

### FORECAST:

Wilmington and vicinity: Partly cloudy with little change in temperature today and widely scattered thundershowers after midnight and evening. Wednesday, partly cloudy with little temperature change. Thursday, widely scattered thundershowers, becoming more numerous in afternoon.

## Tobacco Men See Big Year

### Border Belt Leaders Predict Prices Will Be High; Johnson Named

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C., June 9 —(AP)—E. Johnson, Lumberton, N. C., warehouseman, today was elected president of the North Carolina-South Carolina Border Tobacco Warehouse association, an organization which includes flue-cured tobacco markets operating on both sides of the North Carolina-South Carolina border.

Johnson succeeds W. Wesley Singletary of Lake City, S. C., who has held the post for the last nine years.

Other officers named were J. K. Williams of Mullins, S. C., vice-president; and C. O. Dixon, Mulberry, Singletary and Frank Davis of Fairmont, N. C., to serve with Johnson as members of the board of governors of the Bright Belt Warehouse association.

Johnson said he would name a secretary and treasurer for the association at a later date.

## Hoop Snakes, Brittle Snakes, Sink Scribe

### Although Washington, New York Zoologists Claim There Are No Such Reptiles, Local Man Tells Of Killing One

By CARL CAHILL  
Star Staff Writer

Ever see a hoop snake? Some people call them horned snakes because they have a sharp barb on the tip of their tails with which they inject venom into their victims.

Their method of attack is different from other snakes, according to some persons.

These reptiles put their tails in to their mouths, forming a hoop. Then they roll along the ground after their victims. When upon their prey they release their hold, breaking the circle. Then they strike with the sharp needle-like spur on the tail.

Naturalists deny their existence. There is no official record of one ever having been found. The zoologists in Washington, D. C., and New York have almost every kind of animal, fowl and reptile except the hoop snake.

But H. H. Thomas, Wilmington, real estate broker, has not only seen them, he has killed any number. So has W. W. Higgins, local realtor.

Thomas, who said he had lived in the open most of his life, saw his first hoop snake in 1918 in the middle of a road near Pittsboro. He was driving at the time

(See SNAKES on Page Two)

## Senate Committee Approves Bill For \$300,000,000 Education Aid; Floods Render 22,000 Homeless

## Damage Widespread

### Thousands Of Acres Inundated In Three States; Twelve Deaths

By The Associated Press

Swirling waters of the Mississippi and the tributaries left an estimated 22,000 homeless and 12 dead as floods inundated thousands of farm acres in Iowa, Illinois, causing millions of dollars of crop damage. More rain was expected.

