

HARDING SEES HELPFUL PART

President Delivers Message to Congress

TALKS OF ALOOFNESS

Refers to Arms Conference as Assumption of World Obligations, Speaks of Farm Credits and Prohibition Enforcement

Washington, Dec. 9.—President Harding, addressing Congress in person Friday on the state of the nation, placed the transportation situation, prohibition enforcement and farm credits in the forefront of the national problems pressing for solution.

Also he took occasion to reply directly to those who he said had assumed that the United States had taken itself aloof and apart, unburdened of world obligations.

He said these gave "ecant credit" to the "helpful part" America had assumed in international relations, referring particularly to the arms conference.

Of the prohibition situation, the president asserted there were conditions of enforcement "which favor a nationwide scandal."

Turning to the recent railroad strike, the President proposed that the federal tribunal dealing with disputes between the carriers and their workers be given ample authority to enforce its decisions.

He voiced a preference for abolition of the railroad labor board and placing of its functions under an enlarged interstate commerce commission.

Other recommendations included: Restriction of aliens. More rigid examination of emigrants at embarkation ports.

Leads of the agricultural groups in the house and senate are recommending that one recommendation of the executive—that dealing with farm credits—shall be transferred to a particularly anxious group.

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

Greene Appointed Marshal Anderson, S. C., Dec. 9.—Nelson R. Greene, former sheriff of Anderson county, and a Democrat, took the oath of office as United States marshal for the western district of South Carolina here at 3 o'clock yesterday noon and immediately assumed the duties of office, succeeding Joseph W. Tolbert, Republican, who has twice been nominated by President Harding for the marshalship.

May Escape Death Penalty Raleigh, Dec. 9.—Fourteen men now awaiting execution at the state prison, a burglar, three rapists and 10 murderers, may yet escape the ultimate vengeance of the law through the possibility of the abolition of the death penalty by the General Assembly which meets in January and the possibility that the governor, in view of the first mentioned possibility sets no date for their execution.

Negro Gets Reprieve Raleigh, Dec. 9.—Joe Dixon, negro, under death sentence for conviction in Craven county of first degree burglary, was granted another 60 days reprieve by Governor Morrison late yesterday. He was originally sentenced to die on May 16 and has been reprieved three times. Had Governor Morrison not intervened he would have been executed next Monday.

Raiding Officer Shot Lillington, Dec. 9.—Deputy Sheriff J. R. Mitchell is in a Raleigh hospital with one eye shot out, and the other eye ball punctured, by shot, as a result of a raid upon the alleged site of a still about two miles northeast of Buies Creek this week. Fred Holland is in the Lillington jail, and search is being made for Percy Ennis and Fred Matthews, said to have been implicated in the affair.

Number Liquor Cases Aired in Court Here

Before adjournment of the December term of Federal court here Thursday afternoon a number of cases in which violation of the prohibition laws was charged were tried with the following results: Marler Williams, guilty, \$100 and the costs. Tom Dobbins, pleaded guilty, fined \$50 and the costs. James Chapel, not pros. Marshal Hamrick, pleaded guilty, fined \$50 and the costs. J. W. Stewart, not pros. David Richmond, pleaded guilty, fined \$100 and costs. Arthur Finney, not pros. James Hodges, not pros. I. H. Beatty, pleaded guilty, fine, \$50 and the costs.

Gets \$465,000 Damages Burlington, Va., Dec. 9.—A jury of farmers on Thursday set at \$465,000 the damages due Mrs. Dorritt S. Woodhouse, from her wealthy parents-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo E. Woodhouse, of New York and this city. She had sued them for a million dollars, alleging they had alienated the affections of her young husband, C. Douglas Woodhouse, who is now at Reno, Nevada, seeking divorce. The award is one of the largest ever returned in such cases.

Needs of Schools in Guilford Discussed

Citizens from various sections of Guilford appeared before the County Board of Education last Saturday afternoon to urge the school needs of their communities. The largest delegations were from Brown Summit and Monticello. Residents of Brown Summit and vicinity contended that Brown Summit represents the center of population in that part of the county and that high school activities in that section should be concentrated there. The Monticello delegation, with Richard Moore as chief spokesman, urged retention of the high school at Monticello, advancing what they considered vital reasons in support of this position.

