# Wilmington Morning Star

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WILMINGTON, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 24, 1923.

OLDEST DAILY IN THE STATE.

# COTTON CO-OPS LOSE 1,700 BALES; BLAZE DESTROYS WAREHOUSE

Mrs. Jesse Suggs Has Narrow Escape When Falling Wall Buries Her in Debris

TOTAL DAMAGE WILL AMOUNT TO \$300,000

Fierce Flames Leap Over Two Streets Threatening Residential Blocks

(Special to the Star.)
KINSTON, April 23.—Seventeen hun bales of cotton were destroyed, fire swept through a big brick warehouse in North Kinston this after One person was injured and probably damage estimated at \$300,000 was done. Destruction of a residential area several blocks wide was threatend. The blaze was spectacular. Flames

re flaring across two streets when firemen arrived. The blaze had ned great headway before its discovery. Five frame dwellings broke into flames, while rooftop fires were started here and there by sparks. A stiff wind fanned the flames. Debris Buries Woman.
A falling wall crashed into the home

Jesse Sugg, almost completely covsoue was effected by firemen and by danders. Mrs. Sugg was badly but tot fatally hurt. Within 20 minutes he blaze was controlled. Firemen parolled the district to deal with incipblazes. Street pavements, trees telephone poles were ruined. The cotton was the property of co-sperative farmers. It was valued at \$30,000. Insurance practically covered the loss, it is understood. The origin of the fire was not determined. Homes Evacuated.

Residents, fearing a conflagration emoved household goods from dwell-Two schools located nearby were acuated. Excitement ran rife in the eighborhood. Many lines of hose were aid by the firemen. Police resorted to rastic measures to prevent accident. lather P. Tapp, state senator and ebacconist, who lost property valued many thousand dollars in recent inendiary fires here, today denied that had purchased the burned warehouse he had purchased the burned warehouse shortly before the fire. It was the property of Seth Hooker, of Greenville. Tapp had negotiated for its lease. The damage to cotton was estimated at \$245,000 and to buildings and other property at many thousands.

## Is Mystery Woman Hammer Murderess?

LOS ANGELES, April 23 .- The Cenbeing sought, are described in a er received here today by Chief Police Oakes from C. W. Flagh, of vatemala City, Guatemala. The leter came while officers were perfectag plans for speedy extradition of Mrs. Phillips, who is believed to be sing the name "Mrs. Robert Young." Flagh's letter gives minute descrip-ion of a man and two women, the nan and one of the women describing mselves as Mr. and Mrs. Carson he description of one of the women, ecording to Flagh, fits Mrs. Phillips. and a description of Mrs. Phillips be

Mrs. Phillips' extradition will be sked on two charges, according to eputy District Attorney William ark, who is preparing the papers. charge will be that she is a fue from justice as a result of her viction and life sentence for the order of Mrs. Alberta Meadows. The ther charge will be breaking jail.

### Raleigh Mayor Runs Second in Primary

RALEIGH. April 23.—A. H. Moneyin his candidacy to suced himself in the municipal primary e today, and Mayor T. B. Eldridge John Bray, commissioner of public is, while entitled to enter the electwo weeks from today, suffered hands of an anti-administration

s the result of the primary, the elecon May 7th, will be between E. E. sity, but has not yet announced his breth and T. B. Eldridge for mayor; decision. Williamson and E. G. Birdsong for issioner of public safety; C. C. and John Bray for commissioner olic works.

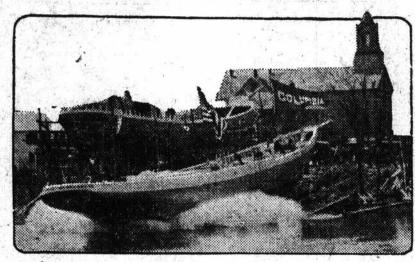
vote today was: mayor: E. E. Culbreth, 2,965; T.

ldridge 1.495. commissioner public safety, Carl lamson, 1,366; E. G. Birdsong, 1,060; Mooneyham 987; W. R. Smith 5446 der Bryan 480; D. F. Crinkley 18. mmissioner public works: C. C. 2.348; John Bray 1,713; Jack Cus-

judge city court: W. C. Harris, bent without opposition 3,570.