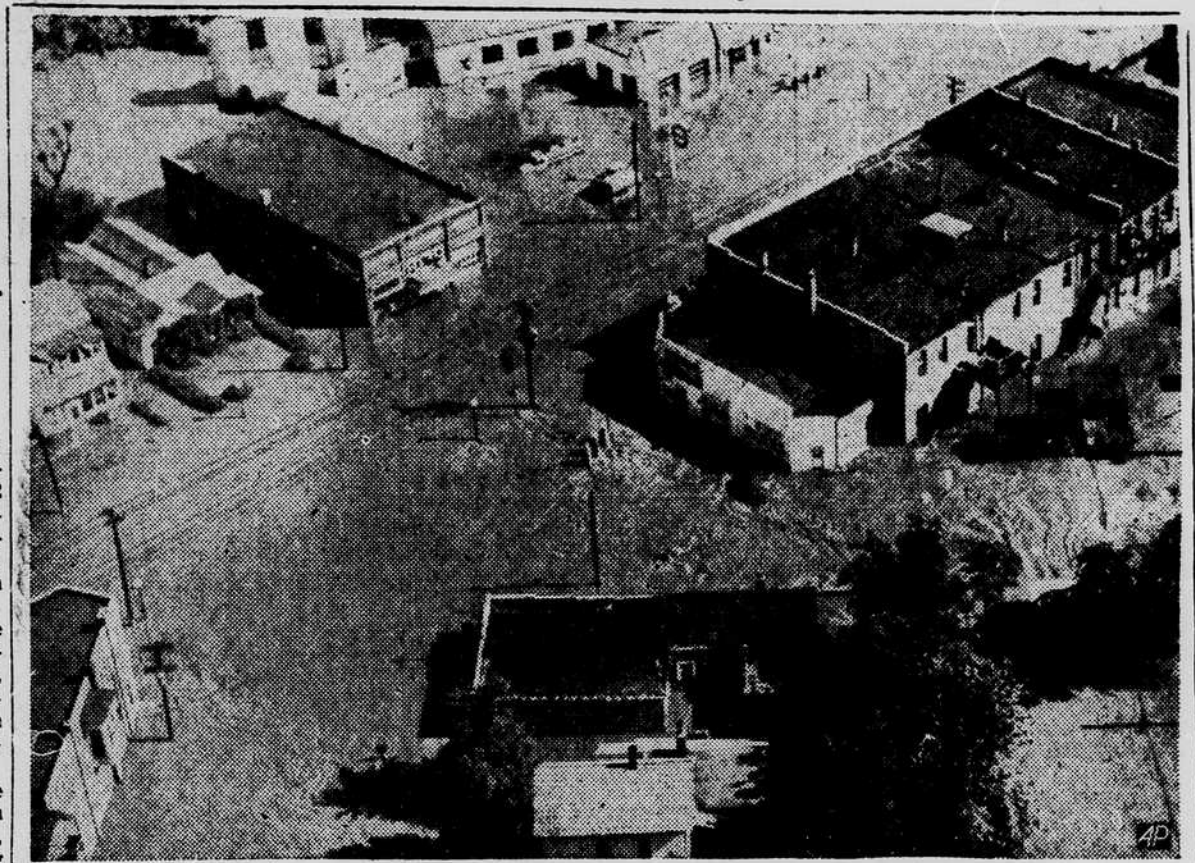
U. S. Engineers said that the Mississippi was at its crest between Keokuk, Ia., and Hannibal, Mo., and that the water was expected to begin to recede soon from record heights, including 23.6 feet at Quincy, Ill.

Levees on the Mississippi were reported to have given way in eight places between Wapello, Ia., and Louisiana, Mo., inundating about 25,000 acres. Authorities said they were fighting to save the levee at Pike county, Ill., across the river from Hannibal. If that barrier broke approximately 120,000 acres of land would be flooded engineers said.

The U. S. Weather bureau said that the cessation of rains in the stricken area Monday would allow rivers to recede somewhat but that more rain was expected Tuesday. General rains fell Monday in Minnesota, the Dakotas, Western Iowa, and Nebraska and the storm was expected to move slowly eastward, the Weather bureau said.

The Des Moines river valley in Iowa was beginning to recover from floods over the week-end which left 16,000 homeless and caused at least 11 deaths. No deaths were reported on the Mississippi itself but one was reported from Bethany, Mo.

In the Des Moines valley, Ottumwa, Ia., was the hardest hit with 10,000 of the city's 32,000 temporarily homeless and seven



FLOOD WATERS from the swollen Des Moines river cover streets at Ottumwa, Iowa, crippling the industrial city of 32,000 and leaving one-third of the residents homeless. This air view was made of the downtown area of the city. (AP WIREPHOTO)

## Enrollment Grant Basis

### Under Measure, Each State Would Get \$5 Per Child Per Year In Cash

WASHINGTON, June 9. —(AP)— Legislation authorizing the federal government to grant the states \$300,000,000 a year to help equalize educational opportunities was approved today by a Senate Public Welfare subcommittee.

The vote was 6 to 1, with Senator Donnell (R-Mo.) casting the only dissenting ballot.

Senator Aiken (R-Vt.), chairman of the subcommittee, told reporters Donnell objected to a provision which gives the states discretion as to whether federal funds should be used for assistance to religious and private schools.

Under the bill, Aiken said, each state would receive a minimum federal grant of \$5 per child a year if certain qualifying standards are met.

The Vermont Senator declared there is "no question at all" that the full committee will approve the bill. He said he expects it to come up for Senate debate next month.

### Bill Has Chance

"I think there is a good chance of getting it through," Aiken added.

Besides Aiken, these members of the subcommittee voted for the bill: Senators Hill (D-Ala.); Ellender (D-La.); Albert Thomas, (D-Utah); Smith, (R-N.J.); and Ives, (R-N.Y.).

