

The Mount Airy News.

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PICKETING RAILWAY SHOPS

Strikers Guarding Spencer Shops Night and Day in Three Shops

Spencer, Aug. 17.—Everything was quiet along the picket lines around the Southern Railway shops here today, no disorder having been reported up to 9 o'clock. However, groups of pickets, with sticks of a size ranging around and above that of a walking cane, continue their watching the gates and all of the trains that come to Spencer.

Developments reported Friday morning were that during the night a negro woman had tried to get through into the shops to see her husband, but was prevented and handled by the pickets, who, when her brother raised verbal objections, fired shots which were said to have been for the purpose of scaring him.

Also, during the night, the powder house of the company was broken into and 100 dynamite caps were stolen, according to reports made by Southern officials.

Approximately 150 men are said to be working in the shops, not coming out to eat or sleep. Officers of the Southern who are also at work inside pass the picket lines unmolested. It was stated.

The pickets are organized into three shifts, each shift being on the job for eight hours, the organization being like that of an army.

Contradictory reports on the activities of strikers against the special guards coming in on a Tuesday night train and who passed on without getting off, are made. Southern officials say that the guards were scared by the threat of the strikers, the pickets saying that only jovial banter was indulged in.

The report that 15 negroes were carried out Wednesday by the strikers was denied, the statement having been made that they were paid on that day and were dissatisfied with what they received.

That picketing will be continued, despite the injunction, but not in violation of the law, was the statement this morning by B. B. Earnhardt, chairman of the strike committee, his statement being backed up by other members of the committee.

A similar statement was made by President J. M. Ellis, of the state federation of labor, as published in The Salisbury Post of this afternoon. "The picket lines will be maintained as permitted by law, which is to the effect that peaceful persuasion to prohibit men accepting positions as strikebreakers is permissible," Mr. Ellis said.

Not a firearm was in sight, but practically every picket had his stick. Groups of varying sizes were around the fence at each opening. Covered huts or sheds had been erected at the stations in which the men could seek cover from rain or sunshine.

The half a hundred men at the Spencer station tonight around 8 and 9 o'clock presented a formidable appearance to the three Charlotte newspaper men who had taken the street car to Spencer to look over the ground before catching the train to Charlotte, arriving there nearly an hour before the belated train reached the station.

Frequent pickets would pass by and look them over, then mumbled consultations would be held, during which the newspaper men would receive penetrating glances.

Finally, one of the men, probably selected for the purpose, passed and ventured:

"Hello stranger," to which the newspaper man responded with a greeting.

"It your name Wilson?" the man asked, and when assured that it was more Irish than that, explained that he knew a man by that name slightly and that there was a resemblance.

Other attempts were made to find out names and businesses, but information was meted out in small quantities and after several minutes of conversation, with others gathering around, the men asked if the two other men nearby were friends. Another man asked:

"Are they special officers, too?" He was assured that neither was a special officer and then informed that all were newspaper men, which explanation seemed to be satisfactory and as it was passed out among the others, who did not look quite so formidable after that.

This congregating in crowds and carrying sticks is looked upon by numbers of people as violating the principle enunciated by Governor Morrison and some think it will be the

point on which the ordering of troops to Spencer or not will hang.

Strikers explained that the sticks were carried as a bluff, one reason being that they feared trouble from groups of negroes, as they had been informed that negroes had bought all of the arms and ammunition available at the stores.

TROOPS AT SPENCER

Nine Military Units of 525 Men Encamped Three Miles From Shops, Ready for Instant Action

Salisbury, Aug. 20.—The blowing up of the water main at Spencer, shooting which occurred in the vicinity this morning, the burning of one or more box cars while the water was cut off, and the apparently increasing tension, caused Col. Don Scott today to consider the advisability of placing troops on guard duty at the shops and at the Salisbury and Spencer stations. It was reported, but such action had not been taken tonight, and it was reported that decision had been reached to keep the soldiers at the camp until tomorrow, at least, unless further disorders should occur.

