

Weather

Fair and a Little Cooler Today

Wilmington Morning Star

16 Pages

Full Day and Night Service of the Associated Press.

100 PER CENT AMERICAN

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 16, 1923.

OLDEST DAILY IN THE STATE.

Ninety-Five Bodies Taken From Kemmerer Mine As Thirty-Seven Are Rescued

Mine One of Deepest in U. S.; Bodies Found Mile Under Ground

CALVIN COOLIDGE, JR.



GASOLINE WAR GROWS IN ATLANTIC STATES

Winchester Buys Carload and Sells at Cost Plus Special Tax

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—(By Associated Press.)—The gasoline cutting war that has been under way for several days in mid-western and southern states, where retail prices were reduced in some states 6.5 cents a gallon, spread today to the entire Atlantic seaboard. Led by the Standard Oil company of New Jersey, four large oil companies announced cuts of one to two cents a gallon in the tank wagon price of gasoline.

WINCHESTER, Va., Aug. 15.—A citizen's committee, headed by State Senator Harry Flood Byrd, announced today that they had arranged to buy one or more carloads of first-grade gasoline at 14 cents per gallon, delivered here, to be sold to consumers at not more than 20 cents per gallon. The 6 cents difference between the wholesale and retail price, it was explained, would pay the special state tax of 3 cents a gallon and allow the retailers a profit of 3 cents.

Georgia Governor Acts ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 15.—Gov. Clifford M. Walker, of Georgia, today signed the Mann bill, increasing the tax on gasoline from 1 to 3 cents a gallon, and called on the state attorney general to take energetic action in investigating the price of motor fuel oils in Georgia.

R. N. Reed, of the Reed Oil corporation, declared that the price of gasoline in Atlanta and subsequently throughout the state is expected to drop 2 or 3 cents a gallon during the next few days.

WIFE SEES DOUBLE TRAGEDY COLUMBUS, Ga., Aug. 15.—Mrs. Alex Harris, 75, was shot and instantly killed here early tonight by Charles Wilder, 42, her son-in-law, who later committed suicide. Wilder's wife, from whom he was separated, witnessed the double tragedy.

PICKED CREWS STILL CONTINUE SEARCHING

One of Rescued Says Explosion Was Followed by Rush of Air

KEMMERER, Wyo., Aug. 15.—(By Associated Press.)—Kemmerer tonight was in mourning for the miners... 97 of them... who are known to have lost their lives in the explosion at Kemmerer coal company mine number one at Frontier, near here yesterday.

Throughout the day and the night hundreds of relatives and friends thronged to the I. O. O. F. hall, which has been turned into a temporary morgue and also to a local undertaking establishment where about half of the bodies are being kept.

Tonight, however, there were but few people congregated at the portal of the mine where last evening hundreds crowded for news of those there appeared in workings.

The latest official report is 97 miners dead; one missing and 37 rescued alive and unharmed.

What caused the explosion has not yet been determined, but officials of the company announced that the pumps were not damaged and that work will be resumed as soon as possible.

The mine is considered one of the deepest in this section if not in the United States. The main shaft goes down at an angle of sixteen degrees to a point of about 6,000 feet, and is on the lower levels or about one mile underground, that most of the bodies were recovered.

Search for the one missing mine is being conducted by picked crews of nine workers. Shortly after dark last night the task of removing the bodies from mine began. The last body of 97 recovered last night was identified shortly after 2 a. m. and immediately upon arrival in Kemmerer today they were prepared for burial.

Henry Niska, a youth in his early twenties, who with several companions was rescued from one of the lower levels nearly eight hours after the explosion occurred, said today: "We were just starting to dig coal when we heard a shot and immediately afterwards there was a deafening rush of air."

"Realizing that we were in danger, my companions and I immediately searched for water and wetting pieces of canvas we held these to our noses and mouths. We kept up this process for several hours before the air finally cleared, but we did not dare move until the rescuers arrived."

The story told by Niska is typical of those of many others of the miners rescued. There are tales of some of the entombed men being overcome in a mad frenzy to reach the surface and still others who died trying to reach other levels upon which they had relatives or friends.

