

The Watchman and Southerner.

Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims at be thy Country's thy God's and Truth's.

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THE LAST HAZARD.

**Russian Army in Manchuria Will
Make Grand Stand Play to Im-
press the World That Empire
Is Not Whipped.**

Tokio, July 17.—An unofficial report from the front says the Russian forces in Manchuria are estimated at 400,000 men. It is believed that General Linevitch is planning to make a grand warlike demonstration simultaneously with the meeting of the peace plenipotentiaries. This action will be taken, it is said, to make it appear that Russia still has a chance to recover her lost military prestige for the effect it may have upon the negotiations.

LADY ASSAULTED.

**Wife of Former Atlanta Mayor Felled
on Peachtree Street By Negro.**

Atlanta, Ga., July 17.—Mrs. Livingston Mims, wife of Major Mims, and one of the most prominent women in the social and religious life of the south, was knocked down by an unknown negro on Peachtree street, near North avenue tonight and is suffering from bruises and the shock. The robber secured nothing for his pains, and Mrs. Mims was very fortunately little injured. Mrs. Mims takes a short walk every evening about 7 o'clock on Peachtree street, and has never thought of the possibility of a hold up. Mrs. Mims knew nothing of her danger until she was hit on the head from the rear over the right ear. She was dazed for the moment and hardly knew what had happened. The man caught her by the arm and in her dazed state of mind Mrs. Mims thought for a moment that it was some kind person about to help her up. She was undeceived the next moment when a second blow was struck. The snatch thief secured nothing, as Mrs. Mims had failed to take her pocket book with her. She thinks that he made a search for it, but was unable to find it. She saw him walk leisurely across the street. Finally she was able to get up and walk slowly to the home of Mr. Wilkins.

SUICIDE IN KERSHAW.

**Young Man Kills Himself Because His
Father Reproved Him.**

Camden, July 11.—Vernon Nettles, a son of Mr. Hiram Nettles, shot himself in the head today with suicidal intent. He died late this afternoon. It seems his father reproved him severely on Saturday, and he had refused to eat anything since. The sad affair is regretted here very much. His home is in West Waterlee.
Mr. Dalton McLeod had some words with one of the floor bosses at the Hermitage Cotton Mill today and shot at him without effect.

DARING PLOT

**To Abduct the Governor's Son and
Hold Him for Ransom.**

Santa Fe, July 12.—A plot to abduct Governor Ottero's son has been exposed. Eight ex-convicts are said to have formed themselves into a band to carry out the scheme. It was planned to carry the boy off into the wilds and hold him for ransom. The governor has the mounted police and secret service men of the territory on the lookout for members of the gang and will leave no stone unturned until the entire party is captured.

A Peremptory Order.

Columbia, July 11.—The railroad commission tonight issued a peremptory order to the Southern and Coast Line roads, to publish and enforce inter-line rates on the Union and Glenn Springs road.

This order follows up the one previously issued, and unless obeyed will go into the courts.

Cairo, Egypt, July 13.—Reports received from the various sections of the cotton growing area show that the crop will be excellent.

THE DARLINGTON TRAGEDY.

**MR. PEGRAM DARGAN PURCHASED
POISON FOR HIS BROTHER.**

**He Was Present When the Fatal Portion
Was Swallowed—Remained in
Locked in Room Until His Brother
Was Dead.**

Darlington, July 11.—Robert Keith Dargan, formerly president of the Independent Oil Company and of the Darlington Trust Company, committed suicide between 8 and 9 o'clock tonight by taking carbolic acid.

Mr. Dargan was on the streets this afternoon and appeared in his usual manner. He had been reticent since the recent troubles of the large concerns of which he had been the head, and this afternoon he made appointments to meet several gentlemen later in the evening, one of these being Mr. W. F. Dargan, who states that Mr. R. K. Dargan told him he would go to Mr. W. F. Dargan's office within an hour from the time they were talking.

According to the statement of Dr. Edwards, Mr. Dargan swallowed four ounces of carbolic acid. When he drank the acid he was in his father's law office. His brother was with him when he died. Physicians were summoned but it was impossible to save his life.

