

ANCIENT LAW SUIT IS WON BY THE SEABOARD

Title to Property at Hamlet Is Finally Awarded to the Railroad Company

(Special to The Star) HAMLET, Jan. 10.—There has just been settled a law suit which is one of the most interesting and the oldest that has occupied the dockets of Richmond county. The action is styled "Seaboard Air Line Railroad vs. the state and Mrs. Mary C. Henderson."

Those familiar with Hamlet will remember a deep ravine on the south side of the depot. This ravine crossed Main street and has always been an eye sore, and has caused the town authorities much worry. Way back in 1890, when Hamlet was young, with only about 500 population, John Henderson and his brother erected a building adjoining the right of way of the Seaboard air line at the depot. This building was first used as a saloon and business flourished. When the building was begun the Seaboard started action against them, claiming the land, and from that date until now the case has been in litigation.

Three times the case was started before a jury, once the jury decided against the railroad, which judgment the judge set aside and ordered a new trial. The second time the case was tried the judge stopped it in the middle of the trial. It was then sent to a referee, Judge Harding, who after hearing evidence which consumed probably two weeks, and argument of numerous counsel which consumed considerable time, he considered the matter about a year, and when the decision was rendered it resulted in what may be termed a draw, the plaintiff and defendant each getting a part of the land.

At the time the action was commenced the land could probably have been bought from the party to the action for the sum of \$500, while the litigation and attorneys' fee has cost considerably more than \$10,000.

The building on this land had an interesting history. The first saloon ran until prohibition put it out of business, then what was known as "Happy Hooligan" flourished for some time. It got to be a very famous establishment, but about nine years ago was closed by the police. After that time it ran as a restaurant but at various times was "pulled" for selling whiskey and the owners were sent to the penitentiary to time served sentences for retailing. Several years ago the building burned and a small building was placed on wheels and one night rolled in place. This land now occupied by this building has been awarded to the Seaboard, and soon there will be an end of the most notorious if not the best landmark of Hamlet.

BRIGHTER TIMES NEAR, IS SPEAKER'S BELIEF

Fred N. Shepperd of United States Chamber of Commerce at Winston-Salem

(Special to The Star) WINSTON-SALEM, Jan. 10.—"United Business in Action" was the subject of a timely address by Fred N. Shepperd, of the United States chamber of commerce, with headquarters in Washington, before the local chamber of commerce at its annual meeting here tonight.

"To my mind the best indications of the future is the splendid manner in which the bankers, manufacturers and farming interests are rallying about co-operative methods of meeting the situation. The condition is the result of inability of foreign countries to finance exports from America to meet their needs, which has brought about a large surplus of products in every line in this country. With the organization of foreign trade finance corporations, the largest of which is backed by the American Bankers' association, there is a most encouraging prospect of relieving this surplus at no far distant date when we will see the wheels of industry going again, creating a demand for the wheat and corn crops of the south, and the products of industry of the north."

As for manipulating finance, Mr. Shepperd believes that with the revival of industry will come a revival of a condition which will make possible a solution of housing problems and other problems of public works which are now facing the cities throughout the country.

"Your condition in housing and schools is the saddest everywhere in the country," said Mr. Shepperd. He ventured the suggestion that within a few weeks the time would appear when plans of municipalities may be undertaken with safety.

"I believe it a pretty good guess that municipal securities will return to a stable market during the first half of this year. The people of America for many months have been living in a fool's paradise," declared Mr. Shepperd, "a situation which could not continue, for everybody purchased everything they wanted, regardless of price, making and spending money like water. The situation promised serious trouble, and the country is fortunate that it is experiencing a settling down rather than industrial panic."

DRAFT BASEBALL PROGRAM

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—Committees chosen by the two major baseball leagues to draw up a new national agreement today officially voted their approval of the agreement formulated in New York recently which provided for re-organization of the game with Federal Judge K. M. Landis as baseball commissioner. The action of the committee put at rest rumors that the American league was not satisfied with the agreement and that consequently a new fight might break out between the major organizations.

LEAGUE INVADERS KANSAS

SALINA, Kans., Jan. 10.—Nearly 500 former service men, representing cities in every section in Kansas, met here this afternoon to perfect organized resistance of efforts of A. C. Townsend and Non-Partisan league organizers to establish the league as a political weapon in the hands of farmers and laboring men of the state.

MONEY PAID RAILROADS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Railroads of the country have received \$427,225,548 from the government to date under the various sections of the transportation act, according to a statement of payments of carriers issued tonight by the treasury.

SOMETHING NEW UNDER THE SUN TO START SOON! The CAPE FEAR MESSENGER

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COTTON SPECULATION DEFENDED BY BUTLER

Head of New Orleans Exchange Opposes Bill to Eliminate Future Trading

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Central Europe would buy the entire southern cotton crop at 40 cents a pound today if proper credit conditions could be arranged, E. S. Butler, president of the New Orleans cotton exchange, declared today before the house agricultural committee.

Opposing the bills before the committee, which eliminate all speculation in cotton futures on exchanges, Mr. Butler said farmers six months ago could have sold their entire crop of cotton ahead at 35 cents a pound.