P. J. Queally head of the Kemmerer coal company stated today that the widows and orphans of the dead miners would be provided for, and would need no outside aid.

Nomination of Slomp Starts Fight on Coolidge For Fair With Republicans Critical

Democratic Committee Makes Statement Charging Exposure on Floor of House

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—Appointment of C. Bascom Slomp as secretary to President Coolidge was the occasion today of the Democratic national committee's first attack on the executive since he took over his new duties.

In a statement issued through its publicity department, the committee said the selection of Mr. Slomp, who for years represented the ninth Virginia district in the House of Representatives, was "tantamount to an official announcement that President Coolidge was a candidate for the presidential nomination in 1924, and that the appointment is the first step to round up delegates from the southern states for Coolidge."

Declaring that Mr. Slomp was "exposed on the floor of the house December 15, 1922, in connection with the alleged trafficking in offices by Republicans in southern states," the state-

ment said that his appointment as secretary to the president "came both as a surprise and a shock to the whole country because it carries with it necessarily an endorsement of office jobbery in the south."

"Bascom Slomp," said the statement issued today, "is not only the most important Republican in the state of Virginia, but he is the most important Republican in the south, especially in the matter of dispensing federal jobs and controlling southern delegates to Republican national conventions."

"The exposure of the man whom President Coolidge has named as secretary to the president, an office considered by many to be the most important and carrying with it more influence than a cabinet portfolio. At another point the statement said: "The Democratic national organization recently announced that it would only judge President Coolidge in the light of events as they happen. It construes this appointment as inviting criticism not only from Democratic sources but from the better element of the Republican party, as already evidenced in the Republican press."

ONE DEAD, ONE HURT AS CAR TURNS OVER FROM BROKEN GEAR

Mrs. Lessie McCumber, Lumberton Expires While En Route to Hospital

PACKARD RUM SUSPECT BAILED AT LUMBERTON

Posse Near Lumberton Bridge Shoots Negro Suspect Now In Jail

LUMBERTON, Aug. 15.—Mrs. Lessie McCumber of Chadbourn, received injuries from which she died while being brought to a hospital here when a Dodge car driven by J. H. Carter, her brother-in-law, overturned on the Wilmington-Charlotte highway between Chadbourn and Evergreen this afternoon. Mrs. McCumber was picked up by a party of passing motorists and rushed to the Baker's sanitarium, but died within a few miles of Lumberton. The body was turned over to Coroner Biggs.

Mr. Carter, who owns a meat market at Chadbourn, was received as a patient at the sanitarium. His injuries are not considered serious but he was said to be suffering from shock and bruises. A baby in the car also was injured but he was taken to Chadbourn and the extent of his injuries could not be learned here. Two or three persons in the car escaped injury. The dead woman was not identified until nearly an hour after she was taken to an undertaking establishment. The car was coming in this direction, traveling at a moderate speed according to the driver when the steering gear became deranged and the car turned over. Mrs. McCumber's death was due to a fracture of the skull at the base of the brain.

C. M. Crady, M. B. Pearson, A. J. Bronson, of Fayetteville, were returning home and passed the car a minute after it turned over. They were asked to bring Mrs. McCumber to the Baker sanitarium. Mr. Carter followed in a motor car. Hymen Mendeloff was released from jail this afternoon on a cash bond of \$800 following his conviction in re-corders court this morning on charges of transporting and having in possession for the purpose of sale, Percival Health, negro, convicted on like charges, remains in jail in default of bond. Both were captured Friday when a Packard touring car loaded with Scotch whiskey and which they were driving was wrecked between here and Fayetteville. They entered pleas of not guilty. Today through their counsel, E. S. Smith, of Southport, and W. H. Kinlaw, of Lumberton, following conviction notice of appeal was entered and their bonds fixed at \$1,000. This was reduced later to \$800 by a court order. Each was sentenced to 12 months on the roads, four months in each case. The car was ordered confiscated and sold and the whiskey poured out by the proper authorities.

