

THE WEATHER.
 Fair tonight and Saturday. Warmer Saturday. Gentle, variable winds.

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LAW WILL REDUCE THEFTS OF AUTOS

Measure Requiring Registration Motor Vehicles and Engine Numbers Goes Into Effect October First.

Raleigh, August 24.—What is considered by many officials and officers of the State and also by thousands of automobile owners as one of the most important laws passed by the last General Assembly—the motor vehicle title registration act—goes into effect October 1.

In view of this law, automobile theft insurance officials already have announced that they will reduce their rates 10 per cent, and according to Secretary of State W. N. Everett, in whose hands rests the enforcement of the law, they have assured that further automobile theft insurance rate reductions will be made later in accordance with the effectiveness of the new act.

Registration of all automobiles and other motor vehicles, including trucks and motorcycles, by their manufacturers' and engine numbers, is required by the new law, which also makes it unlawful for a person to operate a car on or after October 1 unless registration has been made or applied for.

An automobile must be registered just like a piece of real property; the owner must have a title to it, said Mr. Everett in summarizing the law briefly.

Provisions are made for transferring automobile titles in a much simpler manner to the transferring of titles to realty holdings. Special provisions are made for automobile dealers, new and second hand.

It was said at the time the act was presented in bill form to the Legislature that out of the more than 200,000 motor vehicles in North Carolina over 7,000 were stolen and that the majority of the operators of these automobiles were ignorant of the fact, they not knowing at the time of purchase that they were buying stolen property. The majority of these automobiles bear no manufacturers' or engine numbers, it was said. This is a problem, says the Secretary of State, for which a solution must be found in the very near future. There is no way to find the rightful owners of these thousands of automobiles and yet clear titles cannot be given their present operators, he said. Mr. Everett said he thought he probably would arrange to give temporary certificates of registration in such instances. However, he did not commit himself to this plan.

Registration blanks soon will be mailed automobile owners accompanied by copies of the new act. The registration blanks must be filled out and mailed to the Secretary of State with the nominal license fee required. The money derived from the fees will be deposited to a special fund, part of which may be used in maintaining a corps of deputies authorized with police powers to enforce the new act and other traffic regulations.

Following are important excerpts from the automobile title registration law:

"Sec. 2. Certificate or title for motor vehicles. After October first, nineteen hundred and twenty-three, no certificate of the registration of any vehicle or number plates therefor, whether original issues or duplicates, shall be issued or furnished by the Secretary of State, or any other officer with such duty, unless the applicant therefor shall at the same time make application for an official certificate of title of such motor vehicle, or shall present satisfactory evidence that such a certificate covering such motor vehicle has been previously issued to the applicant. Said application shall be made upon a blank form to be furnished by the Secretary of State and shall contain a full description of the motor vehicle, which said description shall contain the manufacturer's number, the motor number and any distinguishing marks, together with a statement of the applicant's title and of any liens or other encumbrances upon said motor vehicle and such other information as the Secretary of State may require.

"Sec. 3. New certificate required after sale or transfer. In the event of the sale or other transfer in this State after October first, nineteen hundred and twenty-three, of the ownership of a motor vehicle for which a certificate of title has been issued as aforesaid, the holder of such certificate shall endorse on the back of same an assignment thereof, with warranty of title, in form printed thereon, with a statement of all liens and encumbrances on said motor vehicle, and deliver the same to the purchaser or transferee at the time of the delivery to him of such motor vehicle. The purchaser or transferee shall within ten days thereafter present such certificate, assigned as aforesaid, to the Secretary of State, accompanied by a fee of 50 cents, whereupon a new certificate of title shall be issued to the assignee.

"Sec. 4. Certificate or title required to operate motor vehicles. The owner, or any person without the consent of the owner first being obtained, who shall operate a motor vehicle in this State under a registration number of this State after October first, nineteen hundred and twenty-three, without first having made application for a certificate of

LEVIATHAN MAKES TRIP ACROSS FIRST

(By The Associated Press)
 Southampton, England, Aug. 24.—The Leviathan arrived here at 12:55 this morning, Greenwich time. At that hour the White Star Liner Olympic, which left New York about the same time as the Leviathan last Sunday had not yet reached Cherbourg, her first port of call on this side, at which the Leviathan had arrived at 5 o'clock this morning.

