

BLACK HAND NOTICE RECEIVED BY NEGRO; IS TOLD TO DEPART

Tom Franks, Much Frightened, Consults Counsel Regarding the Epistle

Bearing the usual black hand in a skull and cross-bones—a typewritten notice has been received by Tom Franks, negro, who owns a home and operates an oyster roast on the short cut road between Masonboro road and Sea Gate. Franks is ordered to leave the community in ten days or be severely dealt with, according to the warning. Two white men of the same community have received like notices.

The typewritten notice follows: "You are ordered to leave this community in ten days; if you are still here after the lapse of ten days, you will be dealt with severely by unknown parties."

Sheriff George C. Jackson and other officers of New Hanover county have made a thorough investigation of the negro, the conditions under which he lives and operates his oyster roast, and they report that they find no reason or justification for such a threatening letter. A private inquirer has also been conducted by prominent citizens of the immediate community and this also has failed to disclose any cause for the alleged blackmail.

Franks has employed counsel, who has advised him that he has the right to protect his home and to report any further threats or intimidations to the county officials. Sheriff Jackson has assured the negro that the county officers will afford him every protection possible.

In-as-much as two white men received similar threatening letters, it is not thought that these notices amount to anything more than an attempt to frighten, and belief is expressed that should anyone attempt violence that the party or parties will fall into the clutches of the law.

DAVIDSON CAMPAIGN IS MEETING SUCCESS

Gratifying Response Made to Call for Funds to Restore Chambers Building

A called meeting of the campaign committee of the Greater Davidson college was held in the rooms of the First Presbyterian church, last night with practically every Presbyterian pastor and chairman, together with members of the seven churches located in New Hanover county, present.

R. A. Brand, county chairman, presided, and after brief reports were heard from the various men present. It proved to be a most enthusiastic gathering in the interest of securing funds, through subscription, for the reconstruction of Chambers building, which was destroyed by fire a year ago.

The most gratifying thing that was evidenced was that every church had organized committees and were determined to push the solicitation to completion, expressions of optimism were heard on every side and when the total amounts raised during the day were announced and the plans of the churches planning to put on the campaign later in the week, the men were delighted after discussing the matter of greater publicity, which matter was placed in the hands of the representative committee, the meeting adjourned with the determination to put New Hanover county over the top with its apportionment of \$23,000. The amount raised yesterday as reported is only a partial report, and amounted to \$2,900.

A publicity committee composed of Rev. J. O. Mann, J. Holmes Davis, S. E. Gesner and E. E. Howell, assisted by J. B. Mullinex, is working hard to present the proper information to all concerned.

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL IS GIVEN ASSISTANCE

City and County Commissioners Assume Interest on Institutions Debt

At a conference yesterday morning in Mayor James H. Cowan's office, between city and county commissioners and a committee from the Community hospital, supported by delegations representative of white and negro citizens, the city and county boards assumed liability for the forthcoming year's interest on the negro hospital's debt, \$600 and \$300, and it was intimated that the city and county boards, meanwhile, would investigate what legislative enactment is necessary to relieve the debt itself.

Among the representative white citizens appearing before the board yesterday were J. Allan Taylor, W. Moore, C. C. Chadbourn, Louis T. Moore, W. L. Smith, Philander Pearsall and Dr. E. R. Hart. Spokesmen for the delegation pointed to the excellent community work that has already been done by the Community hospital, and showed where the beneficial results of hygiene and sanitation work and instruction reflected in the homes of the white citizens through such servants as cooks and butlers.

Mayor Cowan and Commissioner Joseph E. Thompson informed the delegations that they had no legislative authority to assume the hospital obligation for the city, but each of them expressed his belief in the fine community work that is being done for the negroes by the institution.

It was pointed out that the hospital could operate successfully under the present appropriations of the city and county, which now amount to \$150 and \$75 per month, respectively, and it was claimed that the institution could operate successfully if it were not for the interest on the bonded indebtedness.

It was also made plain by the city commissioners that no positive action could be taken, because of the absence from the meeting of Commissioner Robert C. Cantwell, Sr.