Elimination of all speculation in future trading would "be disastrous to cotton producers and to the trade generally, since it would force exchanges to close," Mr. Butler asserted. Regulatory legislation enacted in the United States could not affect the future cotton market at Liverpool, England, he added, as it would leave the foreign spinners in control of this market and they would be able to dictate the price of cotton.

America and Europe for 40 years have recognized the future trading as the best insurance yet devised for the cotton trader, Mr. Butler said. He also advocated retention of "hedging" facilities on the ground that it enables the farmers to find a market for their commodity at any time during the year. The legitimate speculator is the only "buffer" between the farmer and the consumer whose interests are diametrically opposed, he continued.

The United States cotton futures act has been satisfactory to the trade, Mr. Butler asserted, adding that it benefited the spinner, if anyone. He did not think it helped the producer, he said, in reply to questions from Representative Caraway, Democrat, Arkansas.

Decline of cotton prices was due to impoverished conditions abroad and unsettled financial conditions and not to the future market, Mr. Butler asserted. He said the present futures market tended to lift up the price of cotton.

ELECTRICALLY HEATED SUIT SAVED AVIATORS



That their electrically heated suits saved them from death by freezing was the statement made by the U. S. naval aviators on their arrival at Moose Factory, Ontario, after they had landed in the wilds of Canada 15 miles from the Hudson bay trading post. The aviators were four days in finding the post and the temperature registered around 30 below zero. The photograph shows the electrically heated costume worn by our navy and army aviators.

HOUSE TO SPEND FULL AMOUNT ON ITS STAND

Refuses to Cut \$50,000 Appropriation for Grandstand for the Inauguration

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Five members of the house, one from President-elect Harding's home state, and the others from the south, voted today to cut down the \$50,000 appropriation for erection of a grandstand at the capitol from which congress, as in years gone by, braves the bleak March weather during the big out door inaugural ceremony.

Against this handful, 285 members voted for the fund so that the long-established custom might still prevail. The snow was clinging to the first pile of lumber, stacked in orderly array outside when the debate in the house started, coincident with another flurry of talk in the senate on a proposal to eliminate this year all expensive ostentations of the inaugural show while so many people in Europe are starving.

By its action the house made possible the carrying out of the part of congress in the celebration. It has nothing to do with any pageant down town or an inaugural ball, against which there has been protest on the ground that the pension building, desired for the night festivities, is needed for the proper conduct of the government's pension business. Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho, leader in the fight for simplicity, indicated that he would keep it up in an effort to prevent other appropriations.

Nobody but congress and its friends will sit in the grandstand at the capitol, the 10,000 seats being equally distributed on a man basis, without regard to party affiliation or length of executive service, Representative Blanton, of Texas, hurled a fire brand into the usual routine proceeding by protesting against the expenditure, but on the first vote he stood alone in support of an amendment, making the amount \$10,000. Not many members and their families could be seated in a stand costing so little.

There was a roar from both sides of the chamber, a verbal democracy bringing their party not to be swayed by the plea of money-saving for such an event.

Although members expressed a wish to agree with the President-elect's attitude in modestly requesting a simple inaugural, they contended that this was the people's show and that they were entitled to have it presented on the same elaborate and dignified scale as heretofore.

Voting with Representative Blanton to reduce the appropriation were Representatives Aswell, Louisiana; Sherwood, Ohio, and Quinn and Stephens, Mississippi.

A STRANDED WHALE

CHARLESTON, Jan. 10.—A whale of the black fish variety, measuring somewhat more than 30 feet in length, was given its freedom yesterday afternoon on the eastern end of the Isle of Palms by a party of Charleston men. The whale had been stranded on the beach since Friday night at high tide, its fins were bleeding profusely from wounds due to its efforts to liberate itself. Eight men had much difficulty in shoving the mammal with planks into water deep enough to float it.

IMMUNITY FOR DE VALERA

LONDON, Jan. 10.—(By Associated Press)—That apparent immunity of Eamon De Valera from arrest would continue as long as De Valera maintains silence and did not participate in the affairs of the extreme nationalists, was the statement made in authoritative quarters in London this afternoon. (Since the above dispatch was filed, De Valera has issued in Dublin a formal statement on Irish affairs).

PUTS ROBBERS TO FLIGHT

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 10.—R. H. Grant, minister of education for Ontario, tonight put two bandits to flight after they held him up in front of the parliament building here.

SHIPS IN COLLISION

NORFOLK, Jan. 10.—The Dutch steamer Merwede and the American steamer Arlington were in collision off Sewalls Point today during a north-east gale. The extent of the damage the ships sustained was not ascertained.

SAYS PUBLIC DEMANDS THAT WAGES BE LESS

Head of Woolen Company Says People Won't Pay the High Prices Involved

LAWRENCE, Mass., Jan. 10.—The public attitude is against maintaining the wages of textile workers at the high war time rates, William M. Wood, president of the American Woolen company, said tonight in reference to the reduction of 22 1/2 per cent. in the wages of operatives in the 50 mills of that company, which was announced today. This cut brought into the lower wage levels of the textile trade in New England, the last important manufacturing interest involved.