Andrew Hamer, negro, who has been in the city on numerous occasions, was shot through the left arm last night as he was returning to a house near Lumberton Bridge where it was believed he had stored goods stolen from the Lumberton Bridge Trading Co., which he is alleged to have robbed twice recently. The shot was fired by a member of a posse watching the house after he had attempted to pull out his pistol. He was brought to jail here last night.

The big banner warehouse, the largest in the city, was opened for the auction sale of tobacco today. This makes the third house here selling in that manner. Sales today approximated 175,000 pounds.

Hundreds Pay Tribute to Hero William Wells Wallace's Beloved Son

By R. H. MELVIN Secretary, Wallace Chapter of Commerce

WALLACE, Aug. 15.—When William N. Wells, better known to some of his best friends as "Goon," left for James Walker Memorial hospital last Tuesday night, little did we think he would return to us other than a living man, congenial and happy as he had always been. Goon was in his 25th year. He was married during 1922 to Miss Virginia Ward, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Ward, of Wallace. He leaves his wife and infant child, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Wells, of Teachey, and two sisters and four brothers, all of Teachey, N. C., and hundreds of friends here to mourn his loss.

The body was brought through the country from Wilmington Sunday morning in probably the most beautiful casket that ever came into Duplin county and the funeral at Rockfish cemetery Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock was witnessed by the largest crowd that ever assembled at the cemetery for a funeral.

The writer had known Goon for many years. He believed in treating all men squarely. I never knew him to be in a controversy. I join the community in sympathy for his parents, brothers, sisters and wife, yet they have the greatest consolation that could be had, that he was a good husband, a loving brother and obedient son. He was a congenial pal, a loyal friend, a true American, that marched under the Star Spangled Banner in the fields of France.

They Hear About it At Convention at Richmond and Prepare

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 15.—Merchants attending the 7th annual meeting of the Southern Retail Merchants Association in session here today were admonished by Norman Johnson, secretary of the Southern Wholesale Dry Goods association and editor of the Merchants Journal of Commerce to "get ready for the biggest fall business you have had in the last three years."

Reviewing the business situation in the southern states, Mr. Johnson declared there is ample justification for optimism and insisted that the business men of the country have been "misled by a wave of pessimism." This state of affairs, he said, was due to "so-called economic experts," who he declared had been "spreading since March 15, the most deafening propaganda ever issued in the United States." He concluded that there were "far too many prophets in business."

Mr. Johnson said, discussing the outlook for fall business, "will not sell below 20 cents, and after November 1, I expect to see it average between 25 and 30 cents. The average should be between 23 and 25 cents."

WARRANTS ISSUED FOR BARRETS FOR FRAUDS

C. R. Lybrand of Wagner, S. C., Says Company Kept \$13,007 Cotton Money

AIKEN, S. C., Aug. 15.—J. W. Smoak, attorney of Aiken, representing C. R. Lybrand, of Wagner, S. C., who swore out a warrant for Frank H. Barrett of the firm of Barrett & company of Augusta, charging the securing of cotton under false pretenses and fraudulently and by false representations obtaining Mr. Lybrand's signature to a contract, said that his client claimed balance of \$13,007 due him on cotton sold by the company, which transaction the company admitted, but it repeatedly dishonored drafts made by Mr. Lybrand. Others named in the warrant issued by W. S. Rabon, magistrate at Aiken, S. C., are Thomas Barrett, 3rd, Julian Barrett and Thomas Getzen, members of the firm of Barrett & company and the firm itself.

De Valera Arrested While Making Speech

ENNIS, Aug. 15.—(By Associated Press.)—Eamon De Valera, president of the Irish republic, was arrested here today as he was starting an election speech to constituents at Ennis. The crowd had given De Valera a tumultuous reception and he had just started his address in Gaelic when a shout arose "The soldiers are coming." The crowd fled as the soldiers fired several volleys over their heads. Many women fainted. De Valera was seen to sway and then collapse. It was thought he had been shot but it turned out that he had only fainted, probably in consequence of a blow received during the stampede.