The negro delegation included the following: Rev. W. H. Moore, Julius Murray, David Bryant, Dr. Foster Burnett and Thomas Hooper. They made a good appeal, and opinion is expressed that they presented a strong case.

Continued Supremacy Of Cotton Depends on Cost of Production

King Cotton to be Dethroned Unless Quality Staple is Produced Cheaply

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—Continued supremacy of American cotton in world trade is dependent upon the production of cotton of high quality at relatively low cost, according to the United States department of agriculture in its 1921 year book, just published.

Production of high quality can be continued or restored through adoption of proved varieties and the establishment of a single variety in communities where superior varieties of cotton can be kept pure, it is said. The custom among growers of planting many different varieties in the same locality, the practice of using ordinary "gin-run" seed for planting and the popular idea that cotton varieties "run out" are also touched upon.

Concerning the boll weevil, it is said that a profitable crop of cotton may be raised by adopting certain measures which will retard the pest under ordinary circumstances. The use of calcium arsenate in dry dust form, which has proved fairly successful, is recommended.

Regarding cost of production, the department says that the grower who knows his own actual cost of production and has average or standard figures to compare with his own, is in a fair way to stop small leaks in his expenses and to reinforce those features of his practice in which he has an advantage.

LOCAL PORT FEELING EFFECTS OF TARIFF

Customs Officers Here Collect Heavy Duty on Importation of Swedish Cement

The first cargo arriving at the port of Wilmington from foreign shores to feel the effects of the new tariff that has been put into effect by the Republican administration was the cargo of cement arriving here recently from Sweden aboard the Danish steamer Kronborg.

Although all shipments of foreign cement to arrive at this port prior to the cargo of the Kronborg was entered at the local customs house as being on the free list, it was necessary for the receivers of the last Swedish cement to come in to pay a reciprocal tariff of approximately \$5,000, as provided for in the last tariff act.

Chief Deputy Collector of Customs S. F. Highsmith stated yesterday after the arrival here of the Kronborg he communicated with Washington relative to the new tariff law, and received specific instructions that a charge would be made of sixteen cents for every 2246 pounds. The exact amount paid into the customs house for the tonnage unloaded at this port was \$4,942.05.

Because of the tariff charge upon cement now being imported into the United States there is some doubt felt in this city as to whether or not additional shipments will be made to the port of Wilmington.

The cargo of the Kronborg is consigned to the Southern Power company for use in constructing hydro-electric plants, one of which is located in the Piedmont section of this state, and the other in South Carolina. It is understood that this concern had arranged to have imported into Wilmington for distribution to these plants many thousand tons of Swedish cement, but now there is a possibility that further shipments will cease.

It is explained at the local customs house that the new tariff, as regarding importations from Sweden, only provides that a tariff shall be charged similar to that which exists in Sweden on any American cement imported to that country.

Conference to Discuss German-owned Cables

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—Preparations are being made in Washington, it was said today, for participation in an international communications conference in Paris next spring, at which the question of former German owned cables may be taken up, together with other subjects. The intention, it was indicated, is to include on the program the revision of the convention of 1884 for the protection of submarine cables and the adoption of a convention for the protection of such cables in time of war; the adoption of international regulations for visual and sound signaling and the adoption of a general agreement with reference to cable and radio monopolies to make available for common use geographical points which was especially desirable for cable and radio stations.

Flag Bedecked City Greets New Leader of Fascisti Upon Arrival In Rome; Gets Warm Welcome

(Continued from page 1.) thousands who gathered later to welcome their leader and follow him in vast procession through the streets of the eternal city.

Reports are in circulation that Gabrielle d'Annunzio is coming to Rome at Mussolini's request. The new premier desires to consult with d'Annunzio on future measures for the welfare of the country. He declares that strict economy is necessary.

30TH DIVISION MEETING
An important meeting of the members of the Thirtieth division will be held in the American legion hut tonight at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of forming a local club and to arrange plans for participation in the grand parade to be staged by the Wilmington post, American legion, on Armistice day.