Mr. Dargan left a statement that he had taken his life on his own accord. His friends think he had hoped to straighten out his affairs and had expected that the oil company would be reorganized but after the action in the federal court he lost his hope and became noticeably despondent.

Mr. Dargan was about 40 years of age. He was married, his wife being before her marriage Miss Jermain of North Carolina. They have two children.—The State.

The Case in the Court.

Charleston, July 11.—As a result of the conference of a number of lawyers and others interested in the financial troubles of the Independent Cotton Oil mill of Darlington there is a possibility of the order of the federal court in the appointment of the temporary receiver, pending the bankruptcy rule hearing, being rescinded but this will depend upon a further conference of parties interested and the consent of the court.

It appears that the parties are all agreed that the action in bankruptcy was the proper step, for if it had not been taken by Charleston interests, it would have been inaugurated by foreign creditors, who would not be as friendly to the cause, but the difference of opinion only enters in the federal court temporary receivership. The interests in the case seem to hold to the opinion now that Judge Watts' order in the state court is sufficient for the temporary adjudication of the troubles and that President Bright Williamson's hands should be free, as the state court order allows for the settlement of many matters, which a joint receivership, under the federal court, might handicap.

It is likely that in the next day or two an order may be prepared and submitted to the federal court rescinding the receivership while making no change in the status of the bankruptcy matter, the motion in which case will come before the court in July 27 when the affairs of the corporation may then be turned over to the trustee in bankruptcy.

Darlington, July 12.—The sad and untimely end of Mr. Robert Keith Dargan has cast a gloom over Darlington. At 9 o'clock this morning Coroner J. N. Clanten summoned a jury for the purpose of holding an inquest.

The members of the jury were: E. R. Cox, T. E. Sligh, E. S. Howie, R. W. Coggeshall, C. K. King, J. K. Doyle, G. E. Kirby, D. W. Cunningham, W. B. Brunson, T. H. Coker, Jr., and Thomas H. Rogers. Mr. G. K. King was elected foreman.

The jury met at the court house and marched from there to the residence of the deceased, where they viewed the body as required by law, and thence to the law office of the Hon. E. K. Dargan, where the awful deed was committed.

After viewing the office and taking in the situation the jury marched back to the Court House, where the inquest was to be held. On account of the physical as well as mental condition of Mr. Pegram Dargan, brother of the dead man, who is the principal witness, the jury concluded to adjourn until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

This afternoon at 6 o'clock the funeral took place from his late residence on Cashua street. The body was buried at the Methodist grave-

yard in the presence of a large crowd of people.

The circumstances of the suicide all indicate that it was most deliberately planned. There has been no testimony and no statement concerning what had transpired in the law office where Mr. Dargan took his life has been given out, but the facts, as gathered from reliable men, are that Mr. Pegram Dargan went into the drug store of L. B. Phillips some time between 4 and 6 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and bought the four ounces of carbolic acid. He was alone and did not go in the direction of the law office when he left.

The two brothers, Mr. Pegram Dargan and Mr. Robert Keith Dargan, went to the law office of their father opposite the Darlington Guards' armory building before 3 o'clock and locked themselves in. One of them poured out most of the four ounces of acid in a glass and the rest he poured in a small bowl and mixed about a gill of rye whiskey in it. This concoction was to be used to deaden the pain from the raw acid, but only a part of it, if any, was taken, as the bowl, which is in the possession of the coroner, still contains a small quantity. After a portion had been taken, Mr. Dargan remained in the room with his brother until life was extinct and then notified their cousin, Mr. W. F. Dargan, who in turn quickly called Dr. Edwards, but their arrival was too late for human aid.

The suicide had left a brief statement which stated that he had ended his own life and that his brother had procured the (here he made a dash) and that he may have mismanaged but he was not a coward. He also left a letter which was not addressed, but is said to have been for his wife.

All these facts, it is expected, will be brought out at the coroner's inquest in the morning.

The Coroner's Verdict.

Special to The Daily Item.

Darlington, July 13.—The coroner's jury empaneled to inquire into the cause of the death of Robert K. Dargan completed its work this morning after a brief session. There was no sensational testimony and few facts not already published and none of these important, were brought out.