Aiken said the bill would make "an excellent contribution to education in this country."

Ellender termed it a "splendid equalization bill for assisting those states which are high in children and poor in dollars."

The minimum grant of \$5 per year for each child enrolled would be increased in the case of low-income states, under a formula which takes into consideration how much they are able to spend on education. The amount of these additional grants would vary with state incomes.

Aiken said Donnell is opposed to any program which provides federal funds for non-public schools. This provision also was opposed by some education officials at hearings on the legislation.

Donnell told a reporter he did not care to comment on his vote against the measure.

## B. H. Marshall May Head Housing Authority Here

### Present Comptroller Talked As Successor To H. R. Emory, Resigned

The possibility that B. H. Marshall, Jr., present comptroller of the Wilmington Housing authority, would be named to succeed H. R. Emory, resigned, in the position of executive director of the authority, appeared bright last night.

Marshall has been a member of the staff of the authority for several years, and the consensus of those familiar with affairs of the authority, said that he would be the logical successor to Emory who is resigning the position.

A native of Wilmington, Marshall is a graduate of the University of North Carolina.

Emory, who has been executive director of the Housing authority since its organization in 1938, said last night that he will tender his resignation to the board of commissioners of the authority today and that he and C. E. Sonderman, general manager of Maffitt village, will go into private business.

Meeting Called

A special meeting of the commissioners has been called by Harry Solomon, chairman, for this afternoon at 5 o'clock in the office of the Housing authority, Nesbitt court. Emory's resignation will be submitted officially at that time, and it is expected that Marshall will be named by the board during the meeting.

Emory and Sonderman have bought the Broome Wood products company on the Castle Hayne road from Brooks A. Broome, and are now operating the business, Emory said. He and Sonderman both will be at the company full time, he said, as soon as they secure their releases from the commissioners of the authority. (See MARSHALL on Page Two)

## HE HAD!

### ON \$1,000 BOND

### Investigation Continues Into Mysterious Death Of Lonnie Horne

James Hanson, local drug store operator, has been released under \$1,000 bond on a technical charge of vagrancy in connection with the mysterious death of Lonnie Brice Horne, 33-year-old Audubon resident.

Meanwhile, Coroner Gordon Doran said a Harry E. Fales, chief of the city-county bureau of identification will leave this morning with the contents of Horne's stomach for the FBI laboratory in Washington.

Doran said an inquest will be held as soon as the findings of the FBI are disclosed. An autopsy was performed Sunday night by Dr. A. H. Elliot, city-county health officer, but results are being withheld pending the finding of the FBI chemists.

Jury Impaneled

Coroner Doran has named Charles H. Casteen, J. F. Applewhite, J. S. Craig, C. McDavid Jones, A. L. Snow and B. T. Hopkins as members of the jury for the inquest.

Both Doran and Judge Smith, who reduced Hanson's bond from \$10,000 said that the drug store operator was being held in connection with the death of Horne.

In connection with the same case, the federal government narcotic division has become interested and an agent is beginning an investigation of the sale of illegal drugs here, it was learned from a reliable source outside the city.

Hanson was arrested by city detectives W. N. Leitch and N. J. Wolfe soon after Horne died enroute to the hospital at 3:45 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Hanson was arrested for investigation into Horne's death because Hanson's drug store was the last

(See HANSON on Page Two)

## Wolcott Bill Amendment May Aid Wilmington Case

the seventy-two projects the cities are requesting The Lanham act, authorizing construction of the homes, specified that transfers without cash payment must get Congressional approval.

Cities receiving the property would pay only the net receipts from rents.

Charlotte, N. C., is applying for the 85-unit Jackson Homes, which cost \$313,363.21.

Wilmington is asking for the 90-unit Hillcrest development, worth \$288,623.64, and the 126-unit Hillcrest extension, which cost \$365,447.63.

Meanwhile, they are attempting by the fifth columns they have organized throughout the world and by propaganda to break down the resistance of all democratic peoples.

"Communist spies and agents, 'their fellow travelers and dupes' are active in all countries, including the United States — 'in our great cities, in our labor unions, even in our government offices in Washington,' he said.

He supported the Truman doctrine of aiding democratic countries and urged creation of a European Federation of Democratic Nations to combat Communism.