Check Flasher Is On Way To Hertford

After Operating in Three States is Caught at Greer, South Carolina

A check flasher who has operated in three or more states under a multitude of aliases, came to grief at Greer, South Carolina, this week and is to be tried at Hertford, where under the name of H. B. Purser he is alleged to have fleeced both the banks of that town, at the next criminal term of Superior Court. He now claims that his real name is Ward Hill. Sheriff Whit Wright of Perquimans County and W. H. Hardcastle of the Hertford Banking Company are now on their way home with the prisoner.

Last Tuesday Cashier J. L. Tucker of the Carolina Banking & Trust Company at Hertford received a telegram from a bank in Greer asking if a check on his bank given by L. B. Barrow for \$300 was good. Tucker wired that the check was not good and asked that the maker be held as he believed him to be wanted in Hertford. Hill's arrest and the trip of the Perquimans County sheriff and of the bank official to the South Carolina town for their prisoner followed.

This is probably the end of what is believed to be a long and brilliant career in swindling big and little banks of a large section of the country. Hill is known to have operated in three states, having worked his scheme for amounts running from \$100 to \$500 on banks in this State and Virginia before he was heard of in South Carolina. Some of the aliases he has used are Claude Hill, H. D. Moore, D. H. Moore, and D. R. Green.

Hill's plan of operation was very simple. He is apparently about 40 years old with a pleasing personality and is said to be a former lawyer. He goes into a bank and represents himself to be carrying on a considerable enterprise for some large corporation with a number of men in his employ. He asks to open an account in order that he may have funds convenient for the payment of the men under him. He presents a check signed by himself on another bank in a distant town. This is placed to his credit. He later deposits another check to be credited to his account and asks to have a smaller check cashed to save the trouble of coming back to the bank at pay day. The first check has not been heard from but usually the cashier has been so favorably impressed by his new depositor that he gives him the money asked for. Later the first check is returned without payment and the depositor has disappeared.

The case is looked forward to with great interest at Hertford and the news of Hill's arrest affords satisfaction to a considerable number of bankers in Tidewater North Carolina and Virginia.

GOVERNOR TRINKLE SAYS WILL NOT RUN

Greensboro, August 24.—There is nothing to the reports that he intends to run in the Democratic primary next year in opposition to United States Senator Carter Glass, Governor Trinkle of Virginia said while here, according to a story published in the Greensboro Record today.

PREMIER KATO DIES

Tokio, August 24.—Premier Kato of Japan died here last night.

title as herein provided, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one thousand dollars; and from and after October first, nineteen hundred and twenty-three, any person who sells a motor vehicle without complying with the requirements of section 3 hereof shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined or imprisoned in the discretion of the court.

"Sec. 6. Old certificates to be returned to the Secretary of State. Upon transfer of ownership of any motor vehicle or motorcycle, registered under this act, the person in whose name such motor vehicle or motorcycle is registered shall forthwith deliver, or forward by registered mail, the receipt of registration to the Secretary of State, with a statement of the name and postoffice address of the transferee, and the date of transfer. For failure to comply with this provision in ten days after the date of transfer, the transferee, upon conviction, shall be fined not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars."

LEARNING THEIR NATIVE TONGUE



When these Greek orphan children were brought out of Turkey by the Near East Relief they could not speak a word of Greek, instruction in that language being forbidden by the Turks. Now they are safely housed in orphanages in Greece and are slowly learning their own language.

GERMANY STANDS BY CUNO'S OFFER

Chancellor Stresemann Says His Country Will Make Sacrifice for Liberation of German Soil.

(By The Associated Press)
 Berlin, August 24.—The present German government stands by the offer made by the recent Cuno government for meeting Germany's reparations obligations, Chancellor Stresemann told the German Industrial Commerce Club in an address here today.

"For the liberation of German soil, for the maintenance of our sovereignty, and for the consolidation of our situation, it would not be too great a sacrifice to offer part of the German economic system as a productive pledge for carrying out Germany's reparations obligations," the chancellor declared.

MOTHER AND SON KILLED IN ACCIDENT

Staunton, Va., August 24.—Mrs. Nannie Pleasants and son, Michael, were killed here in an auto and train accident last night. Mrs. Pleasants' husband was killed in a similar manner one year ago.

NORTH CAROLINIANS GO TO CALL ON PRESIDENT

Washington, August 24.—President Coolidge received and took under consideration Thursday an invitation tendered by a delegation from North Carolina to deliver an address at the dedication some time in October of the monument at Bentonville, near Durham, marking the spot where the last detachment of Confederate soldiers surrendered.