CONFESSES TO MURDER OENIX. Ariz., April 23 .- A 19d youth giving his name as G. dson, arrested here early toinvestigation, has confessed the of Rabbi Alfred G. Lafee, at San co. about three weeks ago, pod this afternoon. A diary found ossession, police said, definitely

ed him with the crime. EXPANDING PROGRAM
HINGTON, April 23.—Represenvarious religious denominave been invited by Secretary meet in Washington, with the ix to eight to consider plans TO TRY FOR FISHERMEN'S TROPHY



The fishing schooner Columbia being launched at the shippards at Essex Mass. She is the most recent contend er for the International Fishermen' trophy, now held by the Bluenose, Ca nadian vessel.

# 14 Newly Wed Couples From "House of David" **Summoned Before Court**

Dead Man Steers Mystery Motor Boat

NEW YORK, April 23.—The motor boat Travdeller, steered by a dead man with a bullet in his chest, was caught by longshoremen today as she emerged from beneath the Hudson river pier and headed for open water at full speed.

Its lone occupant lay on his back across the steering wheel, his weight steadying the rudder. A pistol and two loaded cartridges were on the bottom of the draft. The of empty shells led police to believe the man had been murdered He has not been identified.

Florida Governor Recommends That he Be Removed for Malfeasance in Office

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., April 23 .- The believed to be Clara Phillips, Florida senate acted promptly today on the 18 young married people and a the first recommendation to grow out half dozen older members of the cult. Tadition from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, of the legislative investigation of the who guarded their charges closely of the legislative investigation of the who guarded their charges closely death of Martin Tabert, of North Da- from inquisitive reporters and photokota-the recommendation of Governor graphers. Hardee that Sheriff J. R. Jones, of Leon county be removed from office.

Jerry M. Poppell, former jailer, testi-

company, in which he was to receive \$20 for each prisoner he delivever, was the group of bridegrooms ared told him and other deputies to each sitting beside his wife. They ered, told him and other deputies to each sitting beside his wife. They "get busy for this mean" money for ranged from boy who appeared not to the company. The governor submit- is 28 or 30. to the company. The governor submit to the company. The governor submit ted his message recommending that the dress of the men of the colony Jones be removed for malfeasance in head dress of the men of the colony but as the afternoon dragged on they are and then a rened at 4 o'clock this afternoon. The senate went into executive ses-

which time President Turnbull announced that he had appointed a committee to report on the governor's mes-sage. Sheriff Jones will have the opportunity of appearing before them in the light of their new standing. Early today members of the investigating committee had stated they were unan-imously in favor of the sheriff's re-

CONNOR TO LECTURE RALEIGH, April 23 .- Judge H. G. Connor, United States district court, will lecture for a term of four weeks hearings that the colony when threatat the summer session of the university of North Carolina law school this summer, Dr. H. W. Chase, president of girls who might be able to tell somethe university, announced today. Judge thing about the alleged immorality in Connor, who has been eligible for retirement from the federal bench at full pay since July, has been proffered the bottom of the present marriage the post as law lecturer at the univer- wave and decide whether the 14 the post as law lecturer at the univer-

Sudden Marriages of Youthful to pursue during the remainder of his Colonists, Arouse Suspicions of Micigan Authorities

SOME OF THEM MERE CHILDREN IN 'TEENS

Rumored That Group Nuptials Are Always in Order When Clan Threatened Probe ·

ST. JOSEPH, Mich., April 23 .- (By Associated Press)-Michigan's grand jury investigation of charges of immorality at Benjamin Purnell's Israelite colony of the house of David opened today with 14 young brides and 14 bridegrooms on hand to explain their sudden decision to be married in two

group weddings last week.

The first witness a girl bride was on the witness stand before Judge Harry Dingeman of Detroit, the one man grand jury, for more than three hours under cross examination by attorneys for the state and country. The girl whose age was given in the marriage license as 17, is actually only 13 years old, according to county records, it was reported.