The total number of men and officials camped at the fair grounds a mile west of the courthouse and three miles from Spencer, is 525, according to Col. Don Scott, in command of the troops. Colonel Scott stated today that disorders of sufficient magnitude reported to Sheriff Krider himself or Governor Morrison would put the troops in action. Until there is such report the men will be kept within the fair grounds enclosure.

General visiting by the public at the fair grounds was prohibited and will continue to be prohibited while the troops are there.

Two large cars of the North Carolina Public Service company have been secured by the troops, and the cars and their crews are kept at the fair grounds for use by the soldiers.

To clear up repeated rumors that a number of men were hurt in skirmishes had been taken to the Salisbury hospital for treatment, two newspaper men visited the hospital this afternoon and learned from the superintendent that only one victim of the Spencer trouble had been treated there. This was a negro named Hargrave, who was shot in the hand some days ago and was brought there to have the bullet removed. He left the hospital Saturday. His case was given publicity at the time it occurred.

A negro locomotive fireman who was passing nearby when a 12-inch water main was blown up at Spencer last night had his right eye injured by some flying substance from the explosion, but he was treated by railroad physicians.

One of the soldier boys arriving last night was taken from the train in an unconscious condition and after reaching the hospital he regained consciousness, and apparently got over his trouble, which seemed to have come from an injury sometime ago.

Many Salisbury people were awakened at 4 o'clock this morning by much shooting in the direction of Spencer. The shooting continued for a half hour or more and occasioned much uneasiness. No casualties have been reported and no one has volunteered any information as to who was doing the shooting.

Sheriff Krider today declined to give out any statement, leaving that for Colonel Scott. No arrests have been made today.

Seek Armfield on Four Judgments

Greensboro, Aug. 16.—Four transcripts of judgments against J. L. Armfield, former president of the defunct Bank of Thomasville, were received today for services against Armfield by the Guilford county clerk of court, but he was unable to serve them, the whereabouts of Armfield being unknown to him. The four judgments amount to \$64,122.

They are an echo of the failure of the bank and were secured by T. J. Finch, receiver for the bank, sent here by S. J. Smith, clerk of court of Davidson county.

Armfield was reported to have entered a sanitarium at Richmond, Va., after his acquittal on charges of misappropriation of funds of the bank, but it is not known here where he is now, and service of the judgments will have to wait that knowledge.

STATE ROAD WORK MAY CEASE

Railway Strike Makes it Impossible to Get Coal and Cement

Raleigh, Aug. 16.—Open top cars in plenty for use on the North Carolina highways were promised Chief Engineer C. M. Upham of the state yesterday; but the Washington people could not guarantee engines to drag the cargoes out.

Mr. Upham, Corporation Commissioner A. J. Maxwell, and the state fuel committee of which Mr. Maxwell is a member sought relief to North Carolina highway construction. The allotment of coal by the government is exhausted before it gets down to highway construction. But the commission is making an effort to have the cement plants kept in operation. The shutting down of these factories will bring state highway work to an end and the cement makers cannot run much longer.

First and last in the state two and a half million barrels will be needed. There is none made in North Carolina. But sand can be used and North Carolina has billions of pounds. Nevertheless, sidetracks are running over with the stuff and it cannot be moved. Not far from Raleigh is a sand mine which has recently loaded 50 cars. They are out there in the country and not an engine to drag them out. Such is the condition in which the state finds itself after it has been promised all the cars that it may need.

The construction work on hard surface will be destroyed in another fortnight unless there is relief. On the sandlay roads the work goes on and if the interruption is protracted the state may find itself cogitating on a concoction for keeping down the dust that gathers on the soft surface roads.

Indeed, Chairman Frank Page said today that he is using in modified way a dust settling process which is working well where tried. It is still expensive and costs about \$600 a mile. It is a salt by-product which lays the dust and keeps it down a full year with two applications. The prohibitive price stands in the way of general country use, and of course if the trains quit running this stuff could not be imported.