STATE CONVENTION OF LOG ROLLERS IS POSTPONED

ASHEVILLE, Oct. 30.—The 21st semi-annual convention of the Western North Carolina Log Rollers association, previously scheduled to be held today at Hendersonville, has been postponed until Monday, November 13. This was done in accordance with the wish of E. B. Lewis, state manager of the order, who desires to be present at the meeting. Mr. Lewis is in Wilmington and was unable to come to Hendersonville on the date first set.

BILLY ALLEN'S COMEDY PLEASES BIG AUDIENCE

"My Vampire Girl" Inaugurates Bill That Will Continue Through the Week

The Billy Allen musical comedy company opened the Academy of Music theatrical season last night with a presentation of "My Vampire Girl," and scored a clean best.

Better shows have visited Wilmington, but it is extremely doubtful if a better musical show has ever been offered here at popular prices and there were moments when one was almost willing to believe that was not foreign to Broadway.

Like all musical shows there is just enough plot to hold things together but the tunes are plentiful and there is enough comedy to keep one in a mighty good humor. Edna Troutman has a better than the average voice and Geraldine Lockwood, in her solo dance, with the butterfly girls, left little to be asked. Abe Sher was there with bells on while the other members of company supported splendidly. Billy Allen is good. It might not have been "up to his expectation," to use his own pet phrase but it was far above the expectation of the average theatre goer who is still wondering how it can be done for a dollar.

The chorus is one of the best that has been seen here in a long time. These young women are not only good to look at but they are anything but dumb bells. They put plenty of life into their work and they help to make the show go with a zest that is refreshing.

The company is playing the entire week at the Academy. Tonight the same bill will be repeated but there will be a change every other night during the week.

FORECAST BY STATES
WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Virginia and North Carolina: Fair Tuesday and Wednesday; little change in temperature.
South Carolina: Fair Tuesday and probably Wednesday; little change in temperature.

Forest Fires Destroy Much Small Timber in Western Part of State

More Than Seven Thousand Acres Are Burned Over; Now Under Control

ASHEVILLE, Oct. 30.—Forest fires covering approximately 7,000 acres of land have broken out in parts of western North Carolina since Saturday morning, and although a large area has been extinguished and placed under control hundreds of acres are still aflame in various parts of the mountain region.

Forest and fire wardens have been massed to fight the flames, largely confined to cut-over lands and young timber, and so far no lives have been reported lost or buildings burned.

The Suncrest Lumber company, at Sunburst, one of the largest lumber plants in this section, was endangered this morning about 11 o'clock when a fire broke out within a few hundred yards of the plant. A number of employees were placed on duty fighting the flames and it was confined to approximately 30 acres.

The forest fire on the east and west forks of Piscon river, near Cole mountain, Haywood county, which covered 2,500 acres of cut-over lands, was extinguished Sunday after fifty wardens had fought the flames for the entire day.

Three hundred acres were burned


near Spruce, four miles above Sunburst, but was soon placed under control.
A fire covering several hundred acres is still burning six miles northwest of Sunburst, Haywood county, and what is believed to be the largest fire, covering several thousand acres, is being fought near Crestmont on the Tennessee-North Carolina line. A large amount of merchantable timber is believed to be in the fire and only meagre information can be obtained from the vicinity.
Several other fires in various parts of Western North Carolina are raging and wardens are experiencing one of the most troublesome times with forest fires in several years.

COLONEL THOMPSON ELECTED HEAD OF ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL

NEW YORK, Oct. 30.—Col. William Boyce Thompson, of New York, today was re-elected president of the Roosevelt Memorial association. Colonel Thompson was virtually the father of the association and contributed more than \$200,000 to the expenses of the campaign for raising the Roosevelt memorial fund.

FUNERAL OF INFANT

Funeral services over the remains of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Karie Reeves, who died yesterday following a long illness, will be held this morning at 8:30 o'clock at the Reeves home on Linco avenue. The remains will be taken today to Currie for interment. The services this morning will be conducted by Elder J. P. King, pastor of Sixth Street Advent church.



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