

Weather Partly Cloudy With Scattered Thunderstorms

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WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 17, 1923.

OLDEST DAILY IN THE STATE.

Detectives Work Two Years On Savannah Booze Raid Greatest in "Dry" History

Grocery Clerk With Million Income Leader of Bootlegger "Big Four"

OWNED NUMBER OF CRAFT UNDER BRITISH REGISTER

Operated in Cuba, Bahamas, England, France and Canada, Burns Says

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—Department of justice officials declared today that the leaders in the largest and most powerful "bootleg" ring in the United States have been taken into custody in the wholesale arrests made at Savannah, Ga., under direction of federal agents.

William Haar, a one-time grocery clerk, is described as the principal leader in a ring which officials here claim operated a flotilla of craft, had its own cement-lined storehouse in the swamps along the Georgia and Florida coast.

Heading forces of less wealth and strength, according to justice officers, were C. Graham Baughn, Richard Bailey and Sam Goldberg. These men are referred to as the "big four" and it was stated they were known in bootleg circles throughout the country.

Fleet of Craft Employed Haar is alleged to own a number of craft of British registry which were used to import intoxicants from Cuba, the Bahamas and other points in the West Indies.

Operations of the ring are said to have extended along the east coast of Florida and the Georgia coast, which because of their numerous bays and inlets isolated by large swamps, made operations comparatively free from detection from shore.

Probe Began Two Years Ago It was two years ago that information came to the department of justice that Savannah was the headquarters of a syndicate which distributed much of the liquor reaching the southern and eastern markets.

Tax Returns First One She sent for the tax returns of a number of suspected "bootleggers" and again the intelligence unit of the internal revenue bureau began an intensive intelligence department. The result was that agents sent in were uncovered making it necessary to replace them by others.

Meantime, the evidence thus disclosed, convinced officials here that they were on the trail of the largest "bootleg" fraternity in the country, at least from a standpoint of the size of the operation, and William J. Burns, of the bureau of investigation of the department of justice, was asked to take up the case.

Bootlegger Income Over Million Later the federal grand jury returned indictments against the "big four" and four or five others, charging them with violation of the act through failure to make proper returns. It was charged that Haar had failed to make a return on income in excess of \$1,000,000.

Banker's Arrest a Mystery The arrest of John J. Powers, a leader in the ring, came as a surprise to officials here, who said they had not yet been advised as to what connection with the ring he was alleged to have had.

One of the leaders escaped arrest. (Continued on Page Two.)

Cat and Rabbit Jinx Double on Dunn Man

(Special to The Star)

Dunn, Aug. 16.—The superstition of E. J. Nobles, of Dunn, that if a rabbit crosses a cat on the road directly in front of one when traveling at night, bad luck is sure to follow, was strengthened somewhat last night.

While speeding along on the highway between Dunn and Fayetteville he came upon a Ford car that had gone "dead" in the middle of the road. He couldn't stop before reaching the stalled car and the only chance for passing it was blocked by a woman standing by the roadside.

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CLONDBURST FLOODS ON WAY TO DENVER IN SWOLLEN PLATTE

Every Available Policeman Rushed to Lowlands to Sound Warning

DENVER, Colo., Aug. 16.—Flood waters are sweeping down the Platte Canyon toward Denver, following a terrific cloud burst early tonight, according to information received at the Denver police department shortly after 8 o'clock.

At 8:30 o'clock the evening all telephone connections with Littleton were reported to have gone down. Every available policeman has been rushed to the lowlands bordering the Platte river outside of Denver, and residents are being warned.

Water is spreading over the lowlands at Littleton, 10 miles from here and near Enlewood, a suburb. Telephone operators at summer resorts in the Platte canyon where the water is rising, notified the Denver police department.

No loss of life has been reported thus far. 44-HOUR WEEK FIGHT PERMANENT ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 16.—(By Associated Press).—By unanimous vote, the 48th annual convention of the International Typographical union adopted a resolution "strongly urging the executive to resist any attempt to call off the fight for the 44-hour week."