Unusual Spectacle
The spectacle outside the city hall where the investigation is being held was an unusual one. In a dimly lighter corridor three long rows of seats held

The brides, well dressed, with faces powdered and hair neatly arranged in the latest mode, appeared no different fied Saturday that Sheriff Jones on than any young group of young girls of high school age. In marked contrast to the girls, how

Tabert died while under lease more than 16 to one man who probably

doffed them one by one and then more startling difference, appeared sion to consider the message. It remained behind closed doors for one
hour and 35 minutes, at the end of
hour and 35 minutes, at the end of
hour and 35 minutes, at the end of May Subpoena Others

How long it will take to get the testimony of the 28 colony witnesses is problematical. Judge Dingeman said no more subpoenas will be issued until the present group is exhausted. The purpose in calling the young brides and grooms is to find who sug-gested their sudden weddings, which were celebrated on two successive nights last week after licenses had been obtained outside the regular court hours. The marriages did not become

public until 48 hours later. It has been charged in recent court ened with state or federal investigation has always married off groups of "King Benjamin's" home. Therefore Judge Dingeman said he would go to couples voluntarily decided they want ed to wed at this time.

# Safeguarding of American Interests Guiding Spirit of Delegation At Lausanne

LOUSANNE, April 23 .- (By Associated Press.)-Safeguarding of the legitimate national interests of the United States, and of the principles of commercial opportunity for all nations was officially set forth today as the guid-ing rule of the American representatives, when the near east peace con-ference resumed its labors in an endeavor to restore peace between the allied powers and Turkey, and between

Greece and Turkey. Joseph C. Grew, American minister to Switzerland, and head of the delegation made this clear in a brief inau-gural speech following similar ad-dresses by leaders of the other delegameet in Washington, with the tions. The conference then divided allied powers and Turkey, but none the chaplains of the army from itself into three committees, each of less in a fully representative capacity which will take up subjects in dispute,

Minister Grew said the United States welcomed the resumption of the con-ference. It had reconvened on a substantial basis, and a understanding had already been reached on a variety of important subjects and upon this firm foundation the United States expected soon to see erected that edifice of a just and stable peace for which the world was waiting with eagerness of the position of the American representatives. he said:
"We are here for the same purpose

and in the same character as before the adjournment, participating not on the footing of a belligerent against Turkey nor as a party to the treaty of peace under negotiation between the The conference then divided allied powers and Turkey, but none the and with full authorization and comp of soldiers. • discussions on tence to speak on behalf of the government of the United States."

# TODAY WILL BE FIRST

During These Trips President Will Endeavor to Give Account of Official Stewardship

State Library Complimentary

Will be First Public Appearance In Metropolis Since Early in

His Administration

D PRESS

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Departure of President Harding from Washing-ton tonight for New York where he will speak tomorrow at the annual luncheon of the members of the Associated Press marked the real beginning of a series of speaking trips to be made by the

of speaking trips to be made by the executive during the spring and summer to various parts of the country.

Through these addresses, of which about 15 will be made during a transcontinental tour starting in June, the chief executive expects, to account for his stewardship of administrative affairs, to restate and reaffirm the purposes of his administration and to annote the control of the country. poses of his administration and to announce and explain the policies he plans tenure of office. White House Silent.

White house officials as is customary, have given no inkling of the nature of the address Mr. Harding will make tomorrow at the Associated Press luncheon, which will be attended by a large proportion of the newspaper editors and papers of the country. The Presi-dent has been at work on his speech for several days and today went over it with several members of his cabinet, including Secretary Hughes, indicating that he considers it of extreme impor-

The luncheon at which the President will speak is to be held at 1 o'clock at the Waldorf Astoria hotel and is the principal event of the executive's program of the day in New York. He plans to spend only about 20 hours in the Metropolis arriving in the city early tomorrow by special train and leaving tomorrow midnight on the return trip. Mrs. Harding Going.