Great Poultry Show To Open Wednesday

With final preparations being made for the eighth annual official state poultry show, which will be held here Wednesday and Thursday of this week, officials of the North Carolina Poultry association and Central Carolina Poultry association are confident that the exposition will be an unqualified success. The exhibits will be made in an attractive showroom on East Sycamore street, between Davie and Forbis. Many birds have been entered and a large attendance is expected. The full program was published in last Thursday's issue of The Patriot.

FIRE DESTROYS TOWN AND MANY HOMELESS

Thirty Blocks Wiped Out by Flames Two Are Dead, Property Loss Estimated at \$15,000,000

Astoria, Ore., Dec. 9.—The business district of Astoria, the oldest city in Oregon, is in ruins, two are dead, hundreds of persons are homeless and property losses estimated at \$15,000,000 was caused by a fire here Friday. For 10 hours the fire held sway, eating an ever-widening path through the city until shortly after noon when dynamite stayed the flames.

Banks, newspaper plants, hotels, stores, theaters and numerous buildings housing a variety of business places were destroyed. According to Fire Chief E. B. Foster, the fire got out of control because it burned the piling beneath the buildings upon which the business section of the city was built. He attributed the disaster to failure to fill in the space beneath the piling.

Morris Staples, president of the Bank of Commerce, dropped dead of heart failure while the fire was at its height. The body of C. J. Smith, a transient, was found hanging under the sidewalk of the water front but whether he had ended his life because of the fire or for other reasons the police were unable to determine. He had spent the night in a cheap lodging house on the waterfront.

Thirty blocks were wiped out by the flames. Many homes in the older residential district were destroyed and about 50 families living in an apartment house were made homeless by the destruction of that building. In addition to these many persons occupying rooms in the destroyed area lost everything they had except the clothing on their backs.

COUNTY AGENTS NOW MEETING IN RALEIGH

Demonstration Workers From All Sections of North Carolina Attending the Conference

Raleigh, Dec. 9.—All of the county agents employed by the State College of Agriculture and the State Department of Agriculture are now at the college for the short course and conference held annually by the Agricultural Extension service. Approximately 70 agents were here to begin the conference on December 6. On the 7th, the home demonstration agents gathered for a three-day joint conference. Meeting with the agents are the specialists of the Experiment station and professors of the college.

A full program for the entire 11 days has been worked out and the agents are finding each day filled to the brim with matters of value and interest. Considerable time for round table discussions has been allowed. Some of the important matters being studied are those having to do with the fight on the boll weevil, the marketing of surplus products grown where the boll weevil is damaging cotton, the marketing of livestock, feeding hogs and other livestock, and many other matters of concern among the farmers just at this time.

The agents are also outlining their work for the coming year. Plans are being made for carrying on some of the various phases of work now being engaged in by the extension service and at the same time an effort is being made to correlate the activities of all the agents so that they may fit in with the general agricultural program of the college and department administrative officers.

Substantial Increase In Cotton Ginnings

Washington, Dec. 9.—Cotton ginned prior to December 1 amounted to 9,318,144 running bales, including 157,729 round bales, counted as half bales; 22,410 bales of American Egyptian and 4,945 bales of Sea Island, the census bureau announced Friday. Ginnings to December 1 last year totaled 7,639,961 running bales, including 123,449 round bales, counted as half bales; 22,187 bales of American Egyptian and 2,941 bales of Sea Island.

New Sheriff Captures Stills Wilson, Dec. 9.—Sheriff O. A. Glover, during his first five days in office, has started a record as a destroyer of whisky stills, having captured up to this morning three, with a total capacity of 110 gallons. Joint Meeting Wednesday At 1 o'clock next Wednesday W. B. Sanders, of Chapel Hill, executive secretary of the North Carolina Conference for Social Service, will address a joint meeting of the Rotary, Kiwanis, Civitan and Lions clubs of this city at the O. Henry hotel. He will discuss prison reform legislation.