Woman Editor Wins Loving Cup

The Smithfield Herald, edited by Mrs. T. J. Lassiter, who took charge upon the death of her husband about two years ago, wins the Savory loving cup this year awarded by Walter H. Savory, of the Mergenthaler Linotype company for excellence of typography, make-up and general effectiveness of publication. The cup is a beautiful loving cup about 28 inches high. Weekly and semi-weekly papers of the state contested for the honor. When it has been won three consecutive years by the same paper it becomes the property of that paper.

Since the first of May Mrs. Lassiter has had entire charge of the editorial and news end of the Herald. Previous to that time she and J. M. Beaty, half owner of the paper, did the editorial work. Through the efforts of Mrs. Lassiter the Herald has made fine progress, as the winning of the Savory loving cup for excellence of its make-up indicates.

Union Farmer Tries Raising Partridges

Monroe, Aug. 15.—L. Z. Cox of Lanes Creek township has learned how long it takes partridges eggs to hatch—just three weeks the same as hen eggs. Several weeks ago Mr. Cox found a nest of nine partridge eggs and having a bantam hen at home with heavy sitting inclinations, he decided to try her on the partridge eggs. All nine of them hatched and Mr. Cox and the bantam hen now have the finest brood of bird-chicks anybody ever heard of. Seven out of the nine are still living and are about three weeks old. Mr. Cox says they have sprouted wing feathers, but do not pretend to fly, being content to run around with the mother and are as gentle as chicks.

It is Mr. Cox's intention to pay special attention to his birds and to raise a nice bunch of them next year. It is also his intention to test their willingness to eat boll weevils and to forever stop the controversy over partridges eating the pesky insects.

TWO NEGROES SENTENCED TO DIE

Assailants of Mrs. Ketchen Must Pay Supreme Penalty on September 15.

Carthage, N. C., Aug. 15.—After being out seven minutes the jury in the trial of three negroes on charges growing out of the attack upon Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Ketchen, of Miami, Fla., automobile tourists, near Southern Pines, ten days ago, returned a verdict of guilty as to two of the negroes who were immediately sentenced to die in the electric chair on September 15. John Lee, the other negro was found guilty of secret assault, and was given a sentence of twelve years at hard labor. The negroes sentenced to be executed are Angus Murphy and Jasper Thomas.

Two thousand spectators, including the victim of the assault, looked on in silence as the jury returned its verdict. Murphy, the older of the prisoners, broke down and wept, and pleaded for mercy as the judge passed the sentence of death. Thomas maintained his attitude of indifference.

Both prisoners were returned to the state prison at Raleigh on a special train tonight, guarded by detachments of the Durham machine gun company and the Raleigh service company. No suggestion of disorder attended the second day of the trial.

Trial of the two negroes began yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Ketchen positively identified Murphy as her assailant and Thomas as the negro who held a light while the assault was consummated.

Evidence in the case was submitted without argument.

The outstanding feature of the evidence at the evening session was Mrs. Ketchen's positive identification of Angus Murphy from his voice as the man who assaulted her, after hearing him testify in his behalf.

A number of other witnesses were used in rebuttal by the state at the evening session. All were corroboratory except Fannie Ackery, a colored woman, who testified to seeing the men in the neighborhood of the assault on the evening the crime was committed, and the fireman on the freight train, who testified that he saw the three men board the train while in motion at Southern Pines.

The case was submitted without argument.

The testimony of John Lee, one of the negroes, featured in the morning session, Lee identifying Angus Murphy, one of the defendants, as the man who attacked Mrs. Ketchen, while Jasper Thomas, the other negro, stood by with a flashlight.

Lee also testified that Angus Murphy forced Mrs. Ketchen at the point of a pistol to go into the tent in which the Ketchens were camping for the night, and turn over to the negroes their valuables, as detailed on the stand yesterday by Mrs. Ketchen.

