

Western New York Seeths With Debate On Ku Klux

Issue Not Yet Manifest in National Campaign But May Break Out Before Election and Dominate All Other Issues

By DAVID LAWRENCE
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Buffalo, Sept. 15.—Something far more exciting than any local campaign has been going on here. Politicians may laugh at it, but communities having members in the Ku Klux Klan may learn still more.

The greatest mischiefs, producing a couple of murders, has resulted from the mysterious publication of a list of members of the K. K.

Denials, most of which are not being accepted as sincere are coming from every side. Business men who depend on Catholics, Jews or negroes for their trade are being boycotted—one milk dealer is said to have lost a hundred customers overnight—and the end of the bitterness is not yet in sight.

The episode has been developing for several weeks. First Klan headquarters were broken into by unknown persons. It was rumored that a list of members had been stolen. Not long afterwards from a neighboring city, there came by mail the Buffalo membership cards of the Klan. Mayor Schwab invited whoever owned the cards to recover their property. No one appeared. Then a list of the members was made available to the newspapers by the mayor. The newspapers feared libel as they could not be sure the list was bona fide and even if most of it was, they could not risk a law suit with the few individuals who might be erroneously listed. Then some one interested in getting the names spread throughout the city had them published in a pamphlet form. Attorneys for the Newsboys Association advised against their being handled on the news stands. But hundreds of copies nevertheless were sold and all over the city people may be found reading those lists for familiar names. First fights, several houses burned up, and a withdrawal of business from folk mentioned resulted from some of the sequelae.

In the midst of it all, two men killed each other and a third was badly wounded. One of the dead was discovered by an organizer for the Ku Klux Klan, sent here to investigate the loss of the cards. The wounded man admits being a local kleagle. The second man killed was a former policeman who is now supposed to have joined the Klan as a spy for the mayor. It was he who was charged with having stolen the list. He is dead now, so he can tell no tales, but the list has proved a terrible leasery.

To determine whether the denials are valid, people want to see the original membership cards. These are kept under lock and key by Police Chief Zimmerman, who now says he cannot be compelled by the mayor or any one else to give up the cards. The signatures of members are on the cards. The district attorney is said to have prosecuted any member of the Klan under the Walker Act which was passed by the last legislature forbidding any organization to maintain a secret membership. Penalties for failing to register its list of members are provided.

Some of the principals engaged in the controversy, as for instance the mayor, are laying lines for re-election or advancement in politics. Capitalizing the anti-Klan feeling fits in with their program. Nevertheless the city is deeply stirred over the publication of the list. Some interesting facts have been disclosed by a study of it. First of all, the number of prominent or influential persons on it is surprisingly few. Usually it is claimed that the "best people" in a city are in the Klan. In Buffalo well known names were the rare exception rather than the rule.

But the Klan will have a hard time recruiting any new members. The possible consequences of disclosure have been demonstrated, and a death blow has also been dealt by the Buffalo Evening News, the leading newspaper here, which said editorially the otherday:

"It is surprising to receive letters from ordained ministers, presumably with some training in logic and in argument, who draw a parallel between the Knights of Columbus or the Masons, and the Klan. When every Klansman is as proud to wear his emblem as the Shriner is to display his, one of the chief objections to the Klan will have disappeared. And so will its principal bid for membership."

"Can you imagine anybody being murdered because he revealed the list of the members of the K. K.?"

BRIDGE ISSUE IS UNSETTLED

Commissioners Say too Late Change—Road Levy but Authorize Highway Body to Borrow \$3,500.

A resolution authorizing the Pasquotank County Highway Commission to borrow \$3,500 in addition to the appropriation for road work for the coming year if it should be found necessary to proper maintenance of the County roads, was adopted by the County Commissioners after a joint meeting with the Highway Commission Tuesday morning.

It was decided that no additional appropriation would be made either for the Knobbs Creek bridge or for road work as it is thought to be too late to alter the tax books.

Chairman Noah Burfoot and County Commissioner Owsley were appointed to act with members from the highway body as a joint committee to visit the firms whose plants are located across Knobbs Creek to ascertain if they will not assist in paying the cost of constructing the bridge.