Governor Morrison Will Address Veterans Today

ASHEVILLE, Aug. 15.—Governor Morrison will spend Friday and Saturday in Raleigh, returning to Asheville Sunday to spend another week before going back to Raleigh to stay. Governor Morrison spoke last night in Marion before Kiwanis club. He will go to Newton to speak at a veterans' reunion today, leaving in the afternoon for Raleigh. He cancelled an engagement to speak at the dedication of the Mecklenburg-York county bridge over the Catawba river, between North and South Carolina, to go to Raleigh.

German Mob Storm Jail and Liberates Prisoners

BERLIN, Aug. 15.—A dispatch to the Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung from Halle says that a mob today stormed the jail at Zell, smashed the doors, opened the cells and liberated all the prisoners, most of whom are declared by the dispatch to have been ordinary criminals.

FLORISTS OF STATE TO EXHIBIT AT FAIR

ASHEVILLE, Aug. 15.—The annual convention of the North Carolina Florists association will be held in Raleigh, September 12-13. Decision also was reached for a floral exhibit at the state fair.

James I. McCallum, of Charlotte, president; Otto Busch, of Asheville, secretary; insurance; Will Rehder, Wilmington; E. W. Holey, Raleigh, and C. N. Hubbard, Durham, were the directors attending.

NORTH CAROLINA JURIST DIES WINSTON-SALEM, Aug. 15.—Erastus B. Jones for years a circuit court judge and member of the legislature from Forsythe and adjoining counties, died at his home here this morning after a long illness, aged 70 years. He was a native of Forsythe, son of the late Dr. Beverly Jones, of Henry county, Virginia.

SAVANNAH BANKERS IN BOOTLEGGING RAID THAT TAKES IN WHOLE TOWN

Indictments Made After 30 Agents Had Obtained Evidence Covering Smuggling

AUTOMOBILES SEIZED FOR CARRYING BOOZE

Bribing of Sheriff Charged and Rum Running in Florida Yachts

SAVANNAH, Ga., Aug. 15.—Nearly two score Savannah business men and citizens were arrested today and tonight in what was declared to be the biggest round up of alleged liquor law violators in the history of the city. The arrests were made on federal warrants based on charges running from common bootlegging to conspiracy to violate the national prohibition law and these arrested included some of the best known business of the city. Bankers, a lawyer, several merchants and a former sergeant of police. The arrests with promises of more to follow has created a sensation. Among those taken into custody tonight are: John J. Powers, vice-president and cashier of the Exchange bank of Savannah; Joseph E. Berner, merchant; Samuel Berner, former sergeant of police; A. Carlson, merchant; C. Graham Baughn, lawyer, and Frank Balcon, grocer and many others.

The arrests are the result of the work under cover of 30 or more men during several weeks.

Tonight automobiles valued at \$15,000 had been seized by federal agents as liquor carriers.

The first indictment the new federal grand jury rendered and upon an immediate arrest was made against William H. Haar, charged specifically with conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act. The defendant gave bond of \$10,000.

The indictment charges that Haar and other defendants, who have not yet been apprehended since July 1, 1922, to the present date committed one hundred offenses against the United States by the defendants with intent to defraud the revenue of the United States by smuggling into the country at points within the southern district of Georgia, at Fernandina, Jacksonville, West Palm Beach, Seaside, Miami, Plantation, Milton, N. Charleston, S. C. and divers other places, from France, Italy, Cuba, Great Britain, and her colonies and insular possessions, Dominon or Canada, Jamaica, Bermuda, and the Bahama Islands, a quantity of approximately 150,000 gallons of liquor consisting of brandy, whiskey, gin and other distilled spirits, cordials, liquors, absinthe, bitters, still and sparkling wines, champagne and beer.

Bribery of Sheriff Charges The accused of transporting from storage and distributing points, such as Louisville, Ky., Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia and New York City, quantities of intoxicating liquors where they have been first smuggled to without obtaining any permit for removal, these offenses being of the number of one hundred.

