had transmitted to W. J. Bryan, secretary of state, a report from George Carothers, vice consul, who has been at the front with Villa, that Torreon was captured at 1:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. On the heels of this some rebel officers telephoned to the offices of the Mexico & Northwestern railroad at Juarez that the capitulation of the federals was officially announced.

The rumors spread rapidly and in a few moments the streets leading to the telegraph office were jammed. At the international bridge there was a stream of interested persons pouring from El Paso, and orders were issued that all be searched for weapons. The saloons which were allowed to reopen Monday night were again closed.

That something was wrong with the news began to be suspected when rebel officials were observed among the seekers for confirmation. Singly and in groups they returned from Gen. Carranza's office, shaking their heads and went to the telegraph office. Here too verification was lacking and finally Frederico Gonzales Garza telegraphed directly to Gen. Villa, only to be informed by the operator that his message could not be handled.

The whole incident left the impression that something of importance was taking place in the south, and it was hoped that official announcement of victory merely was being delayed for some purpose known only to Villa.

A telegram from Villa to Gen. Carranza, given out Tuesday afternoon, felicitated Carranza on his welcome to Juarez and said that Villa hoped to announce the surrender of Torreon in a few hours. Another telegram purporting to come from Villa said he was meeting with desperate resistance in attempting to take the general barracks, the last position held by the federals, and was about to dynamite buildings in the neighborhood so he could use his artillery.

WANTS LEGISLATOR.

Member From Barnwell County Gave Out Worthless Checks.

A warrant for Norman C. Creech, member of the lower House from Barnwell county, alleging that he had issued a worthless check in the sum of $9.50, was received in Columbia Saturday by John C. McCain, sheriff of Richland county from J. F. Wingate, magistrate at Rock Hill. The warrant was issued at the instance of L. C. McFadden, a member of the firm of Diel & Moore at Rock Hill, to whom Mr. Creech had given the check.

The check was drawn on the Palmatto National bank of Columbia, dated February 14, and was returned on account of insufficient founds. Sheriff McCain has returned the warrant, as Mr. Creech's whereabouts are unknown to him, and as on Friday he sent to Barnwell a warrant on a charge by Mrs. Lillian I. Kaminer, proprietress of the City hotel, that Mr. Creech had left the city owning her a board bill of $83.

Thief Dies at Home Town.

Reappearing in Newalla, Okla., Thursday for the first time in three years, J. A. Patterson robbed a bank of $6,100. He escaped into the thick timber, where he was killed by the posse. *

Boy Scared to Death.

The sudden honking of a flock of geese Saturday frightened Frank Chunk, ten years old, of Racine, Wis., into convulsions. The boy, who had a weak heart, died shortly afterwards.

Boy Falls on Pocket Knife.

Floyd Hill, aged 9 years, while on his way to attend school at Burlison, Tenn., Friday fell with an open knife in his hand. The blade entered his body between the robs.

Burned to Death.

Mrs. W. H. Smith, wife of a Castana, Iowa, farmer, died Wednesday from burns. She was giving her baby a bath near the stove when her apron caught fire. *

Negro Stabs Colored Woman.

Leila Smalls of Florence, a negress, was stabbed Saturday by Fred Melton, another negro. She was rushed to the hospital in a dying condition.

Mail Carrier Drowned.

Colvin Pierce, a rural mail carrier of Mansfield, La., is missing and is believed to have been drowned while attempting to ford a swollen stream.

Killed Daughter for Burglar.

Mistaking her thirteen-year-old daughter for a burglar, Mrs. Joseph Wilson of Boaz, Ky., fired at her with fatal result Saturday.

Wife Shoots Her Husband.

John W. Edwards, of Asheville, N. C., was shot and probably fatally wounded Sunday by his wife.

Two Firemen Killed.

When fire destroyed the Franks Hotel, of Souix City, Ia., Wednesday two firemen were killed.

Three Killed in Feud.

Three men are dead and a woman is dying as a result of a feud over a land claim at Nogo, Ark., Saturday.

SMITH BILL PASSES

SENATE UNANIMOUSLY ADOPT COTTON TRADING BILL

MEANS MUCH TO FARMERS

Upper House Passes Measure Pressed for Years by South Carolina Senator—Bill Has Strict Rules for Handling Futures Transactions—Smith Greatly Pleased.