The additional amount of \$3,500 which was specified as a maximum to be borrowed increases the funds for road work from \$149,650 to \$153,150. The levy of seven cents will yield the original amount and if the maximum sum is borrowed the highway body will have \$17,150 to expend on road work.

The resolution presented by the Highway Commission at the July meeting certified that \$45,000 would be necessary. Of this sum \$15,000 was represented by outstanding obligations. The County Commissioners appropriated \$5,000 in a levy of 3 cents, in addition to a appropriation of seven cents for maintenance to pay one third of these obligations this year with the understanding that the balance would be paid in two more years.

The remainder of the estimate of \$30,000 included \$10,000 or \$12,000 for the Knobbs Creek bridge. With the bridge matter still unsettled the highway body will receive \$8,000 less than their estimate for road work.

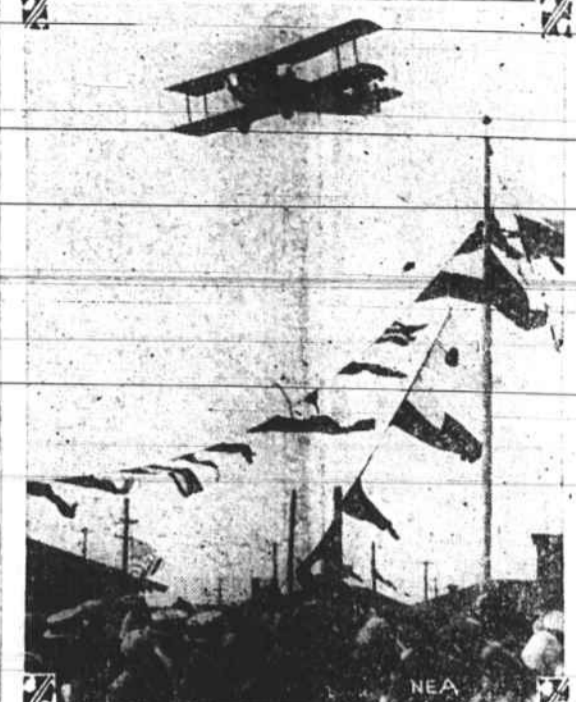
It was intimated that should it be decided to construct the bridge during the year that the necessary amount would be borrowed. A change of opinion was manifested by some of the County Commissioners in regard to the bridge. At the July meeting open opposition to the construction of the bridge was expressed. At Tuesday's meeting several said they believed they had no right under the law to abandon the bridge and that the plants which make most use of it are entitled to some consideration as heavy tax payers.

It was also pointed out that when the Pasquotank Highway Commission abandoned maintenance of the shortcut to New Weeksville in Salem township after paying the longer road by the way of Old Weeksville, a property owner on the abandoned road was paid by the County for the loss he suffered by reason of the road's abandonment.

"Should we abandon the Knobbs Creek bridge," somebody said, "have we not set a precedent which would give owners of factories on Knobbs Creek in the event of such abandonment ground to come before us for damage done them?"

The meeting was most amicable. Chairman J. J. Morris of the highway body being absent, the position of that body was stated by Highway Commissioner Foreman and Sample. Figures were presented to show that less money had been spent on roads during the past few years than eight or ten years ago. Mr. Sample said more money was needed for the upkeep of bridges which had been placed under the County's care rather than that of land owners by the last legislature. He also said that bashing the roadsides had not been undertaken for some years on account of lack of funds. On the other hand it was pointed out that the hard surfaced roads completed recently have relieved the County of considerable maintenance expense.

CIRCLING ABOVE THE FIELD



Here is Lieutenant Eric Nelson's plane, the New Orleans, circling over Mitchell Field when the 'round-the-world fliers came to New York. It was the first of the three to land. Thousands were at the field to greet them. The pilots had to fight their way through the crowds to reach the officials who were there to welcome them.

Mr. Foreman said it was the desire of the highway commission to accomplish as much as possible with as little money as they could get along with.

