

Governor Walton Is Ousted By Senate

Unanimous Vote Ends Long Controversy Involving Kluckers and Autocratic Officials.

For months Oklahoma has been the storm center of the agitation growing out of the growth of the Ku Klux in that state and the presence at the helm of state of a man whose autocratic acts, it is said, smacks of old Russia. Whatever the verdict of history may be, the forced retirement from office of J. C. Walton will clear the atmosphere and bring peace to a much disturbed commonwealth. The choice of Oklahoma between its governor and the Kluckers is so decisive as to leave no doubt that the people prefer government by popular vote, even the that vote is controlled by a secret order, to the autocratic mandates of any official. If it is true that Oklahoma politics is controlled by the kluckers, the recent election, which Walton tried to prevent by use of the state militia, shows clearly that the people who know the Klan best do not see in it a menace to society. The following news dispatch tells the story of the spectacular action by Oklahoma's senate:

Oklahoma City, Nov. 19.—J. C. Walton, fifth governor of Oklahoma, was removed from office tonight by unanimous vote of the state senate court of impeachment after his trial on charges of corruption in office, neglect of duty, moral turpitude and general incompetence.

A formal verdict was returned after the executive had been found guilty of 11 of the 16 charges presented. The vote was 41 to 0.

Six of the original 22 charges constituting the impeachment bill were dismissed by order of the court.

The court, by a standing vote, denied a motion for a new trial which Governor Walton's counsel filed immediately after the verdict was announced.

Conviction on First Charge.

The governor's removal, although not formally ordered until after a verdict had been returned on each charge, was made certain this afternoon when the court found him guilty of abusing his pardon and parole authority, the first charge to be voted upon.

Forty one senators lacking only one of the total membership of the body voted for conviction. Senator Jack Barker, who has consistently voted in the governor's favor throughout the 16 days of the trial, was absent.

The articles of impeachment were filed by the lower house of the state legislature, which less than two months ago the executive had dispersed by military force.

By the removal of Governor Walton, Lieutenant Governor M. E. Trapp became governor. Trapp has been lieutenant governor during two four-year administrations and has been acting governor since October 23 when the senate suspended Governor Walton after the filing of the impeachment charges.

Bloodhound Knows The Ham What Am

Newton, Nov. 19.—Newton's famous bloodhound has added another score to his long string of successes in trailing criminals and giving officers convincing testimony of guilt, though in this case no way is open to use the testimony in court.

In Mountain Creek township, Friday night about 8:30 o'clock Charles Howard heard a noise at his meat house, and on investigation found that a big fresh ham was missing. He went to a nearby store and phoned to Chief of Police Tom Gabriel, who had been his neighbor before coming to Newton, to bring down his bloodhound. The chief arrived with his dog about 11 o'clock. The dog picked up the trail and soon found the ham which had been hid in the woods. From that point he took up the trail and led the men close to a number of houses without stopping or hesitating, to the cabin of Jack Gaither, negro. He went straight to the door, put his nose through the crack, and told the officers plainly as he had the power to do that he had found the man. The officers and others who followed the dog are perfectly satisfied with the testimony but do not see any way of using it. The negro was not arrested.

HISTORIC HOTEL WIPED OUT BY FIRE.

Presidents and Dignitaries Formerly Guests of Old Battery Park Hotel.

Asheville, Nov. 17.—The old Battery Park hotel is no more. Five early this evening completed the work of the wrecking crews and tonight the only remainders of the glories of a day that is gone are burning embers and gaunt chimneys.

While much of the lumber and other timbers that went into the construction of the great four-story building 40 years ago had been removed, there remained sufficient dry lumber and pine rafters to make a spectacular blaze and to fulfill an oft-repeated prophecy of a quarter of a century that some day the Battery Park would burn down.

The passing of the remnant of the Battery Park was witnessed this evening and tonight by thousands of people who thronged the famous hill and gathered in groups of hundreds along other streets surrounding the hill. With a stiff north wind fanning the fire millions of sparks like tiny stars floated over the south brow of the hill where for months steam shovels have eaten into the vitals of the little mountain, and settled in showers along Patton avenue and intersecting streets.

The fire will speed the work of clearing the hill of its once famous hotel and before another 12 months has passed the beauty spot of Asheville will be brought to the level of Haywood street and Patton avenue; a new Battery Park hotel erected out of cement and stone opened for the reception of guests; new streets cut through the 10 acres of levelled land and a new business district created.

The project was born in the fertile brain of E. W. Grove and is being carried to a successful conclusion by that wealthy Asheville man.

But while new business property will be created and a new hotel built there are many old citizens of Asheville who mourn the passing of the old Battery Park and the hill upon which it stood, for it was the Battery Park hotel which gave regal entertainment to thousands of visitors who came to this section 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

Presidents of the United States from Grover Cleveland to Woodrow Wilson and dignitaries of the once powerful Prussian empire and from the British Isles in days that are gone, stood upon the broad verandas of that hotel which tonight passed out and marveled at the grandeur and beauty of that western view.