The witness claimed that he had left Murphy and Thomas when the shooting of Ketchen occurred, but returned to the scene in time to see Murphy attack his victim. He declared that he begged Murphy to desist, and that the latter threatened to shoot him. He also testified that he did not have any hand in the affair other than as a spectator, and denied going into the tent with Murphy and Thomas. He admitted accompanying the other negroes when they left the scene.

Both defendants went upon the stand and denied any knowledge of the crime. Both claim to have been working in Durham and to have entered at Raleigh on the fast freight on which they were later arrested at Aberdeen. Their explanation of how they came to be in possession of the watch belonging to Mrs. Ketchen, and the pocketbook and pistol identified by Mrs. Ketchen as the property of her and her husband, was that they had purchased these articles from two strange negroes at either Cameron or Vass, they were uncertain which, while their train was on a sidetrack to allow another train to pass.

This testimony was pretty well punctured by the testimony of Captain Baucom, conductor on the freight train, who asserted that the train in question was a through freight and only stopped at Apoc, Moncure and Sanford between Raleigh and Aberdeen.

Hot Weather Diseases

Disorders of the bowels are extremely dangerous, particularly during the hot weather of the summer months, and in order to protect yourself and family against a sudden attack, get a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy. It can be depended upon. Many have testified to its excellence.

REV. TOM P. JIMISON ASSAULTED

Spencer Man Knocks Minister Down, Incident Creates Uneasiness

Salisbury, Aug. 21.—All the eight companies of troops which were sent here Saturday by Governor Morrison to protect life and property in the tense situation that had developed in connection with the strike of 1,700 workers in the Spencer shops of the Southern railway, were on guard duty at Spencer and Salisbury tonight.

A proclamation issued by Governor Morrison similar to the pronouncement on the occasion of recent threatened disturbance at the Atlantic Coast Line shops in Rocky Mount, was read to a mass meeting of strikers and strike sympathizers by Mayor Wade V. Bowman today. The military authorities were requested to "disperse all large assemblies brought together for the purpose of over-awing and intimidating, by a display of numbers, those who desire to go to work."

Five full companies and a part of the Durham machine gun company are guarding the Spencer shops and the railroad passenger station at that place, while two full companies and the Durham machine gun company were on guard duty in and around the Salisbury postoffice, having been placed there tonight by request of Postmaster A. H. Boyden because of the growing tension that developed following the attack made today upon Rev. Tom P. Jimison, Methodist preacher, who has been very active in the fight of the strikers. He was knocked down on the street here by John Sloop, a clerk in the Salisbury postoffice, and the two came to grips on the ground before they were separated.

Following this incident crowds gathered about the postoffice and open threats of lynching were heard, the declaration being made, according to Postmaster Boyden and others, that Sloop would be lynched, "troops or no troops." Sloop made no statement of his reason for the attack except that he saw Rev. Mr. Jimison go into a store and get out an army mess knife and that the minister had abused enough people already. Mr. Jimison has made a number of speeches in behalf of the strikers and has denounced Sheriff Krider for his activities.

Late tonight crowds had ceased to approach the Salisbury postoffice, having been prohibited by the soldiers from assembling there, and quiet prevailed in Spencer, though groups of citizens and hundreds of strikers stood about in groups observing the spectacle of troops on guard for the first time in the history of the Spencer shops.

A contingent of recruits for the workers in the shops, arrived tonight and entered the shops without molestation. There are several hundred workers in the shops now, while 1,700 are on strike.

It was reported from Rev. Mr. Jimison's home in Spencer tonight that he had some temperature and was not resting well, suffering somewhat from bruises in his encounter with Sloop.

Col. Don Scott tonight at 7 o'clock established headquarters at the United States postoffice in Salisbury and threw out troops around this building that isolated the building for the night. In and about and surrounding the building are the companies from Charlotte and Burlington and half of the Durham machine gun company, with a machine gun commanding the entrance to the office.

This action was taken upon request of Col. A. H. Boyden, postmaster, who had information that attempts would be made on the life of John Sloop, a clerk in the office, who attacked Rev. Tom P. Jimison, striker's friend and counselor today. Mr. Sloop is on duty at the office tonight.

