

**OKLAHOMA MINE DEATH  
TOLL INCREASED TO 93**

Wilburton, Okla., Jan. 15.—The death list in the explosion Wednesday at the Degnan-McConnell mine No. 21, Friday night apparently had been increased to 93. Relief workers late today said they had located five bodies when only three previously had been thought unrecovered. All five were negroes.

Forty-five convicts from the state penitentiary at McAlester, nearby prepared most of the graves for the victims, and tonight a long row of fifty ranged side-by-side in a little cemetery in a valley near the mine.

Eight more were dug at the Wilburton Catholic Cemetery and three more in private burying grounds. Some of the bodies are being sent to other towns for burial.

A few funerals were held late Friday, but most of them will be Saturday. Because of the inability of local ministers to meet the demands of separate services, plans for a joint service for a number of the victims were discussed, but no definite decision was announced.

Jim McConnell, owner of the ill-fated mine, said today that he would do everything possible to prevent suffering among the dependants of the dead miners pending returns from relief movements already started.

Following an appeal Thursday from the Wilburton Lions Club, Governor Trapp today issued a nation-wide proclamation calling for donations to a fund of \$100,000. He designated the Lions club as the official agency to receive donations.

**GROTH IDENTIFIED AS  
PENNSYLVANIA CONVICT**

Durham, Jan. 17.—J. E. Groth, was bound over to superior court here on charges of store-breaking and larceny, and under \$5,500 bond which he cannot give, has been positively identified as Martin Tabor, escaped convict from Lancaster, Pa. Tabor, rated as a dangerous man, is wanted in Hampton, Va., on charges of larceny, store-breaking highway robbery and safe-blowing. He is believed to be wanted in other places and to have operated under various aliases.

Identification was made through fingerprints and photographs broadcast upon the escape of Tabor and through the local bureau of identification.

It is believed Groth, alias Tabor, who claims to be half French and half German and a former American sailor, will be tried in North Carolina and if sentenced, returned to Lancaster after the service of his term.

Groth was captured in Durham on Friday morning when an early arrival at the Durham laundry trapped him in the building. He had entered eight places of business in the heart of the city between three and six a. m., and had a trunk and suitcase packed with stolen goods with him in the laundry. He will be tried in February, if he is tried here.

**SHELBY FACTORY TO  
MAKE SPOOL THREAD**

Shelby, Jan. 17.—The Lily Mill has engaged upon the manufacture of spool thread for domestic use. This means that the Lily Mill is putting out a product to buck a trust—the spool thread trust, with trading headquarters in New York, and manufacturing headquarters in Connecticut.

The managers of the mill have laid plans to cut the ground from under competition through underselling. They are putting out a standard thread to sell for ten cents a pool of four hundred yards, whereas, the trust thread sells for ten cents or two hundred yards—a difference of a little matter of a hundred per cent. J. W. Schenck, of the Lily Mill, reported the new enterprise on Friday. He said the new undertaking is a week old. They are making the basic part of the thread at the Lily Mill, and finishing it up at the Windale plant. At this latter plant, the way, fancy parcel cord has been successfully manufactured for years, although the public doesn't know a great deal about it.

Shelby people who have examined the thread are very enthusiastic of the new enterprise. They say it adds a hitch in the belt to the progress of Cleveland county.

**LET CONTRACTS FOR  
WAKE COUNTY ROADS**

Contract for the stretch of road between Apex and Cary, 6.61 miles in length, was let yesterday by the Highway Commission to the Foster Construction Company, of North Kesboro, for \$196,049.60.

Bids will be received for the first stretch of eight miles out of Raleigh Route 21 leading South, February 1st.

Bids will also be received for 6.6 miles of road on Route 90 leading east at the February 8, meeting.

**WAKE POLITICAL POT  
NOW BREWING**

With the position of judge, which is vacant only once every eight years, to be filled in addition to the solicitorship and every county office, present indications are that all incumbents except Miss Lottie E. Lewis County Treasurer, will be candidates in the Wake county primary and that all of them with possibly one or two exceptions, will have opposition.

While time for formal candidacies has not yet arrived and while several of those spoken of are as yet "in the hands of friends" instead of being active or actual candidates and it may transpire that several of those now being mentioned will decline to enter the race leaving some of the present county officers without opposition.

Miss Lottie E. Lewis, who was elected County Treasurer in 1922 and re-elected in 1924 after bitterly being fought against, is not now expected to stand for renomination although no definite announcement has yet been made.