## U.S. Air Power, A-Bomb Stopping Stalin March

WASHINGTON, June 9. —(AP)— William C. Bullitt, former ambassador to Russia and France, said tonight that only American air superiority and possession of the atomic bomb prevent Soviet Premier Josef Stalin "from ordering the Red Army to occupy all Europe."

In an attack on Stalin and Communism, which he distinguished from the Russian people, Bullitt said in a commencement address at Georgetown university that the Soviets do not dare to make war "against us or our friends" now.

"But he added: 'If ever they believe that they are the stronger, they will attack

## Admission Of Guilt Brings Gurley Light Prison Term

### Former Wilmington Police Officer Sentenced To 18 To 24 Months

By JOHN RALSTON  
Star Staff Writer

H. L. Gurley, 24-year-old robust former Wilmington police officer, stood before Judge Q. K. Nimocks, Jr., without emotion yesterday afternoon in New Hanover county's Superior court and heard himself sentenced to 18 to 24 months in state prison.

The court postponed passing sentence yesterday morning until afternoon to further study the case of Gurley, who confessed to breaking into the Groceries market three occasions and making away with a total of approximately \$50.

At the April term of criminal court, Roy Grissett, another former officer, was convicted on larceny and receiving charges and received a seven to 10 year prison term, maintaining his innocence even after sentence.

But yesterday was a different scene. Through his attorney, W. L. Farmer, Gurley readily admitted his guilt and heard Solicitor Clifton Moore tell the court that without the man's confession, he doubted "that we could have obtained a conviction in either case."

Attorney Farmer pleaded for probation for his client at the morning session and said he was ready with about 35 character witnesses, a former police chief who was Gurley's "boss" while the latter was on the force and others, to argue for the same treatment.

At 11 a. m. the court after listening to the presentation of the case by attorneys, ruled he would study the affidavits and history of the case and pass sentence at 2:30 P. M.

At the time, Judge Nimocks told Gurley that "through your truthfulness the other defendant was brought to justice."

"I had first intended to sentence you to three to five years in state prison," Nimocks said. "I later revised that sentence to two to three years."

"But on account of your cooperation," he said.

(See ADMISSION on Page Two)

## Irish Potatoes Will Be Dumped, Scott States

### Many Carloads Will Rot In Fields Unless Outlets Are Secured

RALEIGH, June 9. —(AP)— Large quantities of Irish potatoes will be dumped to rot in North Carolina fields this year as they were last year unless consumed outlets can be found for surplus potatoes, G. Tom Scott, state director of the production and marketing administration predicted today.

Scott said that the "dumping" of potatoes into huge piles—where they will be left to rot may start tomorrow if outlets do not appear for more than the 21 carloads which were bought by the PMA today under the government's price support program.

(The Wilmington Morning Star, in a signed story last Friday morning, stated that thousands of bushels of 1947 crop potatoes would be left to rot unless government support prices were forthcoming.)

Arrangements have been made for the state's charitable and penal institutions to obtain some of the surplus potatoes and the State Department of Public Welfare is preparing to set up a program for free distribution in the seven counties of the state that

(See POTATOES on Page Two)

## Simmons Report IRKS INSPECTOR

### H. L. Shankle Tells County Board Oil, Gas Pumps Are Inspected

State gasoline and oil inspectors appearing before the county commissioners yesterday. Took exception to reports given that body June 2 of the work of inspection of pumps in New Hanover county.

Speaking for the state group H. L. Shankle characterized as a false picture that drawn by J. S. Simmons, Wilmington resident, who told both the commissioners and the city council at their last meeting that gasoline pumps, in some instances, as well as scales and weights, were not properly inspected.

Shankle, chief of the gasoline and oil inspection, department of revenue in North Carolina, declared that regular inspections are made every six or seven months.

Fales Report

Six months have been found faulty and corrected.

Odell Evans is the chief inspector for this area, said the speaker and carries out a regular inspection program.

The monthly report of Harry E. Fales, in charge of the city-county identification bureau, revealed that 170 fingerprints were taken in May, 110 taxi permits were issued with photographs and fingerprints of the applicants taken, and that \$85 was collected.

## Along The Cape Fear

awarded the new firm for 25 Liberty ships.