Some members of both bodies deplored the feeling of animosity that they said has been felt between the two boards and expressed hope that they would in future function in harmony. Some of the County Commissioners said the retaining of two lawyers by the highway body had aroused a feeling of apprehension that the matter would be taken into the courts.

These differences were apparently smoothed out before the meeting adjourned and perfect accord seemed to prevail on both sides.

Falls Hopes Through Fair Bring Settlers Albemarle

Home Seekers Will be in Attendance, Says Farm Agent, Who May be Led to Settle in Counties Showing the Most Attractive Exhibits

That the Albemarle District may be developed to the limit of its possibilities as an agricultural section is the result which County Farm Agent Grover W. Falls hopes will eventually be brought to pass through holding annually here the Albemarle District Fair.

"Capitalists and home seekers," says Mr. Falls, "will be in attendance at this fair, which is to be held in Elizabeth City this year on October 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. These visitors may be led to settle in the counties which are able to put on the most attractive exhibits at the fair."

"With better roads throughout this district it may be expected that the crowd to attend the Albemarle Fair this year will be the largest that has ever been seen in Elizabeth City during Fair Week. The exhibits at the forthcoming fair, will, we believe, eclipse all previous exhibitions held here—both in quality and variety. Those counties which I have visited seem willing to co-operate with the officers of the Albemarle Agricultural Association to make the fair a success."

"This Albemarle Agricultural Association," continued Mr. Falls, "which has in hand the management of the Albemarle District Fair, is an agricultural and industrial organization. We wish to aid the work of developing what we believe to be the greatest agricultural section in Northeastern North Carolina."

SIX ARE KILLED IN DOUBLE COLLISION

St. Johns, Nova Scotia, Sept. 15.—Six were killed in a double auto collision here last night. Two of the men were British naval officers and two others were World War heroes.

Leonard Reid, son of the late Sir William Reid, was arrested on a charge of manslaughter as driver of the car that crashed into the crowd.

Two of the victims were boarding a bus beside the road and the others including the officers were in a machine which was returning from a late supper with friends among the British special cruiser squadron which is anchored in Conception Bay.

COURT ORDERS SALE COMMANDER ESTATE

All the T. A. Commander & Son property, including mill, mill site, lumber and other real estate, will be sold under an order of Superior Court signed by Judge C. C. Lyon Monday. The sale will be made by W. A. Pinner, receiver, and mill and real estate will go to the highest bidder at auction for each on October 15.

The going order, the cutting of an action, brought by Clara W. Hall, administratrix of T. A. Commander, vs. J. C. Brooks, administrator of C. E. Commander, et al., was the most interesting development of the first day's session of the civil term of Superior Court beginning here Monday.

William Charles Meekins, junior partner in the law firm of Meekins & Meekins, who obtained license to practice law last January, before Judge Lyon took the oath of attorney and oath to support the Federal and State constitutions and was formally admitted to the practice of law in all the courts of the State.

Other cases disposed of follow: Cora Jones vs. Walter Jones, decree of absolute divorce under the five year separation statute; Arelina Ambrose vs. Reuben Ambrose, decree of absolute divorce under the five year separation statute; Louisa Robinson vs. Jesse Robinson, decree of absolute divorce under five year separation statute; Mary Crank vs. Charlie Crank, decree of absolute divorce on the ground of statutory infidelity.

HOP TO OMAHA IS AGAIN POSTPONED

Maywood, Ill., Sept. 16.—The hop to Omaha of the world fliers was today postponed until tomorrow on account of inclement weather.

ROB MODISTE OF VALUABLE JEWELS

New York, Sept. 16.—Four armed men today ransacked the apartment of Miss Edith Bobe, modiste, bound and gagged the negro maid, held up Miss Bobe and her escort as they returned home and escaped with gems valued at \$25,000.

VETERANS MEETING IN CHARLOTTE TODAY

Charlotte, Sept. 16.—The North Carolina Confederate Veterans opened their convention here today.

ULSTER CABINET TO ADHERE TO DECISION

London, Sept. 16.—The Ulster cabinet at a meeting here today decided to adhere to its former decision not to appoint representatives on the Irish Boundary Commission provided for in the Anglo-Irish treaty. The decision was communicated to Prime Minister MacDonald of Great Britain.