The verdict of the jury was as follows:

“Robert K. Dargan came to his death from the effects of carbolic acid, administered by his own hands, as per witness statement of the deceased.”

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

Paragraphs of General Interest Gathered From All Sections.

St. Petersburg, July 12.—It is now reported that the arrest of General Stoessel yesterday was due to the discovery of new data and evidence bearing on the surrender of Port Arthur, where he was in command at the time of its capture by the Japanese.

Gibraltar, July 12.—Ten men were killed and several others injured in an explosion of steam pipes aboard the British battleship Implacal today.

New York, July 12.—Samuel Levin, 22 years old, committed suicide by jumping from the roof of the Brooklyn police headquarters where he was taken to be pictured for the rogues' gallery. He was arrested on a charge of arson. It is believed he was connected with many incendiary fires in which lives were lost.

Kustenji, July 12.—The battleship Kniaz Potemkin which was sunk by mutineers was refloated today. The machinery of the battleship was also tampered with and is in such condition it cannot be relied upon.

London, July 12.—The Princess of Wales gave birth to a son this morning at Sandringham palace. Both mother and child are doing well. Four of the former five children of the Prince of Wales are boys. Some disappointment was felt, it being hoped the new arrival would be a girl.

Columbia, July 11.—A. M. Wallace, of Columbia, was shot by John M. Glenn this afternoon, at Wallaceville, a few miles north of Columbia. Glenn is the postmaster and became involved in a row with Wallace over an inspection of the books. The ball entered the hip and narrowly missed the main artery. Wallace was found on the railroad track and brought to Columbia by the Greenville train, and Glenn has not yet been arrested.

Washington, July 13.—Ambassador Meyer has officially reported the appointment of M. Witte as the chief peace plenipotentiary in place of Count Maraviev who has resigned on account of ill health. M. Witte is expected to reach here on August 1.

PROMINENT PEOPLE DROWNED.

**YACHT COLLIDES WITH STEAMER
AND IS SUNK.**

**Woman and Two Men Lose Their
Lives in the Hudson While Out
For Pleasure in a Millionaire's
Yacht—No Names are Given.**

New York, July 12.—Little additional light was thrown today on the mysterious drowning of a woman and two men in the Hudson river, near Dobb's Ferry, last night. That the woman was some one of wealth and position is indicated this morning by a reward of one thousand dollars for the recovery of her body. The party offering the reward declined to give her name or to give the name of the woman drowned. She said, however, it was her sister and at the time she was drowned she had a large amount of jewelry in her possession. The woman was drowned aboard the steamer launch Normandie, owned by G. W. Dumont, a millionaire.

From scattered facts it appears there were six in the party aboard the yacht which was run into and sunk by an unknown steamer. About half an hour after the yacht was sunk three men were seen on the shore, having been saved by Swedish sailors in a row boat. They hurriedly left, refusing to give their names.

HARRIS-WHEELER.

**Daughter of General Joe Wheeler to
Wed Resident of Cedartown, Ga.**

Atlanta, Ga., July 11.—The Journal today says:

The announcement comes from Washington today of the approaching marriage of Miss Julia Knox Wheeler, daughter of General Joseph Wheeler, to Mr. William J. Harris, of Cedartown, Ga.

No announcement in recent years will be of more interest in southern social circles. Miss Wheeler, who is a daughter of the famous Confederate cavalry leader has a distinction all her own in her charming personality and the wide circles of friends she has won.

She has been extensively entertained in northern and southern capitals, and no young woman is more sincerely admired in this section. In the north, where she has spent some time since completing her education, she represents the true type of the southern womanhood of today. Miss Wheeler finished her education in New York and Paris, and has traveled extensively abroad.

RUSSIA IN EARNEST.

**Selection of M. Witte is Evidence That
the Czar Wants Peace.**

St. Petersburg, July 13.—The selection of M. Witte as Russian ranking peace plenipotentiary in place of M. Muraviev is regarded here as best evidence yet given that the czar is really ready for peace. Witte's views favoring immediate cessation of hostilities are too well known to leave any doubt in the minds of the officials here that active steps will be taken toward bringing the war to a close when the peace commissioners actually get together. There is the greatest rejoicing over the selection of a man who is virtually leader of the peace party.