Even while construction of the yard still was under way, the keels of the first of the 25 new vessels was laid on March 22 of that year. A small group of company officials and employees witnessed the ceremony.

Three more shipways, a pier, plates in what was described as "a perfect landing."

MORE SHIPS NEEDED—Later that spring, as the war situation appeared gloomy for Great Britain the new company was called upon for an additional dozen Liberty ships. The firm was asked to complete them, as well as the original order, by March 1943. To meet that demand it was necessary to enlarge the facilities of the yard.

Three more shipways, a pier, more shop area and considerable additional power supply, welding equipment and tools were added to the company's already large properties.

To accommodate all the new equipment, it likewise was necessary to acquire 24 more acres of land. The company, to handle all this additional land and equipment, was forced to further coordinate its huge program at the new shipyard.

WORKERS ARRIVE — As that work went ahead, hundreds of skilled workers were either transferred or borrowed from the Parent company at Newport News. Those workers aided in the training of new employees and assisted in supervision of the construction job.

On March 18, 1941, only five weeks after actual construction work had begun, the Maritime Commission formally announced that the first contract had been

## 102-YEAR-OLD CIVIL WAR VET GETS DEGREE—80 YEARS LATE

MEADVILLE, Pa., June 9. —(AP)— A 102-year-old natty attired Civil War veteran stood quietly erect today to receive his diploma from Allegheny college—80 years late.

"It's wonderful," murmured Robert Rownd, of Ripley, N. Y., as he pocketed the bachelor of arts degree he didn't get in 1867 when the war between the states and then marriage interrupted his studies.

The former national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic left immediately after the ceremonies. "I want to get back to my roses," he said. "I work in my garden every day."

Rownd has served as president of the Ohio State Canal commission and as Columbus, O., postmaster.

## Eleven Petitions Filed In FEC Case

### Seaboard, Southern Railway, Others Seek To Upset ICC Ruling

WASHINGTON, June 9. —(AP)— Eleven petitions for modification, reargument, and rehearing of the Interstate Commerce Commission's decision in the Florida East Coast Railway company reorganization case were filed today with the ICC.

The commission plan, announced May 20, provides for acquisition of Florida East Coast by the Atlantic Coast Line Railway for \$40,500,000.

The petitions for reopening generally noted that the ICC decision was a five to four vote, with two members of the 11-member body not participating.

Among those criticizing the decision were the Seaboard Air Line Railroad company and the Southern Railway System.

The ICC had said that the affect upon them if any would not adversely affect the public interest.

The St. Johns county, Fla., commissioners told the ICC group that their decision was contrary to the evidence and to the law and was "improperly based upon the unsworn testimony of Congressional representatives."

E. N. Claughton, representing the minority bond holders, said the decision was erroneous, unjustified, and in effect "approves a compulsory non-competitive sale of the assets of Florida East Coast Railway."

## CIO-UAW Board Stamps Okay On Briggs Strike

CHICAGO, June 9. —(AP)— The executive board of the CIO United Auto workers today unanimously authorized a strike of 20,000 Briggs Manufacturing company workers starting Wednesday if the company fails to agree to the union's wage and other demands by that time.

Principal issues in the dispute are retroactivity of a proposed 14-cent equivalent hourly wage increase, whether 500 salaried employees should be covered by the contract, and revisions of grievance procedure.

The walkout, approved by the membership previously and scheduled at six Briggs plants in Detroit and one in Evansville, Ind., would tie up assembly operations at Chrysler corporation and the Packard Motor company plants, which depend on Briggs for car bodies.

The international executive board's approval was announced in a telegram to company officials. Negotiations broke down last Saturday.

## Mount McKinley Scaled Fourth Time In History

PORTLAND, Ore., June 9. —(AP)— The Brigadier Washington party successfully scaled 20,300-foot Mount McKinley, North America's highest peak, a member of the party notified his mother here today.

Mrs. Fred Hackett, Portland, said she received a telegram from her son, Lt. William D. Hackett, saying the party reached the mountain top on Friday and ascended the last peak Saturday.

Mount McKinley has two separate peaks rising above a plateau. This is the fourth time in history

## And So To Bed

C. W. Frederic, route one, is worried over the disappearance of his pet terrier, a small Manchester terrier, last female.