The indictments alleged that fifty offenses committed and that they conducted a business of wholesaling intoxicating liquors without paying the excise tax for revenue as required by law.

A fourth count recites that fifty offenses have been committed because they acted as retailers in the selling of liquor.

The overt acts charged are that during each month at each of the points along the coast enumerated, thousands of cases were smuggled, that the same was transported to storage points and that on June 4, 1923, at Ridgeland, S. C., there was made a promise to buy 15,000 gallons of liquor consisting of brandy, whiskey, gin and other distilled spirits, cordials, liquors, absinthe, bitters, still and sparkling wines, champagne and beer.

LYNCHERS FAIL TO GET BOY KIDNAPER HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 15.—William Burke, 65, arrested in connection with the disappearance of four-year-old J. B. Huggins Monday and said to have been identified by the child as the man who kidnaped him and kept him locked in a deserted shack until his cries attracted a passerby who readily taken over the child this afternoon when a crowd began to gather at the jail.

WEATHER FORECAST BY STATES WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—Virginia fair and slightly cooler Thursday; Friday fair. North and South Carolina generally fair Thursday and Friday; not quite so warm in interior. Georgia, Florida, extreme northwest Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, local thundershowers Thursday and Friday.

CAROLINA MEN KILLED NORFOLK, Aug. 15.—Three men were killed early today in an automobile accident on the Newmarket turnpike four miles from Elizabeth City, N. C. They were: Joe Abbott, of Portsmouth, Va.; Joe Barratt, of Easton, N. C.; John Seymour, of Elizabeth City, N. C. The automobile in which they were riding skidded, went into a ditch, struck a tree and turned over.

HE STARTED THE WAR BERRÉ, S. D., Aug. 15.—Gov. W. H. McMaster, who precipitated the present gasoline price "war" more than a week ago when he instructed the state highway commission's supply depot at Mitchell to sell gasoline to the public at 16 cents a gallon, today consented to increasing the price to 20 cents at a conference with a committee representing independent oil jobbers.

Treaty With Mexico Signed With American Rights Safe But Paying for U. S. Invasion

JOHN COOLIDGE



UNION ABANDONS ITS CHECK-OFF DEMANDS TO STAY STRIKE SEPT. 1ST

Miners and Operators Will Get Together Today With Commission for Settlement

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—Officials of the miners' union proposed to the commission today to abandon their demand for "check-off" of union dues if the operators cease their practice of collecting explosive and fuel accounts by the same method and after conference tonight the operators agreed to the proposal in full.

Strike negotiations which broke off two weeks ago between the operators and miners now may be resumed, the operators said, in accepting the union proposal. Both miners union officials and operators representatives however, will meet again tomorrow with the coal commission to confirm the situation before going ahead.

Gastonia to Send Two Pitchers to Athletics

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 15.—A deal was closed here this afternoon for the sale of Roy Meeker and Howard Kelly, southpaw and right hand pitchers, respectively, for the Gastonia club in the South Atlantic league, to the Philadelphia American club. It was announced that Meeker was sold outright but that Kelly goes up on an optional agreement. The deal was consummated between W. H. Walsh, president of the South Atlantic league, which is operating the Gastonia club, and Mike Drennan, scout of the Athletics.

EXPLOSION BURNS EIGHT

COVINGTON, Ky., Aug. 15.—Eleven persons were injured and one killed by a two story brick building was wrecked by an explosion of gas today on Madison avenue. The injured were bruised or burned but will recover.

QUARANTINE ON FRUIT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—A quarantine on all fruits and vegetables offered for import into the United States, except from Canada, effective November 1, was announced today by the department of agriculture as a step toward keeping certain injurious fruit and melon flies out of the country.

WHITE SLAVE ACT ARREST

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—Glen C. Tobias of Los Angeles, said to be a wealthy real estate promoter was arrested for the federal authorities in Portland, Oregon on a charge of violating the Mann white slave act.