The President will be accompanied by Mrs. Harding, George B. Christian, Jr., his secretary, Brigadier General Charles
E. Sawyer, his personal physician and
Chairman Lasker of the shipping boasd.
He plans to spend the morning questy at his hotel, after breakfast on the train. After the luncheon, at which in addition to speaking he will renew equaintances with a number of fellev editors, he will return to his hotel suite probably to spend the late afternoon in receiving callers. It is expected that he and Mrs. Harding will attend the theatre in the evening, going from there to the station to board their train The visit to New York will be the first the President has made to that city since September 1921 when he vacation trip aboard the Mayflower. The address at the Associated Press uncheon will be the first he has made n New York since early in his admin

# CHICAGO MAN CLAIMS GOVERNMENT

Avers They Accepted Money for Favors Never Rendered-Gaston Means Mentioned

CHICAGO, April 23 .- Affidavits made y Edward M. Salomon, of Chicago. that he paid \$12,500 to two men alleged o be employes of the United States department of justice, are in the pessession of treasury department officials lt was declared here today. Salomon charges, it is said, that the money was paid for favors which the men failed to deliver.

Special dispatches from Washington o newspapers here asserted that the disclosure of the existence of the affidavits threatened to divulge how boot leggers and others were mulcted of large sums for protection they never received. Copies of the affidavit are said to be in the hands of certain Republican congressmen, who may bring the matter up before the house. Salo-mon claims the men promised to make him prohibition director of Illinois. Salomon is said to have written letters to William J. Burns, chief of the bureau of investigation of the department of justice, and George Christain, secretary to President Harding, in con-

nection with his charges. Salomon in his affidavit is said to have mentioned Gaston B. Means and Elmer Jernicke as two department of justice men with whom he had certain dealings. He is also understood to have referred to Col. Thomas B. Felder, who was instrumental in petitioning William Howard Taft, then president for a pardon for Charles W. Morse wealthy ship owner, now under indictment in connection with alleged was frauds, as attorneys of the agents

whom Salomon accused. Means, it is said, does not appear as listed among employes of William J Burns' office. He is well known in Washington, New York and Chicago and was tried and acquitted several rears ago for the murder of Mrs. John King, widow of a Chicago millionire, near Concord, N. C.

Newspaper dispatches from Wash-ington said Secretary of the Treasury Mellon and David H. Blair, commissioner of internal revenue, were con-ducting an investigation of Salomon's

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Officials of the treasury and justice departy ments whose duty it is to investigate (Continued on Page 2.)

# HARDING'S ADDRESS Exhumation of Tabert's Body Ordered; Permit For Burial Never Issued

Investigation Into Florida Chain Gang Scandal Takes a Startling Turn

DRIVE TO REMOVE SHERIFF IS STARTED

Authorities Now Going After Full Details of Alleged Fatal Flogging in Earnest

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Apri 23 .- (By associated Press.)—No record of any burial permit for Martin Tabert, of North Dakota, who died in a county ease convict camp, can be ,located by the Florida state board of health, the joint executive committee inquiring into the youngster's death and other reported prison brutalities, was notified today by Dr. Raymond C. Turck state health officer.

Immediately upon being informed by Dr. Turck, the committee voted to appoint a sub-committee to go to the Mingo cemetery and other places near Clara, Fla., where Tabert is said to have been buried, and exhume the body. A disinterment permit has been grant ed the committee by the state health officers.

Evidence Concluded Late today the committee virtually concluded hearing evidence in the Tapert case with the exception of await ing a report from its sub-committee which will leave here Wednesday for The sub-committee will take along Arthur Johnson, a former convict, who declared he and three othe men buried Tabert in a spot other than the place designated by witnesses appearing for the Putnam Lumber com

pany, at whose lease camp Tabert met his death. Dr. Turck informed the committee that the state board of health had no knowledge that Martin Tabert died in Florida, until the information revealed through the newspapers. Investiga-tion is now pending to find who was responsible or filing the death certifi-

cate and reporting the casket sale.

Dr. T. Capers Jones, physician for the Putnam Lumber company, has testified before the committee that he made out burial permit, giving the cause Pabert's death as being due "primarily to pneumonia with a complication of alaria." This, the doctor said, ncorrect: he explained the purported false entry by saying he did not care to embarrass Tabert's parents.

