

The Weather

Fair Monday and Tuesday; continued mild temperature. Stage of river at Fayetteville yesterday at 8 a. m., 11.2 feet.



Wilmington's Only Leased Wire Associated Press Newspaper

VOL. CVIII.—No. 28.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 4, 1921.

OLDEST DAILY IN THE STATE.

RAILWAY UNIONS WANT DISTRICT COUNCILS TO SOLIDIFY THEIR RANKS

Wish to Form Local Alliances of All Crafts the Better to Resist Roads TO JOIN THE A. F. L. Desire All Transportation Brotherhoods to Affiliate With Labor Body

NEW YORK, April 3.—(By Associated Press)—Representatives of 175,000 organized railroad employes in special convention here today, called upon the executive heads of the recognized national and international railroad unions to sanction the formation of district "offensive and defensive" alliances—railroad district councils—in the New York district and at other "strategic" points in the railroading industry.

These district organizations are necessary, it was stated in a letter sent to the executive union officials, to enable the railway employes "to better resist the concentrated attacks of the railway executive association and to bring about a closer affiliation of all railroad employes and perfect a 100 per cent organization in all crafts by stimulating interest in their own welfare and educating them in the value of solidarity."

Delegates to the convention, who represented all local railroad unions in the Greater New York district, urged that the state of industrial autonomy be declared by the American Federation of Labor so as to clear the way, and make it possible for what are now commonly known as transportation alliances to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor.

Through this action, it was stated, the "premises and resolutions that gave birth to industrial autonomy by the sanction of the general department within the federation, would be preserved."

Taxation Biggest Subject Before the United States

Next in Order Is Peace Settlement and International Trade, Says David F. Houston, Analyzing Country-Wide Survey of Conditions—Business Still Feeling Its Way, But With Increasing Confidence That Worst Is Over

BALTIMORE, April 3.—David F. Houston, former secretary of agriculture, analyzing a country-wide survey of industrial, financial, agricultural and other economic conditions, declares that the big national question is taxation with peace settlement and international trade next.

The survey, made in all of the geographical divisions of the United States by field agents of the Fidelity and Deposit company of this city, consisted of answers to 35 questions by farmers, bankers, manufacturers and public officials. An interesting feature of the statistics is that in every section except New England and the Rocky Mountain states building operations showed a marked increase. General transportation conditions in every state were reported "good," and raw materials plentiful. Savings accounts in the survey showed, increased in 19 states.

Finance officials of 27 states said there had been a noticeable increase in savings over last September, but a decrease was reported in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi.

In every state the consensus of opinion was that the farmers have not disposed of all their last season's crops. Labor prices and shortage of money and labor in acreage in all states except Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and the Pacific coast states. The crop outlook for 1921, however, in every case, was reported fair or good.

Mr. Houston says: "The survey indicates that the business world is still feeling its way, but with increasing confidence that the worst has passed. The country has successfully borne the strain caused by a most notable drop in prices, particularly of a vast variety of raw materials, and has weathered a trying period of liquidation. The demands for finished products have not developed to the point where one factor is the cause of another. The raw materials to furnish the necessary relief to their producers; but in this direction, a change in the standard of living that they are so justly entitled to."

PEONAGE NOT GENERAL MEET COTTON PRICES IN GEORGIA AND ONLY BY CUTTING EXPENSE A FEW PEOPLE GUILTY OF CROP PRODUCTION

Federal Agent Declares Practice Is Confined to "Two or Three Sore Spots" Agriculture Department Makes Survey of Crop Costs and Requirements

PEOPLE AGAINST IT PRICE UNDER COST Bulk of Citizens Back of Federal Officers in Effort to Stamp Out Slavery

ATLANTA, April 3.—Vincent Hughes, head of the bureau of investigation of the federal department of justice here, issued the following statement tonight regarding peonage conditions in Georgia:

"This office receives and investigates every complaint of peonage arising in the territory comprising almost all of the cotton producing area of our work now is on peonage complaints and there are more of these than all other cases combined. We find ourselves handicapped in handling peonage cases because the law is not broad enough. The technical crime of peonage is only committed when involuntary servitude exists on a basis of debt, and many negroes are held in servitude through fear and other coercion, perhaps more so than for debt. On a basis of geographical origin of complaints we find that the bulk of peonage in Georgia is now widespread in the sense of being statewide."