Members of the delegation, who were presented to the President by William Bramham, chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee in North Carolina, said Mr. Coolidge expressed a wish to be present at the dedication, but asked that he be allowed a few days to consider whether his duties would prevent him from leaving the capital at the time.

The delegation included Colonel Benehan Cameron, of Hillsboro; Mayor Manning, of Durham; M. E. Newson, president of the Durham chamber of commerce; Speaker Dawson and Representative Everett, of the North Carolina House of Representatives; General Julian S. Carr, former commander in chief of the Confederate Veterans, and Professors Brown, of Trinity College, and Connor, of the University of North Carolina. Mrs. Newson, wife of the president of the Durham chamber of commerce, was presented by the President with a bouquet of roses.

DIAMOND THIEVES BLOW OPEN SAFES

Los Angeles, August 24.—One hundred thousand dollars' worth of diamonds and other gems were taken from two safes belonging to the manufacturing jewelry companies today by thieves who held up and bound the watchman and blew open the safes.

MISSIONARY TO SPEAK AT BAPTIST CHURCHES

Belcross, August 24.—Rev. J. Carlyle Powell, returned Missionary from Africa, will preach at Sawyers Creek Baptist Church Sunday morning at the 11 o'clock hour. It is expected that he will tell something of his work as missionary in Africa.

News was received here Friday of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Timberlake at Youngsville Thursday night. Mrs. Timberlake, before her marriage, was Miss Eula Pappendiek of Elizabeth City. Mother and baby are reported as doing well.

Quickly Dispose Of Only Murder Case

Judge Sentences Roberts To Minimum of Three or Maximum of Ten Years

The one murder case on the docket of this term of Superior Court was quickly disposed of Friday when, following a plea of guilty in the second degree, Judge Connor imposed a sentence of a minimum of three years and a maximum of 10 years in State's prison on William Roberts, 46-year-old negro lumberjack, who on Saturday night, May 19, shot and killed "Geachy" McGee, 30-year-old negro, at a Richmond Cedar Works lumber camp in the Dismal Swamp 23 miles from Elizabeth City.

Roberts, a 46-year-old ginger-cake negro somewhat above medium height and weight, told his story for the first time when he took the stand in his own behalf. He testified that he had never intended to kill "Geachy," but that on the night of her death she had picked his pocket of a purse containing, in addition to \$138 of his own money \$140 entrusted to him by a friend, and when she refused to admit that she had the money and he had left her it occurred to him that he might scare her into giving it up. Accordingly he took his single-barrel shotgun, which had been left loaded with bird-shot, and went to the shanty where she had stopped for the night with Moses Jones, another lumberjack. It was between 12 and 1 o'clock and he called the man to the door. Mose came out on the porch in his night-clothes and Roberts told him he wanted to see Geachy. Geachy, who had been undressing, came to the door arrayed in a pair of silk stockings and very little else. Roberts told Geachy he wanted his money. She said she didn't have it.

"I raised my gun to scare her into giving my money up," said Roberts, "and almost before it touched my shoulder it went off. I wouldn't have shot her for twice what I had lost by her."

In addition to creating the impression of telling the truth as nearly as a man may whose life is in jeopardy and who is testifying of what happened when his blood was hot, Roberts was able to show an excellent character.

Sheriff Reid testified that he had never handled a more docile negro and that when he went to the lumber camp to get on Roberts' trail it was to find that the negro had left word that if the sheriff wanted him he would find him at his home at Creswell. That is where Roberts was arrested.

Employers of Roberts, white and black, testified that he was in charge of a crew of men at the camp and that he handled them without ever a display of temper or irritation; that instead of being ordinarily of a quarrelsome nature he was a man of quiet habits and inoffensive demeanor.

Moreover there was the mute testimony of the fact that Rosa Mitchell, negro cook and washerwoman at the camp, on leaving the camp for a stay of a week or two, had left with her \$119 to take care of for her.

Then again was the fact that when \$140 was found in the dead woman's stocking and taken to Roberts he refused to take it, saying that that was Rosa's money. Later when the body was shrouded \$91 in currency was found in the dead woman's armpit, and this, in addition to some small change found in Geachy's pocket, was by verdict of the jury declared to be the property of Roberts and at Roberts' request turned over to his wife and her two babies, the youngest only 12 months old.

The only eyewitness of the shooting was Moses Jones. The woman, he testified, came to his camp where he slept alone at half past one o'clock Sunday morning and wanted to spend the night. By the time she got her clothes off to come to bed there was a knock at the door.