Conflict in Testimony The physician said the real cause of s death a serial disease complication. Other witnesses have testified there was no evidence of Tabert having the latter disease.

On being cross-examined Dr. Jones admitted that at the time of Tabert's death he did not know whether he had any relatives nor did he know from what state the youth came.

Dr. Jones stated today he was positive he made out a burial permit. In an effort to be sure, he said, he had telegraphed to the board of health and was surprised to learn there was no record of any such permit. Dr. Jones said he was unable to account for the lost record.

W. S. Whiddon, an undertaker of Perry. Fla., testified before the com-mittee today that he had shipped, by order of the Putnam Lumber company, casket to Clara, Fla., in which he later learned Tabert was buried. He said he made out a casket sale report shortly after the casket was shipped. He said he was not required to have a burial permit because the death was

out of his district. Whiddon testified he sold the lumber company upon their request the cheapest casket he carried in stock. stained coffin with "an outside box," cost \$30, he said.

In answer to question by Chairman John P. Stokes, Whiddon said convicts were usually buried in coffins costing \$17.50 when the county was required to ay the expense.

Poppell Substantiated Testimony today was intended to substantiate the evidence given by Jerry M. Poppell, former jailer of Leon ounty, who startled the committee Saturday by saying Sheriff J. R. Jones. County Judge B. F. Willis, two deputy sheriffs and himself had been intoxicated on several occasions and that sheriff in signing an agreement with the Putnam Lumber company in which he was to receive \$20 for each orisoner he delivered to the company, told other deputies to "get busy for

this means money for me."

Action toward the removal of Sheriff Jones was taken today by the governor, while the committee called witnesses with a view to drawing tighter its case against Judge Willis. "Black Annie" the strap which the

(Continued on Page 2.)

until midnight Monday.

CANDIDATES ATTENTION!

Because of the thousands of votes in coupons and subscrip-

tions that were cast in the Star and News campaign Saturday

night and up until midnight Monday, it was impossible to get

them all double checked in time for the regular vote count to

appear in today's Star and News. The count is being made,

however, and will appear tomorrow, including ballots cast up

in tomorrow morning's Star. The tabulation shows the scores

of the candidates so close that a recheck will be made.

The winners of the hundred dollar prizes will be announced

STARTS CLEANUP



Morgan Collins, jjust ap pointed chief of police, has started an attack on vice and gambling aimed to deprive Chicago of the title of "Wicked

Youth Said to Have Been Beaten to Death-Brain Removed From His Body

ORLANDO, Fla., April 23, The state of Michigan, through its attorney general, will be asked tomorrow to investigate the death of Frank Patteron, 21, a native of Florida, who died of injuries he received in the Michigan state reformatory in Ionia, Mich., April 12 last, it was announced today by Attorney C. A. Boyer, representing Patterson's family after an official examination of the body had been made in lic welfare. Made public a few months ago. Some of the charges against ney John C. Jones.

Dr. J. R. Chappell, a physician who examined Patterson's body, said he found five places where Patterson had been struck on the head. He expressed head caused concussion of the brain, which led to the boy's death.

Assistant State's Attorney Jones said made. he considered it significant that the brain was removed before the body was shipped to Orlando. He added that while the case will be left in the hands of the Patterson attorney, hoped a "thorough investigation" the case would be conducted.

The attorney of Michigan will be formally requested to start an official investigation tomorrow morning, Mr. Boyer said, adding he will telegraph details of the case as he has found them to the Michigan officials. "My only interest is seeing justice

done. I feel that this boy was brutally beaten to death," Mr. Boyer said. adding "that he was left throughout the night after he was beaten without medical attention and that somebody must be responsible for what seems to have been the grossest negligence where a human life was concerned."

# **Enlisted Fliers Rate** Additional Salaries

WASHINGTON, April 23 .- Emlisted nen in the navy are entitled to extra pay during the entire time they were assigned to flying duty, the supreme court decided in cases brought by the government against Harry W. Luskey, John B. Mossel, and Charles F. Mil-

The government contended that the men are entitled to the extra pay only while actually engaged in flying, and should not receive it when unreasonably long periods elapsed between flights. The court of claims had held, however, that congress had not stipulated the number of times on enlisted man must make flights, and that the pay must cover the entire time the men were on detail for flying duty.