"Judging from the complaints we receive, by far the greater part of peonage in Georgia is now widespread in the sense of being statewide. The bulk of the peonage victims are country negroes. The majority of complaints we have investigated are cases of tenant farmers. These men are working on an arrangement by which the landowner supplies cotton seed, tools and fertilizer, with the tenant contributing labor and receiving from a quarter to a half of the crop. The tenants usually buy food at the store and pay for it with their cotton. The landowner in saying that the number of complaints received is increasing, is really saying that the number of tenants who are being held in peonage is increasing. I believe that the country negro market has something to do with it, for with most of the farmers holding last year's crop, the temptation to avoid paying out money is very strong, while at the same time the price of cotton is low."

"My impression is that the bulk of Georgia white residents are guilty of intentional violation of the peonage law. My own experience leads me to believe that the bulk of white citizens are wholeheartedly back of our efforts to stamp out peonage. That attempts are sometimes made to withhold payment of bills, and to pay nothing but the fact that local conditions favor peonage. We expect them and in the long run they cannot greatly hinder us."

"The reports from some agricultural sections of farm labor shortage also may need interpretation. In not a few cases a report of a shortage may mean that the employers are not paying labor at their own price; and it is significant that outside of the farming communities in the industrial sections, the reasons assigned for the reported labor shortage are low prices of farm products, rather than shortage of money. A demand for farms by renters is observed in Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska and in the south Atlantic and Pacific states. Western and southern farmers are reported to be holding payment of bills, and the condition of the cattle and sheep raisers in Kansas, Nebraska and the Rocky Mountain districts, where there is a shortage in wool, is reported to be poor."

Commander Missing Naval Balloon A-5597



Chief Quartermaster George K. Wilkinson, who is in command of the naval balloon A-5597, which has been missing since it left the naval air station at Pensacola, Fla., March 22. The balloon carried a crew of five. It is feared that all have been lost.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Cotton growers can meet the present price situation by carefully considering operating expenses and reducing them whenever there is a likelihood of obtaining a low yield per acre, the department of agriculture says in a report today on the result of a survey on basic requirements and cost of producing cotton.

By applying last year's man-and-mule rates for labor, prices that paid for seed and fertilizer to the basic requirements in an investigation in Mitchell county, Ga., the average operating expense of cotton was fixed at approximately 33 cents a pound. Other expenses amounting to 16 per cent of the total included such items as ginning, manure, equipment, taxes, insecticide, and the cost of land rent. Man-and-mule rates for labor in this investigation and seed and fertilizer costs, the department says, constituted 54 per cent of the total operating expense, exclusive of land rent. Other expenses amounting to 16 per cent of the total included such items as ginning, manure, equipment, taxes, insecticide, and the cost of land rent. Man-and-mule rates for labor in this investigation and seed and fertilizer costs, the department says, constituted 54 per cent of the total operating expense, exclusive of land rent. Other expenses amounting to 16 per cent of the total included such items as ginning, manure, equipment, taxes, insecticide, and the cost of land rent.

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NOTE OF DEFIANCE IN VOICE OF HARDING AS HE ANNOUNCED HARVEY

President Is Proud of His Appointment of Colonel to Court of St. James

RESENTS CRITICISM "Drive" Against Famous Editor Only Stiffened the Executive's Determination

By DAVID LAWRENCE (Copyright, 1921, by The Star) WASHINGTON, April 3.—President Harding is proud of the selection of Col. George Harvey as ambassador to Great Britain. When he authorized the Washington correspondents to announce that he would send the nomination to the senate soon, there was a note of defiance in his voice against all who had presumed to doubt that the distinguished editor of "Harvey's Weekly" would be finally chosen. The President was eager to give it known that the so-called "drive" against the Harvey appointment had failed to move him, and from the decisive manner in which he spoke it was evident that having made up his mind to appoint Colonel Harvey he was trying to discourage any effort to dissuade him.

There is no doubt about it—the murmurs of opposition as well as the published stories of a "drive" against Colonel Harvey have only served to strengthen the determination of President Harding to go through with his original plan. Those who observed Mr. Harding's eagerness to have the press record his choice of Colonel Wilson as ambassador to Great Britain resentment against criticism of personal appointees as Woodrow Wilson used to exhibit whenever anyone made so bold as to suggest that possibly they might be chosen by Albert Sidney Burleson or George C. Ruggles might have been filled by others.