JOSEPH DANIELS SPEAKS FOR McLEAN

Newland, N. C., Sept. 16.—Joseph Daniels, editor of the News and Observer, opened the Democratic campaign in Avery County last night with an appeal to the people to elect Angus Wilson McLean as a candidate who will continue the present progressive era in the State. He said that the Republicans of the State lacked responsible leadership.

LOSES FRONT TEETH IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Manteo, Sept. 16.—Miss Lucy Midgette is suffering with a terribly wrenched back and three or four of her front teeth completely gone and Miss Della Midgette has a broken arm as the result of an accident that happened on the road leading to Burnside, about two miles from here. Walter Hale, driver of the car, and Percy Meekins, the other members of the party were less injured than the girls, Hale receiving a few bruises about the face while Meekins' injuries were even less.

Russia Called Enemy By U. S. Department Of War

And Officer of Reserve Corps of Army Alleged to Have Shown Sympathy for Soviet May Be Summarily Dismissed from Service

By ROBERT T. SMALL
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Washington, Sept. 16.—Official Washington has begun to take a real interest in the inquiry being conducted under the auspices of the War Department at New York to determine whether a man who has expressed sympathy for soviet Russia and a belief that the existing government of that more or less unhappy land should be recognized by the United States, is fit to hold public office or any position of trust.

PRISONERS MAKE ESCAPE AT MANTEO

Manteo, Sept. 16.—The town of Manteo was stirred again Friday morning when the news was circulated that the two negroes, held here since early in August had sawed a bar in two and gotten out of jail.

When George W. Twiford, the jailer, entered the jail Friday morning with their breakfast he noticed nothing unusual that would cause him to think anything had happened until he went to their beds and called them as he had been doing each morning.

After a thorough examination was made—many tools such as axes, files and a rope by which they had let themselves to the ground from a second story window, were found, all which showed that they had been getting assistance from parties outside.

These two men, with another man and two women were brought here early in August from East Lake following a cutting and shooting scrape in which three of them took active parts while the other two were held as witnesses.

One of these same men had escaped once before, or just simply walked out in the broad daylight while the door was left standing open by the jailer but his freedom was limited to just a few minutes as Harry Westcott, armed with a shot gun, working for a reward of five dollars that had been offered, captured him in a patch of stock peas just a short distance from the jail.

As far as can be learned no effort has yet been made to locate these men and it looks as though the officers responsible will have to render a pretty good excuse unless these men are recaptured and brought back to jail to await the term of Superior Court in November in which they were to be tried.

PENALTY ON FAILURE SECURE LICENSE NOW

"The closest cleanup I have ever known," says City Auditor Snowden of the city license tax due September with a penalty of 5 per cent on and after September 15. The penalty feature is a new one and it is to this new feature, no doubt, that the better collections this year may be ascribed.

Despite the penalty feature, however, and due advertisement of the fact that September 13 was the last day to pay license taxes and escape penalty, there are a number of delinquents when the police are now busy rounding up. Five were defendants for failure to procure city automobile licenses in court Tuesday morning, and these were required to pay the license fee plus 5 per cent and also the costs of the suits of J. F. Adams, James Parker, and William Meekins, and two negro defendants, Charles Riddick, South Road street, and John Copeland, Culpepper street.

The forenoon were the only defendants before Trial Justice Spence in Tuesday's session of the recorder's court.

SECRETARY WILBUR IS SUMMONED BACK

Washington, Sept. 16.—President Coolidge yesterday summoned Secretary Wilbur back from the Pacific Coast to confer on important naval matters.

Secretary Wilbur is expected to arrive in time for Friday's cabinet meeting. It was indicated that the White House that while there was no special significance in the call for his return it was desired that he be here to confer regarding the next budget allowance for the Navy.

Poor Captain Hibben found himself in the toils of the inquiry without any warning whatsoever. It was his turn to be promoted to be a major. A board was ordered to pass upon his qualifications. They found his army record was just about 100 per cent. Then there was no special significance in the call for his return it was desired that he be here to confer regarding the next budget allowance for the Navy.