It was on this same veranda, sometimes called "Lover's Lane," where the late George W. Vanderbilt stood 30-odd years ago and caught a glimpse of a lone pine tree away out near the foot of Pisgah and which later became the site of Biltmore house, the most famous private estate in the country and today the home of Mrs. Edith Vanderbilt, president of the North Carolina Agricultural association.

It was to the Battery Park hotel that Grover Cleveland as President of the United States brought his bride, who was Miss Folsom, now Mrs. Preston. It was also at the Battery Park where Adlai E. Stevenson, while vice-president of the United States, spent much of his time and where his invalid daughter recuperated.

Wife Uses Shotgun to Keep Husband Home.

Beaufort, Nov. 19.—As a result of not obeying his wife's instructions to stay at home, Frank Congleton, a young white man who lives here, received a bad shotgun wound in his right thigh.

Mrs. Congleton alleges that when her husband got into his car and started to leave home she fired at the tire and hit her husband. He sustains her in the statement.

Trades With Himself; Loses Job.

Raleigh, Nov. 19.—Dr. L. B. McBrayer, superintendent of state sanatorium, will be sentenced tomorrow at Raeford, N. C., where on Tuesday he pleaded guilty to charges of trading with himself in conducting the affairs of the sanatorium, according to a story which appeared in the Raleigh News and Observer. The newspaper gives Solicitor T. A. McNeill as authority for its article.

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS DELAYED IN TRANSIT

Hosiery Solicitor Who Fleeced Local Housewives Jailed in Jonesboro, Tenn.

"Milady" will have to shiver along for quite a while before the arrival of that dozen silk or lisle hose she ordered about a month ago from one J. J. Dickson, who claimed to represent a Salisbury hosiery mill. The reason is that Uncle Sam has Dickson locked up in Jonesboro, Tenn., on a charge of using the mails to defraud.

About a month ago Dickson broadened into Mount Airy with a brand new gold brick, one the Mount Airy housewives never fell for before. His game was hosiery. Perfectly beautiful samples had he in his fist. Worth \$3 a dozen of any lady's money but just to introduce them he was taking orders at half price, said stockings to be looked for Christmas delivery. A small advance payment of \$2 was collected on each order just as an evidence of good faith, don't you know. Goods all right, customer all right, but, you know business is business. And again they fell. Hosiery? Who ever saw such fine sox and elegant silk stockings? And the price. So cheap as to make the local merchants look like war profiteers.

And they fell hard. Such glittering opportunities come to a family only once in a life time. The good woman ordered sox for son and husband and stockings for themselves and daughters and all the kids. Yes, all to be timed to arrive a few days before Christmas—doing their Christmas shopping early. But alas, the salesman after fleecing many other towns in North Carolina and Tennessee is now in the cruel hands of the law. The sox will not arrive for Christmas and the two bucks paid as an evidence of their gullibility is gone forever. How many Mount Airy housewives fall for this common game so one will ever know, no not even hubby. It is a profound secret that will be buried with them. Enough of them have whispered their misfortune, however, to lead one to suppose that not a few are minus two dollars.

The following account of the hosiery solicitor's operation and troubles appeared in the Bristol (Tenn.) Herald: "November 12, has been set as the date for the trial of J. J. Dickson, hosiery salesman who was arrested in Johnson City about three weeks ago on charges of obtaining money under false pretenses in both Bristol and Johnson City and who is now being held in the county jail at Jonesboro, according to information received yesterday afternoon from J. L. Venable, secretary of the Retail Merchants Association of that place. It has become known in other sections of the country, Mr. Venable said that many complaints against Dickson had been received and that warrants had been taken out in two other places.

Federal postoffice authorities at Washington have wired the authorities at Jonesboro to hold Dickson for them on a charge of using the mail to defraud. Warrants have also been issued for Dickson by people in both Clinton, N. C., and Spencer, N. C., on charges of defrauding. It is charged that in these places that a man who signed the receipts given them as J. J. Dickson was selling goods for the High Grade Silk Hosiery Mills of Patterson, N. J. In Bristol and Johnson City receipts were signed by J. J. Dickson, representing the Better Knit Mills of Salisbury, N. C.

Mr. Venable said that he had received a wire from a man at Marion, N. C., who claimed to hold a first mortgage on the car which was in possession of Dickson when he was arrested. Mr. Venable announced that the car would be sold at auction in Johnson City in about ten days to satisfy part of the losses sustained by the Johnson City people. He advised that Bristol people who bought hose from Dickson communicate with the Retail Merchants Association in Johnson City so that they might also take steps to prosecute him and get their money back.

Get 100-Gallon Still.