Just why the selection of Colonel Harvey to go to the court of St. James should be objected to is a question that produces an undercurrent of protest in Republican circles ever since his name was first mentioned for the post, may be somewhat of a mystery to the outsider. Indeed, there has been very little question raised about the brilliancy of Colonel Harvey's mind and his ready wit. Rather has the opposition centered upon Colonel Harvey's alleged attitude toward prohibition, which is not especially pleasing to the "dry" element here. It has been pointed out however that Great Britain is not a prohibition country and that presumably sentiment in London would favor the selection of a man like Colonel Harvey instead of one of Woodrow Wilson's disciples. Indeed the British government's response to an inquiry from the United States government, said promptly that Colonel Harvey was "persona grata."

When Colonel Harvey goes abroad as ambassador to Great Britain, it is not generally known that the colonel was very anxious to have President Wilson appoint him to the same ambassadorship. Louis after Mr. Wilson's appointment, said promptly that Colonel Harvey was "persona grata."

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REYNOLDS, S. C., PHYSICIAN IS SHOT BY J. C. SWYGERT

REYNOLDS, S. C., April 3.—Dr. J. C. Reynolds, prominent physician, was shot and possibly fatally wounded here today by J. C. Swygert, well known farmer and citizen of this section. Five bullets took effect. Two of the wounds in the abdomen are of a serious character. Dr. Nicholson was taken to a hospital in Columbia for treatment. Dr. Swygert surrendered immediately to the sheriff and was taken to Lexington county jail.

THOUSAND ATTEND THE BURIAL OF AGT. FLOGGER

LEXINGTON, Va., April 3.—Burial today of Sgt. Frederick A. Flogger, first Kentucky soldier killed in action by the Japanese, was held here by 2,000 persons from Rockwell, Va., and the Virginia Knights Templar. A delegation of Loyal Order of Moose in Lexington, Va., was held in Lexington Presbyterian church with burial in the cemetery.

ONE OF TANKER CREW DEAD AT CHARLESTON

Explosion on O. T. Warring Burns Three Seamen, William Riens Succumbing

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 3.—When the Standard Oil company tanker O. T. Warring departed for Charleston harbor early today for medical aid, members of the crew had a hair-raising story to tell of a terrific explosion of gasoline fumes the night before, burning three members of the crew to death and one, William Riens, of Jacksonville, Fla., a pumper, later died at a hospital here.

The cause of the accident is unknown and there was some reticence on the part of the oil company's officials here in discussing it. It is stated that an investigation will be made by the company, at least to fix responsibility for the accident.

The tanker was just opposite Charleston harbor, proceeding from Wilmington, N. C., to Havana, Cuba, with more than a million and a half gallons of refined gasoline in her compartments. It appears that fumes generated in one of these and when the three men were at work near her cabin, the explosion took place.

The vessel was little damaged, the heavy night air, it is believed, serving to stop communication of the flames to other compartments. C. M. Pearson and J. Ruskin, addresses not given, were the two other seamen seriously burned. G. Nabors, master of the vessel.

UNCLE OF BECKWITH TAKES CHARGE OF SUICIDE'S BODY

SYRACUSE, N. Y., April 3.—David G. Holmes, of East Orange, N. J., killed by Prof. Holmes Beckwith, who crazed by fabled grievance Saturday, killed Dean John Wharton, head of the College of Business Administration, State university, and then killed himself, today took charge of the body of his nephew. Mr. Holmes called on Sheriff James Day and expressed regret for his nephew's act.

GOVERNMENT TO HELP DYE, COTTON AND ANY OTHER NEEDY PRODUCT

Secretary Hoover Setting About to Build Up the Foreign Trade of America

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Director Hoover is expected to meet with the war finance corporation and southern bankers tomorrow in an effort to develop a workable plan for building up cotton exports.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The credit angle in the trade revival program officials said, is in the hands of the war finance corporation, which is expected to aid the exporters through corporations organized under the Edge act in different sections of the country. In addition, formation of combinations for extending foreign commerce under the Webb-Pomeroy act has been advocated by Secretary Hoover as the most practical method of moving commodities after credit has been obtained and also as a defense against similar combinations by foreign exporters.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Saturday night two young men claiming that their home was Peabody, Va., and two young women, one hailing from Lynchburg and the other from Hot Springs, registered at a local hotel as married couples. The police were put wise and arrested them. At police headquarters, where they spent the night, they gave different names and admitted their guilt.

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WEDDING PREVENTS FEDERAL PROSECUTION AT WILSON

EXPECT EXPRESS CASE TO BE COMPLETED THIS WEEK

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