Stonewall J. Adams, deputy under L. D. Stephenson, the former treasurer, is expected to be in the race and if Miss Lewis does not run, J. M. Mangum, the present deputy, is expected to enter the lists.

The other incumbents including Judge T. H. Calvert, who was elected in a hotly contested four cornered race in 1918, following his appointment by Governor T. W. Bickett, are expected to make the race. Judge Calvert will probably be opposed by Judge W. C. Harris, who has presided over the Raleigh City Court for about 15 years and who was in the race in 1918.

Solicitor W. F. Evans who has made a somewhat spectacular record during the four years he has been in office, is regarded as almost certain to have opposition but it is not altogether certain who will furnish it. Thomas W. Ruffin, who came to Raleigh about a year ago from Franklin county, the one other county in this judicial district, is now regarded as the most likely candidate. Leon S. Brassfield, former State Senator and chairman of the Wake County Democratic Executive Committee and William Bailey Jones, nephew of Josiah William Bailey, have been frequently mentioned but it is not now thought that either will run.

Vitruvius Royster, Clerk of Wake County Superior Court, seems the most likely of any of the officers in the court house to go back without opposition but there has been considerable talk of Millar Mial, formerly clerk of the court and now chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, making the race.

Under the law adopted by the 1925 legislature it will be impossible for both Mr. Mial, commissioner and W. L. Wiggs to be re-elected as both reside in the newly created eastern district of the county. It is expected that Mr. Wiggs will run again and that his colleague will leave him a clear field as far as the commissioner is concerned. S. T. Bennett, of Apex also comes up for re-election to the board and so far no opposition has developed from the western district. There is now no commissioner from the southern district and Hal D. Rand former chairman of the board, who was defeated two years ago is regarded as certain to be a candidate from that district and is expected to have opposition. E. D. Peebles, of the Raleigh district, and Dr. O. L. Ray, of the northern district, do not come up for re-election until 1928.

Henry G. Holding, for many years county auditor, is now expected to be opposed by Major J. J. Bernard, former county commissioner, while Mrs. Josephine Sallinger, of Knightdale, and Needham L. Broughton, of Garner, present member of the legislature, are mentioned as possible candidates against Register of Deeds William Henry Penny. So far no opposition has developed to Coroner L. M. Waring.

Legislative lines are always the last to form but the usual large flock of candidates is expected.

The most interesting of the rumors has been that Josiah William Bailey, defeated candidate for Governor, is apt to stand against Senator Charles U. Harris, who has represented the county in the upper branch of the legislature at the last two sessions. However, this report has had no confirmation.

With Mr. Borughton expected to run for Register of Deeds, Thomas L. Creekmore, of Raleigh, and C. H. Chamblee, of Zebulon, are left as possible candidates to succeed themselves. Willis Smith, Raleigh attorney, whose defeat in 1924 was regarded by many as due entirely to the fact that he was last minute entry, is also expected to run and Carroll W. Weathers, another defeated candidate in 1924 is also being mentioned again.—News and Observer.

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**TWENTY MEN GET OUT OF  
WRECKED COAL MINE ALIVE**

Fairmont, W. Va., Jan. 15.—Twenty miners, entombed for 18 hours in the far underground workings of the No. 8 mine of the Jamieson Coal and Coke Company, were brought out alive late Friday, having been spared the fate of at least seventeen of their fellows whose bodies have been recovered.

One man, known to be in the mine at the time of the explosion Friday night, is still unaccounted for. Company officials said there might be two, although only 38 men are definitely known to have been in the workings.

Virtually no hope had been held for the rescue of any of the men. Word that all of the miners had not perished came when a rescue crew that had ventured far back from the elevator shaft discovered the men bratticed in a niche which had protected them from the deadly fumes that rolled through the mine following the blast. Rescuers at the top of the shaft dropped tools and embraced the saved ones as they stepped from the elevator.

The men were in fairly good physical condition, but were rushed to first aid stations at the mine's mouth and later to hospitals.

Rescue work is being pushed with added vigor in the hope that the one man unaccounted for may be alive.

The first bodies were brought in from the mine Friday morning. Members of the rescue crews told of devastation wrought by the blast. A few of the bodies found later in the day were about 200 feet from the point of the explosion, which was centered about two and a half miles from the shaft. These victims had apparently been asphyxiated as they fled toward the elevator.

Because of the condition of the rescued workmen, they have not been allowed to talk any great length, but it is known they virtually had given up hope of rescue some time before they were found. A roughly chalked message on a board, found in their bratticed subterranean prison, carried what the men undoubtedly thought was to be their farewell message to the world.