Elkin, Nov. 19.—Deputy Marshal L. G. Bryant in company with J. M. Cook and Mr. Gregory, deputy sheriff of Yadkin county, captured a distillery, operating in full blast, in the Brusky mountains five miles south of here Saturday.

The outfit was located on the farm of the Highlands Orchards company, three men being sighted by the officers as they approached, but they made a quick escape, through the brush, but not too quickly for the sharp eyes of the officers to recognize two of them.

A 100-gallon boiler was producing the moonshine liquid at the rate of 12 gallons per hour. The outfit, including 5,000 gallons of beer, was destroyed by the officers.

GASOLINE WAR RAGES THROUGHOUT THE EAST

Principal Refineries Are Announcing a Reduction of 1 Cent Per Gallon.

New York, Nov. 12.—The gasoline price cutting war which started in the middle west with a reduction of two cents a gallon by the Standard Oil company of Indiana, was extended to the eastern seaboard today when most of the principal refineries followed the lead of the Gulf Oil company in reducing prices one cent a gallon. Further cuts are expected by the old trade here in the next few weeks. Tank wagon prices of gasoline are now 14 1-2 cents in Massachusetts and 15 1-2 cents in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

The recent cuts were made possible by the steady reduction in crude oil prices but they also were influenced by the seasonal decrease in gasoline consumption and the fact that several of the large companies are facing the winter with their storage facilities taxed to capacity. Some of the smaller companies have been forced to sell gasoline at or below cost in order to satisfy an urgent need for immediate funds.

Heavy over-production in the California fields which now shows signs of abating, was followed by a huge increase in the output of the new fields recently opened in central Texas.

Oil stocks here continued to multiply, despite the record breaking production and sales of automobiles this year and the increasing use of crude oil for heating purposes.

The flood of oil has had an unsettling effect on the shares of numerous oil companies, many of which have either reduced or omitted their dividends in order to conserve their cash resources.

U. S. May Loan \$150,000,000 to Germany to Buy Food.

Washington, Nov. 19.—The administration has ordered consideration of a plan for a government loan of \$150,000,000 to Germany to be expended in the purchase of American food products. It is understood that this plan has the approval of Secretary Hoover, of the department of commerce, who handled the Russian relief and who is likely to have charge of the purchases of food products for Germany.

The fact that this country was to provide for the starving Germans has been intimated by both President Coolidge and by Secretary Hughes but the size of the fund to be provided and the question whether there should be an outright gift or a loan had not been made known.

A loan will have to be approved by Congress and it is presumed President Coolidge will make his recommendation for German relief in his coming message. Steps have already been taken to interest the various farm organizations in the support of German relief. There seems no reason to doubt that sufficient votes could be obtained for a loan of this size for the feeding of Germany. The senators and representatives of agricultural states would be for it. And Republicans generally would support it because of their anxiety over political conditions in the farm states with the prices of food products falling.

The administration has been facing for some time the problem of what to do for the relief of the farmers. Various measures have been proposed that would involve the government's buying surplus farm products and disposing of them as it could at a loss. The trouble with all of these schemes was that they would establish a precedent that the American farmer could regularly look to the government for relief. This plan of a \$150,000,000 loan to Germany has the advantage of not establishing a precedent. It is done for humanitarian reasons and to meet special conditions.

The money to meet this loan may be provided by the war finance corporation which has about \$150,000,000 on hand and thus the administration might not impair its tax reduction plan or be compelled to go into the market and sell bonds, which would play into the hands of the bonus advocates. It is not disclosed whether the plan intends the use of the war finance corporation funds or not but it is believed that this will be the method used.

GROWING OUT OF VILLAGE CLASS

NORTH CAROLINA SHOULD BE THANKFUL

Governor Morrison Calls on Citizens to Give Thanks to Almighty God on Thanksgiving.

Raleigh, Nov. 19.—Declaring that North Carolina has been blessed with a year of great prosperity in material things, Governor Cameron Morrison tonight issued a proclamation setting aside Thanksgiving day as a day of thanks and calling on the people of the state to assemble "and give thanks to Almighty God for his many mercies and blessings." The proclamation follows:

"North Carolina has been blessed with a year of great prosperity in material things on the farm, in the factory, and in every line of business, God has most generously rewarded the labors of our people.

"We have been led by God to make a liberal use of our material prosperity for the benefit of the defective and for improved educational opportunities for our children. Now, therefore I, Cameron Morrison, governor of North Carolina, following the previous action of the President of the United States, in his proclamation of November 6, 1923, do hereby proclaim and set apart Thursday, November 29, 1923, as Thanksgiving day and call upon our people to observe the day by assembling in their respective places of religious worship and giving thanks to Almighty God for His many mercies and blessings to the people of the United States, and of this state and to pray for divine guidance in the future. May I implore the people of strength on Thanksgiving day to remember the orphan, and the weak and defective of every class by some act of generosity and helpfulness.