NEGRO IS BURNED AT STAKE BY GREAT MOB

Victim in Florida, Accused of Murder of Young Woman, Taken From Sheriff and Lynching Follows

Perry, Fla., Dec. 9.—Charlie Wright, negro, accused of the murder of Miss Ruby Henry, young school teacher, was taken from the sheriff and burned at the stake at the scene of the crime Friday night by a mob estimated at several thousand men.

The negro, along with Albert Young negro, was taken from the sheriff and his party as they returned to Perry to lodge the two men in jail. Wright had been arrested at Madison, Florida, early in the day and Young was taken at Kinderhook, Ga. Capture of the two negroes came after a six-day search in which hundreds of men from Florida and Georgia counties had participated at one time or another.

Both negroes were taken to a small stream, a few hundred yards outside the town, where last Saturday afternoon the young woman's body was found by a passing train crew. Both negroes were given an audience and Wright is said to have exonerated Young as the second negro who waylaid the young woman. He committed the murder, he is said to have confessed, while another negro robbed her. He did not name the other negro, but said it was not Young.

Following Wright's talk, the mob proceeded to strap him to a stake. Pine wood and grass were placed at his feet, and the works then set on fire. His body was burned to a crisp. Young was turned back to the authorities and placed in the county jail.

No disorder was attempted. The mob, which began to stream into Perry throughout the day, began to break up.

PLANS TO LIQUIDATE STATE DEBT DEvised

Proposed to Provide Annual Appropriation to Retire Present Outstanding Bonded Indebtedness

Raleigh, Dec. 9.—An annual appropriation of \$500,000, half of it from the general fund and half from the automobile license fees, properly safeguarded by constitutional amendments that will remove any possibility of its being diverted to other purposes, will probably be made by the coming General Assembly as a sinking fund to retire the present debt of the state.

Adoption of the serial issue plan for the retirement of subsequent obligations assumed by the state will also be brought to the attention of the General Assembly, with the view to placing the state's finances on sound basis that will liquidate all present debts and provide for the payment of all future debts incurred for public improvements.

The plan will have the approval and endorsement of Governor Morrison, and the attorney general is now at work on a measure that will embody these provisions. The governor has not yet committed himself to the details of the legislation, but he is broadly committed to a plan of liquidation of the state debt with proper safeguards against its possibility of a sinking fund for purposes other than the payment of debts.

Along with the plan to get the state out of debt will go a second constitutional amendment limiting the amount of the debt which the state may incur. It is likely that the proposed legislation will submit the amendments in the general election of 1924 and that the provisions of the legislative action will become effective in the appropriations of 1925. The entire program will probably be included in a single piece of legislation.

Woman Elected Head of Historical Body

Raleigh, Dec. 9.—Precedent was smashed by the North Carolina Literary and Historical association at its final session at Meredith college Friday night, when it elected Miss Adelaide Fries, of Winston-Salem, its president for the ensuing year. She is the first woman in the history of the organization to hold that office and she was accorded an ovation when her name was brought in by the nominations committee.

The Patterson memorial cup, given by Mrs. Lindsay Patterson in memory of her father, was presented to Josephus Daniels, former secretary of the navy, in recognition of his book, "Our Navy at War," published in May. The presentation was made in a brief speech by Dr. T. P. Harrison, chairman of the cup committee.

Other officers chosen at the concluding session of the association were Bishop Joseph Blount Cheshire, first vice-president; Dr. Benjamin Sledd, second vice-president; Mrs. Jos. G. Pogue, third vice-president; and R. B. House to succeed himself as secretary and treasurer. All officers were chosen by acclamation. Convicted of Perjury New Brunswick, N. J., Dec. 9.—Raymond Schneider was found guilty of perjury by a jury here Friday afternoon after it had been out 15 minutes. Schneider accused Clifford Hayes, his chum, of being responsible for the murder of the Rev. Edward W. Hall and his choir singer Mrs. Eleanor R. Mills. Hayes was later vindicated and Schneider was held for perjury.