FLYER WRECKS FREIGHT.

**The Pennsylvania Eighteen Hour
Train Has Remarkable Escape.**

Harrisburg, July 15.—The Pennsylvania flyer, the eighteen hour train between Chicago and New York, struck and wrecked a freight train while running at top speed, west of Port Royal at 5:07 this morning. The flyer remained on the track and nobody was injured, but the engineer of the flyer, Calvin Miller, who jumped, sustaining an injury to the back of his head. Fireman Garman stopped the train and brought it to this city. The engine was only slightly injured.

The Harrisburg wreck was caused by a car of the freight train bucking.

TROOPS GUARD JAIL.

**Alabama Officers Protecting Five Negro
Criminals at Gadsden.**

Birmingham, Ala., July 17.—Troops still surround the jail in Gadsden to prevent the lynching of five negroes held as suspects in connection with the criminal assault and murder of Mrs. S. J. Smith, the white woman whose naked and mutilated body was found yesterday morning in an alley. A mob hung around the jail all night and this morning some remained at a distance in front, but no clash came.

THE LUMBERMEN MEET.

**PROPOSITION TO UNITE WITH N.
C. ASSOCIATION CONSIDERED.**

**Immigration Commissioner Watson
and Mr. D. W. Alderman Discuss
the Labor Situation and the
Use of Foreigners in the
Lumber Industry.**

The South Carolina Lumbermen's Association met in the Lodge room of Masinoc Temple at 11 o'clock Friday morning with president William Godfrey, of Cheraw, in the chair.

After the meeting was called to order the regular reports of the secretary and treasurer were made and other business of a strictly routine nature was disposed of.

Mr. H. L. Scarborough, who was sent to Chicago as the representative of the association to attend the meeting of the National Lumbermen's Association, made his report.

The election of officers was held and resulted as follows:

President—D. T. McKiethen, of Lumber.

First Vice-President—R. J. Alderman, of Alcolu.

Second Vice-President—William Hickson, of Cheraw.

Secretary and Treasurer—J. P. Brunson, of Lumber.

The special business of the meeting, the proposition of the North Carolina Pine Association, whose headquarters are in Norfolk, Va., that the two associations be combined, was then taken up.

The proposition was presented by Mr. John R. Walker, secretary of the North Carolina Pine Association. He went into the matter at some length, explaining why and in what way it would be mutually advantageous to the lumbermen composing the association that they be combined.

The proposition was discussed quite generally, the debate developing a sentiment about equally divided as to accepting or not accepting the proposition.

Among those who participated in the discussion were: R. J. Alderman, William Hickson, George Burchell, R. M. Cooper, William Godfrey, William Otis.

Mr. E. C. Harrell, of Tifton, Ga., secretary of the Georgia Inter-State Lumber Association, who was present by invitation, by request made a short talk on the subject.

On motion of Mr. H. L. Scarborough Messrs. D. T. McKiethen, of Lumber, T. W. Boyle and William Godfrey were elected as a committee to meet a similar committee from the North Carolina Pine Association to go into the matter more fully and to report back to their respective associations. The time and place of meeting was left to the committee to determine.

State Immigration Commissioner E. J. Watson who was present by invitation was requested to give the meeting information relative to the possibility of securing immigrants to supply the labor that the lumbermen so seriously need.

Mr. Watson stated that since he had held the office he had made every effort to supply every demand for labor that had come to him. Finding when he first went into office that he was not able with the resources at his command to secure the number of immigrants called for, he had endeavored to secure them through regular labor agents, who make a business of engaging foreign laborers, either raw immigrants or those who have been in the country for some time, for those needing them. These agents charge a fee or commission varying from \$2 to \$5 per head, and those who employ them are expected to pay the railroad fare from New York to their destination. If the laborers remain with their employer six months the fare goes to them as a bonus, but if they desire to leave sooner the amount is deducted from their wages.