He reported to police Sgt. L. B. Rouk yesterday afternoon that he had parked his car in the 100 block of Market street while he did some shopping, leaving his dog in the car. He noticed, he told the sergeant, that a car parked beside his contained three children who were eating popcorn.

Upon his return a few minutes later, Frederic said, he found the front seat of his car covered with popcorn, but his Manchester was missing.

Frederic told officers he believed the youngsters had kidnapped the dog.

## Predict High Prices

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C., June 9. —(AP)— President Fred S. Royster and other officials of the Bright Belt warehouse association predicted here today that prices for the 1947 flue-cured tobacco crop would continue high but that the current crop would be the most expensive ever produced.

Royster, from Henderson, N. C., read his annual report to the opening session of the association, which began a three day convention here today.

More than 300 warehousemen, buyers and growers were attending. From the five flue-cured states—Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia.

No Decrease Seen

Royster said he could not foresee any material decrease in tobacco prices from last year's record high averages. He added that "farmers must receive a price commensurate with the last year's price due to the fact that every material which goes into the production of huge tobacco crops has increased in price during the last six months."

Royster's predictions were concurred in by J. M. Broughton, former North Carolina governor and general counsel for the association, and James E. Thigpen and Charles E. Gate, assistant director and director, respectively, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's tobacco branch.

The flue-cured crop is generally less in all southern states this year due to inclement weather conditions which delayed trans-planting, Royster said, and for planning. Royster said that the 1947 crop would fall short of the production of 1946. Last year 1,941,559,227 pounds were produced and sold for \$650,400,000.

Support Program In Effect

Royster said the government's price support program will be in effect again this year, based on approximately 40 cents per pound. However, he predicted that the flue-cured stabilization corporation would be required to handle a larger portion of this year's crop than in 1946.

The stabilization corporation, a government organization, was set up last year to handle the crop which failed to bring 90 per cent of parity when sold on the warehouse floors. The organization handled 60,000,000 pounds of leaf.

During the present fiscal year, Royster said, domestic consumption of tobacco will approximate 500,000,000 pounds, with an additional 500,000,000 pounds to go into export channels. This will leave a backlog of nearly 100,000,000 pounds which should not cause worry.

However, Royster said that if the 1947 crop approximates the 1946 crop, we probably will approach the time to become concerned about a surplus."

He said the industry still was hampered by a lack of adequate drying facilities, but said such opening dates and selling regulations for the 1947 crop be left to about 20 percent over last year. He recommended that the matter be referred to a joint committee of 15 persons representing warehousemen, buyers and growers.

## The Weather

FORECAST: Partly cloudy with change in temperature Tuesday and Wednesday, except warmer North Carolina, widely scattered thundershowers Tuesday afternoon and evening. Tomorrow, widely scattered thundershowers, becoming more numerous Wednesday afternoon.

(Eastern Standard Time)

By U. S. Weather Bureau

Metropolitan data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday:

TEMPERATURES

7:30 a. m. 76, 7:30 a. m. 77; 1:30 p. m. 80; 5:30 p. m. 80; Maximum 82; Minimum 74; Mean 84; Windy 76.

HUMIDITY

7:30 a. m. 75; 7:30 a. m. 80; 1:30 p. m. 80; 5:30 p. m. 82.

PRECIPITATION

Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday: .08 p. m.

Total since the first of the month: .08 inches.

TIDES FOR TODAY

From the Tide Tables published by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Wilmington

High 9:24 a. m.; 9:24 p. m.

Low 12:31 p. m.; 12:31 a. m.

Wilmington Inlet

High 9:11 a. m.; 9:11 p. m.

Low 11:22 a. m.; 11:22 p. m.

Wilmington 104 ft.

Sunrise 7:23; Moonrise 10:44.

At Fayetteville, N. C. at 10:30 a. m. Monday 9.2 feet.

More WEATHER on Page Two

## Wilmington Bureau

WASHINGTON, June 9. — Permanent war housing which Wilmington, N. C., and other cities are trying to get as low-rent dwellings by a free transfer from the Federal government would be exempted from legislation for immediate sale of such property, under an amendment prepared today by Representative Bryan (D-Sc).

This amendment to the Wolcott bill, which is due for a House vote tomorrow requires also that the Federal public housing authority speedily send Congress a list of

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