After the Senate Friday had passed a bill to regulate cotton futures trading, Senator Kenyon, who with others had misunderstood an amendment to legalize pooling operations, moved for a reconsideration and paved the way for reopening the fight on the measure Saturday. The amendment would annul the supreme court decision in the Patten case that pooling, with an agreement not to sell on an exchange violates the Sherman law.

After striking out the amendment legalizing pooling, the Senate Saturday repassed the bill regulating trading in cotton futures. Reconsideration of the bill was brought about by the stand of Senator Kenyon, who stated Friday night after the measure was passed, that he did not understand it included the pooling amendment. Mr. Kenyon was an assistant Federal attorney in charge of the prosecution against James A. Patten and his associates in their cotton transactions of 1910.

After Senator Kenyon called up his motion for reconsideration of the bill Friday he offered to withdraw it upon the assurance of Senator Smith of South Carolina that the pooling amendment would be eliminated in the House. Senator Borah, however, contended that the Senate should strike out the amendment, and Mr. Smith, declaring the pooling clause was not pertinent to the body of the bill, asked for reconsideration and moved to strike out the objectionable features. This done, the altered measure was passed by unanimous consent.

The bill as passed would provide that no person connected with an exchange shall send through the mails matter promoting enforcement of a future delivery contract unless the exchange requires all such transactions to comply with certain conditions, among them that contracts must provide for delivery within department of agriculture standards.

The pooling amendment, introduced by Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia, was advocated by him to prevent such prosecutions as that of Patten and associates, indicted by the federal government on charge of pooling cotton in 1910, with the purpose of with holding it from the market until they had reaped profits of some $10,000,000. Senator Smith declared these men should have been regarded as benefactors, not as criminals.

The passage of the bill ends a fight led by Senator Smith of South Carolina for legislation against practice on cotton exchanges denounced as injurious to the cotton industry. Senators Smith of Georgia and Ransdell of Louisiana also introduced bills. The three senators Friday, after a two-day debate, reached an agreement on a compromise measure ond was passed without roll call.

Among the conditions the measure would require exchanges to impose on futures transactionse is on providing that if the cotton sold s of the middling basic grades and the delivery is of other grades, then the commercial difference in value between the grade delivered and the grade sold must be paid. At present the New York cotton exchange has in force a fixed difference in value of the grades. An attempt was made to require the delivery of the grade specified in the contract, but Senator Ransdell denounced this amendment as unduly restricting speculation and unjust to the New Orleans cotton exchange.

The bill provides that no one shall use mail or telegraph lines to send out cotton exchange quotations, unless the exchange adopts the specified contracts. The sending of such matter through the mails is made a misdemeanor punishable by fine not to exceed $5,000 or by one year's imprisonment.

Senator Smith gave out the following statement: "Of course, to say that I am gratified at the action of the Senate in passing my bill, for which I have been fighting to regulate the cotton exchanges of the country, would be but mildly to express my feelings in the matter. Ever since I introduced the measure, I have felt that there was no question which meant more for the welfare of the cotton producers of the country than this which in its terms sought to regulate a practice which had grown upon the exchanges during the last 40 years and which has caused losses to the cotton producers of millions of dollars.

"Certain amendments have been added to the bill by others interested in the welfare of the cotton producers. In my judgment, this bill is fraught with more good to the cotton farmers than any measure that has been passed for their benefit in the history of agricultural legislation. I believe that this bill, in conjunction with my grading tests, will give to the farmers of the South a square deal in the sale of their cotton. I feel that the promises made my people have been fulfilled. I have used every legitimate method to bring about that which occurred to-day in the Senate.

"We, who grow cotton—for I am a cotton farmer myself—know the awful burdens we have to carry, and the disastrous conditions under which we have to sell our product. It was for the relief of this condition that I labored and I as a small farmer felt acutely as all of the great army of cotton producers felt these disastrous conditions and it was for this reason that I have given so much time and pains in endeavoring to relieve the conditions under which we labored. It remains now for the House to act, which I hope and believe it will do, to give the relief to the farmers which they have so long demanded."

It still remains to be seen whether the farmers prefer hot air to service.