State to Borrow \$5,000,000 On Short Term Note to Use To Finance Building Plans

Governor Morrison Meets Council of State for Loan Conference

Raleigh, Aug. 16.—Governor Morrison was expected to reach Raleigh tonight for a meeting tomorrow with the council of state, when formal authority will be given Treasurer B. E. Lacy to issue \$5,000,000 of short term notes to cover the calls of state institutions for building programs.

STATE OFFICIALS KEEP SILENT CONCERNING THE ARREST OF COOPER

Lieut. Governor and Are Prominent in Politics

PARTY LEADERS MAY REQUEST RESIGNATION

BY BROCK BARKLEY

RALEIGH, Aug. 16.—State officials were silent today on the institution of criminal proceedings against Lieutenant Governor W. B. Cooper but the new and sensational development resulting from the failure of the Commercial National bank Wilmington had undivided attention.

Governor Cooper and his brother, Thomas E. Cooper, have been prominent in state politics for some years and previous to the failure of the Wilmington bank, both had further political aspirations. While W. B. Cooper never gained a place in the inner councils of the Democratic party, he won the Lieutenant Governorship and has presided over three sessions of the legislature, the last session having taken place since the failure of his bank.

During the last session of the legislature, which came immediately following the failure of the Cooper bank, there was considerable talk of the possibility of Lieutenant Governor Cooper resigning as a matter of political wisdom. And today with criminal action facing him, several prominent in party affairs were of the opinion that he ought to resign, although there was no outspoken demand to that effect.

Rumors as to possible federal action against the Coopers had been current for several months but developments on yesterday came as sensational surprise. United States Marshall Ward went to Wilmington, day before yesterday, and yesterday had the warrants issued by the federal commissioners there.

WOMAN GOLFERS' TEST TODAY ASHEVILLE, Aug. 16.—Mrs. Dosier Lowndes, of Atlanta, and Miss Deane Vanlandingham, of Charlotte, will contest on the links of the Asheville Country club tomorrow for championship honors in the ladies' invitation golf tournament. Mrs. Lowndes, runner-up in the southern women's tournament in 1922, holds the woman's record of 87 on the local course.

RALEIGH, Aug. 16.—\$30,000 for repairs on the state capitol will be expended in the near future, according to an announcement made here today by Secretary of State W. N. Everett.

182,000 Pounds of Leaf Sold at Whiteville For Top Prices at Auction

(Special to The Star) WHITEVILLE, Aug. 16.—The auction warehouses sold 182,000 pounds of tobacco at an average of 25.75 a hundred here today.

Planters from six counties sold tobacco on the local market today, many of them passing through a number of neighboring tobacco markets in order to obtain the higher prices paid here, according to the warehousemen, and even a larger amount of tobacco will be sold here tomorrow and throughout the coming weeks.

Some farmers who have sold tobacco on both the local and neighboring markets declare the Whiteville market to be at least \$5 a hundred higher than competitors. Although practically three fourths of the warehouse floor space was filled with the weed today tonight every floor is empty. All of today's purchases being packed up or shipped out preparatory to another big break tomorrow.

80 RALEIGH CLUB MEN VISIT FORT BRAGG CAMP

See Engineers Build Pontoon Bridge and Sleep in Guards' Bunks

FAYETTEVILLE, Aug. 16.—Eighty Raleigh citizens tonight bunked in military barracks at Fort Bragg after completing a whirl of entertainment which made up the first day of their two-day visit to the world's greatest artillery training camp as the guest of General A. J. Bowley.

The visitors, representing the four civic clubs of the capital city, Rotary, Civitan, Kiwanis and Lions, and among their number are many of the foremost business and professional men of Raleigh. Their visit is a part of General Bowley's program to make the people of the state better acquainted with Fort Bragg and the army.

At 6 o'clock the guests were assigned to bunks. After "show" which was a reenactment of the true army style "Puncher" Palmer, and Kid Lopez, a member of the C. M. T. C. and the men from the capital city touched their heads off for their favorite.

Tonight the visitors were guests of honor at the biggest boxing show ever held at Fort Bragg. Two Raleigh boys were in the boxing program. Joe "Puncher" Palmer, and Kid Lopez, a member of the C. M. T. C. and the men from the capital city touched their heads off for their favorite.