"Who's there?" said Jones. "Jones, step to the door a minute," was the response. "I got up immediately," said Jones, "and threw the door open. There was Roberts with his gun barrel in my face."

Jones went on to testify that he stepped outside, holding the door open, and that the woman remained inside, standing in the door. "You got my money," said Roberts to the woman, according to Jones' testimony.

"If you got anything of his, give it to him," Jones says he told the woman.

Then ensued, according to Jones' testimony, the following dialogue: "I haven't got your money," said the woman. "You better give me my money, or I'll kill you," vowed Roberts.

"If you kill me I'll hant' you," returned the woman, probably thinking that Roberts was bluffing. But Roberts was in earnest. He had lost all his savings of weeks of hard work in the lonely swamps, and was beside himself with rage. He wasted no more words, but threw his gun to his shoulder, according to Jones, and fired without another word or an instant's pause, at a distance of hardly three paces, the lead entering the woman's breast between the heart and neck.

In front of the door, Jones says, was a three-foot porch. Roberts, the witness declared, stood about seven feet from the porch when he fired. At the report of the gun the woman dropped, death being apparently instantaneous.

MUST PREVENT FLOODING MINES

Operators Working on This Problem of Coal Situation at Conference With Miners in Atlantic City.

Atlantic City, August 24.—The necessity for completing arrangements that will prevent the anthracite mines from permanent injury through flooding and cave-ins after September the first in the event of a strike, was said to be the chief factor in the continued conference of representatives of the anthracite miners and operators in Atlantic City today.

No joint discussion of terms on which the union would allow pumping, engineers and maintenance men to continue in service has been entered upon but both groups are known to have the matter in mind.

Washington, August 24.—The Federal Government has decided to stand pat in the coal strike situation and await some move from the operators or miners, but in the meantime all preparations are going forward to provide substitutes for coal in the event of the strike on September the first.

Coal Commission Issues Statement

Requests Full Co-operation of Consumers in Event of Strike

Washington, August 24.—The stoppage of anthracite mining would constitute a public emergency, the Coal Commission said in a formal statement today requesting the full co-operation of consumers with soft coal operators and all agencies of distribution with all possible aid through executive action by Federal and state governments.

"If those who now control the mining and distribution of anthracite continue to think only of their own demands and not at all of the public's demand for coal the Coal Commission feels that every measure should be taken to supply domestic fuel needed in the homes of the great mass of consumers and especially of the industrial workers throughout the East," the statement said.

Commissioners Seek Amend Crossing Law

Asheville, August 24.—The county commissioners of the State in convention here yesterday adopted resolutions to have the Legislature amend the "stop at crossing" law so as not to include factory switches and unobstructed crossings.

SAYS ONLY THREE MORE SUNDAYS TO NAGS HEAD

"There are only three more Sunday trips to Nags Head this season," says C. H. Brock of the North River Line, "and I hope what the folks will find the Vansciver Sunday morning. The weather is just right, and we'll see that everybody is comfortable and has a good time."

I. W. W. TO STAGE A REIGN OF TERROR

Sacramento, Cal., August 24.—The I. W. W. organization is planning to stage a "reign of terror" here, according to state authorities who have been making an investigation.

was fired he was standing just to one side of the door and not more than two feet from the slain woman.

The woman, it seems, had been at the camp about a month. Jones described her at the hearing before the recorder as a "low sot, portly built, brown-skinned woman" who had made herself at home in the cabin of at least two loggers before she came to his house about an hour and a half past midnight of the night in question. "Some say she was from the West Indies," he said.

There has never developed a clue as to where she came from nor of her people if she had any. J. C. B. Ehringhaus suggested that her name, "Geachy," was a corrupted abbreviation of Portuguese. Hardly a more inaccessible spot in Pasquotank County could be found than the camp where the shooting is alleged to have occurred. The camp is a center of logging operations of the Richmond Cedar Works and just now is situated just this side of that part of the Dismal Swamp known as "Middle Swamp." It is only a short distance from the Virginia line. Dr. Fearing says that to reach the camp when he went to view the body he drove his car for a distance of 20 miles, walked a footlog about the size of a stove-pipe for a mile and a half, and then walked another mile and a half along a lumber railway. The case against R. J. Bright and Mark Warden for violation of the Turlington Act both in the manufacture and sale of liquor was in progress when court convened Friday afternoon. Bright and Warden run a store on the Simpson Ditch road. It is also charged that they operated a still in the woods about three quarters of a mile from the store.