Through these agencies he had secured quite a number of laborers for parties in the state, a case in point being Mr. D. W. Alderman, for whom a gang of thirty had been engaged at one time, and that gentlemen would relate his experience with them. In selecting the men for Mr. Alderman he had made a personal effort to get good men suited to the work they were expected to perform. He had made a trip to New York and had given much time to the matter. He regretted that the experiment had not resulted satisfactorily and there had been a misunderstanding in reference to some of the details of the transaction, but as long as human beings behave as human beings, one could not guarantee what they would do or how they would behave. He selected the best men he could and it then rested with the employer to work out the results.

When Mr. Alderman concluded there was a brief general discussion of the labor situation, all agreeing that it was the most serious problem confronting the lumber business of this state and other Southern states.

Before adjournment it was announced that there would be a continuation of the Hoo-Hoos at 3:30 and another at 9 p. m.

His office and the work is now better organized and he has established an office in New York with a first class man in charge, for the purpose of engaging laborers. The fee has been reduced to \$2 a head and every care is exercised in selecting the men sent to this state. He has also an agent working in Holland and will soon have one in Germany. He has an office in Glasgow with agents working in Scotland. He is endeavoring to draw immigrants from the rural districts from among the agricultural classes, who will be best adapted to the conditions in this state. He expressed confidence that his office will soon be in a position to supply all calls for labor and he hopes for good results when these immigrants begin to come in.

For immediate calls the only source is New York, Philadelphia and other large northern cities where the laborers must be recruited from the foreigners who have been some time in the country. The scale of wages for men from those cities is, as a rule, \$1.75 to \$2.50 a day for common laborers. But he has made arrangements whereby he can secure men who will work for from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day for 10 to 11 hours work.

He said that he expected better results would be obtained, however, from the immigrants who come direct from Holland, Germany and Scotland as the result of the work of his agents in those countries, but he did not expect many to arrive until the crop season closed, as the element he was looking to secure would not leave until the crops were made.

Mr. D. W. Alderman of Alcolu, said that labor was the great need of the hour. That at present his mill was not working more than two-thirds of the time and unless conditions improved and more laborers can be obtained he would have to go out of business. Labor conditions have been growing worse for several years, but this year they have been more unsatisfactory than ever. In reference to the foreigners he had brought down to work he would say that it had been a failure. As to the misunderstanding with Mr. Watson's office he would say that both were probably to blame. He had not understood that he would have to pay any fare and had wanted raw agents from New York. He understood that he would have to advance railroad fare. He had engaged thirty men at \$1.25 a day. When they came they were mostly Hungarians, with a few Germans and other nationalities in the crowd. When they arrived they said they understood all about the kind of labor they were to perform and the character of the log camp, his letter explaining these matters having been read to them in New York. They had made contracts with the labor agent for ten hours work for \$1.25 a day. The matter of hours he had arranged satisfactorily, for while they were on duty more than ten hours, owing to interruptions, they actually performed less than eight hours work a day. They had good quarters and an abundance of good food prepared for them three times a day. Yet the experiment was a signal failure and within a few days all except four of them left. The trouble was with the debt they owed for transportation and they seized the opportunity to get out of paying it. The four Hungarians who remained were all raw immigrants and were good workers. Recently he had sent one of these men to New York to engage more laborers. He picked out fifteen and sent them to Alcolu. They understood all about the place and the work before they came, and so stated when they arrived, but nine of them quit the next day.

He thought that if the raw immigrants who were accustomed to hard labor could be secured, better results might be obtained, but the experiment with present conditions was a failure.

Going into a general discussion of the labor situation Mr. Alderman related his experience with the negro labor. A few years ago there was no trouble in getting all he needed for the mill, but it is difficult to get farm hands, now it is no trouble to get all the farm hands wanted for \$6 to \$8 a month and rations, while mill hands cannot be had for 90 cents to \$1 a day. He suggested that efforts should be made to induce the legislature to enact a labor contract law that would apply to other classes of labor as it now does to farm hands.

When Mr. Alderman concluded there was a brief general discussion of the labor situation, all agreeing that it was the most serious problem confronting the lumber business of this state and other Southern states.

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