Two Governors to Open Catawba River Bridge

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 16.—Governor Morrison, of North Carolina, and Senator Dial and representative Stevenson of South Carolina, were in Charlotte tonight, ready to be formally escorted to the new "Buster Boyd" bridge over Catawba River, which will be formally opened tomorrow, opening a new highway connecting the two states.

On the program for addresses are Gov. Morrison, Gov. McLeod, of South Carolina, Senator Dial, representative Bulwinkle, of North Carolina, and others. It was estimated tonight that ten thousand or more people from the two states would attend the celebration which will be featured by a mammoth barbecue dinner.

The bridge costing \$103,000 was built jointly by York county, South Carolina and Mecklenburg county, North Carolina. The bridge represents Bulwinkle, of North Carolina, and others. It was estimated tonight that ten thousand or more people from the two states would attend the celebration which will be featured by a mammoth barbecue dinner.

4 and 5-Power Treaties to Be Ratified Today

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—The five power naval treaty negotiated at the Washington Armament conference and the four-power pact treaty concluded here in December, 1921, will become effective at noon tomorrow with the formal exchange of ratifications at the state department. Arrangements for a simple ceremony that will mark the deposit of ratifications were completed tonight.

Governor Speaker at Soldier Day Gathering

NEWTON, N. C., Aug. 16.—With Governor Cameron Morrison as the principal speaker, "Soldiers' Day" was celebrated here today. The celebration began 20 years ago as an annual affair. It was attended by thousands.

Lieut. Gov. W. B. Cooper, His Son And Brother Are Arrested In Bank Failure

G. O. P. OF STATE TO SUPPORT COOLIDGE IN NATIONAL MEETING

President Will Meet Durham Men Inviting Him to Morgan Memorial

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—The support of the Republican organization of North Carolina, was pledged today to President Coolidge by W. B. Bramhan, state chairman of North Carolina and Col. J. N. Meekins, an official of the alien property custodian's office and a leader among North Carolina Republicans.

Chairman Bramhan and Colonel Meekins made arrangements during their call upon Mr. Coolidge for a reception of a delegation from Durham, August 23 to invite the president to attend the dedication in that city of the Samuel Morgan memorial, a plot of ground near Durham, where the final surrender of the arrises of Gen. J. J. Johnson and Sherman took place. The Durham delegation will be composed of representatives of the civic associations of the city.

It also was pleasing to the south generally, because we feel that Mr. Slemp understands our problems and in his office will be helpful to our section of the country.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—Chairman W. B. Bramhan of the Republican committee and Col. Isaac M. Meekins, of Elizabeth City, now connected with the alien property custodian's office in New York, called in on President Coolidge today and asked him to receive the resignation of the president to invite him to the "Bull City" for the celebration of the surrender of Joe Johnson.

Messrs. Bramhan and Meekins said when they left the white house that they felt sure that the president would have the North Carolina delegation to the next national convention. They virtually pledged it to the president, Chairman Bramhan is delighted with the selection of Mr. Slemp as secretary to the president.

BETROTHED



Miss Barbara Whitney, daughter of Harry Payne Whitney, New York millionaire, is engaged to marry McKee Henry, of Rosemont, Pa., captain of Harvard varsity crew, 1924.

Bodies Found in Pond Tell Family Tragedy

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Aug. 16.—Samuel W. Rogers of Pacolet, shipping clerk of the Pacolet manufacturing company, and his three sons, were drowned in an abandoned rock quarry pool near Pacolet this afternoon. The tragedy was not known until near midnight, when the bodies of Mr. Rogers and an infant son were found floating in the pool of water by a negro water boy.

The child had a firm grasp upon the hair of his father head.

Building of State Water Terminal Here Bears Wide Interest, Says Kirkpatrick

Speaker Tells Kiwanians of Advantages Which Would Accure to State

"The building of this great terminal is not a local proposition, but bears a state-wide significance," declared Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick of Charlotte, speaking here last night before the Kiwanis state convention on the subject, "Building of a State Terminal at Wilmington."

"We have had enough of talk about the great fundamental principles of government. What we need in this hour is a practical application of the rules of government to the needs of the governed. The way to proceed is to proceed—the way to do things is to do them. Impossibility lies in the Book of Fools."