Also at 7 o'clock Colonel Scott dispatched the Concord and Winston companies of infantry and troops of unmounted cavalry from Hickory and Lincolnton, and half of the Durham machine gun company under Major Bowman to Spencer. They have instructions to keep order, whatever it takes. Picketing is to be allowed but it will be under the range of three machine guns that are being placed on advantageous ground.

Scott Addresses Strikers

Colonel Scott, accompanied by several officers, attended the public meeting of striking shopmen at the Strand theater this morning, and spoke to the men, on request, saying that his troops were neutral in the

troubles here. After the meeting Colonel Scott had a conversation with strike leaders, and went over the situation thoroughly. He assured the men that their rights would be protected. Colonel Scott also had a conference with railroad officials at Spencer, and paid visits to city and county officials.

While he was on this round he witnessed the incidents in front of the county courthouse following the Sloop-Jimison trouble and also had a close-up view of the reception given strikers.

Colonel Scott could not understand just why fate brought these strike breakers to the main business section of the city at the moment they came when everything was at such high tension. Colonel Scott was not favorably impressed by the so-called peaceful picketing as he witnessed it.

This morning Governor Morrison's proclamation and orders to the troops was read to the men by Major Bowman.

Action and interest in the strike situation shifted today from Spencer to Salisbury when a personal difficulty on Main street attracted attention of a large crowd and brought on a tense period that passed, however, without casualties.

Rev. Tom P. Jimison, pastor of Central Methodist church, Spencer, and counselor and friend of the striking shopmen, was attacked by John Sloop, a clerk in the Salisbury postoffice, knocked or jerked to the ground and pummeled considerably before cries of the minister attracted policemen and citizens who pulled the man off of him.

The preacher suffered bruises on the face and back of the head, an abrasion on the forehead and other slight injuries. Mr. Sloop, who was uninjured, was charged with an affray and allowed to go under a \$50 bond. Although there was considerable feeling on the part of the strikers and other friends of the preacher against him, Mr. Sloop went on duty at his regular time in the afternoon.

Mr. Jimison addressed the crowd that assembled and asked his friends to go about their business in a quiet way, that he was going to continue to walk the streets as he had been doing and as he had a right to do and for them to do likewise. He then went home.

Mr. Sloop was taken into the community building and later to the courthouse before going to his home.

Mr. Jimison stated to his friends that he did not know who hit him, that he did not know Mr. Sloop and had never talked with him. Mr. Sloop did not make a statement for publication but to friends he said that he had seen Mr. Jimison go in a store and purchase a knife and put it in his pocket. He thought Mr. Jimison had abused enough people already and that further abuse was discontinued.

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Mount Airy Post Office Leads In Sale of Treasury Certificates

The Mount Airy post office was first among second class post offices of North Carolina and first among all second class post offices in the Fifth Federal Reserve District in the sale of treasury savings certificates for July, having disposed of \$15,800 worth of these certificates during the month, according to a report just received by postmaster Geo. K. Snow from Howard T. Cree, director of Government Savings Organization, Richmond, Va.

More treasury savings certificates were purchased in July than in any month of the year, the sales for the entire district amounting to \$802,873, maturity value, distributed as follows: West Virginia \$217,470; Virginia \$141,325; South Carolina \$97,575; District of Columbia \$91,625; North Carolina \$79,175; Maryland \$39,550. In addition there was sold through the Federal Reserve Bank at Richmond and the Treasury Booth at Washington \$136,153, making a total of \$802,873. In July, 1922, the Treasury Department will pay back to the holders of these certificates in this district the above amount of money.

Postmaster Snow is engaged in a very active campaign this month to increase sales over last month. He says, "People having from \$20 to \$4,000 to invest will do well to call at the post office to investigate this opportunity for buying government securities, guaranteed as to principal and interest and yielding 25 per cent increase on purchase price at date of maturity."