# MEETING OF WELFARE BOARD CALLED; MANY MATTERS BEFORE BODY

Announcement of Meeting Re-Calls Interest in Dudding Charges, Probe Unlikely

THURSDAY IS DATE SET FOR CONFERENCE

Departmental Affairs in General Will be Discussed When Governor Meets Commission

By BROCK BARKLEY

RALEIGH, April 23 .- Governor Mor son has called the state board of charities and public welfare to meet with him Thursday at noon, two days in advance of the annual spring meeting of the board to be held in Greens-

The executive call for the meeting returns interest to the possibility of further inquiry into prison conditions, but it was announced the conference is for the purpose of discussing welfare department affairs in general. The late prison affair, which took the shade of a controversy because the welfare authorities thought an investigation should be conducted. gation should be conducted on the strength of Mr. Dudding's charges and the prison directors though contrariwise, will receive further discussion at this meeting, it is understood, although this is not the specific object of the

The welfare authorities intimate that they would take up specifically the proposal to investigate prison conditions when they assemble in Greens-boro, whether an organized investigation will result is speculative; but it is considered quite likely that the Dudding affair, the conference with Governor Morrison and the Greensboro meeting will encourage closer attention to the investigative part of the tion to the investigative part of the departments duties in the future.

Basis of Authority

The welfare organization is directed to conduct investigations of the prison systems under section 5006, chapter 88 of the consolidated statuts, which specifies that "the board shall have the following powers and duties to wit:

"1. To investigate and supervise through, and by its own members, or its agents or employers, the whole system of the charitable and penal institutions of the state, and to recommend such changes and additional provisions as it may deem needful for their economical and efficient administration."

The department evidenced that it had conducted quite an extensive investigation into the charitable and penal systems through the elaborate report made of Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, commissioner of charites and pubcounty homes and county convict camps bordered on the sensational in their arraignment of conditions found by the inspectors.

County jails, county convict camps, county homes and the asylums were the belief that a blow on top of the dealt at with at length in Mrs. Johnson's report and many recommendations as to needed improvements were

> From some of these opposing the attitude of the department toward the proposal were a prison investigating the charge to that if conditions unsatisfactory existed at the state prison of or state prison camps the department should have discovered them vance of president Dudding of the prisoners relief society

Simmons in Raleigh Senator F. M. Simmons is here his first visit on governor Morrison he arrived in town this afternoon and is guest at the executive mansion. Tomorrow evening, the governor will en-tertain at a dinner in his honor. In spite of the close relations between the governor and the senator, the activity of each has kept the one confined to Raleigh and the other to Washington.

## D. A. R. Controversy Not so Bad After All

By H. E. C. BRYANT WASHINGTON, April 28.—Mrs. Chas. W. Tillett, of Charlotte, new state regent of the D. A. R. for North Carolina, has completed her work here and will leave tomorrow. She said today the battle of the daughters was not as fierce as reported in the press.

"We have buried the hatchet now. and will work for the common cause," said she. "The story that we had to call on Washington police to protect the ballots was not true. That was made out of the whole cloth. The contest was spirited but never disorderly or dangerous. The truth is, we all had a good time. I know I did."

# Falls Through Car Window; Badly Hurt

HICKORY, April 23.-W. D. Hyman, Jr., Richmond, Va., was placed in a local hospital today after he had fallen through the window of a train near here. His injuries are serious but not thought to be fatal. Mr. Hyman was accompanied in the train by his father who stated that the son had recently suffered a ner-

JURISDICTION EXTENDED which is not in his hands, the supreme court held today in cases brought by Frederick Wesche, the commercial trust company of New Jersey and

vous breakdown and was then enroute

to an Asheville sanitorium. WASHINGTON, April 23 .- The alien property custodian can assert jurisdiction over property of enemy aliens

Charles J. Ahrenfeldt,