NEWS OF THE NATION

Ice Man Whipped by Mob Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 10.—Emmet Clarke, ice man, was taken from his automobile last night by three unmasked men to a point west of the city and severely lashed.

"You have been a bad little boy and have mistreated your wife. We are going to punish you," the men said, according to Clarke. They then stripped him to the waist and applied the lash.

Long Ship Subsidy Fight Washington, Dec. 10.—Senate supporters and opponents of the administration shipping bill today measured their strength and laid their plans preparatory to the beginning tomorrow of debate on the measure. Everything pointed to a hard and long fight, possibly continuing, with interruptions, until the end of the session next March.

Another Officer Killed Mount Sterling, Ky., Dec. 10.—Within a few yards of the spot in Menifee county where Prohibition Agent Robert C. Duff was shot to death by alleged moonshiners Saturday afternoon, Dave Treadway, 28, federal officer and member of a posse seeking the slayers of Duff, was shot from ambush and fatally wounded this afternoon.

Victory for Co-ops Halifax, Va., Dec. 9.—The Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association scored its first success in a Virginia court Friday. Judge Wm. L. Barksdale at Halifax courthouse on Friday continued the injunctions restraining four members of the tobacco co-operative from making any further deliveries of their tobacco outside of the association.

Traveler Shot to Death Macon, Ga., Dec. 9.—Paul Funderburk, of Rome, Ga., traveling salesman for a tobacco company, was shot and instantly killed and his woman companion said by officers to be Miss Olene Courson, was seriously wounded, when the couple returned to the woman's boarding house shortly after 10 o'clock Thursday night. M. D. Wood, clerk in a local department store, was placed under arrest by sheriff's deputies and charged with the shooting.

Judge Frank Gary Dead Charleston, S. C., Dec. 9.—Judge Frank B. Gary, of the eighth judicial circuit, and one-time United States senator serving an unexpired term, died here Thursday at the home of his sister, Mrs. Marie Gary Eason. He was a brother of Chief Justice Eugene B. Gary, of the state Supreme court.

Offered \$20,000 For Dead Husband, Claim

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 9.—Charges that she had been tricked into marriage by visions of great wealth and generosity and that she had been "driven" so nearly frantic by the actions of her husband that at times she suffered loss of memory and responsibility, will be the defense of Mrs. May Belle Ford when she goes on trial here charged with plotting the death of her husband, Nev J. Ford, of Dearborn.

Mrs. Ford, held in jail here because she cannot procure \$25,000 bail, is charged with offering to hire a local detective, who posed as a gunman, \$20,000 to kill her husband and burn the body. The woman told newspaper men today that she intended to tell the jury "everything about my unhappy married life and let that story be my defense."

Declare Money Given Accuser of Governor

Oxford, Miss., Dec. 9.—Interest in the damage suit instituted by Miss Frances Birkhead against Lee M. Russell, governor of Mississippi, centered tonight in efforts being made to locate Theo G. Bilbro, former governor and wanted as a witness by the plaintiff.

A. B. Schaubert, campaign manager for Mr. Russell in his contest for the governorship, told of money payments alleged to have been made to Miss Birkhead which have figured in the testimony of several previous witnesses. Mr. Schaubert explained that friends of the governor made up a fund of \$600 to be given Miss Birkhead when it was reported that she planned to make public allegations against the governor.

White Youth Kills Negro

Lumberton, Dec. 9.—John Housmans, negro, was killed by Jennings Bullard, a 17-year-old white boy, near Raynham, Robeson county, Friday afternoon. Bullard struck the negro, who was a tenant on his father's farm, on the head with a piece of scantling when the negro advanced upon him making threats, according to the evidence brought out at the coroner's inquest. The coroner's jury exonerated the boy, their verdict being that the killing was justifiable homicide.

Cashier to Make Restitution Taylorsville, Dec. 9.—News was received here Thursday that A. W. White, formerly cashier of the Bank of Stony Point, who disappeared from that place over a month ago, and had not been heard from until about a week ago, had returned to Stony Point and will make good a shortage of \$14,000 of the bank's funds which he is alleged to be responsible for.