"The taxpayers stand ready, able and willing to cooperate and pay the necessary tax to complete our great state highway system, to educate the boys and girls of North Carolina, and to provide ourselves with adequate transportation facilities necessary to combat the exorbitant high freight rates from which we have been suffering all these years, and which have cost the taxpayers a sum sufficient to meet all of our needed improvements and developments."

"We have made up our minds that thus far and no further will we suffer ourselves to be unjustly exploited, over-burdened and robbed of the fruits of our labors by being compelled to pay a tax tariff on freight rates not commensurate with services rendered; or be kept in a position where we cannot export and import our manufactured and raw products to home and foreign markets on a competitive basis with the state states of the union and to foreign ports."

Misapplication of Funds and Making False Entries are Alleged

CLYDE LASSITER HELD ON ABETTING CHARGES

Examination Waived and All Give Bonds Before U. S. Commissioner Williams

Resignation of Lieutenant Governor W. B. Cooper is momentarily expected, following his arrest in Wilmington late Wednesday night in connection with the failure of the Commercial National Bank of Wilmington, which closed its doors last December.

Warrants also were served on Horace C. Cooper, son of W. B. Cooper, Thomas E. Cooper, a brother of the lieutenant governor and Clyde Lassiter, a local automobile man.

The warrants charge conspiracy to misapply bank funds, and making false entries on the books of the institution. Arraigned before United States Commissioner A. S. Williams, the quarterly bank of certain funds and certain bonds over to await grand jury action, at the fall term of federal court.

W. B. Cooper is specifically charged with entering into conspiracy with one T. E. Cooper to defraud the Commercial National Bank of certain funds and monies, and the misapplication of certain funds and monies, the property of the bank. His bond was set at \$5,000.

Thomas E. Cooper, the bank's president, was arrested on two charges, one of which is for the misapplication of funds and monies, and the other for conspiracy with W. B. Cooper to defraud the financial institution of certain funds and monies, the property of the bank, and aiding and abetting W. B. Cooper in the misapplication of bank funds. He is under two bonds of \$5,000 each.

Horace C. Cooper, bank cashier, is faced with a charge of having misapplied the bank's funds and monies and of making and causing to be made, false entries in the bank records. The commissioner set the cashier's bond at \$5,000.

The warrant served on Clyde W. Lassiter charges the automobile man with aiding and abetting T. E. Cooper in the misapplication of funds of the Commercial National Bank. He placed bond in the sum of \$1,000.

WARRANTS SERVED WEDNESDAY The bondsmen for the arrested men are, for T. E. Cooper, Marshall W. Starkey, R. G. Grady and Dr. W. Houston Moore; for W. B. Cooper, D. L. Gore; for Horace C. Cooper, D. L. Gore; and for Lassiter, C. D. Weeks.

The warrants were issued and signed by United States District Attorney Irvin B. Tucker on July 31, 1923, but were not served until Wednesday night because of the absence from the city of T. E. Cooper, it being the desire of the federal officers to serve them all at the same time.

Marshall Ward arrived from Raleigh with the warrants in his possession last night at 8:05 o'clock. After a short conference with Commissioner Williams the Coopers and Lassiter were called to the office of the commissioner and the warrants served. When the preliminary hearing was ordered immediately after the warrants had been served examination was waived by the four men. Their bonds being placed, all were allowed to go.

WILLIAMS REFUSED STAR Commissioner Williams, who refused until this morning to give any information regarding the arrest of the men, stated at his office this morning that he had informed the Marshall Ward would arrive here last night to make the arrests. He also stated that he granted D. L. Gore the courtesy of allowing him to sign the bonds of W. B. Cooper and Horace Cooper before the arrests had been made.

W. B. Cooper and Thomas E. Cooper are brothers, Horace C. Cooper is a son of W. B. Cooper, and Clyde Lassiter is said to be a business associate of the Coopers. D. L. Gore, bondsmen for W. B. Cooper and Horace C. Cooper is father-in-law of W. B. Cooper.

It has not been intimated whether the defendants will employ to represent them in their trial before Federal Judge H. G. Connor, when their cases are called for trial during the November session of United States District court. District Attorney Tucker will prosecute for the government, and (Continued on Page Two.)