Addressing the overseers of the American Woolen company's four mills in this city, President Wood said that the decision to readjust wages was reached "with a full regard for what is just" to the company's workers. "If the prevailing rate of wages could

have been maintained I would have been only too glad," he said, "but the attitude of the public is against it. They will not pay the prices which the present wages involves and we must all of us bow to the public will. "The present situation in our industries is, as it seems to me, one of the most difficult we have ever met. We have had several years of active and prosperous business. Our mills have been running full and our employees have been paid wages much higher than ever before; but now, suddenly, we are called upon to face the most drastic readjustment the business has ever known. This is not altogether pleasing, it inevitably means reduced prices for our goods, reduced profits, and reduced wages."

BALLOONISTS COMING IN

MATTICE, Ont., Jan. 10.—The three American naval balloonists, who are "pushing" their way back from Moose Factory, Ont., where they found shelter after one of the most thrilling adventures in the annals of the American navy, will arrive here tomorrow afternoon.

They are encamped tonight at Skunk Island, a day's journey from Mattice.

TOBACCO GROWERS ARE TO CUT DOWN ACREAGE

In Meeting at Wilson Yesterday Speakers Express Very Firm Determination

WILSON, Jan. 10.—At the call of the Tobacco Association of the United States, of which T. M. Carrington, of Richmond, is president, the warehousemen and tobacco interests of eastern North Carolina, met in Wilson today. Mr. Carrington spoke of the great importance of at least 50 per cent reduction of the tobacco acreage for 1921 and stated that his association is ready and willing, both materially and financially to back the Tri-state Tobacco Growers' association.

Mr. Wooten, president of the First National bank, Kinston, advised that Lenoir county is behind the movement and that every pressure possible will be brought on the tobacco growers, first in a friendly way, then drastic if necessary.

Mr. Brinkley, of Greenville, N. C., said that Pitt county is also behind the movement. F. L. Carr, of Wilson, director of the North Carolina Tobacco Growers' association, pleaded for co-operation from everybody, also stated that the warehousemen eastern North Carolina will be able to close their warehouses for the days between now and February 1, assist in making a house-to-house campaign and secure the pledges of every tobacco grower to the bright belt.

Talks were also made by Mr. Frank of Warsaw, L. A. Burroughs, of Conway, S. C., W. E. Lee, Timmonsville, S. C., and Mr. Bower, of Lake Charles, La. Resolutions have already been passed by the directors of the Tobacco Association of the United States pledging their support. They appreciate the fact that the tobacco growing section of the south faces such a ruin unless a 50 per cent reduction is made. A resolution was also adopted and a copy of same will be sent to the South Carolina legislature urging the passage of the tobacco bill. A resolution was adopted requesting F. L. Carr to go to Florence, S. C., February 1, and address the South Carolina tobacco growers' association.

IS THE HEART OF AMERICA DEAD? Are your ears heavy that they cannot hear the cry of starving children? Will you let them die? NO! We do not believe it for an instant. Your hearts are as warm and as generous as they always have been. You have never turned a deaf ear to the cry for help—least of all to the piteous cry of little children. You will not let them die; you will make this week glorious with your outpouring of plenty and love for these little ones whose lives are in your hands. NOW is the time. Let your gift of life to the children, who without you would die, make this the richest and most joyous day you have ever known. Read this story, from an eye-witness, of one homeless waif over there—one of the three and a half millions who are calling to you: "I was glad to get out at last from the atmosphere of the hospitals, and to get back to the life of the streets, but I soon found that I had not escaped altogether. My mind was constantly haunted, as indeed it always will be, from time to time, by the thought of the children. I hunted up a little restaurant where I took my meals. No sooner did I sit down than the faces of the little people from the cribs gathered around and made the taking of food a difficult matter. I was quickly brought out of this sentimental mood by the appearance of flesh-and-blood children, ostensibly selling newspapers, whose eyes seemed to devour whatever was on the table and who were made really happy by a piece of dry bread. Only those who have tried to eat this strange bread of famine know how hungry a person must be before he wants it; but there was no mistaking the gratitude in the faces. As I came away from the restaurant I saw a small boy sitting on the pedestal of a public statue. The youngster had been gnawing at a bone and was trying to crack it on the stone pedestal. He was so eager in his attempt and so futile in his efforts that I thought it worth while to help him, and as I took the bone in my hand I saw with what fierceness he had been biting at it: I found the attempt to break the bone not an easy matter, but he urged me on to greater efforts because there was something beautiful inside." As soon as the bone was broken I beat a hasty retreat down the street, not caring to watch what I suppose was a favorite occupation of our cave ancestors. One of our readers made a contribution of \$30.00; then he read the letter we printed from the "shiftless old bachelor" who had been saving for months to buy a new suit of clothes, but who, when the call of the starving children came to him, decided to wear his "old duds" a while longer, and sent the money he had saved, \$25.00, to feed the children instead. When the man who had given \$30.00 so easily read that, he made haste to write again, saying he "felt like a piker," and so sent \$150 more. Make all checks payable to European Relief and send to MEARES HARRISS, City Chairman No deductions for expenses—every dollar for the children.