RANDOLPH MEN ARE INDICTED

W. L. Coltrane and R. L. White Named

MR. CRANFORD TALKS

Referring to Federal Grand Jury's Indictment of Two Men, Chairman Cranford Denies that Election Laws Were Violated

The two election officials indicted by a grand jury in Federal court here last Wednesday for alleged refusal to permit a qualified voter to cast his ballot in the November election are W. L. Coltrane and R. L. White, Jr., of New Market township, Randolph county, according to trustworthy information obtained here.

Upon learning of the indictments C. C. Cranford, chairman of the Randolph County Democratic executive committee, issued a statement in which he stoutly denied that any violations of the election laws had been permitted in that county. Mr. Cranford also called upon District Attorney Frank A. Linney to cite his authority for the return of the indictments.

The district attorney had stated that the indictments were for refusal to allow a qualified voter, a Republican, to cast his ballot, although it was contended that two Democratic voters in similar circumstances were permitted to vote. Affidavits to that effect were given to Mr. Linney, the latter said, and he took action.

Only recently, Mr. Linney stated, had it been made certain that action in the Federal court could be taken regarding such matters. The United States Supreme court, he pointed out, recently held that the general law covering civil rights is applicable to elections in so far as the rights of voters are concerned. The maximum penalty is imprisonment for 10 years or a \$5,000 fine.

T. L. Cox is the voter who was deprived of the suffrage privilege, it is understood. N. E. Davis, A. B. Coltrane and J. W. Berry are named as witnesses in the case, as is T. L. Cox.

The following statement from C. C. Cranford, of Ashboro, was obtained by The Greensboro Daily News: "I have not seen either Mr. White or Mr. Coltrane, but since reading the statement of the former chairman of the state Republican committee, the present United States attorney, in which he gave certain facts in the Greensboro Daily News of December 7 about two election officers in Randolph county, I have made inquiry as to the facts and have been assured that no Republican in New Market township or any other precinct has been denied the privilege of voting except those not entitled under the law and that no Democrat who was not entitled to vote under the law has knowingly been permitted to vote in any precinct.

"I do not know under what statute these indictments were sent but suppose that the indictments are under the conspiracy statute of the old reconstruction force bill which does not contain any reference to election offenses, every section of the force bill making any reference to the electoral franchise having been repealed by Congress in 1909.

"Since that time, however, the Supreme court has held in a case where a large number of politicians in an Indiana city, it was alleged, banded together by conspiring together to commit wholesale fraud, that this conspiracy clause of the force bill does apply to elections, although the statute was not in that part of the force bill which related to violations of the electoral franchise.

"I cannot believe that any federal official has revived the conspiracy statute of the odious force bill to indict an election official who is charged with the simple offense of what could only in its worst aspect be a mistake in judgment when there is no deep laid scheme to defraud the electorates.

"It may be that when the indicted officials learn of their indictment they may have something to say, but I know them to be good citizens and do not believe they will attempt to try their cases in the newspapers.

"The Democrats have conducted a clean, decent campaign and they fear no indictment that will be brought in any court, and if Mr. Linney had made the slightest investigation and not relied upon Republicans who are peeved and mad about the election and are disgraced and repudiated by the best citizens of all parties and are now trying to use the courts as an engine of oppression against the law-abiding citizens, he would not have sent the bill. Why this hurry to indict these officials? The reason no doubt will be made clear later."

Mr. Coltrane, an election judge, lives on Route 1, Randleman. Mr. White, an election registrar, at Glenola, and Mr. Cox on Route 1, Randleman. Messrs. Coltrane and White are Democrats, while Mr. Cox is a Republican. More Trouble for Daugherty Washington, Dec. 10.—Jack H. Ralston, counsel for Representative Keller, Republican, Minnesota, who has brought impeachment charges against Attorney General Daugherty, wrote Chairman Volstead, of the house judiciary committee, today that he may find it necessary to place before the committee additional charges of high crimes and misdemeanors.