SASH AND DOOR MEN CONVENE

ASHEVILLE, Aug. 15.—Adoption of a code of ethics, decision to keep headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., and reports of officers featured the opening session of the quarterly meeting of the Southern Sash, Door and Mill Work Manufacturers association at Kenilworth Inn today. Approximately 60 members from all parts of the south are present. The climax of the opening session was a hoo hoo concertation tonight.

Compensation May Be Delayed

While the American delegates have been disposed not to press their viewpoint regarding immediate cash compensation for American-owned lands which the government is expropriating in pursuance of its policy of restoring communal lands to towns and villages from which they were taken, a strong point has been maintained against expropriations illegally made under "color of law." It is understood assurances were secured that the government will make immediate and just cash payments for lands illegally acquired prior to the 1917 constitution of 1857, but lands acquired since 1917, it is agreed, are subject to the provisions of the Querearato constitution relative to the division of huge estates, and also to subsequent agrarian farm laws.

Diplomatic Relations to Be Resumed When Both Senates Approve Terms

OIL LANDS GUARDED AND CLAIMS ALLOWED

Property Acquired Since 1917 Under Constitutional Provisions of Country

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 15.—(By Associated Press.)—The records of the conference between the representatives of the United States and Mexico relative to an agreement designed to make possible the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two nations, were signed here at 2:15 o'clock this afternoon.

The American delegates will leave shortly for Washington for submission of the records, together with the accompanying claims of the convention, to President Coolidge and Secretary of State Hughes.

It is expected that the Mexican government's interpretation of the subsoil petroleum action and agrarian laws contained in the record signed today will be acceptable to the American administration and the appointment of an American ambassador to Mexico will not long be delayed.

Guarantees Guaranteed. Indications are that the two American conventions, which intimately relate to the United States and secure guarantees for American rights in Mexico, will likewise soon be submitted to American and Mexican senators for approval, contingent upon the extension of recognition.

The conference records contain the Mexican government interpretations of the subsoil-petroleum and agrarian legislation acceptable to the American delegates and an expression of the government's intention to follow these interpretations in good faith. Under the subsoil-petroleum section American oil companies' rights to subsoil, acquired prior to the going into effect of the American constitution on May 1, 1917, remain intact. After that date the provisions of the Querearato constitution relating to the subsoil prevail although the non-retroactivity of these provisions, notably the much-mooted article 27, is firmly established.

Under the agrarian section of the understanding, American rights acquired prior to the 1917 constitution of 1857, but lands acquired since 1917, it is agreed, are subject to the provisions of the Querearato constitution relative to the division of huge estates, and also to subsequent agrarian farm laws.

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The mixed claims conventions are intended to play a most important part in settling American claims for lands unjustly expropriated by the Mexican agrarian policy.

The claims conventions provide, first for settlement of American claims for damages suffered in the revolutionary period from 1910 to 1920, and, second, for settlement of Mexican claims against the United States resulting from the Pershing expedition and the Vera Cruz occupation, and American claims from 1858 to the present, except revolutionary claims, especially those involving damages suffered through expropriation of the Mexican agrarian policy.

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Carolina Kiwanians to Open District Convention Today; Col. Kirkpatrick is Speaker

Preparations Complete to Entertain Four Hundred Guests at Beach

This is the day of Kiwanis—the day of the chiefs and the tribes; of making medicine and making merry; the day of the invasion of Wilmington. All through yesterday, and late last night, Kiwanians were arriving in the city from all points of the Carolinas to attend the district convention which is to open here today. Local members were preparing to receive their guests with open arms and to use every effort toward affording the visitors a treat which shall not be forgotten. Among the prominent arrivals of yesterday was Alva M. Lumpkin, governor of the district, who came in from Columbia, S. C. Mr. Lumpkin conferred with the committee on affairs and arrangements to help perfect last minute plans. Nearly four hundred members are expected to attend. The program for the day will open with registration of the delegates which will be followed by addresses of welcome by George L. Peachou and Mayor James H. Cowan. Reports of officers and other routine business will occupy a good part of the day. The feature of the evening session will be the address of Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick, of Charlotte, district governor of the Lions club. The history of the speaker shows his connection with progressive organization in North Carolina.