The message, signed by John McNeal, 60-year-old compression engineer, follows:

"Some at the stable and some at 20-R shanty. So long."

**IN MEMORY OF MRS  
WILLIAM SMITH**

On Sunday, January 17th the death Angel entered the home of Mr. William Smith and took there from, his loving wife. She had been sick with pneumonia for one week and death came not unexpected. All was done for her that loving hands could do, but God called her to be with him in Heaven. We cannot understand why she was taken so young, just twenty-three years of age, and it seems to us she was needed so much in her home, but God knows best, he gave and he hath taken away.

Mrs. Smith gave her heart to Jesus when she was seven years of age and has lived a consecrated Christian life, she was a good wife and a kind mother and greatly loved by all who knew her. She was before her marriage, Miss Pattie Moye. She leaves a husband, two small children and a host of relatives and friends.

The funeral service was held at Pine Ridge Baptist church of which she was a faithful member, and was conducted by her pastor, Rev. S. L. Lamm. She was laid to rest in the cemetery at Bethlehem church to await the resurrection morn. May God bless and comfort all those who feel so keenly the loss of her, and may they be prepared when the summons comes to them so they can meet her in that world that has no end where there will be no more sickness, no dying, where no parting words are said, and no farewell tears are shed, but all will be joy and life-ever-lasting, in that home where Jesus is. A Friend.

**ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE**

The undersigned having qualified as administrator of Vernon Lee Lewis, deceased, formerly of Wake County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before Friday, February 12th, 1926. Or this notice will be pleaded in bar of the recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 15th day of January, 1926.

L. M. GOULD,  
Administrator,  
Zebulon, N. C.

**STILL TALKING OF CUT  
IN COTTON ACERAGE**

New Orleans, La., Jan. 13.—Although the gathering at Atlanta to consider the cotton acreage problem assembled as scheduled, it did not accomplish much as it was realized that the call had been issued at too short a notice and too near the holidays. Hence the meeting was adjourned until some time in February, when there will be a better organized gathering at Memphis after preliminary meetings of State associations and interests in all the cotton States. Before adjourning however, the Atlanta meeting adopted resolutions advocating a decrease in acreage for the coming crop of 25 per cent.

There is probably as little likelihood that acreage will be cut 25 per cent as there was that it would be reduced one-third, but there is no doubt that constant agitation for acreage decrease during the next few months will result in at least a sizeable reduction, particularly if producers are faced with difficulties in securing financial advances with which to make the coming crop.

**COURT DECISION IN  
THIS STATE UPHELD**

Washington, Jan. 18.—For want of jurisdiction, the Supreme Court Monday dismissed the appeal of the Southern Cotton Oil Company from the decision of the North Carolina Supreme Court.

The State court's decision that the suit of the oil company, seeking to recover damages from the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad for an alleged failure to deliver a part of a shipment of cotton seed oil, not having been brought in time, was barred by the statute of limitations, was upheld. The contention of the railroad was that no question giving the Supreme court jurisdiction to review the case had been presented.

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**SAYS HE FIRED FIRST  
GUN IN WAR OF SIXTIES**

Ashville, Jan. 19.—The cloak of years that bent the shoulders of a handful of Confederate veterans who had assembled to commemorate the birthday of General Robert E. Lee, dropped for a magic moment when

T. Y. Lyda, Company E, Buncombe County Rifleman, recounted the story of how he fired the first gun of the War Between the States on June 8, 1861, in a preliminary skirmish before the battle of Bethel Church.

A detail of ten men had been sent ahead, he said, to break up skirmishing expeditions of Federal troops who were stationed at Newport News. He was carrying his gun in hand when

the detail was halted by a company of Federal soldiers. He was the first man to obey the order "fire!" it is accredited. Lyda, together with another Confederate soldier, Gus Adams took one prisoner, the first of the war, during the skirmish, which preceded the battle of Bethel Church by two days.

The close of Lyda's talk was greeted with the old rebel yell by his comrades in gray.

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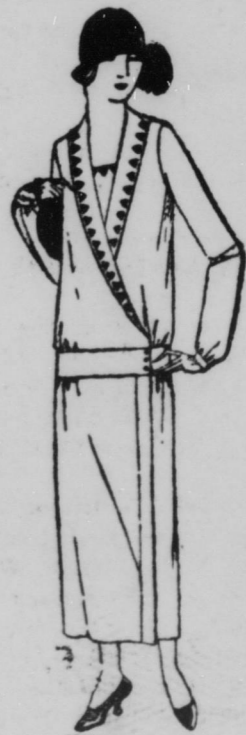
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