Done in the city of Raleigh on this the 15th day of November, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, and in the one hundred and forty-eighth year of our American independence.

(Signed) "CAMERON MORRISON, Governor."

"Lost Provinces" May Continue Railroadless.

Raleigh, Nov. 17.—Tam Bowie's lost province railroad will get an early Supreme court test if Governor Morrison's letter tonight to Attorney General Manning gets quick action. Governor Morrison has written Judge Manning asking him to "bring before the Supreme court the question of the constitutionality of the act of the last general assembly authorizing the building, or taking stock in the building of certain railroads mentioned in chapter 116, page 239, of the public laws of 1923 known as the Bowie act." The governor says the "general understanding was that the question of the constitutionality of this act was to be submitted to the Supreme court before any effort was made to build or take stock in the building of the roads mentioned, but under the act large sums of money are now being expended for surveys, engineering studies, etc."

"I do not think the money ought to be expended until the court has said this law is valid and constitutional, and I hope you will take prompt action in having the courts determine whether or not the treasurer of the state should continue to pay out money under this act for any purpose. I think the constitutionality of this act in every part is a most serious question and I fear for the treasurer of the state to make payments under it longer without a judgment of our Supreme court upholding it."

Ordinarily the attorney general's opinion is state law until the courts act, but manifestly the first issue raised will be in the court of finality.

Finds Giant Silver Nugget

On the Montreal river, about 12 miles from the town of Cobalt, Ontario, Angel Clemens, a carpenter, found a silver nugget weighing 3200 pounds. It was estimated that the nugget would run fully 75 per cent silver and was worth more than \$20,000.

With Miles of Hard-Surfaced Streets and Cement Sidewalks Mount Airy is Fast Growing Into City.

No longer can it be said of Mount Airy streets that only mud turtles and barefoot urchins can successfully navigate them. With the completion last week of the last stretch of hard-surfacing on Rockford street, it can now be truthfully said that Mount Airy in the matter of street improvements will compare favorably with any town of like size in the state. Fifteen of Mount Airy's streets are paved in whole or in part aggregating 24,623 lineal feet, or over four and a half miles. The records of city Engineer Barber show that 28 of Mount Airy's streets have cement sidewalks aggregating over ten and a half miles.

The town now boasts of hard surfaced streets connecting with all the principal highways leading into it. Formerly while street improvement was under way the lowering of the streets and filling the uneven surfaces with soft earth for a time rendered the streets difficult to travel in bad weather. Farmers coming into town over improved county and state highways found it difficult to get about just as soon as they struck town. The rains of winter made it next to impossible to get a car or truck to the depot. Unthinking citizens often joined in wholesale criticism of the town authorities for not improving the streets faster. "Either surface the streets or let them alone," they declared. But the town fathers, knowing that Rome was not built in a day, kept to their plan to make over Mount Airy's streets. Their position has now been justified by their accomplishments. Mount Airy is practically out of the mud.

The completion by the town of the surfacing of south Main street to the Ararat river, together with the completion by the state highway commission of the stretch of street from the granite Quarry over Cherry street and along Rockford street to the bridge over Lovill's creek on the Dobson road completes the first cycle of improvement contemplated by the town authorities. In the spring Main and Rockford streets will receive a resurfacing coat of Kentucky asphalt, according to Mayor West. And it is likely that Franklin will also have attention at the same time.

Six principal highways enter Mount Airy. From the west the Lowgap and Dobson; from the north, Ward's Gap and Fancy Gap; from the east the Patrick road and from the south the Westfield road. With the single exception of the Fancy Gap road, every one of these highways upon entering town terminates in a paved street. This fact not only gives a pleasing welcome to the newcomer but it invites the continued patronage of farmers with their truck loads of welcome produce. As a market center Mount Airy has hitherto been but a lusty infant compared with the opportunities and necessities laid upon her by virtue of the coming of good roads, good streets and the motor truck. Wide awake merchants of the town are planning to make of the town one of the liveliest market centers in North Carolina.

Spanish Rulers Kiss Pope's Toe and Hand.

Rome, Nov. 19.—Thrice bending the knee before Pope Pius, then kneeling on the steps of his throne, King Alfonso and Queen Victoria as "their Catholic majesties," today kissed the pope's toe and then his hand, thereby restoring the ancient ceremonial to denote humility and the homage due the Holy Father by Catholic sovereigns.

It was the most imposing ceremonial seen in the Vatican since the pope became a "prisoner." The pontiff was visibly touched by the voluntary act of devotion of the sovereigns which was the outstanding feature of their first day's visit to Rome. After Alfonso had delivered an address to the pope he again knelt to kiss him, but the pontiff took him by the hand, lifted him to his feet and embraced him.